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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
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Folder
339

B'nai B'rith, 1937-1947.

Address until September 1st
Rogers Park Hotel, Chicago

June 28, 1937

Mr. George Furth
1387 East Blvd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Mr. Furth:

As a result of discussions with Henry Bronsky of Omaha, Richard Gutstadt of Chicago and Dr. Louis Bershenfeld of Philadelphia, I wish to submit to you a project to be sponsored in the fall in your community by B'nai B'rith with the cooperation of as many other Jewish agencies as can be enlisted.

The attainment of citizenship rights by young people when they reach the age of 21 is not accompanied, in our country, by any impressive ceremony. Young men and women slip into the responsibilities of citizenship almost unconsciously, and the privilege of living in one of the few countries in the world where democratic traditions are thoroughly entrenched is taken for granted. Fascist and Communist countries do not make this mistake. In a country like Italy, youngsters are initiated into the Balilla, or the Avanguardisti, with such impressiveness that the ceremony leaves an unforgettable memory. In Russia, young people are brought into the Komsomol with such pageantry that they, too, are permanently affected.

There are not many things to be learned from dictatorship countries. But we can learn not to take for granted the privilege of democracy. The attainment of the age of 21, which brings with it the right of voting and all the responsibilities of sharing in American life, should be marked by dignified, but impressive ceremonies.

This, then, is our suggestion. We have selected forty communities in the United States where there is efficient B'nai B'rith organization and dynamic leadership. We suggest that in each of these communities an impressive rally be arranged to which should be invited all the Jewish young people of the community who have, this year, attained the age of 21. The rally should be carefully planned to avoid flag-waving and ballyhoo, but to include inspirational ceremony and a fine address by some out-

6/28/37

standing personality. The total effect must be such to make the young people feel the exaltation of life in a democratic state.

You will note that the suggestion limits the first rally to Jewish sponsorship and Jewish young people. This is done because of its experimental nature. Perhaps, in time, such a celebration can become national, and, if it does, it will be the gift of B'nai B'rith to American life.

I need hardly add that such an affair must in no way be associated with political partisanship.

There is no better time for inaugurating such a program than in 1937, which marks the 150th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of the United States. Perhaps, therefore, late October or November would be the best time for such an affair. But should it be held simultaneously in each community?

I would appreciate it very much if you would call into consultation some of the B'nai B'rith leaders in your community who can be relied upon for efficient service and perhaps also other Jewish leaders in the institutional life of your community.

One task must be undertaken at once, the task of corraling the names of all the young people in the community who become First Voters in 1937. This will involve checking lists submitted by B'nai B'rith parents, Temples, young people's leagues, Zionist groups, etc.

It would help me to get your reactions and, if you have tangible plans for the program, to send them to me as well. I would then pool them and from all of them distill the most worthwhile suggestions which could then go back to all the communities for service there.

Hoping to hear from you very soon and with all good wishes, I am,

Cordially yours,

A. L. Sachar

ALS:FRL

Cc. Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Judge Louis Drucker

B'nai B'rith

The National Jewish Monthly
70 ELECTRIC BLDG.
CINCINNATI

MAGAZINE

ALFRED M. COHEN
Editor

EDWARD E. GRUSD
Managing Editor

September 8, 1937.

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

Many delegates to the District No. 2 convention of B'nai B'rith in Cleveland have told me of the inspiring address you made at that convention. The printed report of the proceedings has reached me, and I have had an opportunity to read what you said.

The November issue of the B'nai B'rith Magazine will be devoted almost entirely to an account of the various ways in which B'nai B'rith functions, and will contain a record of the Order's achievements. It is intended that this issue will be used extensively throughout the country to build an increased B'nai B'rith membership.

Before I read your address at the Cleveland convention, I had conceived the idea of asking you to write a special article for that issue, not glorifying B'nai B'rith, but expressing your opinion of the potentialities of such a lay Jewish organization in American Jewish life at this time, provided such organization were backed by the masses of American Jewry.

After reading your address, I was happy to see that you approached that very thought in it. In fact, toward the end of your address, you specifically say that B'nai B'rith ought to lead the way in America "to a tranquilizing of Jewish life".

I hope I can induce you to use the text of that very address as the basis for a special article for our November issue. The address in its present form is about the right length but if you could condense some of the political paragraphs of it and expand on the specific paragraphs devoted to B'nai B'rith, it would be just what we would want and would, I am sure, be of great value generally.

I realize that this is perhaps the busiest time of the year for you. I therefore would not expect you to do anything on this until after the holidays. In fact, I would not expect the manuscript from you until October 8, but I am forced to write this early because it is my job to plan and integrate the issue, and I cannot do that unless I have assurances from the various contributors that I may expect their material. I make bold to address this request to you at this busy time because I feel an editing of your convention address will take very little time as compared to the writing of a totally new article.

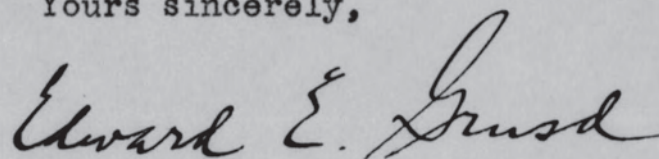
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Page 2

I would, therefore, be grateful for a word from you at your earliest convenience to the effect that I will receive what I have asked for by October 8.

With thanks in advance, and with cordial best wishes for the New Year, I am

Yours sincerely,



Managing Editor.

EEG:FS



September 10, 1937

Edward E. Grusd, Managing Editor,
B'nai B'rith Magazine,
70 Electric Building,
Cincinnati, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Grusd:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of September 8. I appreciate your invitation to recast the address which I delivered before the B'nai B'rith in Cleveland for the November issue of your magazine. I wish I were free to do so. Unfortunately I am fairly submerged in work now and will be all too busy for the next few months. I regret to say that I am in no position to write any articles at the present time and I have very little to add to the theme of the address as printed. If you wish to use any part of it, or all of it, in your magazine, you have my permission to do so.

Perhaps at some future time I may be of service to you. With all good wishes for a very happy new year, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

ALEPH GODOL

ALEPH MAZKIR

Sherman X. Gordon



NORTH STAR CHAPTER NUMBER 210

Aleph Zadik Aleph

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

December 7, 1937

Rabbi Hillel Silver

Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Sir;

I am writing to you in regard to the obtaining of debate material concerning the Partition of Palestine Plan. I have been informed that I may be able to obtain some material from you.

We would appreciate your sending any material you can and your sending the names of sources from which we may obtain further information.

I am enclosing a self-addressed stamped envelope to facilitate and hasten the reply.

Very Sincerely yours,

Sherman X. Gordon
Aleph Mazkir

1366 Summit Ave.

St, Paul, Minn.

B'nai B'rith

1003 K STREET, N. W.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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AND

PRESIDENTS OF ALL
AMERICAN DISTRICTS

April 19, 1938

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

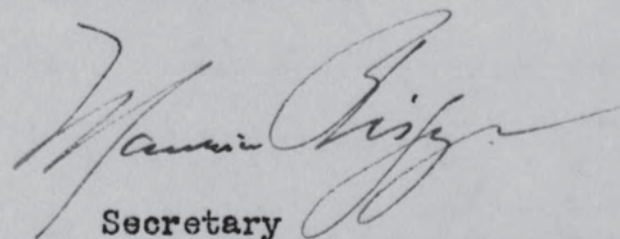
Dear Dr. Silver:

On May 9th a testimonial dinner is to be given in honor of our beloved President Alfred M. Cohen at the New Willard Hotel, Washington, D. C. We are very anxious to secure from you, as early as possible, a message of the esteem in which you hold our Chief Executive.

It is our desire to collate and bind these messages in permanent form for presentation to President Cohen.

Hoping to hear from you as soon as possible,

Sincerely yours,


Secretary

MB/w

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

May 6, 1938

Alfred M. Cohen, Pres.
Nat'l B'nai B'rith
New Willard Hotel
Washington, D.C.

in an unselfish way
You have rendered a great service over many years
to the cause of our people. American Jewry is proud to
honor one of its most faithful & devoted sons. Personally
I send you my own warm greetings.

Abba Hillel Silver

B'nai B'rith

1003 K STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

ALFRED M. COHEN
HONORARY PRESIDENT

CINCINNATI, OHIO

June 6

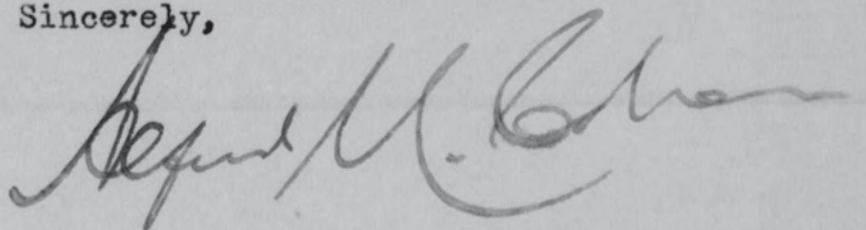
1938

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Friend:

Your very fine message was delivered to me on the eve of the great dinner given me in Washington on the 9th of May and only an avalanche of duties has prevented me from earlier saying to you that it contributed very much towards my happiness on that memorable day and will be forever cherished by me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Alfred M. Cohen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

AMC:DS

District Grand Lodge, No. 2, B'nai B'rith



Benevolence, Brotherly Love and Harmony

Leonard H. Freiberg
Secretary

1603 FIRST NATIONAL BANK BLDG.

CINCINNATI September 7, 1938

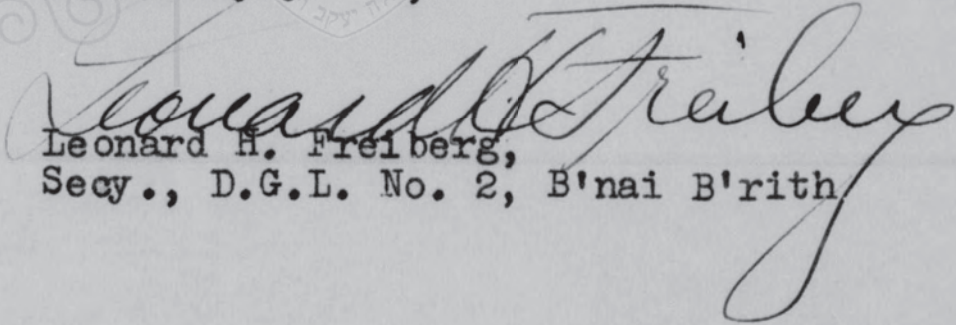
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th St. at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi:

There is still time to get your address to the B'nai B'rith Convention in Denver in the printed Proceedings if it is forwarded immediately. I hope that you have had the opportunity to edit it and that it is ready for immediate transmission.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Cordially yours,


Leonard H. Freiberg,
Secy., D.G.L. No. 2, B'nai B'rith.

LHF:BP

September 20, 1938

Mr. Leonard H. Freiberg, Secretary
District Grand Lodge, No. 2 B'nai B'rith
1603 First National Bank Bldg.
Cincinnati, Ohio

My dear Mr. Freiberg:

I am enclosing herewith the corrected copy of the address which I delivered in Denver. I am sorry to have lost the original transcript and to have cause you unnecessary delay. Please read the proofs carefully when they come back from the printer.

With all good wishes for a very happy new year, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

District Grand Lodge, No. 2, B'nai B'rith



Benevolence, Brotherly Love and Harmony

Leonard H. Freiberg
Secretary

1603 FIRST NATIONAL BANK BLDG.

CINCINNATI September 21, 1938

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

Thanks very much for the MS of your Denver address. The proof will be carefully watched.

Cordially and fraternally yours,

Leonard H. Freiberg
Leonard H. Freiberg,
Secy., D.G.L. No. 2, B'nai B'rith

LHF:BP



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Feb. 21, 1939

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Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
c/o The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

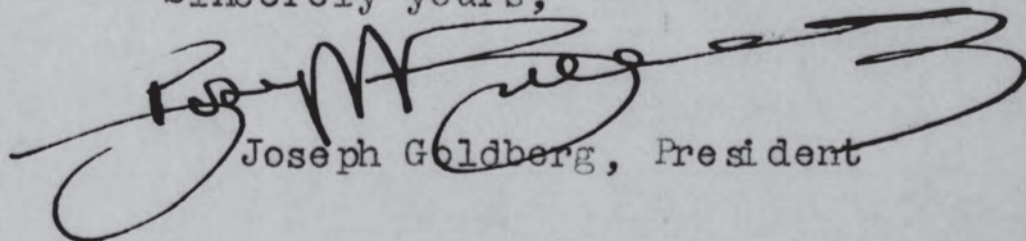
Enclosed please find copy of a resolution that we passed at the meeting of the Central New England Council B'nai B'rith, comprising over forty lodges and auxiliaries in Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New Hampshire and having over 8000 members. At this brilliant assembly where over 1200 congregated, the enclosed resolution was passed.

I, as a very ardent Zionist and interested in the United Jewish Appeal, thought you might like to know of it.

This resolution received wide publicity in all the newspapers in our part of the country.

To conclude this affair, Henry Monsky, President of the B'nai B'rith of the world delivered one of the most brilliant addresses that I ever listened to and much of his address dealt with the importance of Palestine, stating that Jews in every walk of life should get behind the movement. I was thrilled by his address, as most of the people there were and it certainly did a great deal to enhance and stimulate Zionism in our part of the country.

Sincerely yours,


Joseph Goldberg, President

JG:L
Encl.

PUBLISHED BY

THE NATIONAL
MONTHLY

B'NAI B'RITH

1003 K STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE OF
EDWARD E. GRUSD
Managing Editor

February 22, 1939

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I should like to invite you most cordially to contribute an article to The National Jewish Monthly.

What I am interested in right now is an article on the significance of Passover to modern American Jewry. I would like to use such an article by you in our April issue.

I know that you are one of the busiest men in America, but if you find it impossible to write such a special article, perhaps you may have available a sermon, never before published, on this very subject. Perhaps you have an unpublished sermon that is close enough to this subject to be amended without much trouble.

As you may know, our magazine is read by nearly 100,000 Jewish families every month, and an article such as the one I am suggesting would be of enormous value to this vast audience.

I could use between 2,000 and 2,500 words, for which our rates would be 2¢ per word. The deadline would be March 5th, although I would like to know by return mail, if possible, whether or not I may expect a manuscript by that date.

Thanking you in advance, I remain

Yours sincerely,

Edward E. Grusd
Managing Editor

EEG:SW

March 3, 1939

Mr. Joseph Goldberg, President
Central New England Council B'nai B'rith
401 Slater Bldg.
Worcester, Mass.

My dear Mr. Goldberg:

Let me thank you for your kindness in sending me copies of the resolutions which were adopted at the meeting of the Central New England Council B'nai B'rith. I was delighted to read them, and I appreciate the great interest which the B'nai B'rith is evidencing not alone in the plight of our refugees but also in the constructive task of the upbuilding of Palestine as the National Homeland.

I am happy to hear of the splendid address which Mr. Monsky delivered before your convention. The B'nai B'rith is indeed fortunate, and so is American Jewry, generally, to have this man at the head of this great organization at this critical time.

With best wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

THE B'NAI B'RITH
HILLEL FOUNDATION

AT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

46 Sixteenth Avenue

COLUMBUS, OHIO

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PENN STATE COLLEGE

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UNIV. OF INDIANA

March 6, 1939

Rabbi Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi:

The question for debate for the Hillel Foundation during the Winter quarter is: Resolved, That the Jews should be restricted from entering the professions.

I would like to know your opinion on this question, and also to direct me to any available information on this subject.

Thanking you kindly, I am,

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM GOLDBERG

WG:BS

March 7, 1939

Mr. William Goldberg
B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation
46 Sixteenth Avenue
Columbus, Ohio

My dear Mr. Goldberg:

I regard the choice of the subject, and particularly its phrasing, as most unfortunate. Such subjects inevitably get into the secular press and leaves the impression with the non-Jewish reader that such a possibility of restricting Jews in the professions is feasible and imminent because the Jews themselves are already discussing it. Either the subject should be re-phrased, or some other subject should be selected by you.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

Hillel Foundation
46-16th Ave
Columbus, Ohio.

Rabbi A. H. Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 7th. This is to inform you that the wording of the subject has been changed to: Resolved that the Jews should be discouraged from entering the professions. I believe that such a rephrasing is more desirable.

I would like to know your opinion on this rephrased subject.

Thanking you kindly,

I am

Sincerely yours
William Goldberg.

March 14, 1939

Mr. Edward E. Grusd, Managing Editor
The National Jewish Monthly
1003 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Grusd:

Please pardon the long delay in answering your kind letter. I have been out of the city a good deal of the time and my correspondence has lagged.

I deeply appreciate your invitation to write an article on the significance of Passover. You write that the deadline is March 5th which has, of course, already been considerably passed. I could not have written the article anyhow as I have been so frightfully rushed. Please keep me in mind for some future occasion.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

PUBLISHED BY

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MONTHLY

B'NAI B'RITH

1003 K STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE OF
EDWARD E. GRUSD
Managing Editor

March 17, 1939

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street & Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Naturally, I very much regretted that circumstances made it impossible for you to let me have an article on the modern significance of Passover.

By a happy circumstance however, you will be represented in our April issue anyway, because the United Palestine Appeal was good enough to forward to me the copy of one of your recent radio addresses on the subject of refugees. Ordinarily, we do not publish addresses, but since the UPA assured me that the manuscript would be given to no other publication but would remain exclusively our possession, I was glad to accept it and will use it for April, since it is so timely.

I was pleased to note that I may keep you in mind for some future occasion.

Yours cordially,

Edward E. Grusd

Managing Editor

EEG:SW

HOWARD A. BOOK
CLEVELAND
OHIO

March 18, 1939

Rabbi A. H. Silver

c/o The Temple

Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi,

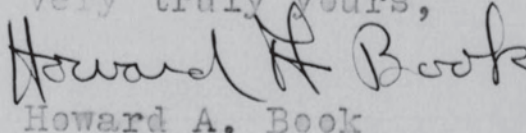
Have you heard of the Young Men of the B'nai B'rith of Heights Lodge. This organization consists of men whose ages range from 21 to 26.

We are sponsoring a theatre party for the German Refugee Fund at the Cedar Lee theatre, Saturday, March 25, at 11:45 p.m. The net proceeds of this affair will be turned over to this fund.

As you are an outstanding Jewish citizen of Greater Cleveland, we are asking you to donate a check for five or ten dollars in return for which we will send to you tickets of equivalent value.

We will deeply appreciate your response.

Very truly yours,


Howard A. Book

hab/mgb

Committee Chairman

Howard Book
c/o The Young Men of the B'nai B'rith
Heights Temple
Cleveland Heights, Ohio

March 21, 1939

Mr. William Goldberg
Hillel Foundation
46-16th Avenue
Columbus, Ohio

My dear Mr. Goldberg:

I still think that your subject is not a wise selection in these times. It isn't the wording of it that is alone objectionable. It is well to discuss the subject in groups, in classrooms, in Temples, etc. It is not good to dramatize the problem by a public debate. This inevitably gets into the public print. Many non-Jews read about it and the thought becomes fixed in the minds of some that Jews should be discouraged from entering the professions, if necessary, by law.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

March 23, 1939

Mr. Howard Book
C/o Young Men of the B'nai B'rith
Heights Temple
Cleveland Heights, Ohio

My dear Mr. Book:

Permit me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March 18. You inform me that you are sponsoring a theatre party for the German Refugee Fund and that the net proceeds will be turned over to this Fund.

You realize, of course, that our community is organizing, at the moment, for the large campaign for overseas relief, which is to be held in May. We have consistently discouraged any independent money-raising efforts for overseas relief and I am rather surprised that you went ahead with your project without consulting the office of the Jewish Welfare Fund of Cleveland.

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

B'NAI B'RITH HILLEL FOUNDATION

AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY

804 EAST THIRD STREET. BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA

RABBI MARTIN M. PERLEY
DIRECTOR

B'nai B'rith Maintains
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UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA
PENN STATE COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
INDIANA UNIVERSITY

October 2, 1939

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

Thank you for your letter of September 26 and the memorandum on "The War Situation and Its Effects on Palestine", both of which I read with a great deal of interest.

I am glad to note that the war in many respects seems to have improved the Jewish situation in Palestine, particularly with regard to buying more land for colonization.

While I do not for a moment think that Germany will triumph over Great Britain and France in the present conflict, it seems, nevertheless, that in planning for the future of Palestine, the possibility of a Nazi victory must be considered in the light of how such a disaster would affect the future of the Jews in Palestine.

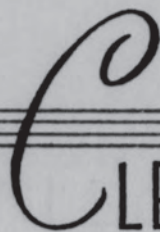
I have no doubt that the Jewish agency is studying the effects of such a tragic situation and is planning a course of action, under such circumstances. I wonder if you can throw some light on the point

With kindest regards and all best wishes.

Cordially yours,

Martin Perley
Director

MMP:hk



CLEVELAND LODGE



NUMBER SIXTEEN

B'NAI B'RITH

CLEVELAND, OHIO

May 8th 1940

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B'NAI B'RITH MAGAZINE
AMERICANIZATION
HOMES FOR THE AGED
SOCIAL SERVICE
PALESTINE HOME BUILDING
AID IN CATASTROPHES
INTER-FAITH PROGRAM

Rabbi Dr. A. H. Silver
Ansel Road & East 105th St.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We have just been advised that Henry Monsky, international president of B'nai B'rith, will arrive here by plane at 4 P.M. Thursday, May 9th.

Inasmuch as you had graciously given Senator Ascherman your consent to be named on the general welcoming committee in connection with Mr. Monsky's visit to Cleveland, we are advising that he will be in his room at the Statler Hotel between 5-6 P.M. Thursday. We are certain he will be pleased to meet you if you will find it convenient to be present.

Thank you for your kindness and cooperation.

Respectfully,

Gabriel Leeb
Gabriel Leeb, Chairman
Program Committee

B'NAI B'RITH

National Defense Committee

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Omaha National Bank Bldg.
Omaha, Nebraska

MAURICE BISGYER, *Secretary*
1005 K Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

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DEAN JOSEPH WEIL
University of Florida
Gainesville, Florida (Dist. 5)

BERT C. BROUDE
161 W. Wisconsin Ave.
Milwaukee, Wisc. (Dist. 6)

W. P. BLOOM
Box 226
Tuscaloosa, Alabama (Dist. 7)

November 27, 1941

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
c/o The Temple
Ansel Road and E. 105th Street
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi:

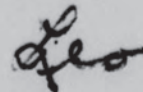
About ten days ago while at Mr. Lieber's home I inquired about obtaining a Sefer Torah for use in one of the Army camps. You were kind enough to offer the use of a Sefer Torah from the Temple.

I immediately submitted the matter to our Washington office and received the enclosed reply. It is my suggestion that we withhold the presentation ceremony until definite word is received as to where the Torah is to be sent.

Will you please return the letter to me for my file and I will communicate with you when I hear again from Secretary Bisgyer.

Thanking you and with kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely



LEO M. ASCHERMAN

IMA:AHK
Encl. 1

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January 2, 1942

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1109 HUME-MANSUR BLDG.,
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Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
41 East 42nd Street
New York, New York

Dear Rabbi,

I am not sure whether this letter addressed to the office of the United Palestine Appeal will reach you personally but if it does I would appreciate a response during some spare moment in your very active and useful life.

Your letter under date of December 29 relative to proposing my name as a member of the National Council for Palestine is received and, of course, you have my consent.

For the past year I have had the desire to write with reference to the matters hereinafter set out, but I have always hesitated because of a desire not to interfere in your undivided effort toward Palestine. As you can tell by the stationery, I am one of the officers of District Grand Lodge No. Two and I am, therefore, giving most of my time at present to this work. I am a Past-president of the Terre Haute Zionist District and I still devote a good portion of my time to that work. You are also acquainted with the fact that the B'nai B'rith is vitally interested in the Palestine cause. There are thousands of us in B'nai B'rith who are devoting a great deal of our time in the same program. I recall at the Z.O.A. Convention in Cincinnati of meeting a great number of men active in B'nai B'rith. Our interest in Palestine starts with Henry Monsky and ends with individuals in practically every community. We cannot say the same for the leadership represented by your group.

The most aggravating problem that we have in District No. Two is Cleveland. The leadership of B'nai B'rith has discussed this problem without success until it has become threadbare. The most important reason we are given by Clevelanders for the failure of B'nai B'rith to penetrate the Cleveland community is the refusal of the outstanding leadership of that community, represented by yourself and Rabbi Brickner, to cooperate. It has become an established fact that if both of you were to lend your names and your influence to our group that we should be able to accomplish more in our membership campaigns. I understand that influential people in Cleveland

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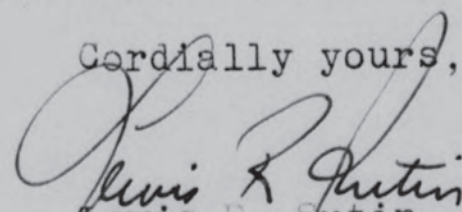
have discussed this matter with you. This letter, therefore, may be just another far cry in the wilderness.

I am now in charge of membership this Spring and next Fall and I shall leave no effort undone to accomplish my work whether it proves successful or not; hence this letter to you.

The time has come when each recognized Jewish organization must recognize the work and effort of the other as the first step essential to national unity. That, I believe, has more or less been achieved. The second step is to encourage the success of the other groups --- not disparage their efforts. Our cultural and spiritual strength in American life lies in the strength of each organization which helps to contribute toward the source of that strength from the Synagogue on down. The B'nai B'rith like the Synagogue and the Zionist Movement is a strong flowing tributary.

Your devotion to our Order for a month during our campaign would be a source of inspiration to the untapped reservoir of Cleveland. Will you please favor me with your reactions to this plea?

Cordially yours,


Lewis R. Sutin
Second Vice-President

LRS:MPG

January 12, 1942

Mr. Lewis R. Sutin
402 Sycamore Bldg.
Terre Haute, Indiana

My dear Mr. Sutin:

Your letter came to me as something of a surprise. It had never occurred to me that I had refused to cooperate with the B'nai B'rith of Cleveland. I do not recall a single instance when the B'nai B'rith of Cleveland asked for any cooperation that I refused it. One of the B'nai B'rith Lodges meets regularly in my Temple. I recall having addressed B'nai B'rith meetings in Cleveland on several occasions. It may interest you to know that Mr. Monsky will occupy my pulpit this coming Sunday morning.

I do not understand what you mean by cooperation. You surely do not expect me to become an active solicitor for membership in the B'nai B'rith. You must know of the heavy burdens under which I, as chairman of the National United Palestine Appeal and the United Jewish Appeal as well as chairman of the Cleveland Jewish Welfare Fund, have been laboring now for years.

You state that you understand that influential people in Cleveland have discussed this matter with me. That, to my best recollection, is not the case.

Please do not permit your laymen in this or any other community to shift the responsibility for their failure to the shoulders of the Rabbis who as it is are very heavily burdened today.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE No. 2, B'NAI B'RITH

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TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA

January 15, 1942

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1109 HUME-MANSUR BLDG.,
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Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi:

As my letter to you came as a surprise
so did your letter to me come as a surprise.

One of the excuses which the B'nai B'rith leaders in Cleveland have constantly given as the failure for our campaign, I repeat, is the fact that the real Jewish force in Cleveland is expended in other activities. By this I do not mean that men like yourself should become an active solicitor for membership, but I do believe if during the membership campaign, large meetings of prospective members were held, in which men like yourself and Rabbi Brickner took an active interest, either by way of speech or publicity, that our membership would increase. If it did not increase, we should then know that the reason for the failure of B'nai B'rith to penetrate Cleveland is due to the lack of a dynamic leadership amongst those of our own group.

I take it from your letter that in the event you are called upon to serve the B'nai B'rith in Cleveland, that you will not refuse if the time is appropriate. With your kind permission I should like to convey these sentiments to the active B'nai B'rith men in Cleveland.

At some moment when you are not covered up with your tremendous responsibilities, I would appreciate your composing a letter in which you encourage association with the B'nai B'rith, which I might have incorporated in our publicity program. I want you to know that I am one of those who believe that the voice of the rabbinate must be thundered in every corner of this country, especially presenting to the American Jew the affirmative aspects of Jewish life. I am using the rabbis of this district wherever possible, making it emphatic that in this way only, can we strengthen our forces.

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE No. 2, B'NAI B'RITH

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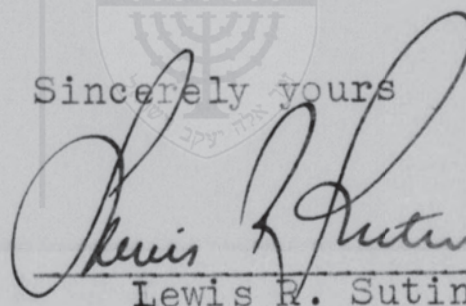
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

(Continued)

This burden can never become too heavy for
the members of your group.

Excuse me for being so verbose.

Sincerely yours


Lewis R. Sutin

LRS:EBB



COUNTY OF CUYAHOGA

THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

CLEVELAND, OHIO

SAMUEL H. SILBERT
JUDGE

October 21st, 1942

Rabbi A. H. Silver
The Temple
East 105th and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I have accepted the chairmanship of the forthcoming joint membership campaign of the seven B'nai B'rith Lodges of Greater Cleveland to be held November 9th to December 9th.

I assumed this responsibility because I am thoroughly convinced that the arm of this century-old service and defense organization of American Jewry should be strengthened in these days of crisis and that each of us is required to do everything possible for the common good.

I am impressed by the fact that B'nai B'rith has geared its vast program to our nation's all-out war effort and has won the commendation of high government officials. Its Anti-Defamation League remains the most constructive effort yet devised to safeguard the dignity of the Jewish name. Its philanthropic agencies, cultural projects, Hillel Foundations, and youth movement are indispensable to the welfare and morale of our people.

For these and other reasons we must replenish the ranks of B'nai B'rith in Cleveland now that hundreds of its members are entering the armed forces of our nation.

I am inviting a group of outstanding men of our community to assist us in this drive by accepting membership on the campaign Advisory Committee.

As your advice and co-operation in this endeavor are highly valued, I trust that you will consent to serve on the Advisory Committee, and give us the benefit of your name.

Please advise me if you will accept.

Sincerely yours,

Samuel H. Silbert

October 23, 1942

Judge Samuel H. Silbert
The Court of Common Pleas
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Judge Silbert:

In reply to your kind letter of October 21 permit me to say that I shall be happy to be on the Campaign Advisory Committee which you are organizing in connection with the forthcoming membership campaign of the B'nai B'rith Lodges.

With all good wishes for success, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

I. W. GAREK, President
A. J. GRANOFF, Second Vice-President
LEONARD H. FREIBERG, Secretary

LEWIS R. SUTIN, First Vice-President
402 Sycamore Building
Terre Haute, Indiana

Membership

DISTRICT GRAND LODGE

CLEVELAND OFFICE
1521 N. B. C. BUILDING
MAIN 6635



Campaign

NUMBER 2, B'NAI B'RITH

MICHAEL SHARLITT
FIELD DIRECTOR

Nov. 11, 1942.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Rabbi:

Permit me to thank you, in behalf of the executive campaign committee, for your very timely and generous reference to the All-Out Membership Campaign in the Cleveland area, at the conclusion of last Sunday's service. I assure you it was very much appreciated by all of us. I have an idea that it will be of material assistance.

It was apparent when I talked to you over the telephone that you had kept us in mind, and I am especially grateful for this.

Sincerely,

Michael Sharlitt
Field Director



OPEN A SECOND FRONT FOR B'NAI B'RITH IN YOUR CITY!

B'NAI B'RITH HILLEL FOUNDATION

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

508 State Street

Madison, Wisconsin

RABBI THEODORE H. GORDON
Director

April 7, 1943

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

The local Jewish National Fund Council has been planning a JNF dinner in Madison along the lines of the 40th Anniversary Dinner held last year.

There have been objections raised on the part of the Welfare Fund leaders, on the grounds that such a dinner constitutes a violation of the UJA agreement. I am writing to you for information on several points relating to this.

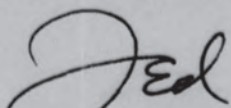
I. Does the special permission which allowed the holding of JNF dinners last year apply to this year as well? If not, is it likely that sums raised by means of such dinners would be deducted from the UJA allocation to JNF?

II. What percentage of UJA monies will this year be allocated (through UPA) to JNF?

I shall appreciate hearing from you so that I may speak with some confidence to both parties involved in this local controversy.

We have had many favorable comments during these past weeks which reflect the excellent impression you made on our campus when you addressed our University Religious Convocation. I hope you may be able to make a return visit soon. With cordial regards, I am

Yours sincerely,


Theodore H. Gordon

THG:ab

April 9, 1943

Rabbi Theodore H. Gordon, Director
B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation
508 State Street
Madison, Wisconsin

My dear Rabbi Gordon:

Thank you for your letter of April 7. Under the terms of the UJA Agreement, the Jewish National Fund is not authorized to carry on any campaign activities for other than its traditional collections. The Jewish National Fund shares on a 50-50 basis with the Keren Hayesod the total income of the UPA from the UJA. The UPA will receive in 1942 from the UJA about \$3,300,000, which means that the JNF will get from the UPA this year \$1,650,000. The JNF receives no direct allocations from the UJA.

There has been considerable criticism in some other communities about JNF campaign activities, in some cases justified, and in others, not. The JNF Council in your community is probably the best judge of this matter. It knows what the traditional collections are, and it should not go beyond them. Any major activity which will interfere with the welfare fund campaign should be definitely discouraged.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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WESTERN UNION

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A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

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NLT HILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE CLEVELAND OHIO=

SHOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE IF YOU WOULD ACCEPT REPRESENTATION
PALESTINE BNAIDRITH NUMBERING THOUSAND EMBRACING LEADING
PERSONALITIES DIFFERENT SECTIONS OF YISHUV AT TRIENNIAL
SUPREME LODGE CONNECTION NEWYORK SIXTOTENTH MAY STOP WE
ATTACH CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE IMBURING CONVENTION PALESTINE
ATMOSPHERE STIMULATING HEALTHY GUIDANCE POSTWAR JEWISH
RECONSTRUCTION EFFORTS STOP IF CONSENT WILL CABLE MANDATE
FULL INFORMATION REGARDS=

PRESIDENT PALESTINE DISTRICT JUSTICE GAD FRUNKIN.

April 5, 1944

Mr. Henry Monsky
737 Omaha National Bank Building
Omaha, Nebraska

My dear Mr. Monsky:

I received the following cable from
Justice Frunkin, President of the Palestine
District B'nai B'rith:

SHOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE IF YOU WOULD ACCEPT
REPRESENTATION PALESTINE B'NAI B'RITH NUMBERING THOUSAND
EMBRACING LEADING PERSONALITIES DIFFERENT SECTIONS OF
YISHUV AT TRIENNIAL SUPREME LODGE CONNECTION NEW YORK
SIXTEENTH MAY STOP WE ATTACH CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE
IMBURING CONVENTION PALESTINE ATMOSPHERE STIMULATING
HEALTHY GUIDANCE POSTWAR JEWISH RECONSTRUCTION EFFORTS
STOP IF CONSENT WILL CABLE MANDATE FULL INFORMATION
REGARDS

I shall be guided by your advice in the matter.
With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

Report for the Years 1941, 1942, 1943

1941.

1941 was an onerous year for the Jewish Community of Palestine. The forces of the enemy menaced the country, and the Community was principally occupied with the stimulation of its war effort and defense. Members of the B'nai B'rith were also called upon to take a full part in these general endeavors. The year proved a turning point in the development of the District; there was a general revival in all Lodges which was also manifested in the acquisition of new members, the rise of receipts, and a general consolidation of the affairs of the Order, both internally and externally.

Our Lodges devoted much energy to relief measures for the refugees who reached Palestine. A public kitchen, established in Tel-Aviv, was of considerable assistance. Clubs were formed for the children of soldiers and our cooperation with members of the Order from Central Europe grew closer, many of them being helped through special relief funds.

In the same year two new Lodges were established in Ramat Gan—the "Ramat Gan" Lodge for men and the "Bat Ami" Lodge for women. Of special interest was the establishment of Lodges for the younger members of B'nai B'rith in Jerusalem and Tel-Aviv, for youths of 17 to 25 years of age.

In 1941 we also had to mourn heavy losses, such as the passing of Brother Menahem Ussishkin, President of the Keren Kavemeth, on 11 Tishri, and the passing on 6 Kislev 5671 of Brother Grand President David Yellin who was the head and leader of the B'nai B'rith in Palestine since its foundation to the day of his death.

1942.

In Brother Justice Gad Frumkin, who was elected Grand President at the annual convention which took place on 26/27 April, 1942, the District found a man who succeeded in converting the upward trend which began in 1941 into a movement of steady and considerable success. Progress in the Lodges became more marked and the participation of the Grand Lodge in the public life of the Community increasingly manifest. The following items are worthy of special mention in our report for 1942. The adoption of a Constitution for the Lodges of the District, which had become very necessary and which facilitated systematic development of our work in general; formation of the Better Business Association, a body whose function it is to promote ethical relationships in public and commercial life; a training camp for young members of B'nai B'rith in order to train them particularly for their recruitment in the Army, an obligation officially imposed upon all the youth of the Community by the national institutions; participation of brethren in the Recruiting Fund of the Community, the object of which is to extend relief to the families of enlisted soldiers and to assure the security of the Community in times of emergency; improvement of the internal organ of the District, "B'nai B'rith News"; and the Yellin Project established in memory of our late President David Yellin and towards which the Supreme Lodge subsequently contributed \$10,000.

The progress made in 1942 is more evident from the increase of the budget of the Grand Lodge, namely, from LP.200. in 1941 to LP.900. in 1942, the latter year concluded with the delivery of the programmatic address of the Grand President at the 17th Annual Convention which was held on Hannukah 5672, 6-7/12/1942. This constitutes the basic programme of the District Grand Lodge which directs the Order and all the activities throughout the country.

The following resolutions adopted at the Convention result of the said programme: (1) Internal expansion; (2) Rescue of Jews from the Diaspora; (3) Youth, and (4) Centre for the Oriental countries.

1) Membership

In view of the impending centenary of the Order and the great tasks awaiting it, the District Grand Lodge aims at the extension of the Palestine B'nai B'rith by the recruitment of new members and the institution of additional lodges. At the same time the Grand Lodge expresses the hope that the greatest possible scrutiny will be effected of qualification of candidates to admission as members of B'nai B'rith lodges, so as to meet the exacting standards set by the Order.

A Central Propaganda and Membership Committee will be formed which will cooperate with sub-committees to be formed in every single lodge. It will be the task of this Committee to raise the reputation of B'nai B'rith among the public and find our way to the groups whose active cooperation we wish to enlist for the realization of our plans, i.e., intellectual and active elements who can help us in the planning and execution of our projects, representatives of the various communities and currents of opinion, and other members of the community who have had personal experiences of conditions in the countries of the Diaspora to which we wish to extend our help.

The Convention calls upon B'nai B'rith brethren who have in recent years immigrated from abroad and have not yet found their way to the B'nai B'rith lodges in Palestine, to join them and to renew their association with the Order and its exalted aims. The Convention requests the Grand President to take all possible measures designed to render such association possible and easy.

2) Our Part in the Aid to the Diaspora

Of the numerous tasks with which our people will be confronted upon the liberation of the world from the Nazi rule, the Convention singles out the care for the physical and spiritual rehabilitation of the children and the youth, both of those who succeed in escaping to Palestine and of those who will have to remain in the Diaspora for a shorter or longer period, as one of immediate urgency for Palestinian B'nai B'rith to tackle.

1. *In Palestine* it will be necessary to establish homes and asylums for refugee children, particularly for orphans. It will be necessary to provide greater facilities than have been available hitherto for vocational training and for the education of such refugees in Jewish values. Careful psychological supervision of the young people, particularly after they completed their vocational training, will also be among the pressing educational needs.

2. *In the Diaspora.* It will be necessary to send teachers, youth leaders, social welfare workers and psychiatrists who, jointly with the medical relief organizations, will be charged with the onerous task of restoring the spiritual balance of those of the children who survive the ordeal of the war. A new content will have to be given to their lives and their Jewish self-expression be promoted. Schools, training farms, and community centres will have to be established.

The Palestinian lodges, jointly with the Junior B'nai B'rith, in cooperation with other bodies and working in harmony with the Supreme Lodge in the United States, will undertake the preliminary research and the preparatory practical work which will be required to pave the way to a successful realization of this heavy programme.

3) Junior B'nai B'rith

The Convention regards Junior B'nai B'rith as an important nucleus for the formation of a movement that will consider it as its pioneer

(helutz) task to train its members for the guidance and education of Palestinian youth and a pedagogic and constructive effect amongst the children of the Diaspora in the spirit of Zionist and B'nai B'rith ideals.

The campaign against illiteracy and the care for the spiritual and moral welfare of children of certain sections of the community deprived of the advantages of elementary education are essential prerequisites for the realization of our endeavour to make all sections of the Yishuv active partners in the life of the nation and in the upbuilding of the country. The Convention considers this task as an appropriate field of endeavor for women's lodges.

4) A Centre for the Neighbouring Countries

In the neighbouring countries, the Jewish communities, if any, are on a very low cultural level and in most cases they are not even conscious of the lack of instruction. We should by all means endeavour to improve these conditions. Following the destruction of the Jewish centres in Europe, we require new Jewish centres in other places. In these countries lodges are in existence which united the finest local Jews, and perhaps they will serve to exercise a good influence on the general conditions of the communities, and accept a certain number of Jewish refugees from the inferno of Europe. We shall perhaps, succeed in making such connections as will be a considerable help in solving the Jewish-Arab problem.

The Convention sends its sincerest greetings to the District Lodges and the various other lodges of B'nai B'rith in the Near-East countries and calls on them to cooperate with the Palestinian Lodges in the rehabilitation of the Jewish nation in the New World of the post-war period.

The year 1943 brought increasingly gloomy news of the condition of European Jewry. The plan of destruction of Hitler and his satellites extended to new barbaric extremities. The entire Jewish Community placed itself at the disposal of the rescue project, the Recruiting Fund served both recruitment and also rescue, its contributions being chiefly devoted to saving the Jews of Europe, and thus obligating the active participation of members of B'nai B'rith in Palestine.

1943 was, however, also a year of important events in the history of B'nai B'rith itself. The Grand President visited Egypt in January of that year and there laid the foundations for close co-operation between the two Grand Lodges of Egypt and Palestine in accordance with the resolution to encourage such contact with the Centres of Jewry in Oriental countries. The lamentable decease of the Grand President of the District Lodge, No. 16, Mr. Michel Berman, interrupted this activity, but with the election of Brother Castro as Grand President it had been resumed.

The principal project to which attention was devoted on the part of the District generally was the foundation of the Children's Home, an Institution for immigrant children and also of residents who have been affected psychologically by their experience as refugees, who have suffered from Nazi tyranny, hunger or disease, or as a result of bad social or difficult family conditions in Palestine.

This Home, established upon the special request of Miss H. Szold has accommodation for 36 children some of whom are refugees who came here via Teheran, and some from local social organizations.

The Children's Home already fulfills a very valuable function in restoring to the children a balanced mind, and preventing dangerous impairment of their growth and normal development. It is at present temporarily housed in a part of the building used as the Immigrants' Home of the B'nai B'rith, and is now seeking a permanent building, a difficult problem during war conditions owing to restrictions on building and purchase of building materials.

The annual budget totals P.4,000 about half of it being provided by public institutions. A special appeal among members of the B'nai B'rith for the maintenance of the Home has so far produced about L.P.3,000 \$11,000.

Another project of this type is the School for immigrant children and technical courses established by the Benjamin de Rothschild Lodge of Rishon-le-Zion, with the assistance of the Grand Lodge. This Institution provides elementary education and technical tuition suited for immigrant children of the Oriental Communities who have arrived here during the past year from Yemen and Turkey, and who unfortunately lack elementary instruction. This School which is still in its early stages, already provides for 50 children and meets, although only partially, the painful problem of providing education for the immigrant youth of Oriental Communities.

In the same year the Rabbi Akiba Lodge of Tiberias established an Institution for penurious convalescents taking the waters of the Tiberias hot springs.

The Tel Aviv Lodge established a Club with reading-room for children and also a second tea-room in another quarter of Tel Aviv.

1943 was a peak year in respect to the number of new members who joined the Order. Credit must be given for this activity to the Membership Committee under the chairmanship of Brother A. H. Frankel, Professor at the Hebrew University, which is now working on a plan for the establishment of several additional Lodges in the various towns and villages.

Mention must also be made of the Central Cultural Committee and its work in drawing up cultural programmes for the Lodges, under the chairmanship of Brother Professor Hugo Bergman. The Committee for the children's project under the chairmanship of the Grand President with the participation of Professor Rabbi S. Asaf, is occupied in organising the youth activities of the District Lodge. It has established subventions for Youth Organisations in order to encourage their interest in social work among the Communities and Jewish quarters. It has introduced not only social but also educational trends in this activity.

The Grand Lodge produced for Palestine use and the operations of the District an adapted Hebrew version of "This is B'nai B'rith," as well as extensive reviews of the activities of the Order throughout the world and in particular in U. S. A. and Palestine.

The Grand Lodge proposes to encourage the initiative of brother immigrants from Central Europe in gathering material concerning the property of the European Lodges, in order to submit same to the Supreme Lodge for suitable action at the proper time.

In 1943 most Lodges celebrated the centenary of the Order which was an appropriate opportunity for classification and further study of the fundamental ideals of the Order. The official function was postponed in accordance with the decision of the Supreme Lodge until the close of the war. During this period the position taken by the President of the Order, Brother Henry Monsky, at the all-Jewish American Conference, served as a source of pride and special encouragement among all brethren as well as all sections of the Jewish Community, who see in the increased interest of the World Order in Palestine not merely assistance to Palestine Jewry but the most effective and constructive manner of rescuing the Jews of the Diaspora. Palestine B'nai B'rith expressed its appreciation by inscribing President Monsky in the Golden Book of the Jewish Nationality.

During the same year the budget of the Grand Lodge again rose from LP.900 to LP.1,200. The devoted Treasurer of the Grand Lodge, Brother Moses Levin, passed away, and at present Brother Alexander Eliash, Banker, functions as Treasurer.

The following is a brief summary of the special activities in which the Grand Lodge engaged during the three years of period under review:

1. Social Service

Social Service activity continued normally and even expanded quite considerably in the years under review. Except for unusual cases the District provides constructive relief. An instrument of great value in this sphere is provided by the Loan Funds which are maintained by the majority of Lodges and which serve to help the members and also the public at large by granting loans without interest for trade purposes. The total capital increased during this period by about 25% and today has reached a grand total of about LP.7,000 \$50,000, which for the most part is in circulation.

The Relief Fund for the permanent assistance of immigrant and refugee brethren continued its normal activity directed by the Grand Lodge.

In order to concentrate and develop social services a Central Committee for these activities was established under the chairmanship of Brother Isaiah Press, the Honorary President of the Grand Lodge.

2. Cultural Activities and Inter-Lodge Relations

Cultural activity in the various Lodges and the District as a whole occupies a most important position. In addition to the specific programmes of the Lodges concerned with local affairs and those of our own members, interest was concentrated, on the initiative of the Central Committee for Cultural Affairs, under the chairmanship of Professor H. Bergman, upon four or five principal topics such as

1. The characteristics of B'nai B'rith in connection with the centenary.
2. Our function at the present time.
3. Discussion of the programmatic address of the Grand President, and
4. Youth problems in Palestine.

Upon each of these subjects a series of lectures was arranged which stimulated a thorough and sound clarification of our purposes and methods. We wish to mention the closer ties between the Lodges which are manifested in the reciprocal visits of brethren and exchange of proposals and lectures on various subjects.

Important tasks were carried out in the internal development of the Lodges by the women, who have accepted a very full share of our social service and cultural activities for the entire District.

War Efforts

During the last year attention has been given to the problem of demobilisation of our soldiers for although the war is still at its height, as elsewhere, we cannot postpone indefinitely the consideration of post-war issues. A special Committee is assembling material and preparing proposals for the most effective contributions of B'nai B'rith of Palestine to the solution of these problems, when hostilities cease, particularly in respect to the return to civil life of the hundreds of thousands of civilians in the various military and security services.

DR. M. LEVY, *Secretary.*



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4-12-44

19

To JUSTICE GAD FRUMKIN

Care of or Apt. No. REHAVIAH, JERUSALEM

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HAPPY TO ACCEPT REPRESENTATION PALESTINE BNAI BRITH TO TRIENNIAL

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ABBA HILLEL SILVER

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NLT HILLEL SILVER=

1944 APR 11 PM 1 40

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Ansel Rd.

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CABLE REFERENCE BNA IBRITH CONVENTION=

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JAD REHAVIA BNA IBRITH.

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1003 K STREET, N. W. • WASHINGTON, D. C.

April 18, 1944

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Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Ansel Road & E. 105th Street
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

It is with great pleasure that I learned of your appointment as representative of District Grand Lodge #14, Palestine, to the Triennial Convention of B'nai B'rith, which is to be held at the Hotel New Yorker, New York City, from May 6-10, 1944.

Justice Frumkin has requested that I send you the reports from the Palestine District. You will receive them in due course, together with the reports of the various department heads.

It is customary for delegates to serve on various committees, and you have been appointed to the Hillel Foundation Committee, which will meet during the Convention.

No formal reports are read at our Convention other than those of the President of the Order and the Chairman of the Anti-Defamation Commission.

The Supreme Lodge customarily does not bear the expenses of delegates representing foreign District Grand Lodges.

The Convention opens on Saturday evening, May 6, at 8:30 P.M. A schedule of the Convention will be sent you.

Looking forward to the pleasure of seeing you, and with cordial regards,

Sincerely yours,

Maurice Bisgyer
Secretary

MB:EEG

April 20, 1944

Mr. Maurice Bisgyer,
1003 K Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Bisgyer:

Thank you for your kind letter. I note that you have appointed me a member of a committee on the Hillel Foundation. I shall, of course, be pleased to serve.

Is there to be a Committee on Palestine? If so, I would prefer to serve on that committee inasmuch as I am to represent the Palestine B'nai B'rith.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:NEK

Abba Hillel Silver

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NA7 2/47:

1944 APR 23 AM 1 06

=GENERAL POSSTWAR JEWISH RECONSTRUCTION EFFORTS STOP FOR
MATERIALIZATION SCHEMES ENDEAVOUR PASS RESOLUTION CREATING
SPECIAL PALESTINE FUND COMPOSED OF ANNUAL DOLLAR LEVY FROM
EACH BENBRITH DISPOSAL SAID COMMITTEE STOP WISH YOU SUCCESS
MAIN MISSION MAKE AMERICAN BNAIBRITH PALESTINE CONSCIOUS
REGARDS ALSO FROM YOUR PARENTS IN PALESTINE:

=GAD FRUMKIN.

4/23/44

SELF (X)

MA

943A

MAIL

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NA7 INTL=CD JERUSALEM VIA MACKAY RADIO 97 20 1645

NLT HILLEL SILVER THE TEMPLE= *A.H. Silver*

:CLEVE= EAST 105 AND ANNSEL

PLACE OF TELEPHONED TO

1944 APR 23 AM 1 06

HEARTFELT THANKS CABLED WASHINGTON YOUR MANDATE ALSO
REQUESTED FURNISH YOU OUR FILE WHICH KINDLY PERUSE STOP
PLEASE CONVEY CONVENTION MY GREETINGS AND PROPOSITION
TO ESTABLISH PERMANENT PALESTINE COMMITTEE HEADED HENRY
MONSKY BANK BUILDING OMAHA NEBRASKA OBJECT HARNESSING
BNA BRITISH MORAL MATERIAL RESOURCES FOR PALESTINE AS PART=

S.K. 4/23/44 SELF (X)
MA 943A MAIL

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CLEVELAND LODGE



NUMBER SIXTEEN

B'NAI B'RITH

CLEVELAND, OHIO

May 2, 1945

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Sidney Weitz, Esq.
Leader Building
Cleveland 14, Ohio

Dear Mr. Weitz:

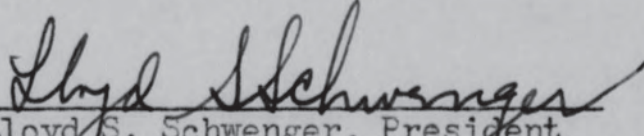
I am enclosing an official announcement, providing for the observance of "B'nai B'rith Synagogue Night" on Friday, April 20th, 1945. I thought you might like to examine this, in view of your interest in B'nai B'rith in general, and its religious aspects in particular.

Because the official proclamation designated the date, we were compelled to hold the services on the Friday night specified. In view of the hospitality which the Ansel Road Temple has so graciously extended to us for many years, it was with regret that we were unable to consider observing the occasion on a Sunday morning.

However, I think that we will be able to obtain permission to hold the services next year on a Sunday morning, and if so, we should greatly appreciate an invitation from the Ansel Road Temple to cooperate in one of its Sunday morning services.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Very truly yours,


Lloyd S. Schwenger, President
Cleveland Lodge No. 16 B'nai B'rith

LSS:EK
Encl.

B'NAI B'RITH YOUTH COMMISSION

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
1746 M Street, N. W.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
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Julius Bisno
Washington, D. C.
Administrative Secretary
Director of Boys' Work

Beatrice B. Chapman
Washington, D. C.
Director of Girls' Work

August 27, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, President
Central Conference of American Rabbis
19810 Shaker Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Extremely important in the National Aleph Zadik Aleph is the annual AZA sermon writing contest, which is sponsored in connection with National AZA Sabbath. Original sermons which have been delivered by members of our youth groups at AZA Sabbath, which comes on November 9th of this year, are eligible to compete for the national award. We believe this to be one of the most significant projects in the AZA program.

Would you be so good as to be one of the three judges of the national sermon contest this year? The manuscripts would be in your hands in early December. The preliminary sifting through of the sermons will be made so that you would receive only a limited number of the better entries.

We shall be very happy if we can count on you as one of the judges. We feel that your name will lend importance to and stimulate interest in the contest, and will provide inspiration to the members. Certainly you would be rendering a great service in the development of religious activity in the lives of American Jewish youth.

Sincerely yours,

Hannah Grad Goodman
HANNAH GRAD GOODMAN
Education Department

HGG:js



September 5, 1945

Miss Hannah Grad Goodman
B'nai B'rith Youth Commission
1746 M Street, N.W.
Washington 6, D.C.

My dear Miss Goodman:

Thank you for your kind letter of August 27. I shall be pleased to act as one of the judges of the National Sermon Contest of your organization.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ANS:BK

B'NAI B'RITH YOUTH COMMISSION

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1746 M STREET, N. W.

WASHINGTON 1, D. C.

WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

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Cleveland, Ohio

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Washington, D. C.
Administrative Secretary
Director of Boys' Work

Beatrice B. Chapman
Washington, D. C.
Director of Girls' Work

September 6, 1945

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I was delighted to receive your acceptance of our invitation to be one of the judges for the National Sermon Contest. It means a great deal to us that a person with as many obligations as you have is willing to give so generously of his time and effort. Your participation as a judge will contribute a great deal to the success of this important project.

I shall keep you informed as to the progress we make and you will hear from me further when the time for judging the sermons approaches. In the meantime, I should appreciate receiving a photograph and short biography of yourself for use in our national publicity.

With sincere thanks and all good wishes for a happy and successful New Year,

Cordially yours,

HANNAH GRAD GOODMAN
Education Department

HGG:js

sent 9-10-45



B'NAI B'RITH YOUTH COMMISSION

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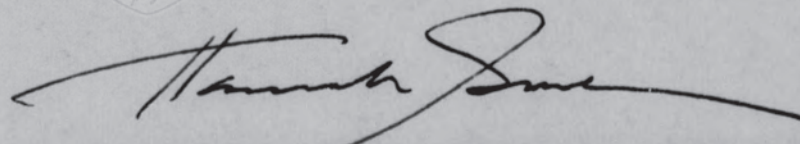
Beatrice B. Chapman
Washington, D. C.
Director of Girls' Work

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Your photograph and biography arrived yesterday,
September 13th. Thank you very much for sending it
to us so promptly.

Sincerely yours,



HANNAH GRAD GOODMAN
Education Department

HGG:js



BBYO



HENRY MONSKY

Chairman
B'nai B'rith
Youth Commission

B'nai B'rith Youth Organization

1002 K STREET, N. W.

WASHINGTON 1, D. C.

1746 M STREET, N. W.

December 12, 1945

WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

JULIUS BISNO

Administrative Secretary
Director Boys' Work

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

The Temple

East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

BEATRICE B. CHAPMAN

Director Girls' Work

Dear Rabbi Silver:

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San Francisco

I am enclosing the entries of the National AZA Sermon Contest, of which you are a judge. These entries, which have been submitted by boys 14 to 18 years of age, have been delivered at National AZA Sabbath this past month.

We should appreciate very much if you would look the entries over and submit your judgments to us in the next couple of weeks.

Four winners should be chosen: first prize, second prize, third prize, and honorable mention.

We deeply appreciate the time and effort you are devoting to this project, and trust that it will prove a source of enjoyment and satisfaction to you.

With sincere good wishes and many thanks,

Cordially,

HANNAH GRAD GOODMAN
Education Department

HGG:js
Encl.

FOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Aleph Zadik Aleph • B'nai B'rith Girls

FOR YOUNG ADULTS

B'nai B'rith Young Men • B'nai B'rith Young Women

January 2, 1946

January 2, 1946

Miss Hannah Grad Goodman, Education Department
B'nai B'rith Youth Organization
1746 M Street, N.W.
Washington 6, D.C.

My dear Miss Goodman:

I am returning herewith the group of sermons which you sent me from which I am to select four winners. I read the sermons which were submitted and they are all very creditable. I think the project is an excellent one and should be encouraged.

The four winners whom I have selected are as follows:

FIRST PRIZE: Jack Solomon, Jr.
Omaha, Nebraska.

SECOND PRIZE: Sheldon Gitelman
Minneapolis, Minn.

THIRD PRIZE: Stanton Becker
Seattle, Washington

HON. MENTION: Sidney Breibart
Charleston

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

BBYO



HENRY MONSKY

Chairman
B'nai B'rith
Youth Commission



JULIUS BISNO

Administrative Secretary
Director Boys' Work



BEATRICE B. CHAPMAN

Director Girls' Work



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B'nai B'rith Youth Organization

1003 K STREET, N. W.

WASHINGTON 1, D. C.

1746 M STREET, N. W.

WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

January 7, 1946

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

Thank you so much for the sermons which you returned to us and the selection of the winners. We certainly appreciate your courtesy in giving this your attention at a time when you are so deeply involved with matters of international importance.

I know you will be interested in knowing the winners of the contest and when the final results have been made, I shall notify you.

We are indeed happy to know that you think highly of the project. Undoubtedly, it will remain one of the foremost items in the AZA program.

With many thanks and all good wishes,

Cordially yours,

HANNAH GRAD GOODMAN
Education Department

HGG:js

FOR HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Aleph Zadik Aleph • B'nai B'rith Girls

FOR YOUNG ADULTS

B'nai B'rith Young Men • B'nai B'rith Young Women

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SECOND VICE PRES.



**B'nai B'rith Interlodge Council
of Greater Cleveland**

SAM WEINGARD, SECRETARY
1614 PROSPECT AVENUE
CLEVELAND 15, OHIO



February 7, 1946

Rabbi A. H. Silver
105th & Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver,

Consideration is being given to the establishment of a B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation Unit to serve Western Reserve University and Case College.

Hillel is now established in over 120 universities in the country. A definite need of this agency exists for the Jewish students at Western Reserve and Case College.

Dr. A. L. Sacher, National Director of Hillel, has designated Rabbi Harry Kaplan of Columbus, Ohio, to conduct a survey of the Cleveland campus in the above respect.

Rabbi Kaplan will meet with the local Hillel Committee and representative Jewish leaders of the city, Friday noon, February 15th at the Hollenden Hotel. Meeting room number will be posted on the bulletin board in the lobby.

May we count on you as our guest at this luncheon meeting?

Cordially yours,

L. B. Podis LBS

L. B. Podis
Chairman B'nai B'rith Interlodge
Hillel Committee

B'NAI B'RITH YOUTH ORGANIZATION

1746 M STREET, N. W.

WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

March 11, 1946

HENRY MONSKY

Chairman
B'nai B'rith
Youth Organization

DR. ABRAM L. SACHAR

National Director

DR. ISAAC RABINOWITZ

National Director
of Boys' Work

ALICE ELSON

National Director
of Girls' Work

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

You will be interested to learn that Jack Solomon of Omaha, Nebraska won the National AZA Sermon Contest. The decision was very clean-cut as the boy received two first choices and one second choice.

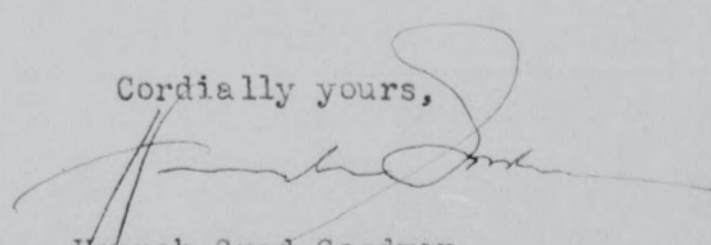
The runners-up were Stanton Becker of Seattle, Washington, Stanley Moskowitz of Elmira, New York, and Sol Proctor of Jacksonville, Florida. The decisions were so close on these three that we had to announce them all as receiving honorable mention.

It is interesting to note that almost all the winners are from relatively small communities. Usually New York City runs off with all the prizes in national contests.

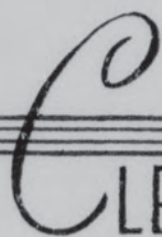
I hope that you have received as much satisfaction from judging the manuscripts as we have had in conducting the contest and making the awards.

With sincere appreciation and many thanks,

Cordially yours,


Hannah Grad Goodman
Director of Programming Materials





CLEVELAND LODGE



NUMBER SIXTEEN

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CLEVELAND, OHIO

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MORTON S. ZALLER

April 22, 1946

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
c/o The Temple
Ansel Road & E. 105th St.
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

May we, on behalf of Cleveland Lodge B'nai B'rith, express our gratitude for permitting us to join with the Temple in yesterday's Services. We appreciate also your gracious words about the Order, and the service it has performed.

B'nai B'rith Synagogue Day fulfilled its purpose, thanks to you, and we should be happy to observe the occasion at the Temple, at some future time.

With every good wish, we are

Very truly yours,

Raymond S. Freiler
Raymond S. Freiler, President

Lloyd S. Schwenger
Lloyd S. Schwenger, Chairman

LSS:EK

Bnai Brith

Emes Lodge No. 67 J O B B
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

LEO D. COHN, PRESIDENT

BEN VICTOR, VICE-PRESIDENT

ERIC NADEL, SECRETARY

SAUL GOLDMAN, TREASURER

December 20, 1947

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Cleveland
Ohio

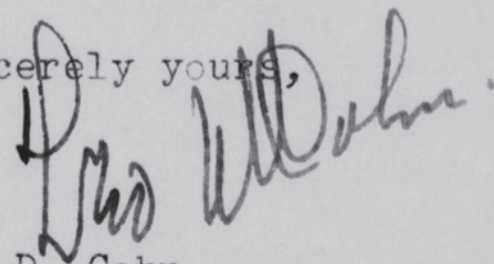
Dear Rabbi:

Please excuse the lateness of this letter in answer to your lengthy telegram sent to me on December 8th to attend the very important meeting held in New York. It was simply impossible for me to have arranged this trip. However, I sincerely hope that the meeting will bring fruitful results.

I will gladly extend any assistance in whatever modest way I can to help the good work along.

Wishing you and the entire program much success, I am,

Sincerely yours,



Leo D. Cohn

LDC:lw