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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 Box Folder 26 9 575

Consumers' League of Ohio and Civic League of Cleveland (minimum wage, child labor, unemployment, etc.), 1918-1919.

THE CIVIC LEAGUE OF CLEVELAND

OFFICE: 516 HIPPODROME BUILDING

PHONES: Main 6205

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Dec. 21st, 1918. CLEVELAND, OHIO

Rabbi A. H. Silver, 3848 Prospect Ave., City.

My dear Mr. Silver:

At a recent meeting of the Executive Board of the Civic League your name was suggested and favorably acted upon for a place on the Membership Committee of the League for 1919.

While the Board wishes to see conducted a particularly vigorous membership campaign for next year, it does not contemplate that any considerable demands of time and energy be asked of the individual members of this committee. It asks rather that your friendly counsel be available from time to time and your personal influence in the community be utilized for increasing the membership of the League and therefore increasing its influence and power for insuring efficient and economical government.

While you are not at present a member of the League you are prominent among those truly interested in progressive and forward looking movements, hence the Board earnestly hopes for your acceptance.

> Very truly yours, istant Secretary.

December 27th, 1918

Mr. Leyton E. Carter, Assistant Secretary, The Citic League of Cleveland, 516 Hippodrome Building City.

My dear Mr. Carter,

the twenty-first instant- I shall be very happy to join the fivic League and to render any service upon your Membership Countries for which I may have the time and opportunity.

Very sincerely yours,

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CLEVELAND, OHIO February 14, 1919.

Rabbi A. H. Silver, Temple at East 55th St ... City.

My dear Rabbi Silver: --

At the first meeting of the membership committee, held February 13th, at which you were not present, it was decided that each member of this committee send in to the office of the League a list of as many persons as possible whom they consider likely prospects for new members,

From these lists a cleared list will be compiled containing the names of no persons now members of the League. With such a cleared list an active campaign can be begun.

A second meeting of this committee will be held Thursday, February 20th, at 12:15 at the City Club, Room A, Hollenden Hotel. At this meeting the cleared list will be presented and allotment of the names made. Consideration of other plans will be continued and acted upon at this time.

Judge Friebolin, the chairman, is anxious that the lists of names be secured as quickly as possible so that a very substantial list will be ready for presentation at the next meeting of the committee. He also urges a full attendance at this meeting.

truly yours



Pobruary 19th, 1919

Hr. Leyton E. Carter, Assistant Secretary, The Civic League of Cloveland, 516 Hippodreme Dldg., City.

My dear Mr. Carter,

I gave the use of my name for its membership campaign, but I had little hope at the time of being able to do any of the actual work. The pressure of my own work makes it utterly impossible at this time to give any time to interests of this kind.

This will explain too why I do not attend meetings. You will, I know, understand my position.

Very sinceraly yours, .

The Consumers' League of Phio

MAIN 7355

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FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

MRS. E. S. BASSETT

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AN ORGANIZATION
TO IMPROVE THE CONDITIONS OF LABOR FOR WOMEN
TO ABOLISH CHILD LABOR

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
MISS WILMA I. BALL

A CALL FOR HELP TO REDUCE THE PRICE OF FOOD.

There is at the present moment an excellent opportunity to help in reducing the cost of meat. The Federal Trade Commission, having obtained through its investigations proof of monopolistic practices carried on by the meat packers, has recommended to Congress a bill called the Sims Bill, H.R., 13324, designed so to regulate the conditions of marketing meat products that free competition may be maintained in this industry and means procured whereby the distribution not only of meat but such allied food products and meat substitutes as poultry, eggs, milk, butter and cheese, which is shown to be rapidly coming under the control of the packers, may be kept from becoming a monopoly. The figures of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics show that the cost of food has risen 87 per cent since 1913. Some of the reasons for this are contained in the facts brought to light by the Federal Trade Commission. The reason every consumer does not know these is that our daily papers carry among their largest advertisements those of the great meat packing concerns. It is a fact that the profits capitalized by these big firms since the beginning of the world war are among the largest that have been earned in the country.

Mrs. Florence Kelley, Secretary of the National Consumers' League has testified for the Consumers' League before the Interstate Commerce Committee of the House of Representatives, before which hearings on the Sims Bill are now taking place. She has asked the members of the League all over the country to help with

their individual support of the bill.

The conditions are not right, and you can help to change them by writing letters to your three congressmen, Honorable Robert Crosser, Honorable William Gordon and Honorable Henry I. Emerson, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., asking each one to use his influence in the passage of the bill. This is the most effective opportunity you will have to help in the situation. Do not let it pass.

Very sincerely yours,

Executive Secretary.

February 26, 1919.