



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

Featuring collections from the Western Reserve Historical Society and  
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

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

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

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

---

Reel  
27

Box  
10

Folder  
642

France, award of French government, 1920.



February 14th, 1920

Monsieur Marcel Knecht,  
Official Bureau of French Information,  
Room 1517 Vanderbilt Hotel,  
New York City.

My dear Monsieur Knecht,

I need not tell you how delighted I was to receive the announcement from you that the French Government had bestowed upon me the title "Officer of Public Instruction. It was a complete surprise and I am deeply grateful that my humble services to the French Government have received such a mark of recognition.

I have not yet received official notification from Hon. Maurice Casenave. As soon as I hear from him I shall write you, also Hon. Andre Tardieu and Ambassador Jusserand.

Hoping that I shall have the pleasure of seeing you upon your return from France, I remain, with kindest regards

Very sincerely yours,



February 25, 1920

Hon. Maurice Casenave,  
The Minister Plenipotentiary,  
Director General of the  
French Services in the United States,  
65 Broadway,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Casenave,

I am in receipt of your letter informing me of the decoration which has been bestowed upon me by the French Government.

Permit me to express to you and through you to your Government, my deep appreciation of the great honor thus bestowed upon me.

It is a source of deepest satisfaction to me to know that it was my privilege to render some slight service to France during the war. My contact with the men of your country, the superb manifestation of valor of your fighting men, and the charm and grace of manners everywhere, was a great inspiration to me.

Permit me to thank you again, my dear Mr. Casenave, and to remain

Very sincerely yours,



February 25, 1920

69-69  
Ambassador Jusserand,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Ambassador,

I have just been informed by the  
Hon. Casenave, that the French Government has  
bestowed upon me the title of Officer of Pub-  
lic Instruction.

I wish to take this occasion to  
extend to you, and through you to your Govern-  
ment, my deep appreciation of the great honor  
thus bestowed upon me.

It is a source of deepest satisfac-  
tion to me to know that it was my privilege to  
render some slight service to France during the  
war. My contact with the men of your country,  
the superb manifestation of valor of your fight-  
ing men, and the charm and grace of manners  
everywhere, was a great inspiration to me.

Permit me to thank you again, my  
dear Ambassador, and to remain

Very sincerely yours,



February 25, 1920.

Hon. Andre Tardieu,  
22 Avenue de Messines,  
Paris, France,

My dear Mr. Tardieu,

I have just been informed by the  
Hon. Casanova, that the French Government has  
bestowed upon me the title of Officer of  
Public Instruction.

Permit me to express to you, and  
through you to your Government, my deep appre-  
ciation of the great honor thus bestowed upon  
me.

It is a source of deepest satisfac-  
tion to me to know that it was my privilege to  
render some slight service to France during  
the war. My contact with the men of your coun-  
try, the superb manifestation of valor of your  
fighting men, and the charm and grace of man-  
ners everywhere, was a great inspiration to me.

Permit me to thank you again, my dear  
Mr. Tardieu, and to remain

Very sincerely yours,



March 5th, 1920

Honorable Maurice Casenave,  
Official Bureau of French Information,  
1517 Vanderbilt Hotel, New York City.

My dear Monsieur Casenave,

I beg to acknowledge  
receipt of the Diploma conferred upon  
me by the French Government, and to  
thank you for the same.

With kindest regards,

I beg to remain

Very sincerely yours,



DIRECTION GENERALE  
DES SERVICES FRANÇAIS  
AUX ETATS UNIS

65 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK

TELEPHONE BOWLING GREEN 7240

REPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

2251

NEW YORK, April 12th, 1920.

The Minister Plenipotentiary,  
Director General of the French Services  
in the United States,

to

Rabbi Abba H. Silver,  
E. 55th St. & Central.  
Cleveland (Ohio).

My dear Rabbi:-

I have the honor of mailing you  
under separate and registered cover, your insig-  
nia of "Officier de l'Instruction Publique" that  
was sent to me by the French Government.

Believe me, dear Rabbi,

Very sincerely yours,

*Caseuane*

C/R

*7. 4. 1920*  
*8. 1. —*



April Twenty-nine  
1920

Honorable Maurice Casenave,  
Minister Plenipotentiary,  
Director General of the  
French Services in the United States;  
65 Broadway, New York City.

My dear Monsieur Casenave:

I desire to tender  
you my sincere thanks for the  
insignia of "Officier de l'Instruc-  
tion Publique", which has come duly  
to hand.

With cordial greetings

I beg to remain

Very sincerely yours,



May 20th, 1920

Honorable Maurice Casenave,  
Minister Plenipotentiary,  
Director General of the  
French Services in the United States;  
65 Broadway, New York City.

My dear Monsieur Casenave:

I am very desirous of having  
a miniature button, copied from the button  
on the Insignia recently sent me by the  
French Republic - a button small enough  
to wear in the coat lapel. Could you  
tell me where I could have this done; or  
where the ribbon could be secured.

I should appreciate it also,  
if you can advise me when Monsieur  
Marcel Knecht is to be in Cleveland.

With greetings, I remain

Very sincerely yours,