

Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

Featuring collections from the Western Reserve Historical Society and The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

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

Series I: General Correspondence, 1914-1969, undated. Sub-series A: Alphabetical, 1914-1965, undated.

Reel Box Folder 5 343

Bolton, Frances P., 1953-1954.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 20, 1953

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver 19810 Shaker Blvd. Shaker Heights, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver:

I have just received a letter from Ralph E. Samuel, chairman of the American Jewish Tercentenary Committee, asking me to add my word to the request for the issuance of a United States postage stamp to commemorate the 300th anniversary of Jewish settlement in America.

It gives me real pleasure to support this request and I have written both Postmaster General Arthur E. Summerfield and Assistant Postmaster General Albert J. Robertson. In being advised of this very interesting tercentenary, I was reminded of the great Jewish Community in Cleveland and its outstanding contributions to the culture and well being of the community. It struck me that the occasion of this tercentenary would be the opportune time to put on record the story of Jewish life in Greater Cleveland.

I would be deeply grateful if you could suggest to me the persons or organizations from which I could best get the history of Jewish settlers in our area and a comprehensive background of Jewish life in Cleveland.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

James Photory

FPB/gc

July 30, 1953 Hon. Frances P. Bolton House of Representatives Washington 25. D. C. My dear Congressman Boltons Permit me to thank you for your kind note of July 20th. I was pleased to learn that you have given your endorsement to the proposal to issue a United States postage stamp in commemoration of the 300th anniversary of the settlement of Jews in America. I agree with you that it would be most interesting in connection with the Tercentenary to call attention to the history of the Jewish community in Cleveland. Although there is no Jewish historical society here in Cleveland, considerable research has been done in this field by a number of people and organizations. Perhaps, the bestinformed individual who could put you in touch with the available material is Mr. Leo Weidenthal, Editor of the Jewish Independent of Cleveland. May I take this opportunity to congratulate you upon the high honor which has come to you in being designated by the President of the United States as a Representative of our Government to the United Nations. This is a high distinction, indeed, and a great opportunity for service in the international field where our Country has been singled out for the role of leadership. With all good wishes, I remain Most cordially yours, ARBA HILLEL SILVER AHSerlh

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON, D. C.

August 7, 1953

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

My dear Rabbi Silver:

Thank you so much for your letter of the 30th, and for the good things you say about my appointment to the United Nations.

I will certainly be in touch with Mr. Weidenthal for background material on the Jewish community in Cleveland.

With appreciation,

Sincerely yours,

FPB:mc

ROBERT R. NATHAN ASSOCIATES, INC. CONSULTING ECONOMISTS

CABLE ADDRESS
NATECON

July 13, 1954

NO. 3 THOMAS CIRCLE WASHINGTON 5, D. C. NATIONAL 8-8630

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I have received a copy of your speech which you delivered before the ZOA. It was excellent as usual. I was especially happy to read the portion dealing with Representative Bolton. If ever there were justification and need for support of her opponent, it is in 1954.

Chat Paterson who is running against her is an old friend of mine. He is really a wonderful young fellow. In 1950, he received 36% of the votes cast in his district, and in 1952, despite the Eisenhower landslide, he received 44% of the vote. He should have a good chance of winning this time.

I have talked with Chat, and he needs some financial support in order to do some television, radio, and billboard work. I am confident that many of your friends would be willing to help him if you made the suggestion. Chat is going to call you, and I do hope you will see him and give him your cooperation.

It has been much too long since I have had the pleasure of a visit with you, and I do hope we can get together soon. I would be willing to come out to Cleveland myself to help in any way possible on behalf of Chat.

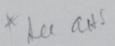
Very best wishes.

Cordially,

Robert R. Nathan

P. S. The attachment is self-explanatory.

R. R. N.



FROM OUR 22nd CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, we have as a Representative in Washington one of the Nation's foremost and most active opponents of the State of Israel.

LET'S LOOK AT THE RECORD

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver this year labelled her "well-known from her earlier violent anti-Zionist activities" and a person "who appears to be the ready mouth-piece in the House of Representatives for all pro-Arab propaganda."

(From an Address delivered Thursday, June 24, 1954 before the 57th Annual Convention of the Zionist Organization of America

- - Is this fair representation for the thousands of Americans in her District who have worked so hard for justice and peace in the Middle East?
- --- Let's look at her own testimony this year -- (From the records of the House Foreign Affairs Committee hearings between April 5 and June 8, 1954 dealing with Israel and the Middle East)

"Isn't one of the very galling things to the Arabs who have been shoved out of those agricultural lands that they have to sit there and see them just going to pieces because there isn't the farm element in the Israeli people?" (Pg. 484)

or

Mrs. Bolton: "Mr. Chairman, we have told so many times that Israel is the one democratic state of the area. I would like to know on what basis she claims to be a democratic state."

Mr. Gardiner. "I would assume, Mrs. Bolton, it is on the basis of a highly literate population, a representative government, a free press; they are all elements that go to make up -- "

Mrs. Bolton. "A theocratic state."

or

Mrs. Bolton. "Also, what about their being such a bulwark against Russia? Haifa was at one time the center of Russian propaganda. I believe there is a great deal that goes out from Tel Aviv. We know that it is accurate that the sending of mili-

tary information to our people in Syria was stopped because it went directly to Moscow... It troubles me very much."

Rabbi Silver had this to say about her vicious and prejudiced statements on these matters --

"The Press report. . reported that Representative Frances Bolton of Ohio. . . delivered herself of the following: "Israel has been re-shipping strategic materials to the Soviet Union, thereby violating the Battle Act." She queried innocently whether Israel actually is such a bulwark against Communism. She said, "Haifa was at one time the center of Russian propaganda." She also accused the Israelis of letting their land lie fallow, refusing to do farm work, and expressed her expert judgment that Arabs are superior agriculturalists. All this, of course, is strongly reminiscent of anti-Zionist propaganda antedating the establishment of the State. Mrs. Bolton seems to be ignorant of the fact that the agricultural area of Israel has expanded in the last six years from 400,000 acres to nearly a million, and that agricultural scientists who get their information about agriculture from studying the soil and not from clipping coupons, have extolled time and again Israel's farming and reclamation achievements as among the finest in the world. It is strange that in making these charges against the Israelis, Congresswoman Bolton had nothing to say about Arab boycotts and blockades which are seriously retarding the economic development of the entire Near East. While concerned with unfounded charges about Israel's re-shipping strategic materials to the Soviet Union, she seems to be not the least concerned about the Arab blockade of the Suez Canal, which has made it impossible for Israel to obtain oil from nearby fields and has been compelled to purchase it from far-away Venezuela, which involves excessive transportation costs, and that Israel today must buy considerable oil from the Soviet Union, to save on these transportation costs.

What blind-spots these people develop when they come to ride a hobby or a lobby! How easily things get out of focus! And what dangerously unreliable guides they become for American foreign policy!"

HAVEN'T WE HAD ENOUGH OF MRS. BOLTON'S ATTACKS AGAINST ISRAEL YEAR AFTER YEAR????

A vote for CHAT PATERSON, her able, liberal opponent, will help defeat Mrs. Bolton.

MEMORANDUM: In re the Twenty-Second Congressional District The following material together with a map of the District should serve as a guide to what can be done to defeat Frances Bolton. 1. The 22nd District consists of five city wards, plus Cleveland Heights and all the suburbs north of Cedar Road. The District, as of May 4, 1954, had 166,469 2. registered voters. An average of 20 new registrations and/or transfers per precinct brings the total for November, 1954 to approximately 176,000. The total Congressional vote in the District, in 1952 was 148.557. Allowing for the usual decrease in number of votes cast, which always occurs in an off-year election, a vote of approximately 125,000 in 1954 can be contemplated. Accordingly, the following discussion will relate to this figure, but should the vote be a higher one than anticipated, past figures indicate that the same per centages would prevail. In 1950 there were 115,969 votes cast inthe Congressional election. Paterson received 43,167 to Mrs. Bolton's 72,802, or approximately 37% of the vote. In 1952 he received 61,197 to Mrs. Bolton's 87,360 or approximately 42% of the vote. It is reasonable to assume that if Paterson 5. could increase his vote approximately 5% in the strong Republican year of 1952, he can certainly expect the same per centage increase in 1954. This would give him approximately 47% of the votes cast. This shift of 5% can be taken as the inevitable gain of the party out of power. At least five voters out of one hundred will find reason for dissatisfaction and change their votes, especially in view of the unemployment situation in certain areas of the District, the McCarthy issue, and general business conditions. If Paterson received 47% of the vote, the vote would be 58,750 to 66,250. The question is: where does he find the 8,000 votes, the additional 4%, which he needs to win.

MEMORANDUM - Page 2 The following facts concerning the economic, religious and ethnical breakdown of the District are signifigant in terms of this question. The ethnical and religious breakdown of the District is as follows: 20% - Negro (18th, 20th Wards, sizeable areas of the 19th Ward) 25% - Catholic (26th, 19th Wards, ((Italian)), Euclid, certain areas of Cleveland Heights and South Euclid.) 25% - Jewish (27th Ward, large areasof Cleveland Heights, South Euclid, Lyndhurst. There is also a growing Jewish community in Lyndhurst.) 30% - Silk Stocking and Protestant. This District is a working class area. Frances Bolton has always pulled a heavy Democratic vote due to her tremendous financial resources and the fact that no Democratic candidate has stayed with the task long enough to make himself known to the majority of voters in the District. Richard Maher of the Fress, after his survey of the District, told Paterson that he thought that if Frances Bolton could be dislodged, the District would be permanently Democratic. Maher also feels that there is a real chance to defeat Mrs. Bolton this year, if Paterson can pick up an additional 4% increase over and above the 5% increase, which Maher feels is usual. Some figures will show why this District can not be considered a Republican stronghold. 1952 Election a) Frank Lausche - 91,968 Charles Taft - 63,742 b) Michael de Salle - 73,048 John Bricker - 74,928 c) Adlai Stevenson got 44.6% of the vote in the District as compared with a national per centage of 44.2%. This year in Maine the smallest per centage of gain

MEMORANDUM - Page 4

This is one example of the possible results of a well-organized campaign against Frances Bolton.

Were adequate resources available to organize inthe other areas mentioned, even greater results could be anticipated.





September 27, 1954 Mr. Alfred A. Benesch Citizens Building Cleveland, Ohio My dear Al: I am enclosing herewith a memorandum on the hearings which were conducted before the House Foreign Affairs Committee this year. I am also enclosing a letter which I received from the American Zionist Committee for Public Affairs in Washington asking all Congressional candidates to sign the enclosed statement with reference to American policy in the Middle East or to draft a statement of their own. You may succeed in getting the lady to sign such a statement.... With warmest regards and all good wishes for the New Year, I remain Very cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:rms enclosures

MEMORANDUM

July 2, 1954

During the hearings conducted before the House Foreign Affairs Committee on the 1954 Mutual Security Program between April 5 and June 8, 1954, Congress-woman Frances Bolton submitted a number of statements and questions dealing with Israel.

She expressed doubt about Israel's agricultural progress, the use which Israel has made of American aid, and the dependability of the state as a bulwark against Communist aggression. This testimony has aroused considerable interest. The following are excerpts from the transcript:

* * *

On April 12, during a discussion of the shipment of agricultural surpluses abroad, Mrs. Bolton said:

"Israel gets very little off her own soil because a great many of her people don't farm. There is a lot of farmland that isn't being used as such." (Pg.195)

* * *

On May 3, there was a discussion of Israel's progress and both Mr. Norman S. Paul, FOA regional director for the Near East, and Assistant Secretary of State Henry A. Byroade, offered positive statements on Israel's growth and her declining need for American aid.

Mr. Paul noted that Jews in Israel were learning to become farmers, that their farm yields were "quite impressive" and that they had made "remarkable strides."

To which Mrs. Bolton said:

"Isn't one of the very galling things to the Arabs who have been shoved out of those agricultural lands, that they have to sit there and see them just going to pieces because there isn't the farm element in the Israeli people?"(Pg.484)

* * *

Four days later, on May 7, both Paul and Arthur 2. Gardiner, of the State Department's Near Eastern Affairs section, again referred in complimentary terms, and at some length, to Israel's agricultural progress. Gardiner stressed, "They are doing what they can...to try and make it attractive for people to leave the big towns and move out to the hinterlands." Paul pointed to the fact that the Israelis were "spending a considerable amount of their funds in developing the agricultural sector of the economy," and that they were "making quite unusually heavy effort" in agriculture.

- 2 -Mrs. Bolton said: "It seems to me as I remember our very early meetings, here, on the subject of Israel, they presented to us a pyramid standing on its point, and at the top it was quite wide, and here was the agriculture group and down at the bottom were the bankers and industrialists. That is what they planned for all those who came into Israel, and they told us with grim determination that they were going to carry it through and there was not to be the overbalance of the city fellow. "Apparently, that has failed entirely, hasn't it, because they have so few who are going out on the land?" Paul replied: "Well, they certainly haven't succeeded in constructing that pyramid, but the statistics on the degree to which they have increased their agricultural yields are really quite impressive." Mrs. Bolton said: "The fact that this land is lying fallow, is one of the very troublesome problems because those were Arab fields and the Arab is a lover of the soil and naturally when he sees his own land just across a little imaginary line, he feels pretty bitterly about it because he knows how long it takes to bring it back. I feel this to be one of the emotional problems of the area." Gardiner told her: "I would like to observe that the rural Jewish population which has been established for some 20 or 30 years has been farming very effectively..."(Pgs. 601-602) * * * Three days later, on May 10, Mrs. Bolton returned to the same subject in a discussion with Representative Jacob K. Javits, (R., N.Y.) She said: "You said a while back that you would bring out the same questions relative to Israel that you had asked about the Arabs. Now, I made a few notes because I was deeply interested in your questioning. "For instance, what do we represent to the Arabs that we want them to do? All right, what do we represent to Israel that we expect them to do, and want them to do, by way of development of economies, and the growing of more food? From that particular area, we do know that they have sadly neglected the agricultural fields of Israel, and that that is one of the very tragic things that has happened, because the people come from city communities and don't want to go into the fields.

- 4 -"Mr. Gardiner. I am sure Mr. Javits is correct in that." (Pg. 639). Earlier, on April 13, when Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs, Henry A. Byroade, said that Israel was worried about American arms aid going to the Arab states, Mrs. Bolton commented, "I should think they would be worried about the bear from the North." (Pg.241) Mrs. Bolton turned her attention to Israel's military capabilities. In a discussion on Israel's military spending, on May 7th, she noted that "they apparently celebrated their freedom, today, with a large military parade. I wonder if we know the actual military strength of Israel. So much is made of it by one group and then it is denied even by our own people. Several years ago when General Bradley was testifying, he said they did not take the forces of Israel into account in planning for the strength of the Near East."(Pg.603) This was followed by an off the record discussion. * * * On May 3, when Byroade talked about American aid that had gone to Israel, Mrs. Bolton asked: "What is it in our relationship with Israel that makes the Arabs feel that Israel has already received everything it has asked for and that we are just going to do everything in the world they want?" (Pg. 481) On May 7, there was a discussion of Arab fears that Israel might expand. The record continues as follows: "Mrs. Church. Mrs. Bolton, I wondered if you wouldn't prefer to put the question directly to the gentlemen talking this morning as to whether they think there are expansionist desires on the part of Israel? "Mrs. Bolton. Yes; I would be very glad to. "Mr. Gardiner. I am sure there are some expansionistminded people in Israel. "Mrs. Bolton. How about the revisionist group? "Mr. Gardiner. Well, that is the last 5 percent. Yes; they have Israel moved all the way to Baghdad. That is the limit in their opinion. And the financial people, who are responsible for these development programs and for the budget, are thinking in terms of a population in 1958 or 1959 of only 2 million altogether, which would be an increase of about 250,000 from the present figure.

- 6 -"Mrs. Bolton. I have been told that there was a moment when such a plan was absolutely in the making and it was stopped by the Zionists in order to create the situation in Palestine. "Mr. Gardiner. In 1905 the British Government offered the Zionists at a council meeting in Switzerland, territory in Kenya in Africa. That was turned down by a very close vote of the Zionists themselves. That seemed to be an open, available space, where Europeans could make a living, but no, they went to Palestine. And in Palestine, of course, you have this great religious urge which is one of the factors in the creation of this religious-nation state. "Mrs. Church. What was that date, Mr. Gardiner? "Mr. Gardiner. I think it is 1905. And it is recorded, Mrs. Church, fully in the autobiography of Dr. Weizmann, which is a "must" book if you wish to get near the roots of this problem. Trial and Error is the name of the book." (Pgs. 608-9) * * * During the final discussion on the Near East, on May 10, Mrs. Bolton raised a number of questions, as follows: "Mrs. Bolton. Mr. Chairman, we have been told so many times that Israel is the one democratic state of the area. I would like to know on what basis she claims to be a democratic state. "Mr. Gardiner. I would assume, Mrs. Bolton, it is on the basis of a highly literate population, a representative government, a free press; they are all elements that go to make up --"Mrs. Bolton. A theocratic state. "Mr. Gardiner. Not necessarily a theocratic state. On the theocratic side it is interesting to know that only about 15 percent of the population is orthodox in religious tenet. "Mrs. Bolton. But, their laws are very theocratic -of marriage and so on, and of citizenship and property of all kinds. They are certainly definitely so dominated. "Mr. Gardiner. The government is primarily influenced by the freely expressed will of the population, that is probably substantially true. It is probably more true in Israel than it is in the Arab world. "Mrs. Bolton. Very definitely. "Also, what about their being such a bulwark against Russia? Haifa was at one time the center of Russian

"Mr. Gardiner. We shall do that.

Battle Act.

"Mrs. Bolton. I would also like to ask that we have a little presentation of Point 4 in Israel before we are through.

look into the situation very, very carefully about the

"Who has been the director, the country director?

"Mr. Paul. Mr. Bruce McDaniel has been our country director and we have recently appointed -- Governor Stassen has recently appointed a successor to him--Dr. Lincoln Hale from Indiana. Dr. Hale is leaving for Israel right after commencement. We hope Mr. McDaniel will stay there long enough to familiarize him with the personnel and the problems, after which he will be leaving.

"Mrs. Bolton. Which will be the best thing for the United States, if I may say so. And I think that some of the reports that come out of the lack of program, the lack of use of the people who have been sent over, is something that should be looked into with a great deal of care.

"Chairman Chiperfield. Are there any further questions?

"Mrs. Bolton. We were told, as I remember it, in one of the early hearings that they have a factory -- is it ceramics?--where costs of production are very high, materials being brought in from great distances.

"Mr. Paul. They have such a plant in Beersheba and one or two other places in the country. I don't have at my fingertips the amount of imported components that go into that, but I could find it out.

"Mrs. Bolton. I couldn't find it in the testimony, but I thought it had been reported here that there has been great extravagance and that they didn't care what they spent.

"Mr. Paul. There have been certain industries and whether ceramics is one, I will check.

"Mrs. Bolton. I would like to know what industries have been casual about the extravagance with which they proceed.

"Mr. Paul. I think I can find that out for you.

"I think of one example which has been criticized: An auto assembly plant which Kaiser-Frazer has set up in the country which is at the moment using a large percentage of imported components. The Israeli claim that this will be progressively reduced and although they don't ever aspire to complete an automobile there, they feel that the components can go down to a very small percentage. However, I would like to get you some data on that.

"Mrs. Bolton. That is Kaiser-Frazer and not Israeli, is it?

"Mr. Paul. The ownership is in Israeli hands.

"Mrs. Bolton. I know this fall I was talking a little bit about it with Henry Ford and found that they had not gone forward with their arrangements because they couldn't get anything that was at all satisfactory.

"Mr. Faul. The reason I said Kaiser-Frazer is, they are using their prototypes and building jeeps and I think there is some Kaiser-Frazer financial interest in it. It is not controlling.

"Mrs. Bolton. Thank you very much." (Pgs.655-656).

Bulton, 7P. BENESCH, FRIEDLANDER & MENDELSON ATTORNEYS AT LAW CITIZENS BUILDING ALFRED A BENESCH ALBERT MENDELSON JEROME M FRIEDLANDER WILLIAM MENDELSON NORMAN E. GUTFELD ROBERT C. COPLAN CLEVELAND 14, OHIO TELEPHONE CHERRY 1.0240 October 8, 1954. Alea Rath Tolor, - I sent from letter of Deptember 27.5, Together with the Enclosures, & Whit Haber and regnested him & underen & seeme hus. Bolton's signature & the pledge regarding the policy of This morning you letter to me with the sent without on to the without of the without of the without one. Button on the sent of is averse & organing the player. I have, accordingly, refused the request flag companyin manager that I serve on her Executions committee. The statement that I snall is not a demourage but a theory is more than I can stomach. Number of Enly thering me. My som unty