



## 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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Consumers' League of Ohio, 1931-1961.



Expenditures of the Consumers' League During the Six Years  
Since its Separation from the Community Fund

Amount expended during 1926 . . . . .	\$7,120.52
" " " 1927 . . . . .	7,538.27
" " " 1928 . . . . .	8,936.21
" " " 1929 . . . . .	8,103.99
" " " 1930 . . . . .	6,423.71
" " " 1931 . . . . .	5,636.00 (Estimate)

Estimated Receipts & Expenditures from October 27, 1931 to December 31, 1932

Estimated Expenditures

Deficit (as of October 27, 1931 ) . . . . .	\$ 474.70
For balance of 1931 . . . . .	1631.68
For 1932 (based on average of six years preceding) . . . . .	6626.45
Total Estimated Expenditures . . . . .	\$8732.83

Estimated Receipts

Unpaid Pledges . . . . .	\$ 237.00
Memberships (remainder of 1931 ) . . . . .	513.50
Renewals of contributions for 1932 already received . . . . .	2465.00
Renewals of contributions for 1932 anticipated . . . . .	1057.00
Total Estimated Receipts . . . . .	\$5422.50

Balance to be secured . . . . . \$3310.33

Amounts over \$10 Pledged and Contributed During 1931

\$1000

Mr. & Mrs. Henry White Cannon

\$ 300

Mrs. F. H. Goff

\$ 200

Mrs. Walter H. Merriam  
Mrs. Daniel E. Morgan  
Mrs. Henry Upson

\$ 100

Mr. & Mrs. Newton D. Baker  
Miss Clara Gehring  
Halle Bros. Co.,  
Mrs. W. G. Pollock  
Miss Belle Sherwin

\$50

Dr. & Mrs. Robert H. Bishop, Jr.,  
Mr. H. G. Dalton  
Mrs. Malcolm McBride  
Mr. Samuel Mather (Deceased)  
Miss Julia Raymond  
Rabbi & Mrs. A. H. Silver  
Miss Gertrude Underhill

\$35

Miss Alice P. Gannett

\$30

Miss Lucy C. Barkwill

\$25

Dr. & Mrs. Henry E. Bourne  
Mr. & Mrs. Howard F. Burns  
Miss Eleanor Ferris  
Mrs. R. J. Frackelton  
Mrs. F. W. Gehring  
Mrs. Geo. W. Grandin  
Mrs. E. B. Greene  
Mr. W. R. Hopkins  
Miss Elizabeth S. Magee  
Miss Mary Newberry  
Dr. Roger G. Perkins  
Miss Helen Phelan  
Mrs. O. W. Prescott  
Miss Prudence Sherwin  
Mrs. Grace D. Terry  
Mrs. J. J. Sullivan (Deceased)

\$20

Judge Florence E. Allen  
Mrs. E. S. Bassett  
Cleveland Citizen Publishing Co.,  
Prof. C. E. Gehlke  
Mr. & Mrs. M. C. Harrison  
Mr. Philip R. Mather  
Mr. & Mrs. Harry Wembridge

\$15

Miss Jessie B. Jones  
Dr. James D. Williamson  
Dr. & Mrs. Dilworth Lupton

\$12

Mrs. Howard S. Thayer

(46 contributors totalling \$3412)



# THE CONSUMERS' LEAGUE OF OHIO

## HONORARY VICE PRESIDENTS

DR. ROBERT H. BISHOP, JR.  
HENRY E. BOURNE  
MRS. F. H. GOFF  
DANIEL E. MORGAN  
BELLE SHERWIN  
RABBI A. H. SILVER  
RT. REV. MONSGR. JOSEPH SMITH

341 ENGINEERS' BUILDING

CLEVELAND

MAIN 3025

## OFFICERS

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MARIE R. WING  
WILLIAM M. LEISERSON  
EDNA STUDEBAKER  
HELEN PHELAN  
ELIZABETH S. MAGEE

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TREASURER  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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January 22, 1937

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LLOYD WHITE  
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MARY WOODS  
FREDERICK G. DETWEILER, GRANVILLE  
LOUIS W. ORGEL, WILLOUGHBY  
IRMA VOIGT ATHENS

Rabbi A. H. Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

A committee is being organized in Ohio, under the chairmanship of Mr. Marvin C. Harrison of Cleveland, to further the passage of a Federal amendment to protect existing and future labor and social legislation. New York has such a committee, composed of leaders in the field of law, economics, labor, and public service. A committee has been organized in Michigan, and a conference is being arranged to meet in Detroit on February 1st to formulate a program of action, and organize a national committee. Dean Lloyd Garrison of the University of Wisconsin, Prof. Robert Cushman of Cornell University, and Governor Frank Murphy of Michigan are among those who are to participate in this conference.

Would you be willing to be a member of the Ohio Committee? Membership does not commit you to endorsing any specific proposal whatever, but does indicate your belief in the need for such an amendment. If and when this movement gets to the point of advocating some definite proposal, there will, of course, be a further inquiry to find out whether or not the individual members of this provisional committee desire to continue in the movement.

Sincerely yours,

*Elizabeth S. Magee*  
Elizabeth S. Magee,  
Executive Secretary.

STB&AU#19366.



February 18, 1937

Miss Elizabeth S. Magee, Executive Secretary,  
Consumers' League of Ohio,  
341 Engineers' Building,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Miss Magee:

I should very much like to come to the meeting on Wednesday evening, February 24th, but I have, myself, arranged a meeting to welcome a prominent leader of the Palestine movement who comes to Cleveland on Wednesday. I have arranged for a dinner for a group of friends to meet him. I hope that I may be able to drop in at some future meeting.

With best wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



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February 24, 1937

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

GRACE BERGER  
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MARY WOODS  
  
FREDERICK G. DETWEILER, GRANVILLE  
LOUIS W. ORGEL, WILLOUGHBY  
IRMA VOIGT ATHENS

Rabbi A. H. Silver  
The Temple  
Ansel Rd. & E. 105th St.,  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

You will remember that in December I talked with you about our interest in getting a group to study and discuss the matter of amending the Constitution to clarify the powers of Congress and the states in the field of social and economic legislation. We had planned such a meeting in December and then changed it suddenly to consider unemployment insurance when that became a "hot" issue in the Legislature.

As you probably know, there are several national movements under way and in spite of the interest focused on the President's program many of us feel there is still need for exploring the possibilities of an amendment which would take care of the recurring problem. Mr. Harrison is chairman of the provisional committee for Ohio and we are hoping to have a small group in Cleveland who will devote some time to the consideration of the subject and be prepared to cooperate with the national groups.

Mr. Harrison is calling a dinner meeting of the provisional committee on Wednesday evening, February 24, at 6 o'clock at the Allendorf Restaurant, 1111 Chester Avenue. I do hope that it may be possible for you to be present. I think the meeting will adjourn about 8 o'clock so that if you have other evening engagements it will be possible to meet them.

Sincerely yours,

*Elizabeth S. Magee*  
Elizabeth S. Magee,  
Executive Secretary.



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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



March 5, 1937

Rabbi A. H. Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Dr. Robert E. Cushman, Professor of Government at Cornell University, who is to give the keynote address at the Hiram College Constitutional Convention on Wednesday, March 10th, will be in Cleveland for a few hours that evening. We are arranging a joint meeting of the Executive Board of the Consumers' League (in lieu of our regular March meeting) and our Constitutional Amendment Committee at 8 o'clock that evening, in order to have an informal discussion with Dr. Cushman.

Miss Wing has invited us to hold the meeting at Senator Bulkley's residence, which her family is occupying this winter. It is located on Corning Drive, which goes north from Lake Shore Boulevard, one long block east of 105th Street. The main driveway to the Bulkley residence goes left from the end of Corning Drive.

I hope that you can be present.

Sincerely yours,

*Elizabeth S. Magee*  
Elizabeth S. Magee,  
Executive Secretary.

STB&AU#19366.

*Perhaps since this is so near your home  
you can bring Mrs. Silver with you?  
E.S.M.*

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March 22, 1937

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

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MRS. PAUL CHOPARD  
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IRMA VOIGT ATHENS

Rabbi A. H. Silver  
The Temple  
Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

As I think you know, we are always on the look-out for new sources of contributions to the budget of the Consumers' League. In the pre-depression days several people gave us \$500 or a \$1000 a year. That is all past and gone with the result that we must constantly find new givers. In the last year we have succeeded in getting a number of organizations to contribute where the organization has funds that can be used in this way. We have some women's clubs and a considerable number of trade unions which are now making contributions.

It has occurred to me that possibly the Temple Women's Association might be a good "prospect". I am wondering what your advice would be at this point. You probably do not want to be in a position of influencing their decisions, but if you could advise me as to the best procedure, I would be most grateful.

With warm regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

*Elizabeth S. Magee*  
Elizabeth S. Magee,  
Executive Secretary.



March 31, 1937

Miss Elizabeth S. Magee, Executive Secretary,  
The Consumers' League of Ohio,  
341 Engineers' Building,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Miss Magee:

Let me thank you for your kind letter  
of March 22.

The Temple Women's Association, following  
instructions from the headquarters of the National  
Temple Sisterhoods Association, adopted a policy  
some years ago, to use whatever funds it has available  
for specifically Temple and religious educational  
purposes. I question, therefore, whether the Board  
would act favorable upon a request from the Consumers'  
League for a contribution. I know that they have  
turned down similar requests from other organizations  
in the past few months.

I am sure that you must be gratified  
with the recent return of the Supreme Court on the  
minimum wage law.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



May 13, 1937

Miss Elizabeth Magee,  
Consumers' League of Ohio,  
Engineers' Bldg.,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Miss Magee:

After speaking to you this morning  
on the telephone, I find that on Thursday, June  
3rd, I must be in Albany. I am free, however,  
on Wednesday, June 2nd.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



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EDNA STUDEBAKER                      SECRETARY  
HELEN PHELAN                      TREASURER  
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September 28, 1937

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

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MARY WOODS  
  
W. HESTON McPHERSON, OBERLIN  
LOUIS W. ORGEL, WILLOUGHBY  
CARL WITKE, OBERLIN

Rabbi A. H. Silver  
The Temple  
Ansel Road & E. 105 St.,  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

You were good enough some time ago to say that you would be willing to help us with our fall membership campaign by speaking. The opening meeting of workers is to be held on Saturday noon, October 16, at 12:30, and we all hope very much that you will be able to come and give some words of encouragement to those who will be soliciting for membership in the League.

I will get in touch with you later as to the place of the meeting.

With warm regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

*Elizabeth S. Magee*  
Elizabeth S. Magee,  
Executive Secretary.

STB&AU#19366.



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October 26, 1938

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

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LLOYD WHITE  
MARY WOODS  
  
W. HESTON McPHERSON, OBERLIN  
CARL WITTKO, OBERLIN

Rabbi A. H. Silver  
The Temple  
Ansel Road & E. 105th St.,  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The Consumers' League has been fortunate in securing the opportunity to sponsor one performance of "Pins and Needles" - the Broadway success - on Tuesday evening, November 15th. We would like to use your name among the sponsors of the performance, along with members of the Executive Board. I will appreciate your letting me know whether we may have your permission to do so.

Sincerely yours,

*Elizabeth S. Magee*  
Elizabeth S. Magee,  
Executive Secretary.



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MRS. JAMES C. WEIR  
CHARLES W. WHITE  
LLOYD WHITE  
MARY WOODS

W. HESTON McPHERSON, OBERLIN  
CARL WITKE, OBERLIN

January 10, 1939

Rabbi A. H. Silver  
The Temple  
Ansel Road & E. 105 St.,  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

In view of the possibilities of reactionary movements gaining the ascendancy in our new legislature, it has seemed to a number of us that those who have worked for progressive legislation in the past will gain some strength by conferring. A small committee has been at work laying the plans for a conference in Cleveland. A number of our League Board members are much interested and are allowing their names to be used as sponsors. We are wondering whether you would be willing to be one of the list whose name would be attached to the call?

I am enclosing a copy of the suggested draft for the call. I would be glad to come out to discuss this with you in case you have any questions.

With warm regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

*Elizabeth S. Magee*  
Elizabeth S. Magee,  
Executive Secretary.



January 12, 1939

Miss Elizabeth S. Magee, Executive Secretary  
The Consumers' League of Ohio  
Engineers' Building  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Miss Magee:

Let me thank you for your kind note of January 10. I shall be very pleased to serve as a member of the committee which is to sponsor the call for the conference in Cleveland for progressive legislation. I see where you are still hewing close to the line. More power to you!

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



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JOSEPH E. CASSIDY  
RUSSELL N. CHASE  
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GRACE L. COYLE  
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MRS. W. P. HILTON  
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MRS. JAMES C. WEIB  
CHARLES W. WHITE  
LLOYD WHITE  
MARY WOODS

W. HESTON McPHERSON, OBERLIN  
CARL WITKE, OBERLIN

April 8, 1940

Rabbi A. H. Silver  
The Temple  
Ansel Road & E. 105 St.,  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The Board of Directors of the Consumers' League has decided to conduct a financial campaign this spring with a goal of \$5,000.

The campaign has been planned for April 29th to May 8th and I have accepted the chairmanship of the campaign committee.

However, I will need some advice in this matter and am going to rely upon you and other old friends of the Consumers' League for help. Unless we hear from you to the contrary, we will assume that you will serve on the advisory committee.

As a matter of fact, most or all the work of this committee can be conducted by mail. Outside of the opening meeting of the campaign on April 29th, to which you are cordially invited, there will be no meetings of this committee.

Sincerely yours,

*Daniel E. Morgan*  
Daniel E. Morgan



# THE CONSUMERS' LEAGUE of OHIO

341 ENGINEERS BUILDING

CLEVELAND, OHIO

MAin 3025

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*President*

Marie R. Wing  
*First Vice President*

Julia Raymond  
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Mrs. Henry Sayles Francis  
*Secretary*

Helen Phelan  
*Treasurer*

Elizabeth S. Magee  
*Executive Secretary*

December 2, 1941

Rabbi A. H. Silver  
The Temple  
Ansel Rd. & E. 105 St.,  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I want to congratulate  
you on your sermon on Labor. So much of  
what is being said is hysterical and one-  
sided that it is a great satisfaction to  
have your fine statement.

With warm regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

*Elizabeth S. Magee*  
Elizabeth S. Magee,  
Executive Secretary.



December 4, 1941

Miss Elizabeth S. Magee, Executive Secretary  
The Consumers' League of Ohio  
341 Engineers Building  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Elizabeth:

Thank you so much for your kind  
note. I appreciated getting it.

Yesterday's action in the House is  
very disturbing. I trust that the drastic  
legislation will be modified, else we are in for  
a long period of sharp reaction in our country.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK



# THE CONSUMERS' LEAGUE of OHIO

341 ENGINEERS BUILDING  
CLEVELAND, OHIO

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*Treasurer*

Elizabeth S. Magee  
*Executive Secretary*

January 20, 1942

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am hoping very much  
that you will be in town on February 4th  
and able to come to our annual meeting. *that noon*  
Margaret Bondfield, Minister of Labor  
in Ramsay MacDonald's cabinet, is to talk  
on "British Workers and the War".

You will receive a regular  
notice of this soon, but I wanted you to have  
this advance word in the hope that you can  
save the date.

With warm regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

*Elizabeth S. Magee*  
Elizabeth S. Magee,  
Executive Secretary.

Rabbi A. H. Silver  
The Temple  
Ansel Rd. & E. 105 St.,  
Cleveland, Ohio



Consumers' League of Ohio  
348 Engineers Building  
Cleveland, Ohio 4-9-45

COMPARISON OF PENDING LEGISLATION PROPOSED FOR AMENDING OHIO UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION LAW

Significant Provisions	Present Law	S.B. 94 - Kirkendall-Whitacre H.B. 167 - Metzenbaum-Williams	S.B. 163 - Reiners
<u>Coverage</u>			
Size of firms covered (Number of employees)	Employers of (3) or more at one time	Employers of one or more at one time	Employers of three or more at one time Includes officers and members of crews on Great Lakes vessels
Eligibility Requirements	20 weeks employment and wages of \$160	20 weeks employment and wages of \$160	20 weeks employment and wages of \$250
Waiting period	Two weeks	One week	Two weeks
Weekly benefit amount for total employment			
Minimum	\$5	\$8	\$5
Maximum	\$16	\$25	\$18
Ratio	Amounts between determined by weighted table	Amounts between deter- mined by weighted table	Amounts between de- termined by weighted tab
For Days of Unemployment	None	Provides benefits if un- employed for less than 6 consecutive days and as little as one day	None
Duration of Compensation	18 weeks	26 weeks	18 weeks Additional weeks up to 20 if sufficient employment
Experience Rating		Repeals	



Significant Provisions

Present Law

S.B. 94 - Kirkendall-Whitacre  
H.B.167 - Metzenbaum-Williams

S.B.163 - Reiners

Suitable Work	Is able to work and available for work in his usual trade or occupation, or in any other trade or occupation for which he is reasonably fitted. (Does not consider whether work suitable.)	Is able to work and available for suitable work. (In determining whether work is suitable to consider among other factors, degree of risk involved to health, safety and morals, physical fitness, prior training, experience, prior earnings, length of unemployment, prospects for obtaining work in his customary occupation and prospects for obtaining local work.	Is able to work etc. (Same as present law.)
<u>Disqualification for Quit Voluntary Quit</u>			
A. Nature of Quit	Without just cause in connection with work. (Does not permit consideration of personal good cause)	Without good cause. (Permits consideration of personal good cause for quit)	Same as present law.
B. Duration of Disqualification	3 weeks of additional waiting period and 6 weeks reduction of benefits	3 weeks additional waiting period	May not serve waiting period or be paid any benefits and remains disqualified until re-employed and has earned wages equal to at least 10 times weekly benefit.
<u>Quit Because of Marriage</u>			
A. Nature of Quit	Quit to marry or because of marital obligations.	Repeals this disqualification. (This leaves determination to be made on whether worker is available)	Same as present law



## Significant Provisions

## Present Law

S.B. 94 - Kirkendall-Whitacre  
H.B. 167 - Metzenbaum-Williams

S.B. 163 - Reiners

Quit Because of Marriage

## B. Duration of Disqualification

No benefits payable for duration of unemployment

Ineligible if not available

Same as present law

Disqualification for Discharge

## A. Nature of Discharge

For just cause in connection with his work. (Difficult to determine what is and what is not a discharge for just cause.)

For misconduct in connection with his work. (This makes more certain the determination of the cause for discharge)

Same as present law

## B. Duration of Disqualification

3 weeks additional waiting period and 6 weeks reduction of benefits

3 weeks additional waiting period

Same as present law

Disqualification for Work Refusal

## A. Nature of Refusal

Refused offer of work for which he is reasonably fitted. (No standard for determining if work is suitable and permits placement of highly skilled worker in unskilled job.)

Refused to apply for available suitable work when directed by the administrator or an employment office or to accept suitable work when offered. (A standard for determining suitable work is provided.)

Refused offer of work for which he is reasonably fitted, or refused referral to any job opportunity when directed by local employment office of Ohio or another State. (No standard for determining if work is suitable and permits placement of highly skilled worker in unskilled job.)

## B. Duration of Disqualification

No benefits payable for duration of unemployment

Not more than 3 consecutive weeks

Same as present law



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THE CONSUMERS' LEAGUE of OHIO  
348 ENGINEERS' BUILDING  
CLEVELAND 14, OHIO  
MAin 1175

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William M. Leiserson  
Belle Sherwin  
Rabbi A. H. Silver  
Mnsgr. Oldrich Zlamal

September 26, 1950

Rabbi Abba H. Silver  
The Temple  
Ansel Road and East 105th Street  
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We are all hoping that you and Mrs. Silver will be on hand to help us celebrate our 50th Anniversary October 6th. We are having an interesting program at the dinner, and we are hoping to bring together many of the people who had a share in the League's work over the years.

The Anniversary Committee has asked me to ask you whether you would be willing to pronounce the invocation at the beginning of the program. We hope very much that you will say yes.

With warm regards as always.

Sincerely yours,

*Elizabeth S. Magee*

Elizabeth S. Magee  
Executive Secretary

ESM/lr



# THE CONSUMERS' LEAGUE OF OHIO

348 ENGINEERS BUILDING

CLEVELAND 14, OHIO

MAin 1-1175

ELIZABETH S. MAGEE  
*Executive Secretary*

October 19, 1950

Dear Dr. Silver:

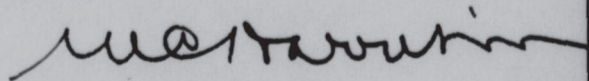
I am sending you this belated note of appreciation for your kindness in being present at our Consumers' League party. I know how urgently your many responsibilities press upon you.

I have often wondered if you have ever considered making a series of records of biblical readings or of some of your own prayers?

I was moved quite beyond words by the beauty and dignity of your language, and it seems to me that some record company is completely missing the boat by not recording them and making them available to the wide public which would find great pleasure and inspiration in them.

With warmest personal regards,

Respectfully yours,



MCH:MM

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348 ENGINEERS BUILDING

CLEVELAND 14, OHIO

MAin 1-1175

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Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

Elizabeth S. Magee  
*Executive Secretary*

Mrs. Frank W. Baldau  
*Assistant Executive  
Secretary*

October 17, 1955

Rabbi A. H. Silver  
The Temple  
105th Street & Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We are greatly pleased that you are going to participate in our annual meeting luncheon on November 3rd at the Hotel Manger.

I promised to send you some material on both sides of this issue but only now secured a pamphlet in opposition. I am enclosing the two pamphlets herewith.

Mr. Jacob Clayman, Secretary & Treasurer of the Ohio CIO Council will speak for the bill and Mr. Russell Tarvin, Public Relations Director of the Ohio Association of Manufacturers will speak against the proposal.

I shall be out of town for a little while, and if there are any questions you want to ask, or wish any further material, will you get in touch with Mrs. Baldau at the office?

With warm regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

*Elizabeth S. Magee*  
Elizabeth S. Magee  
Executive Secretary

ESM/R  
Enc.(2)



# CONSUMERS LEAGUE OF OHIO

940 ENGINEERS BUILDING . Main 1.1175 . CLEVELAND 14, OHIO

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Helen Phelan  
Dr. D. R. Sharpe  
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
Marie R. Wing  
Dr. Carl Wittke

January 19, 1961

Elizabeth S. Magee  
*Executive Secretary*  
Mrs. Alan W. Smith  
*Assistant Executive Secretary*

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### Dayton

Edna M. Studebaker

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105th and Silver Park  
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am enclosing a copy of our latest members bulletin which has information about the unemployment insurance situation. I am delighted that you are willing to write a statement to be given to the House Committee on Commerce and Labor.

Mr. William Milligan is the chairman of this committee. This is the committee which will hear all the bills on unemployment compensation.

It occurs to me that you might be willing to release this to the papers which would give it additional attention.

With warm regards and much appreciation of your help, I am

Sincerely yours,

*Elizabeth S. Magee*

Elizabeth S. Magee  
Executive Secretary

ESM/alb  
enc.