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

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

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

Reel
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Box
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Folder
424

Central Conference of American Rabbis, "R", 1945-1946.

Rosen

Temple B'nai Jeshurun

SIXTH AND OSAGE STREETS

Leavenworth, Kansas

June 13, 1945

320 Elm Street

Dr. Solomon B. Freehoff,
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Dr. Freehoff, -

I am writing this on a matter, which I believe ought, or should have your attention, as President of the C.C.A.R.

As rabbi of the local community, I am also serving the religious needs of the Jewish inmates at the U.S. Penitentiary. I hold services there every week and on the principal Jewish holidays. The rules of the Department of Justice provide for a special meal for the Passover, or Seder night. No provision of any kind is made for special meals on the High Holy Days, except to state that an effort be made not to serve on those days food prohibited by the Jewish religion, meaning, of course, pork, etc.

The men feel that without some special meals they are denied the enjoyment of the full spirit of those days, especially before and at the conclusion of the Yom Kippur Fast Day, and you will probably be surprised to learn that quite a number of the men fast on that day.

I wrote twice on this subject to the Synagog Council of America, of which the C.C.A.R. is a constituent body, but they have not even extended to me the courtesy of a reply. Of course, I asked them in my letter to withhold my name from any correspondence, which they might have with the Department of Justice. This I did for obvious reasons and I shall ask you to do likewise, should you deem it advisable to take some action on the matter. It is my honest opinion and belief that some arrangement should be made on the subject with the Department of Justice.

Should this letter reach you upon completion of your term of office, I shall ask you to please refer it to the attention of your successor.

With kind greetings, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Jerome (Jerry) Rosen.

WRHS



Rittenberg
LOUIS RITTENBERG, Editor-in-Chief
M. MYER SINGER, Production Manager

*A monthly journal to foster
progressive Judaism — for the ad-
vancement of the spiritual and cul-
tural ideals of Israel and mankind*

LIBERAL JUDAISM

Editorial Offices: ~~510 WEST 114TH STREET, NEW YORK 25, N. Y.~~ NEW YORK 33, N. Y. · Telephones: WA^{DS}WORTH ~~5-1535~~, 8-2854
920 Riverside Drive 32

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July 2, 1945

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

Complying with your request I sent, immediately upon my return to New York, copies of the CCAR executive committee resolution, on the recent excommunication of Dr. Kaplan, to the following news sources:

Associated Press, United Press, International News Service, Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Seven Arts Features, Independent Jewish Press Service, New York Times, Herald Tribune, World Telegram, The Sun, PM, and other metropolitan dailies. I also forwarded copies to some of the more influential Anglo-Jewish weeklies and, of course, to all of the Yiddish dailies in New York.

Because of the sudden strike among newsdealers in New York since last Saturday night, I haven't had any way of checking just how many of these sources made use of our resolution, but I have instructed my personal pressclipping bureau to cull everything that will turn up.

I did not mention any names in connection with the executive board, as that was their wish. Incidentally, to whom shall I submit a statement of expenditures in connection with this resolution? By that I mean the cost of postage, in some cases special delivery and air mail, and the typing in multiple copies of the story plus the resolution itself.

In the August issue of LIBERAL JUDAISM, we shall, of course, have a full and comprehensive report of the CCAR sessions, which to me were most illuminating and heartwarming. Your photograph will be on the front cover of the August number while the combined pictures of all the other members of the executive committee will appear in the story proper.

I should like to take this occasion to urge upon you that which our friend, Rabbi Freehof, suggested in Atlantic City, namely, that you endeavor to contribute, as regularly as possible, a message from the president of the CCAR to his colleagues in the rabbinate. I am convinced that you will have, at least once a month, thoughts to express for the strengthening of Judaism and for the guidance of our rabbis both at home and in the armed services. Please decide in the affirmative and I shall be happy to set aside a page or two in every

Dr. Silver

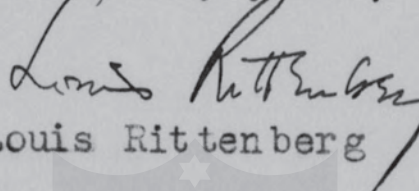
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July 2, 1945

issue for you. This, however, is not meant to absolve you from the tentative undertaking to contribute to our forthcoming symposium on "THE SPIRIT OF REFORM JUDAISM". Your assignment to that symposium was to be headed "What is the Exile?".

It is very unfortunate, I think, that Marcusson made no provisions for a special handling of the public relations of the CCAR during your meetings in Atlantic City. I found that there was not a line in the New York Times about it, whereas some very lesser organizations in New York and elsewhere commanded considerable space in the New York Times during that same period. These things must not be left to chance, and I would urge you to remedy that situation as soon as possible. The CCAR is of sufficient stature, and certainly of sufficient activity, to justify a permanent setup for the handling of its public relations on a dignified and newsworthy scale.

Faithfully yours,



Louis Rittenberg

LR:AA





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July 9, 1945

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Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Ansel Road and E. 105 St.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I wish to extend to you my congratulations and best wishes upon your election to the presidency of the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

Cordially yours,

Elmer Louis
Elmer Louis
Executive Director

EL:BK

July 24, 1945

Mr. Elmer Louis, Executive Director
United Jewish Welfare Fund of Rochester
144 Baden Street
Rochester 5, N.Y.

Dear Elmer:

Permit me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of congratulations to Dr. Silver during his absence from the country. I know that Dr. Silver would wish to thank you for your thoughtfulness in writing to him, and as he will be gone until the end of August, I am taking the liberty of thanking you for him.

It's a long time since I have seen you. I trust that you and your family are well.

Most cordially,

BJK

Secretary to Dr. Silver

September 5, 1945

Mrs. Franklin Delano Roosevelt
Hyde Park, N.Y.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Under separate cover I am sending
you the Memorial Resolutions which were adopted
at the annual convention of the Central Conference
of American Rabbis held in Atlantic City on
June 26, 1945.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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September 11, 1945

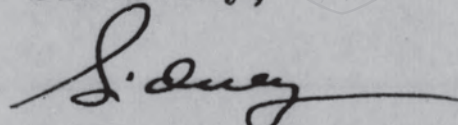
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. and Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

We have come to the end of the vouchers which you countersigned. The enclosed vouchers, except for the one for expenses of my office, are the monthly checks for our Relief beneficiaries. Will you please countersign them and send them to Harry Margolis.

With kind regards and best wishes for the New Year, I am,

Sincerely,



Sidney L. Regner, Fin. Secy.

SLR:r
enc.

September 12, 1945

Rabbi Sidney L. Regner
Congregation Cheb Sholom
Perkshomen Ave. and 13th St.
Reading, Pa.

My dear Rabbi Regner:

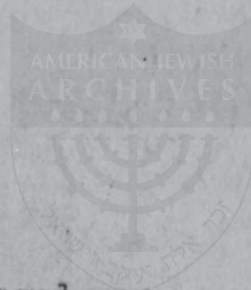
Rabbi Silver has requested me to send you
the enclosed letter which was forwarded to him
by Rabbi Freehof.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Rabbi Silver



Hyde Park
Dutchess County, New York

September 14, 1945

My dear Dr. Silver:

I am very much touched by the Resolution adopted by the Central Conference of American Rabbis in tribute to my husband's memory.

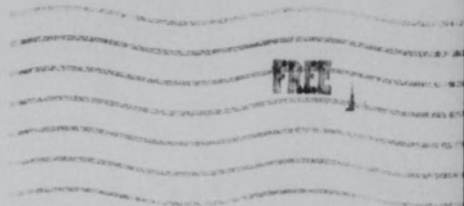
It was very kind of you to send it to me, and I shall place it in the Library here.

With my sincere good wishes and appreciation, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Theodore Roosevelt

Anna Isaac P. Silver



WRHS
Dr. A. H. Silver

The Temple

Ansel Road and E. 105th

Cleveland (6) OHIO



September 18, 1945

Rabbi William F. Rosenblum
Temple Israel
210 W. 91st St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Rabbi Rosenblum:

You may recall that the President of the C.C.A.R. was authorized to appoint a committee to survey the work of the Synagogue Council. The subject came up for discussion on the floor of the Conference in Atlantic City and created considerable interest. I should like to appoint you as chairman of this committee and if agreeable to you, I would add the following members -- Bamberger, Opher, Theodore Lewis and Zeiger. I believe that they are all members of our present committee on the Synagogue Council. Have you any other suggestions? Will you not notify these members of the appointment and arrange for a meeting at your earliest convenience?

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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September 20, 1945

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

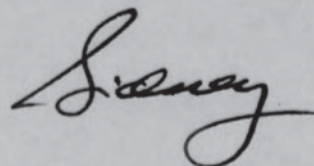
Dear Dr. Silver:

I have received a letter from Harry Margolis in which he says that Zepin has requested payment to the Rabbinical Pension Fund of the \$5,000 we were to pay annually. You will remember that at the post Conference Executive Board meeting it was reported that the Union had appropriated \$2,500 in addition to its fixed contribution and the question arose as to whether this was a gift to the Pension Fund or whether it was given to relieve the Conference of part of our obligation in accordance with a promise Mr. Adolph Rosenberg made. You were to discuss the matter with Mr. Rosenberg to find out what the intention of the Union was. Have you had a chance to go into this with Mr. Rosenberg yet? I shall wait until I hear from you before making out a voucher.

I am enclosing two vouchers. Will you please sign them and send them together with the enclosed bill to Harry Margolis.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,



SLR:r

TEMPLE ISRAEL
OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
210 WEST 91ST STREET

LAWRENCE B. COHEN
PRESIDENT

DAVID LIVINGSTON
SECRETARY EMERITUS

MRS. EMANUEL H. SONNENREICH
SECRETARY

WILLIAM F. ROSENBLUM
RABBI

September 26, 1945

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I shall be glad to accept the chairmanship of the special committee to survey the work of the Synagogue Council in accordance with the resolution of the C.C.A.R. and your invitation of September 18th.

Zeiger is not at present a member of the Synagogue Council and I think it would be more helpful to have a man like Marius Ranson of East Orange, New Jersey, who has been on the Council for years, is thoroughly familiar with it and yet is young enough to appreciate new purposes and new plans.

The other members of the Committee are perfectly acceptable to me, namely, Bamberger, Opher and Theodore Lewis.

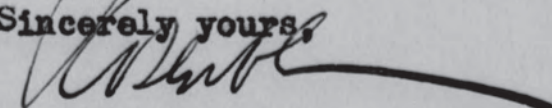
In accordance with your request, I am notifying the above members of their appointment, with the exception of Zeiger, and will shortly have a meeting with them.

You will be kept advised of our progress and our conclusions.

May I have your permission to invite Rabbi Ranson to the Committee?

With reciprocal good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,



WFR:tes
Enclosure

September 28, 1945

Rabbi William F. Rosenblum
Temple Israel
210 West 91st St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Rabbi Rosenblum:

Thank you for your kind letter of
September 26. By all means invite Rabbi Hanson to join
the committee.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

September 28, 1945

Rabbi Sidney L. Regner
Perkiomen Ave. and 13th St.
Reading, Pa.

My dear Sidney:

I am taking up the matter of the payment of \$5,000 to the Rabbinical Pension Fund with Mr. Rosenberg on October 9, the day our Executive Board meets in Cincinnati. Until we have cleared the matter, I would suggest that you do not make out any vouchers.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

October 12, 1945

Rabbi Sidney L. Regner
Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom
Periomen Ave. and 13th St.
Reading, Pa.

My dear Sidney:

I should like to have the whole case history of Rabbi Fried: how long has he been in our relief list? how much money have we paid out to him? how long was he in this country on our relief? and how long has he been in Palestine? what action was taken by the Executive Board in this case? and any correspondence which we have had with Nelson Glueck and others on that subject.

I would also like to know what our total expenditure is for relief, annually, and what is the average and maximum of our relief payments to individuals. Is there any ruling of the Executive Board defining the qualifications of beneficiaries to this fund?

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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October 15, 1945

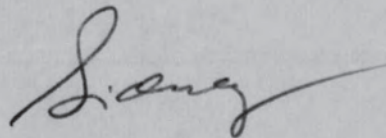
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
E. 105th St. and Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, O.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am enclosing three vouchers, two of them for expenses to the Executive Board meeting for men who didn't give me their statements at the time. I notice that I did not have a voucher for you. Let me know what your expenses were and I will make one out for you.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,



SLR:r
enc.

P.S. After signing the vouchers, will you
+ the bill enclosed
please send them ^{to} Margolis, as usual -

TEMPLE ISRAEL
OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
210 WEST 91ST STREET

LAWRENCE B. COHEN
PRESIDENT

DAVID LIVINGSTON
SECRETARY EMERITUS

MRS. EMANUEL H. SONNENREICH
SECRETARY

WILLIAM F. ROSENBLUM
RABBI

October 15, 1945

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I thought you might be interested in the suggestion made in the enclosed copy of my letter to the ADL.

Quite a number of people refer to us as the "Reformed Rabbis." There may be some warrant for this in individual cases, but I am sure that most of us are not doing penance or making amends for any crime.

Sincerely yours,

Wm. F. Rosenblum
JR.

WFR:tes
Enclosure

*Copy for
H. Abba Silver*

October 15, 1945

Mr. Harold Schiff
Anti-Defamation League
212 Fifth Avenue
New York 10, New York

Dear Harold:

I have just looked through the very fine booklet
on "Books and Pamphlets" just issued by the ADL.

It is a splendidly compiled and gotten up catalogue
and I should like to have you congratulate the Chicago member
of the Staff responsible for it.

There is also a correction that I believe should be
made before another issue goes out. On Page 22 under the
heading of "Jewish Religion," Pamphlet B200 is titled as being
on "Reformed Judaism." Naturally this should be "Reform Judaism"
and not "Reformed."

This is a mistake that is generally made by those
people who do not know what Reform Judaism is, and it is a term
frequently used by those Orthodox brethren who do not like
liberal Judaism.

Please call this to the attention of the proper person
that the correction may be made in future issues.

As Ever,

(Signed) M. J. Rosenblum

WFR:tes

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BERNARD ZEIGER, Roanoke, Va.

October 29, 1945

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

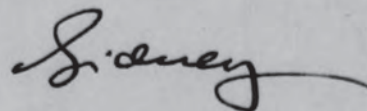
Dear Dr. Silver:

I have a copy of a letter Zepin wrote to Margolis, copy of which I understand you also received, in which Zepin asks for \$5,000 from the Conference for the Pension Fund. He refers to the plan Mr. Rosenberg suggested at our Executive Board meeting. However, our Board decided to pay half of our commitment now, i.e. \$2,500 and await developments. I am therefore making out a voucher for \$2,500. If you think we ought to pay the full amount let me know and I'll make out another check for like amount.

I have also received an air mail letter from Isserman asking for an advance of \$200 for expenses of the Institute on Judaism and Race Relations. I notice in the minutes of our last Board meeting that he requested a grant of \$500 to defray expenses of this Institute and that the Board decided he was to take it up with you and if you approve, the money was to be granted. I am making out the voucher on the assumption that it is all right to send it to him. If so, please sign it and send it along the usual channels. If the extra grant is not to be allowed there is of course the possibility of charging this against his regular budget for Justice and Peace, which is \$1,250 for this year. Let me know what arrangements you have with him about the Institute and whether the money, if you are sending on the check, is an extra grant or not.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,



SLR:r

October 31, 1945

Rabbi Sidney L. Regner
Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom
Perkomen Ave. and 13th St.
Reading, Pa.

My dear Sidney:

I have withheld sending on the \$200 check to Rabbi Isserman and am waiting to hear from him. I wrote to him last week requesting information about the expenses involved in the Institute on Judaism and Race Relations.

For the time being I think the check of \$2500 to the Rabbinical Pension Board is all that needs to be sent.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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BERNARD ZEIGER, Roanoke, Va.

November 19, 1945

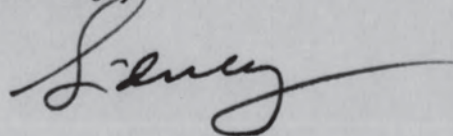
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
E. 105th St. and Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I have just heard from Ferd Isserman in which he acknowledges receipt of the check for \$200.00 and asks for another \$500.00 which he says he will need for expenses for the Institute in New York and which he asks that we send him as soon as possible. I have made out a voucher for that amount, which I am enclosing. I am also enclosing a voucher for other expenses of the Institute and also a voucher for our usual annual dues for the American Schools of Oriental Research.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,



SLR:r
enc.

P.S. Please let me know what the arrangements are with Isserman regarding the expenses for the Institute. Was he to have a special grant for this? S.L.R.

November 20, 1945

Rabbi Sidney Regner
Congregation Oheb Sholom
Perkiomen Ave. and 13th St.
Reading, Pa.

My dear Rabbi Regner:

I wrote to Nelson Glueck that I would submit the question of the continued subsidy to Freed to a mail referendum of the Board of the Conference. I may not be able to do so within the next few weeks. Until that time when we get a decision from the Board, I would continue the subsidy to Freed as heretofore.

I may be away from the country for a few weeks. I assume that the rules accept as valid other signatures than mine. If not, let me know.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

November 21, 1945

Rabbi Sidney Regner
Perkiomen Ave. and 13th St.
Reading, Pa.

My dear Rabbi Regner:

The \$200 which we sent to Ferd Isserman is an advance on his request. I hope that he will be able to get along with that amount. If not, I am afraid we shall have to advance him the full amount.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

כנסית הרבנים באמריקה

THE RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY OF AMERICA

NORTHEAST CORNER, BROADWAY AND 122ND STREET
NEW YORK 27, N. Y.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

December 26th,
1945

Dear Doctor Silver:

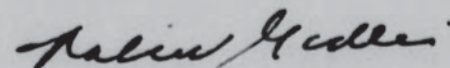
I deeply appreciate your detailed comments on the statement. It goes without saying that we were not so sanguine as to expect our point of view to be shared in non-Jewish circles. Its purpose was two-fold:

A) To indicate to Jews the forthright, intelligent, and self respecting position they should adopt on this question and

B) Prevent any additional encroachments upon the principle of the separation of church and state in public education by making our non-Jewish friends conscious of the fact that we have not surrendered our own distinctive outlook on these questions.

Much as I appreciate your comments, which are in a measure well taken, I am particularly interested in having the Central Conference consider the question and perhaps adopt a basically similar point of view. The value of such a statement naturally lies in the two objectives I have indicated above. My colleagues on the Executive Council will look forward with interest to any news or developments within the Central Conference on this point.

Cordially yours,



Robert Gordis

Doctor Abba Hillel Silver, President
Central Conference of American Rabbis
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

hr

Rose Feitelson
Rabbinical Assembly of America
3080 Broadway
New York 27, N. Y.
MO 2-7500

return 10-5

STATEMENT ON RELIGIOUS OBSERVANCE IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ADOPTED BY THE
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY OF AMERICA

The American school system has been one of the pillars of our democratic way of life. Among its principal assets has been the fact that it has avoided involvement in the sectarian differences which naturally exist in a democratic community.

The absence of sectarianism from our school system has not derived from any lack of appreciation for the role of religion in life. The classic formulations of American democratic thought make it clear that the fathers of this country regarded their devotion to the rights of man as a corollary to their faith in divine Providence. But the establishment of a public school system assumed that the religious supplement to the process of education would take place under home and denominational auspices, rather than within the school system itself.

The avoidance of denominational training within the framework of our public educational system has derived from the same considerations that led to the separation of church and state in our government. It is in the very nature of democracy that there be no disabilities attached to affiliation with any particular religious group. We could not possibly do justice to all religious ideologies within our public school system, and still achieve the more general goals of education. Favoritism for any particular religious group would be a negation of the civil liberties of all other groups. The home and such voluntary organizations that religiously like-minded individuals and groups establish are best equipped to care for the child's religious needs.

Religious education is not a responsibility which the state or any state agency can assume or discharge with success.

The world-wide violence of the last decade, the assault on liberty in many countries and the crisis in personal morality have produced a sense of alarm among our educators. They correctly feel that we are faced with a pressing need to strengthen the attachment to human values among our citizens. Very properly they feel that an important contribution to this endeavor must come from religious education. Various projects have therefore been urged as a means of coping with this problem. Among them are various courses concerned with religious tolerance, designed to foster better understanding among adherents of different religious groups in the country. But suggestions have also come forth for introducing specifically religious content in the curricula of our public schools. Some have asked for explicit religious instruction under public school auspices. Others have demanded Scripture readings and the offerings of prayers. And there has been a new emphasis upon the public school celebration of religious festivals.

We call attention to the peril for traditional American education which inheres in this development. Education for religious tolerance, to the extent that it is objective and does not identify the school system with any particular expression of religion, holds promise of positive good. For it would present the legitimacy of the variations in religion within the largest framework of American life. American educators should explore all the possibilities which such study material holds out for our school system, with an awareness of the difficulties involved in preventing its distortion for sectarian ends.

The introduction of formal religious instruction in the school

system, on the other hand, would, in our judgment, be decidedly injurious to the American educational ideal. It would necessarily tend to identify our school system with a particular denominationalism. It would bring into our educational system all the evils involved in a union of church and state.

We particularly oppose the public school celebration of religious festivals. Christmas may have many general folk elements which are popular with children. But sincere and thoughtful Christians will surely agree that Christmas is primarily a religious festival, rooted in the Christian faith, and proclaiming a Christian message concerning the way of man's salvation.

To pretend that Christmas is a non-religious festival seems to us an affront to the religious sensibilities of millions of our fellow-Americans of the Christian faith. Adherents of Judaism have always been taught to respect any expression of faith which is charged with so much meaning for and evokes so much reverence from their neighbors.

But Judaism cannot accept a conception which derives from the doctrine of God taking on human form. We cannot be true to the truth as we see it in associating ourselves with celebrations in which such conceptions are involved.

The practice of calling on Jewish children to join in the singing of Christmas carols, to partake in Christmas plays or to work on Christmas motifs in various art-craft projects must be regarded as an infringement of their rights as Americans. It is to ask them to associate themselves with experiences that are alien to their religious tradition. Such practices, however well-meaning in intent, are a coercion of conscience, and a denial of religious freedom, one of the most priceless freedoms to which this country is dedicated.

We do not believe that the attempt in certain schools to conduct joint celebrations of Jewish and Christian festivals avoids the difficulty. Even when Christian children join in the celebration of the Exodus, which is the historical basis of the Passover holiday, or the heroic struggle of the Maccabees, which is the basis of the Hanukkah festival, they still remain within the frame of reference of their own faith. The Old Testament is an integral element of the Christian scriptures, the Church recognizing that without the Maccabean struggle for freedom, Christianity could not have come into being. Indeed, for centuries the Christian Church celebrated a holiday called the Birthday of the Maccabees on August second. On the other hand, we ask our Christian brothers to recognize that Jewish children go beyond the frame of reference of their faith when they join in commemorating Easter and Christmas, days made sacred by the calendar of Christendom, but having no place in Jewish life and tradition. The abuses which all attempts directly to introduce religious content into the school system must involve should make our educators hesitate. We call upon them to hold fast to traditional Americanism in the schools no less than in other areas of life.

The current world crisis does indeed point to the desperate need of striving to moralize life through the dynamism of religion. That the introduction of religious training into the public schools will not necessarily achieve this need is made glaringly evident by Nazi Germany. Religious education was part of the public school system in Germany, but that did not immunize the youth of Germany against the doctrines of barbarism proclaimed by the Nazis. The crisis calls for a consecration to the values of human dignity and human rights which inhere in the teachings of the Church as well as the Synagogue, and it challenges

us to make this the supreme concern of our labors. But this is a task which we cannot - and dare not - delegate to an agency of the state.

An intensification of religious vitality in the American home, a strengthening of the quality and extent of education in the religious school, voluntarily created and maintained by Americans of every faith - that is the goal to which we must direct our united efforts, if American freedom is to be safeguarded in spirit as well as in law, and the ideals of religion are to be a vital and consecrating influence in American life.

In the spirit of American tradition, we want to keep the functions of state and church in their distinct places. And we want to do so in every area of American life, including our educational system. For the public school to become the means of indoctrination in the beliefs or practices of any particular religious group, whether by formal avowals, or by activities which imply it, is to betray the American way of life. We are confident that in presenting this standpoint for public action, we are serving the highest interests of a vital religion in America.

CENTRAL CONFERENCE
OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

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LOUIS WITT, Dayton, Ohio
BERNARD ZEIGER, Roanoke, Va.

December 28, 1945

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

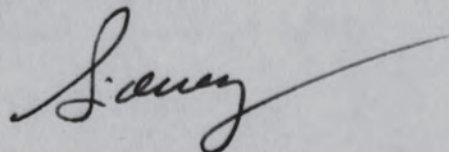
As you probably know, Louis Binstock is acting as our Treasurer because of the illness of Harry Margolis. Since Margolis was too sick to handle the vouchers for Abe Freed, I have voided the last two vouchers and replaced them with a new one covering the last two months made out in Binstock's name. I am enclosing the voucher herewith.

With regard to the Freed case, you wrote me that you were intending to submit the matter to a mail referendum of the Board. As you will remember the Board action in October was to discontinue the Freed subvention as of December 31. This therefore is our last voucher unless some other action is taken.

Will you please countersign the enclosed vouchers and send them to Rabbi Louis Binstock.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,



SLR:r

*Mr. Simon H. Brown
Steele & Brown
J. P. S. Meier*

January 2, 1946

Rabbi Sidney L. Regner, Cor. Sec.
Central Conference of American Rabbis
Perkiomen Ave. and 13th St.
Reading, Pa.

My dear Rabbi Regner:

In looking over the bill send^d to you by the American Airlines, I find that I used air script on November 14th from Cleveland to New York, and that the charges were \$18.60. I am therefore enclosing herewith a check for this amount.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

January 4, 1946

Mr. J. M. Ruby, President
Sinai Temple
1411 Pine Street
Michigan City, Indiana

My dear Mr. Ruby:

Permit me to acknowledge your letter of December 28. I note your criticism of the action of Rabbi Stephen Sherman and I shall take up the matter with Rabbi Leipziger, who is chairman of the Arbitration Committee of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. I shall, of course, keep you informed of developments.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

Charge to the account of _____

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	ORDINARY
DAY LETTER	URGENT RATE
SERIAL	DEFERRED
OVERNIGHT TELEGRAM	NIGHT LETTER
SPECIAL SERVICE	SHIP RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram.

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1206-

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NEWCOMB CARLTON
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J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCOUNTING INFORMATION
TIME FILED

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

1-17-46

WANT A REPLY?

"Answer by WESTERN UNION"
or similar phrases may be
included without charge.

MRS. JACOB S. RAISIN
207 BROAD ST.
CHARLESTON S. C.

THE C.C.A.R. EXPRESSES ITS PROFOUND SORROW AT THE PASSING OF YOUR DEAD HUSBAND AND OUR DISTINGUISHED COLLEAGUE DR. RAISIN SERVED THE CAUSE OF HIS PEOPLE AND OF HIS FAITH WITH RARE DEVOTION AND ABILITY. HIS MEMORY WILL BE GRATEFULLY CHERISHED BY US. WE WISH FOR YOU A FULL MEASURE OF COMFORT AND CONSOLATION

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

January 23, 1946

Rabbi Sidney L. Regner
Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom
Perkiomen Ave. & 13th Street
Reading, Pa.

My dear Rabbi Regner:

Isserman writes me that the Institute on Judaism and Race Relations, held recently in New York, was much more expensive than he had anticipated due in part to high costs in New York, and in part "to some administrative errors". The total cost of the Institute according to his present figures is \$1,763.53. Unless we make some allowance from Conference funds, the Commission, he writes, will not have a cent left to operate for the rest of the year. There will be no funds left for meetings of his Administrative Committee or any other activity which involves expense. What do you suggest that we do in the matter?

The attendance figures at this Conference are not very impressive. The Commission sent out 3000 invitations to Orthodox, Reform and Conservative Rabbis and leaders. Over 1500 went to New York City and only approximately 100 people attended. The Commission guaranteed 100 plates at a dinner, at \$4.00 per plate, but there were only 42 paid reservations.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:GR

cc: Rabbi Isaac E. Marcuson, Macon, Ga.
Rabbi Abraham J. Feldman, Hartford, Conn.

כנסית הרבנים באמריקה

THE RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY OF AMERICA

NORTHEAST CORNER, BROADWAY AND 122ND STREET
NEW YORK 27, N. Y.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

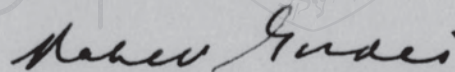
January 25th,
1946

Dear Doctor Silver:

I thought that you would be interested in seeing
the enclosed statement which was adopted by the
Executive Council of the Rabbinical Assembly at its
last meeting.

With every good wish and kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



Robert Gordis

Doctor Abba Hillel Silver
President, Central Conference of American Rabbis
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

enc.

CENTRAL CONFERENCE
OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

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

January 28, 1946

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

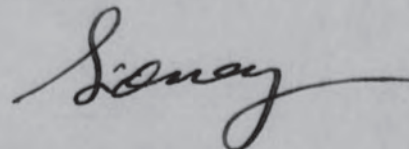
Dear Dr. Silver

I don't suppose we can leave the Justice and Peace Commission without any funds at all, although they certainly spent a lot on the Institute. We'll have to allow them money for the stenographic expense and postage required in connection with their annual report. Meetings of the Administrative Committee are expensive--there are nine members on it-- and I don't believe that he should have more than one meeting and even that only if absolutely necessary. I think it ought to be suggested to Isserman that perhaps he could be in touch with his committee by mail instead of having a meeting and do what is necessary that way.

I am enclosing several vouchers for expense that arose because of Margolis' illness. Minda called me up very much concerned about the fact that Conference matters were piling up in Margolis' office with no one in St. Paul being able to attend to them and suggested we get Mr. Mayer, our auditor, to go to St. Paul and get things straightened out. You will notice that Mr. Mayer's bill is for cash paid out by him in connection with this and does not include any fee. He was very accommodating in this matter and I wonder if we ought to send him an honorarium of let us say \$25. Let me know what you think.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



SLR:r

January 29, 1946

Rabbi Sidney L. Regner
Congregation Oheb Sholom
Perkiomen Ave. and 13th St.
Reading, Pa.

My dear Regner:

I think that your suggestion that we send Mr. Mayer an
honorarium of \$25 is a good one.

I will write to Isserman about his commission.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

January 29, 1946

Rabbi William F. Rosenblum
Temple Israel
210 W. 91st St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Rabbi Rosenblum:

I received a letter from Dr. Maurice N. Eisendrath in which he expresses his growing apprehension "of the present ambitions of the Synagogue Council of America." He writes: "I feel that it is imperative that the CCAR representatives in the Synagogue Council should not take any action with regard to the proposed increased budget of the Synagogue Council until the entire matter is thoroughly discussed by the Executive Board of the Conference, as it will be by the Union." Without going into the merits of the case, I think that Eisendrath's request is a reasonable one, and I would therefore suggest that you pass the word on to the CCAR members on the Synagogue Council.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

[January?, 1946]

*The family of the late
Jacob S. Raisin
acknowledges with grateful appreciation
your kind expression of sympathy*

TEMPLE ISRAEL
OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
210 WEST 91ST STREET

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MRS. EMANUEL H. SONNENREICH
SECRETARY

WILLIAM F. ROSENBLUM
RABBI

February 4, 1946

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

My dear Dr. Silver:

I am very glad to have your letter of January 29th because it gives me the opportunity to comment not only on the matter mentioned in your letter but on several other things.

(1) Regarding the Synagogue Council Budget: The special committee of the C.C.A.R., which you appointed to survey the Synagogue Council Program, met and has reached certain conclusions which I will communicate to you in a special report. Naturally we are subject to the instructions of the parent body, but I believe that a great deal of the irritation which Rabbi Eisendrath entertains is due not so much to the program of the Synagogue Council as "the aggressive manner in which it is being extended" now and then by the Assistant to the President. We had a meeting of our Budget Committee on Thursday, January 31st, which Rabbi Eisendrath attended, and a copy of the report which the Committee is going to make to the Synagogue Council will be sent to you. Naturally no budget can be accepted unless it is approved by the six constituent organizations.

(2) Our Congregation is celebrating its 75th Anniversary this year and a series of events were planned. You were out of the country and we were not able to get in touch with you, but I trust that you will be in the country for several months to come so that we may have the opportunity of having you with us at one of our significant occasions, both in your capacity as President of the C.C.A.R. and for your own distinguished service to American Jewry. Temple Israel has a history of outstanding community and national Jewish service, and I am certain that you will want to share in the tribute that it justly merits. *Some date, please!*

(3) The Association of Reform Rabbis of the City of New York is celebrating its 25th Anniversary, and I am chairman of the Committee

Rabbi A. H. Silver

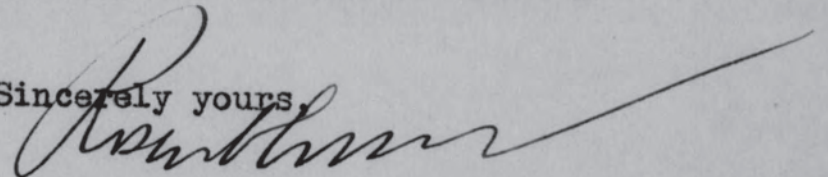
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February 4, 1946

arranging for that observance. The Association has asked me to invite you to be the speaker at its Anniversary Dinner in March and the date will be set to meet the schedule that you may have at that time. Our preference is to have the meeting on Thursday evening because it is one on which most of our men can attend. Will you let me know your disposition in this regard?

Thank you for your attention to these matters and with reciprocal good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,



WFR:tes



**TEMPLE ISRAEL
OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
210 WEST 91ST STREET**

LAWRENCE B. COHEN
PRESIDENT

DAVID LIVINGSTON
SECRETARY EMERITUS

MRS. EMANUEL H. SONNENREICH
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WILLIAM F. ROSENBLUM
RABBI

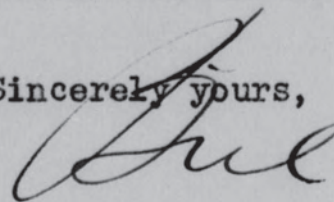
February 5, 1946

Dear Colleague:

It is important that you attend a meeting of the CCAR Delegation to the Synagogue Council at 3 East 65th Street, New York City, on Wednesday afternoon, February 13th, at 4:00 p.m.

Our Delegation must reach decisions regarding certain basic policies of the Synagogue Council. The Synagogue Council itself will meet, as you know, that very evening at 8:30 p.m. at the Spanish and Portuguese Synagogue, New York City.

Sincerely yours,



WFR:tes

February 3, 1946

Rabbi William F. Rosenblum
Temple Israel
210 W. 91st St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Rabbi Rosenblum:

Thank you for your kind letter of February 5. I regret that I will not be able to attend the meeting of the CCAR delegation to the Synagog Council on Wednesday. May I suggest that whatever action your committee decides upon should first be submitted to the Executive of the CCAR for ratification. This applies, of course, only to basic decisions involving the relationship of the CCAR to the Synagog Council, such as matters of scope and policy.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

February 20, 1946

Rabbi William F. Rosenblum
Temple Israel
210 West 91st St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Rabbi Rosenblum:

Thank you for your kind letter of February 4. I appreciate very much the invitation of the Association of Reform Rabbis of the City of New York to be speaker at the dinner celebrating its 25th Anniversary some time in March. I wish I were free to come. Unfortunately my schedule for March and April are so crowded that I cannot, in justice to myself, take on any additional responsibilities.

With all good wishes and hoping to see you in Cincinnati at the Biennial Conference, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

March 14, 1946

Rabbi Sidney Regner
Congregation Oheb Sholom
Perkiomen Ave. and 13th St.
Reading, Pa.

My dear Regner:

I received the enclosed letter from
the American Jewish Conference. What contribution did
the CCAR make to the Conference last year?

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

TEMPLE ISRAEL

of the City of New York

210 WEST 91st STREET • NEW YORK 24, N. Y.

SChuyler 4-7422

March 20, 1946

RABBI WILLIAM F. ROSENBLUM

CANTOR JOSEPH E. WOLFE

DAVID LIVINGSTON,
Secretary Emeritus

MRS. EMANUEL H. SONNENREICH,
Executive Secretary

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Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. & Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

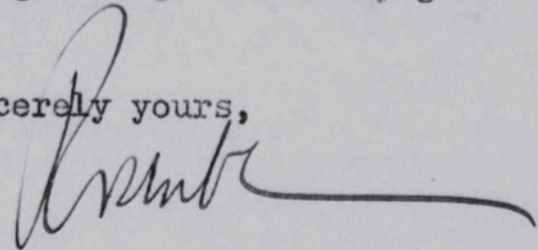
I have a copy of Ahron Opher's letter of March 15th to you regarding the membership of David Wice on the CCAR Delegation to the Synagogue Council of America.

Wice's name did not appear on any of the lists which I received and I therefore hope that you will give this matter your attention and let me know, at an early time, which men to consider as members of our Delegation. We are entitled to only fourteen of whom one is the chairman.

I think a good guide would be to recast our Delegation to eliminate those men who do not attend meetings ; and if this be a proper standard to use, I shall ask Rabbi Opher to give you a record of our delegation's attendance that you may guide yourself accordingly.

With warm personal greetings and every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,



WFR:tes



March 21, 1946

Rabbi Sidney L. Regner
Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom
Perkiomen Ave. and 13th St.
Reading, Pa.

My dear Sidney:

Inasmuch as we made a contribution of \$500 to the American Jewish Conference last year, I believe that we should make a similar contribution this year. The offices of the AJC request an early remittance. If the money is available, please send it to them.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

March 22, 1946

Rabbi William F. Rosenblum
Temple Israel
210 W. 91st St.
New York 24, N.Y.

My dear Rabbi Rosenblum:

In reply to your letter of March 20 -- I have informed Rabbi Opher that my name should be dropped from the list of fifteen which was submitted to the Synagogue Council of America. I should like David Wice to stay on the Committee.

The members of the Committee, therefore, are as follows: William F. Rosenblum, Chairman - Bernard J. Bamberger, Maurice Bloom, Solomon B. Freehof, Max Maccoby, Marius Ranson, Max Reichler, Benedict B. Glazer, Bernard Heller, Theodore Lewis, Harry S. Linfield, Alexander A. Steinbach, Henry Tavel and David Wice.

Rabbi Opher complains that a number of the CCAR delegates have not attended any meetings nor taken part in any committees of the Council. As chairman of the Committee, you ought to contact your members and remind them of the importance of attendance and cooperation.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

TEMPLE ISRAEL

of the City of New York

210 WEST 91st STREET • NEW YORK 24, N. Y.

SChuyler 4-7422

March 28, 1946

RABBI WILLIAM F. ROSENBLUM

CANTOR JOSEPH E. WOLFE

DAVID LIVINGSTON,
Secretary Emeritus

MRS. EMANUEL H. SONNENREICH,
Executive Secretary

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Chairman of the Board

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IRVING I. ROSENBAUM,
2nd Vice-President

RALPH M. HOLZMAN,
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MRS. JOSEPH LAYMAN
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MRS. FANNY G. WHITLOCK

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

It is a pity that the method used by the Secretary of the Conference to inform members of their Committee appointments makes it possible for this information to be lost very easily or to be overlooked very readily. I refer to the custom of sending out these little strips of yellow paper on which are the names of the Committee members.

Owing to the fact that I myself have not had a complete list of the members of our Delegation, I was always under the impression that Louis Wolsey was still a member and that Ahron Opher was likewise part of the Delegation. Most important of all, I had no idea that you had eliminated yourself from the group.

I do not know what procedure you are able to follow at the present time but it would be very embarrassing not to have Ahron Opher a member of the Delegation in view of the active part he has taken in the affairs of the Council and in view of the previous differences between Eisendrath and himself and the recent adjustment of these difficulties. Opher has always acted on the premise that he was a member of the CCAR Delegation and none of us had reason to believe otherwise.

Under the circumstances, may I suggest that since Dr. Linfield does not attend meetings and is not particularly interested in the affairs of the Synagogue Council nor is in any sense active in the Rabbinate that it might be feasible to have him withdrawn from the Committee for the remaining few months and reinstate the name of Ahron Opher in his stead, thus overcoming any problems that might arise because of the present non-membership of Ahron Opher on the CCAR Delegation.



Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

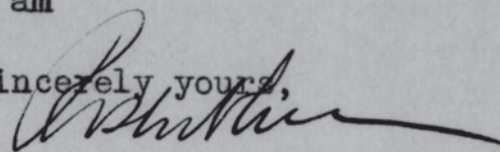
2

March 28, 1946

I know that this is a vexing matter but it is my earnest hope that it can be adjusted because I believe that the CCAR influence in the Synagogue Council is being strengthened and I would not like to see anything occur which might affect that influence adversely at this critical juncture in its affairs.

With warm personal greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,



WFR:tes



April 3, 1946

Rabbi William F. Rosenblum
Temple Israel
210 West 91st St.
New York 24, N.Y.

My dear Rabbi Rosenblum:

In reply to your letter of March 28 -- Rabbi Marcuson informs me that the list of representatives on the Synagogue Council was sent out in time and that you were also notified to contact immediately the members of your committee and to organize your committee.

I regret very much that the embarrassing situation developed in connection with Aaron Opher. I would suggest that you take the matter up tactfully with Dr. Linfield and if he is willing to withdraw on his own initiative, we shall of course be very happy to substitute Opher for him on the Synagogue Council.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

TEMPLE ISRAEL

of the City of New York

210 WEST 91st STREET • NEW YORK 24, N. Y.

SChuyler 4-7422

April 5, 1946

RABBI WILLIAM F. ROSENBLUM

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

My dear Dr. Silver:

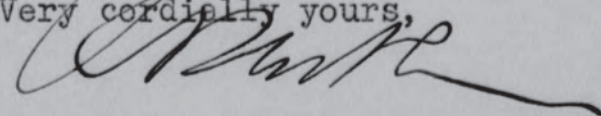
I should like to direct your attention to the report on the Synagogue Council which I made at the Atlantic City conference and which is now printed in the Yearbook just issued.

You will find there my suggestion that the Synagogue Council be re-organized to consist of the three bodies in American Judaism -- Orthodox, Conservative and Reform -- and that the Delegation in each case be composed of Rabbinical and lay members of that group.

What is your thought in this matter?

Moreover, it seems to be that it would be appropriate for me, as Chairman of the Synagogue Council Delegation, to submit a memorandum to the next meeting of the Executive Committee of the CCAR regarding the entire question of the re-organization of the Synagogue Council. Would you prefer to have this come as the report of our Committee on Survey, which I am ready to submit, or in more individual fashion so that the entire question can be considered by the Executive Committee before the formal report is submitted to the Conference in Chicago?

Very cordially yours,



WFR:tes

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April 5, 1946

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Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
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My dear Dr. Silver:

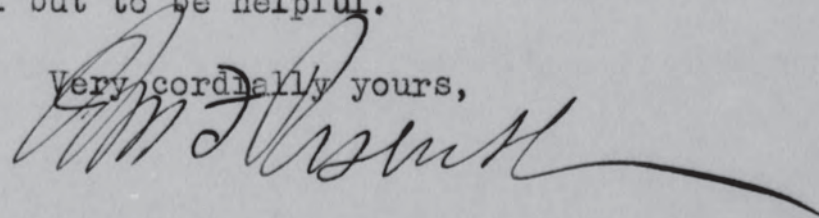
As directed in your letter of April 3rd, I will try to solve the situation that has developed with Rabbi Ahron Opher by speaking to Dr. Linfield.

It is true that Rabbi Marcuson forwarded the list of representatives on the Synagogue Council but it was on that little strip of yellow paper, one of several such strips, and I do not recall the direction to contact the members of my Committee although I do not question in any wise the assurance of Rabbi Marcuson that he did so.

Merely as a matter of greater efficiency in the future, I would suggest that Committee Chairmen be apprised of the roster of their committees by formal letter and that each member of the Conference be notified of his appointment to committees in like manner.

I am sure you understand that in all of my comments I am not trying to be critical but to be helpful.

Very cordially yours,



WFR:tes



April 9, 1946

Rabbi Sidney L. Regner
Congregation Oheb Sholom
Perkiomen Avenue and 13th St.
Reading, Pa.

My dear Regner:

Have we been sending aid to the Dr. Silberstein
mentioned in this letter?

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

April 9, 1946

Rabbi William F. Rosenblum
Temple Israel
210 West 91st St.
New York 24, N.Y.

My dear Rabbi Rosenblum:

In reply to your letter of April 5: - inasmuch as a committee was appointed to make a survey of the Synagogue Council and to bring in any proposals which it cares to make, I believe that it would be desirable that your report at the CCAR should be in the nature of a committee report. It would be perfectly proper for you to discuss the matter with the Executive Committee prior to the Conference, giving the gist of the committee report which you are to present to the plenum of the Conference.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

April 12, 1946

Rabbi Sidney Regner
Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom
Pennomen Ave. and 13th St.
Reading, Pa.

My dear Sidney:

I signed a check today for the American Airlines. At one of the earlier meetings of our Executive, it was reported that Rabbi Heller owes a substantial sum to the CCAR on script which he used on business unrelated to the Conference. Has that amount been collected? If not, I would request the auditor to send Rabbi Heller a statement.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

April 17, 1946

Rabbi William F. Rosenblum
Temple Israel
210 W. 91st St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Rabbi Rosenblum:

I am enclosing herewith a letter which I received from Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein. He asked that a committee of two be appointed by the CCAR to meet with the Committee on Scope of the Synagogue Council. My understanding is that the CCAR appointed your committee to make a study of the scope of the Synagogue Council. I would therefore suggest that you designate one member of the CCAR Committee to join with you and attend this meeting which is scheduled on April 25, and so inform Rabbi Goldstein.

Please make it clear to Rabbi Goldstein that the committee of the CCAR has the power only to explore the situation. No resolutions are binding until the Executive of the CCAR has approved of them.

I question very seriously whether the CCAR is prepared to designate the Synagogue Council as (to quote Dr. Goldstein) "the spokesman of the Jewish community."

With all good wishes for a happy Passover, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

TEMPLE ISRAEL
OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
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SECRETARY

WILLIAM F. ROSENBLUM
RABBI

April 17, 1946

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I have a copy of the letter which Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein wrote to you under date of April 14th in connection with the resignation of Rabbi Opher and his statement about the Synagogue Council.

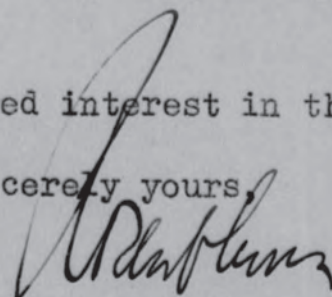
As you know, our C.C.A.R. Committee on the Synagogue Council has met and will submit its findings to you very shortly. I do believe, however, that it will be very helpful to have the kind of conference Rabbi Goldstein suggests, so that we may decide on the future of the Synagogue Council once and for all.

However, as an indication of the lack of interest the other groups have been taking in this matter of "scope of the Synagogue Council," it is only necessary to let you know that the chairman of the Committee, Mr. Charles Kramer, representative of the U.A.H.C., called a meeting of this Committee for last week and the only ones who were prepared to come were Mr. Kramer and I, the representative of the C.C.A.R.

The whole Synagogue Council picture needs study and the Reform representatives have been the most ready and the most willing to give of their time and their thought. I do not know whom you have in mind for this new Committee on Scope, but I suppose it would be in order for the writer to be one and someone who can come to the problem with a real understanding of the past of the Council, as well as its present activities, to be the other, and I should like respectfully to present the appointment of Rabbi Max Reichler of Brooklyn who will be doubly valuable because he is the incoming President of the Association of Reform Rabbis and has been familiar with the work of the Council for many, many years.

With appreciation of your continued interest in these matters, I am

Sincerely yours,



WFR:tes

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OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

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April 18, 1946

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

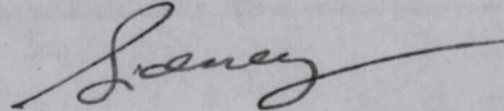
Dear Dr. Silver:

Vouchers #7227-7233 are subventions authorized by the Subvention Committee. Sam Gup, chairman, has written me to make out these subventions. This is in accordance with our usual practice and is within our budgetary provision.

I have sent your letter regarding Rabbi Heller's account to Lou Binstock since this is a matter which the Treasurer's office handles.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



SLR:r
enc.

TEMPLE ISRAEL
OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
210 WEST 91ST STREET

LAWRENCE B. COHEN
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SECRETARY

WILLIAM F. ROSENBLUM
RABBI

April 18, 1946

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

My dear Dr. Silver:

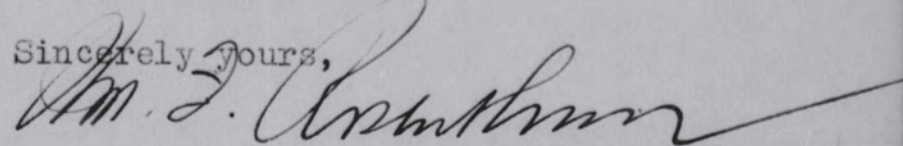
Apparently my letter of April 17th crossed yours of the same date regarding the appointment of two representatives of the Central Conference of American Rabbis to meet with the Committee on Scope of the Synagogue Council. Our minds ran in the same direction.

Accordingly, I have just notified our colleague, Rabbi Max Reichler, that he is to serve with me as a member of the expanded Committee on Scope which Rabbi Goldstein desires to convene. He has accepted.

Also in accordance with your instructions and in consonance with the idea which our entire delegation entertains, we never bind the CCAR on new matters without making it clear that it is subject to the action of the Executive Committee and certainly we agree that the Synagogue Council should not be "the spokesman of the Jewish community."

With reciprocal good wishes for a happy Passover, I am

Sincerely yours,



WFR:tes

*Copy for
Dr. Silver*

April 18, 1946

Rabbi Max Reichler
Beth Shalom-Peoples' Temple
St. George Hotel
51 Clark Street
Brooklyn 2, New York

Dear Max:

This will confirm our telephone conversation.

At the instance of the President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, you and I will act as representatives of our Conference at the proposed meeting of the new Committee on Scope of the Synagogue Council called for next Thursday evening, April 25th.

It is good of you to accede to our request so willingly and I know that your many years of experience as a Synagogue Council delegate will be of utmost benefit to the cause.

I have written to the President of the Council, Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein, to notify us of the exact hour and place of the meeting.

With warm personal greetings and best wishes for the Passover, I am

Sincerely yours,

WFR:tes

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LOUIS WITT, Dayton, Ohio
BERNARD ZEIGER, Roanoke, Va.

May 7, 1946

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

A few weeks ago I received a letter from Harry Margolis saying that his physician is permitting him to assume some of his duties and that he would resume his duties as Treasurer of the Conference as of May 1. He asked me to inform you of this and to ask you to forward vouchers to him from now on.

I am getting ready to prepare the budget for the coming year. Will you please let me know what you will need for the President's office.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely,

SLR:r

Sidney

*Vouchers sent to
Harry Margolis
5/11/46
S.L.R.*

Copy for the information of

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

C

May 8, 1946

Rabbi Harry S. Margolis, Treas.
Central Conference of American Rabbis
701 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, Conn.

Dear Rabbi Margolis:

The Central Conference of American Rabbis' contributed to the American Friends of the Hebrew University during May last year.

In reviewing our records, I find that we have been receiving an annual grant from your Organization since 1933. For a number of years \$100.00 annually; then \$200.00 annually from 1938 through 1940; \$400.00 in 1941; and \$200.00 annually ever since.

Hebrew University, in addition to its many other post-war responsibilities, will have to provide for about 350 former students who interrupted their studies at the University to serve as soldiers during the war in the British Eighth Army and in the Jewish Brigade. Also a number of young refugees released from Nazi concentration camps have enrolled at the University. We expect that considerable additional numbers will enroll at the opening of the next semester. Everything is being done by the University for the speedy rehabilitation of both refugee and soldier student.

Hebrew University must take its place in reconstructing the life of the Jewish communities all over the world. It must provide the teachers, doctors, scientists, civil servants and administrators to carry out the program of rehabilitation in these communities.

Most of the support for Hebrew University must come from America. The University must turn to us in the confident hope that we will want to play our part worthily in the upkeep and development of the University so that it may meet fully and adequately the tremendous responsibilities facing it.

In view of the above, we earnestly hope that the Central Conference will this year resume its \$400.00 contribution for Hebrew University.

With best wishes, believe me to be

Very sincerely,

A. S. W. Rosenbach
President

ASWR:CB

P.S. Our May Bulletin will be sent to you under separate cover in about a week.

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Phos return

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tural ideals of Israel and mankind*

OFFICIAL ORGAN of the UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS, FOUNDED 1873

LOUIS RITTENBERG
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

EDITORIAL OFFICE

*

May 10, 1946

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1383

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. & Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

This is a sort of personal matter and I hope you will not think me presumptuous in broaching it. I don't know who are the persons in charge of the program of the forthcoming convention of the CCAR, but perhaps even if I knew I should prefer to submit my suggestion to you.

I should like to recommend that some sort of spot be given in that program to Rabbi (erstwhile Major Chaplain) Harry Richmond of Temple Emanuel, Wichita, Kansas. I assume that you know of him and that you regard him as highly as do many of his other colleagues. Yet, alas, in all of the tributes that have been accorded to chaplains at various functions since V-E Day, Rabbi Richmond's name has been notably absent. This, of course, may be due to his own great modesty and, again, may be due simply to oversight.

Chaplain Richmond, I think, has the distinction of having served in the armed forces overseas of both world wars longer than any other rabbi. He volunteered much before America entered the war officially and was at Pearl Harbor during the sneak attack, remaining there for a considerable length of time thereafter following the evacuation of his family. He was mustered out only a short time ago and was welcomed back to his congregation in Wichita with what almost seemed like a unique enthusiasm, in that his congregation doubled his salary.

It seems to me that as rabbi of a small community and as a chaplain who has been in the thick of action in two world wars, he might have something especially inspirational to say to his colleagues at the Chicago conference -- if given the opportunity.

In conversations with him I have come to realize what a sensitive barometer he has been of effects and influences of the war upon Jewish youth. I have also seen in writing, the great respect which he won among his superior officers and the affection which he induced among the boys. He is also a staunch Zionist and quite a fighter from away back, in the best tradition of that term, as you might interpret it.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver -2-

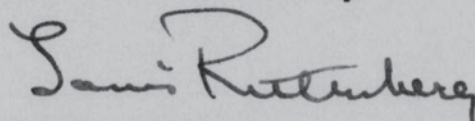
May 10, 1946

Apart from this, I should like to recall that at Atlantic City last year you made a mental note, in my presence, of providing efficient public relations machinery for the next CCAR meeting. Is this being done? If it is still to be done, I might be able to recommend the right person, if desired.

And what about my previous request for an article on the highlights of the work of the CCAR for publication in LIBERAL JUDAISM? Now that we go to a large audience, it is necessary to plan these features at least six or eight weeks ahead of time. That is why I wrote you on April 30th. May I hear from you soon?

As ever,

Faithfully yours,



LOUIS RITTENBERG

LR:SS



May 15, 1946

Mr. Louis Rittenberg
Editor-in-Chief
Liberal Judaism
920 Riverside Drive
New York 32, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Rittenberg:

Thank you for your kind letter of May 10. I have referred the matter of Chaplain Harry Richmond to Rabbi Feldman, who is Chairman of the Program Committee of the CCAR Conference, with the suggestion that it is not yet too late to try to find a place for Rabbi Harry Richmond on the program.

I would be very grateful to you if you could recommend some person who can effectively handle the Public Relations work and publicity for the next CCAR meeting.

I would love to accommodate you with an article. Unfortunately, the pressure upon me is so great that I simply have not the time to comply with your request. I have not been able to do many things which I should like to.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:GR

May 20, 1946

Mr. Louis Rittenberg
Editor-in-Chief
Liberal Judaism
920 Riverside Drive
New York 32, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Rittenberg:

Following your suggestion I requested Rabbi Feldman, Chairman of the Program Committee of the CCAR, to invite Chaplain Richmond to conduct one of our Noon-day Prayer Services at the Conference. Chaplain Richmond was unable to accept.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:GR

May 27, 1946

Rabbi Sidney L. Regner
Perkiomen Ave. and 13th St.
Reading, Pa.

My dear Sidney:

I am enclosing herewith the correspondence of the American Jewish Conference.

The Conference is evidently in need of funds and if our funds are available, I would suggest that we pay the balance due on our allocation to it.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:GR

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LOUIS RITTENBERG
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

EDITORIAL OFFICE

May 29, 1946

*

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1383

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am glad to have your note of the 27th concerning the article on the history of the CCAR. Having failed to hear from you within a fortnight after my letter of April 30th, I did not want to risk forfeiting such an article and, since I had no knowledge of the competence of the gentleman mentioned, I used my own dubious judgment by asking Rabbi Allan Tarshish of Hazleton, Pa., to undertake such an assignment.

I did this because I remembered that he had written an article on the same subject for the Universal Jewish Encyclopedia when I was editing the manuscript of that compilation. Upon rereading that story, he seemed to me to have a good grasp of this theme, and so I asked him and he immediately accepted the job of turning out an appropriate story along the lines desired.

If you think that this article should be scrutinized by yourself or by Rabbi Feldman, I shall be glad to submit a copy to either of you as soon as I receive it. It ought to be in my hands within the next few days. Tarshish is usually a dependable craftsman on historical Americana.

I appreciate your kind sentiments regarding my report of the UAHC Biennial, and I doubt not that our upward of 50,000 readers will be inspired by the larger text of your address, which will appear in the July issue.

With warm personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

LOUIS RITTENBERG

LR:SS

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OF
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May 31, 1946

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

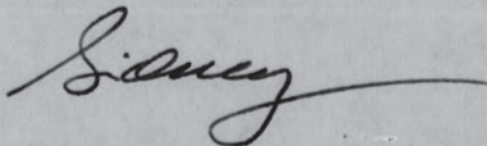
Dear Dr. Silver:

Regarding the American Jewish Conference we have been making a contribution of \$500 a year, which was the amount they originally requested. Last year they did ask us for \$750, but we gave them \$500 as we did previously and we based our budget for Contributions this year on this same amount for the American Jewish Conference. We have spent the entire amount we allocated for contributions.

Don't you think we can wait until our meeting in Chicago and decide then what to do?

With cordial greetings, I am

Sincerely,



SLR:r
enc.

May 31, 1946

Mr. Louis Rittenberg
Liberal Judaism
920 Riverside Drive
New York 32, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Rittenberg:

Replying to your letter of May 29 - I shall be
very happy to look over the article by Rabbi Allan Tarshish
for comment.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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Louis Rittenberg,
Liberal Judaism
n. y.

Will you please let me know address &
telephone number of Mr. Levy in connection
with Conference publicity. Regards.
Silver



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or similar phrases may be
Included without charge.

NEW YORK, N. Y.
May 31, 1946

Dr. A. H. Silver:

MR. LEVY'S ADDRESS 3 EAST 65TH STREET NEW YORK CITY. TELEPHONE REGENT 4-3659.

Louis Rittenberg

Rec'd by
GR

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*A monthly journal to foster
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OFFICIAL ORGAN of the UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS, FOUNDED 1873

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1383

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I send you herewith, unedited, carbon copy of the Tarshish article on the CCAR.

Please go over this immediately and make whatever revisions may be warranted interlineally or on separate notes, keyed to the manuscript.

I enclose an envelope for your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Louis Rittenberg
LOUIS RITTENBERG

LR:SS
encls.

June 4, 1946

Rabbi Sidney L. Regner
Congregation Oheb Sholom
Perkiomen Ave. and 13th St.
Reading, Pa.

My dear Sidney:

Thank you for your letter of May 31.

I inferred from the letter which I received from the American Jewish Conference that the second payment on our \$500.00 contribution had not yet been made. If we have already made our contribution of \$500.00, no more should be made for this year. You might inform the writer of the letter of the American Jewish Conference that all we are committed to is \$500.00.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:GR

June 6, 1946

Mr. Louis Rittenberg
Liberal Judaism
920 Riverside Drive
New York 32, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Rittenberg:

I am returning herewith the article on "The Evolution and the Accomplishments of the CCAR." It is not a very inspiring article, nor particularly well-written. However, I believe that it will do.

I made certain suggestions, striking out certain words, phrases and a few sentences. The writer is altogether too much impressed by the historic importance of the Pittsburgh Conference.

On Page 5 - I would suggest that the entire discussion of the action taken by the CCAR on the American Council for Judaism be stricken out. It represents not the viewpoint of the Conference but that of Rabbi Tarshish, and in an historical survey such a strong personal view ought not to be included.

On the same page, in connection with paragraph 11 - the actual resolution adopted by the CCAR should be quoted. It is the most comprehensive statement of the present position of the Conference on the subject of the compatibility of Zionism with Reform Judaism and its position ~~which~~ has since been also taken by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

For your benefit I am enclosing the Resolution in full.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc. 2

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June 7, 1946

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Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
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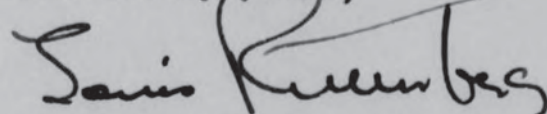
Dear Dr. Silver:

I am very glad to have your revisions of the Tarshish article and, of course, I share your regret that we could not have had someone writing more inspiringly and objectively in time to make another assignment.*

I am, however, taking cognizance of all your valuable suggestions, and I am reasonably sure that even Tarshish will agree to these. If he should demur, I will suggest to him that the article appear under some other byline. If there had been time enough before our press deadline for the July issue, I would have suggested that we invite someone else to write this story, but under the circumstances you will understand how this became inevitable.

Appreciating your helpful collaboration, and looking forward to seeing you in Chicago, I am, as ever,

Faithfully yours,



LOUIS RITTENBERG

LR:SS

P.S. I have asked Marcuson to send me as far in advance as possible, copies of your presidential address and all such other material as may facilitate my coverage of the CCAR sessions.

*The inspiration that readers will derive from your own article in that issue (the address which you delivered in Cincinnati), will more than compensate, I believe, for what may be lacking in the Tarshish evaluation.

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June 14, 1946

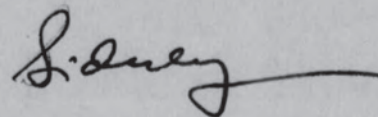
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
E. 105th St. and Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

With regard to the Palestine Hebrew Culture Fund, our Subvention Committee allotted \$150 this year and the voucher which contained this money was made out in April. Together with the other subvention vouchers it was somehow delayed in Rabbi Binstock's office. I heard from his office about ten days ago that the subvention vouchers were then being sent to Felix Levy, who was to forward the money. It has probably been received by this time.

With kind regards, I am,

Sincerely,



SLR:r
enc.