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

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

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Central Conference of American Rabbis, 1917-1919.

Rabbi Abram Simon, Ph. D.

Washington, D. C.

6/26/1917.

Rabbi Abrahm Silver,
Cleveland, O.

My dear Colleague:-

Let me thank you
heartily for your fine consideration
and cooperation in sending
me your assignment on our
Commission. I have read it

very thoroughly, and although the
Rabbinic development of the
same can be left until next
year, I find your treatment
of the Biblical Material
scholarly and acceptable.
I hope to have a meeting
of our Commission in Buffalo

So as to compare notes,
with cordial good wishes,
I remain,
Sincerely
Abraham



Cincinnati, Ohio, Dec. 3, 1917.

Dear Colleague:-

I take the liberty of addressing you in a matter which concerns our friend and teacher, Dr. G. Deutsch. You may have noticed from the papers that he is in danger of losing his position at the College on account of an unfortunate incident that happened to him. He was witness for a man who was seeking citizenship papers. Judge Hollister asked Dr. D. whether he would like to see the United States or Germany win in this war. Considering such a question an insult, he did not answer. The judge then dismissed Dr. D. nor would he accept an explanation either in person or by mail. The papers naturally made a great heading out of this, and many are quite excited.

Now Dr. D. has declared his loyalty in public utterances both in word and print. Furthermore, from conversations with members of the Faculty and students, who come in daily contact with him, I learn that in all their deliberations and their private conversations, since our country has entered the war, he has shown himself a true and loyal citizen.

However, there is grave danger that some of the members of the Board might be influenced by the popular excitement which exists against him through the publicity of the unfortunate incident, aggravated greatly by the public utterances of Rev. Madison C. Peters, who happened to be here, and who condemned him before his own statement and explanation appeared; and not knowing the value of a man like Dr. D. to the institution and to American Judaism, might not hesitate to remove him from his position in this time of excitement.

We, however, as rabbis and as his pupils, can appreciate his value, also what it means to have given 26 years of his life-work to the College and how to be thrown out without justification, because no one doubts his loyalty to our country, not only is one son in the army now, another son also volunteered but was not accepted on account of physical defect, I believe, and one daughter volunteered as nurse but was refused permission to go to France.

If therefore you have any feeling in this matter, write at once to the Board, (this comes up Dec. 11) and state Dr. D's standing as a scholar and his importance to the College.

I take the liberty of writing to you because I see the great tragedy facing Dr. D. and his family in his old age.

With kind regards, I remain,

Cordially and sincerely,

Isaac H. Kaplan

Rabbi Abram Simon, Ph. D.

2802 Cathedral Avenue

Washington, D. C.

March 1st .

Rabbi Abba H Silver

My dear Colleague;

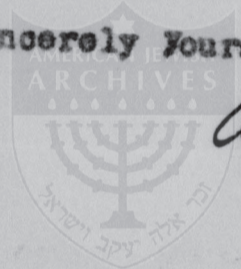
The understanding of our Commission on Marriage and Divorce at its last meeting was, that the assignments of its *members* should be ready by the middle of March so that a comprehensive Report might be made to the Chicago Conference. Will you please let me have your individual report in two weeks?

Thanking you for your cooperation and with personal greetings,

I remain,

Sincerely Yours,

Abram Simon



HAMMERMILL
BOND

March 7th, 1918

Rabbi Abram Simon
2802 Cathedral Avenue
Washington, D.C.

My dear Rabbi Simon,

I am in receipt of your letter informing me of the date on which you would expect my assignment for the Commission on Marriage and Divorce.

I regret exceedingly that I shall be unable to comply with your request.

You did not inform me earlier in the year of your decision with reference to the many subjects which came up at the last conference of the Commission. I have not even received back the report which I turned in to you.

I have been unable to do any work on my assignment and the pressure of work here is so great that I shall be unable to do anything on it during the coming two weeks.

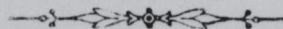
With cordial greetings,

Very sincerely yours,

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Louis Grossmann, *President*
Cincinnati, Ohio
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Euclid Ave. Temple, Cleveland, Ohio

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Joseph Stolz, Chicago, Illinois
Horace Wolf, Rochester, New York

March 11, 1918

WRHS



Rabb Abba Silver,
Cleveland Ohio,
My dear Colleague.
Your letter distresses me, not so much
because of the pressure of work which overwhelms you
as it does me as for your claim that I have your
manuscript. A search of my papers in my
various Conference packets fails to locate it.
I wrote Prof. Lauterbach to ask if he might not
have carried it off for further study, and as

Soon as I hear from him, I will take pleasure
in communicating with you.

With sincere greetings,
I remain

Cordially yours

Abraham

WRHS



Rochester, N. Y.
April 5, 1918.

To the Members of the Central Conference American Rabbis:

In accordance with a resolution passed by the Conference at its last session, the Committee on Synagogue and Industrial Relations herewith sends every member a copy of the preamble and declaration of principles to be presented by it for action at the 1918 Conference. This preamble and declaration of principles have been approved by a majority of the Committee.

Respectfully yours,

Horace J. Wolf, Chairman.

(Committee on Synagogue and Industrial
Relations.)

The next few decades will have as their chief concern the rectification of social and economic evils. The world will concern itself not only with the establishment of political, but with the achievement of industrial democracy through social justice. The ideal of social justice has always been an integral part of Judaism. It is in accordance with tradition therefore that we submit the following declaration of principles as a program for the attainment of which the followers of our faith should strive.

1. A legal minimum wage which will insure for all workers a fair standard of living.
2. The legal enactment of an eight hour day as a maximum for all workers in industry.
3. A compulsory one-day-of-rest-in-seven for all workers.
4. Such legislation with respect to sanitation and safety as shall afford adequate protection to all workers.
5. The abolition of child labor and raising the standard of age wherever the legal age limit is lower than is consistent with moral and physical health.
6. Such effective control of the conditions of industry for women as shall insure the physical and moral health of the community.
7. Proper legislative provision for old age pensions and adequate compensation for occupational diseases and industrial accidents.
8. Proper housing conditions.
9. Insurance against unemployment and sickness for industrial workers.
10. The application of the principles of mediation, conciliation, and arbitration to industrial disputes.
11. The right of labor to organize.
12. A more just distribution of the profits of industry.
13. The proper care of dependants and criminals.
14. Preservation and integrity of the home by a system of mother's pensions.

April 25th, 1918

Dr. David Philipson,
3947 Beechwood Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Philipson,

May I take the liberty of offering to the Committee on Revision of the Union Prayer Book, two suggestions. Both have to do with the Kaddish and both with the sentence beginning "May their souls rejoice", about the middle of Page 58.

I want first to suggest that you substitute the word "revere" in place of "fear" Him. I realize that "fear" is the closer translation of the Hebrew, but the word has an unpleasant sound to many present-day worshippers.

Then again, I would suggest that you substitute the word "honor", or "treasure", or some such synonym for "cherish". The combination of the two words "cherish it", especially when rapidly pronounced, produce an ugly and sound. Many a Rabbi has spoken of this latter phrase and I am surprised to see that you have not as yet changed it.

Do you think also, that "Savior", in the first paragraph on Page 14 is the best and most Jewish translation of Moshi-a?

Very sincerely yours,

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My dear rabbi Silver :

Rabbi Wolsey writes me that you have declined
accepting the appointment to membership in the Committee
on Civil and Marriage Laws . I have been told
that the Committee has some work in hand which will keep it
busy for some time, and that the members have special
assignments on that work. I ask you, therefore, under the
presumption that your withdrawal might disturb the plans
and the development of the work of that committee, to let
me know why you are thinking of withdrawing.
I shall be obliged to you for a frank statement.

Sincerely Yours,

Louis Grossmann

Dec. 5. 1918

H. D. Kahleby.
H. 5965

Also in
Froley
Schwartz

December 13th, 1918

Dr. Louis Grossman
528 Camden Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Grossman,

The reasons which prompted me to refuse membership on the Committee on Civil and Religious Marriage Laws, and on the other Committee upon which I was appointed, ^{was} ~~was~~ lack of time and a growing indifference to the Conference, caused by its recent attitudes and decisions.

Very sincerely yours,

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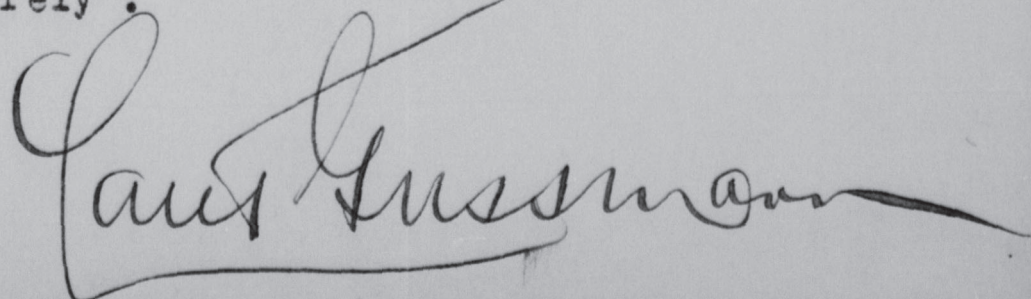
Rabbi A.H. Silver,

My dear Rabbi Silver :

Just this moment I get your letter which, I must say perplexes me. I will not take umbrage at your statement that you "refuse" membership in the Committee, for I suppose the harshness of that term is a lapse of your pen. But I cannot understand that you give as reasons 1. "lack of time" which is hardly just, and 2. "a growing indifference to the Conference, caused by its recent attitudes and decisions" which is a vague statement and should be made clear. What attitudes do you mean and what decisions do you refer to? It is not fair either to yourself nor to the Conference to harbor discontent, even to the extent of "refusing" to fulfil the duties of membership, without a definite statement of the reasons. It is the privilege, in fact the duty of a member to help make the "attitudes" and the "decisions" of the Conference or to unmake them, according to his honest judgment and co-operation. And I feel it my duty to ask you to make a frank declaration so that both your membership as well as the contribution you feel, and I feel, you might make toward the efficiency of the Conference might be as it should be.

Please speak out frankly and fully. You will find me sympathetic in anything you may say, sincerely.

Cordially Yours,



Dec. 16. 1918

December 22nd, 1918

Dr. Louis Grossman,
528 Cōndan Avenue,
Cincinnati, Ohio

My dear Dr. Grossman,

I am in receipt of your
kind letter of the sixteenth instant..
I am afraid the reasons given in my first
letter - vague as they are- will have to
suffice, at least for the present.

Very sincerely yours,

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Louis Grossman, *President*
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Julian Morgenstern, Cincinnati, Ohio
William Rosenau, Baltimore, Maryland
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Joseph Stolz, Chicago, Illinois

January 29, 1919

Rabbi A.H. Silver
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Colleague:

It is the desire of the Program Committee
of the Central Conference of American Rabbis that you
discuss the paper of Dr. Julian Morgenstern on "Isaac M.
Wise and American Judaism" at the forthcoming convention
of the Conference on Thursday afternoon, April the third.
Please let me have your acceptance as soon as possible.

With kind regards, I am,

Fraternally yours,

Louis Wolsey
Cor. Sec'y.

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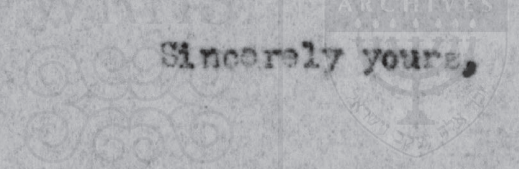
February 3rd, 1919

Rabbi Louis Wolsey
The Euclid Avenue Temple
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Rabbi Wolsey,

Replying to your letter of January 29th - I shall be very happy to discuss Dr. Horgentern's paper on "Isaac M. Wise and American Judaism" at the Conference convention, provided I receive a copy of it a few weeks before the Conference.

Sincerely yours,



February 7th, 1919

Rabbi Louis Wolsey,
Corresponding Secretary,
Central Conference American Rabbis,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Rabbi Wolsey,

Last week I received an invitation from the Conference to review the papers ~~which~~ Dr. Morgenstern is to present, on "Isaac M. Wise and American Judaism".

In deference to my friend and teacher, Dr. Morgenstern, I readily consented.

I find, however, that I was not justified in doing so. Some time ago, I refused to act on certain committees of the Conference. It seems to me, therefore, that if I were not ready to accept responsibility in the Conference, I should not be willing to take any of its honors.

I therefore request you, my dear Dr. Wolsey, to disregard the letter which I sent you and get someone else to fill my place.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours

Wrote Wolsey
declining. I have 9 on
copy & letter -

CCAR

Cincinnati, Feb. 18, 1919

My dear Silver,

I have just heard from Wolsey that you will discuss my paper before the Conference. I am pleased indeed. I have subtitled it. "If Isaac M. Wise Were Alive Today; A Program for Judaism in America." My central thesis is that a living Judaism in America can be built up by no one party or sect, but only by the loyal cooperation and mutual contributions of all parties and groups in American Israel, even though this may mean the sacrifice of some of the things which we have identified with Reform Judaism, and evolution in a somewhat different direction. Our needs are union of forces, mutual understanding and respect, consciousness of fundamental unity of history, purpose, ideal and fortune, a clear-cut program and creative, unselfish leadership.

I feel sure that you will sympathize

with the main theme and arguments of the paper. If you have any suggestions to offer, I shall be glad to receive them.

I shall see that the paper is completed and a copy sent to you by March 20th. This will give you two weeks for consideration. Simon of Washington is to discuss the paper also.

I was in Rochester Sunday, and was happy to hear splendid reports of your recent address there.

Best regards from my wife and myself.

Sincerely,

Julian Morgenstern.
Remember me to the Lowensteins.

February 19th, 1919

Rabbi Louis Wolsey
The Euclid Avenue Temple
East 82nd Street and Euclid,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Rabbi Wolsey,

I am in receipt of a letter
from Dr. Morgenstern, dated the 18th, in
which he states he has been informed that
I am to discuss his paper at the Conference.

I wrote you on February 7th,
recalling my acceptance of this obligation.
Will you kindly advise Dr. Morgenstern at
once, so that there may not be any confusion.

With kindest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

Max Heller
Rabbi Temple Sinai
New Orleans

March 11 1919

Rabbi A. H. Libov
Cleveland, O.

Dear Friend and Colleague:

To my intense amusement since the
B. B. again retained for an unrea-
sonable time your welcome letter
which I had forwarded at once, so as
to return to you their reply.

There is a misunderstanding on
your part probably due to your having
forgotten what I wrote. I informed you
in a previous letter that it was too
late for arrangements with interme-
diate points. We had asked for a col-
lect telegram as to your commitment
date.

Intermediate arrangements had been
made with S. S. N. Deirard and he
spoke last Sunday.

I should, of course, be delighted to have
you here. The committee now speaks
of April 13 but I am too much an-
noyed with the dilatoriness of the
committee to wish to serve as their
intermediary any longer.

I read with great pleasure of your
brilliant participation in the recent

Max Heller
Rabbi Temple Sinai
New Orleans

2
I must gather ²up at Chicago. I wish I
had an opportunity to discuss with
you the present constellation as to
Zionism in Conference and Union.
I am so deeply disgusted with the
tentative program of the Cincinnati
Convention that I have refused to take
part in it. Though at first disposed
to come in honor of S. Wise and not
to evade the battle for Zionism which
seemed in the air I was so dishearten-
ed at the intemperance of Hornum's
editorials and so much by the idea
that Anti-Zionism is to be made the
principal issue of that meeting, that
I feel it due to my health and peace
of mind to stay away.

I may send a circular letter to my
Zionist colleagues, explaining my con-
duct and again I may simply remain
silent. I dislike the appearance of
sneaking; I dislike to leave younger
colleagues in the lurch, as I seemed
to do last year; yet I do not like to
undress my actions as if of impor-
tance, as if they had a county-wide
importance.

Max Heller
Rabbi Temple Sinai
New Orleans

3

Importun, I imagine, is even a
more difficult one than mine,
being so near to the center of Anti-Si-
nist hydrophobia.

I am, with best greetings,
Faithfully Yours
Max. Heller.



PRIVATE OFFICE



Hotel Sinton
Cincinnati

JOHN L. HORGAN
MANAGER

Rev. A. H. Silver,
c/o The Temple,
Cleveland, O.

My dear sir:

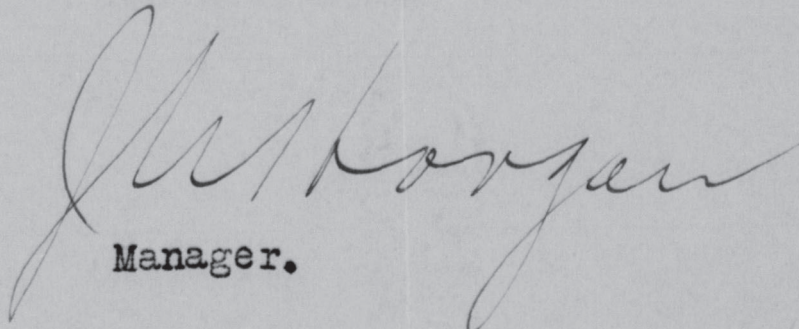
In response to the request of Mr. Benj. Mielziner of this city, we have reserved a comfortable room with bath for you at the rate of \$5.00 per day.

We note you will arrive on April 3d, and remain during the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

Assuring you of our desire to make the occasion of your visit a most enjoyable one, we are,

Yours very truly,

HOTEL SINTON,


Manager.

March 23d.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER, RABBI
THE TEMPLE

The Temple, Cleveland

EAST 55TH STREET AND CENTRAL

OFFICE HOURS: 8:30 TO 5:00

TEL. ROSEDALE 1330

BENJ. LOWENSTEIN, PRESIDENT
1325 WEST NINTH STREET

March 24th, 1919

My dear Mr. Silver,

At the last meeting of the Executive Board the enclosed communication was given consideration. It was moved, seconded and carried that The Temple pay whatever expense you may incur by reason of your attendance at the Central Conference meeting in Cincinnati, April 2nd to 8th.

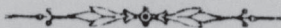
Sincerely yours,

F. H. Jones
Secy.

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Louis Grossman, *President*
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To the Secretaries of Congregations:

Dear Sir: I am directed by the Executive Board of the Central Conference of American Rabbis to inform you and the Board of your Congregation that the next session of

The Central Conference of American Rabbis

will be held at
Cincinnati, Ohio

from Wednesday, April 2nd to Tuesday, April 8th, inclusive.

For many years it has been the custom of congregations whose Rabbis are members of the Conference, to pay the expenses of the Rabbi's trip to the Conference, in order to assure his attendance. You need hardly be told that your Rabbi's attendance at the sessions is of material benefit to your congregation. His meeting with his colleagues, the exchange of experiences and viewpoints in the practical problems of the ministry, his participation in the discussions, will give to your Rabbi mental and moral stimulus for his work.

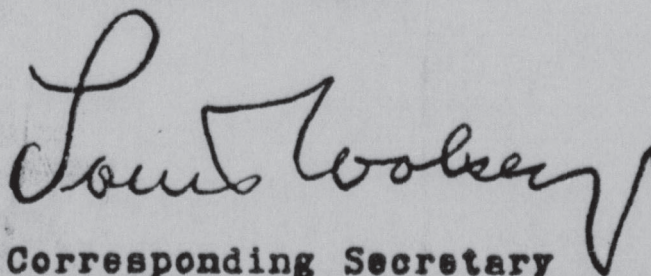
The session this year is to be an extraordinary one in the history of the Conference. It is meeting out of the ordinary date in order that it might celebrate the one-hundredth anniversary of the birth of the

Founder of the Conference,
Dr. Isaac M. Wise.

The program will be one of considerable importance and impressiveness. Dr. Wise was a figure of such gigantic influence in his day that his spirit has affected the life of most of the Congregations of America. Therefore, the presence of your own Rabbi at the Conference cannot help being for the good of your own Congregation.

The executive Committee hopes that your Congregation will make it possible for your Rabbi to attend the session this year. Kindly arrange that action is taken on this matter at the very earliest moment, and please report such action to the undersigned. The Conference desires to make a record of all Congregations that pay the expenses of their Rabbis to the Conference sessions.

Very sincerely yours,


Corresponding Secretary

By order of the President
January 16th, 1919.

CCAR
Zionism

March 26th, 1919

Dr. Max Heller,
1828 Marengo Street,
New Orleans, La.

My dear Dr. Heller,

Permit me to acknowledge your kind letter of the eleventh. I am sorry that our arrangements for an address at New Orleans went wrong. I hope that at some future time I may have the pleasure of visiting your fine city.

May I urge upon you, my dear Dr. Heller, the necessity of your presence at Cincinnati. I suspect that an attempt will be made to re-state, in even more positive and condemnatory words, the attitude of the Conference towards Zionism. I feel that such an act, if it does transpire, ought not to take place without a counter-movement on the part of representative men at that Conference.

I too have refused to take part in the program, as well as to serve on any committee, and yet I feel that in memory of Dr. Wise, and in the anticipation of some further "imbecilities" on the part of the President of the Conference, I should be present.

With kindest regards, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

Max Heller
Rabbi Temple Sinai
New Orleans

March 28 1919

Rabbi A. H. Silver Cleveland, O.

Dear R. Silver:

I have finally made up my mind to come to the Convention, as I feel we shall not be outnumbered so badly and that it is our duty, to the Conference as well as to ourselves, to prevent our colleagues from doing what they will have to blush for in a few years.

I am certainly delighted to know that we shall have you with us, your remarkable success in your sphere of which I am informed by competent people assures me that your assistance will prove of the utmost value.

We must prepare particularly to meet some probable sections of the President's Message and the violent onslaught on Unionism that is to be looked for from S. Kohler and Schulman.

I am with best greetings,

Faithfully Yours
Max Heller.