



## 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.

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Jewish National Fund, 1951-1952.

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JEWISH NATIONAL FUND

358 CENTRAL AVENUE • JERSEY CITY 7, N. J.

JOURNAL SQUARE 4-3200

September 24, 1951.

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Dear Dr. Silver:

With the approach of Rosh Hashanah, may I wish you, Mrs. Silver and your sons a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year - - one in which you will be spared disappointment, and during which your genuine devotion to Israel and the Jewish people, and your sincerity of purpose will be better understood, even by those, who without justification, bitterly opposed you.

It is unfortunate that our son's severe illness necessitated the return home of my wife and myself from Geneva, just as we were to start for Jerusalem to attend the Congress. We both wanted so much to be there to support you to the fullest of our ability though we would have been on the losing side.

Dr. Harris Levine told me of what took place in Jerusalem. I am disgusted and heart-sick over the disloyalty of some of the present ZOA leaders. Their action was short-sighted and reeked with ingratitude, for it was you and you alone who saved them in Chicago last year. They should have had more decency. I am not alone in my let-down feeling. There are many, many others with whom I spoke and who are of the unanimous opinion that without your inspiring guidance and advice ZOA will not amount to anything from this point on. Its effectiveness ceases. The leadership during the last three years has not been strong enough to keep the organization from disintegrating. After Jerusalem we can expect the worst.

I suppose you wonder whether there are any on whom you can depend. As one who has been in touch with hundreds in the ZOA rank and file let me assure you that the membership was, still is and always will be, overwhelmingly behind you. You will continue as titular head of ZOA as long as you wish to, in spite of Ben Browdy's brain trust. For them there must be a day of reckoning. This is not said for the purpose of influencing you in shaping your future plans. It is not for me to make suggestions to you on that score. Whatever you decide on is good enough for your followers, among whom I am proud to count myself.

The condition of my son makes it imperative that I slow up Zionist activities for a time. On doctors' orders, I have declined to serve as President of the New Jersey ZOA Region for another term. However, if I can be of service to you in any way, I am yours to command.

Sincerely,

*Benjamin E. Gordon*  
Benjamin E. Gordon

99 Cherry Lane,  
Teaneck, N.J.

# JEWISH NATIONAL FUND



41 East 42nd Street • New York 17, N. Y.

Vanderbilt 6-3780

February 1, 1952

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Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
E. 106th St. & Ansel Rd.  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

I am sorry that you could not accept the invitation to speak at the Albert Schiff Dinner. It will be held on Sunday, February 10th in Columbus, Ohio. I shall be deeply grateful if you will be good enough to send a message that we can read at the dinner.

You know of Mr. Schiff's manifold contributions to the movement. He has been one of the leaders of his own community. He is now serving as National Chairman of our Finance Committee. He is active in the UPA, UJA, Bond Campaign, etc.

May I ask you to be good enough to send this message within the next few days directly to us and we will transmit it to Columbus.

I hope this letter finds you, Mrs. Silver and the children in the best of health.

With warmest personal regards,

Cordially yours,

MENDEL N. FISHER  
Executive Director

MNF:ss

February 5, 1952

Mr. Mendel N. Fisher  
Jewish National Fund  
41 East 42nd Street  
New York 17, New York

My dear Friend:

I understand that a testimonial dinner under the auspices of the Jewish National Fund is being tendered to Mr. Albert Schiff in Columbus. Will you not convey to him on that occasion my heartiest felicitations? I should like to be included among the host of his friends in paying tribute to him for his many years of loyal service to our common cause. He has unselfishly given of his time, his energy and his substance to the Zionist cause and to the State of Israel. I regret that pressing work here at home makes it impossible for me personally to attend the function.

I hope that Mr. Schiff will be privileged to enjoy many more years of health and of fruitful and satisfying service.

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND, Inc.  
(KEREN KAYEMETH L'ISRAEL)



41 EAST 42nd STREET  
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.  
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LEO WOLFSON

March 31, 1952

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Ansel Rd. at E. 106th St.  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

The Jewish National Fund has just held its Annual Meeting. It is with genuine pleasure that I advise you of your unanimous re-election as one of the Honorary Chairmen. It was a most spirited meeting and I was very much encouraged by the pledge of cooperation that came from all the Zionist groups.

The presence of your name on our list of Honorary Chairmen will do much to enhance the dignity and prestige of the work that we are doing.

With all good wishes,

Very cordially yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Harris J. Levine". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Harris" and last name "Levine" clearly distinguishable.

DR. HARRIS J. LEVINE  
President

HJL:ss

April 11, 1952

Dr. Harris J. Levine  
Jewish National Fund  
41 East 42nd Street  
New York 17, New York

My dear Dr. Levine:

Thank you for your kind letter of March 31st advising me that I have been reelected an honorary chairman of the Jewish National Fund. I appreciate the honor very much.

I trust that you are well and I hope that I may have the pleasure of seeing you before long. With all good wishes to you and your dear lady in which Mrs. Silver joins me, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er