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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, 1923-1924.

להגדיל תורה ולהאדיר

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May 7, 1924



Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
55th and Central Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

In accordance with the decision made at the 19th re-union, a committee met last week to discuss plans for the next re-union of the Herzl Club boys - which will be the 20th re-union.

On the basis of communications received from the out of town members and as a result of the discussion of this meeting, the following recommendations were made. Your opinions concerning these recommendations are desired and will be gratefully received. It is especially important to know whether the proposed date is convenient for you.

- 1 - Date - The Convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis is scheduled for June 26th to June 29th. The Convention of the Z.O.A. is scheduled for June 29th, to July 2nd. It appears therefore that July 3rd or July 7th would be most appropriate. Which of these days is best for you, or what other date would you prefer?
- 2 - Place - Down Town, East Side, New York City, Clinton Hall.
- 3 - Character of Event - A social get-together for members, their wives, sweethearts, their parents, and outsiders who have been identified with the organization and work of the Herzl Club.
- 4 - Program - While a definite program has not been worked out, a few of the suggestions made are as follows:
  - a - Dinner
  - b - Dancing
  - c - Speeches
  - d - Play (אחריהם אלה) given by the original cast and selections from other plays.
  - e - Guests - Among the guests will be Mr. Leon Blank, Masliansky, Jacob Massel, and some parents of members prominent in the organization of the club. Also some Yiddish newspaper men and a representative from the Associated Press.
  - f - Publicity - In addition to the newspaper publicity anticipated,

it is suggested that arrangements be made with the Jewish Tribune for a special number to be issued during the week of the re-union and to be called the "Jewish Youth Number" which will contain among other articles dealing with the Jewish Youth of America,

- 1 - a leading editorial on the Herzl Club
- 2 - a symposium of several pages consisting of about 5 brief articles by 5 of the leading members of the club on one of the following or some similar subject:
  - a - Twenty years with the Jewish Problem in America by American Jewish boys now grown to manhood
  - b - How some of the leading members of the first boys' Zionist club in America have met and re-acted to the Jewish problem in America during a period of twenty years

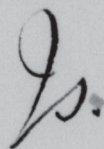
g - Souvenir - A booklet containing the following:

- 1 - An editorialized stenographic report of the speeches and proceedings of the evening
- 2 - Reprint of the articles in the Jewish Tribune
- 3 - A history of the Herzl Zion Club
- 4 - Biographical notes of the leading members of the Club
- 5 - Personal notes of a lighter nature. If honored esthetic laws can with impunity be overlooked, photographs of some of our distinguished members may accompany these biographic notes.

The above is a brief outline of our menu for the affair.  
Now, brave boy, pitch in to it and do your worst, but please do it in a hurry.

As ever

Yours,



DR. HERZL ZION CLUB  
Twentieth Reunion  
1904-1924

June 10, 1924

Dear Herzlite:

At the 19th reunion of the boys of the Dr. Herzl Zion Club a special committee was appointed to make preparations for the 20th reunion. The committee begs to inform you of the following plans which have been accepted:

Date - The 20th reunion will be held on Monday evening, July 7th, at 6.30 p.m.

Place- Clinton Hall, 151 Clinton Street, New York City.

Character of Event- A social get-together for members, their wives, sweethearts, parents, and outsiders who have been identified with the organization and work of the Herzl Club.

Program

- (a) Banquet
- (b) Scenes from plays produced by the Herzl members
- (c) Readings - by our own humorists and histrionic geniuses.
- (d) Speeches - both sublime and ridiculous
- (e) Guests - Masliansky, Jacob Massel, and others.
- (f) Dancing - by our own terpsichorean artists
- (g) An historical exhibit of all the great achievements of the boys, including the "Scratch Me and Scratch You" article which appeared in the Drama magazine.
- (h) Price - Most fortunate of all our decisions, indeed, such as becomes our state of maturity, sagacity, and opulence - just think of it, only \$4 per plate. Is not this alone the most tempting of all of the above program?
- (i) Publicity - In order that posterity may not condemn us as selfish and narrow, we have agreed to let the public know that we had a good time. For that reason one of the popular English-Jewish weeklies may publish a special number called the Jewish Youth number containing contributions from members of the Club and a history of the Club. The Yiddish press, too, will be given a chance in accordance with our decision that there should be no discrimination against the press.

There is just a little favor we ask of you. We know the press and its weaknesses. We know that they clamor for our pictures. Will you be good enough to have yours ready when they want it?

Just one more reminder: send notice of your reservations on the enclosed card. Yes, we have no money! So we will have no objections if you will send us a draft on your bank. Please do so immediately before there is a further drop in the international rate of exchange.

We beg to remain, at your service, and in merriment.

The Boys of the Reunion of 1924

Israel S. Chipkin  
Solomon Cohen

Jesse Schwartz  
Meyer Seltzer

Maxwell Silver

DR. HERZL ZION CLUB

July 28, 1924

Rabbi A. H. Silver  
55th St. & Central Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

At the Reunion on July 7th in Clinton Hall, your Committee was charged with the further consideration of plans for future activity of the Herzl members. Among the suggestions offered and agreed upon at the meeting were the following:

To arrange with the Jewish Tribune for a special issue which will be devoted to a consideration of the Jewish youth organizations and Jewish youth education in this country. Your Committee wishes to report that final arrangements have been made with the editor, Mr. Herman Bernstein, who will devote a section of the New Year number to the Herzl Club and to the consideration of Jewish youth organizations. The following outline has been agreed upon:

1 - A symposium which will consist of 500 word articles by a number of the members of the Herzl Club on the question "How Jewish boys now grown to Manhood have met the Jewish problem in America during the last twenty years." Those expected to participate in this symposium are:

Rabbi Samuel J. Abrams  
" Barnett B. Brickner  
" Abraham J. Feldman  
Mr. Abraham H. Friedland

Rabbi Benjamin Friedman  
Mr. Louis Hurwich  
" Emanuel Neumann  
Rabbi Abba H. Silver  
" Maxwell Silver

2 - Special articles:

a - History of the Dr. Herzl Zion Club	by Jesse Schwartz
b - Rise of the Jewish Youth Movement in America	by Israel S. Chipkin
c - The Problem of Jewish Youth Education	" Dr. S. Benderly
d - The Training of the Jewish Youth	" Dr. M. M. Kaplan

3 - Organization articles:

Intercollegiate Menorah Ass.	Junior Mizrachi
Junior Federation	Young Judaea
Junior Hadassah	Young Israel
	Young People's League of United Synagogue

These articles are to be written by the representatives of the respective organizations.

As one of those who is expected to participate in the symposium, we beg to inform you that Mr. Bernstein has requested that your statement be received by him by the 1st of September. We trust that you will be able to comply with the request of the editor of the Jewish Tribune. Will you be good enough to acknowledge receipt of this letter?

With kindest personal regards, we are

Office of Committee  
Israel S. Chipkin  
30 West 57th St.  
New York City

Sincerely yours,  
Israel S. Chipkin  
Maxwell Silver

THE PUBLIC NATIONAL BANK OF NEW YORK

OFFICE OF BRANCH MANAGER

August 22, 1924.

Rabbi Abba H. Silver,  
55 Street and Central Avenue,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Permit me, as Acting Chairman for the Dr. Herzl Zion Club Committee co-operating with Mr. Herman Bernstein in the preparation of the Jewish Youth Number of The Jewish Tribune, to remind you of the urgent request of the Committee and of Mr. Bernstein that you kindly write the brief article suggested to you in their letters addressed to you some time ago and mail your worthy contribution to Mr. Herman Bernstein, editor of The Jewish Tribune, 1328 Broadway, New York City, not later than September 1st.

Will you, therefore, in the name of the worthy cause which this effort represents, kindly complete the brief article requested at the first opportunity, as there is so little time left, and forward same to the above address by September 1st?.

You have now the sincere thanks  
of the Committee for your kind compliance with  
its earnest request.

Yours very faithfully,

*Maxwell Silver*

for the Committee.



The Public National Bank,  
1490 Madison Avenue,  
New York City

*Don't mind this form letter. Please  
try to send the above mentioned in the  
proper time. My best to Virginia  
and yourself. Many thanks for your  
beautiful and considerate gift. Where are  
you keeping yourself at the present?  
Jane, too, wishes to be remembered to  
yourself and Virginia.*

*M.*