



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

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

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

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B'nai B'rith, 1949-1962.

DR. JOSHUA BLOCH  
Ingraham Lane  
NEW HYDE PARK, N. Y.

11/23/49

Dear Silver:-

I am writing this letter to you in strict confidence and with good reason to assume that you will give it such cautious consideration as it merits. A friend of mine, a Catholic priest, who, I have reason to believe, is in a position to know, told me some weeks ago, likewise in strict confidence, that in insisting upon Jerusalem being internationalized the Catholic Church has the assurance of support from an international Jewish body and that this assurance has been given in a Memorandum presented to the Pope by a spokesman of that organization. He could not, so he told me, divulge the name of the organization nor of its spokesman. This, of course, for obvious reasons. The memorandum also offered Jewish cooperation in the struggle of the Catholic Church against Communism. On careful reflection I concluded that if this report contains a measure of truth it, in all likelihood, refers to an action taken by the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League. You will recall that sometime in the summer of 1948 Rabbi William Korublem, was reported in the press, as having been received by the Pope to whom he presented a memorandum from the B'nai B'rith. The text of the memorandum was never published nor the reasons which prompted the B'nai B'rith to send Rabbi Korublem with a special mission to the Vatican.

DR. JOSHUA BLOCH

Ingraham Lane

NEW HYDE PARK, N. Y.

In view of the failure of American Jewish, except the Zionist, organizations to openly take a definite stand in opposition to the internationalization of Jerusalem the rabbi's flight to the Vatican and the failure to publish the text of the memorandum he presented to the Pope assume obvious significance. Seeing how active Catholic groups are in supporting internationalization of Jerusalem while non-Zionist Jewish organizations are silent on the matter one is inclined to conclude that if there be a measure of truth in the report which I convey to you in this letter, the B'nai B'rith must be placed under the suspicion of having acted treacherously against Jewish interests.

Not only the B'nai B'rith but the Synagogue Council, which it supports perhaps also controls, must be called upon to take a positive stand on the question of Jerusalem's status. Such a step should be taken in order to counteract the effective work carried on by the forces that clamor for the internationalization of the Holy City.

The matter which I place now in your hands merits serious consideration and prompt action. You are in a position, so it seems to me, to deal with the B'nai B'rith more effectively than any one else in American Jewish leadership.

Sincerely  
 Joshua Bloch

December 8, 1949

Dr. Joshua Bloch  
Ingraham Lane  
New Hyde Park, New York

My dear Joshua:

Thank you so much for writing to me. I am now checking up on the information which came into your possession. If true, it is a very serious business indeed.

I trust that you are well, and hoping to have the pleasure of seeing you in the near future, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

Re: Dr Joshua Bloch

December 8, 1949

Mr. Gerald Frank  
B'nai Brith  
1003 K Street, N.W.  
Washington 1, D.C.

My dear Gerald:

I am wondering whether you have obtained the copy of the memorandum which Rabbi Rosenblum last summer submitted to the Vatican.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

Students' House  
24 Tancred Lane  
Jerusalem, Israel  
December 9, 1949

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Ansel Rd. and 105th St.  
Cleveland, Ohio  
U.S.A.

Dear Rabbi Silver,

Shalom Rav. As you will note by the address, I am now in Jerusalem studying at the Hebrew University. The past few months have been the most rewarding and fascinating months of my entire life. It is impossible to visualize the spirit of Israel today unless one has actually lived and worked among the people and felt the tremendous impact of the forces which are creating our Jewish state.

The first part of my stay in Israel I worked in kibbutzim, "trempling" (the Israeli equivalent of "hitch-hiking") throughout the entire country from the Galil to the Negev. In America we always read about the important experiments in the structure of society which are being developed in the kibbutzim, about the idealism of the "kibbutzniks," we are shown pictures of beautiful cabins, of fertile fields, of pretty Tsabres milking well-fed cows, with the result that the kibbutz is placed in an aura of excitement and adventure. But when viewed from within the Kibbutz takes on another appearance. At the present time there is a considerable number of people who are leaving the agricultural life and moving toward the cities, because in addition to idealism, to live in a kibbutz, particularly a younger one, requires hard work and raw courage.

No where in Israel today is life easy. There are very few luxuries. The cost of living is exceptionally high, the wages low. The absorption of the refugees, the need for maintaining a strong armed force, the development of the country's resources are a constant drain on the government's economy. And nevertheless, despite all the deficiencies and inefficiencies of life here, wherever one goes one can hear the phrase *אין סוף*. It is a simple phrase, but it describes Israel today. Conditions are bad, life is difficult today, but we are building for the future, and the future "will be good."

These last few weeks the entire country has been concerned with the debate in the UN over the plan for the internationalization of Jerusalem. As I write this there is talk that the Assembly will pass the Australian plan. But be that as it may, any plan which does not allow for the inclusion of Jerusalem as an integral part

of the state of Israel will never be accepted by the government of by the people. I have taken part in several rallies and demonstrations of protest here in Jerusalem. There were no bands, no banners, no shouting or cheering. There was only a quiet devotion and determination. At the grave of Herzl 15,000 inhabitants of Jerusalem consecrated themselves, and took an oath that they would never permit Jerusalem to be taken away from the state of Israel.

I have been following with great interest the debate in American and world Zionist ranks over the opposing philosophies of *חיים אלה* and *חיים אלה* and have had many discussions with Israelis, who are almost unanimous in their advocacy of *חיים אלה*. Although I of course earnestly believe in the future of American Jewry, and furthermore that a creative, vibrant American Jewish community is essential, at the same time I have become convinced that there is a vital need for American Jewish immigration to Israel. This is a new country. It requires the techniques, the money, the influence of American ideas, not only via the UJA or "Shelichim," but through the actual settlement of Americans. The present techniques of Israel and many of the Zionist organizations are not producing the desired results. Large numbers of Americans, and even Europeans, who originally came here to settle permanently are returning. I think that this situation exists because instead of emphasizing positive reasons for living in Israel, they emphasize negative reasons. Instead of telling American Jews that they should come to Israel to build up the land, to create, to be pioneers, to inject new life into the Jewish people, they tell them that it is only a matter of time till anti-semitism will break out in the U.S., that the Jewish community in the U.S. will eventually disintegrate, that it is impossible to be a "complete Jew" in America, that only in Israel can one live a real Jewish life. And so when Americans come here expecting their lives to be more complete, many of them suddenly find themselves in a vacuum. Those who come here to be more comfortable either physically, mentally, or spiritually will soon return. Only those who come here for positive reasons will find the satisfaction of accomplishment which will permit them to remain and to contribute to the creation of the state.

The life of a university student here is not too different from that of a student in the United States. I have been profiting a great deal from the lectures and perhaps learning even more from the many fine friendships and associations I have made with the Israeli students.

Kindly give my best regards to Mrs. Silver, Danny and Raphael, Rabbi Nodel, and the rest of the Temple family. Also express my sincere thanks to the members of the Cleveland Zionist Society that they helped make possible this enriching experience. May you all have a "Chag Sameach" and may our people continue to cherish and struggle for the ideals of Chanukah.

*חיים אלה*

Richard Hirsch



# *B'nai B'rith*

NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

511 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, New York • Telephone MUrray Hill 7-7657

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
1003 K Street N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

GEROLD FRANK, *Director*

December 19, 1949

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

Because of the Christmas (or, let us hope, Chanukah) mails, your letter of December 8th did not arrive until today. I telephoned Rabbi Rosenblum on the matter immediately after speaking with you. He said then he would get in touch with you at once and show you the memorandum. Today he told me that he was unable to reach you at the time. He added that he has one copy of the memorandum, which he does not want to let out of his hands and which he prefers not having copied, but which he will show you the next time you are in New York; that he had had "sort of" an agreement with the Vatican not to publicize the memorandum until a certain period of time had elapsed during which the Vatican would consider the subject and presumably take some kind of action; and that he, Rabbi Rosenblum, now feels that time is rapidly running out. He spoke with the Cardinal here a few days ago but apparently matters were not much advanced.

I wish I could give you more than this rather cryptic information.

With kindest personal regards,

Faithfully yours,

Gerold Frank

GF:emb

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B'nai B'rith, founded in 1843, is America's oldest and largest Jewish service organization.

Its activities include: Anti-Defamation League; Hillel Foundations; B'nai B'rith Youth Organization; Vocational Service Bureau; Americanism Commission; Aid to Israel; National Jewish Monthly; and support of various philanthropic agencies.

ADL

June 1, 1950

Mr. Frank Goldman, President  
B'nai B'rith  
1003 K Street, N.W.  
Washington 1, D. C.

My dear Mr. Goldman:

I want you to know how delighted I have been with the stand which the A.D.L. at its Chicago Convention took in the matter of Benjamin J. Bittenweiser and his attempt to use the platform of the B'nai B'rith to whitewash the policy of our State Department which is rapidly turning over the administration of Western Germany to former Nazis and former enemies who set out to destroy all that America stands for and to destroy the Jewish people as well. It is characteristic of this type of Jew to lean so far backward that his head finally touches his bottom.

More forthright and courageous action such as the A.D.L. took would go far towards removing from the American Jewish scene would-be spokesmen for American Jewry who in no way represent the true sentiments and convictions of our people. Time and again such peripheral Jews are being used to sell our people a bill of goods....

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

# B'NAI B'RITH HILLEL FOUNDATIONS

A National Organization Devoted to Cultural, Religious and Counseling Activities Among Jewish Students *at American Universities*

RABBI ARTHUR J. LELYVELD

National Director

JUDAH J. SHAPIRO

Associate National Director



165 W. 46th St.

NEW YORK 19, N. Y.

Phone: PLaza 7-0430

October 19, 1950

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
East 105th St. and Ansel Rd.  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

The Metropolitan Council of B'nai B'rith has asked me to seek to persuade you to deliver the opening lecture of its city-wide adult education course for the winter 1950/51 on December 11th here in New York City. This venture in adult Jewish education has developed into one of the finest aspects of the B'nai B'rith program in the New York area and its opening lecture has always drawn an attendance of more than 1,000. Should you find it possible to accept the invitation to deliver the opening lecture this year, we are assured of an even larger audience than this event has drawn in the past.

I am attaching for your information, a copy of the outline of last year's course. This year's course will present the major generative ideas of Jewish life under the title "Ideas by Which We Live - The Meaning of the Jewish Heritage for the Modern Jew." There will be 10 sessions in the course for which Rabbi Joseph Lookstein, Rabbi Robert Gordis, Rabbi Ira Eisenstein, Dr. Irving Levey and others will lecture on "The God Idea in Judaism," "The Jewish Concept of Man," "Israel Among the Nations" and other aspects of the Jewish value heritage.

The opening lecture, which we are urging you to deliver, will be the keynote address intended to set the framework for the entire course. If you are free on December 11th and are willing to consider this invitation favorably, I would deem it a great privilege to be able to convey that word to the chairman of the committee and request him to write to you concerning the details of the event. It would be a service of unparalleled value for this fine developing program of Jewish education on the adult level in New York.

It has been far too long since I have last had the pleasure of seeing you, and for that selfish reason too, I hope that I shall have the privilege of being among your hosts. My warm personal greetings.

Cordially,

Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld

AJL:ahg  
Enc.

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1923 - SILVER JUBILEE YEAR - 1948

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College of the City of New York (Uptown)	Queens College, New York
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Cornell University	Rutgers University
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Florida State University	University of Saskatchewan
George Washington University	Simmons College
University of Georgia	Smith College
Harvard University	University of Southern California
Havana University	Temple University
Hunter College	University of Texas
University of Illinois	Texas A. & M. College
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**DISTRICT GRAND LODGE NO. 6**

*B'nai B'rith*

100 NORTH LASALLE STREET, CHICAGO 2, ILL.

Office of  
ISADORE STARR  
Memb. General Comm.  
2017 Dime Bldg.  
Detroit 26, Mich.

February 9th, 1951

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Please accept my sincere thanks for your reply of the 5th instant and even more particularly for the copy of your address of December 17th, which I have not as yet received at this writing.

At the risk of appearing insistent, I wish to remind you that in the course of our telephone conversation last week, you informed me that you could not accept any speaking engagements during the month of February and the first part of March, but that you would forward me a list of available dates after that time. Your letter indicates to me that perhaps you have forgotten about this understanding.

In view of the fact that since the subject of your possible appearance was mentioned, the general membership of B'nai B'rith has expressed an intense desire for your appearance, I should greatly appreciate being advised of the dates on which you could possibly appear in Detroit, as well as the conditions for such appearance.

Respectfully yours,

*I. R. Starr*

I. R. STARR

IRS:MW

• MEMBERS OF NATIONAL COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS REPRESENTING DISTRICT GRAND LODGE NO. 6 •  
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March 6, 1951

Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld  
B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations  
165 West 46th Street  
New York 19, New York

My dear Lelyveld:

In going through an accumulated collection of brochures and programs, I came across one from the B'nai B'rith, and in opening it, I found the letter which you had inserted inside of it dated October 19, 1950, which, of course, not having seen, I did not answer. I write you this note at this late date to assure you that there was no intentional disregard of your communication. I make it a practice to answer all my correspondence.

I trust that your adult education course was very successful. Perhaps at some future time I may be of service to you.

With warmest regards, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABRA HILLEL SILVER

HS:er



BB

# B'NAI B'RITH HILLEL FOUNDATIONS

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## *at American Universities*

165 WEST 46th STREET  
NEW YORK 19, N. Y.  
PLaza 7-0430

March 8, 1951

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I have some idea of the heavy load of correspondence which you must receive, and I was of course confident that you had not intentionally disregarded my letter. The disappointment we suffered in not having been able to secure you as the opening speaker was more important.

I will learn from this incident to follow up by phone or wire when next I write to you, as I shall, in the hope that you will be able to honor one of our important Hillel functions with your presence in the not too distant future.

My very cordial personal greetings.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld

AJL:dl

*National Hillel Commission:*

ABRAM LEON SACHAR, *Chairman* • MAURICE BISGYER, *Secretary* • ARTHUR J. LELYVELD, *National Director*  
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# The Cleveland Trust Company

CLEVELAND 1, OHIO

PERSONAL LOAN AND FINANCE DEPARTMENT

February 28, 1955

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

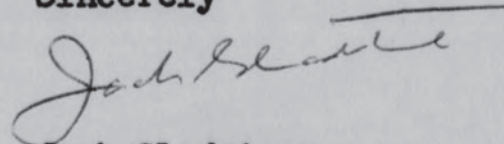
Dear Rabbi:

As I discussed with you at The Temple on Sunday, we would be most honored if you would give the prayer at the Cleveland Lodge # 16 Bnai Brith Installation Dinner Dance on Saturday, April 23, 1955 at Beechmont Country Club. Social hour at 6:30 p.m. Dinner at 7:30 p.m. You and Mts. Silver, of course, are invited as our guests. We would arrange your transportation.

It would be a fine thing if you could accept this year. It appears that I will be installed as President. As you know I am a member of your Temple. Mr. Al Benesch will be the Toast Master. My father-in-law, George Chertoff, and other friends of yours whom I am sure you will be happy to see will be present. This will be a triple event - Installation, Tercentary Celebration and honoring all Past Presidents. Incidentally, it was just ten years ago that you performed my wedding ceremony.

If satisfactory to you, I will call your office Friday, March 4, 1955 to learn of your decision.

Sincerely



Jack Gladstone  
2296 Canterbury Road  
University Heights, Ohio

APRIL 23, 1955

MR. JACK GLADSTONE  
BEECHMONT COUNTRY CLUB

TELEGRAM

REGRET CANNOT ATTEND THE INSTALLATION DINNER DUE TO  
PREVIOUS COMMITMENT. I WISH YOU EVERY SUCCESS IN  
YOUR OFFICE AS PRESIDENT OF THE B'NAI B'RITH CLEVELAND  
LODGE.

WARMEST REGARDS.

RABBI ~~ABBA~~ HILLEL SILVER



# The Cleveland Trust Company

CLEVELAND 1, OHIO

PERSONAL LOAN AND FINANCE DEPARTMENT

May 2, 1955.

Dear Rabbi:

I want you to know how much I appreciated your telegram of congratulations on my installation as President of Cleveland Lodge. It was very thoughtful of you.

We had a splendid affair. Al Benesch did a fine job as Toast-Master. However, we did miss you.

Thank you again,

As ever,

Jack Gladstone

Dec. 13, 1956

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver

Pursuant to our telephone conversation I would like to submit to you for presentation to your father the following suggestions:

With the consent of your father, an Abba Hillel Silver Award would be established with the purpose of awarding , every year, on Campus Honor Day, an award, to be determined by consultation with your father and you, to the student who has contributed most during the past year to the promotion of religious activities on Campus.

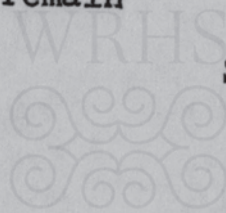
In order to determine the winner, the three Chaplains would be requested to submit the names of candidates, together with a biographical sketch and perhaps a short essay of this recommended student, to your father for the determination of the final winner.

Of course, the details would have to be still ironed out but I think that this suggestion as a foundation of possible plans would certainly creat quite a stimulous amongst the students for competing to receive this award.

Looking forward to hearing from ~~you~~ either you or your father in the near future, I remain

Sincerely yours,

/s/ S. Sherman



February 6, 1957

Rabbi Steven Sherman  
B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation  
11409 Bellflower  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Sherman:

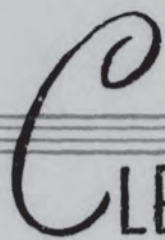
Dr. Silver has agreed to hand over to you a check representing the financial section of the Eisenman Award. He feels that your plan of an honor day award for the student who has contributed most to the promotion of student activities on the campus is a worthy one. He has asked me to work out, with you, the details of this award.

When you are able, I will consider it a privilege to have you come over to discuss this award.

Cordially,

DANIEL JEREMY SILVER

DJS:rrw



# CLEVELAND LODGE



# NUMBER SIXTEEN



CLEVELAND, OHIO

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March 14, 1957

Rabbi A. H. Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio 6

Dear Brother Ben B'rith:

This letter is to inform you that we are specially interested in your attending our monthly Lodge meeting on Thursday, March 21st at Temple Emanu El, because this meeting will be devoted to the honoring of our Past Presidents and the 25 Year Members of Cleveland Lodge No. 16. You are, as you know, part of this group to be so honored.

And to make this evening even more thoroughly enjoyable and inspiring, the feature of our program will be the speaking of well-known Plain Dealer columnist, Spencer Irwin, who will very expertly and informatively speak on the Middle East Crisis! This alone is certainly a worth-while evening!

As President of Cleveland Lodge No. 16, I want to personally urge your attendance. As one of our honored guests, your name will be mentioned, and your presence to be with us at this fine meeting is requested. It will give you a fine opportunity to "rub elbows" with the many fine men in our 104 year old Lodge who, as have you, loyally supported and helped to carry the B'nai B'rith tradition.

Please put this event on your "must list". We're sure that this will be an evening you will thoroughly enjoy for many reasons.

Fraternally,

*Herbert V. Sharlitt*

Herbert V. Sharlitt, President  
CLEVELAND LODGE NO. 16

HVS:mr

B'NAI B'RITH HILLEL FOUNDATION  
AT WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY  
11409 BELLFLOWER ROAD  
CLEVELAND 6, OHIO

RABBI STEPHEN SHERMAN  
DIRECTOR

May 21, 1957

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

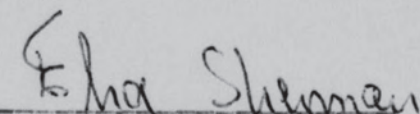
Dear Rabbi Silver:

Please permit me to express again my heartfelt thanks for the founding of the Abba Hillel Silver Annual Award.

I feel certain that it will serve to enrich the spiritual and human relations of Hillel and the student community on campus and the Cleveland community at large.

With kindest personal regards.

Very cordially yours,

  
Mrs. Stephen Sherman  
Acting Director

ES:dm

# B'nai B'rith

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May 21, 1957

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
and  
Rabbi Daniel J. Silver,

TIDE TEMPLE

Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbis:

On behalf of our President and membership I address myself to both of you, expressing appreciation for the privilege of being your host at B'nai B'rith Union Services in Youngstown.

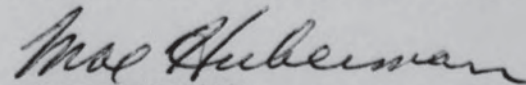
In each of these occasions we were able to rally much of our community behind your calls for reason, for justice, for unity in defending world Jewry. You have both brought greater enlightenment to our Brethren and greater honor to our Order.

It is the wishes of our membership that some action expressing our respect and esteem be properly taken and recorded. Knowing that you seek no material return for the visits you have honored us with, and aware of your vigorous support for many B'nai B'rith agencies, we have unanimously voted to contribute \$100.00 to the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation in the names of Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver and Rabbi Daniel J. Silver.

We hope we soon again will be privileged to have you as our guests.

May your tribe increase.

Respectfully and fraternally,

  
MAX HUBERMAN  
Recording Secretary  
91 WILLOW DRIVE

MH/rsh

file  
F. B. Birch  
B'nai B'rith

May 24, 1957

Mr. Max Huberman  
91 Willow Drive  
Youngstown, Ohio

My dear Mr. Huberman:

Thank you so much for your kind letter of May 21st.

Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver and I deeply appreciate the contribution which you have made to the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation in our honor.

Permit us to assure you of our deep appreciation and of the pleasure we had in addressing the B'nai B'rith Union Services in Youngstown.

With warmest regards and all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:sl

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

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1640 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, N. W. • WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

EXECUTIVE 3-5284

December 5, 1957

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
1855 Ansel Road  
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am happy to enclose herewith a copy of Jewish Heritage, our magazine which is being designed as a learning tool for individuals and groups wishing to study aspects of Judaism. I would be very interested to have any comments or reactions which you may care to send after you have a chance to look this over.

I know how pressed you are and yet I am taking the liberty of inviting you to contribute an article to the forthcoming issue of Jewish Heritage. We would be particularly eager to have a piece by you on the "Messianic Idea in Israel." Our goal is through this publication to reach our far-flung members as well as other Jews in the community and, specifically, to try to raise the leadership of our own people on a national and district level. An article by you would add distinction to our publication and would help us significantly to move in this direction.

We shall look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

*Simon Noveck*  
Dr. Simon Noveck, National Director  
Dept. of Adult Jewish Education

SN:bs

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# *B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation*

at WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY • 11409 Bellflower Road • Cleveland 6, Ohio  
GARfield 1-2455

Rabbi Emanuel Seidman

Director

*Autler*

1 May 1958

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland 6, Ohio

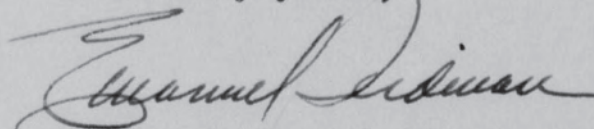
Dear Dr. Silver:

It is my pleasure to invite you and Mrs. Silver to be  
our guests at the Hillel Annual Awards Banquet on  
Sunday May 18 at 6:00 P.M.

The recipient of the Campus Day Abba Hillel Silver Award  
will be accorded additional recognition at that time.

With kind regards.

Cordially yours,



Rabbi Emanuel Seidman  
Director

ES:dm

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# B'NAI B'RITH

1640 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, NW, WASHINGTON 6, D. C. • EXECUTIVE 3-5284 • CABLE ADDRESS: BNAIBRITH

March 20, 1962.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
East 105 St. and Silver Park  
Cleveland 6, Ohio

My dear Friend:

I haven't seen or written to you for a long time but, nevertheless, every once in a while I think of you and the many matters of mutual interest in which we have been associated in the past.

My purpose in writing you is to tell you that one of your very fine and outstanding congregants, Alfred A. Benesch, is going to be honored on June 3rd at the District Grand Lodge No. 2 Convention in Indianapolis by presenting him with the Youth Fellowship by the B'nai B'rith Foundation. It is not necessary for me to tell you what a fine piece of work B'nai B'rith Vocational Service does for thousands of young men and women. B'nai B'rith maintains 237 Hillel Foundations and Counselorships in colleges and universities all over America and has established chairs of Judaic studies in several principal universities. In addition thereto, the work that we are doing for Jewish youth under college age is a source of great pride to all of us.

May I prevail upon you to kindly write a letter of felicitation to him which will be read at the District Grand Lodge No. 2 Convention in Indianapolis when the Fellowship is presented in June 3, 1962. Of course, while the letter will be addressed to him, I would appreciate it if you would send it to me and I will deliver it to the proper person to be read. I wrote a letter to Abe Luntz about the matter because I am trying to get him to assist in this as far as some of Al's friends in Cleveland are concerned, but the only request I am making of you is that you write the letter as indicated above which I know that you will be happy to do.

I am dictating this letter in Washington while attending some B'nai B'rith business and I know that you will be interested in knowing that Rabbi Benjamin Kahn is doing a marvelous job as head of the National Hillel Foundation movement. It's been a long time since you've been on the Hillel Commission but you no doubt remember the fine work.

Every time I see you, you ask me to tell you some stories. If you surprise everyone and come to Indianapolis, I'll tell you a few.

Best regards to you, your lovely wife and family,

Cordially,

*Sid*  
Sidney G. Kusworm

SGK:mf



*L. of Congress*

May 16, 1962

My dear Al:

I understand that another honor will be coming your way on June third when the District Grand Lodge No. 2 at its Convention in Indianapolis will present you with a Youth Fellowship of the B'nai B'rith Foundation. I know of your life-long devotion to the work of the B'nai B'rith and especially to the work which it is doing among the youth of our people. The inspiration and leadership which you have given to the B'nai B'rith through the years is widely known and this signal honor which is to be bestowed upon you is evidence of the profound appreciation of your services by this honored body of American Jewry.

I salute you on this occasion in affection and in admiration. With warmest regards, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS :bfm

Mr. Alfred A. Benesch