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Central Conference of American Rabbis, convention, 1945-1946.

CENTRAL CONFERENCE
OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

OFFICERS 1945 - 1946

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Hartford, Conn.
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October 16, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
E. 105th St. and Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

My dear Abba:

Here are several memoranda which you wanted me to send you:

1. You said you will write to Shusterman informing him of his re-appointment to the chairmanship of the Committee on Solicitations, and convey to him the suggestions made by the Executive Board to the effect that he is to concentrate on congregations and members rather than on Federations. The Executive Board prefers this approach, but does not preclude the support which comes from Welfare Funds. The members of the C.C.A.R. should be told that the major approach should be to the members of congregations.

May I add also my suggestions that in writing the letter to the members of the Conference, he should make it clear to the members to what uses specifically the funds raised are put?

2. The program for the next Conference as approved by the Executive Board is as follows:

Tues. Evening - Opening session; President's Message.
Wed. Morning - Business reports.
Wed. Afternoon - Business reports.
Wed. Evening - A paper by Freehof on Reform Judaism and Halachah, Irving Levey to be asked to lead the discussion.
Thurs. Morning - Business reports.
Thurs. Aft. - Free for committee meetings.
Thurs. Evening - Address by Dr. Leo Baeck, or in the event of his unavailability, Sumner Welles, or John Foster Dulles.
Fri. Morning - Religious education.
Fri. Aft. - Business session, or free.
Fri. Evening - Service, Phil Bernstein to give the lecture.
Sat. Morning - Service, Sam Gup to give the sermon.
Sat. Aft. - Oneg Shabbos, the Committee on Music to arrange a session on Jewish music with special reference to the Birnbaum collection at the College. (Singer asks me whether he has authority to engage a choir, probably from Philadelphia, to give the musical renditions. I presume that the Committee has authority to make the expenditure for a program which the Executive Board instructed them to arrange, but I told him to take it up with you or Marcuson.)

Sat. Evening - Meetings of Alumni Associations.

Sun. Morning (and afternoon if necessary) - Business sessions.

The recommendation of the Program Committee on Good Will papers has been rejected and the symposium by a Chaplain, a civilian Rabbi, and a returned soldier in re. changes in religious outlook and practice was scheduled by the Committee on Program for Thursday afternoon. In view of the fact that that afternoon is to be free for committee meetings, I do not know where that program could be put in, if on Thursday evening we have Baeck or Welles or Dulles. Perhaps we can put it in on Thursday evening and have the address by one of the three guests (Baeck, Welles, Dulles) given in addition to the symposium. I shall be grateful to you for your suggestion.

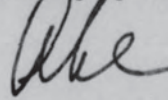
3. I am writing to Freehof to ask him whose responsibility it is to arrange for the noontime services during the sessions of the Conference. I am also asking him as to who has charge of the necrologies. While those are no longer read at the opening session of the Conference, the names of those who died are mentioned in the President's Message, but the necrologies are nevertheless written and published in the Yearbook. Assignments, therefore, have to be made.

After I have heard from you about the program I shall send a copy of the above with your suggestions to Marcuson for his guidance.

It was fine to be with you, and I hope we may soon be together again.

With kindest regards from house to house, I am,

Faithfully yours,



AJF:B

C O P Y

HOTEL CHELSEA
ATLANTIC CITY, N. J.

October 20, 1945

Rabbi David H. Wice
Temple B'nai Jeshurun
17 Waverly Avenue
Newark 3, New Jersey

Dear Rabbi Wice:

Supplementing Mr. Tousley's letter of this date, the following European Plan convention rates will prevail for the meeting of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, June 25th to June 30th, 1946:

Double rooms with private bath -- new section -- \$9.00, \$10.00, \$11.00, \$12.00 daily for two persons. There are no single rooms in the new section.

Double rooms with private bath -- main building -- \$7.00, \$8.00 daily for two persons.

Single rooms with private bath -- main building -- \$4.75, \$5.50, \$6.75 daily.

Two double rooms with connecting bath -- main building -- \$12.00 daily for four persons.

You can be assured we will be happy to welcome the Conference back to the Chelsea, and it will be our earnest endeavor to make this conference outstanding.

If you require any additional information please advise.

Cordially yours,

Adele M. Downey

Convention Manager

RABBI DAVID H. WICE

STUDY
TEMPLE B'NAI JESHURUN
17 WAVERLY AVENUE
NEWARK, 3, N. J.
Bigelow 3-4186

HOME
315 WARWICK AVENUE
SOUTH ORANGE, N. J.
SO. 2-5777

October 26, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
East 105th Street and Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

May I reinforce the invitation which has come to you from the Griffith Music Foundation to be present on the evening of November 19th, if your schedule will permit. The Foundation is the most significant cultural institution in the life of Essex County, and its scheduled events have always been brilliantly executed. Because of the inter-faith and community-wide aspect of this Thanksgiving Choral-Forum, I know I speak on behalf of the Board of Jewish Ministers of Essex County in urging you to be with us if it is at all possible.

With fondest personal greetings to you and your dear ones in which Sophie joins me, I am

Faithfully yours,

David

Cover
RABBI DAVID H. WICE

STUDY
TEMPLE B'NAI JESHURUN
17 WAVERLY AVENUE
NEWARK, 3, N. J.
Bigelow 3-4186

HOME
315 WARWICK AVENUE
SOUTH ORANGE, N. J.
SO. 2-5777

November 1, 1945

Miss Adele M. Downey
Convention Manager
Hotel Chelsea
Atlantic City, N. J.

Dear Miss Downey:

Upon receipt of your letter concerning the Central Conference of American Rabbis meeting next June, I communicated with the officers of the Conference and now have before me their reaction. They were delighted as I was that we would be able to make arrangements again at the Chelsea. However, in all honesty, I must say there was some misunderstanding at the miniature conference held last summer. In some instances the accommodations reserved were not available, and the rates did not apply the day before and the day after the official dates of the conference. You can readily understand that though the conference will open on the 25th, the executive committee and perhaps other small committees may elect to hold their pre-conference discussion on the 24th. Similarly, some of the committees may hold over until Monday, July 1st. I am sure this was merely a matter of misunderstanding last summer, and so I would appreciate if you would confirm this to me that the convention rates will hold for those men who attend the meetings from June 24th until Monday, July 1st.

Details as to the various committees and the needs for special rooms will be conveyed to you by the offices of the Conference in ample time.

I look forward to the pleasure of meeting you personally.

Faithfully yours,

David H. Wice
Rabbi

DHW:FJ

cc: Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

*Regards - & how's about
that cigar? Pitz*

March 14, 1946

Rabbi Abraham J. Feldman
701 Farmington Street
Hartford, 7, Connecticut

Dear Abe:

I had hoped to receive a memorandum today from the management of the Sherman Hotel based on the conference which we had there on Tuesday. Pending receipt of that memo I think you ought to know the following:

1. The dates of June 25th to June 30th are cleared with the management.
2. The room assigned for our meeting will be quite adequate and is air-conditioned. We will also be given smaller rooms for committee meetings and arrangements can be made with the Catering Department for serving luncheon on Tuesday to the committees that will be in session.
3. On Tuesday and Friday we will have to use another room for our meeting. This room is large enough but is not air-conditioned. I think that we can arrange to meet either at the Covenant Club or at the Standard Club on Tuesday evening for the opening session and then have a "collation" (not as elaborate as in Cincinnati) afterwards. Thus we would be "inconvenienced" for the day sessions on Friday. This, I think, should not be a serious objection.
4. There will be loud speakers available, both on the floor of the conference and on the rostrum. Will you need a typewriter or two?
5. I was able to "chisel" a suite free of charge for the president and for the secretary. Sorry that I couldn't do likewise for you, Regner and Duke. Silver and Marcuson ought to buy me a cigar a piece for this and I appoint you a committee of one to see that they do it.

This is all preliminary, but I want to keep you informed that progress is being made, and just as soon as I receive the official memo I will send copies to you and Silver for your O.K.

With warm personal greetings, I am

Cordially,

Pitz

Phineas Smoller

March 15, 1946

Dr. Abraham J. Feldman
701 Farmington Street
Hartford 7, Connecticut

Dear Abe:

Enclosed is a copy of the letter which I received today from Mr. A. A. Hilbron of the Hotel Sherman. Please read his letter carefully and if the contents meet with your approval I will "sign up" officially with the hotel.

I am also sending a copy of this letter to Silver and Marcuson for their information.

Honestly, the complimentary room for the "Local Chairman, Convention Committee" came as a surprise to me and it may be the "compromise bribe" for the fight I put up to get all the officers of the CCAR complimentary rooms.

Please let me hear from you by return of air mail concerning the enclosure.

With best regards from house to house, I am

Cordially yours,

ls
encl.

Phineas Smoller

cc: Dr. Abba Hillel Silver ✓
Rabbi Isaac Marcuson

March 15, 1946

Rabbi Isaac E. Marcuson
Box 722
Macon, Georgia

Dear Ike:

The enclosed copy of a letter from the Hotel Sherman is sent to you for your information. Just as soon as I have heard from Abe Feldman to proceed I will sign the contract on behalf of the Conference.

Please let me know if you have any suggestions to make.

Note well the rates for the rooms to be occupied by the men and the method of reservation suggested by Mr. Hilbron. When the time comes for it, I suggest that you notify the members of the Conference accordingly.

With best personal regards, I am

Cordially yours,

Is
encl.

Phineas Smoller

P.S. I've already written to Silver informing him that he owes me a cigar for getting him a suite free of charge. How's about you?

cc: Dr. Abraham J. Feldman
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver ✓

CHICAGO FEDERATION OF REFORM SYNAGOGUES

An Agency of the UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

1445

RABBI PHINEAS SMOLLER, DIRECTOR

913 CHICAGO TEMPLE BLDG., 77 W. WASHINGTON ST., CHICAGO 2, ILLINOIS

March 15, 1946

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

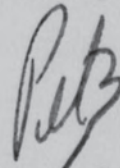
The enclosed copy of a letter from the Hotel Sherman is sent to you for your information.

Just as soon as I have heard from Abe Feldman to proceed I will sign the contract on behalf of the Conference.

Please let me know if you have any suggestions to make.

With cordial greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,



Phineas Smoller

ls
encl.

cc: Dr. Abraham J. Feldman
Rabbi Isaac Marcuson

Telephone:

RAN DOLPH 5443

March 13, 1946

Rabbi R. P. Smoler
Chairman of Convention Committee
Central Conference of American Rabbis
77 West Washington Street - Suite 916
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Rabbi Smoler:

This will confirm and thank you for your consideration of Hotel Sherman as headquarters for the Central Conference of American Rabbis June 25-30, 1946.

We have reserved the following facilities, tentatively, for your conference.

June 25, 28 -	Bal Tabarin (6th floor)
June 26, 27, 29 and 30	Louis XVI Room (1st floor)

We will set these rooms up to accommodate 250 persons on each day; with speakers' table, pulpit and microphone. At the time we discussed the microphone problem, I erroneously told you that there would not be an additional charge for a standing microphone but on checking further I find there will be a charge of \$7.50 for a standing microphone to be placed in the middle of the meeting room.

For the two alumni dinners or buffet, as you may decide, this matter will be taken up by you directly with our Mr. Spieler, our Maitre d'Hotel. We have reserved the Louis XVI and Crystal Rooms on our First Floor on June 25th for these dinners or buffet.

For your committee meetings on June 25th, we have set aside Rooms 102, 104, 106 and 110.

With regard to meeting room set ups, number of speakers' tables, etc., this can all be decided upon prior to your meeting after your program has been arranged.

Hotel Sherman will set aside two suites, complimentary, for your President and Secretary and a comfortable double room for the Local Chairman, Convention Committee.

May I further suggest that the members when writing in for accommodations mention that they are coming in for your conference. If they will write directly to me, I will personally see that the

Rabbi R. P. Smoler, 2 - March 13, 1946

reservations are made as requested.

Our room rates are as follows but as I explained to you we cannot guarantee a specific rate to anyone due to the crowded conditions every day but we will make every effort to assign a room at rate requested.

Single rooms - \$3.30, \$3.85, \$4.40 and \$5.50 per day

Double & Twin bedrooms \$5.50, \$6.60, \$7.70 per day

Alcoves and Suites \$8.80 to \$22.00 per day.

As soon as your committee decides on your conference, I would appreciate your informing me immediately so that I can definitely reserve the above rooms which are now being held tentatively.

You may be sure that everyone at Hotel Sherman will cooperate in every way to make your coming convention a success.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

Alfred A. Hilbron
HOTEL SHERMAN

AAH:mm

CENTRAL CONFERENCE
OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

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JACOB R. MARCUS, Cincinnati, Ohio
S. FELIX MENDELSON, Chicago, Ill.
DAVID POLISH, Waterbury, Conn.
DAVID WICE, Newark, N. J.
LOUIS WITT, Dayton, Ohio
BERNARD ZEIGER, Roanoke, Va.

March 27, 1946

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
E. 105th St. and Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

My dear Abba:

I have been working on the matter of the Chaplains and their participation in the services, and while I have not invited any but one of the Chaplains, which I will indicate later, I have sent the names of the Chaplains whom I selected for the various parts of the services of the week to Aryeh Lev and asked him first for their present addresses, and second if he wanted to comment or make any other suggestions. As I have set this phase of the program up, it is as follows:

Tuesday evening, June 25 - (the night of the President's message) It is customary to ask elder colleagues to take the opening and closing prayers. Accordingly, I have already written to Joseph Rauch to give the opening prayer and to Stephen Wise to give the closing prayer. I have no answers to these letters yet.

Wednesday morning - The opening prayer, I scheduled Chaplain Harold I. Saperstein (JIR).

Noon service on Wednesday - Chaplain Solomon N. Bazell (HUC).

Thursday morning - opening prayer, Harry Essrig (HUC).

Noon service on Thursday - Chaplain Colman A. Zwitman (JIR).

Friday morning - opening prayer, Augustus F. Loeb (JIR).

Friday noon - Chaplain Malcolm H. Stern (HUC).

Sabbath Eve Service

Opening prayer - Chaplain Julius A. Leibert (HUC). (I have written him already.)

Reading - Chaplain Marvin N. Resnikoff (JIR).

Adoration and Kaddish - Herschel Lyman (HUC).

Sabbath Morning Service

Opening prayer - Chaplain Dudley Weinberg (HUC).

Reading - Chaplain Emanuel M. Honig (JIR).

Torah reading - Chaplain Morton J. Cohn (HUC).

Adoration and Kaddish - Chaplain Hersch E. Freund (HUC).

Sunday morning - opening prayer, Chaplain Sidney Strumpf (JIR).

I am not arranging for a noontime religious service on Sunday, since the convention ought to close by noon, and, as usual, Morgenstern will give the closing benediction.

To repeat, the only ones I have written to thus far are Rauch and Wise for the opening session of the convention, and Leibert for the opening prayer at the Sabbath Service. As soon as I hear from Aryeh Lev I shall begin to contact the men and extend the invitations. I shall, however, hold off now until I hear from you as to the above.

As to the paper to be read by Irving I. Katz, I am thinking of putting him down for Wednesday evening. His paper is to be only a half hour and it seems to me that after he has read it, we can have Freehof's paper and the discussion on that. That will give us ample time. I do not think it would be quite courteous to put Mr. Katz into one of the business sessions.

I have written to Brickner ^{making} ~~suggesting~~ some suggestions ^{of themes} that the Chaplains might speak on during the two hour session that was allowed to him by the Executive Board. I am writing to him today and asking him to give me the names of the Chaplains who will speak, so that we may have no duplication, and I am thinking of having that Chaplaincy session on Wednesday afternoon. It is the only time that is open. (Thursday afternoon is open for committee meetings; Friday afternoon there are to be the reports of the committees on resolutions, President's message and nominations; Saturday afternoon we decided to have no session either; hence Wednesday afternoon seems to be the only time where we can fit that part of the program in.)

I should be grateful to you if you would let me know as soon as possible what you think of this setup so that I may proceed. Marcuson will be wanting me to give him the program to be issued in connection with the call to the convention.

With all good wishes, I am,

Faithfully yours,

Abe

AJF:B

March 28, 1946

Rabbi Phineas Smoller
916 Chicago Temple Building
77 W. Washington St.
Chicago 2, Ill.

My dear Pete:

You do not need the detailed program with the names of speakers, etc. This is not yet complete. But the following is an outline which I think will be useful to you:

Monday afternoon - Meeting of Committee on Committees (only 7 of us).

Monday evening - I wrote to Singer (as per copy of letter sent to you) to consider possibility of having a meeting of the Alumni and H.U.C. Faculty Committee.

Tuesday morning and afternoon - Meeting of Exec. Board of C.C.A.R.

Tuesday evening - Opening session of Convention, at which address of welcome will be given by somebody for the Chicago community (probably the President of the Chicago Federation of Reform Congregations); President Silver's Message; and possibly (this is not yet definite) an address by Sumner Welles. This ought to be a gala occasion.

Wednesday morning and afternoon - Business Sessions.

Wednesday evening - Papers and discussion.

Thursday morning - Business session.

Thursday afternoon - Committee meetings.

Thursday evening - Alumni Associations.

Friday morning and afternoon - Business sessions.

Friday evening - Services at a Temple.

Saturday morning - Services at a Temple.

Saturday afternoon - Free

3-28-46

Saturday evening - Music program (country club?).

Sunday morning - Business sessions.

In the hall where the business sessions will be held, there ought to be a piano for the noontime services. That will be on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

If you need any further information, please communicate with me. I am looking forward to seeing you in New York on Monday.

With good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Abraham J. Feldman, D.D.

AJF:B

CC: ✓ Dr. Silver, Dr. Marcuson



For Dr. Silver's Information

May 2, 1946

AIR MAIL

Rabbi Abraham J. Feldman
701 Farmington Street
Hartford, Connecticut

Dear Abe:

I am ready to submit a report to you incorporating the tentative plans of the local committee with reference to arrangements for the CCAR Convention in Chicago.

From previous communications you know that we were not satisfied with the room assigned for our meetings at the Sherman Hotel for Tuesday evening and for Friday morning and afternoon. Arrangements have, therefore, been made for these meetings to be held in the ballroom of the Covenant Club. I refer to your letter of March 28th in which you submitted to me the outline of the Convention:

Monday afternoon for the meeting of the Committee on Committees, involving only seven members of the Conference, arrangements will be made for the use of a room at the Sherman Hotel. If your committee will prefer it, we may make arrangements for the use of a room at the Standard Club. Please let me know about this.

Monday afternoon's arrangements for the meeting of the Alumni of the HUC and a committee of the HUC faculty are still pending, as you know, and I will await your advice on this.

Tuesday morning and afternoon for the meeting of the Executive Board of the CCAR, I shall arrange for a room at the Sherman Hotel and for the use of another room where luncheon can be served to the Executive Committee. I will have to know how many will be expected for luncheon.

For the opening session of the Convention on Tuesday evening, we will use the ballroom of the Covenant Club, which is air conditioned and which (including the balcony) seats approximately one thousand persons. Of course, we can have chairs placed only on the main floor for a more limited audience. I think, however, we ought to count on an attendance of approximately seven to eight hundred persons particularly if the meeting of the Conference will be well publicized. The address of welcome will be given by the president of the Chicago Federation of Reform Synagogues, representing the Reform Jewish Community of Chicago. I can-

not, at this time, give you the name of the president since the Federation's Annual Meeting takes place on May 9th and there is a strong likelihood that someone will succeed Dr. Hollender in this office.

(collator) Because you state that "this ought to be a gala occasion," we will "decorate" it with a public reception. This will not at all be in the nature of a ~~reception~~^{as} arranged for by the Cincinnati community in connection with the Union's Biennial...it will be quite simple. We plan to serve the rabbis and all who will attend the opening session, including the local community, with punch, ice cream, cookies, etc... This expense will be taken care of by the local congregations. The Covenant Club, as you may remember, is located within three blocks from the Sherman Hotel.

It is planned to hold the Wednesday morning session at the Sherman Hotel.

Pending your approval and there is a division of opinion on this matter, we will arrange for Wednesday afternoon's and evening's session to be held at a country club with a dinner to be served to the rabbis and their wives as guests of the local congregations. The division of opinion on this item arises on the question whether we will not be putting temptation in the way of some of the rabbis, who would be attracted to the golf course rather than the Conference's session. The alternative is that the Wednesday afternoon session also take place at the Sherman Hotel, but that dinner be arranged for at the Standard Club which is also within walking distance from the Sherman Hotel and that the evening session be continued either at the Standard Club (which is not air conditioned) or at the Sherman Hotel where our room will be air conditioned.

If we go to the country club, the problem of transportation to and from will be involved, but necessary arrangements will be made. If we meet at the Standard Club, we are not faced with the problem of transportation. Please understand that we will be delighted to make country club arrangements, but we did not want to assume the responsibility for putting a "stumbling block" in the way of those who should be attending sessions instead of foreshores in the "rough" or on the "fairways".

Thursday morning's session is scheduled for the Sherman Hotel, as well as the committee meetings for Thursday afternoon. The Alumni Association's meetings are scheduled for that evening at the Sherman Hotel.

Because the room at the Sherman Hotel assigned to us for Friday morning and afternoon is not too attractive, as stated in my previous communications and referred to on the preceding page, we are scheduling these sessions at the Covenant Club in the ballroom, but no provision is being

made for luncheon, and ~~The Club itself~~ is too small to accommodate our men in the dining room. These sessions must begin not later than 9:00 a.m. and must be adjourned by 5:00 p.m.

Friday evening's service is scheduled for Temple Sholom. In view of the fact that Sholom usually doesn't have Friday evening services, their chairman on arrangements for these services wishes for me to ascertain from you which services in the prayer book you want the choir to be prepared to use. It is understood, of course, that you will assign the reading and preaching participation to the rabbis of the Executive Committee's choice and that you will notify them of their duties. Temple Sholom will arrange for ushers and general hospitality, including a reception for the congregation in honor of the visiting rabbis. It is hoped that we can persuade Temples Mizpah, Emanuel, and Beth Israel to suspend their services that evening and to join in with Temple Sholom.

Community -The Committee is very anxious to provide private hospitality on the North Side, near Temple Sholom, for those members of the Conference who desire it. I, therefore, urge that you persuade Marcuson to send out a second notice announcing the time and place of the Convention and urging the members of the Conference to make their hotel reservations if they have not yet done so, and to insert a return reply card, addressed either to him or to me, on which members of the Conference can indicate whether or not they desire hospitality in the homes of members of the Conference on Friday evening. We guarantee that every rabbi ~~who may~~ wish to be the guest of a family for Erev Shabbos will receive such an invitation. The committee stresses this because some of the local rabbis are confident that not all rabbis of the Conference have relatives or personal friends in Chicago with whom they will plan to spend Erev Shabbos and because, particularly, some of the younger men and returning chaplains, will welcome a Shabbos meal in a private home. This is not being forced, as this hospitality will be offered only to those who will desire it. The return reply card should be in the hands of the Chicago Committee not later than June 10, 1946.

On Shabbos morning the service will be held at Temple Isaiah Israel. If you will send me instructions about the arrangements and the music for that service, I will communicate them to Temple Isaiah Israel's committee. After the service it is planned to tender a luncheon to the rabbis and their wives at one of the South Side Hotels. The CCAR will be the guests of the four South Side Sisterhoods at this luncheon.

Saturday afternoon is free.

It is planned that Saturday evening's program take place in the building of the Board of Jewish Education. I understand that Singer is arranging for a combination of music and art for that evening. Combining his musical program with an exhibit of synagogal art objects, It seems like a very interesting evening.

Sunday morning's business session will be held at the Sherman Hotel, as well as the meeting of the Executive Committee. Either you or Marcuson will be able to make arrangements for the Executive Committee's luncheon.

We will, as per your suggestion, have a piano in the hall of our meetings, for the noon-time services on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

It may interest you to know that Lou Mann has ~~been~~ very helpful in planning and making some of the arrangements outlined above. Lou Binstock will handle all arrangements at Temple Shalom, and Mickey Berman will handle the arrangements at Isaiah Israel. Dick Hertz will handle the country club arrangements. Felix Mendelsohn ~~has~~ also participated in ~~these~~ ^{our} deliberations. The following laymen are taking an active interest:

Herman Korach	Harry N. Gottlieb
Samuel Kassel	Emil Kitzinger
Albert Mecklenburger	(cousin of your mechutan)

I believe that I have outlined everything in detail. I now await your advices and approval and we shall put into effect those things which you will O.K.

With cordial personal greetings from house to house, I am

Sincerely yours,

Phineas Smoller.

(play) P.S. Whether or not you decide for sessions of the Conference to take place at a country club, arrangements will be made for courtesy cards for those members of the Conference who desire to golf, if they will apply to the office of the Chicago Federation of Reform Synagogues. Marcuson ought to incorporate this notice in his second letter to the members.

es

C.C. Silver Marcuson

May 8, 1946
(Dictated 5-7)

Rabbi Phineas Smoller
916 Chicago Temple Building
77 W. Washington St.
Chicago 2, Ill.

My dear Pete:

You are doing a swell job of arrangements, and I am very grateful to you as I know the Conference will be.

Let me answer your letter of May 8 seriatim:

Monday afternoon, meeting of the Committee on Committees: I think it is all right for us to meet at the Sherman Hotel.

I am leaving for Cincinnati within a half hour, where I shall discuss with the H.U.C. faculty the possibility of a meeting of the H.U.C. Alumni and the Faculty Committee. If such a meeting is possible, I will inform you upon my return, but it will not be Monday afternoon. It is more likely to be Monday evening.

There is, however, the possibility that the J.C.S. will give a dinner to the members of the Conference Monday night at one of the clubs. I am waiting to hear more definitely from Reinhart. I understand, however, that Al Mecklenburger has made a tentative reservation either at the Standard Club or the Covenant Club.

Tuesday morning and afternoon: The Executive Board will meet at the Sherman Hotel. I presume that Dr. Marcuson will tell you how many to expect for luncheon.

Tuesday evening: It is fine to hold the meeting at the Ballroom of the Covenant Club.

I think it is lovely that the local committee wants to arrange for a reception after the meeting.

Wednesday morning sessions at the Sherman Hotel: OK.

As to Wednesday afternoon and evening, my own judgment is that it were better for us to meet at the Hotel for the afternoon session. It is

of course very gracious of the local community to wish to entertain the Conference at dinner at the Standar Club, but inasmuch as the Sherman Hotel can give us an air conditioned room, I would prefer to hold the evening session at the hotel. I do not like the idea of going to the country club, especially since Freehof will have what I am confident will be a very important paper and I want nothing to break in or in any way act as a detraction from the attendance upon that occasion.

Thursday, all events at the Sherman Hotel: OK.

Friday, morning and afternoon sessions at the Covenant Club: OK.

Friday evening service at the Temple Sholom. That is the fifth Shabbos in the month of Sivan and I presume that reading the fifth service from the prayer book will be in order. The readers have already been selected and all that the local congregation will have to provide will be the music, the ushers, and the prayer books.

Saturday morning, ditto.

As to home hospitality for Shabbos, inasmuch as you sent a copy of the letter of May 2 to Marcuson, I presume that he will take note of the suggestion which you make.

As to Saturday evening's program, personally I rather had my heart set on having just an evening of music at one of the country clubs. I realize, however, that your local committee has some ideas on the subject and if it is agreeable to Dr. Silver (to whom I am sending a copy of this letter), I shall not object to the arrangement. But this combination of music and art is a little different from what we had in mind.

Sunday morning sessions at the Sherman Hotel and the post-Conference meeting of the Executive Committee, ditto. This is entirely satisfactory.

As to your P.S. about courtesy cards to members of the Conference to play golf, I presume Dr. Marcuson will take note of it and inform the members accordingly.

and your committee

I repeat, you are doing a swell job and again my very hearty thanks.

Faithfully yours,

AJF:B

(Dictated by not read by Dr. Feldman)

CC: Drs. Silver, Marcuson

CENTRAL CONFERENCE
OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

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May 13, 1946

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
E. 105th St. and Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

My dear Abba:

Herewith is the program of the C.C.A.R. Convention as far as I have gone to this point. I call your attention to:

1. All the devotional parts of the service except those at the opening session have been assigned to Chaplains, with due consideration being given to having an even division between H.U.C. and J.I.R. men. That has not always been possible because men have accepted and then found that they would be unable to be present, and after a number of "tries" amongst different men I had to take what I could get. For instance, Malcolm Stern, who you suggested for a Friday noon service, had previously accepted the assignment. This week he writes me that he will not be able to do it because of a service-connected injury to his foot, and he will be in a cast the greater part of the summer. I am trying to get another Chaplain for that spot.

2. Marcuson told me that at a previous convention it was decided that the reports of committees on President's Message, resolutions and nominations should be in on Friday afternoon and not at the concluding session on Sunday mornings as theretofore, but at the last meeting of the Executive Board held in Cincinnati the Board instructed us to give two hours to the Committee on Chaplains. The only possible place we could put them is on Friday afternoon, which means that we have to put the committee reports on President's Message, resolutions and nominations to Sunday morning. We certainly cannot put the Chaplains on the first day of the Convention on Wednesday afternoon because that would throw the whole Conference business out of gear.

I would have liked to have published the details of the Chaplaincy Committee's program with the names of the participants, but I have been unable to get any response from Barney, partly, I suppose, because he is busy with the campaign in Cleveland. I have asked for his program, however, repeatedly.

Just as soon as I have finally filled in the vacant spots in the devotional parts of the program (the Thursday noon service, Friday noon service, the readers of the Sabbath morning service, and of the Adoration and Kaddish at the morning service) I shall release this program to Marcuson if it has your OK.

Marcuson tells me that the programs must be printed and sent to the men one month before the Convention. I would therefore ask if you would be good

enough to give me your reaction as soon as possible.

With every good wish, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Abbe

Just received a letter from Barney

AJF:B



C.C.A.R. CONVENTION PROGRAM

June 25-30, 1946
Sherman Hotel
Chicago

Tuesday morning and afternoon: *at Sherman Hotel*

Meetings of the Executive Board.

Tuesday evening: - The Ballroom of the Covenant Club

Opening Prayer - Joseph Rauch

Address of Welcome -

Response for C.C.A.R. - Abraham J. Feldman

President's Message - Abba Hillel Silver

Kaddish and Closing Prayer - Max C. Currick

A reception will be rendered the delegates by the Chicago Federation of Reform Synagogues.

Wednesday morning: - Sherman Hotel

Opening Prayer - Martin Perley

Business

Wednesday noon: *Sherman Hotel*

Religious Service, conducted by David J. Seligson

Wednesday afternoon: - Sherman Hotel

Business

Dinner at the Standard Club

Wednesday evening: - Sherman Hotel

Address: "The Union And The Conference--Our Common Task" - Maurice N. Eisendrath

Paper: "Reform Judaism and Halachah" - Solomon B. Freehof

General discussion led by Irving H. Levey

Thursday morning: - Sherman Hotel

Opening Prayer - Harry Essrig

Business

Thursday noon: -

Religious Service, conducted by -

Thursday afternoon

Thursday afternoon - Hotel Sherman

Open for committee meetings

Thursday evening: - Sherman Hotel

Meetings of Alumni Associations

Friday morning: Covenant Club

Opening Prayer - Meyer Miller

Religious Education Program - Leon I. Feuer, Chairman

Paper: "Present Day Confirmation Practices in Liberal Jewish Congregations" -
Albert T. Bilgray

Paper: "Aims And Objectives Of Confirmation" - Lawrence W. Schwartz

Paper: "Present Day Bar Mitzvah Practices in Liberal Jewish Congregations" -
Roland B. Gittelsohn

Recommendations of special committee on Confirmation practices - Albert T. Bilgray
General Discussion.

Friday noon: -

Religious Service, led by ?

Friday afternoon: - Covenant Club

Paper: "The Function Of The Executive Secretary In The Modern Synagogue" -
Mr. Irving I. Katz, President, National Association of Temple Secretaries.
Report, Committee on Chaplains - Barnett R. Brickner (As I understand it, there
will be two reports and three talks by Chaplains. The Executive Board agreed
to give them two hours. A.J.F.)

Friday evening: - Sabbath Eve Service at Temple Sholom

Opening Prayer - Julius Leibert

Sabbath evening service read by Dudley Weinberg

The Conference Lecture - Philip Bernstein

Adoration and Kaddish - Morris Lieberman

Benediction - Abba Hillel Silver

The musical part of the service will be a project of the Conference Committee on Music.

Saturday morning: - Sabbath Service at Temple Isaiah-Israel

Invocation - David Max Eichhorn

Sabbath morning service read by - ?

Torah reading - Morton J. Cohn

The Conference Sermon - Benjamin Friedman

Adoration and Kaddish - ?

Benediction - Abraham J. Feldman

The musical part of the service is a project of the Conference Committee on Music.
A luncheon to the Rabbis and their wives at one of the south side hotels will be
tendered by the four south side Sisterhoods.

Saturday afternoon: -

Free

Saturday evening: - in the Building of the Board of Jewish Education

M'laveh Malkah. An evening of Jewish music, sponsored by the Committee on Music,
Jacob Singer, Chairman.

There will also be an interesting art exhibit by contemporary Jewish artists.

Sunday morning: Sherman Hotel

Opening Prayer - Sidney Strumpf
Committee on President's Message

Committee on Resolutions
Committee on Nominations
Other business
Closing Prayer and Benediction - Julian Morgenstern
"Ayn Kaylohaynu"
National Anthem
Adjournment



From: HENRY W. LEVY

Central Conference of American Rabbis

3 East 65th Street

New York City

Central Conference of American Rabbis To Hold 57th Meeting in Chicago, June 25-30



Among the participants in the program of the 57th annual convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis to be held in Chicago from June 25th to June 30th at the Sherman Hotel are: (upper row, *left to right*) Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver of Cleveland who will deliver the presidential address; Rabbi Morton M. Berman of Chicago who will deliver the Conference Lecture; Rabbi Abraham J. Feldman of Hartford, Conn., vice-president of the Central Conference, who is program chairman for the convention; Rabbi Benjamin Friedman of Syracuse, N. Y., who will deliver the Conference Sermon; (lower row, *left to right*) Rabbi Barnett R. Brickner of Cleveland who will report as chairman of the Chaplains Committee of the Central Conference; Rabbi Isaac E. Marcuson of Macon, Georgia, for many years administrative secretary of the Central Conference; Rabbi Solomon B. Freehof of Pittsburgh who will present a paper, "Reform Judaism and Halachah"; Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, director of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, who will speak on "The Union and the Conference—Our Common Task."

PROGRAM
FIFTY-SEVENTH
ANNUAL CONVENTION
OF THE
CENTRAL CONFERENCE
OF
AMERICAN RABBIS



CHICAGO, ILLINOIS
TUESDAY, JUNE TWENTY-FIFTH
SUNDAY, JUNE THIRTIETH
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND FORTY-SIX

PROGRAM

Tuesday Morning, June 25, 1946, 9:30 A. M.

Sherman Hotel

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Tuesday Evening, 8:00 P. M.

Covenant Club

Opening Prayer Joseph Rauch
Greetings: Samuel M. Blumenfield
..... President, Chicago Rabbinical Association
..... Mr. Samuel Kassel
..... President, Chicago Federation Reform Synagogues
Response Abraham J. Feldman
President's Message Abba Hillel Silver
Kaddish and Closing Prayer Max C. Currick
A reception will be tendered the delegates by the Chicago
Federation of Reform Synagogues

Wednesday Morning, June 26, 1946, 9:30 A. M.

Sherman Hotel

Opening Prayer Martin M. Perley

REPORTS:

President Abba Hillel Silver
Administrative Secretary Isaac E. Marcuson
*Financial Secretary Sidney L. Regner
*Treasurer Harry S. Margolis
*Finance Sidney L. Regner
*Investments Harry S. Margolis
*Publications Isaac E. Marcuson
*Solicitations Abraham Shusterman
*Synagog Council William F. Rosenblum
Contemporaneous History and Literature Jacob R. Marcus
Synagog Activities Jacob D. Schwarz
*Public Affairs Bernard J. Bamberger
*Arbitration Emil W. Leipziger
12:45 P. M. Religious Service William B. Schwartz

Wednesday Afternoon—Sherman Hotel

Amendment to Constitution

REPORTS:

*Commission on Jewish Education Solomon B. Freehof
*Religious Work in Universities Harry Kaplan
Church and State Albert G. Minda
*Ceremonies Louis Witt
*Curator of Archives Sheldon H. Blank
Synagog Music Jacob Singer
Justice and Peace Ferdinand M. Isserman
*Response Israel Betton
*Institutes on Judaism Louis Mann

Wednesday Evening, 8:00 P. M.—Sherman Hotel

ADDRESS:

"The Union and The Conference—Our Common Task
Maurice N. Eisendrath

PAPER:

"Reform Judaism and Halachah" Solomon B. Freehof
Discussion led by Irving H. Levey

**Thursday Morning, June 27, 1946, 9:30 A. M.
Sherman Hotel**

Opening Prayer Harry Essrig

REPORTS:

*Pensions Samuel M. Gup
Marriage, Family and the Home Stanley R. Brav
*Information on Judaism Harry W. Ettelson
*Relief and Subvention Samuel M. Gup
*Emergency Placement Barnett R. Brickner

12:45 P. M. Religious Service Edgar E. Siskin

Thursday Afternoon

Open for Committee Meetings

Thursday Evening, 8:00 P. M.—Sherman Hotel

Meetings of Alumni Associations

**Friday Morning, June 28, 1946, 9:30 A. M.
Covenant Club**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION DAY

Leon I. Feuer, Chairman

Opening Prayer Meyer Miller

PAPER:

"Present Day Confirmation Practices in Liberal Jewish
Congregations" Albert T. Bilgray

"Aims and Objectives of Confirmation Lawrence W. Schwartz

"Present Day Bar Mitzvah Practices in Liberal Jewish
Congregations Roland B. Gittelsohn

Recommendations of Special Committee on Confirmation
Practices Albert T. Bilgray

General Discussion

12:45 P. M. Religious Service Aryeh Lev

Friday Afternoon—Covenant Club

PAPER:

"The Function of the Executive Secretary in the Modern
Synagog Mr. Irving I. Katz, President

National Association of Temple Secretaries

REPORT:

Committee on Chaplains Barnett R. Brickner, Chairman

Discussion:

1. "The Impact of the Chaplaincy Upon The Chaplain"
Milton Rosenbaum and Alvin I. Fine
2. "The Translation of That Impact in the Life of the
Synagog Earl S. Stone and Samuel M. Silver

Friday Evening, 8:00 P. M.

Sabbath Eve Service at Temple Sholom

Opening Prayer Julius A. Leibert
Evening Service from the Union Prayerbook Dudley Weinberg
Conference Lecture Morton M. Berman
Adoration and Kaddish Herman E. Snyder
Benediction Abba Hillel Silver
The Musical part of the service will be a project of the Conference Com-
mittee on Music.
Reception by Temple Sholom

Saturday Morning, June 29, 1946, 10:00 A. M.

Sabbath Service at Temple Isaiah-Israel

Opening Prayer David Max Eichhorn
Morning Service from the Union Prayerbook David I. Cedarbaum
Reading from the Torah Morton J. Cohn
Conference Sermon Benjamin Friedman
Adoration and Kaddish Bertram Klausner
Benediction Abraham J. Feldman
The Musical part of the service is a project of the Conference Committee
on Music.

A luncheon to the Rabbis and their wives will be tendered by the Chicago Federation
of Reform Synagoges at Standard Club.

Saturday Afternoon FREE

Saturday Evening, 8:00 P. M.

In the Building of the Board of Jewish Education

M'laveh Malkah. An evening of Jewish music, sponsored by the Commit-
tee on Music, Jacob Singer, Chairman.

There will also be an interesting art exhibit by contemporary Jewish artists

Sunday Morning, June 30, 1946, 9:30 A. M.

Sherman Hotel

Opening Prayer Sidney Strumpf
REPORTS:

Committee on Presidents Message
Committee on Resolutions
Committee on Nominations
Committee on Thanks

Closing Prayer and Benediction Julian Morgenstern
"En Kelohenu"

National Anthem

Adjournment

Reports marked* to be presented to the Executive Board only.

All others to be condensed.