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### **MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.**

Series I: General Correspondence, 1914-1969, undated.

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Israel Bonds, Boston, Massachusetts, 1957.





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Oct. 16, 1957

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
E. 105th at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I have just notified our Boston Office that you have agreed to speak at the Chanukah Festival at the Boston Garden on Wednesday, December 18th. I expect to receive further details re. the program and arrangements they are making for your arrival and will advise you of these details within a short time.

With reference to your desire to assign some of the Bonds you are holding to Israeli institutions, I have referred this matter to our House Counsel, Mr. Martin Kurash, who will write to you in a day or so and outline the necessary technical steps to accomplish this.

With kindest personal regards, I remain

Cordially,

Max Helvarg, National Director  
Community Leadership Division

MH/so

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Lv. Boston	8:00 A.M.	American #251
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Lv. N.Y. LaG.	10:15 A.M.	Capital #135
Ar. Cleveland	12:15 P.M.	

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Mr. Helvarg will meet you.

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*LAO  
Page*



## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

Leon Janney, prominent Broadway star was a last-minute addition to the cast of the Festival in the role of Narrator of the Pageant. Mr. Janney, who has created many memorable roles in the theatre appeared in last year's Chanukah Festival, brilliantly portraying the role of Prime Minister David Ben-Gurion.

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The PLAYBILL for BOSTON is published for the Colonial Theatre,  
the Astor Theatre, and this special edition for the  
Fourth Annual Chanukah Festival.

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1957**

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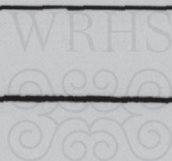


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**INTRODUCTION.....**Rabbi Herman H. Rubenovitz, Chairman  
Rabbinical Advisory Board, Greater Boston  
Committee, State of Israel Bonds

**ADDRESS.....**Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Chairman,  
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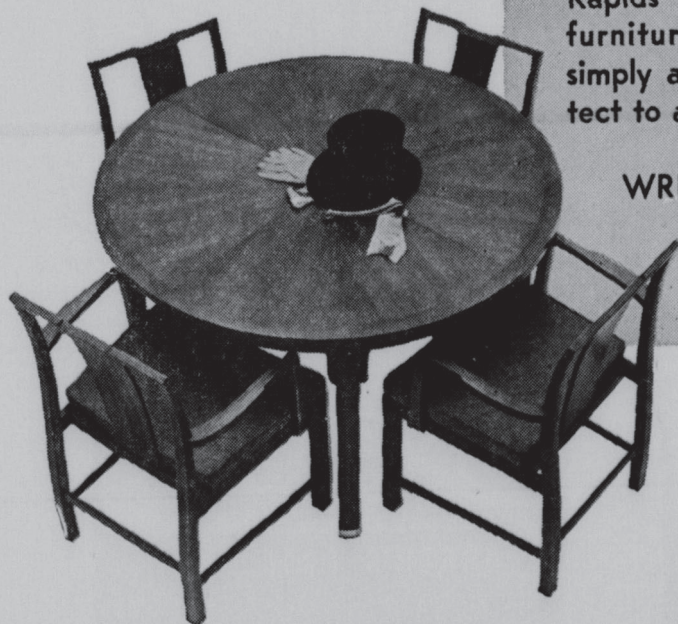
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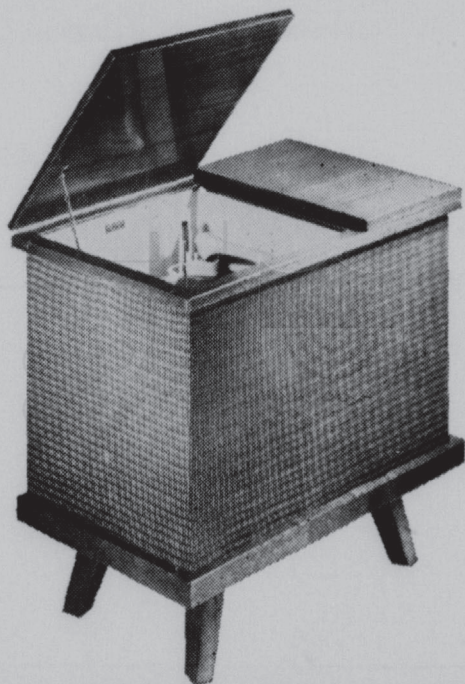
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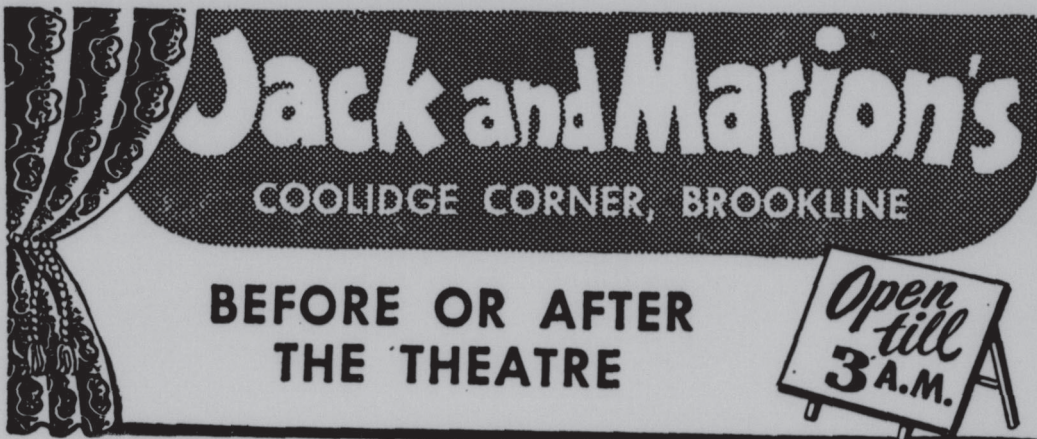


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The construction of several important industries was undertaken. Israel's exports during 1957 will top the \$200,000,000 mark.

In all these achievements, Israel Bonds have played their considerable share, and I hope that each of you will come to Israel during our tenth-year celebration to see all that and more with your own eyes.

But there is still lots of wasteland to settle—more immigrants to absorb and integrate. There are more homes to build—more factories to erect—more roads to chart—more power stations to construct. To do all these things, more Bonds must be sold.

With the supply of arms to the Arabs by both the East and the West, our very existence as a democratic nation is assured by our strength on all fronts, and particularly by the vigor of our economy.

When I helped to launch the Bond drive more than six years ago, I believed then, as I do now, that its great strength would rest on the support of the large masses of American Jews.

I am confident of the response of our fellow Jews to the call for investment in Israel's future. Shalom.

**TRAVEL . . .**

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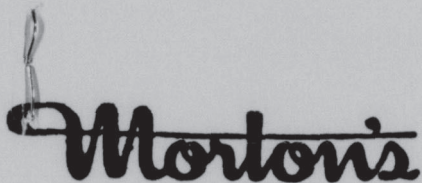
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**FAMOUS**

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**OVER**

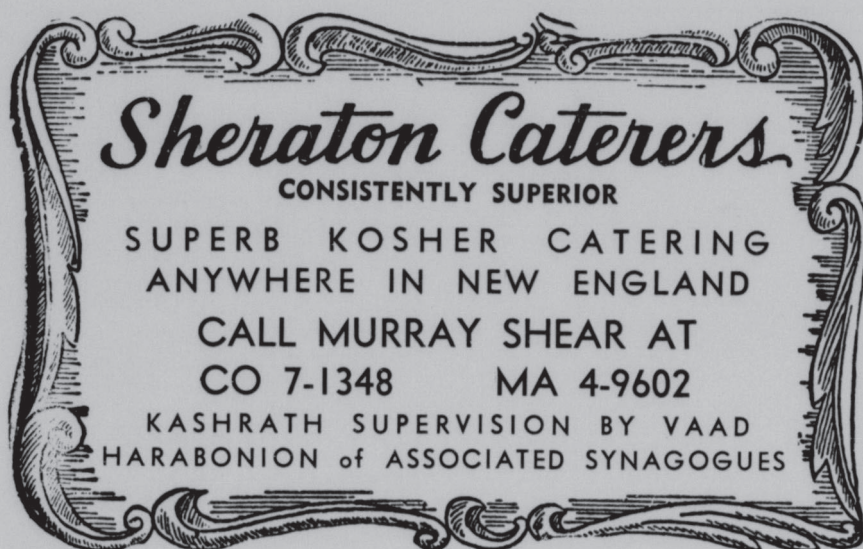
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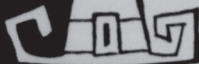
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She is probably the most prolific singer at the Metropolitan, having appeared in more operas during the past five years than any other soprano. She is known as the Cin-

derella of the Metropolitan because she was called upon to sing the leading role in "Il Trovatore" as her official debut at the Opera House, on exactly 24 hours notice.

Born in New York City, Miss Resnik came to the Metropolitan by way of the Auditions of the Air. She has been in great demand for concerts, oratorios, and television guest appearances, as well as for opera.

The blonde, blue-eyed singer has appeared with leading symphony orchestras throughout the United States and Canada. She has performed as soloist in various music festivals, including the Central City Music Festival of Colorado.

An excellent student and linguist, Miss Resnik sings operatic roles in English, German, Italian, French and Russian. Her ability to create so many different operatic and dramatic roles has been lauded by music critics from coast to coast.

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Following his graduation from the University of Cincinnati in 1915 and his ordination as a Rabbi by the Hebrew Union College in the same year, Dr. Silver rendered special service during the first World War, for which he was decorated by the French Government. In 1917, he became spiritual leader of The Temple, in Cleveland, which under his leadership has become one of the foremost Jewish congregations in the country.

Dr. Silver has held numerous important posts, including: National Chairman, United Palestine Appeal; National Chairman, United Jewish Appeal; Dudleian Lecturer at Harvard University, 1939-40; member of the Near East Relief Committee, member of the Executive Board of the Larger Regional Government of Cleveland, and member of the Consumers League of Ohio.

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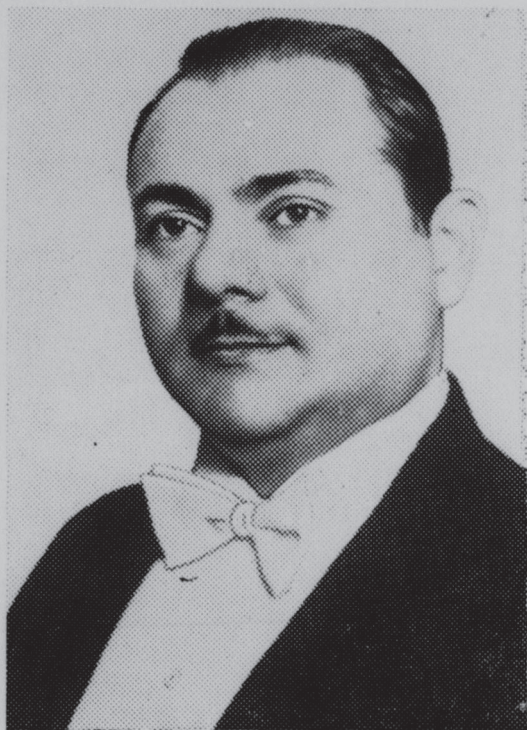
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Cantor Moshe Koussevitzky has sung before capacity audiences

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Moshe Koussevitzky was selected from a group of more than 200 contestants from all over the world to serve as Cantor of Warsaw in 1929. The first to be heard, and asked to sing again as the last, Cantor Koussevitzky was swiftly on his way to an international concert and operatic career.

In 1930, he made his recital debut at the Salle Gaveau in Paris, and during the same season was heard in Brussels and Antwerp. At the end of the war, Cantor Koussevitzky toured the British Isles, appearing in London, Glasgow, Manchester, Birmingham and other cities.

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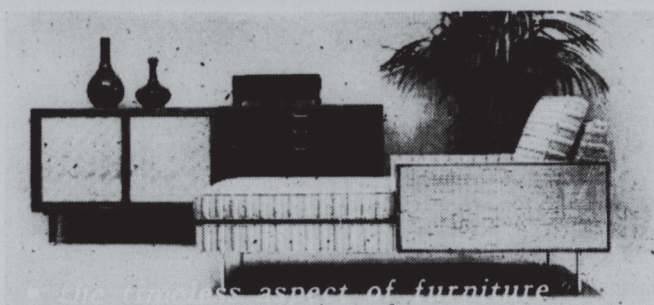
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**FIRST PLAY ABOUT ROOSEVELT OPENS AT  
COLONIAL THEATRE ON DEC. 30  
"SUNRISE AT CAMPOBELLO" STARS RALPH BELLAMY**



**RALPH BELLAMY AS FRANKLIN  
DELANO ROOSEVELT IN "SUN-  
RISE AT CAMPOBELLO."**



**DORE SCHARY, AUTHOR OF  
"SUNRISE AT CAMPOBELLO."  
MR. SCHARY ALSO WROTE THE  
CHANUKAH PAGEANT.**

The first play written about Franklin Delano Roosevelt will light up the stage of the Colonial Theatre on Monday evening, December 30, where it remains for two weeks. Written by Mr. Schary, it is called "Sunrise at Campobello," and stars Ralph Bellamy as FDR. The Theatre Guild and Mr. Schary are co-producing the drama.

Playwright Schary, one of the bigwigs of the motion picture industry as both writer and producer, admits that he has been a long time admirer of the late President Roosevelt. "I never met him, though," he quickly adds.

"I didn't write the play because I admired him, however," he makes clear. "Tributes like that do not necessarily make good theatre. I wrote it because I think it is a tremendous story of a man's courageous fight against overwhelming odds. It deals primarily only with the years from 1921 to 1924 and tells the story of how Roosevelt overcame the crippling physical and mental effects of his polio attack. These years could have been the sunset of his career; instead it became the sunrise and restored him to political life."

Schary, who headed the powerful MGM studios for many years, is a showman of some thirty years standing. Such notable film hits as Academy Award-winning "Boy's Town," "Battleground," "Bad Day at Black Rock," "Blackboard Jungle" and "Designing Woman," attest to his craftsmanship. That is why, when he set out to write "Sunrise at Campobello," his first play, by the way, in 18 years, he thought in terms of effective drama and entertainment. He believes the episodes depicted in the play are warmly moving, poignant and make for striking and exciting theatre.

The play idea was born after he had left his MGM post about a year ago and the urge to write a play was upon him. In going through some books in his library he came upon material noting in detail Roosevelt's illness at the family's summer home at Campobello, Nova Scotia. Instantly the play began to take shape.

"I had the end before anything else. It was to be Roosevelt's triumphal return to public life in 1924 when he made the speech nominating Alfred E. Smith for President at the Democratic National Convention at Madison Square Garden. This, to me, is as dramatic a high point as any author could ever invent."



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Naturally, Schary discussed the play with Eleanor Roosevelt, who endorsed the idea, and so he went ahead with an outline. Subsequently members of the family read the play and made suggestions which were incorporated into the script. "The Roosevelts are very happy with every phase of the play," reports Schary, "and they are still making suggestions, which pleases me considerably."

Casting "Sunrise at Campobello" was no easy matter. Vincent J. Donehue, who has directed the play, Lawrence Langner, who is co-administrator of the Theatre Guild, and Schary himself have veritably heard scores of actors every day for many months to get the right people for the more than twenty roles comprising the cast of characters. The Roosevelt children were particularly hard to get. Mary Fickett will essay Eleanor Roosevelt; Henry Jones plays Louis Howe; Anne Seymour will do Sara Delano Roosevelt and Alan Bunce will recreate Al Smith.

Ralph Bellamy, who will recreate Roosevelt, has been rehearsing privately for weeks in the use of the crutches, canes and wheel chair.

"I think he's going to be just wonderful," says Schary. "He's about the same size as Roosevelt and when he puts on the pince-nez and sticks that long cigarette holder in his mouth the effect is startling."

"Sunrise at Campobello" will give Thursday and Saturday matinees at the Colonial. Following a fortnight's stand in Philadelphia, the drama opens at New York's Cort Theatre on January 30, Roosevelt's birthday.

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### HONORED GUEST

Miss Esther Herlitz has served as Consul of the State of Israel since December, 1954. She will shortly be leaving the United States to undertake a new assignment of great importance in the State of Israel.

One of Israel's highest-ranking women officials, Miss Herlitz has undertaken positions of unusual responsibility both as an Army officer

and as a civilian in the diplomatic service.

On the international scene, Miss Herlitz represents emancipated womanhood. In 1949, as a member of, and adviser to the Israel Delegation to the United Nations, she was assigned to the powerful Political Committee, thus becoming the first woman to be appointed to this top-level group.

Born in Berlin, Miss Herlitz was only six when her father, George Herlitz, was appointed Director General of the World Zionist Archives in Jerusalem, a position he still occupies. Her life in the Holy City was that of student by day, and Haganah underground fighter by night.

After graduating Hebrew Teachers College in 1941, Miss Herlitz became a volunteer in the British Army, serving through 1946. She undertook her first diplomatic assignment as a Political Department aide for the Jewish Agency in 1947.

During the siege of Jerusalem during Israel's War of Independence, Miss Herlitz was second in command of the "Chen" (Women's Defense Army of Israel). Following the war she entered the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where she has rendered distinguished service for her country.

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## PAGEANT STAR

Josef Yadin is a leading member of Israel's vigorous young theatre group, the Chamber Theatre. A graduate of the famed Habimah Theatre of Tel Aviv, he is one of Israel's most versatile and best-known actors.

His appearance in the Chanukah Festival Pageant follows his successful American debut on a nationwide CBS TV show on October 2nd. The program dramatized a book written by Yigal Yadin, Mr. Yadin's brother, explaining the significance of the Dead Sea Scrolls. In the show,

Mr. Yadin played the role of his father, a renowned archaeologist and Hebrew University professor, who pioneered in the study and historical interpretation of the now-famous scrolls.

Born in Jerusalem in 1920, Mr. Yadin was educated in the schools of Palestine. He served in the British Army during World War II, helping to found a Jewish group of performers which toured the Middle East entertaining Palestinian soldiers.

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### M E M O

FROM: Harry Walker

TO: Dr. Abba H. Silver

DATE: December 19, 1957

It was a pleasure seeing you briefly last night.  
You delivered a magnificent talk.

Thought you might like to see the enclosed report  
in this morning's Boston Herald.

Warmest regards.







**CHANUKAH FESTIVAL** officials who headed festivities at Boston Garden last night marking 10th year of Israeli freedom were, from left, Lawrence G. Laskey, Dr. Abba H. Silver and Mrs. W. J. Talcoff.

# Chanukah Festival Draws 10,000 to Garden

The Arab nations of the Middle East will negotiate a permanent settlement with Israel as soon as they become convinced that Israel is there to stay and will be protected by the free nations of the world, more than 10,000 persons were told last night at the fourth annual Chanukah Festival For Israel at Boston Garden.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver of The Temple in Cleveland, chairman of the board of governors of the Development Corporation for Israel, said that NATO leaders at the Paris conference could end Middle East tensions if they would let the Arabs know of Israel's permanence.

Lawrence G. Laskey, general chairman of the Greater Boston Israel Bond Committee and chairman of the meeting, announced that \$1,706,800 worth of Israel bonds were sold in Greater Boston in 1957. He called the sale a "remarkable achievement" and declared it was firm evidence of interest in the continuation and development of Israel.

He appealed for continued strong support of the new state, warning that her survival cannot be taken for granted.

Dr. Silver said that in the case of Israel's survival it is a question of "who will win out—those who have faith or those who count upon faithlessness."

Israel, he promised, will flower in ultimate security and prosperity if she receives the unfailing support of her friends.

But he warned: "The Arabs are waiting for the Jews in Israel or in the rest of the world to grow weary and give up the struggle. A state is not built in a year or even in a decade."

## CONFIDENCE IN STATE

Jews must demonstrate that they are willing to persevere and that they will not grow tired of giving support to Israel, said the noted Zionist leader.

In spite of "many clouds still on the horizon," Dr. Silver said he felt justified in re-affirming the confidence in a Jewish State that he expressed to the United Nations ten years ago: "... We

have never been disheartened and have never lost faith in the ultimate triumph of great moral principles. . ."

He was introduced by Rabbi Herman H. Rubenovitz, chairman of the Rabbinical Advisory Board, Greater Boston Committee, State of Israel Bonds.

Other speakers included Mrs. William J. Talcoff, chairman, Greater Boston Women's Division, State of Israel Bonds.

## CITATIONS GIVEN

Citations were presented Mrs. Charles Schneider and Morris Sloane, grand marshals of Action Day for Israel.

The invocation was given by Rabbi Charles Weinberg, honorary president, Orthodox Rabbinical Council of Greater Boston. Blessing of the Chanukah Candles was carried out by Cantor Michal Hammerman of Congregation Kehillath Israel, Brookline.

Presentation of colors was performed by the Massachusetts Department, Jewish War Veterans of America. The Star Spangled

Banner and Hatikvah were sung by Cantor Uri Zifroni of Temple Beth El, Quincy.

The Festival featured a colorful pageant, written by Dore Schary and starring Leon Janney, as narrator, and Josef Yadin, prominent Israeli actor. Starring in a special musical program were Miss Regina Resnik of the Metropolitan Opera Company and Cantor Moshe Koussevitzky.



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## Bond Sales For '57 \$1,706,800

### *Silver Says West Holds Key to Peace*

"The statesmen meeting in Paris today could bring a prompt solution to strife in the Middle East if they were to declare to the Arab nations that they must understand that Israel is here to stay." Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the board of governors of the Development Corporation for Israel, told 10,000 cheering spectators at the Fourth Annual Chanukah Festival for Israel at the Boston Garden Wednesday night.

Earlier, Lawrence G. Laskey, general chairman of the Greater Boston Israel Bond Committee, who presided at the Festival, told the audience, all of whom had participated in Action Day last Sunday by purchasing and selling bonds, that a total of \$1,706,800 in Israel Bonds had been sold in the community thus far this year, bringing the six-year total to \$11,108,600 in bond sales.

Dr. Silver referred to the historic parallels between the time of the Maccabees and the present, noting that: "Through the centuries, our people resisted all efforts to demolish and destroy them. It was no surprise that this Maccabean spirit which prevailed through the ages, enabled our brothers in Palestine, poorly equipped and sadly out-numbered, to prevail against the armed might of the six nations which invaded her. And in the end, there was a free independent State of Israel."

Referring to the meetings at the United Nations at which the question of establishing an independent Israel arose, Dr. Silver stated that "many friends of our people doubted the wisdom ten years ago of setting up an independent Israel, stating their profound misgivings over the ability of such a State to prosper against such odds. Today, Israel, on the brink of completing ten great years of freedom, has vindicated the honor of our people and emerged as a politically stable government and an outstanding model of democracy."

He urged continued purchase of Israel Bonds "for an indefinite period of years to come, to ensure that

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**PRINCIPALS AT CHANUKAH FESTIVAL**—Just before the opening of the Fourth Annual Israel Bond Chanukah Festival at the Boston Garden Wednesday night the principals of the program met to discuss arrangements. Left to right are: Lawrence G. Laskey, general chairman of the Greater Boston Israel Bond Committee, who presided; Mrs. Lewis Goldberg, New England Women's Division chairman; Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, chairman of the board of governors of the Development Corporation for Israel, principal speaker; Mrs. William J. Talcoff, Greater Boston Women's Division chairman.

## Bond

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Israel will ultimately attain complete economic security." The Cleveland Rabbi warned that "complacency at this stage would be a signal to hostile Arabs that the time has come to strike."

Rabbi Herman H. Rubenowitz, chairman, Rabbinical Advisory Board of the Greater Boston Israel Bond Committee, introduced Dr. Silver.

Mrs. William J. Talcoff, Greater Boston Women's Division chairman, discussed the activity of women in selling Israel Bonds during the past year, pointing out that "for the third successive year, our community has led the nation in Women's Division activity." Mr. Laskey presented a gold bracelet to Mrs. Talcoff "as an expression of our esteem and affection."

Scrolls were also presented to Morris Sloane and Mrs. Charles Schneider, grand marshals for Action Day. Rabbi Charles Weinberg, honorary president, Orthodox Rabbinical Council of Greater Boston, delivered the invocation, while Cantor Michal Hamerman of Congregation Kehillath Israel, Brookline, chanted the blessing of the Chanukah candles.

The program opened with the presentation of the colors by the Jewish War Veterans, under the leadership of Melvin Lubin, Department Commander. Cantor Uri Zifroni of Temple Beth El, Quincy, led in the singing of the Star Spangled Banner and Hatikvah.

Highlight of the program was the presentation of the pageant "Boombah" written by Dore Schary, Hollywood producer and writer, and starring Leon Janney as the narrator and Josef Yadin as the guide. The pageant, written and presented in tribute to Israel's tenth anniversary, was produced by Estelle Stahl.

Cantor Moshe Koussevitzky and Miss Regina Resnik of the Metropolitan Opera Company sang prior to the dramatic presentation. The program concluded with the dramatic lighting of candles by the entire audience to symbolize the unity and brotherhood of the Jewish people.







DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FOR ISRAEL

*New England Region*

# State of Israel Bonds

79 Milk Street, Boston 9, Massachusetts — Liberty 2-5689

LAWRENCE G. LASKEY  
Chairman

December 27, 1957

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Doctor Silver:

Accept our warmest thanks for coming to Boston to be with us at the Fourth Annual Chanukah Festival. It was a rare treat for the Jews of Boston, and it was wonderful to be with you.

It is my sincerest hope that I have the pleasure of being with you again in the very near future.

Again, please accept our many thanks.

With warmest regards.

Cordially yours,

*Lawrence G. Laskey*  
LAWRENCE G. LASKEY  
Chairman  
New England Region

LGL:EDB

*A very happy year  
to you & all. Again, our  
thanks for being with us.  
People are still talking  
about your visit to  
Boston.*

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