



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

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

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

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Cleveland, City Manager Plan, 1929-1931.

**HENRY W. ELSNER**

*Attorney-at-Law*

ENGINEERS NATIONAL BANK BUILDING  
CLEVELAND, OHIO

July 10, 1929.

Rabbi A. H. Silver,  
Ansel Rd. Temple,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I regret that I must write you this letter with reference to the coming referendum of the charter. It seems to me, as a spiritual leader of your congregation and its Jewish citizens, you should take no part in the political horizon, because of the fact that other ministers of the opposite nationality are keeping their hands off and I believe you should do likewise. It is a bad practice on the part of our spiritual leaders to attempt to interfere with the political rights of our citizens.

You have established a national wide reputation for yourself and congregation and should therefore not take advantage of that fact for this may lead to disadvantages in the future. Please permit the political organizations and its citizens to fight out their differences.

Personally I believe that Mr. Hopkins has given this city a fair administration but as a business man, he has been terribly dumb and blind, furthermore; this is a Democratic form of government and as such, people should use their own judgments without being influenced by the better and higher educated men of the city. I believe that we ought to have a change in the form of government, for reasons that I do not wish to disclose in this letter.

I trust that you will respect my wishes, as this is merely my own personal opinion.

Most respectfully yours,

HWE/EB

*Henry W. Elsner.*



September  
Fourth  
1929.

Hon. William R. Hopkins,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Hopkins:-

I have just returned from Europe and I learned with great satisfaction that the City Manager Plan has again triumphed in our community and that you are continuing at the head of our administration. That is very good news.

I want to extend to you and to the City of Cleveland my heartiest felicitations.

I am taking the liberty of returning the manuscript which you were kind enough to let me read a few weeks ago.

With best wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR



MEN'S COOPERATING COMMITTEE  
IN  
DEFENSE OF THE CITY MANAGER PLAN

*accepted  
Oct. 12*

October 6, 1931.

Rabbi A. H. Silver,  
1855 Ansel Road,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Rabbi Silver:

The League of Women Voters have shown the courage again to lead the campaign in defense of the city manager plan of government. They want and need a cooperating committee of men who will advise with them and serve as a men's committee during the very brief campaign.

Will you permit the use of your name on the margin of the letterhead as a member of the Men's Cooperating Committee? You will not be called upon to do any work. A number of prominent men have already consented, by telephone, to the use of their names.

Since the time is short, will you please fill out the enclosed card and return it at once so the letterheads can be printed and the committee be of service to the League's committee?

If there is any information you want concerning this, call Mr. Reeder, CHerry 5340.

Very truly yours,

*Wm. Strong*

*D. Humphrey*

*C. J. Reeder*



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



WRHS  
222  
Mr. S. L. Reeder,  
1307 Swetland Building,  
Cleveland, Ohio.



Mr. S. L. Reeder,  
1307 Swetland Building,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

You may add my name to the Men's Cooperating  
Committee in defense of the manager plan of govern-  
ment, with the understanding that it will require  
no campaign work on my part.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

