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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 University, 1958-1959.



American Friends of the Hebrew University, Inc.

AMERICAN JEWISH PHYSICIANS' COMMITTEE - MEDICAL SECTION, H. U.

West Coast Office: Suite 117, 590 North Vermont

October 16, 1958

Los Angeles 4-NOrmandy 3-2145

Louis Freed

West Coast Director

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
1855 Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Please accept our sincere apologies for not acknowledging yours of September 17 until this late date.

While we regretted very much that you could not be with us at our affair on Sunday, October 12, we trust that we might be able to count on you in our future plans.

Thank you for your kind sentiments expressed to us and our fine committee who are working on behalf of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

With every best wish, we remain,

Sincerely yours,

Leo G. Rigler

Leo G. Rigler, M. D.
National Vice President

Joe Golenternek

Joe Golenternek, M. D.
President (Los Angeles)
American Jewish Physicians Committee

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AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY, 9 East 89th Street, New York 28, New York

M E M O R A N D U M

November 5, 1958

TO : Officers and Members of The National Board of Directors

FROM : Daniel G. Ross

SUBJECT : RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER LIBRARY WING

Please find attached a memo of a meeting which recently took place with Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver and which clears up completely the picture with reference to our New York effort for the Silver Wing at the Library.

Please give your fullest cooperation to Mr. Joseph Richter of our staff. He will communicate with you for the further organization of this campaign.

Many thanks for your cooperation.

M E M O R A N D U M

TO : Files

November 3, 1958

FROM : F.R. Lachman

SUBJECT : RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER LIBRARY WING

On Tuesday, October 21st, a breakfast meeting took place with Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver. Mr. Daniel G. Ross, Mr. Sylvan Gotshal, Dr. Frederick R. Lachman and Mr. Joseph Richter were present. There was a complete discussion of the "Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver Library Wing" project.

This project, started originally in Chicago and continued in Toledo, has produced to the present date, about \$200,000.00. It is planned to use a wing or portion of the Library to honor Rabbi Silver. This is a \$1,000,000.00 project. Certain rooms in this area have already been sold. The balance required to complete the project would be slightly over \$500,000.00.

It was felt that Cleveland should participate in this effort. A very successful campaign on behalf of the American Friends took place in Cleveland in 1954. Clearance for a second campaign can only be expected in 1959. Rabbi Silver undertook to confer with David Myers and Leonard Ratner, who together with Rabbi Silver sponsored the University campaign in 1954. Together they would try to get us the leadership necessary for obtaining clearance from the Cleveland Welfare Fund for a campaign there in 1959.

Rabbi Silver also expressed his willingness to appear at a limited number of functions on behalf of this project in communities other than Cleveland. However, the preparation and organization of the corresponding campaign in New York cannot wait for these other campaigns and functions. It was decided that the organizational work in New York would be continued in high gear. It was felt that while not too much could be expected from congregations by themselves, their use as a springboard was of great importance and looked promising. Therefore, this kind of approach should be continued.

Rabbi Silver stated that he would make himself available for one or two functions in New York and it was the general feeling that a major function should take place early in 1959. If so, the preparatory work has indeed to get into full swing.

Mr. Gotshal suggested a cultural one- or two-day affair on the highest possible level with Rabbi Silver as central figure but with the understanding that the purpose of such a conference would be fund raising. This idea was considered a good one and it was decided to follow up with discussions about the possibility of tying in such a program with the plans of the Committee for the Academic Conference.

In consideration of the fact that the Silver project is a national project, though activities in New York for this particular purpose are of primary importance, it was suggested to use the time of the University Art Show in Miami in February 1959 as the "kick-off" of this project on the national level. Rabbi Silver will be consulted regularly with reference to future planning.

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EDWARD L. MERRIGAN
WASHINGTON COUNSEL

December 15th
1958

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

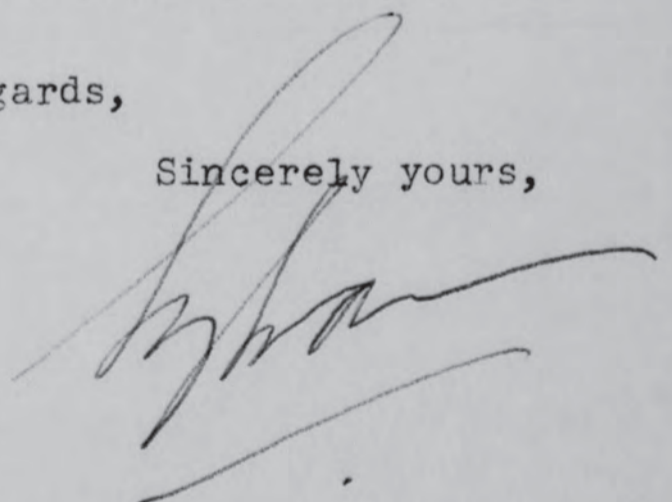
Since meeting with you last, I have had an occasion to meet with Joseph Richter of the American Friends of the Hebrew University to establish a date when the function relative to the Abba Hillel Silver Wing project for the Jewish National University Library would take place in New York. Because of the U.J.A. activities the earliest and most desirable date available is October 14, 1959. I hope that this is agreeable to you and would appreciate an early reply of acceptance so that we may proceed with our plans.

I should like to call to your attention the fact that, as matters stand now, it is contemplated that this function will be initiated by a luncheon at which time a prominent speaker will appear followed by a symposium, culminating in the evening in the form of a testimonial dinner to you, and, of course, you will be the principal speaker. There is a possibility that I may be obliged to impose on you to participate in the afternoon symposium if we are successful to carry out a rather ambitious program. At a later date, as our plans begin to take shape, I will acquaint you with the details.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

SG.CF





American Friends of the Hebrew University, Inc.

West Coast Office: Suite 117, 590 North Vermont

Los Angeles 4-MOrmandy 3-2145

December 17, 1958

~~Louis-Freed~~

~~West Coast Director~~

SPECIAL DELIVERY

Rabbi Daniel J. Silver
The Temple
1855 Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Rabbi:

You no doubt know that Dr. Silver met with Mr. Ross, Mr. Gotshal, Dr. Lachman and myself, on Tuesday, October 21, in New York, at which time there was a discussion related to the furtherance of the ABBA HILLEL SILVER WING of the Jewish National and University Library, on the national level. The date for the New York effort has been established for October 14, 1959. I believe a letter to that effect has been sent by Mr. Gotshal to Dr. Silver for his confirmation.

Pursuing this effort, I am at present in Los Angeles and have been in communication with Rabbi Julius Nodell of Portland, Oregon, and with leadership of Seattle, Washington. Rabbi Nodell was instrumental in getting leadership to agree to a fund-raising dinner honoring Dr. Abba Hillel Silver some time early in February but not later than the 15th as the UJA will be launching its campaign on February 21st with Rabbi Herbert Friedman as the principal speaker. In Seattle, we may have this function any time in February. It is my thought we might schedule the events one or two days apart giving Dr. Silver an opportunity for a rest in between.

Leadership in both cities is most enthusiastic over this project and we are assured of a capacity audience commensurate with the importance of the occasion. There is a reasonable assurance that we will attain our goal.

It is my understanding that Dr. Silver is on a pleasant sojourn out of the country. If you are in a position to commit Dr. Silver for this function, I would appreciate a prompt response designating specific dates. If not, may I ask you to be good enough to communicate with Dr. Silver in the most direct and speedy manner, at our expense, procuring his consent for the suggested time and advising me at your earliest convenience so that preliminary work may proceed without any delay.

Rabbi Daniel J. Silver

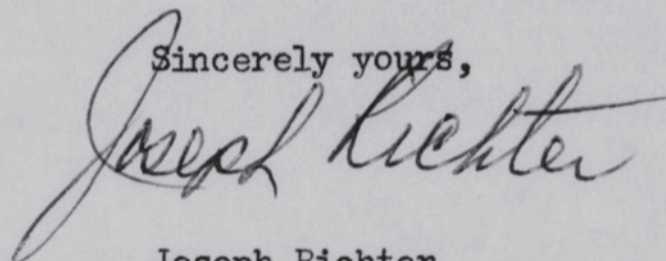
December 17, 1958

May I also suggest that while procuring the dates for Portland and Seattle you please try to obtain confirmation for the date of October 14, 1959, for New York, so that the reservation for the Waldorf-Astoria Ballroom may be established.

Thank you for your prompt cooperation, and anticipating an early response.

Kind personal regards.

Sincerely yours,



Joseph Richter
National Campaign Director
ABBA HILLEL SILVER PROJECT

JR/el

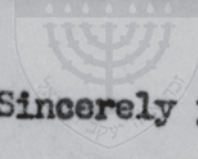



December 19, 1958

Mr. Sylvan Gotshal
Weil, Gotshal & Manges
60 East 42nd Street
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Gotshal:

Dr. Silver is currently out of the country and will not return until the middle of February. I will see to it that your correspondence is forwarded to his attention.



Sincerely yours,

DANIEL JEREMY SILVER

DJS:lg

February 23, 1959

My dear Sylvan:

Upon my return from abroad, I found your letter apprising me that the date of October 14, 1959 has been set aside for the function in behalf of the Silver Wing for the Jewish National University Library to be held in New York City. I have noted this date on my calendar and I shall be very happy to attend and to hear from you more details as they develop.

We had a wonderful visit abroad and we are very happy to be back. With warmest regards and all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfm

Mr. Sylvan Gotshal
Gotshal & Manges
60 East 42nd Street
New York 17, N.Y.

March 13, 1959

Dr. Benjamin Mazar
President
The Hebrew University
Jerusalem, Israel

My dear Dr. Mazar:

I understand that there is a possibility of your being in the United States during the month of May. The annual meeting of our Temple congregation will take place on Sunday morning, May 24th. This is an important annual meeting which brings together our Temple membership. I thought that it might be a fine opportunity for you to be here on that occasion and to speak of The Hebrew University. The Temple Board is eager to have you as its guest-of-honor on that day. It would delight me and all of us if your schedule would permit you to accept our invitation.

With warmest regards and all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfm

VIA AIR MAIL

American Friends of the Hebrew University

Pittsburgh Office

501 Union Trust Building

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Pittsburgh 19, Pa.

✧

Court 1-6624

APRIL 1, 1959

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER
THE TEMPLE
ANSEL ROAD AND E. 105
CLEVELAND, OHIO

DEAR RABBI SILVER:

BEFORE DR. LACHMAN LEFT FOR ISRAEL, I MET WITH HIM AND HE TOLD ME ABOUT THE CLEVELAND SITUATION VISA VIS THE AMERICAN FRIENDS FOR HEBREW UNIVERSITY.

IF THE AMERICAN FRIENDS FOR HEBREW UNIVERSITY CAN COME UP WITH SATISFACTORY LEADERSHIP, THE CLEVELAND WELFARE FUND WILL PERMIT THE NEXT LEG OF A CAPITAL FUND CAMPAIGN IN CLEVELAND THIS FALL.

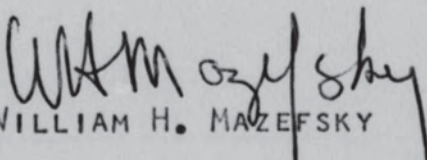
DR. LACHMAN ASKED ME, AS REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE, TO MEET WITH YOU AND TO DISCUSS SOME OF THE PROBLEMS.

THIS LETTER REQUESTS AN INTERVIEW WITH YOU -- AT YOUR CONVENIENCE.

I WOULD LIKE TO MEET WITH YOU, IF IT IS AT ALL POSSIBLE, BEFORE APRIL 19. THEN, IF THERE IS ANY FOLLOW UP, I WOULD BE ABLE TO SEE YOU SOME TIME ON APRIL 19 WHEN YOU ADDRESS THE TRI-STATE UNITED JEWISH APPEAL MEETING HERE IN PITTSBURGH.

I SHALL LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU.

SINCERELY YOURS,


WILLIAM H. MAZEFSKY

WHM/T

האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

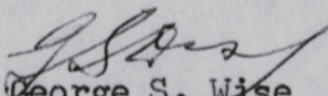
April 12, 1959

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

Dear Rabbi Silver,

I have great pleasure in informing you that at the last meeting of the Board of Governors, which was held in Jerusalem, you were re-elected member of the Board for a period of two years.

Sincerely yours,


George S. Wise
Chairman of the
Board of Governors

American Friends of the Hebrew University

Pittsburgh Office

501 Union Trust Building * Pittsburgh 19, Pa. * Court 1-6624

APRIL 24, 1959

DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER
THE TEMPLE
150TH & ANSEL ROAD
CLEVELAND, OHIO

DEAR DR. SILVER:

MEETING YOU LAST SUNDAY WAS A VERY IMPORTANT PERSONAL EXPERIENCE FOR ME.

I WELCOMED THE OPPORTUNITY OF TAKING YOU TO THE AIRPORT, AND REALLY REGRET THAT THE AIRPORT WAS "TOO CLOSE".

I AM ENCLOSING THE CLEVELAND, OHIO FIGURES ON THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY CAMPAIGN, WHICH WAS CONDUCTED IN 1954.

YOU WILL RECALL THAT THE FEDERATION IN CLEVELAND HAS GIVEN HEBREW UNIVERSITY TENTATIVE PERMISSION FOR A CAPITAL FUND CAMPAIGN, BASED ON OUR ABILITY TO SECURE ADEQUATE LEADERSHIP.

HEBREW UNIVERSITY WOULD LIKE TO CAMPAIGN IN CLEVELAND THIS FALL, WHICH MEANS THAT WE MUST TIE UP LEADERSHIP THIS SPRING.

CAN YOU SUGGEST PEOPLE WHO COULD ASSUME LEADERSHIP?

WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE TO MEET WITH THREE OR FOUR FRIENDS OF THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY AS WELL AS YOURSELF AND YOUR SON TO DISCUSS LEADERSHIP POSSIBILITIES?

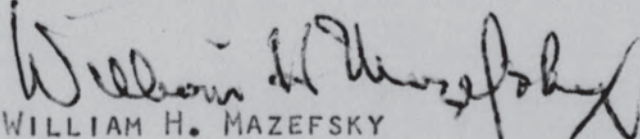
COULD WE HOLD SUCH A MEETING AFTER PASSOVER?

I WOULD ASK DR. LACHMAN TO JOIN US.

AGAIN, MY SINCEREST THANKS TO YOU FOR YOUR WARMTH AND UNDERSTANDING.

WITH BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY HOLIDAY,

SINCERELY YOURS,


WILLIAM H. MAZEFSKY

WHM/T
ENCLOSURE

May 6, 1959

Mr. William H. Mazefsky
American Friends of
Hebrew University
501 Union Trust Building
Pittsburgh 19, Pennsylvania

My dear friend:

Thank you for your letter of April 24th and the Cleveland figures on the 1954 Hebrew University campaign. I discussed the matter with Mr. David Myers, who I believe was chairman of the 1954 campaign as well as one of the large donors. We discussed certain names of people who might be encouraged to take over the leadership of the campaign in the fall. We have not yet arrived at any definite conclusion but Mr. Myers suggested, and I concur with him fully, that as an initial start someone connected with the University ought to come to town and make an effort to collect the outstanding balance of the 1954 campaign which amounts to \$40,000.00.

With warmest regards and all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfm

AFHU

WILLIAM H. MAZEFSKY

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND ADVERTISING CONSULTANT
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875 GREENTREE ROAD
PITTSBURGH 20, PENNSYLVANIA

WAlnut 2-2988

MAY 19, 1959

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER
THE TEMPLE
EAST 105TH STREET AT ANSEL ROAD
CLEVELAND 6, OHIO

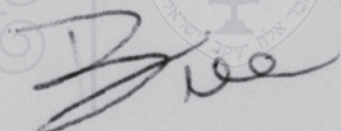
DEAR DR. SILVER:

THIS WILL CONFIRM OUR MEETING IN BEHALF OF THE AMERICAN FRIENDS FOR
HEBREW UNIVERSITY ON TUESDAY, JUNE 2, AT 2:30 IN YOUR STUDY.

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR THOUGHTFUL CONSIDERATION.

I SHALL SEE YOU ON THE 2ND, AND WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH MR. MYERS TO
HAVE HIM IN YOUR STUDY.

KINDEST PERSONAL REGARDS,


WILLIAM H. MAZEFSKY

WHM/T

June 8th, 1959.

Mr. L. W. Neumark,
President,
Jewish Community Federation,
1001 Huron Road,
Cleveland, 15, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Neumark:

I am turning to you and the leadership of your Federation with the formal request for clearance for a follow-up campaign in Cleveland to be conducted by the American Friends of the Hebrew University for the benefit of the Hebrew University's Building Fund. If at all possible, we would like to campaign during the fall or winter of 1959.

I presume that you and the members of your Board are thoroughly familiar with the Hebrew University's recent history. You know, therefore, that after having lost access to its original home on Mount Scopus the University succeeded, for a number of years, in continuing its activities under exile conditions. Only in 1954, Israel's Government turned over a beautiful site in Jerusalem to the University, and today a good part of its new campus is already in existence. Half of the University's 5,000 students can already work in the new buildings.

Much, however, still remains to be done and even the financing of some of the buildings already under construction has become a very difficult problem. For this reason the American Friends are intensifying their Building Fund campaigns throughout the country, trying to raise additional amounts which are very urgently needed.

For the campus in Givat Ram alone, the American Friends have to raise \$10,000,000., of which somewhat over \$5,000,000. has been raised in pledges. As the pledges are normally payable over three years, and in the case of very large donations, five years, only something like \$3,000,000. has come in in cash. Incidentally, many payments come in in the form of Israel Bonds and this way of paying off pledges is highly welcome.

Here is how we calculate our campaign goals: \$10,000,000. represents approximately 10% of the \$100,000,000. raised every year by American Welfare Funds without taking into consideration the emergency campaign. That means that a Hebrew University

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Mr. L. W. Neumark

- 2 -

June 8th, 1959

Building Fund campaign in Cleveland would have an overall goal of about \$450,000. Of this amount, and including a \$100,000. gift, we have raised in our previous campaign in 1954, the amount of \$260,000. in pledges, of which only approximately \$30,000. has not yet been paid.

That would leave a campaign goal for a follow-up campaign of approximately \$200,000., and it goes without saying that to reach such an amount we do not need a very large campaign. It would be a campaign to be conducted within a limited period of time and a limited group of prospective donors.

As you and your Directors might want to have additional details and answers to questions you might have, I want to inform you that without doubt two members of our Board of Directors, namely, Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver and Mr. David N. Myers, would be willing to appear before your board or the corresponding committee to answer such questions. I should be delighted to attend such a meeting together with these gentlemen because there might be some information which I would be able to contribute.

If you should feel that such a meeting would be advisable, I would greatly appreciate it if you would kindly inform me about the date and the hour.

Many thanks for the kind consideration you will give this request, and my very best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

2

Frederick R. Lachman
Executive Vice President.

FRL:RB

CC: Mr. Henry L. Zucker
Executive Director

CC: Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver ✓
Mr. David N. Myers
Mr. William H. Mazefsky

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June 18, 1959

Air Mail

Dr. Frederick R. Lachman
American Friends of the
Hebrew University
9 East 89th Street
New York 28, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Lachman:

I have a letter today from the Jewish Community Federation, and have talked to them by telephone on the subject of appearing before the Welfare Fund Committee on June 25th to discuss clearance for the proposed Fall campaign for the benefit of the Hebrew University Building Fund.

I shall appear before the Committee personally, since I understand that Rabbi A. H. Silver will be on a western trip on June 25th. The facts are very ably set forth in your letter of June 8th to the Jewish Community Federation, and will support my arguments for clearance. It is not necessary for you to appear personally, nor to request Mr. Mazefsky (or anyone else) to be present.

However, I would like you to write me by return air mail the period in which you would prefer this campaign be conducted. It is expected that there will be a second building campaign in the Fall for a local Jewish Community Centers amounting to as much as \$600,000. In view of this it may be they will ask the Hebrew University to wait for June or July of 1960. My own feeling is that the Hebrew University would be better off this Fall, even in conflict with the other campaign, rather than to wait so long a period.

Sincerely yours,

JS, DNM YERS

cc: Rabbi A.H. Silver

Dear Rabbi: With your permission, I will take care of this initial phase - DNM

July 6, 1959

Dr. Frederick R. Lachman
American Friends of the
Hebrew University
9 East 89th Street
New York 28, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Lachman:

The Welfare Fund Committee of the Jewish Community Federation passed the following at their regular meeting today which is self-explanatory relating to our request for campaign clearance:

- A. There be approved a campaign on behalf of American Friends of Hebrew University in the amount of \$200,000.
- B. That such a campaign be limited to a group of 300 individuals who are to be screened by the campaign committee of the American Friends of Hebrew University from a list of the \$1,000-and-over contributors to the Federation or such other list as they may care to utilize. In addition, such a campaign is not to participate in any kind of community-wide publicity.
- C. That the campaign be conducted at the completion of the 1960 Jewish Welfare Fund Campaign, around the months of June and July, 1960.

It might have been possible to force the issue to have this campaign August 20th to September 20th which was the only other time open not in conflict with other campaign efforts. However, with the passage of this motion the American Friends were given a promise of the full cooperation of Federation and its committees, as well as their approval. We thought this preferable to making an issue of the time for the campaign.

I believe that this friendly action will attract workers and leadership for the campaign among some of the young and vigorous members of the Welfare Fund Committee, when it comes time to build the campaign organization. I sincerely hope that you agree with this result.

Sincerely yours,

(S) D N MYERS

cc: Rabbi A.H. Silver ✓
William H. Mazefsky

July 9th, 1959.

Mr. David N. Myers,
2300 West Third Street,
Cleveland, 13, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Myers:

I have just received your letter of July 6th and hasten to tell you in the first place that I am most grateful to you for having represented us and for having achieved a highly satisfactory result.

I agree with you that it would have been more advantageous from a certain point of view to have our campaign this year but the full cooperation of the Federation is so important that I am quite happy to accept the suggested date next year.

I wonder if I shall get an official letter from the Federation, notifying me of this resolution and which then I would confirm?

Even at this early stage I want to renew my very strong appeal to you and to Rabbi Silver to head our campaign and to help us in the formation of a campaign committee. We should not wait too long but get together in the early fall and form such committee so that our campaign will be well prepared. One of the steps which I have found quite helpful but time consuming is to get a list of prospective donors at an early date and to feed these people over an extended period of time with information about the Hebrew University. At the moment we have two particularly good pieces which I attach to this letter, namely, a reprint of an article from the New York Times and a reprint of an article from the National Geographic Magazine.

Once more, my wholehearted thanks and I am looking forward to seeing you in the near future.

Sincerely yours,

Frederick R. Lachman
Executive Vice President.

FRL:RB
Enc. (2)
CC: Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver ✓
Mr. William H. Mazefsky

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JERUSALEM

The Divided City

By JOHN SCOFIELD

Assistant Editor, National Geographic Magazine

Photographs by BRIAN BRAKE, Magnum

THERE'S NO PLACE else on earth," my friend said, "where you can travel so far in 100 yards."

I had walked the three blocks from my hotel to stare once again across the familiar strip of no man's land that divides the city of Jerusalem.

"Here on the Jordan side," my friend went on, "things are much as they were when the Crusaders left. There are new buildings, of course...but if you were to drop one of Godfrey de Bouillon's knights outside St. Stephen's Gate, I'm sure he could still find his way to the Holy Sepulcher.

"But over there..." He waved an arm toward the Israel side. "Nothing remains the same. French movies, a symphony orchestra, a Chinese restaurant, an Italian puppet show, crowded hotels, a great university..." he paused to grope for words and ended lamely "...everything."...

If many a Jerusalem Arab looks longingly across no man's land at a home he can no longer enter, New Jerusalem's residents too must face daily reminders of the division of their city. The Wailing Wall, where for centuries pious Jews gathered to mourn the lost glories of Israel and the destruction of Solomon's Temple, is at least decently hidden away in the heart of the old walled city.

Not so the empty buildings of Hadassah Hospital and the Hebrew University. From almost any point in the Israeli capital you can see them, high on Mount Scopus, aflame in the sun's parting glow. But you cannot go near them, for they lie a mile inside Jordan.

Characteristically, the Israelis have not waited idly for the return of their university and hospital. Today the brightest of Israel's accomplishments is undoubtedly the group of ultramodern buildings on Givath Ram—

"High Hill"—that houses the Hebrew University (page 517). And not far from there, near 'Ein Kerem, revered as the birthplace of John the Baptist, an imposing structure takes shape as a new home for Hadassah Hospital and the university's medical school.

New School Symbolizes Israeli Pride

"To our people, Hebrew University is much more than an institution of learning," Rabbi Bernard M. Casper, the school's urbane, Cambridge-educated dean of students, told me. "It has come to symbolize all that we are and everything we hope to be.

"Each week," he said, "thousands of Israelis—simple folk who may never before have set foot in a university—come here just to see the campus. Such pride! You would think they had built it themselves.

"For many, attendance here is a dream that is not to be put aside because of age. People of 40 and 45 leave the collective farms on which they have spent 20 years of their lives to come here and work for a degree. Last year Brigadier Moshe Dayan, who for four years had been Chief of Staff of the Israel Defense Forces, resigned and enrolled with us. He studied political science in the same class with his 19-year-old daughter Jael."

Brigadier Dayan's familiar black eye patch identified him easily among both students and faculty. Far less noticeable is the slight, rather elderly man who quite often walks almost unobserved to a third-floor office in the university's massive Institute of Jewish Studies. Here Itzhak Ben-Zvi, the President of the State of Israel, immerses himself in a spare-time labor that has already produced a definitive book on the strange Jewish tribes of eastern lands—Yemen, North Africa, Iran, Arabia, and India....

Show Place of Israel: Hebrew University

When the truce of 1948 divided Jerusalem, students and faculty were cut off from their campus on Mount Scopus, an island of disputed territory surrounded by Jordan. For years they continued to work in makeshift quarters scattered across the Israeli half of the city.

In 1954 the university dedicated a rocky wilderness on Givath Ram as its new site. Masons reared walls of native stone loosened by dynamiters who cleared the foundations. Today ultra-modern buildings and landscaped patios cover the hill.

Here the glass-bright administration center rises beyond Chaim Weizmann Square. Arcade at left leads to classrooms.

Student gardens beautify the once-barren campus.



516



517

University classrooms mix army officers, government officials, dedicated farmers, and teen-age coeds. Israel considers the institution its cultural heart and a chief research center. Each year thousands of new citizens visit the campus to point with pride at this achievement of their 11-year-old nation.

SUPER ANSCOCHROME (BELOW) AND KODACHROMES BY BRIAN BRAKE © NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY



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You can help! For information and literature write:

American Friends of the Hebrew University
9 East 89th Street, New York 28, N. Y.



TWO UNIVERSITIES—For years a "university-in-exile," Israel's Hebrew University now has a new campus at Givath Ram. Above, students compare notes in the amphitheatre.

Hebrew University Rises Again

Though Israel's cultural center has been driven from its 'magic mountain,' it has found a second home in the Judean hills.

By **GERTRUDE SAMUELS**

JERUSALEM.

HIGH on Mount Scopus, above the "old" and "new" cities that are Jordanian Jerusalem and Israeli Jerusalem, stands a bleak symbol—the first campus of Hebrew University. The rectangular and dome-shaped buildings, silent as a mirage, show the signs of being uncared for in eleven years. Grass grows wild on the once lovely campus, pushes through the stone seats and platform of the amphitheatre. Cloisters are decaying. Rain seeps through the roofs.

Yet, as one goes into the buildings, it is as though lectures had just been finished. Writing is still on the blackboards, left there for eleven years. In the library, index cards remain pushed up from several open drawers; a few books lie around as though readers were returning.

The end had come suddenly in 1948,

when the Arabs invaded the newly created State of Israel. Studies on Scopus had been suspended, and the student body drafted. After the war, the buildings formed a Jewish enclave in Arab territory, too dangerous for students to traverse; and, under the armistice, the Israelis may keep only a small number of men on Scopus, to guard the buildings against intruders.

But though Scopus became an empty shell, Hebrew University was to become a unique and living symbol—for the university stubbornly survived, living on over the years, in the city below the mountain, as a "university-in-exile" in dozens of rented buildings. Then, just a year ago this month, the university opened its second great campus, carved from the stony hills of Givath Ram to the west of the city.

Israel had not given up its "magic mountain." But with a tremendous expansion of student population and immigration, and the need to hasten the

country's development, the university had decided to "extend" Scopus to Jerusalem, to fulfill a threefold goal:

To serve Israel—as a center of study and research; to serve the Jewish people everywhere—as a spiritual center for world Judaism; to serve humanity—by extending knowledge.

Today, as the new campus nears completion, it presents a fascinating architectural and human mosaic.

THE pile of buildings (called, in Hebrew, *Kiryat - Hauniversita*), now extending over 125 acres, is clearly destined to be the cultural heart of the country. Near-by will be a national museum; the foundation stone of a new Parliament (Knesset) Building has been laid on another hill. Thirty university buildings are completed. A sepa-

GERTRUDE SAMUELS, a staff writer for *The Times Sunday Magazine*, has visited Israel several times since it was established in 1948.



INFORMALITY—Hebrew University's President Benjamin Mazar makes a point to two students.



BULL SESSION—Before the Administration Building, students take time for a talk in the sun between classes.

rate campus for the faculty of agriculture is being expanded at Rehovoth. And a separate medical school in the Hadassah-University Medical Centre, near the village of Ein Karem, will be completed in 1961.

The main campus at Givath Ram was conceived by a forum of architects as a "human campus," not one of monumental size that would appear alien, but rather one "growing out of" the hills. They used the gray and pink tinted stone of Jerusalem, quarried on the site (it often looks like polished marble); the landscaping preserves the wild, natural beauty of the region.

Airy, rectangular buildings on stilts rise dramatically against open vistas of hills and sky. A Greek-style amphitheatre, favorite of students and tourists, lies near a mushroom-shaped synagogue. The administration building, lighted at night, brings to mind the United Nations building by the East River. (In a small, guarded room of this main building some of the Dead Sea Scrolls, believed to be the oldest-known Biblical manuscripts, are on display.) The pride of the university, the 1,250,000-volume National and University Library, is nearly finished.

Some Israelis find the buildings "too luxurious" for a country with crushing economic problems. Others answer that "we have to build for more than one generation." Constructed with funds from the Government and from Societies of Friends of Hebrew University throughout the world, the university sees itself as a cultural and spiritual link between Israel and Jews everywhere.

THERE are six main departments or faculties—humanities, social science and economics, medicine, agriculture, science and law. Auxiliary schools and institutes range from oriental and Jew-

ish studies to art, archaeology and modern languages.

In contrast to the American college system of collecting credits with a large body of courses in undergraduate years, the Israeli system is inherited from European institutions of higher learning, with emphasis on independent study, reading and seminars, rather than on class attendance and course examinations.

Thus, at Hebrew University, an undergraduate on enrollment chooses two major subjects in which he specializes for four years. In the humanities, for example, a common combination is English literature and the Bible; or it may be history and philosophy. In science, it may be physics and mathematics, or geology and geography. To prevent too much specialization too early, most students in the first two years must additionally study four subsidiary subjects of their choice. There are 5,000 students at Hebrew University this year—400 more than last year, and 4,200 more than were ever enrolled at one time on Mount Scopus. (The campus when completed is expected to accommodate 10,000 students.)

Probably the strongest—certainly the largest—department is humanities, with some 1,700 students enrolled. Here the gamut of studies includes Hebrew literature, Rabbinics and the Talmud, Palestinian archaeology, oriental studies and Arabic language and literature, Middle Eastern art, comparative religion and modern languages.

Perhaps the most sought-after course is that given by the German-born cabalist Gershom Scholem, author, lecturer and professor of Jewish mysticism who has taught at Brown University. Cabala means literally "tradition," or the mystical meaning of Judaism, and be-

cause of his views Scholem has been attacked in some Jewish quarters as a heretic. In his course, "Major Trends in Jewish Mysticism," he talks with rapid-fire enthusiasm of the need for a fuller understanding of Jewish life and history, for a fuller understanding "of ourselves." What were the spiritual possibilities in the ancient Jews? What are the possibilities for the future?

In Scholem's large, crowded lecture hall, Israeli Arabs and Benedictine monks listen raptly with the *sabras* (native Israeli Jews). They take notes in Hebrew, Arabic and English.

* * *

IT can safely be said that the student body is unique. Where else under one roof can one find members of Parliament, generals, colonels and labor officials, working as students for their degrees? Or Arabs rooming with Jewish students? Or the President of the country spending his Friday mornings doing research into ancient oriental communities?

Most of the students are, of course, Israeli Jews, including new immigrants. There are also seventy-nine Israeli Arabs this year and a small number of Christian and other students from Ghana, Thailand, Ethiopia, Belgium and Finland. About 150 Americans, Canadians and South Americans are spending a year here.

The Israeli boys look like their American counterparts—with casual jackets and sweaters, slacks and pipes—save for an abundance of mustaches and beards (following a Middle Eastern tradition that these separate the men from the boys).

The girls' "college style" puzzles the

visitor. There are beauties. But many seem to have borrowed from old American movies, with their tight sweaters, ankle-long skirts and theatrical make-up. Others seem grimly careless in blue jeans, men's shirts and *kibbutznik* boots.

IN more important ways, the Israeli students differ from American undergraduates. Most are past 20 when they enter the university. Both men and women must complete at least two years of military training after high-school graduation, and students often must leave their studies for maneuvers or training. Most belong to the Academic Reserve, and are called up for summer duties.

Moreover, at least 60 per cent of the students must work, some full time (taking their classes at night). Many are married, or must earn a living to support their immigrant families while studying. Many have suffered in displaced persons camps, in ghettos and prisons, many took part in the Sinai campaign of 1956. (In contrast to 1949, when this writer visited the "university-in-exile," few of these young people bear the scars of war, though many of their professors do.)

The problems of a pioneering country, whose greatest challenge is speedily to develop leaders, are reflected on the campus.

Dr. Bernard M. Casper, a young, Cambridge-educated rabbi who is the Dean of Students, puts it this way: "The atmosphere is against a light-hearted, carefree student life. There are none of the Mr. Chipses or 'beloved figures' that characterize many older campuses. The grand old man of the previous generation, the patriarchal philosopher Martin Buber, is now a professor emeritus and rarely visits the campus.

ARCHAEOLOGIST—Dr. Yigal Yadin is a former Army chief of staff.



"There is little time for socializing and sports. Instead, for some weeks of each term, a number of botanists, soil scientists, chemists and archaeologists is likely to be found far from the laboratories and classes, in Galilee, in Beer-sheba or the southern Negev, exploring the conditions of the past to meet the needs of the present."

The vice president of Hebrew University, Prof. Michael Evanari, a botanist, is moving into the Negev for two years to test whether a plot of parched land that he will live on there can grow grapes and pomegranates, wheat and barley, as in ancient times.

In their hostels, in bull sessions on the green, in the laboratories, the students give the picture.

Shoshana Rubner, a blond freshman, is finishing her Army service even as she majors in sociology and international relations. Her training camp is near Tel Aviv; she can come to classes only two or three days a week until her service is up. Between classes, she hurriedly compares notes with Syrian-born Dana Nisim, who is an Arabic and Hebrew major.

In the Archaeology Building, Dan Barag and Avraham Ronen, third-year students who helped on excavations at Hatsor, examine two large storage jars of the fourteenth century B. C. which were discovered during their recent field work.

Hurrying to his Jewish studies class is Father Johanan Wynhoven of Holland, a 31-year-old Benedictine monk. His family had hidden Jews from the Nazis; he is concentrating on the Talmud and Bible "for objective research — to see what is the connection between Jewish and Christian history."

In Hostel Building No. 5, Walid Sadik, a 21-year-old Israeli Arab from Tiabeh, is a sociology and international relations major. He rooms with Sol Resnikoff, an orthodox Jew from Brooklyn College, who is spending his junior year here. The boys are good friends.

As Resnikoff put it, "It's just like living with an American boy. We're both liberal-minded and on a give-and-take basis. He wants to know about Little Rock, and I want to know about Nasserism."

Sadik, a tall, handsome young man whose brothers hold American college degrees, plans to become a social worker in his village. He is sensitive to the uneasiness and hostility that some Israelis show to the Arab minority in the country, and tells you: "I feel here in the university as I feel in my home. I wish the whole country were like this university."



PATRIARCH—Philosopher Martin Buber is now professor emeritus.

Perhaps the best-known and most romantic campus personalities are the two former Chiefs of Staff now turned professor and student.

The one is Dr. Yigal Yadin, who left the Army to continue with the archaeological studies in which he had won his doctorate. He helped to recover the Dead Sea Scrolls for Israel and to decipher them. He has written books on their antiquity and significance, and he is now, at intervals, excavating at Hatsor the remains of Canaanite and Israelite cultures.

Rumpled and chalk-smudged in a blue serge suit, Yadin is today simply a professor working on a beloved subject as he sketches at the blackboard, and lectures on "styles of sling shots, tools and weapons" as a means of determining archaeological periods. Most of his students work in the field with him. To them, he is "Doctor," never "General." In the field, where they eat, study and dig together, he is "Yigal."

JUST across the campus, in an advanced seminar on public administration, sits the other former Army chief, Gen. Moshe Dayan—in civilian clothes and as a student. On leave from the Army for two years, and often mentioned as a successor to Premier Ben-Gurion, Dayan failed one course last year, studied during the summer to take a make-up examination and passed. He holds a law degree and is specializing in Middle Eastern studies. He shuns publicity—"I'm just a student," he protests—but tells you: "We are part of the Middle East and must understand all of its problems."

It is not easy for him and other celebrated public figures to be students. As described by 35-year-old Schlomo Hillel, a Member of Parliament who is a third-year student of economics and political science, "You can't say a stupid thing in class because you are judged differently. Stu-

dents joke that this isn't the Army or Parliament; you have to know your lessons."

Hillel's worst task, he says, is to make the psychological transition from lawmaker to student in the fifteen minutes it takes to drive from the Knesset to the university. Why do it?

"Because in our generation," he answers, "few have had the chance to study and learn. We have seen countries and wars and prisons. But there comes a day when you feel that you haven't enough tools to get on with your present job. Well, this is the place for the tools."

* * *

TO date, Hebrew University has had 4,075 graduates (about 40 per cent of the faculty are alumni). And the present research that is being conducted—on cancer, polio, tuberculosis, solar energy and geology, and on

the scrolls—undoubtedly enhances the university's reputation.

But because the university is rapidly growing, and because it must play a key role in developing leaders, many observers feel that in the long-range view there is great need for scholarships for secondary schooling. High schools are not free in Israel. In 1957, only 34 per cent of elementary school children could afford high school; thus the university potential is severely limited.

This problem is reflected in the serious shortage of skilled professional staffs, economists, technicians and civil servants. A Government spokesman summed it up this way:

"Because Israel is poor in mineral, land and water resources, the future lies in human resources. These are relatively abundant, if we develop the quality of this factor and bring it to a

higher level. This is not a hundred-hours war, but a daily, very great struggle for economic independence."

* * *

A GREAT gulf separates Givath Ram from Mount Scopus, though, in fact, they are only a few miles apart. Yet no one here believes that the old campus can remain a bleak symbol forever. Proposals for its use have already been drawn—perhaps for postgraduate work, or teacher training, or as a "deposit library."

Israelis have a phrase for the visitor who asks what will happen "if" the university gets Scopus back.

"*Lo efshar—mata!*," they retort. "Not if—when."

It tells you they know that once again the way will lead back to the campus on their "magic mountain."

The Magic Mountain . . .

"BECAUSE Israel is poor in mineral, land and water resources, the future lies in human resources. These are relatively abundant, if we develop the quality of this factor and bring it to a higher level. This is not a hundred-hours war, but a daily, very great struggle for economic independence.

"HEBREW UNIVERSITY has not given up its 'magic mountain' on Mt. Scopus. But with a tremendous expansion of student population and immigration, and the need to hasten the country's development, the University has decided to 'extend' Scopus to Jerusalem, to fulfill a three-fold goal:

To serve Israel — as a center of study and research; to serve the Jewish people everywhere — as a spiritual center for world Judaism; to serve humanity — by extending knowledge."

You can help! For information and literature write:

American Friends of the Hebrew University
9 East 89th Street, New York 28, N. Y.

July 22, 1959

Dr. Frederick R. Lachman
Executive Vice President
American Friends of the
Hebrew University, Inc.
9 East 89th Street
New York 28, N. Y.

COPY

Dear Dr. Lachman:

Please pardon the delay in response to your letter of July 9th. The approval of Federation must be formalized at a meeting of their Executive Committee. There seems to be no question that this will be completed at the next meeting scheduled before August 1st.

Mr. Gerald Soroker of the Federation will then send you official notice of their resolution which you can then confirm.

On my part, I shall be glad to help in every possible way in the early fall in the formation of a campaign organization. Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver has expressed his full cooperation and I am sure may be counted upon. However, I cannot assume the responsibility to head the campaign because of limitations on my time.

As advised in my letter of July 6th I think that we can have a highly efficient and satisfactory group of volunteers, including a campaign chairman and a campaign cabinet selected from our excellent leadership in Cleveland. We can discuss this matter in September or October at a time convenient to all of us.

Kind regards,

/s/ D.N. MYERS

cc: Rabbi A.H. Silver



American Friends of the Hebrew University, Inc.

9 East 89th Street • New York 28, N. Y. • ATwater 9-5200

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President

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Chairman of the Board

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Assoc. Chairman, Women's Division

PROF. MILTON HANDLER
Chairman, Gifts and Legacies

DR. FREDERICK R. LACHMAN
Executive Vice President

July 24th, 1959.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
E. 105th St. & Ansel Dr.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Board Member:

Around October 1st, 1959, the National Office of the American Friends of the Hebrew University will move into a new house at 11 East 69th Street. The move is necessitated by the need for more space for constantly expanding activities. Our new home contains exceptionally spacious and beautiful rooms which will be used for meetings, lectures, art shows and similar events. It is our intention to expand our program in this direction and to make the new house a real educational and cultural center.

We are able to make this move as a result of the generosity of some of our friends who have provided the funds to bridge the gap between the sales price of our present house and the cost for the purchase, repairs and alterations of the new house.

We have entered into a contract to sell the present house to Child Study Association of America, Inc. In order to effectuate the sale under the laws of the State of New York, it is necessary to obtain the approval of the members of the Board of Directors. Enclosed herewith is a Resolution authorizing the sale. Please be kind enough to approve it in the place indicated and return it promptly in the enclosed self-addressed stamped envelope. Time is very important and I would appreciate your early cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Daniel G. Ross
President.

DGR:RB
Enc. (2)

TTAled 9/29/59

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