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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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Herzl, Dr. Zion Club, 1919-1920.

THE LEAGUE OF THE JEWISH YOUTH
OF AMERICA
114 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

EXTENSION DEPARTMENT
BUREAU OF EDUCATION

April 30th, 1920.

Rabbi A. Hillel Silver,
The Temple, E. 55th Street,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Abe:

The emotions of the present historic moment urge me to write this note to you. I am sure that you, like me, must be moved to thoughts of bygone days, to memories that stimulate and arouse new thoughts of newer days. Differences in environment and in individual interests have in the last five or ten years separated us from one another. Yet I feel that the experiences of our youthful days in the Dr. Herzl Zion Club have been a motive force for each of us in our own individual lives.

I should not be surprised if in more recent years we have thought of each other and seen each other as we were in those days. Unfortunately, the separate roads we travel has not made it possible for us to come in more frequent contact with each other, to exchange experiences and interests. Yet, somehow, it seems difficult to feel that we are estranged, for in our subconsciousness there still exists that common fellowship wrought thru work done for a great cause. To few men and women is it given to live to see the realization of youthful dreams and even fewer experience the realization of a dream so real, so costly, so ancient, so noble, as that we have dreamt and worked for in common with the entire Jewish people.

As I think of the glad tidings that have reached us after so many sad days, I feel a longing for a common rejoicing with my associates of Herzl days and perhaps you too, have felt the same. Is it not possible therefore, that we arrange to get together some day, soon? I know what a task it will be for all to assemble from the various sections of this country, yet it is not an impossibility. I know that the boys come to New York occasionally and it may be possible to arrange a date when all will be here. I would suggest the following dates from which you might choose two or three, and forward the same to me. I would suggest:

May 9th (Zionist Conference in New York)
May 25th (Shevuoth)
May 29th (Decoration Day)
Any Saturday or Sunday in June
Any Saturday or Sunday in July

After I receive the dates from you, I can select those most convenient for all concerned and communicate the same to you. I believe that we can arrange

Rabbi A. H. Silver -

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to make a day of festivity of it, of course providing for the usual dinner to which we can also invite our parents who have become a part of the life of our Herzl days.

Before concluding this letter, there is still one thought that occurs to me on this occasion. It may sound visionary and very impractical, yet I make bold to suggest it.

Is it not possible to transform our feelings into concrete action? The social life and the Hebrew plays that occupied so much of our time in the Herzl club can be transferred in perpetual form to Palestine. Would it not be a fine thing if the Herzl club, which means of course the Herzl group, could undertake to establish ~~the~~ Students House or Students Hall with a stage where the future students of the Hebrew University may come together for social activities and for amateur dramatics, so that their lives too, would be so rich and even richer than those we spent together in our days in this country?

Of course, such a plan would involve much effort and money, yet the monetary consideration may not be outside of our reach, if such a plan should be a feasible one. I leave the rest to you. I am enclosing a return envelope so that you may have my correct address and also that you may hasten your reply to me. I am writing this note only to a few of the old Herzlites. When I will hear from you and it will seem that we can arrange for a "Get-Together" I shall undertake to inform the others as well.

With my best regards to you, I am, in this hour of common joy,
as ever,

Yours,

Chapkin

May 5th, 1920

Mr. Israel S. Clipkin
The League of the Jewish Youth of America,
114 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

My dear Israel,

I was very happy to receive your letter telling me of your ideas concerning a celebration in recognition of the historic events which have just transpired.

When I was in New York last, Jess Schwartz spoke to me in a similar manner. Be assured I am in full accord with the project. I feel that it would be most appropriate and a very inspiring thing for all of us if the old group could come together for such a celebration.

I would suggest that the celebration be held in the early part of June. There is a possibility of my going to Yahres Conference in Carlsbad the latter part of June. The month of May is, of course, a very busy Congregational month.

Your further suggestion of endowing some Students Hall in the Hebrew University is worthy of consideration.

Please keep me in touch with developments.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

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BUREAU OF EDUCATION

May 10th, 1920.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple, East 55th Street,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Abe:

Thanks for your kind reply to my note. I am glad to inform you that the answers to my letter were immediate and favorable. I hasten to write this note to you, in order to make the date of the affair definite. It seems from the replies, that the following three dates would be satisfactory:

Sunday, June 6th, Saturday, June 12th, Sunday, June 13th. Personally, I would suggest June 13th as the best time for it would be just about a week before you leave and it might prove more convenient for the Rabbis amongst us. If same is satisfactory to you, I shall clinch the date at once and proceed with due arrangements. I trust that you will favor me with an immediate reply so that I lose no time arranging matters.

With best wishes to you and in B'Simchas Zion, I am

Very sincerely yours,

HC Lipkin

May 15th, 1920

Mr. I. S. Chipkin,
The League of the Jewish Youth of America,
114 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

My dear Mr. Chipkin,

Replying to your letter of the tenth, I wish to say that as far as I am concerned, the three dates which you suggest are not satisfactory. On Sunday, June 6th we have our Annual Meeting. On June 13th, we have our closing rally of the Religious School. Both occasions necessitate my remaining in Cleveland.

I do not think that a Sunday meeting would be satisfactory to most of the ministers. I would suggest some midweek day.

The most convenient dates for me are Wednesday, June 9th, or Thursday, June 10th, or Tuesday, June 15th. Let me hear of your definite arrangements.

With kindest regards, I beg to remain

Very sincerely yours,

May 20th, 1920

Mr. Israel Chipkin,
114 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Israel,

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the letter which I wrote and mailed to you on May 15th, but which it seems may have gone astray, judging from your telegram of this date.

I shall await further word from you.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

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FY NEWYORK NY 1210P MAY 27 1920

RABBI A H SILVER

THE TEMPLE CLEVELAND D

THE UNION SET FOR TUESDAY EVENING JUNE FIFTEENTH RESERVE DATE

SDL COHEN

1227P

COMMITTEE
For
DR. HERZEL ZION CLUB REUNION

New York, May 28, 1920.

Dear Herzelite:-

MAZOL TOV! At last, our day of glory too has arrived. Our dream, the dream of our fathers, the dream that brought us together in the boyhood days in the joyful service of our people's cause, is about to be realized. May we not, therefore, greet each other once again and repeat the SHEHECHEYONU, that to us was vouchsafed the good tidings of Zion restored?

Therefore, listen friend! A committee of New York boys of the Dr. Herzl Zion Club has met and has volunteered to make the necessary preparations for a Geulah Reunion of all the Herzelites. This committee now wishes to report to you the following:

1. It has rented the Hollywood Reception Parlor and Dancing Hall, located at 41 West 124th Street, New York, for the Dr. Herzl Zion Club Geulah Reunion.
2. THE DATE IS TUESDAY EVENING, JUNE 15, 1920.
The Committee had to use a mid-week night because it is the only convenient time for our out of town Rabbis who will surely be present and whom you want to meet.
3. THE TIME IS SEVEN (7) P.M. SHARP.
The Committee finds it necessary to urge the guests to arrive at 7 o'clock, and wishes to advise that a real good, KOSHER supper will be ready so that they can spare their home supper that night and also save time.
4. INDIVIDUALS AND COUPLES.
Arrangements are being made for individual guests and for couples.
5. THE DRESS WILL BE INFORMAL.
6. THE CHARGE PER PLATE IS FOUR DOLLARS (\$4.00).
The Committee wishes to advise that although the actual cost per plate is less, it finds it necessary to make this charge in order to cover the many other items of expense involved, such as music, printing, postage, etc.

7. PARENTS.

The Committee extends an invitation to parents who have been friends of the Dr. Herzl Zion Club. The Committee wishes to make this a real reunion. It appreciates the great influence that the parents have exercised upon the destiny of the Herzl Club. It feels that they, too, want to join with us in this rejoicing. We therefore extend this invitation to them also.

8. PROGRAM.

The program of the evening will consist of the following:

- A. - Dancing and Music
- B. - A real big KOSHER dinner and (Sh-h-h-h -- Beer).
- C. - Herzl Club songs (Printed words distributed to all guests).
- D. - Scenes from DOVID BAMILCHOMOH and other plays by members of the original casts.
- E. - Probable entertainment by Mr. Leon Blank.
- F. - Taking of a group picture.

Please forward to the secretary of the Committee, whose address you will find below, your check or money order, indicating also the number of plates to be reserved for you. The Committee must hear from you before June 5th, which is the last day the proprietor of the hall will wait for his instructions.

Good friend and comrade, do we need to urge you to be present? We don't think so. We feel we are carrying out our own wish. Yet, we should inform you further that on the 19th of June the American delegation is leaving for the great World Zionist Conference to be held in London. Two prominent members of this delegation are Herzlites. They will be present at the reunion. Let us come also to greet them and send our blessing with them.

BESIMCHAS ZION, we are

Cordially and Fraternally yours,

Solomon Cohen
Jesse Schwartz
I. S. Chipkin

Henry J. Gubitz, Secretary,
240 Broadway, New York City.
Tel. Barclay 9518

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EXTENSION DEPARTMENT
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May 28th, 1920.

Rabbi A. H. Silver,
"The Temple"
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Abe:

I received your note and I wish to inform you that a committee consisting of Jesse Schwartz, Solomon Cohen and myself, met and decided to engage a banquet hall for the 15th. Invitations are being sent to all the rest of the boys. As part of the program, some of the scenes of some of the plays we once gave will be presented. Try as hard as we could, we were not able to procure accommodations for a cheaper price than \$4.00 per plate, which includes expenses incurred by the committee such as music, printing, etc.

We also expect the fellows to invite their parents if they have ever been connected with our work in the past. That is about all the information I have just now. I guess that you will receive one of the form letters which is being sent out by one of the boys who is acting as secretary for the committee.

With best wishes to you, I am B'Simchas Zion,

Sincerely yours,

Shelphent

June 2nd, 1920

Mr. Henry J. Gubitz, Secretary,
240 Broadway, New York City.

My dear Henry,

Enclosed please find check for \$32.00,
covering eight reservations for the banquet on
June 15th.

Please send three (3) tickets to my home-
891 Forest Avenue;

Two (2) tickets to Mr. Ely Liebow, 104 Baldwin
Avenue, Jersey City, N.J.,

Two tickets to Mr. Jack Michaelson,
275 Monticello Avenue, Jersey City, N.J.,

and One ticket to me here.

I am looking forward with a great deal
of pleasure to our meeting.

With kindest regards, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

Sincerely yours,

June 3rd, 1920

Mr. Ely Liebow,
104 Baldwin Avenue,
Jersey City, N. J.

My dear Ely,

I am having two tickets sent to you for the forthcoming Herzl' Anniversary, to be held on Tuesday, June 15th. This is to be a reunion of all the old boys. I know that you, and especially Bess, who knew them all, would love to come.

I am also inviting the folks, Rose, Pearl and Jack. I hope that you will be able to come.

With love to Bess and the children, I am as ever

Sincerely yours,

June 3rd, 1920

Mr. Jack Michaelson
275 Monticello Avenue
Jersey City, N.J.

Dear Jack,

I am having two tickets sent
to you for the forthcoming banquet of the
Dr. Herzl Zion Club, to be held Tuesday,
June 15th.

This will be in the nature of a
reunion of all the old boys of the Club, and
I know that you, and especially Pearl, who
knew them all, will be pleased to come.

I am also inviting the folks, Rose,
Ely and Bess. Maxwell will be there also.

With my best love to all, I beg to
remain as ever

Sincerely yours,

HENRY J. GUBITZ
240 BROADWAY
NEW YORK
—
BARCLAY 9518

June 10, 1920.

Dear Abba:

I am enclosing herein one ticket for the reunion of Herzl boys and friends, to be held next Tuesday evening, June 15th, at the Hollywood, 41 West 124th St., New York.

The supper will commence at 6:30 in the afternoon, as this will be a novel occasion whereto all our friends will gather coming directly from business. Need I urge you to be sure and not miss your share of the chicken?

It may interest you to know that practically all of the old and young boys will be down -- our once director, Mr. Hurwitz, is coming from Boston especially for the occasion -- Mr. Leon Blank will be with us -- several other worth while events.

The other reservations you made will be taken care of in the proper manner.

Anxiously awaiting the evening, and with hopes of meeting in good health, believe me to be

Sincerely yours

