

# 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	336

B'nai B'rith, 1930-1931.

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 B'NAI B'RITH WIDER SCOPE COMMITTEE

NATIONAL OFFICE 70 ELECTRIC BUILDING CINCINNATI, OHIO

September 17, 1930.

Rabbi Abba H. Silver, c/o The Temple, E. 105th St. at Ansel Road, Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I don't need to tell you how sorry we all were that you were unable to come to the meeting of the Hillel Foundation Commission, which was held last Monday, September 8th, but I know full well that your absence (probably due to conflict of appointments) does not in the least minimize your interest in the Hillel work.

Again it is unnecessary for me to point out that the success of the work depends to a large extent upon our ability to finance it, though of course money alone does not always guarantee a successful piece of social work.

A few days following the meeting of the Hillel Foundation Commission, the Wider Scope Commission met to consider effective ways of collecting the necessary funds for all the Wider Scope activities of the Order. Of the entire budget of the Wider Scope about 60% is devoted to Hillel work so that there is a close connection between the success of the Wider Scope and that of Hillel Foundations.

The most significant action of this Wider Scope meeting was the resolution that "The B'nai B'rith Wider Scope Commission place itself on record as favoring the inclusion of B'nai B'rith Wider Scope Campaigns in the general welfare fund campaigns for non-local Jewish needs in such communities as operate such funds," and also "That the Wider Scope Commission urge the B'nai B'rith leaders in all communities which have as yet no such welfare funds in operation to use their influence in the creation of such joint efforts wherever feasible."

I am sure you will agree as to the importance of this announcement, which puts the Order in line with the rapidly growing movement for better organization of all fund-raising activities for Jewish communal purposes. This is in line with the movement of the National Appeals Information Service and is the inevitable trend for better communal work.

Only a few months ago I appealed for your help in the Detroit situation, and the results of your assistance were very substantial indeed. A similar problem is bound to arise in your own city in the very near future. I have been in communication with our good friend, Mr. Goldhammer and in reply to my inquiry Mr. Goldhammer informed me of the Jewish Welfare Fund Campaign which is expected in Cleveland some time in January, 1931. "No commitments" says Mr. Goldhammer, "have as yet been made for the Welfare Fund." While there is no immediate urgency it is obvious that the question of participation of the Wider Scope will have to be taken up some time before the campaign if we are to avoid a situation such as developed in Detroit and since you are undoubtedly bound to play a very important part in this Cleveland Welfare Fund Campaign, I am writing at this early date to ask you to keep the Wider Scope and primarily the Hillel Foundations in mind when this question comes up for discussion.

Our campaign in Cleveland was held in May 1927 or some three and a half years ago. It was a five year campaign so that the last payments would be due in May 1931. The quota assigned to Cleveland was \$75,000 or the same as to Cincinnati, though Cleveland has a Jewish community perhaps three times the size of Cincinnati. The subscriptions for Cleveland, unfortunately, were about one half of the quota while Cincinnati made its quota good. Thus the Cleveland community has underwritten about \$7500. a year.

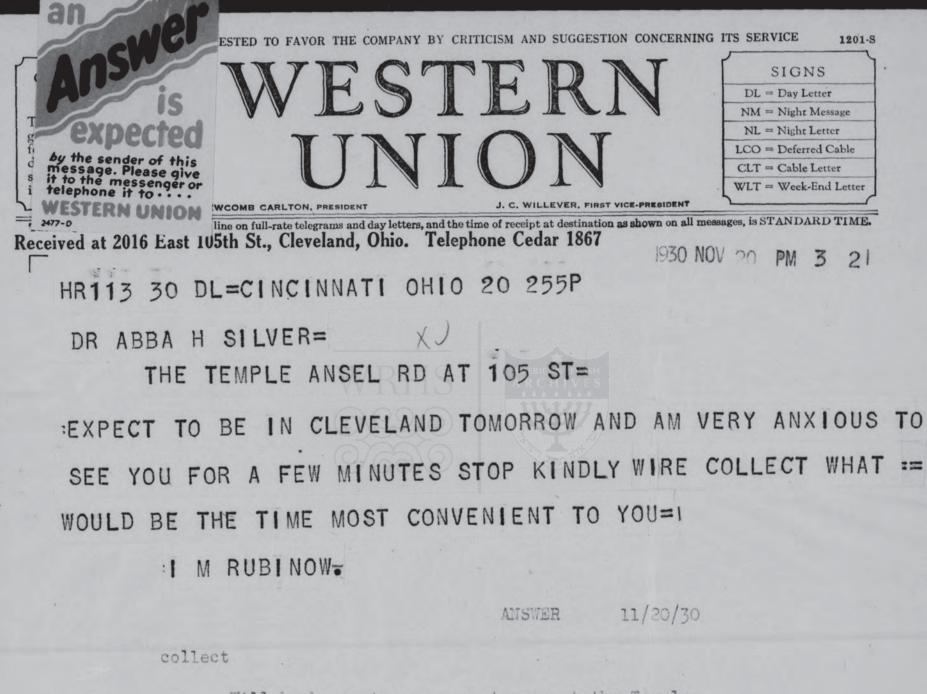
When this campaign was conducted the work of the Hillel Foundations was largely an experiment at its very beginning. There are at present eight Foundations in operation, with an annual budget of about \$130,000. The Hillel idea has received general appreciative recognition from the leaders of American Jewry. I feel that we are justified in our expectation that the large community of Cleveland include us in their drive for an annual amount of \$15,000, though of course we would not be altogether uncompromising as to the amount. I am quite anxious to eliminate the necessity of organizing independent, competitive, wasteful and exhausting campaigns.

As I said above, this may not call for any immediate action on your part but I am writing so as to obtain your own reaction on this problem and to assure ourselves of your help when the time comes. Would you be kind enough to drop me a line as to how you feel about it?

Cordially yours,

Wahmon

Secretary.



Will be happy to see you at noon at the Temple A.H.Silver

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

Elgin, Ill December 13, 1930.

Bnai Brith, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Brothers:

I have been informed that Rabbi Silver of Cleveland, Ohio, recently made a statement, that all Jewish employees of the manufacturers of the Lucky Strike cigarettes, (The American Tobacco Company N.Y.) have been discharged. You are in a position to ascertain if this statement was made by Rabbi Silver. Also, if the statement is true. In the event that this statement is true I wish to broadcast same through all my friends. Nothing will be said until I hear from you.

> In the meantime I remain Fraternally yours,

Moses Van Buren.

Member Adolf Kraus Lodge Chicago, Ill. B'NAI B'RITH ELECTRIC BUILDING CINCINNATI, OHIO

ALFRED M. COHEN

December 15, 1930.

Dr. Abba H. Silver, Ansel Road at 105th Street, Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

We are in receipt of a letter, co y of which is enclosed, together with copy of our answer thereto. Will you kindly inform us so that we may be in a position to give a definite answer to the letter?

With kindest regards, believe me

Sincerely yours, President.

AMC/R

December 15, 1930.

Mr. Moses Van Buren, Elgin, Illinois.

My dear Brother Van Buren:

Acknowledging receipt of yours of the 13th inst. I beg to say that I shall at once communicate with Rabbi Silver and advise you of his answer.

In the meantime it is of utmost importance that you adhere to your present intention to say nothing on the subject because if the report received by you is without foundation, great harm might be done.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely and fraternally yours,

President.

AMC/R

## Dec. 17th, 1930

Mr. Alfred M. Cohen, The B'nai B'rith, Electric Bldg., Cincinnati, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Cohen :-

I have received the copies of Mr. Van Buren's letter to you and your answer to him.

The rumors that I made a statement about the Lucky Strike people have been afloat in this part of the state for some weeks now. Two gentlemen were in to see me about the matter a fortnight ago.

Of course there is not an iota of truth to the rumor. I never made any reference to the Lucky Strike people or to the American Tobacco Company or to the fact that they discharged any of their Jewish employees, at any time in my discourses. I know absolutely nothing about the matter.

The gentlemen who called on me suggested that perhaps some competitor was deliberately circulating the rumor.

With kindest regards, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR

B'NAI B'RITH ELECTRIC BUILDING CINCINNATI, OHIO

ALFRED M. COHEN

December 19, 1930.

Dr. Abba H. Silver, East 105th Street at Ansel Road, Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:-

This will acknowledge your letter

of the 17th inst. Thanks.

With kind regards, believe me

Sincersly yours, on President.

AMC/R

## B'NAI B'RITH WIDER SCOPE COMMITTEE **70 ELECTRIC BUILDING**

I. M. RUBINOW, NATIONAL DIRECTOR

CINCINNATI, OHIO

January 13, 1931

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

My dear Rabbi Silver:

Life certainly brings with it changes, and so I find myself at Cincinnati, having joined the staff of the B'nai B'rith, taking particular charge of the Wider Scope work. Matters, as you know, at one hundred and eleven were rather unsettled for months, and the opportunity for service with the Order having come up, I made the change, after nine years with the Keren Hayesod and the U.P.A. I look forward with a great deal of pleasure to my opportunities to be associated with you in the Wider Scope work of the Order, and hope that my activities will meet with some measure of success.

Now as to the business at hand, Dr. Rubinow has asked me to inform you of the latest advices from the Jewish Welfare Fund for Cleveland, and I am herewith enclosing letter received today from Mr. Goldhamer. It is still the hope at the office here that sufficient moral pressure can be brought about by the B'nai B'rith leaders in Cleveland in order to secure the just recognition of the Wider Scope claim. Mr. Goldhamer's letter would indicate that there is still a possibility that the Welfare Fund Budget Committee would reconsider our application. Dr. Rubinow has asked me also to forward to you copy of his letter of January 6, which is before the Budget Committee, and which sets forth the why and wherefor of our claim.

Once the Jewish Welfare Fund campaign is held in Cleveland, it will become doubly difficult to make further collections for the Wider Scope and the national budget for the Hillel Foundations will be seriously jeopardized. We are confident, therefore, that you will continue to press for at least some appropriation, and that your counsel will prevail.

At Dr. Rubinow's suggestion, we are also writing to Mr. Alfred Benesch and Mr. Edward Schweid.

With kindest regards, I am

Ve y cordially yours,

fiel Kadis Ididor Kadis

IK:BP Enc.

## THE JEWISH WELFARE FUND OF CLEVELAND 610 Federal Reserve Bldg., Cleveland, Ohio

#### My dear Dr. Rubinow:

I have your letter of January 6th which I shall be glad to submit to the Budget Committee for the Welfare Fund when it meets again to review the tentative allocations which have been made; this will likely not take place until the success of the present Drive is assured and it becomes possible thereby for the Committee to reconsider some of the applications which were not granted.

At the time you visited me the material for the Budget Committee had not been prepared and the information which was submitted to them from your Proceedings of March 1930 seemed to indicate to them sufficient ground for placing the Wider Scope's application among those that would need to be deferred so far as 1931 is concerned; the Hadassah was not considered for inclusion for similar reason, having already had commitments made by its supporters in the Community for 1931.

I believe that the Committee is in thorough accord with the work of the Hillel Foundation which as you say represents in the main the activity of the Wider Scope Program.

Sincerely yours,

S. GOLDHAMMER

Dr. I. M. Rubinow, Secretary, B'mai B'rith Wider Scope Committee, 70 Electric Building, Cincinnati, Ohio.

January 10, 1931.

January 6, 1931.

Mr. S. Goldhammer, Ex. Director, Jewish Welfare Federation, 610 Federal Reserve Bldg., Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Mr. Goldhammer:

COPY

I am very sorry indeed that in face of repeated efforts I was unsuccessful in arranging for a conference with you when I was in Cleveland. I intended to stay over Thursday in order to see you them but unfortunately I caught a very bad cold so that I felt it safer to return.

Naturally I was deeply disappointed at the provisional decision of your Budgetary Committee not to include the Wider Scope in the 1931 drive. I confess that the information in reference to this decision came to me as a complete shock, particularly because a week earlier I had a telegram from your publicity department asking for publicity material concerning B'nai B'rith for use in the campaign. I had, therefore, reason to assume that our inclusion had been approved in principle.

I saw Dr. Silver and Mr. Benesch for a few minutes during my one day's sta in Cleveland. I learned from them that the question which was raised by yourself was that 1931 was the fifth year of our campaign and, therefore, you felt our inclusion was not necessary, in fact would give us a double source of revenue.

. The argument may appear plausible but in substance there is not much strength to it. I am sorry that you had not raised this question when I was in your office about a month ago and when I felt that I could assume your support in favor of the inclusion of the Wider Scope.

It is true that the year 1931 is the fifth and last of the 5 year campaign. I am sure, however, from the wealth of your experience in fund raising you realize that the financial value of the fifth year obligations is a very problematic one indeed. I am quite sure that you will agree with me that five year campaigns are hopeless, that even three year campaigns offer serious difficulties. In fact with the total of nearly \$37,000 pledged, we have received in four years less than \$15,000 and during they last seven or eight months the income had almost dwindled down to nothing. So that in the natural course of events there is very little we can expect to collect during the fifth year.

There is only one way in which we might increase the income and that is by conducting a very energetic collection campaign which would practically amount to a new campaign and would require the same kind of effort. Moreover, if we are to realize something substantial, we could not afford to wait for after the Welfare Fund drive, which is to take place I understand in three or four weeks. The community would not be responsive to collections of pledges four or five years old. Thus we would get it coming and going. On the **sthur** hand **the** we would remain outside of the Welfare Fund and on the other the other the Welfare Fund drive would further reduce our chance of collections. Our only way to meet that would be to start a collection campaign immediately and if we do that we will create at least the appearance of competition with the Welfare Fund campaign, something which neither you nor I are anxious to call forth.

The practical problem of avoiding any possible duplication can be met very easily. We are quite prepared to agree to credit all collections on Wider Scope against appropriations made to us out of the Welfare Fund. That would be a fair arrangement to both parties.



## May I point out again the following considerations:

Hillel work represents the substance of the Wider Scope program (some 75% of it). The value of Hillel work has been recognized throughout the country. Ohio having an important Hillel Foundation (and there must be a large number of Jewish boys and girls from Cleveland studying at Columbus). It should be unnecessary to prove to the Cleveland community the merits of the Wider Scope claim. The B'nai B'rith group in Cleveland is large and important. My contacts indicate that they are interested in the welfare of the Order and the programs of Hillel work.

I, therefore, hope very much that you will find it plausible to suggest to the Budgetary Committee a revision of its previous decision and that the Wider Scope will be given an appropriate place in your Welfare Fund Campaign.

Sincerely yours,

I. M. RUBINOW

# B'nai B'rith

ELECTRIC BUILDING CINCINNATI, O.

#### Officers

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PRESIDENTS OF ALL AMERICAN DISTRICTS January 29, 1931.

Dr. Abba H. Silver % The Temple E. 105th St. at Ansel Rd. Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

This is to advise you that the meeting of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation Commission which is to take place on February 10th, will be held at the Standard Club, 320 Plymouth Court, Chicago, Illinois, at ten o'clock A. M.

This meeting is of utmost importance and your attendance is urgently requested. Will you kindly indicate on the enclosed card whether we may expect you?

Sincerely and fraternally yours.

J.m. Jubinorda

hat leer and

SR

B'NAI B'RITH ELECTRIC BUILDING CINCINNATI, OHIO

ALFRED M. COHEN

March 4, 1931.

Dr. Abba H. Silver, The Temple, Ansel Road at 105th Street, Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Silver :-

In common with all the members of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation Commission I regretted your absence from the meeting recently held in Chicago. I know that you are fully impressed with the importance of the work entrusted to the Commission. Its meetings are held on dates fixed months in advance by the members themselves in meeting assembled, thereby enabling the members of the Commission to arrange their calendars with reference thereto. Of course last moment conditions may arise that prevent attendance at meetings, but except as to such, nothing ought transcend the obligation to be present at these meetings.

I am constrained to address this line to you in view of the rule adopted at the first meeting of the Commission:

"It was moved, seconded and carried that for the purpose of insuring the attendance of members of the Commission at its meetings, the following rule be created: In case of two successive unexcused absences of members who are not elected by the Districts, they be dropped from the Commission and their places filled by the President of the Order with the approval of the Executive Committee; and in case of two successive absences of a representative of a District, the General Committee of such District be notified of the facts and furnished with a copy of this rule, for such action as it sees fit to take."

I am quite sure that something out of the ordinary must have prevented you from coming to the last meeting.

The next meeting of the Commission will be held in Cincinnati on Tuesday, June 9th.

With very kindest regards and best wishes, believe me

Sincerely and fraternally

Chairman B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation Commission.

AMC/R

March 6th, 1931

Mr. Alfred M. Cohen, B'nai B'rith, Electric Blag., Cincinnati, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Cohen:-

Permit me to acknowledge your kind letter of March 4th.

I have been a bad boy and quite negligent in attending the meetings of the Hillel Foundation. I shall try to do better in the future.

With kindest regards, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR

Champaign, Illinois March 13, 1931.

Bre I. Me Rubinou, Electric Blage, Cincinnati, Chice

C O

Bear Dr. Rubiness

During the past four weeks I have been studying rather enrofully the financing plans of the other Foundations on the comput, and it has led no to suggest a plan of financing for our own Foundation for next year. It is not very well worked out in detail, but the general principle, it seems to me, is sound.

I would suggest that we ask our stutent body to become members of the Hillel Foundation, paying an annual membership fee of Five Dollars (\$5.00) such. Even if we secured only five or six hundred members, this would bring in an income of \$2,500 or \$3,000.

The plan has pleaty of precedent because practically every other Foundation on the campus is partly financed by the student body. Practically every organization asks its constituents for some financial assistance. Yolishok's, Community Centers, Temples, ster--- all have financing plans. Five Dollars is not a very great hardship when it is included in the large budget of a youngster's schooling. The only objection that I see is that there may be some poor youngsters who would not be able to join because of financial imability, but in such instances I can always five complicantary semberships, and no one will know who pays and who deem't.

Our Foundation on such a basis would be able in a tangible way to count who actually is willing to pay for part of its support. It would give the members a much deeper interest in an organization to which they contribute for its support. Students who are not members would, of course, not be denied the use of our facilities any more than the public is excluded from Tample services if they are not members. But there would be certain privileges for members, and they alone would have a right to manage the institution through their committees.

With all good wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

A.L. Sachar

B'nai B'rith

ELECTRIC BUILDING CINCINNATI, O.

#### Officers

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PRESIDENTS OF ALL AMERICAN DISTRICTS May 18, 1931.

Dr. Abba H. Silver, c/o The Temple, E. 105th St. at Ansel Rd., Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

This is to remind you that a meeting of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation Commission will be held in Cincinnati on Tuesday, June 9, at ten A. M., at the headquarters of B'nai B'rith, 40 Electric Building.

Will you kindly indicate on the enclosed card

whether we may expect you?

Sincerely yours,

Secretary.

## IMR/NS

### Wire June9th, 1931

Regret exceedingly that due to necessity of officiating at funeral I can not attend meeting. Kindest regards

A.H. Silver

## COPY - FOR YOUR INFORMATION

May 27, 1931.

Dr. Louis L. Mann, 4600 Grand Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Dr. Mann:

In preparation for the next meeting of the Hillel Commission, I have asked the Directors to furnish me budgetary estimates for the next academic year.

Even though I impressed upon all of them the great necessity of utmost economy, in view of the present financial situation, the results are not quite satisfactory.

As against \$118,500 allewed to the eight Foundations for the present academic year, 1930-31 (exclusive of our general expenses at the home office, expenses of Hillel Commission meetings, etc.) the Directors submitted budgets totalling \$111,000, being a reduction of only \$7,500. It should be unnecessary for me to point out the serious financial situation. This is the most critical year in Jewish social service since the War. Particularly have national Jewish agencies dealing with cultural work, suffered. Our income this year has been running pretty close to that of last year, which I believe is no small achievement, but even at that, is not enough. We had a deficit of \$60,000 last year and it would be utterly impossible for us to face such a debt this year.

According to the decision of the Executive Committee at its last meeting in January, the Hillel budgets for the next academic year must be adopted by the Hillel Commission and submitted to a meeting of the Central Administrative Board some time at the beginning of next year for approval. Therefore, consideration of budgets presents the most important problem for the meeting to be held on June 9. I have written to all the Directors, asking them to make further cuts and suggesting more or less arbitrary maxima, which will give us a total budget of \$102,000 for the eight Foundations, or a further reduction of \$9,000 from the budgets they submitted and a total reduction of \$16,000 from last year. That appears to me to be as far as we can go without totally crippling any of the institutions.

I wish I had an opportunity of discussing these budgets with you in advance. As this appears impossible, I am enclosing herewith copies of letters sent to all the Directors except at Wisconsin and Ohio. As Dr. Levinger is away in Palestine, it seems useless to write to him and the adjustment will have to be made upon his return. For obvious reasons I did not think it wise to discuss the budget in further detail with the present Director of the Wisconsin Foundation.

Cordially yours, All futurent Secretary.

IMR/NS

May 28, 1931.

## Circular Memorandum to the Members of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Commission

I. This memorandum is sent to the members of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Commission in advance of the meeting of the Commission, to be held in Cincinnati on Tuesday, June 9, 1931, in order to aid the Commission in its deliberations.

In view of the present financial situation and its effects upon the Wider Scope, the problem of budgeting the eight Foundations is the most important issue requiring careful consideration. This memorandum is devoted entirely to the subject of finance.

II. General conditions of the Wider Scope. The cost of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations represents by far the largest item in the so-called Wider Scope budget.

The total Wider Scope budget for the calendar year 1931, as estimated by the Executive Committee, January 25, 1931, was \$189,650, of which the needs of the Hillel Foundations constituted \$115,750, or over 61%.

Since January 1, 1931, to the end of May, that is, in five months, the Wider Scope expenditures were approximately \$85,000, of which the Hillel Foundations claimed approximately \$56,000, or 66%. It is obvious, therefore, that the financing of the Hillel Foundations depends entirely upon the success of the Wider Scope.

III. Results of the Wider Scope in 1930. Total expenditures for the Wider Scope budget in 1930 were as follows:

Hillel Foundations All other	\$122,383 78,117
Total Wider Scope Expenditures	\$200,500
Income of the Wider Scope	133,022
Deficit for 1930	\$ 67,478

The above deficit for the year has cut into the reserve so heavily that a similar deficit for the current year could not be met.

IV. Wider Scope finances, January 1-May 31, 1931.

Expenditures	approximately	\$ 85,000
Income	u v	65,000

Deficit for the five months \$ 20,000

The difficulties of raising funds for social service purposes during this year are of course well known. Only because of a very strenuous effort was it possible to keep the income this year almost equal to that of last year.

W. W.		January January				approximately	\$69,473 65,000
			Los	s of	Income	D	\$ 4,473

It is very difficult to expect any substantial increase in the Wider Scope income over that of last year, particularly if the general economic condition should not show a decided improvement.

Total income from Wider Scope during the last seven months of the year, June 1 to December 31, 1930, was approximately \$68,000. With the utmost effort it is difficult to expect more than about \$70,000 or \$75,000 for the remaining seven months of 1931.

V. The necessity for economy. In view of the above situation, necessity for extreme economy is obvious and it has been the policy of this office.

Total expend. for W. S. Jan. 1, -May 31, 1930, approx. \$95,320 " " Jan. 1, -May 31, 1931, " 85,000

Reduction in expend. for the five months, approx. \$10,000

As far as Hillel Foundations are concerned, there was some saving but not to the same extent.

Hillel Foundation expenditures:

January					\$58,900
Januar y	1-May	31,	1931,	approximately	56,000

Saving during five months approximately \$ 3,000

VI. B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation budgets. The total budget of the eight Hillel Foundations (exclusvie of national office expenditures, meetings, etc.) for the academic year 1929-30, as adopted on February 24, 1930, amounted to \$111,490.

The total budget of the eight Foundations for the academic year 1930-31, as adopted by the Hillel Commission at its meeting on September 8, 1930, was \$116,000, or an increase of \$4,500 largely due to increases of salaries as a result in changes in personnel.

One difficulty in Hillel budget making is that the budgets for the Foundations must be made in the fall for the academic year, while the general budget of the B'nai B'rith is adopted by the Executive Committee at its January meeting for the calendar year. Because of the uncertainty of income the Executive Committee at its last meeting adopted the Hillel budgets only up to September 1, 1931. No appropriation was made beyond that date. The Executive Committee voted that the budget for the next academic year should be prepared by the Hillel Commission and approved by the Central Administrative Board at its next meeting.

VII. Budgets for the next academic year. The Directors of the Hillel Foundations were requested to prepare budgets for the academic year 1931-32. The necessity for utmost economy was repeatedly impressed upon them and while some Directors were duly influenced, others evidently were not. As against a total budget of \$118,500% for this year, the requests for next year were \$111,000, a reduction of \$7,500, or only about 6%.

VIII. Necessity for further reductions. In view of the probable financial situation the Secretary feels that further cuts are absolutely necessary.

All the Directors were again communicated with and reduced budgets were suggested to them in accordance with the schedule which follows:

Foundation	Budget	Budget Asked by	Budget
	1930-31	Directors	Suggested
California	\$17,425	\$17,425	\$15,000
Cornell	10,410	10,440	9,500
Illinois	18,025	15,325	15,000
Michigan	17,780	16,315	15,000
Ohio	17,450	16,500	15,000
Texas	11,600	10,000	10,000
W. Va.	7,800	7,460	7,000
Wisconsin	18,025	17,550	15,000
Total	\$118,515	\$111,015	\$101,500

The budgets offered to the Directors will represent another saving of about \$9,500, or a total reduction from last year's budget of \$17,000.

Undoubtedly, many Directors will object to these drastic cuts and will claim that it will totally cripple the work. The Secretary feels, however, that at least as a temporary measure to tied over the difficult period of depression, an adjustment of these budgets to the lower levels will be possible; that the cooperation of the students can be obtained and that while these cuts may result in some inconvenience, they will not destroy the organization and that they are much more preferable than the possible discontinuance of one or two Foundations.

The members of the Commission are requested to study carefully the facts and figures herewith presented, with a view of rendering a just decision at the meeting of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Commission.

Multim

Confidential

MINUTES OF MEETING OF B'NAI B'RITH HILLEL FOUNDATION COMMISSION, JUNE 9, 1931, CINCINNATI, OHIO.

Pursuant to the action of its last meeting, the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation Commission met on June 9, 1931 at the B'nai B'rith headquarters in Cincinnati, Ohio, beginning at ten o'clock A.M.

There were present: Alfred M. Cohen, Chairman; Dr. Louis L. Mann, Acting National Director; Rabbi Edward L. Israel, representative of District Grand Lodge No. 5; Rabbi Solomon Goldman; Rabbi James G.

Heller; Morris Waldman; Philip Seman, and Dr. I. Attendants and M. Rubinow, Secretary.

Absent members: Joseph Rosenzweig, representative of District Grand Lodge No. 1; Edwin J. Schanfarber, representative of District Grand Grand Lodge No. 2; Judge Joseph L. Kun, representative of District Grand Lodge No. 3; Honorablo Edgar L. Levey, representative of District Grand Lodge No. 4; Fred Bernstein, representative of District Grand Lodge No. 6; A.B.Freyer, representative of District Grand Lodge No. 6; Silver, appointee of the President, and Dr. Nathan Krass, appointed by the Commission.

Communications explaining the absence of Rabbi Silver, Rabbi Nathan Krass, A.B.Freyer and Mr. Levey were read.

The minutes of the last meeting of the Commission held February 10, 1931, as transmitted to the members were approved.

Dr. Mann read a	letter addressed to him by Mr. Solomon Lamport
Solomon Lamport	in which Mr. Lamport regretfully declined ap-
declines appointment	pointment on the Commission because of his
	many other engagements.

The Secretary read a communication from Dr. A. L. Sachar, Director of the Foundation at the University of Illinois, in which he suggested that the student body be asked to become members of the Hillel Foundation, paying an annual membership fee of \$5.00 each. Dr. Sachar added that his

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proposal has "plonty of precedent because practically every other Foundation on the campus is partly financed by the student body. Practically every organization asks its constituents for

some financial assistance. Y.M.H.A.'s, Community Centers, Tomples, etc. -all have financing plans". The suggestion was very freely and fully diseussed. A motion was made and seconded that it is the sense of this meeting that Dr. Sachar's proposal be concurred in for experimental purposes at the Illinois Foundation only, but inasmuch as this matter represents a departure from the policy of the Foundations, the Commission deems it important that every member of the Commission be given an opportunity to express his opinion thereon and that such opinion be sought by mail from the absent members and that after the same have been received, the entire subject be referred to a Committee of three, Mr. Waldman, Rabbi Heller, and Judge Kun, who, with the vote of this meeting and opinions of those not present, decide whether or not Dr. Sachar's suggestion shall be put into operation in the Illinois Foundation. The Chairman, having no vote, desired recorded his dissent from the otherwise unanimous opinion of those present, in favor of the adoption of Dr. Sachar's suggestion.

A letter to the Chairman from Dr. Sachar with reference to financing the building program for the Illinois Foundation was read, in the course of which Dr. Sachar said: "This week we were able to complete the financing by securing a \$30,000 loan from one of the local banks, \$10,000 of which would be personally guaranteed by local Hillel friends and the

Financ	ing bu:	ilding	progi	ram
for Il	linois	Found	tion	de-
ferred				

other \$20,000 would be a mortgage on the building and lot. The interest on \$30,000 would amount to \$1800 and inasmuch as the rental which is being sent by the National Office comes to

\$2700 there would be enough not only to pay the interest charge but the increased maintenance as well. The principal could be whittled down through the liquidation of pledges which we now have and through the cooperation of the student body each year. However, I see very clearly that this would entail an obligation upon the National Office to maintain the local Hillel Foundation for some years to come. I shall not involve anyone in any obligation until the Hillel Commission is ready to see the wisdom of beginning upon a building of our own."

A motion was made, seconded, and carried that because of the unpropitiousness of the times, action on Dr. Sachar's proposal be deferred.

Dr. Mann reported that he had written the Presidents of the Universities of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta, Canada, offering prizes to the first named of \$100 \$50 and \$50 and to the

Alberta, Canada, offering prizes to the first named of \$100, \$50 and \$50 and to the others, \$100 and \$50 each for best essays

written by students either Jewish or non-Jewish, in accordance with the resolution adopted by the last meeting of the Commission.

Mr. Levey, because of inability to attend this meeting communicated the following report of the Foundation at the University of California:

"By reason of the fact that the University of California has, in addition to its local Student body, drawn attendance from many other States and especially from foreign climes, the Foundation as a Jewish Center has come to mean a great deal to those whose places of residence are beyond the boundaries of California. Twenty-nine students from twelve different foreign countries are registered at the Foundation. It is a keen satisfaction to observe that these young men and women, strangers as they are, without contacts and without social connection, have taken an active part in the Hillel work and have thus been enabled to accommodate themselves to their new environment.

"One of the greatest difficulties which presents itself to the Foundation is the necessity of endeavoring to secure employment for many students. The emergency loan fund which has been created by student contribution has been of considerable aid in this respect. The Foundation being close to the metropolitan area of San Francisco has, through the endeavors of B'nai B'rith members and some others, been enabled to secure part-time work for a large number of students.

"Commencing with the next semester the Director advises me that arrangements will be made for special courses in Jewish Religious subjects. While open forums have been held and opportunities have been afforded the students to be present at lectures delivered by educators and communal leaders on subjects of general interest, recognition has been given to the necessity of giving courses of the character indicated.

"The Foundation has been particularly fortunate in having the aid of the good women of the East Bay Community who have aided materially in making the social end of the Institute a success. Weekly open house and fortnightly Sunday evening gatherings, together with Foundation dinners, have rendered the program most attractive.

"The Director has in mind certain adjustments in Religious Services

Reports	of	mem	bers	of	the	
Commissi	on	on	Found	lati	ons	
referred	to	th	em.			

so that those of both reformed and orthodox tendencies may be satisfied. Progress in this respect is being made and it is tho belief that Orthodox services may be organized at the beginning

of the next semester.

"While formal courses have not been given, yet informal discussion groups have been formed and assembled not only at the Foundation but at the Jawish fraternities and sororitics, where such themes as Einstein, the Passfield Paper, Nathan Straus, the Last Days of Shylock, the Hebrew University, etc., have been discussed. Forty such discussion groups have been held, at which 680 students have been present.

"During the past year the Binai Birith Foundation Open Forum ran a series of addresses on "Seeing Soviet Russia". Addresses in this respect were delivered by both Jewish and non-Jewish Professors and Professional Men and Engineers.

"Again referring to religious observation, it is to be noted that Friday evening Services are a regular and integral part of the program of the Foundation. By a system of exchanges, other California rabbis than the Director are frequently brought to student services, while readers of the ritual and, at times, speakers are drawn from students. At the New Year and Day of Atonement Services a total of 590 were in attendance.

"One outstanding feature of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at Berkoloy is its cooperation with other sectarian groups in the several constructive tasks which serve a common cause. The University Union Thanksgiving Service was held this year under the joint auspices of the Catholic, Protestant and Jowish Foundations.

"Debating and dramatics have registered marked success during the past year. Recently at the Little Theater of the International House of the University, before an audience of 500, the Hillel Players produced Sutton Vane's three act comedy "Outward Bound". The play was produced, acted, and managed by Jewish student talent. It was judged by critics to be the equal of anything that the University Players with their highly componsated staff have produced this year.

"In order to promote interest in the Lodges, the players, as well as the debaters of the Foundation, have been sont to several cities in the State to officiate before the mombership of the Order in these Communities.

"Pursuant to a resolution adopted at the Convention held in 1930 by District No. 4, a Committee has been organized which is about to report to the forthcoming Grand Lodge a course to be pursued whereby a number of scholarships will be made available to the Foundation."

Rabbi Heller reported that he had written to the Director of the Michigan Foundation inquiring when he might bost visit that Foundation and the Director advised that the visit be deferred until next Fall and that he had accepted this suggestion.

Rabbi Israel reported that he had had the same experience at the Foundation at Morgantown. He was not able to visit the Foundation earlier in the year and when able to do so he wrote the Director who advised that the visit be deferred until the Fall, which suggestion he had adopted.

Mr. Waldman reported that he had visited the Cornell Foundation and found the work progressing excellently. His visit was on the eve: of a large fraternity affair but nevertheless Rabbi Hoffman was successful in obtaining a very large attendance at the Foundation. In the opinion of Mr. Waldman, Rabbi Hoffman as Director, has taken full advantage of every opportunity to develop the activities of the Foundation and he was pleased to say that Rabbi Hoffman has become an important factor in college life at Cornell.

Rabbi Goldman reported that he had not visited the Wisconsin Foundation since the last meeting because of a contemplated change in the Director thereof.

Dr. Mann reported that Mr. Seman, Rabbi Goldman and himsolf had H.I.Saperstein of Cornell acted as judges in the Kline essay declared winner in Kline contest. The winner was Mr. H. I. ossay contest Saperstein of Cornell. Noteworthy was the fact that Cornell submitted five

essays in the contest. A suggestion was made that the essay be given to the B'nai B'rith Magazine for publication if found usable by the Editors.

Dr. Mann read a letter from Rabbi Hoffman relating the difficul-

Removal of Foundation headquarters at Cornell suggested

ties in which the Temple at Ithaca is involved and suggesting the possible removal of the headquarters of the Foundation from the Templo to Barnes Hall. Mr. Waldman suggested that no action be taken until a thorough investigation has been made, which recommendation was con-

curred in, and the matter was referred to Mr. Waldman and Rabbi Krass for investigation, a report and recommondation to be submitted to the next meeting.

Rabbi Merritt, Director of the California Foundation, asked the Commission's sanction for Hilbl's participation in a school of religious

Consent given to Director of California Foundation to participate in a joint Roligious Educational School

education to be conducted at the University of California in conjunction with the Protestant and Catholic Foundations conditioned upon the approval of the President and authorities at the University of California.

It was moved and carried that Rabbi Merritt be authorized to enter into such an arrangement provided no financial obligation is incurred.

Rabbi Merritt asked permission of the Commission to conduct the High Holy Day services in Rabbi Reichert's Temple at San Francisco as assistant to Rabbi Reichert.

A motion was made and carried that Rabbi Merritt be advised that the Commission believes it best that the services be conducted at the University as heretofore.

Rabbi Merritt suggested that the budget of the California Foundation be onlarged so as to include a salary for a student to act as head of an employment bureau, salary to be \$15 or \$20 a month. He informed the Commission that this work had been successfully carried on by the Foundation and that positions for about 150 students had been found.

It was moved and carried that the suggestion be not embraced.

A communication from Dr. Harold Korn, New York City, proposing that a B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation be established in New York City without cost to the B'nai B'rith or its local lodges was submitted, in which Dr. Korn declined to put in writing his plan, but stated his readiness to disclose the same in confidence to a Committee. On motion, Mr. Waldman and Rabbi Krass were appointed a Committee to confer with Dr. Korn.

Commission repeats its	determina-
tion that all sections	of Jewry are
entitled to equal cons	sideration

Correspondence between Dr. Leo Jung and Mr. Louis Fabricant, member of the Executive Committee of the B'nai B'rith, was read, in which Dr. Jung complained that the Hillel Foundations did not show full regard for the princi-

ples and practices of Orthodoxy. The members of the Commissi on agreed with Dr. Jung that the Directors of the Foundations owe a duty to all scruples, Orthodox as well as others, and that they should be aggressively interested in establishing all types of Jewish religious services. Proceeding to the<br/>Dr. David de Sola Pool<br/>elected member of the<br/>Commissionelection of a member of a member of the Commission to fill<br/>the vacancy occasioned by the declination<br/>of Mr. Lamport, it was moved and unanimous-<br/>ly carried that Dr. David de Sola Pool of<br/>New York City be elected to fill the

vacancy.

The Secretary presented the following tentative budget for the Secretary's tentative bud- oight Foundations: get for the Foundations

	Wisc.	Cal.	Ohio	W.Va.	Cor- nell	Texas	III.	Mich	Total
Plant									
1. Rent 2. Janitor 3. Maintenance Total	3000 700 800 4500	2400 750 750 3900	1800 350 700 2850	1800 300 375 2475	315 60 375	2100 325 500 2925	2700 500 350 3550	1500 500 900 2900	15,300 3,740 4,435 23,475
Salaries									
<ul> <li>4. Director</li> <li>5. Ass't. Dir.</li> <li>6. Part Time Sec</li> <li>7. Secretary</li> <li>8. Music Dir.</li> <li>Total</li> <li>Administration</li> </ul>	500  8800	7000 1500  700  9200	7500 2000 500 400 10400	1500 1000 400  2900	6000 405 675  7080	5000  375  5375	8000 600 1000 <u></u> 9600	8000 750  800  9550	49,500 8,055 4,950 400 62,905
<ul> <li>9. Office</li> <li>10. Library</li> <li>11. Magazine</li> <li>12. Director</li> <li>13. Travel</li> <li>14. Postage Total</li> <li>Activ. of Communication</li> </ul>	225 200  50  450 925	250 125 50  425	300 100 50  100  550	125 50 50  350  575	150 150 25  350  675	100 100 25  100  325	350 200 75  4-  625	200 150 40  75  465	1,700 1,075 315 50 975 450 4,565
15. Social 16. Dramatics 17. Athletics 18. Student Cour 19. Student Foru 20. Social Welfa Total	300 600 50 ncil 150 um	250	400 400 50 100  100 1050	250 75  50  425	335  50 90 155 630	150 75 50 75  25 375	300 500  75  75 950	400 400  150  100 1050	2,535 2,200 150 850 90 980 6,805

					Cor-				
	Wisc.	Cal.	Ohio	W.Va.	noll	Texas	3 Ill.	Mich.	Total
Education									
1. Religious	200	900	150		485	75	200	500	2,510
2. Educ. Forum	350	500	350	300	375	125		300	2,300
3. Monorah		75	150				50	250	525
4. Avukah		75						100	175
5. Choral	500	200	200	100	95			100	1,195
	1050	1750	850	400	955	200	250	1250	6,705
6. Publicity	250			150	300	150	200	300	1,350
7. Publication	700	750	500	300	225	250	150	600	3,475
Total	950	750	500	450	525	400	350	900	4,825
8. Special Aud	iting			35					35
9. Perm. Impro		400	300	200	200			200	1,300
Total		400	300	235	200			200	1,335
RAND TOTAL	17550	17425	16500	7460	10440	*9600	15325	16315	110,615
SUDGET 1930-31	18025	17425	17450	7800	10410	11600	18025	17780	118,515

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\*Gross amount of Director's salary of which \$2500 is to be contributed by the Austin Congregation, making the total net budget \$7100.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that it was the sense of the Commission that assistants to the Directors be discontinued at least for the coming year, and that working out of details having regard to this new condition be referred to the Acting National Director, Chairman, and Secretary, with power to act.

Action on the tentative budget It was moved, seconded, and carried that it is the sense of the Commission that the paid officers of a Foundation shall be limited to the Director and Student Secretary and that

working out of the details having regard to this new condition be referred to the Acting National Director, Secretary and Chairman, with power to act.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that such student secretaries as are now receiving above \$600 a year shall be limited to that amount during the coming year.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that paid musical directors be eliminated.

It was moved, seconded, and carried to eliminate from the budget "travelling expense" wherever it appears except in the case of the West Virginia Foundation, which was made an exception because the Director of that Foundation officiates as Rabbi in another place and divides his time between them. It was moved, seconded, and carried that the item "postage" be eliminated from the Wisconsin Foundation budget as the same is included under office expense.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that the following changes be made in the tentative budgets submitted abovo:

> Item No. 15 "social" -- the maximum expense shall be \$300 for any Foundation. Item No. 16 "dramatics" -- shall be limited to \$250.

Items No. 18 "student council", No. 19 "student forum" and No. 20 "social welfare" be eliminated and the word "miscellaneous" be substituted for items No. 18 and 19, with a maximum outlay of \$100.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that the cost of item No. 21 "religious services" shall, in no case, be increased and wherever more than \$200 has been expended for such item, the amount during the coming year shall be limited to \$200 exclusive of the cost of renting a place for High Holy Day services wherever and whenever renting such a place is necessary.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that with respect to item No. 22 "educational forum" that it is the sense of the Commission that no fees be paid speakers and that travelling expenses to be allowed speakers be limited to \$150.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that with respect to items No. 23 and 24 that subventions to Menorah and Avukah be temporarily discontinued with the distinct understanding, however, that those organizations shall be accorded with hearty welcome the use of Foundation buildings and facilities and that the reason for discontinuance of monetary subventions be communicated to Menorah and Avukah.

It was moved, seconded, and carried with respect to item No. 25 that the choral expenses at Wisconsin be reduced from \$500 to \$200 and that the maximum allowed any Foundation for that purpose be \$200.

It was mov ed, seconded, and carried that items No. 26 and 27 be consolidated and be known as "publications and publicity" with a maximum allowance of \$400 to be made any Foundation.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that items No. 28 and No. 29 "special auditing" and "permanent improvements" be oliminated.

It was moved, seconded, and carried that provision to the extent of \$1000 shall be made in the general budget for emergencies not to be included, however, in the budgets for the individual Foundations.

On motion duly made, seconded, and carried, the tentative budget submitted by the Secretary, amended in the particulars above stated, was approved. A motion was made, seconded, and carried that the salary of Rabbi Henry Kagan, Director of the Foundation at the University of West Virginia be \$1250 for the coming year.

Dr. Mann reported that promptly after the last meeting of the Commission he communicated to the presidents of the Hebrew Union College, Jewish Theological Seminary, Jewish Institute of Religion, Union of American

Rabbi Max Kadushin of Chicago elected Director of the Foundation at Madison, Wisconsin Hebrew Congregations, and Union of Orthodox Congregations that a vacancy in the directorship of the Wisconsin Foundation was imminent and that suggestions with reference to a director for that Foundation would be wolcome. Dr. Mann stated

that he had received very many answers in response to these letters, that the qualifications for the position of all of the gentlemen whose names were suggested were fully considered by Rabbi Goldman, Mr. Seman and himself, the result of which was that the Committee was unanimously of the opinion that Rabbi Max Kadushin of Chicago was best fitted for the place and the Committee recommended his election.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried that Rabbi Max Kadushin of Chicago be elected Director of the Wisconsin Foundation effective with the beginning of the academic year 1931-32 at a salary of \$7000.

Rabbi Kadushin was advised of his election by long distance telephone and gratefully accepted.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried that Rabbi Solomon Landman, Rabbi Solomon Landman voted an honorarium Director of the Wisconsin Foundation be paid an honorarium of \$200 a month while disengaged, not, however, to exceed a period of

one year from September 1st, next.

No further business being presented, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 P.M.

I.M.Rubinow

Secretary.

Cincinnati, Ohio.

July 3, 1931.

#### Circular Letter to the Following:

Joseph Rosensweig, New York. Edwin J. Schanfarber, Columbus, Ohio. Judge Joseph L. Kun, Philadelphia, Pa. Edgar Levey, San Francisco, California. Fred Bernstein, Chicago, Illinois. A. B. Freyer, Shreveport, La. Dr. Abba H. Silver, Cleveland, Ohio. Dr. Nathan Krass, New York.

#### Dear Brother Dr. Silver:

At the meeting of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation Commission, held on June 9, the Secretary submitted a communication from Dr. A. L. Sachar, Director of the Foundation at the University of Illinois, containing the suggestion for student memberships at that Foundation, with an annual membership fee of \$5.00. A copy of the letter of Dr. Sachar, dealing with this subject is enclosed herewith.

Dr. Sachar's suggestion received very full consideration at the meeting of the Commission but in view of the absence of one half of the minbers of the Commission, whose names are listed above, those present at the meeting deemed it important that every member of the Commission be given an opportunity to express his opinion and that such opinion be sought by mail from every absent member and that in order to facilitate such expression of opinion the arguments for and against this plan as they developed during the discussion be briefly stated:

- (a) Arguments in favor of Dr. Sachars suggestion:
  - 1. Other Foundations at the same University charge a registration fee.
  - 2. During the last year a charge was made for Open Forum lectures at the Illinois B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation with the result that attendance increased rather than decreased.
  - 3. The per capita cost per student at the Hillel Foundations is approximately \$20.00 per annum. A \$5.00 registration fee would, therefore, not pay back the entire cost.
  - 4. Students should not expect, nor should they be given everything for nothing. The finer students are often repelled by it and the cruder students are confirmed in the bad habit of "getting something for nothing".
  - 5. The introduction of this plan at the Illinois Foundation partakes of the nature of an experiment but even the success of the plan would not necessarily mean its inauguration at the other Foundations.

- 6. As far as can be judged by past experience, Dr. Sachar is very likely to make a success of this plan.
- 7. Under the plan those who do not pay the registration fee would not be refused any Hillel facilities.
- 8. Students with modest financial resources could be given Hillel scholarships, as other Foundations give.
- 9. A registration fee would make students feel that they "belong" to Hillel and they would accept their responsibility for the Hillel work more conscientiously.
- (b) Arguments in opposition to Dr. Sachar's suggestion:
  - 1. That the suggestion involves a complete reversal of the policy of Hillel since its beginning: that of urging all Jewish students to euroll under its banner.
  - 2. Admittedly, the registration fee would represent only a small part of the cost of maintaining the Foundation. That a fee is charged would be generally broadcast and would likely result in decreasing subscriptions to the Wider Scope.
  - Even if other Foundations make a charge that would not justify Hillel in following that prectice. It is the pride of S'nai B'rith that it is responsible for the support of the Hillel Foundations.
  - 4. There is no objection to charging a fee for Open Forum lectures led by distinguished speakers. The student may attend these lectures or not without affecting his relationship with Hillel. Hillel was instituted to bring Jowish consciousness to the Jewish student. Charging a fee for contacting the student with something in which, for the time being, he may not be especially interested in not calculated to attract him.
  - 5. Urging the personal attractiveness of the Director of a particular Foundation as a justification for charging a registration fee is bad reason for adopting such a course. Bosides, it is calculated to reflect upon directors of other Foundations, where the plan is not adopted.
  - 6. Classification of students on financial lines should not be encouraged, u under any circumstances.

As definite action on Dr. Sachar's suggestion cannot be delayed too much, you are urged to consider carefully Dr. Sachar's communication and the arguments for and against the suggestion, as presented herewith, and inform us, at your earliest oppertunity, whether you are in favor or against the plan of introducing student membership fees at the University of Illinois B'nei B'rith Hillel Foundation for the next academic year.

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Cordially yours,

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# B'nai B'rith ELECTRIC BUILDING CINCINNATI, O.

aug 11-us in tan est this

July 28, 1931.

Dr. Abba H. Silver, E. 105th St. at Ansel Road, Cleveland, Ohio.

## Dear Dr. Silver:

SR

Will you kindly reply to my letter of the 3d inst. in which you were asked to inform us whether you are in favor or against the plan of introducing student membership fess at the University of Illinois B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation for the next academic year?

I shall appreciate hearing from you on this subject at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary.

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