

#### 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.

Reel Folder Box 29 10 678

Hebrew Union College, Jewish Institute of Religion, 1946-1949.

Rabbi Edgar F. Magnin, D.D.
Wilshire Boulevard Temple
Wilshire Boulevard at Hobart
Los Angeles 5

December 20, 1946

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

Dear Abe:

The enclosed copy of a letter which I have sent to Lou Mann in self-explanatory. I am in earnest. This is the greatest honor that I think can be placed in the hands of any of our colleagues, and you are the logical man, in my estimation, to receive it.

Very best to you and Virginia.

As ever,

Edy

February 12, 1947 Dr. Edgar F. Magnin Wilshire Boulevard Temple "ilshire Boulevard at Hobart Los Angeles 5, California My dear Edgar: Your letter addressed to me on December 20th arrived while I was still abroad, and since my return I have been so busy that I have not had a chance to catch up with my correspondence. I feel deeply honored at the fact that you think that the presidency of the H.U.C. should be offered to me. Other colleagues have written to me in the same vein. I feel a deep satisfaction in the knowledge that alumni whose judgment I value most highly are paying me the compliment of thinking of me in connection with the presidency. Unfortunately, my dear Edgar, I am in no position to accept such a post. In the first place, I feel that the College ought to have at its head a person far less controversial than I am. In the second place, I stand so heavily committed to a measure of active Zionist leadership at this time, and for some time to come, that I cannot in justice to the cause which, as you know, is very dear to me, relieve myself of that responsibility at this critical time. I trust that you and your dear ones are well. I hope to be in your community sometime in April, if all goes well, and I shall look forward with pleasure to seeing you. "ith all good wishes, I remain As ever yours, AHS: BK

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### WESTERN<sup>12</sup> UNION

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Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

5-10-47

To Dr. Nelson Glueck

Care of or Apt. No. Hebrew Union College

Street and No. Cincinnati, Ohio

Place\_

AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

I SEND YOU MY HEARTIEST FELICITATIONS UPON YOUR ELECTION TO THE PRESIDENCY

OF THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE AND AN EXPRESSION OF A DEEP HOPE THAT YOU

WILL FIND GREAT HAPPINESS IN THE OFFICE TO WHICH YOU HAVE BEEN ELECTED AND
MY PROFOUND CONVICTION THAT YOU WILL MAKE OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CAUSE

OF ISRAEL AND ITS HISTORIC FAITH. PLEASE BE ASSURED OF OUR EAGERNESS TO

COOPERATION WITH YOU IN EVERY WAY.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

CLASS OF SERVICE

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# ESTER

**SYMBOLS** 

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JA738

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ANSEL RD CLEVE= (47) DR ABBA H SILVER=THE

> PRECEDING PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT BOARD OF GOVERNORS HAPPY TO INFORM YOU THAT UPON UNANIMOUS RECOMMENDATION OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE APPOINTED LAST JANUARY RABBI NELSON MORNING UNANIMOUSLY ELECTED PRESIDENT HEBREW UNION COLLEGE SUCCEEDING RABBI JULIAN MORGENSTERN. WE ASK THAT YOU INFORM CONGREGATION AND OFFER PRAYERS FOR COLLEGE AND NEW LEADER AT NEXT SERVICE

H B WEISS CHAIRMAN. (D& A73-DJ-9)

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# WESTERN' UNION

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ACCOUNTING INFORMATION

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Send the following telegram, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

5- 21 - 47

To Rabbi Alvin Fine

Care of or Apt. No. Hebrew Union College

Street and No. \_\_\_\_ Cincinnati, Ohio

Place\_

AMERICAN JEWISH

I REGRET MORE THAN I CAN SAY MY INABILITY TO ACCEPT YOUR GRACIOUS INVITATION

IT WOULD HAVE GIVEN ME GREAT PLEASURE INDEED TO ATTEND THE CELEBRATION IN

HONOR OF DR. MORGENSTERN AND TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM. I FIND? HOWEVER THAT

IT IS ALTOGETHER IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO BE AWAY FROM CLEVELAND OVER THAT WEEK END.

BECAUSE OF LONG SCHEDULED CONGREGATIONAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING THE GRADUATION OF

OUR HIGH SCHOOL AND ANNUAL MEETING OF OUR TEMPLE. I WILL GIVE MYSELF THE

PLEASURE OF SENDING A MESSAGE KINDEST REGARDS

Sender's name and address
(For reference only)

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

Sender's telephone number

THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE CINCINNATI, OHIO January 13,1948 OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple E. 105th St. and Ansel Rd. Cleveland. Ohio Dear Abba: How I envy your being in Eretz Yisroel. Pray God you arrived safely and are well settled. My fondest greetings to all our mutual friends -- to the Land itself. The reason for a note at this particular moment, Abba, is a source of regret. Some time after our telephone conversation when I accepted your kind invitation to occupy your pulpit on January 25th, Alvin Fine, my assistant, called attention to the fact that I had double-dated the day. We phoned Julius Nodel immediately and told him we would make every effort to shift the other engagement. It was impossible, however, and Julius was kind enough to extend the invitation to Alvin Fine. You know him, I am sure, and both of us may be confident that he will not disappoint the Congregation. I am really sorry that this happened. However, I hope that the fact that I filled in for you in Cincinnati several years ago will still be sufficient to redeem me in some measure. With warm personal regards and wishing well, I am, Sincerely Relson Nelson Glueck, President

THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE CLIFTON AVENUE, CINCINNATI 20, OHIO OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT March 31, 1948. Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, The Temple, E. 105th St. & Ansel Rd., Cleveland 6, Ohio. Dear Abba: I had great misgivings earlier in the year about having a formal inauguration. Now that it is over I can hardly describe the impression that it left upon me. I pray for strength and guidance in facing the tasks that lie ahead of the College in the years to come. All of us missed your presence but we understand fully the reasons that prevented you from being with us. This note is only to express my deep gratitude for your moving and inspiring message. It meant a great deal not only to me but to all who heard it read. With warm personal regards, I am Sincerely, Melson Nelson Glueck, President. NG/g

## THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE CLIFTON AVENUE, CINCINNATI 20, OHIO OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT June 14, 1948 Dear Alumnus:

I look forward with much anticipation to the pleasure of seeing you at the C.C.A.R. meeting in Kansas City shortly. Meanwhile, I want to take this opportunity to notify you of certain important appointments to our staff.

This has been a busy and we trust, a productive year. We have embarked upon a new era, undertaking many new activities. My Assistant, Rabbi Alvin I. Fine and our Director of Field Activities, Rabbi Robert L. Katz, have been a source of great strength as members of our staff.

Rabbi Katz is assuming increased responsibilities during the coming year, particularly in his supervision of the lay-student and pre-rabbinic program and the admission of students to the rabbinical department. As a member of the Faculty, Rabbi Katz will also teach.

With deepest reluctance, but convinced that the greater interest of the College and Reform Judaism would be better served, I consented to Rabbi Fine leaving the College to assume the leadership of Congregation Emanu El in San Francisco. He will continue to serve as my special assistant undertaking such missions on behalf of the College, as I might direct.

Rabbi Bertram W. Korn, who has been at the College during the past two years preparing for his doctorate, has been appointed as Assistant to the President. His notable work during the Inauguration was a superb demonstration of his fine executive talents. All the duties and responsibilities of the office of Assistant to the President, including pulpit placement, have now been turned over to Rabbi Korn. As Assistant Professor of American Jewish History, Rabbi Korn will continue to teach in that field.

Rabbi Abraham J. Klausner who has recently returned from Europe and who was awarded an honorary degree at the last ordination exercises, has accepted an important new position on our staff. He will take complete charge in heading up the over-all College program of community relations and fund-raising.

I know that you share with me the feeling of confidence in having this group of capable young men carry forward the great work of our Alma Mater.

With cordial greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,

Welson Gluck

NG: JA

1292

Mecus FROM

#### THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE

CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

HUC-JIR Merger Please use art in your files. For release on Thursday, June 24, 1948

Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion Now the Sole Reform Seminary in the United States; Dr. Nelson Glueck Heads Consolidated Institution

> Dr. Nelson Glueck Dr. Stephen S. Wise Lester A. Jaffe Judge Joseph M. Levine Dr. Julian Morgenstern

CINCINNATI, OHIO, June 24.---The Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion now is the only Reform Jewish Seminary in America.

Dr. Nelson Glueck, of Cincinnati, who was inaugurated this past March as the fourth president of HUC, is the president of the consolidated institution, formed by the merger of the College and the Institute.

Announcement of the merger has just been made simultaneously by the two seminaries and the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

HUC, founded in 1875, is the oldest Jewish seminary in America. Dr. Julian Morgenstern, president emeritus of HUC, and Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the JIR since its establishment in 1922, become president emeriti of the HUC-JIR.

Dr. Glueck will head the new institution both in Cincinnati and in New York City.

Lester A. Jaffe, Cincinnati, is chairman, and Frank L. Weil, New York City, is vice-chairman, of the HUC Board of Governors.

Judge Joseph M. Levine, New York City, is chairman, and Israel N. Thurman, New York City, is vice-chairman, of the JIR Board of Trustees.

Dr. Maurice N. Eisendrath and Jacob S. Aronson are president and Executive Board chairman, respectively, of the UAHC.

The two boards recently approved the following statement of purposes:

"The Hebrew Union College and the Jewish Institute of Religion resolve to unite for the strengthening and advancement of Judaism in America and throughout the world. The right to serve the Jewish People in its entirety (K'lal Yisroel), with freedom for faculty and students alike, is axiomatic.

"This united institution will continue to maintain schools in Cincinnati and New York, with Nelson Glueck as President and Stephen S. Wise and Julian Morgenstern as Presidents Emeriti. Upon this union we invoke the blessing of God."

Formal ratification of the consolidation will proceed in accordance with the legal necessities arising out of the fact that the two institutions are chartered in two different states.

Dr. Glueck, upon assuming his new office, issued the following statement:

"This great event creates unity in the ranks of Liberal Judaism in America through the medium of this greatly enlarged and strengthened Seminary.

"The ideals of the great founder of the Hebrew Union College, Rev. Dr. Isaac M. Wise, who had the vision to see that religious leaders for America must be produced by American institutions, are heartily seconded by Dr. Stephen S. Wise, the retiring President, and by the Board of the Jewish Institute of Religion.

"American democracy was firmly knitted by the mortar of Biblical inspiration and it is for the strengthening of both Judaism and American democracy that our greatest religious efforts will be expended. The teachings of Judaism will be wedded to the best of modern science and technique in the training of Rabbis for American Judaism by this new enlarged institution.

"The new Department of Human Relations, will attempt to help bring about, as one of its functions, the harmonization of religion and psychiatry. The new Department of Graduate Christian Ministers will give representatives of our sister religions first-hand knowledge of liberal American Judaism, and also enable neophyte rabbis and neophyte Christian ministers to get to know and appreciate each other personally.

"The new Department for Graduate Jewish Studies will raise up teachers of teachers so that the dried up sources of European scholarship, so cruelly destroyed within the last decade, may be replenished within this great land of freedom.

"I pray that God may give me strength to face the tasks that lie ahead and wisdom to steer this great Institution so that it may bring blessing to our faith, to America, and to the world." CLASS OF SERVICE

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### WESTERN UNION 12)

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DR ABBA H SILVER=

THE TEMPLE CLEVE=

APPLICATION FALK FOUNDATION 250,000 DOLLARS CONSIDERED FAVORABLE BOARD MEMBERS EXCEPTION LEON FALK JR. YOUR INTERVENTION SOLICITED IMMEASURABLE GRATITUDE FOR EFFORT.

GOOD WISHES=

NELSON GLUECK=

250.000=

July 7, 1948 Dr. Nelson Glueck, President Hebrew Union College Cincinnati, Ohio My dear Nelson: I had a talk with Mr. Falk in Pittsburgh yesterday. It was a very satisfactory talk, and I believe that good will result from it. I explained to Mr. Falk all about the College, the merger, the need for the Endowment Fund, the contemplated activities of the College, etc., etc. Mr. Falk was very much interested and gave no indication whatsoever of any negative attitude either to the College or to the request that the Falk Foundation make a contribution to the Endowment Fund. He stated that they were re-studying the scope of the Falk Foundation which heretofore had been devoting its funds almost exclusively to economic purposes. He felt that they would agree that the Foundation should enlarge its scope. They would make their decision before very long, and he was confident that the Hebrew Union College Endowment Fund would come in for a generous contribution, should the Eoundation decide to widen its scope. Mr. Falk spoke of the great interest of Mr. Strassburger and Mr. Jacobs in the College and the Endowment Fund. He himself seemed to be quite well informed about the entire subject. To told him that you would keep in touch with him, and he indicated that he would be very pleased to have the contact continued. With all good wishes, I remain Most cordially yours. ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS: er

#### THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE

CLIFTON AVENUE, CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

July 13, 1948

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Abba H. Silver The Temple E. 105th at Ansel Rd. Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Alumnus:

I write this note immediately upon my return from the meeting of the Central Conference in Kansas City, only to record the feeling of joy that I brought away with me from the Alumni Meeting on Saturday evening at the conclusion of the Conference. I hope that everyone who was there, felt as I did, the deep sense of gratification in participating in the first historic meeting of our united Alumni. The spirit of comradeship, mutual confidence and united devotion to the up-building of our merged institutions engendered at this Alumni meeting, brings us real encouragement and inspiration as we set our hands to the work that will be necessary in the months immediately ahead of us.

A short time ago, we mailed a copy of the Press Release announcing the merger. It contains the Statement of Principle and other general information. Now, Boruch Ha'Shem, we are united. The detailed tasks of implementing and consummating the merger are already under way. Not everything will be achieved overnight. However, with God's guidance and spurred on by our conviction that this joining of our two institutions is destined to be an inexhaustible source of blessing for ourselves and the whole house of Israel, we shall proceed humbly, faithfully and wisely with the constructive settlement of our mutual affairs.

In the very near future, joint committees of the Boards and Faculties will begin their work. We shall keep you informed of our progress and developments. We know that we can count on our loyal Alumni for the moral, spiritual and material resources out of which we shall build an institution worthy of the greatness of our past and equal to the challenge of the future.

With warm personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Nelson Glueck, President

Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion

THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE

CLIFTON AVENUE, CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

July 14, 1948

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, The Temple, E. 105th St. at Ansel Rd., Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Abbas

1292

I am very happy indeed to learn about the results of your talk with Mr. Falk in Pittsburgh the other day. I am sure that it will do us a great deal of good. To the degree that you, and others like you, help build up the Endowment Fund for the College, the crushing burden that has been imposed upon me will be lightened so that I can devote myself more and more to what I ought to be doing, namely, to the College and its work, its faculty and students.

It is good to read that Mr. Falk felt that he was confident that the Hebrew Union College Endowment Fund would come in for a generous contribution, should the Falk Foundation decide to widen its scope.

What are the prospects of getting another capital gift from the Beaumont Foundation?

With many thanks and with all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Nelson Glueck, President

Nelson

#### THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE

CLIFTON AVENUE, CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

August 16, 1948

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple E. 105th and Ansel Road Cleveland, Chio

Dear Abba:

For a long time I have been eager for you to come to Cincinnati and give our students an opportunity to be close to you.

I wonder if your calendar is free enough, sometime in April or early May, after Passover, to warrant your coming here for a week during which you would follow your own desires in regard to speaking to the students, faculty and the Cincinnati community. We would like you to live in our guest suite at the dormitory. This would give you an opportunity to live and eat with the students, to speak to them, formally or informally, as you should desire, and to the Cincinnati community, if you would wish so to do. Such a visit from you would be of much inspiration to the students and the faculty and I personally, would be delighted to cement the warm personal relations which already exist between us, in a more formal fashion.

I shall leave the selection of the exact dates up to you, together with other details about your visit. My Executive Assistant, Rabbi Bertram W. Korn, will be happy to arrange one or two public lectures at the College should you desire to have such evenings arranged, and to schedule scholarly lectures to the students if that should be your preference, - I want you to do the deciding.

I know that your visit to Israel must be one of deep inspiration and I must say that I am more than a little envious. I am sending this letter in the hope that it might be forwarded to you or that you might see it immediatly after your return.

With warm personal regards and best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Nelson Glueck, President

August 17, 1948 Dr. Nelson Glueck, President The Hebrew Union College Clifton Avenue Cincinnati 20, Ohio My dear Dr. Glueck: Rabbi Silver will be leaving Israel in about two weeks, and I am, therefore, not forwarding your letter of August 16th. However, you may be assured that it will be brought to his attention immediately upon his return early in September. Sincerely yours, Secretary to Rabbi Silver er

September 13, 1948 Dr. Nelson Glueck, President The Hebrew Union College Clifton Avenue Cincinnati 20, Ohio My dear Nelson: Upon my return from Israel I found your kind letter of August 16th. I appreciate very much your invitation to come to the College in April or May and spend a week on the campus with the students and faculty. Nothing would give me greater pleasure than such an opportunity to spend a week in the pleasant surroundings of the College and with the men who are teaching and learning there. Unfortunately, I am as yet not free from the commitments which I have undertaken in connection with Israel, and it is quite impossible for me to set aside a week for the purpose of such a visit to the College. My time is really not my own, and I am not master of my own schedule. Until there is peace in Israel and our political position is secure in the U.N. and in Washington, I am at the beck and call of the Movement in my capacity as Chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency and of the American Zionist Emergency Council. I have had to forego many invitations which normally I should have been delighted to accept. I am sure that you will understand. Please keep me in mind for some future time. With all good wishes for a very happy and successful New Year, I remain Most cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er

THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE CLIFTON AVENUE, CINCINNATI 20, OHIO September 16, 1948 OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, The Temple E. 105th Street at Ansel Rd., Cleveland, Ohio Dear Abba: It was a profound disappointment to learn that you will be so busy this year that you cannot commit yourself to spend a week here at the College. We really had counted on your being our guest and bringing some of your forcefulness and insight and learning into the lives of our students. I will take "no" for an answer for the time being but hope that an arrangement of this nature can be made sometime in the not too distant future. With all good wishes from Helen and myself for a rewarding New Year, I am as ever, Sincerely yours, Helson Nelson Glueck, President sd

### THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE ... CINCINNATI JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION ... NEW YORK

Office of the President:

CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

November 4, 1948

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple E. 105th and Ansel Rd. Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Abba:

1819

I need your help.

I know well that your time is not your own. Until a definite and favorable decision is reached on the boundaries and de jure recognition of the State of Israel, your work must continue. You have accomplished much and will, I am certain, bring this, actually your life's work, to fruition. Its demands must necessarily consume much or most of your time and energy. Nevertheless, I must turn to you for assistance.

If I were not burdened with the necessity of raising funds, I could devote myself completely to the task of building a great liberal Jewish institute.

I am determined to raise sufficient funds in the next three years so that I shall be able as soon as possible to devote myself solely to those matters you so well gave expression to at the last Conference in Kansas City.

We have set aside eight cities for Foundation Fund efforts this year. We must succeed in one of them. This success would inspire those who work here at the College and the men in the field. Los Angeles is the first of these communities. Mr. David Tannenbaum has accepted the chairmanship and is most anxious to do a good job for the College. I have promised them that the College would do everything in its power to cooperate with the Los Angeles leadership in its attempt to raise its share of the Foundation Fund objective.

The Los Angeles community is extremely anxious to have you come to them some time in December to speak in behalf of the College Foundation Fund. Mr. Fred Lazarus, Jr. is flying out there this month for the same purpose, to spend several days there in behalf of the College effort. An attempt is to be made to have the most important meeting in December in connection with your hoped for coming.

A campaign to raise \$610,000 for the College, plus \$90,000 for the Joint UAHC-HUC Maintenance Fund is being launched this month.

I should like to add my own personal request that you make time to fly out to Los Angeles for one meeting. The College and our cause must secure the funds. We can't wait. And I can't carry on alone.

I hope you can make it.

Sincerely,

Nelson Glueck, President

WRHS 0990 0660

November 5, 1948 Dr. Nelson Glueck, President Hebrew Union College Clifton Avenue Cincinnati 20, Ohio My dear Nelson: Acknowledging your kind letter of November Lth, I should like to be helpful but I cannot go to Los Angeles. It would take too much time out of my very crowded schedule. I have declined invitations from Los Angeles in the last three or four years for the U.J.A. and other important causes for the same reason. You say that you have set aside eight cities for foundation fund efforts this year. Please give me one nearer to home and I shall do my best to go there. With all good wishes, I remain Most cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er

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JOSEPH L. EGAN PRESIDENT 1201

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:DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE EAST 105 AND ANS EL RD CLEVE

DIFFICULTIES IN ACCEPTONG LOS ANGELES INVITATION. MUST ASK YOU TO RECONSIDER. YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS IS IMPERATIVE. SPELLS DIFFERENT BETWEEN SUCCESS AND FAILURE. LOSANGELIS FIRST REAL UNDERTAKING. SEVEN OTHER CITIES AWAITING LOSANGELIS RESULTS. DATE WILL BE SET AT YOUR CONVENIENCE. WARM GREETINGS=

NELSON GLUECK ...

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

### THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE... CINCINNATI JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION... NEW YORK

1819

Office of the President:

CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

December 16, 1948

Dr. Abba H. Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. & Ansel Rd.
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Abba:

Ferd Isserman has just turned over to us a very sizeable contribution to be earmarked for Dr. Baeck. I know that you were among those who were gracious enough to cooperate in this effort and I want you to have my most sincere personal thanks for your interest.

Dr. Baeck has already been here for over a month. The students are very extravagant in their praise of his course and of the material which he has presented. Needless to say, it is also wonderful to have him living in our midst. He loves our campus and goes out for a long walk in Burnet Woods and spends several hours every day in our Library working on his forthcoming book. It is something in the way of a reward, I think, for all of the years of suffering which he spent in Germany.

With kindest personal regards and renewed thanks, I am

Sincerely yours,

Nelson

Nelson Glueck, President

#### THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE ... CINCINNATI JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION ... NEW YORK

CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

December 29, 1948

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple E. 105th and Ansel Road Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

1819

The Hebrew Union College, established in 1875, will celebrate the seventy-fifth anniversary of its founding during the academic year 1949-50. We plan to commemorate this occasion by the publication of three volumes of scientific studies in the various disciplines which are related in some way to our own broad field of research and instruction.

We extend to you our very cordial invitation to contribute to this projected work an article in your special field of research. Through the publication of your study and the studies of other eminent scholars throughout the world, it is hoped that a worthy contribution may be made to Jewish and cognate science.

Articles should approximate fifteen to twenty pages (circa 7,500 words). They should, by all means, be in the hands of the Editorial Committee not later than January 1, 1950, in order that the entire work may be published by May 1, 1950. Each contributor will receive seventyfive offprints of his article.

It would be very helpful if we could have your response to this invitation by February 14, 1949, and with it, if possible, the title of your study as you would phrase it.

With every assurance of our high esteem, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Julian Morgenstern, Chairman

75th Anniversary Commemorative Publication Committee

# Temple logs now in the Robbinsh

Rabbi Leo A. Bergman

11.

Rabbi Adolph J. Feinberg

Rabbi Leon I. Feuer

Rabbi Maurice Feuer

Rabbi Floyd S. Fierman

Rabbi Morton C. Fierman

Rabbi Irving I. Hausman

Rabbi Philip W. Jaffa

Rabbi Nathan Kaber

Rabbi Jay Kaufman

Rabbi Herschel Lymon

Rabbi Sanford E. Rosen

Rabbi Richard E. Singer

Rabbi Samuel Wohl

Touro Synagogue

Temple Beth El

Con. Shomer Emunim

Cong. Ohev Sholom

Rodef Sholom

Temple Israel

Cong. B'nai Israel

Temple Beth Israel

Hillel Foundation

Beth El Cong.

Temple Israel

Isaac M. Wise Temple

New Orleans 15, La.

Hammond, Indiana

Toledo, Ohio

Goldsboro, N.C.

Pittsburgh 13, Pa.

Tulsa, Okla.

Sacramento, Calif.

Phoenix, Arizona

Altoona, Pa.

Philadelphia, Pa.

Ann Arbor, Mich.

Bakersfield, Cal.

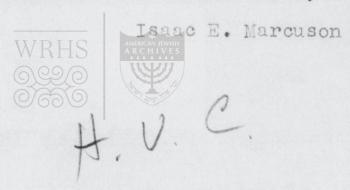
PALM BEACH. FLA Minneapolis 5, Minn.

Cincinnati, Ohio

AT COLLEGE

3/

GEORGE RICHARD HIRSCH NORMAN HAROLD WEINSTEIN ROBERT J MARX Please condense and return promptly.



DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER: I rise, Mr. Chairman, to make one observation to reinforce something that Dr. Glueck has told us this morning.

I am concerned, as I believe all of us are, in ensuring that this institution which has now been calarged through the merger of two rabbinical seminaries shall be a great rabbinical school for the training of rabbis and for the maintenance of an eminent faculty for the encouragement of Jewish scholarship.

I know that the tendency in recent years has been toward ramification and the establishment of many new related and affiliated departments, all of them, I am sure, very important. This trend, however, carries with it the danger of reducing the training of rabbis and the cultivation of Jewish scholarship to just another department in a very extensive program of activities.

I am not inclined to regard this trend without a large measure of apprehension. To me the most important thing in the Hebrew Union College and the Jewish Institute of Religion, now marged into one, is the training of rabbis and the encouragement of Jewish scholarship. Whatever else is developed can only be peripheral. This must always remain central. This is paramount.

I am sure that Dr. Glueck, knowing, as we do, his background and his dominant interests, will, in developing his program, lay the "dagyash chasak" upon the training of rabbis and upon the encouragement of Jewish scholarship.

This brings me to this second thought. If the training of rabbis and Jewish scholarship is the most important thing confronting the institution, it is of utmost importance that the students at the college should have the benefit of closest contact with the head of the institution.

Dr. Glueck was chosen as President of the college, not because he is a super-salesman, a successful campaigner and collector of funds. He was chosen, and it has been a gratifying choice, abelaimed by all Jews, because of

his scholarship, because of his spiritual personality, because of the inspiration which he can give to young men who go to the college to be trained as rabbis.

He cannot give that which we want him to give to the students in absentia, when he is away traveling on the Pacific Coast or in Boston or Cleveland to raise money for the college. The youth of the college will miss the all-important personal influence and stimulation which Nelson Glueck can give them.

I for one am personally concerned abut this problem. I want my son, who, I am happy to say, will go to college next year, to come to know Nelson Glueck, and to have the advantage of Nelson Glueck's influence upon him.

This leads me, therefore, to the further conclusion that in order to make it possible for Dr. Glueck to do what we want him to do, we must relieve him of the responsibility, and it is a grave responsibility, of providing the college with the fimancial wherewithal to carry on its work.

Now, et chata-ai ani maskir hayom -- I am perhaps one of those who has devoted too much of his time in recent years to other duties than his rabbinical duties. I have not been able to give as much time as I should have wished either to my own congregation, my own community, or to the college or to the Union. But, thank God, an act in which you and I have been involved, which has made such colossal demands upon our time and energy is quickly reaching a point of consummation. We will, therefore, be freed of this urgent demand to devote so much of our time to this cause. Now that the important task which had to be done, which in a sense had a priority claim on us because of its emergency character, is nearing accomplishment, not only in the establishment of the State of Israel, but also in the solution of the problem of our refugees, we should be able to reorient ourselves in the direction of our own profession. We all ought to begin to make Judaism and the fountain hear of our





Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver: I really haven't much to say to you. Not having very much to say to you, I sort of decided to keep quiet this evening.

I have just come from another convention....(Laughter).... I did do some praying there -- they needed it. ...(Laughter)... But not nearly as much as the Democrats will need it in 1948.

I was very happy that at the Convention of the Republican Party they included a plank on Israek which is altogether satisfactory, but it is important to bear in mind that the inclusion of that plank, with which I am sure you are all familiar, was not achieved without a considerable struggle, which indicates that there is still a great deal of work to be done in defending what has been achieved.

The same forces which have opposed us right through the years were active in Philadelphia, to make sure that the Republican Party -- and I am sure that they will do the same at the forthcoming convention of the Democratic Party -- does not whokheartedly endorse what has been accomplished does not ask for a continued support and strengthening of the State of Israel.

The plank called for the de jure recognition of Israel. As you know, our Government up to now has only given the State de facto recognition, and it asks for recognition of the State of Israel within the territorial boundaries as defined in the November 29th decision. This is very important for us because, as I will indicate in a moment, the next struggle is to see that those borders are safeguarded for the State of Israel.

It also calls for economic support for the new State.

Now in the plank which was adopted in the sub-committee, all these three essential items had been stricken out and it was only after the issue was brought to the full Platform Committee, and our friends had an opportunity to champion the full program that we succeeded in getting the desirable plank approved, and it was unanimously approved.

In this connection I must record the rather saddening experience that the only one who appeared before the subcommittee to urge the committee not to include any plank on Israel in the platform was a rabbi and a member of the American Council for Judaism.

In a way this last year has been a very gratifying one for us. There are certain periods in history which are seedtime and others which are what you might call harvest time periods. This last year for our people has been an amazing harvest time. During this last year we have been able to garner what we had sowed. We were able to replanish our souls a bit which had been drained and sapped through all these weary years. There were three or four satisfying things which happened in which you had a hand. I wish to pay tribute, Mr. Chairman, to the members of this Conference, many of whom rendered signal and historic service in achieving what has been achieved.

November the 29th was a day of vindication forour people. It was the first time in many centuries that the nations of the world proclaimed the right of the Jewish people to be re-established as a sovereign, independent nation in Palestine.

What to me was even more gratifying was the fact that when a few months later it appeared that the Security Council was not prepared to carry out the clear purposes of that resolution which had been adopted in November, and when the date for the termination of the mandate, May 15th, was approaching, the Jewish people of Palestine took, as it were, their destiny in their own hands and proclaimed on their own authority and on the authority of their own history and their own responsibility, the formal establishment of the State of Israel.

That was not an act of desperation on the part of irresponsible people.

It was a very deliberate act on the part of people who were fully aware of all
the consequences. The consequences soon flowed from that act in terms of struggle
and war. It was an act which, in my judgment, flowed from a sense of deep strength.

from a confidence in the inner soundness and capacity of the people.

After all these terrible years of the Second World War, the destruction of so many Jewish communities, the extermination of so many millions of our people, the ravaging of Jewish life, a part of Israel, a section of our people was nevertheless able to take this decision which meant in a sense a challenge to the world. This revealed an amazing spiritual strength within our people upon which I believe we can hopefully build in the years to come.

This strength was soon made manifest concretely in the capacity of that relatively small community to face five armies who sought to invade its territory. It stopped them at the borders. They were beaten back. The growing unity which was manifest in American life during recent years, to which Dr. Bernstein referred, also belongs to what you might call this harvest time.

However, our work is far from being done. Israel at the moment is enjoying a truce, but only a troubled truce. This truce might terminate at any moment in renewed conflict. The British Government and Mr. Bevin, while they may have reconciled themselves under the pressure of the action which was taken by the American Government in recognizing the State of Israel, to a fait accompli, to the fact that such a state actually exists and you cannot do anything about it any more, have not at all accepted the fact that this State of Israel should be permitted to retain those areas which the settlement of November 29th envisaged. From all indications, a determined effort is being made under the threat of renewed hostilities to force the State of Israel to surrender what amounts practically to one-half of its territory.

It is not yet clear what other concessions may be demanded of the State of Israel as the price for peace. It was originally suggested that Abdullah, who in this matter as in many other matters, is the agency of the British Foreign Office, should also become the King of Jerusalem. The British Foreign Office will undoubtedly receive the support of those of our enemies in

Washington who have never reconciled themselves to the establishment of the State of Israel - and they are powerful enemies. The head of the Near Rabtern Division in Washington today is still Mr. Loy Henderson, and he is a most relentless and determined and able foe. The oil lobby has been and still is actively at work in Washington. The Protestant missionary groups which have their cultural centers in the Near East have been and are today amont the most determined opponents of ours in Washington. It may well be that Mr. Bewn will succeed in having his point of view accepted by these groups and by the State Department, and an effort will be made through the combined pressure of Great Britain and the United States, to bring about a dismemberment of the State of Israel.

on. It is against this danger that we must be on the alert from now

Fortunately for us this is a year in which both political parties are very sensitive to the epinion of the electorate, so that there are good prospects that these conspiracies will not succeed.

Apart from this political action which must go on from day to day, there is, of course, the urgent need for financial support of the very costly effort on the part of the State of Israel to defend itself. It runs up to many millions of dollars monthly, and the principal source from which this support can come is the Jews in the United States.

are responding generously, and that they are matching their hour. One of the most inspiring things about this entire matter has been the responsiveness of American Jewry. I have never known American Jewry to be so alert, so eager, so concerned, so ready to give of its substance and support as it has at this time.

We have a magnificent Jewish community in this country with which to work, and if we can capitalize, as Dr. Bernstein indicated in his address, upon this goodness, this soundness, this spiritual awakening, this growing unity on the part of our people, in the years to come for other things, for the spiritual development of our people in this country, for the support of our great religious and cultural institutions in this country, we may look forward to a magnificent era in American Jewish life.

I want to say one word in conclusion as regards other things which we might do for Israel. I am thinking of the City of Jerusalem. Jerusalem will probably not be included in the State of Israel. What its future disposition will be, no one knows at this moment. The UNSCOP report, as you know, contemplated Jerusalem and its immediate environment as a sort of corpus separatum, an independent political unit, internationalized under the U.N.

We may assume that some international arrangement will ultimately be made for that city. But Jerusalem must remain a Jewish City, not only because its population is composed of a majority of Jews, but because Jerusalem occupies and has always occupied a unique position in Jewish life and the Jewish religion.

There was always Palestine, but there was also always Jerusalem, just as in the Arab world there was Arabia and there was Mecca. Jerusalem was comething in and by itself. With the establishment of Israel most of the political departments of government will be moved from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv. or to whatever other city in Israel will become the capital of the new country. There may set in a decline in the population of the City of Jerusalem, and a corresponding drop in its importance for us. Against that we ought to guard ourselves.

I am thinking of Jerusalem as a sort of spiritual and cultural center of world Jewry. The beginnings are already there. We have a great University there and many schools. We ought to begin thinking in terms of expanding them and their activities so that Jerusalem will become for world Jewry in generations to come a real powerhouse of spiritual and cultural influence.

It may be that organizations such as ours may in the years to come undertake activities which will help Israel, but also make Jerusalem the "ihr al tillah" in Jewish life.

Well, Mr. Chairman, I am afraid I have rambled long enough. I feel with Dr. Bernstein that the establishment of the Jewish State marks the end of an epoch and the beginning of a new one in Jewish history. I should like to make this observation by way of caution, and I hope that I will not be misunderestood. A tendency might develop to think of Israel as of an accomplished fact. There is the State, intended for the citizens who live there, and here are we and the rest of the Jews of the world. This, I am afraid, was never completely the philosophy of "Shivat Zion" and of Zionism. The challenge of Zionist was not only to the other man but to ourselves as well.

In Zionism there was always the concept of the "Kibbuts Galluyot" is, and the in-gathering of the exiles. The greater the "Kibbuts Galluyot" is, and the more Jews that go there, the more fully and completely is the idea of Zionism realized. Frankly, I am thinking of Israel maximally and not minimally. There is a danger of reducing the concept of the State of Israel to the 600 or 700,000 Jews who now live there and the few hundred thousand refugees who may want to go there.

I am thinking of a great Jewish Nation developing in Israel. My reading of Jewish history leads me to believe that world Jewry during the coming decades and generations of struggle before the world finally finds its economic equilibrium, willundergo many tribulations, that these will not be limited to Jews in any one area of the globe, and that therefore we ought to be thinking of Israel not as a little country intended for those are there now

and for the Jews presently displaced, but as an Israel intended for the Jewish people who may yet have to go there, or may wish to go there from many parts of the world, including this part of the world, to build there for themselves a great and secure Jewish Commonwealth.



### THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE... CINCINNATI JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION... NEW YORK

1819

CLIFTON AVENUE · CINCINNATI 20, OHIO

April 6, 1949

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, The Temple, E.105th Street at Ansel Rd. Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Abba:

I have yours of the 1st inst., and understand with complete sympathy the situation in which you find yourself at present which makes it impossible for you to determine at the present moment whether you will be in a position to contribute an article of scientific character to the three volumes of studies with which we plan to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Hebrew Union College. I am sure that the committee, recognizing the cogency of your statement will consent to wait a reasonable time, let us say until this Fall, for you to determine whether you will be able to send us the article which we have invited.

Meanwhile, we will hold the space open for you. Should you be in a position next Fall to determine that you will be able to contribute a study, this space will be waiting for you. Should you then inform us that circumstances will not permit you to prepare this study, we will then dispose of this space in some other way.

While I amwriting to you let me express my sincere regret that I did not have the chance to see more of you and Virginia when you were here ten days ago for Danny's birthday. I know that it was a happy occasion for all of you. From what I hear from his teachers, Danny is proving to be a very satisfactory and promising student. We are happy to have him here with us.

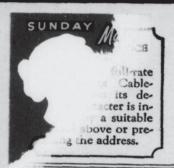
With cordial greetings and all good wishes, I am

DR. JACOB R. MARCUS

Sincerely yours,
75th Anniversary Committee Publication Committee

DR. JULIAN MORGENSTERN, Chairman

Dr. Sheldon H. Blank Rabbi Hillel A. Fine Dr. Alexander Guttmann Dr. Julius Lewy Di Dr. Isaiah Sonne Dr. Nelson Glueck, ex-officio Rabbi Bertram W. Korn, Secretary



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:DR ABBA H SILVER

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May 5, 1949

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Acting President, HUC Alumni

Dear Friend:

The arrangements for the 1949 Rabbinical Summer Institute of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion are nearing completion. I write for the purpose of urging you to reserve the dates, June 13-21 inclusive. The Rabbinical Institute will be held at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York, 40 West 68th Street.

The tentative program for the Summer Institute is as follows:

- 1. "Midrashic Texts for Our Times" Prof. Israel Bettan 5 hours
- 2. "Central Points in Hasidic Doctrine" Prof. Gershom G. Scholem of the Hebrew University 2 hours
- 3. "First Proselytization Movement in Judaism, Its Antecedents, Implications and Effects" - Dr. Julian Morgenstern - 2 hours
- 4. "The Foreshadowing of Israel's Rebirth" (in Modern Hebrew Literature) Prof. Simon Halkin 2 hours
- 5. "Late Rabbinic Texts for Our Times" Dr. Nahum Glatzer 2 hours

We will have a series of informal "Tru-kosher" Sandwich Luncheons, which will precede Addresses and Lectures by: Rabbi Barnett Brickner, "The Future of Judaism in America"; John Slawson, Executive Director of the American Jewish Committee, "A Report from Israel"; Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the World Jewish Congress and Chairman of the American Section of the Jewish Agency, "The Outlook for European Jewry"; Prof. Salo W. Baron of Columbia University and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Institute, "The Historical Meaning of the Third Jewish Commonwealth"; Major Aubrey S. Eban, Israeli Representative to the United Nations, "Israel and the United Nations"; Arthur Garfield Hayes, General Counsel of the Civil Liberties Union, "The Future of Civil Liberties in America"; Dr. Isador Lubin, internationally known Economist, "World Peace and America's Responsibility toward the Undeveloped Nations".

. . . . . Page 2 . . . . May I add that you will have an opportunity to sit in on sessions of the Summer Institute on Jewish Liturgical Music, which will be conducted June 12 - 14, under the auspices of the Hebrew Union Schools of Education and Sacred Music and the Society for the Advancement of Jewish Liturgical Music. The Registration Fee for the Rabbinical Institute is \$5.00. The luncheons will cost \$1.00 each. If you will be good enough to send us a total of \$12.00, you will be assured of a place at all classes and luncheon sessions. I hope you will like our tentative program, and that we may look forward to seeing you at the Rabbinical Summer Institute. Very sincerely yours, Abram W Francison Abram M. Granison AMG:mfg

#### HEBREW UNION COLLEGE

CLIFTON AVENUE



MORDECAI PODET

Editor

LOUIS FRISHMAN

Managing Editor

1866

June 8, 1949

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

Inadvertantly I learned from Bernard Martin, who visited with you recently, of your displeasure at the appearance of an article by a meshumod in the Quarterly. My intent in publishing that article was to present to our rabbireaders a case-study, as it were, of a meshumod whose Jewish and educational background were comparable to those of members of their congregations, thereby making possible the gaining of certain insights into the problems of such people as well as into the shortcomings of Jewish religious experience as now prevalent. I imagined that the literary and professional training of the writer would assure an honest, candid, critical and enlightening presentation. In retrospect, sadder but wiser, I agree with you altogether; the article should not have appeared.

Being convinced that the time is ripe for the appearance of a journal dedicated specifically to rabbinic interests, and that the Quarterly can develop into such a journal, I am encouraged to make this request of you despite your time-consuming committments to vastly nobler purposes than this: Would you, in the future, give me the benefit of any advice or criticism toward the improvement of the Quarterly as a journal of rabbinic interests? Your help would be deeply appreciated, and while, patently, there is little the gnat can do for the lion in return for favors granted, I would at least assure you of my earnest gratitude.

With regards and very best wishes for your continued brilliant service to God and man, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Mordecai Podet

June 15, 1949 Mr. Mordecai Podet, Editor Hebrew Union College Quarterly Clifton Avenue Cincinnati 20, Ohio My dear Mr. Podet: Permit me to thank you for your letter of June 8th. It is not merely that I was displeased with an article by a "meshumod" in the Quarterly. I do not believe that it is in any way helpful to present an apologetics for "shmad" in a magazine of a Jewish theological school or to stimulate a discussion of it. I do not know that I can give you any advice in the editing of the Quarterly. I founded the Hebrew Union College Quarterly many years ago with the idea of creating a medium of expression for the student body of the H.U.C. While not excluding an article from time to time by an alumnus of the College, a member of the faculty or of someone else, primarily the magazine was devoted to the work and to the thinking of the student body itself. I think there is still need for such a publication. Not alone the students, but the alumni of the College and others would be interested in abstracts of theses written by members of the senior class or of prize essays, the best sermons of the year preached by the students, reports of seminars, lectures, etc. by prominent men who visit the College from time to time, Jewish book reviews as well as original essays, stories, poems, etc. by the students; something also about life on the Colle ge campus. I am sure that a wide-awake student editorial board could make such a publication very attractive. I wish you every success. Most cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er

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HENRY W. LEVY Publicity Director 3 EAST 65TH ST., NEW YORK 21, N. Y. **REGENT 7-7800** 



UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

#### HEBREW UNION COLLEGE \* JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION

June 16, 1949

Miss Elizabeth Rice Secretary to Dr. Abba Hillel Silver Congregation Tifereth Israel E. 105th St. and Ansel Rd. Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Liz:

Thought you'd like to have for your files a proof of the mat we sent out the other day to the Anglo-Jewish papers throughout the country.

It was nice meeting you during my stay in Cleveland, and I hope that we will be able to do a repeat job soon again.

Sincerely yours,

Henry W. Levy Publicity Director

\$1,829,000 is needed in 1948-

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3 East 65th Street
New York City

## AMERICAN JEWRY MUST SUPPORT "PERMANENT AND SPIRITUAL" VALUES OF JUDAISM SAYS SILVER



Adequate support for the financial needs of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion was urged by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver at the New York Combined Campaign dinner for the two institutions. Dr. Silver (speaking) declared that, although we must continue our philanthropic endeavors for the displaced Jews of Europe and the upbuilding of Israel, said that "the establishment of the State of Israel has in no way diminished the primary and continuing obligation and opportunity of Jewish life, the development of a more affirmative religious cultural life in the United States. The establishment of the State of Israel," he said, "was an act of historic necessity, but it does not represent the consummation of Jewish destiny. The profound meaning of Jewish history lies in Judaism. Increasingly, our energies and our resources should be poured into the permanent and positive spiritual and cultural institutions and enterprises of Judaism. Millions of Jews will live in Israel in the days to come; millions more will live outside of Israel. It is the religion of Judaism which will unite them, not any political bonds. For the sake of the Jews the world over, it is imperative that we replenish the spiritual and religious reservoirs of Jewish life - the synagogue, the religious school, the academies, the centers of Jewish learning and scholarship." Shown with Dr. Silver (left to right) are Dr. Julius Mark of New York, senior rabbi of Temple Emanu-El, who was the other principal speaker; Mrs. Isaac Gilman, president of the Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of New York; and Sydney W. Roos, chairman of the New York Campaign.