



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

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

Sub-series A: Alphabetical, 1914-1965, undated.

Reel
33

Box
12

Folder
820

Jabotinsky, Vladimir, 1934-1935.

JACOB DE HAAS
1133 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, N. Y.

November 5, 1934

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

Vladimir Jabotinsky is coming to U. S. A. at the end of January for a lecture tour in the interest of the cause with which his name is associated. I have consented to serve as chairman of the JABOTINSKY RECEPTION COMMITTEE, and have accepted this onerous responsibility in the belief that with your cooperation, and that of others, his visit can be provided with a broad and non-partizan background.

Happily, as you know, a truce has been established in the Zionist ranks. Therefore it becomes easier to create for Jabotinsky a free platform, and a public hearing for his views on the solution of the Jewish problem.

As a Herzlist Zionist I am not indifferent to Jabotinsky's attitudes though I have disagreed with him in the past, and may differ with him again. I am not a member of his organization, and am not inviting you to join it. On the other hand, I acknowledge that at this time Jabotinsky has a larger personal and devoted following than any other Jew in Europe, and half the Jews in Palestine follow him implicitly. His views have captivated the youth of Poland, and are making similar inroads in Roumania. This comes close to making him the leader of the two mass Jewries in Europe. In 1926 when he was last here he was known as an able writer and a gifted orator.

To-day, in my judgment, he has won for himself a position that makes him one of the four or five casting votes in the affairs of Jewry in Europe, certainly in shaping the ideology of the period. His message and his views should therefore command attention in the U. S. A.

To make that possible I invite you, without pledging your judgment to any ism to join this neutral committee. Every great cause is entitled to an attentive hearing. You will materially aid in creating a non-partizan atmosphere by joining this committee.

The favor of your reply on enclosed post card will be greatly appreciated by

Yours very truly,

Jacob de Haas.

JDH:PK