



## 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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Hebrew Union College, D.H.L. degree, 1941.



# THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE

CINCINNATI, OHIO

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

January 23, 1941.

Rev. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,  
Cleveland.

My dear Abba:

It is my privilege and very great pleasure to inform you that it is the desire of the Faculty of the Hebrew Union College and its Board of Governors to confer upon you at the Graduation Exercises of the College on Saturday afternoon, May 24th, in recognition of your twenty-six years of distinguished and fruitful service as a Rabbi, and particularly of your most recent service as President of United Palestine Appeal, and in recognition likewise of the credit which you have brought to your Alma Mater by your service and your leadership in the cause of Judaism and of the people of Israel, the honorary degree of Doctor of Hebrew Letters. It is our earnest wish that it may give you the same real and abundant satisfaction to accept this honor from your Alma Mater as it gives to us to bestow it upon you.

I may offer an added word of explanation to the effect that the honorary degree which, by the rules of the College is now regularly bestowed upon Rabbis, is Doctor of Divinity. But inasmuch as you already have the D.D. as an earned degree from the College, an exception is being made in your case, and the honorary degree to be conferred upon you will be that of Doctor of Hebrew Letters (D.H.L.).

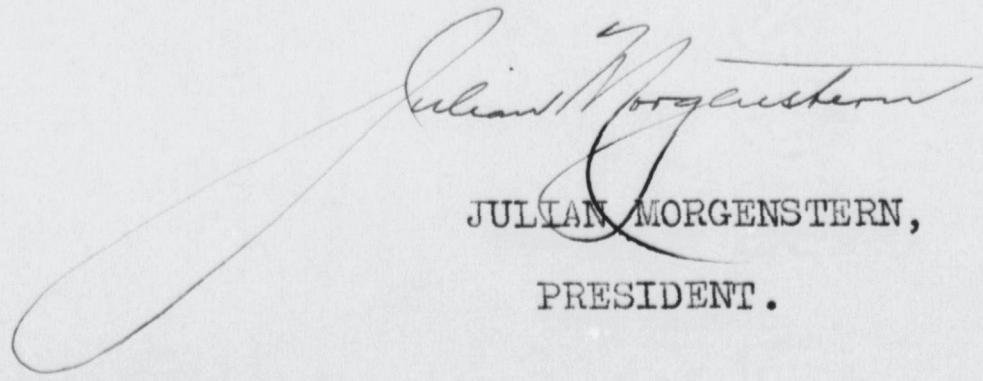
I shall be pleased to learn your pleasure with regard to this.

Also, as I am sure you will understand, we shall expect you to be present at the Graduation of the College in order that this degree may be conferred upon you in person.

Also I would invite you to deliver the Closing Prayer and Benediction at those Exercises.

With warmest regards for yourself and Virginia, and all good wishes, I am ever

Faithfully yours,

  
JULIAN MORGENSTERN,

PRESIDENT.

JM/s



January 30, 1941

Dr. Julian Morgenstern, President  
The Hebrew Union College  
Cincinnati, Ohio

My dear Friend:

Upon my return from Washington where I attended the annual conference of the United Palestine Appeal, and on my birthday, I received your delightfully surprising letter informing me that the Faculty of the Hebrew Union College and its Board of Governors desire to confer upon me the honorary degree of Doctor of Hebrew Letters. It would be an understatement to say that I am most pleased with this altogether undeserved mark of recognition and distinction. I am of course highly honored to accept this degree, and I shall look forward with pleasure to the Graduation Exercises of the College on May 24.

Please convey to the members of the Faculty and the Board of Governors my profound appreciation. Virginia joins me in sending you our warmest greetings.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK



## THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE

CINCINNATI, OHIO

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

February 3, 1941.

Rev. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

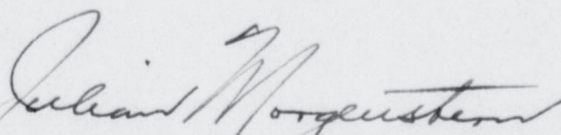
My dear Abba:

I was delighted to receive your good letter of the 30th ult. and to learn from it of your pleasure in accepting the award of the honorary degree of Doctor of Hebrew Letters which your Alma Mater desires to confer upon you, and I am happy, too, that you will be able to be present at the Graduation Exercises on May 24th. I hope that Virginia will be able to accompany you.

Let me add that it is a part of our College tradition that all those who participate in the Graduation Exercises, and especially those who are the recipients of honorary degrees, shall dine with my wife and me on Friday evening just preceding Graduation. My wife and I hope, therefore, that you and Virginia will be able to be with us. Please remember, too, that I am counting upon your delivering the Benediction at the Graduation Exercises.

With warmest regards and all good wishes, I am ever

Faithfully,



JULIAN MORGENS TERN,

PRESIDENT.

JM/s



654

THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE

CINCINNATI, OHIO

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

February 13, 1941.

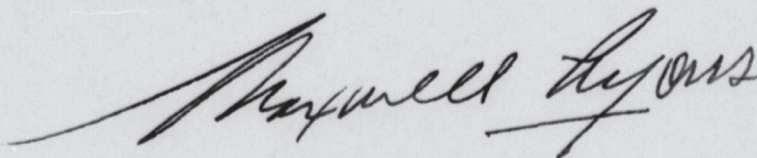
Rev. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,  
The Temple,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am sure you realize how happy I am to know that you have signified your willingness to accept the honorary degree, in your case, Doctor of Hebrew Letters (D.H.L.), from the Hebrew Union College. My purpose in writing to you at this time is to inquire whether you have any degrees in addition to those which are listed opposite your name in the HUC catalog, viz., D.D. and Litt. D. Please let me have this information at the earliest moment possible for, naturally, we wish to include all of your degrees in your new diploma.

Appreciating your prompt response and with cordial greetings to Mrs. Silver and yourself, and looking forward to the pleasure of meeting you both on Graduation Day, I am, as ever,

Very sincerely yours,



MAXWELL LYONS,  
REGISTRAR AND BUSINESS MANAGER.

bs



February 18, 1941

Mr. Maxwell Lyons, Registrar  
The Hebrew Union College  
Cincinnati, Ohio

My dear Mr. Lyons:

In reply to your kind letter of February 13  
permit me to say that I possess no other degrees than those  
of D. D. and Litt. D, other of course, than the B.A.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK





# THE CLASS OF 1941

THE FACULTY

AND THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF

## THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE

ANNOUNCE THE  
GRADUATION EXERCISES



AND THE CONFERRING OF THE DEGREE OF RABBI

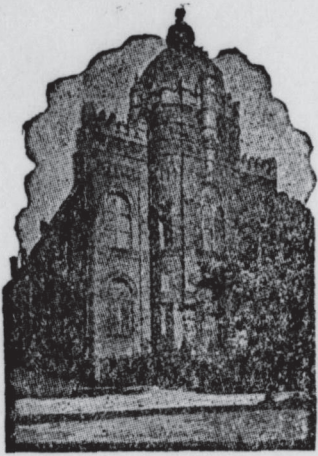
SATURDAY, MAY THE TWENTY-FOURTH

AT HALF AFTER TWO O'CLOCK

IN THE COLLEGE CHAPEL

CINCINNATI, OHIO





**EOFF STREET TEMPLE**  
**WHEELING, W. VA.**

**GEORGE B. LIEBERMAN, RABBI**

May 22, 1941

**D. MILTON GUTMAN, PRESIDENT**

**BEN F. BAER, SECRETARY**

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:-

From sources not too mysterious have I just learned that this Saturday the Hebrew Union College will confer upon you the honorary doctorate. Having always followed your achievements I want to be among the first ones to send you these words of salutation.

By this time you must have attuned yourself to the many honors and distinctions that have touched your life. Yet it must be always a source of fulfillment to be found worthy of them.

With kindest personal regards and sincerest good wishes, I remain

Faithfully yours,

*George*

GBL:RM



# CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

1201

## SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NT=Overnight Telegram

LC=Deferred Cable

NLT=Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

.HA823 15 NT=CLEVELAND OHIO 23 1

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER=(

CARE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE CLIFTON BLVD CIN=19 35

WE REJOICE WITH YOU IN THE HONOR WHICH THE COLLEGE IS  
BESTOWING UPON YOU CONGRATULATIONS=

MEL AND LEORA.

1941 MAY 23 PM 19 35

WRHS

AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES





# CONGRATULATIONS



*by* WESTERN UNION

LDA92 30=CLEVELAND OHIO

RABBI A H SILVER=

NETHERLANDS PLAZA HOTEL CINCINNATI

CONGRATULATIONS ON THIS GREAT HONOR BEING BESTOWED  
UPON YOU BY YOUR ALMA MATER STOP MAY YOU CONTINUE  
FOR MANY YEARS THE FINE WORK YOU ARE DOING FOR ALL  
OF JUDAISM=

MR AND MRS HARRY A LEVY.



# CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION (24)

1201

## SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter  
NT = Overnight Telegram  
LC = Deferred Cable  
NLT = Cable Night Letter  
Ship Radiogram

R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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HA780 20=CLEVELAND OHIO 23 738P

1941 MAY 23 PM 8 35

RABBI A H SILVER=

NETHERLAND PLAZA HOTEL CIN=

CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU ON THE DISTINCTIVE HONOR TO BE CONFERRED  
UPON YOU AND ALSO TO MRS SILVER ON HER BIRTHDAY=

MRS HENRY AUERBACH.



# CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

1201

## SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NT=Overnight Telegram

LC=Deferred Cable

NLT=Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

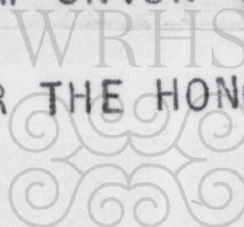
HA826 7 NT= CLEVELAND OHIO 23

1941 MAY 23 PM 9 55

RABBI A H SILVER=

CARE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE CIN=

CONGRATULATIONS FOR THE HONOR BESTOWED UPON YOU=  
FLORA.





# CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

1201

(( 42 ))

## SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NT = Overnight Telegram

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CAPLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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HA146 25=CLEVELAND OHIO 24 925A

MRS. A H SILVER=

NETHERLANDS PLAZA HOTEL CIN=

WE CONGRATULATE YOUR HUSBAND ON BEING BORN INTO THE  
RABBINATE AND BECAUSE YOU WERE BORN INTO THE WORLD. MANY  
HAPPY RETURNS OF THE DAY LOVE=  
JESSIE AND GEORGE...





# CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

1201

## SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NT = Overnight Telegram

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

HA874 1 NT=CLEVELAND OHIO 23

1941 MAY 23 PM 10 50

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=DLR 10 AM

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE CIN =

MAZELTOV=

THE FOUR GIRLS AT THE TEMPLE.

WRHS





# CONGRATULATIONS

by WESTERN UNION

CGN LDA130 15 1 EXTRA SC=CLEVELAND OHIO

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

NETHERLAND PLAZA CIN=

ONE THOUSAND WOMEN SHARE WITH PRIDE THE GREAT HONOR THAT  
COMES TO YOU TODAY=

THE TEMPLE WOMENS ASSOCIATION MARION H NEUMARK  
PRESIDENT.





# CONGRATULATIONS

*by* WESTERN UNION

LDA138 15 SC=CLEVELAND OHIO

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

NETHERLAND PLAZA CIN=

OUR CONGRATULATIONS ON THE MAGNIFICENT DEGREE YOU RECEIVE  
TODAY OUR LOVE TO YOU AND VIRGINIA=  
MARION AND LEE.





# CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION (55)

1201

## SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NT = Overnight Telegram

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

1941 MAY 24 AM 9 59

HB14 33 DL=CLEVELAND OHIO 24 929A

RABBI A H SILVER=

CARE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE CIN=

CONGRATULATIONS WE TAKE PRIDE IN THE FACT THAT A GREAT  
HONOR WELL DESERVED AND MERITED HAS BEEN CONFERRED ON ONE  
WITH WHOM WE HAVE BEEN SO CLOSELY ASSOCIATED FOR ALMOST  
A QUARTER CENTURY=  
THE TEMPLE.



# CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

1201

## SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter  
NT = Overnight Telegram  
LC = Deferred Cable  
NLT = Cable Night Letter  
Ship Radiogram

R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

1941 MAY 24 AM 10 32

HB20 25 DL=CLEVELAND OHIO 24 929A

RABBI A H SILVER=

CARE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE CIN=

WE JOIN WITH YOUR MANY FRIENDS IN OFFERING OUR  
CONGRATULATIONS IN THE RECOGNITION PAID YOU FOR YOUR  
OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP IN BEHALF OF HUMANITY AND RELIGION=  
SYLVIA AND SIDNEY WEITZ.



# CONGRATULATIONS

by WESTERN UNION

LDA148 21=CLEVELAND OHIO

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

DONT PHONE HEDREW UNION COLLEGE CIN=

SOH BROCHOH LYOM KAVELCHO ES HATOAR DOCTOR LSAFRUT IVRIT.

YHI ROTZON SHETOGO ZE YSHAMESH LCHO KOACH HOSAF BAAVODOTCHO

LHAROMAT KEREN TARBUTENU=

TEMPLE JUNIOR HIGH RELIGIOUS TEACHERS.



# BUREAU OF JEWISH EDUCATION

10323 Superior Avenue



Cleveland, Ohio

לשכת החנוך דקליבלנד אוהיו

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ALFRED A. BENESCH  
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PHILLIP H. GOODMAN, Ass't Treas.  
MRS. S. H. VACTOR, Secretary  
★  
DR. AZRIEL EISENBERG, Director

May 15, 1941

Dear Rabbi Silver,

May I add my congratulations to all those  
you have already heard and received on the honor  
which was bestowed on you by Hebrew Union College.  
By conferring on you its highest degree, honors  
Causa, Hebrew Union College honors itself and  
expressed to you the recognition of the American  
Jewish Community for your courageous, energetic  
and most able leadership! אהלים אהלים אהלים אהלים

Sincerely yours,  
Azriel Eisenberg



May 26, 1941

Dr. Azriel Eisenberg  
Bureau of Jewish Education  
10323 Superior Ave.  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Eisenberg:

It was indeed very thoughtful  
of you to write to me on the occasion of the  
bestowal upon me of an honorary degree by the  
Hebrew Union College. I am very grateful.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK





May 26, 1941

Rabbi George B. Lieberman  
Eoff Street Temple  
Wheeling, W. Va.

My dear George:

It was indeed very thoughtful  
of you to write to me on the occasion of the  
bestowal upon me of an honorary degree by  
the Hebrew Union College. I am very grateful.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK





RABBI SAMUEL WOHL  
CINCINNATI, OHIO

May 28, 1941

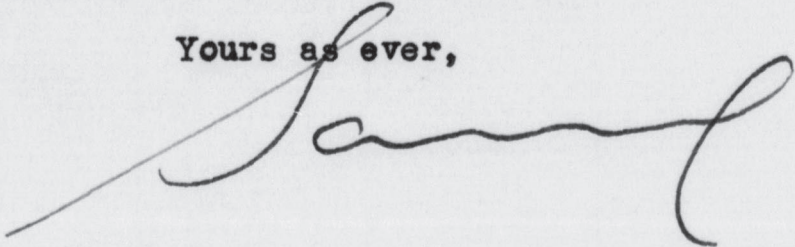
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
E. 105th Street & Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I was deprived of the opportunity to be present at the College last Saturday. I do not always see eye to eye with the authorities of the College who award degrees and distinctions, but the honor bestowed upon you gives me great joy and satisfaction.

I always look back to the days when you gave me so much of your friendship and your counsel, and any achievement and distinction that have been yours were not only richly deserved, but they have also given me much happiness.

Yours as ever,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Samuel', written over a faint background watermark of a menorah.

SW:AS



# *The* UNION of AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

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ROGER W. STRAUS  
*Co-Chairman*

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J. A. Seidman  
Max L. Seidman  
Arthur Seligman  
Hon. Meier Steinbrink  
Rabbi Dr. Nathan Stern  
Mrs. Sol M. Stroock  
Lewis L. Strauss  
Arthur Hays Sulzberger  
Samuel W. Tannenbaum  
Sol Tekulsky  
Harry N. Wessel  
Mrs. Leon Watters  
David H. M. Weynberg  
Rabbi Jonah B. Wise

ARTHUR MEYEROWITZ  
*Secretary*

## NEW YORK ADVISORY COMMITTEE

3 EAST 65TH STREET

NEW YORK

Telephone: REgent 4-1723

May 29, 1941

Rev. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
c/o The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I wish to extend to you my heartiest felicitations upon the great honor bestowed upon you by the Hebrew Union College, in awarding to you the degree of Doctor of Hebrew Letters Honoris Causa.

For once the College has honored itself by honoring you, and all your friends rejoice in the recognition which has come to you.

With cordial greetings,

Sincerely yours,

*Arthur Meyerowitz*  
Arthur Meyerowitz



# First Presbyterian Church

HOWARD MYERS WELLS, D. D.  
MINISTER

JULIA V. D. TOTTEN  
DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

16200 EUCLID AVENUE  
EAST CLEVELAND, OHIO

GLENVILLE 6292

RUTH E. COLBEY  
CHURCH SECRETARY

FRANK N. HARVEY  
TREASURER

May 31, 1941

Dear Rabbi Silver:-

Your Temple Bulletin calls to my attention the distinction honor that has just been conferred upon you by your own school the Hebrew Union College. Please accept my congratulations upon this occasion which, I am sure, is a matter of joy and satisfaction to the institution which bestowed it and to all the friends of him upon whom the honor is bestowed. I was touched by the closing words of the citation - "dreamer of the eternal dream and seer of its endless vision."

Sincerely yours

Howard M. Wells



**DR. WILLIAM RIGELHAUPT**

**3812 FRANKLIN AVE.**

**CLEVELAND, O. May 31. 1941. ~~1942~~**

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
E. 105th Str. at Ansel Rd.  
Cleveland, O.

My dear Rabbi!

May I extend Mrs. Rigelhaupt's  
and my own heartiest congratulations on the  
occasion of having had conferred upon you  
the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Hebrew Let-  
ters by your Alma Mater.

May a kind providence grant  
you good health to be able to continue as  
our leader in this critical time of our  
people.

Sincerely

*Wm. Rigelhaupt M.D.*



CHURCH OF THE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN

EUCLID AVENUE AT CORNELL ROAD  
CLEVELAND

2 June 1941

My very dear friend :-

Just a word of  
loving congratulations this morning. All  
know that come to far mean appear  
deal to the Church of the Covenant and  
they make me very happy!

Very affectionately,

Phineas S. B.



DR. JOSHUA LOTH LIEBMAN  
TEMPLE ISRAEL  
BOSTON, MASS.

STUDY OF THE RABBI  
LONGWOOD AVE. AT PLYMOUTH ST.

June  
Second  
1941

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

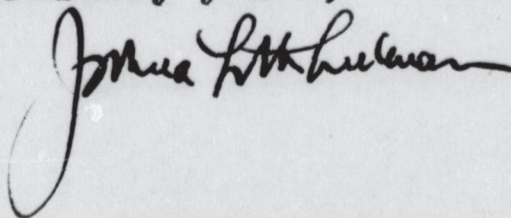
Dear Dr. Silver:

I have just read with pleasure of the honor which the Hebrew Union College conferred upon you last Saturday, and I want to add my word of felicitations to the many others that you have received from your colleagues in the Rabbinate. Our Alma Mater indeed honored itself in conferring the degree of Doctor of Hebrew Letters upon you, and I am certain that there is no graduate of our College in its entire history more deserving of this honor for magnificent Jewish leadership than yourself.

At the present time I am hard at work on my paper for the Conference on the subject "God and the World Crisis, Can We Still Believe in Providence?" This was indeed a challenging and difficult theme which was assigned to me, but I am finding the task of dealing with the implications of this problem a most interesting one.

Hoping to see you at Atlantic City and again with warmest congratulations, I remain -

Cordially yours,



JLL:brb



June 4, 1941

Mr. Arthur Meyerowitz  
3 East 65th St.  
New York, N.Y.

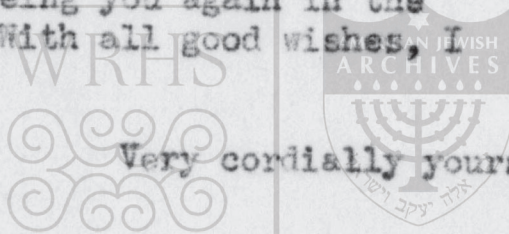
My dear Friend:

It was indeed very thoughtful of you to send me your kind note of felicitations on the occasion of the bestowal upon me of the Honorary Degree by the Hebrew Union College. I deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness.

I hope that I may have the pleasure of seeing you again in the near future. With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK





June 4, 1941

Rabbi Samuel Wohl  
Isaac M. Wise Temple  
Reading Rd. and Crescent Ave.  
Cincinnati, Ohio

My dear Sam:

It was indeed very thoughtful of you to write to me on the occasion of the bestowal of the Honorary Degree upon me by the Hebrew Union College. I do not know why it was bestowed upon me or what to do with it now that I have it. But it was nice getting it and it is nice to know that one's friends are happy about it.

With all good wishes and hoping to see you at the Rabbinical Convention, I remain

Most cordially yours



June 9, 1941

Dr. Howard Myers Wells  
First Presbyterian Church  
16200 Euclid Ave.  
East Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Friend:

It was indeed very thoughtful of you to write to me on the occasion of my receiving the honorary degree from my Alma Mater and I am very grateful to you. Now that I have the degree, I do not know what to do with it. But it was nice to receive it and even nicer still to know that so many of one's friends are happy about it.

With all good wishes and hoping that you will have a pleasant summer -- as pleasant as one can have in these sad times -- I remain

Very cordially,

AHS:BK



June 9, 1941

Dr. Joshua Loth Liebman  
Temple Israel  
Longwood Ave. at Plymouth St.  
Boston, Mass.

My dear Friend:

It was indeed thoughtful of you to write to me and I appreciate it profoundly. I do not know what I can do with the honorary degree now that I have it, but it was nice to receive it and even nicer to know that so many of one's friends are happy about it.

I hope to attend the Conference in Atlantic City and I shall look forward with eagerness to your Paper which I know will be thoughtful and helpful.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially,

AHS:BK