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National Conference of Christians and Jews, 1930-1937.

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE of JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

For Justice, Amity and Understanding between the Many Groups that Comprise America

289 FOURTH AVENUE

NEW YORK CITY

HON. NEWTON D. BAKER
PROF. CARLTON J. H. HAYES
MR. ROGER W. STRAUS

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LOUIS WOLSEY
OWEN D. YOUNG

2 October 1930

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The Cleveland Adult Education Association wrote that you were puzzled by my proposal for a Cleveland conference. I would like to clarify the situation in this letter, for if you are convinced by a reasonable plan, I believe that Miss Chadsey will proceed with the details.

I have no determined program for Cleveland: that, it seems to me, is up to the desires of your committee. I have, however, a clear purpose; that is, to educate for intergroup appreciation, to awaken a respect for the value of intelligent human differences, and to arouse a sense of comradeship between Jews and Christians in facing some of the present-day problems of our civilization. Precisely how a conference can attempt this, your local committee can decide. I am convinced that a good starting point is the perspective President Wilkins of Oberlin can give -- and he can give it in a fascinating thirty-minute talk. Dr. Wilkins is saving the evening of November 7th for Cleveland. I wonder if his address could not be given in your Temple service, providing there would be room for all of the delegates. Reinhold Niebuhr can speak at a noon meeting November 8th (the only day he can give us). My thought was to call into convention delegated young people, churchwomen's society representatives, and churchmen; delegated Jews of similar aged groups in the Synagogue; and college students. I believe we can stimulate considerable thinking. Saturday forenoon we can use for discussion divisions under a number of leaders. For the noon luncheon it would be grand if we could induce you to speak with Niebuhr, and have Newton Baker preside.

It is impossible for me to get to Cleveland until Friday noon, October seventeenth. Before that time your committee could draw up a satisfactory plan, and allow Dr. Don Tullis of the Church Federation to get invitations out to his constituency, and Miss Chadsey to work with student groups, Catholics if they will attend, out of town Ohio delegates, while Jews on the Committee can see that invitations go to interested persons in their groups.

By the way, we want you to take part in a Florida intercollegiate parley next March. Of that I shall speak to you when I see you in Cleveland.

Sincerely,
Everett R. Clinchy

Oct. 9th, 1930

Dr. Everett R. Clinchy,
National Conference of Jews & Christians,
289 Fourth Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Clinchy:-

Permit me to thank you for your kind
letter of October 2d.

Miss Chadsey and Dr. Busch were in to see
me a few days ago following the receipt of your communications.
We had decided to wait until your coming here on October 17th
at which time we shall discuss the matter in greater detail.

With kindest regards, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR

card

Nov. 18th, 1930

Dr. Everett R. Clinchy,
289 Fourth Ave.,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Clinchy:-

Permit me to thank you for your
kind letter of November 14th.

I wish I could see my way clear to
attend the Conference at the University of Illinois on
January 16th and 17th. Unfortunately I have long
standing engagements for those days.

Wishing you every success, permit
me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE of JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

For Justice, Amity and Understanding between the Many Groups that Comprise America

289 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

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HON. NEWTON D. BAKER
PROF. CARLTON J. H. HAYES
MR. ROGER W. STRAUS

EVERETT R. CLINCHY, *Director*
F. J. FULLER, *Treasurer*
Vice-Pres. Central Hanover
Bank & Trust Company

3 December 1931

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

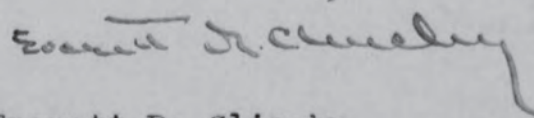
Were it not necessary I would not choose to write this letter to you. You have been so generous in your friendship that I do not like to ask you for anything more. And yet when one sees the continuity of the thing one is giving his life to, threatened, one can take but a single action - fight to the last ditch for it.

This enterprise, Rabbi Silver, of stepping-up one section of American human relations to a higher level, is progressing gloriously. And we can measure real gains! While Europe is reverting to medieval habits in Polish cruelties and Hitlerism in Germany, it is immensely important that we continue to make Protestants, Catholics and Jews in America think their way through to a new democratic relationship, altogether novel in history. I know that Methodists, Presbyterians, Congregationalists, Baptists, and other Protestants are rethinking their attitudes and behavior patterns toward Catholics and toward Jews, and I am told that it is largely because the National Conference plan is stimulating them to do it. I assume that changes are going on in Jewish minds, too, toward Christians.

Now the threatening collapse is purely a physical thing of paying for the education. I am in a desperate situation. I must find \$7,500 before December 31st to assure carrying on into 1932. Of course I know that in Baltimore you have your own financial problems. Because you have a vision, however, beyond the ordinary, I come to you and ask you to help. Can you find a few men and women who will make up a sum for our work? You might get \$100; you might get twice that; or you might get \$50. Whatever you will do, I shall appreciate deeply. Mr. Baker, Professor Hayes, and Mr. Straus personally will see that the money is properly reported and efficiently used.

I shall wait hopefully for your reply.

Faithfully,



Everett R. Clinchy

ERC:S

MORRIS S. LAZARON
1914 MADISON AVENUE
BALTIMORE, MD.

September 25, 1933.

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

Dear Abba:

I am enclosing letter just received from Clinchy. I wrote him that I thought it would be better for a Christian minister to arrange the home meeting. I am assuming that you feel the same way as I do that the lead should be taken by non-Jews in the matter. I further suggested that in getting in touch with his Christian colleague he might tell him to get in touch with you, as I knew that you would cooperate in the meeting but would rather not take the lead.

Personally, I am much more interested in meeting the small groups of twenty or thirty people in a home and talking things over more frankly and intimately than in the larger gatherings. Clinchy knows this and we have determined that that will be the wedge of our drive - the small parlor meetings in each place rather than the large massmeetings.

With love to you all,

Faithfully yours,

M. S. Lazaron

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE of JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

289 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

Co-Chairmen

HON. NEWTON D. BAKER
PROF. CARLTON J. H. HAYES
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Educational Secretary

BENSON Y. LANDIS
Research Secretary

F. J. FULLER, *Treasurer*
President, New York Title
and Mortgage Company

22 September 1933.

Dear Morris:

I attach our two letters from Cleveland wanting us to speak at the Cleveland Forum on Sunday, November 5th at 3:30 in the afternoon. It occurs to me that Rabbi Silver may want to arrange a parlor group for us that evening, or would you enjoy having the opportunity to preach in a Christian pulpit? I have friendship with ministers in several big churches in Cleveland. I do not want, however, to overwork you on this day nor do I want to take the edge off the forum appearances. Do you suggest that we confine our other efforts to an informal conversation on Sunday in someone's home, working through Rabbi Silver? Under such arrangements Father Ross can be included; He can't, of course, enter into service in a Protestant church.

If you feel that you want to take this up with Abba, do so before replying to my question.

Cordially,

Escott

Rabbi Morris Lazon
1914 Madison Avenue
Baltimore, Md.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

For Justice, Amity and Understanding between Catholics, Jews, and Protestants in America

Co-Chairmen

HON. NEWTON D. BAKER
PROF. CARLTON J. H. HAYES
MR. ROGER W. STRAUS
MR. F. J. FULLER, *Treasurer*
President, New York Title
and Mortgage Company

INFORMATION BULLETIN

EVERETT R. CLINCHY,
Director

ROBERT A. ASHWORTH,
Educational Secretary

BENSON Y. LANDIS,
Research Secretary

289 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

DECEMBER, 1933

LOG OF THE CROSS COUNTRY PILGRIMAGE OF RABBI, PRIEST AND PROTESTANT MINISTER TO THIRTY-FIVE CITIES

National Conference Promotes Understanding and Goodwill among
Religious Groups, Sending Messengers from Coast to Coast

BY RADIO, ROUND TABLE AND MASS MEETING RABBI LAZARON,
FATHER ROSS AND MR. CLINCHY CAMPAIGN FOR
JUSTICE AND AGAINST DISCRIMINATION

WE wish that we could share with our readers the full story of the tour from coast to coast through thirty-five cities and as many states, which Rev. Everett R. Clinchy, Rabbi Morris S. Lazaron, of Baltimore, and Father John Elliot Ross, of Charlottesville, Va., are making under the auspices of the National Conference in the interest of justice, amity and understanding among Protestants, Catholics and Jews. Space, however, forbids, and we can only weave a brief account out of extracts from the log of this pilgrimage, letting the participants tell the story, for the most part, in their own words. Speaking for the entire party at the close of the first two weeks of the tour, Rabbi Lazaron is quoted by the press as saying, "The farther we go, the more we realize that there is a real job to be done. The hunger and the enthusiasm for just the type of message that we have been bringing, manifested everywhere we have gone, deeply impressed us. The groups that have met us in every city have represented the finest Catholic, Protestant and Jewish elements of the community. We have broadcast from almost every city along the way. Far from increasing bitterness, we have found an avid taste on the part of all our hearers for a frank facing of the issues. The same areas of friction pop their heads up everywhere we go. One is Protestant and Jewish suspicion of Catholic political ambitions in the United States and questions with respect to parochial schools; another is Protestant and Catholic fear of Jewish economic domination; a third is Jewish fear of economic discrimination, the difficulties of Jewish youth in securing employment. We

THE DENVER POST

NOVEMBER 19, 1933

Keep America Safe for differences of opinion and worship was the plea brought to Denver Saturday by a Catholic priest, a Jewish rabbi and a Protestant clergyman who are touring the country together in the interests of the National Conference of Jews and Christians. Seeds of hatreds which have grown up in Europe must not be allowed to take root on this side of the ocean, the religious leaders, pictured here, believe.



FATHER JOHN E. ROSS

REV. E. R. CLINCHY

RABBI M. S. LAZARON

have not dodged these issues. We have attempted to meet them. Certainly it is antiseptic and helpful, as we have found from our experiences, to bring out from under the surface of our American scene these latent fears and prejudices."

"The pilgrimage team left New York on October 31st with a somewhat spectacular leave-taking. A picture of the team was taken by a news agency and Paramount Publix had a movie sound apparatus at the air field as

we took the plane that was to carry us to Baltimore. Mr. Clinchy informed the microphone that 'we are giving a demonstration that a Roman Catholic priest, a rabbi of the synagogue and a Protestant cleric can live together harmoniously in a suitcase for seven weeks. . . . The nature of our endeavor is good sportsmanship in American intergroup relations.' 'I am going on this tour,' said Father Ross, 'not only as a Catholic priest but as an American citizen. Religious liberty was made in America and we must keep it safe from old world jealousies and divisions.' 'As representative of the mother religion,' added Rabbi Lazon, 'whose followers have been here since colonial days and who have stood shoulder to shoulder with our fellow citizens in the struggle of war and peace, I deem it a privilege to participate in this pilgrimage to ensure and maintain the American ideal of religious liberty and brotherhood.'"

Snap Shots of Baltimore

"We met with faculty and graduate students of Johns-Hopkins University at a luncheon in Levering Hall at noon. Father Ross expressed the thought that it was particularly appropriate that a tour of this kind should begin in Baltimore inasmuch as Maryland was about to celebrate the three-hundredth anniversary of her founding upon the basis of separation of church and state and religious freedom for all.

"Over three hundred gathered for a seminar at Goucher College in the afternoon. Mr. Clinchy summarized the factors in current social change which make a consideration of Catholic-Protestant-Jewish relationships timely. In the discussion, led by Father Ross, suspicion of the political activities of Catholics and social discrimination against Jews, particularly in the sororities were the chief issues raised, and the meeting was an eloquent demonstration that questions packed with dynamite, like these, can be safely trusted to public discussion.

"In the evening sixty selected community leaders met at dinner. The three members of the team addressed the gathering, and at the close it was determined to institute a Baltimore round table of the National Conference.

"Professor Boyd Carpenter, of Georgetown University, presided at a dinner meeting in the Washington Club, Washington, D. C., at which a permanent organization was instituted to further the aims of the National Conference. In Cleveland, which we reached on Sunday, November 5, there was held a forum in the afternoon, at which Mr. Newton D. Baker presided, and the three fellow pilgrims spoke, Rabbi Lazon defining areas of prejudice against Catholics in politics and against Jews in economic matters, and locating the problem in the realm of practice. In the evening at a parlor meeting of a small selected company, in which all three religious groups were represented, a very frank discussion of Catholic schools and the public schools ensued in which every one seemed to speak his full mind with utmost courtesy. The points discussed were, whether it is desirable that religion be taught in the public schools; if so, how it shall be taught—material and technique; and shall the state support, and, if so, in what measure, religious instruction by denominational teachers. Much difference of opinion developed, but much information was exchanged and there was abundant evidence of a conciliatory spirit on the part of differing groups. Here, again, it was decided to form a continuing group."

"Met at the railway station in Delaware, O., by President Soper, of Ohio Wesleyan University, the trio was taken to luncheon with the faculty. At the afternoon seminar Rabbi Lazon and Father Ross, by request, discussed what can be learned in this country from the difficulties of Jews in Germany and of Catholics in Spain and Mexico. Three hundred students attended. Questions addressed to Rabbi Lazon dealt with the Jews and Jesus, an ever recurring subject. In the evening Father Ross and Mr. Clinchy led a discussion of Catholic and public school education at a meeting of the Faculty Social Science Club.

"Thirteen hundred students attended the chapel service the next morning, when Mr. Clinchy put six questions to Father Ross, the answers to which were calculated to lay low some of the bogies which distress non-Catholics with respect to Roman Catholics. Father Ross dealt with inter-marriage, the limitations of the authority of the Pope, the absence of interference of the Roman Catholic Church in American politics, and so on.

"A journey by bus brought the trio to Columbus on November 7 in time for a luncheon at Ohio State University with religious workers and student leaders of religious organization. It was significant at this meeting that it was an Episcopalian clergyman who raised the question of unjust discrimination against Jews and Catholics in appointments to public school systems. Here, as has been usual throughout the tour, local radio stations as well as the public press dealt with us generously. WOSU allocated forty minutes to the team for talks and a question period over the air. Rabbi Lazon, at a meeting of the Council of Jewish Women, dwelt on the necessity for conference between Jews and Christians in this special crisis that inter-race relations may not be aggravated by a misguided strategy.

Opportunities in Ohio

"At four o'clock there was a seminar of two hundred and fifty, mainly students, arranged by Professor Lumley of the department of sociology. Mr. Clinchy led in a blackboard analysis which took the following course: social equilibrium has been disturbed by changing economic conditions which, in turn, has resulted in unrest. At a time of such insecurity there is an increase of tensions between groups of people. A crisis is likely to ensue which will lead to conflict. The question of how to deal with such conflict situations among Catholics, Jews and Protestants was the concern of this two hour seminar. At the end of the session the leaders and team were encircled by small groups of students until the janitor put out the lights.

"Ninety-five reservations were made for leading laymen for a community dinner in the evening but an attendance of one hundred and forty-five taxed the capacity of the room. A presentation by Mr. Clinchy started a discussion which continued until ten o'clock, in which psychologists, economists, sociologists, educators, business men and clergy, and both men and women, participated. Under the leadership of Mr. Fritz Lichtenberg, an Episcopalian and President of the Community Fund of Columbus, it was determined to organize a Columbus round table of the National Conference.

"Dean Walter Kahoe, a Catholic, and Bishop Paul Jones, a Protestant, arranged an assembly of the college body at Antioch College, Yellow Springs, and a follow-up luncheon with the Religious Club and its guests. The evening found Rabbi Lazon in Cincinnati, Father Ross

in Indianapolis, and Mr. Clinchy at the Arcade Hotel, Yellow Springs, addressing a community meeting sponsored by the B'nai B'rith."

"At Indianapolis, November 9, we found that Rev. Ernest Evans, of the Federation of Churches, had brought to life a committee of twelve, equally divided among Protestants, Catholics and Jews, which had been inactive for several years but whose interest had revived on hearing of the pilgrimage. This committee arranged a meeting at the School of Religion of Butler University, composed of members of the faculty of the College, and numbers of the clergy of all denominations from several states. A luncheon of outstanding laymen at the Columbia Club followed. 'This group of men,' said a local leader, 'can put across anything they want in Indianapolis.' It was evident that what they wanted was to establish a continuing round table to promote the program of the Conference.

Revived Interest in Indiana

"The radio broadcast at two o'clock developed a new technique. Mr. Clinchy, as interlocutor, put a series of leading questions to Father Ross and Rabbi Lazaron, based on the points of misunderstanding which our experiences thus far indicate to be the more immediate and widespread sources of friction.

"Taken to South Bend by automobile, through the courtesy of the Studebaker Corporation, we were met by representative Catholics, Protestants and Jews. First on the program was a radio broadcast from The Tribune station, whose editor, Mr. F. A. Miller, had given us an unusual welcome, and fine publicity. In the evening, despite unseasonable snow and cold, an audience of a thousand gathered in the high school auditorium. Father McGuire, of Notre Dame University, offered the invocation, Rabbi William Stirn offered the closing prayer and Mr. Fred Wiedeman, a distinguished citizen and a Protestant, presided."

"Arriving in Chicago on the morning train we made our headquarters at the LaSalle Hotel where we immediately met the newspaper reporters who wanted our story. It was interesting, if we may say so, to be recognized by the clerk as the three clergymen whom he had seen in the movies. This resulted in conference with the management and our being moved from our minimum priced rooms to more spacious accommodations at the hotel expense and there came to our desk a delicious bowl of assorted fruit with the compliments of the manager.

"Two thousand people gathered for the addresses of Rabbi Lazaron and Mr. Clinchy at Orchestra Hall to the famous Sunday Evening Club. After the meeting a few men gathered at the University Club, representing all three of the religious groups interested in the National Conference. This group of key people was enthusiastic in commendation of the method and program of the National Conference and pledged their support.

"Upon arrival at Milwaukee on November 13, we were met by Dr. E. Leroy Dakin, to whom more than to any one else is due the extraordinary turn-out at a noon luncheon at the Wisconsin Club under the auspices of the Professional Men's Luncheon Club. One hundred and fifty of the most representative business and professional men of the city gathered about the luncheon table to hear the messages of the team. In the evening a supper meeting of forty guests was held at the City Club and Dean Fitzpatrick, of Marquette University, presided.

After the talks, discussion continued until Rev. George Collins, Campus Pastor at Wisconsin 'U', arrived to drive us ninety miles through a snow storm to Madison."

"Our stay in Madison began with engagements at four high schools, audiences of over a thousand pupils welcoming us on each occasion. At the third high school, instead of two brief presentations followed by a longer address, Father Ross suggested the discussion method. With some hesitation we acquiesced. To our delighted surprise, after a brief talk by Rabbi Lazaron, followed by Father Ross, who took charge of the discussion, questions came pouring in—a thrilling experience, with sometimes eight or ten young people holding up their hands together, eager to ask questions. The principal thought the session to be so stimulating that he adjourned the class period to follow so that the assembly might be prolonged.

"In the afternoon came a seminar. Eighty were invited, one hundred attended and many were turned away at the door for lack of room. The discussion turned about those occasions of misunderstanding and strain which have become so familiar to us during this tour. Groups remained to ask questions after adjournment, remaining almost to six o'clock, when two hundred students, faculty members and town folk gathered for dinner. During the discussion the Professor of Economics pointed out that the problem of relations between the three religious groups was essentially an economic one and that in times of economic difficulty, whenever a minority group could be set aside either on account of color, race or religion, there was a tendency on the part of the majority group to discriminate against it.

"After Mr. Clinchy and Father Ross left for St. Paul, Rabbi Lazaron remained at the University Union until after midnight to discuss specific and pressing Jewish-Christian relations within the Union, with a group of those particularly interested in its administration."

A Crowded Day in Des Moines

"The program in St. Paul began with a radio broadcast over WCTO in the afternoon and ended with a supper meeting at the St. Paul Athletic Club in the evening. During the dinner, Carleton College telephoned, asking if the three clerics would give two days, later in the week, for a college convocation, but this, with other opportunities for service in Minneapolis, was regretfully declined because of our schedule. The talks at the St. Paul dinner seemed to carry more conviction and enthusiasm that those of any previous appearance, and it was unanimously decided to form the temporary organization into a permanent organization to work out a local program in co-operation with the New York office of the National Conference.

"Arriving at Des Moines on the morning of November 16, we found a full day's program arranged, which at first 'flabbergasted' us, because of its unbroken succession of engagements, rising to a climax in the evening; but, as the day wore on, and we proceeded from item to item, we felt the intense interest of the community, which communicated itself to us, so that the day became rather an inspiration than a tiring experience." [The editor of these notes interposes here to say that space forbids an adequate report of this most interesting day. The program passed from the Drake College Chapel service at 10:30, to a college seminar, to a luncheon meeting sponsored by the Lion's Club, a meeting of the clergy of the city of all three faiths, over which Father Ross

presided, a meeting at the Women's Club, attended by representatives of Catholic, Protestant and Jewish women's organization, where a lively discussion was conducted by Rabbi Lazon, radio addresses, 5:50 to 6:10, public dinner in the evening. Steps were taken for a permanent organization to advance the aims of the National Conference.]

"In Kansas City, Mo., we were impressed with the fact that one of our audience had come two hundred and fifty miles by auto from Hannibal, Mo., to attend the evening meeting in the Thomas A. Edison Hall. Some Catholic friends drove sixty miles, and expressed the opinion that Father Ross had been too easy on the Protestants. It is difficult to satisfy our own groups and at the same time to present the question in such a way as not to increase the antagonism of others.

"In Denver, where we arrived on Saturday afternoon, November 18, splendid work had been done by the local committee. Rabbi Lazon preached at the Unitarian Church on Sunday morning, Father Ross said nine o'clock Mass at the Cathedral and preached. In the afternoon there was a Youth mass meeting at the Broadway Theatre, with about one thousand present, two-thirds adults. Each member of the team spoke and the discussion centered principally around the possibility of a permanent organization of young people in Denver to discuss, from time to time, definite civic or national problems involving Catholics, Jews and Protestants. In the evening Rabbi Lazon preached at Central Christian Church, Mr. Clinchy at Trinity M. E. Church and Father Ross at the Catholic Cathedral.

Busy Days in Denver

"On Monday morning Rabbi Lazon was taken by Father Higgins to make an address at Loretta Heights College, a Catholic institution; Mr. Clinchy spoke at Regis College, conducted by the Jesuits. Most of the questions addressed to Rabbi Lazon were based on fundamental theological differences between Judaism and Catholicism—an extraordinarily interesting and stimulating experience in which the discussion was frank and free. These two colleges are the first Catholic institutions on whose campuses we have appeared. Father Ross spoke at the Colorado College for Women, a Baptist institution with broad religious sympathies."

Nazis and Silver Shirts

"At the special luncheon arranged by the Chamber of Commerce, the three of us felt once more that we had evoked a heartily sympathetic, intellectual and emotional response from what we learned later was a most representative group of the financial, industrial and general business and professional interests in Denver.

"Two thirty o'clock found us at a seminar at the Cosmopolitan Hotel in a room crowded with all ages, creeds, and colors. The questions raised were relative to Nazi propaganda in this neighborhood and the Silver Shirt movement, and a number of local Jews and Christians participated. The question of the public and parochial school systems, also, provoked discussion.

"The civic auditorium meeting, attended by the Governor of Colorado, attracted about two thousand citizens. Among others, the presiding Justice of the Supreme Court of the State came forward, afterwards, to say that the National Conference is on the right track."

The remainder of the story of this notable tour including Salt Lake City, Butte, Boise, Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Phoenix, El Paso, Dallas, New Orleans, Mobile, Savannah and other cities to be determined, will be told in the next issue of this Bulletin to be issued early in January.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE PILGRIMAGE TEAM FINDS HEARTY WELCOME IN NEW ENGLAND

While the National Conference Pilgrimage was engaged in the cross country tour, Dr. Benson Y. Landis, Research Secretary of the Conference, and Rabbi Rudolph I. Coffee, of Oakland, Calif., made a brief tour in New England, November 19-24, drawing their Catholic associates from the communities visited.

On Sunday afternoon, November 19, an interested audience of about a thousand gathered in Sayles Hall, Brown University, Providence, to hear Rabbi Coffee on Jewish contributions to American history and culture, Dr. Landis on practical methods for creating mutual aid and understanding among religious groups, and Dr. Lorenzo C. McCarthy, President of Providence College, on Catholic teaching of tolerance. In the evening Providence College, a Catholic institution, was host at a dinner to leaders of the seminar. In Rhode Island the success of the meetings was due to the Rhode Island Seminar on Human Relations.

The next stop for the pilgrims was Kingston, where a series of events were arranged, in co-operation with Rhode Island State College. Dr. Coffee and Dr. McCarthy spoke to an assembly of all the students of the college in the afternoon. Afterwards, Dr. Landis conducted a student seminar at which the question of inter-marriage between faiths was very thoroughly considered. In the evening Dr. Landis spoke at a dinner of students on the interest and responsibility of Protestantism in the interfaith movement and there followed a forum on various aspects of the role of religion in modern society.

Drs. Coffee and Landis then headed for Boston, where a student forum had been arranged at Boston University. Here the Catholic leader was Professor John J. Mahoney, of Boston and Harvard Universities, and Vice-President Fairchild, of Boston University, presided. Professor Mahoney spoke on prejudice and how to combat it, and Drs. Coffee and Landis discussed various aspects of Judaism and Protestantism.

In Hartford, Father James L. Travis, of St. Joseph's Cathedral, served on behalf of the Catholic group. Most significant of the meetings were assemblies in three of the largest high schools. At lunch time the Exchange and Kiwanis Clubs welcomed the team. There followed a tea at the Hartford Theological Seminary, when Professor Hornell Hart presided. In the evening, Dr. Morris Silverman, rabbi of Emanuel Synagogue, presided at a general session, which closed the pilgrimage.

The National Conference of Jews and Christians
289 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

Desiring to cooperate in your work, I hereby enroll as a member for the coming twelve months, and contribute \$..... which is herewith enclosed.

Name
Street and Number.....
City and State.....
Religious affiliation

(Members receive all publications issued during the year.)

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ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS

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JULIUS BLOOMBERG
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HARRY S. DASCH

December
Twenty-Sixth
1933.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
c/o The Temple
East 105th and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

With reference to your letter of December 20th, wherein you make reference to the conference had between Mr. Lowenstein and Mr. Wolf, Mr. Wolf requested me to advise you that he would take care of this matter upon his return to the city. He is, at the present time, in New York City and will probably return within the next week.

Very truly yours,

(Miss) Lee Roberts

L:R

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE of JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

For Justice, Amity and Understanding among Protestants, Catholics and Jews

289 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

Co-Chairmen

HON. NEWTON D. BAKER
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Insurance Company

EVERETT R. CLINCHY
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DR. ROBERT A. ASHWORTH
Educational Secretary

DR. BENSON Y. LANDIS
Research Secretary

October 31, 1934

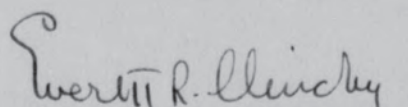
Rabbi Abba H. Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

A company of individuals, believing that the principle of religious liberty is threatened in Mexico, desire to make some statement emphasizing the principle of liberty of conscience and the right of individuals to practice the religion of their choice. The attached statement prepared by a number of Protestant ministers, Catholic priests and Jewish rabbis, is intended to be sent to the Mexican Government and to be given publicity in this country. This pronouncement may have some effect upon the Government of Mexico; it is certain to have a wholesome effect in this country.

We should be glad to know whether you would be willing to sign it. While circulated from this office, it will not appear as a National Conference document. Since the time element is important, we should be pleased to hear from you at your very earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,


Everett R. Clinchy.

The undersigned Protestants, Catholics and Jews of the United States wish to express their conviction in regard to the necessity of the achievement and the maintenance of religious liberty in all lands. We are especially concerned at the present juncture over the situation in Mexico where many unprejudiced observers report that in the endeavor to achieve social and political reforms which may be otherwise defensible, religious liberty is being denied. We register our protest against every restriction upon the right of the churches to function, and the right of individuals to practice the religion of their choice.

Recognizing that freedom from religious and racial intolerance is not fully achieved in all sections of the United States, and in other countries of the world than Mexico, we acknowledge our responsibility to labor for its achievement everywhere. We extend our sympathy to those in Mexico who are working valiantly for this vital and essential principle. While refraining from discussing the immediate issues at stake in the controversies in Mexico, we desire to give our moral support to those who labor for freedom of worship there, and to express the anxiety and alarm with which we view every threat to liberty of conscience and the freedom of the soul.

November 1, 1934.

Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, Director,
The National Conference of Jews and Christians,
289 Fourth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Clinchy:

I shall be very happy to sign the statement which you sent me relative to the preservation of the principle of religious liberty in Mexico. I would suggest the change of one word in the phrase "which may otherwise be defensible." Perhaps the word desirable or some other word would be more appropriate.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

November 2, 1934.

Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, Director,
The National Conference of Jews and Christians,
289 Fourth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Clinchy:

Do you know anything about this organization -
"The Clean Amusement Association"? I am enclosing a letter
which I received from it. Who is this Mr. James A. Moore,
its President? I would appreciate hearing from you.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

Enc.

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE of JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

For Justice, Amity and Understanding among Protestants, Catholics and Jews

289 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

Co-Chairmen

HON. NEWTON D. BAKER
PROF. CARLTON J. H. HAYES
MR. ROGER W. STRAUS
MR. F. J. FULLER, *Treasurer*
President, New York Title
and Mortgage Company

EVERETT R. CLINCHY
Director

DR. ROBERT A. ASHWORTH
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Research Secretary

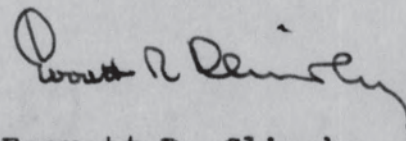
5 November 1934.

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I shall look into the "Clean Amusement
Association," and let you know my findings.

Cordially,



Everett R. Clinchy

ERC: R

January 3, 1935.

Most Rev. Bishop Warren L. Rogers,
2241 Prospect Ave.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Bishop Rogers:

The National Conference of Jews and Christians has set aside February 24 for a nation-wide observance of Brotherhood Day. It suggests that a special service be held on that morning to stress good will and cooperation among the religious groups of our country. You undoubtedly feel as I do that such emphasis at this particular time is highly desirable. I do not know what your practice is about occupying pulpits other than your own on Sundays. But if you are free on that Sunday morning, we should like to arrange for such a Brotherhood Service at The Temple with you as the guest preacher. I would share the program with you by reading the service and speaking briefly. We would endeavor to make this service of especial significance. We would also try to make arrangements for broadcasting it.

It is some years now since you have spoken to my Temple fellowship and they are most eager to hear you again and would be delighted with your acceptance of this invitation.

With all good wishes for a happy new year, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS: BK

THE BISHOP OF OHIO
2241 PROSPECT AVENUE
CLEVELAND

January 5, 1935.

My dear Rabbi Silver:-

Your letter inviting the Bishop to speak at The Temple on February 24th came to the office yesterday. I note on the Bishop's calendar that he has an engagement in Canton that morning and I doubt if he could break it. He is in Florida for a few weeks, recuperating from an attack of the Flu. I will forward your letter to him, but I wanted you to understand the reason for the delay in reply.

Sincerely yours,

Fanny K. Ahrens
Secretary.

THE BISHOP OF OHIO
2241 PROSPECT AVENUE
CLEVELAND

January 29, 1935.

My dear Rabbi Silver:-

Your letter of January third inviting me to preach at The Temple on February 24th while I was away on an enforced absence in Florida, to recuperate from an attack of the Flu which put me out of business nearly a month. However, I think my secretary wrote and explained conditions.

Of course a month's absence has put me back in my work to such an extent that I could not think of anything else just now. Every Sunday is filled with two or three services in order to care for Confirmations.

I am sorry I cannot accept your invitation. I should love to come and meet you and your people again, I have had such delightful times when I have been with you.

Good wishes to you and all peace and prosperity accompany you in your work at The Temple.

Cordially yours,

Warren L. Rogers, a.

WLR:A

N. C. J. C. NEWS SERVICE

Issued by the Press Department

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE of JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

Co-Chairmen

HON. NEWTON D. BAKER

PROF. CARLTON J. H. HAYES

MR. ROGER W. STRAUS

For Justice, Amity and Understanding among Protestants, Catholics and Jews

289 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

The N.C.J.C. News Service issues a nation-wide coverage of religious and inter-faith news to Protestant, Catholic and Jewish religious papers and to daily and weekly secular papers; also a feature service embracing features of interest to the three faiths.

ROBERT A. ASHWORTH, D.D.
Editor

BENSON Y. LANDIS, PH.D.
Research Secretary

EVERETT R. CLINCHY, PH.D.
Director

January 31, 1935

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We are about to inaugurate a new feature for use in daily newspapers on the Saturday religious page. This is a weekly "column" of from 500 to 750 words by 52 different clergymen of the Protestant, Catholic and Jewish faiths. In other words, instead of a column by the same clergyman week after week, the column will be written by a different clergyman every week. Before embarking upon this new feature we outlined this proposal to a number of newspaper editors and received very favorable responses, many saying that variety would make for unusual interest on the part of newspaper readers.

We should like very much to have you as one of the writers this year. It will require you to write, only once, 500 to 750 words on any subject of religious interest you want to write about. Or perhaps we may call upon you to write on a specified subject which may deal with some event of religious or social significance, such as Brotherhood Day or Race Relations Sunday, etc. The exact details will be worked out later and if you should accept our invitation, we shall write you more fully about the subject matter later. We must of course avoid sending out any material which might be construed as offensive to any faith or which may create controversy.

We can assure you that your message will receive a wide hearing. We expect many daily papers across the country to take the feature and hundreds of thousands of newspaper readers to read it.

I hope that you will be willing to accept this invitation to serve the National Conference in this way and that you will write us so. Your acceptance will enable us to begin promoting the feature and we shall shortly write you again about the date for your contribution.

Cordially yours

Robert A. Ashworth

E d i t o r

February 1, 1935.

Mr. Robert A. Ashworth, Editor,
N. C. J. C. News Service,
289 Fourth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Ashworth:

Permit me to thank you for your kind letter of January 31. I believe the idea of having a weekly column to which representatives of the Protestant, Catholic and Jewish faiths will contribute is an excellent one and I am very happy to comply with your request to contribute an article this year.

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

N. C. J. C. NEWS SERVICE

Issued by the Press Department

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE of JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

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ROBERT A. ASHWORTH, D.D.
Editor

BENSON Y. LANDIS, Ph.D.
Research Secretary

EVERETT R. CLINCHY, Ph.D.
Director

Feb. 25, 1935

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

Dear Dr. Silver,

I want to acknowledge at this time your letter of Feb. 1st in which you graciously consented to contribute to the weekly column we are going to syndicate to church pages of daily newspapers. We are expecting to start this column off with Dr. S. Parkes Cadman, followed by a Catholic and then should like to have a column by you. I hope that you can let us have your contribution within two weeks. It should be in the form of a short sermon of about 750 words on any subject about which you want to write. Please do not discuss Christian-Jewish relationships as we do not want to start off by making this appear to be a propaganda project. We are going to assign several clergymen to deal with this subject later on.

Cordially yours,

Robert A. Ashworth

Editor

N. C. J. C. NEWS SERVICE

Issued by the Press Department

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE of JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

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ROBERT A. ASHWORTH, D.D.
Editor

BENSON Y. LANDIS, PH.D.
Research Secretary

EVERETT R. CLINCHY, PH.D.
Director

March 13, 1935

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

Dear Dr. Silver,

May we refer to our letter of February 25th in which we suggested that you send us your contribution to the weekly sermon-column for church pages of daily newspapers within two weeks? We are now planning the dates for the first releases and are hoping that yours will be the third release. I wonder whether you will be able to get your contribution to us within the course of the next few days?

With appreciation for your cooperation,

Sincerely yours,

Robert A. Ashworth

Editor

March 16, 1935

Dr. Robert A. Ashworth, Editor,
N. C. J. C. News Service,
289 Fourth Avenue,
New York City.

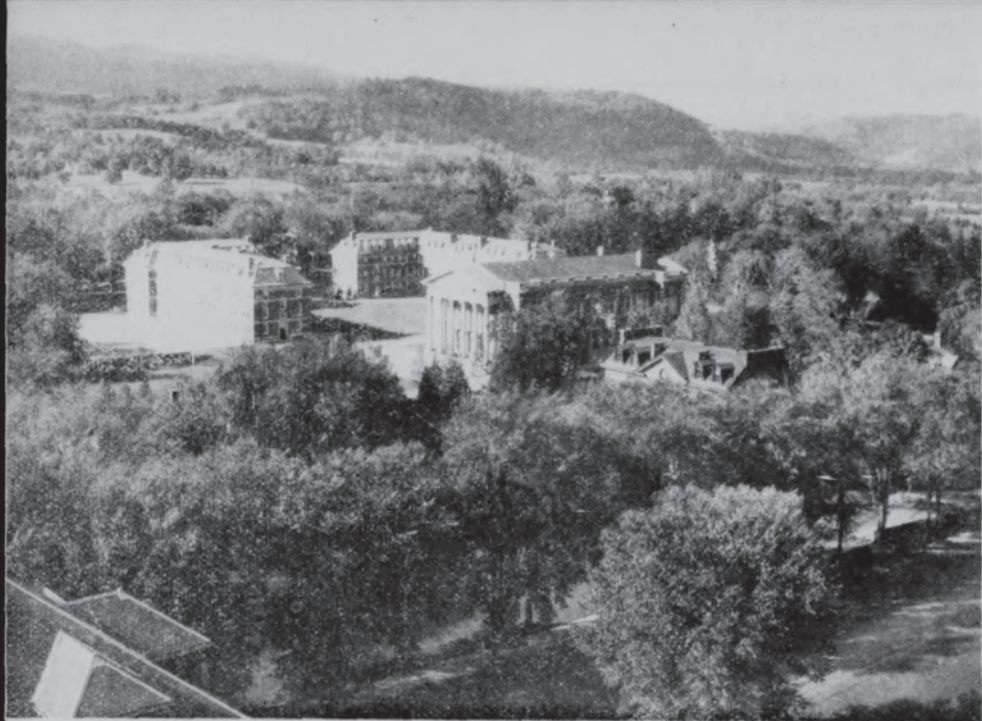
My dear Dr. Ashworth:

I am enclosing herewith the article which
you requested for the Weekly Sermon Column. I
trust that you will find it satisfactory.

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK
ENCL.



Preliminary Announcement
Regarding
AN AMERICAN ADVENTURE

THE INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RELATIONS

WILLIAMS COLLEGE
WILLIAMSTOWN, MASS.

August 22-30, 1935

Under the Auspices of
THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE
OF JEWS AND CHRISTIANS
289 Fourth Avenue
New York, N. Y.



PURPOSE OF THE INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RELATIONS

The Institute of Human Relations has been organized to give an opportunity for leaders among Catholics, Jews and Protestants to consider thoroughly and systematically some of their common interests and concerns as citizens in American communities; and to plan community and educational programs which will result in better community relations.

Those who attend the Institute will come as individuals, not as the formal representatives of any religious bodies.

The Institute is planned as an occasion of study and exchange of experience—not for debate or for securing commitments to specific proposals or recommendations. The chief purpose is to arrive at a common understanding of the causes of difficulties in community relations. If any agreement arises or desirable methods for dealing with those causes (or certain of them), so much the better. But these methods or programs of work will not be formulated in resolutions.

Individuals will know best how to apply, in their own spheres of influence, what they have learned.

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF JEWS AND CHRISTIANS?

"THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF JEWS AND CHRISTIANS associates a number of thoughtful and earnest people in an effort to analyze and allay the prejudices which exist between Protestants, Catholics and Jews. The Conference seeks to moderate and finally to eliminate a system of prejudices which we have in part inherited and which disfigures and distorts our business, social and political relations."

—NEWTON D. BAKER.

The National Conference is an independent organization with individuals as contributors and members. It was begun in 1927, in order to provide an effective agency in which individuals from the three main religious groups in the United States might work together on matters of concern in their communities.

Local committees and organizations having the same purpose as the National Conference are now functioning in about three hundred communities of the Nation.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE INSTITUTE OF HUMAN RELATIONS

WILLIAMSTOWN, MASS.

August 22-30, 1935

August 22-24: Preliminary Sessions and Meetings of Committees:

Daily Schedule, Beginning August 26th

First Hour

General Session: 9-10 a.m.



INTERGROUP RELATIONS IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES

Chairman, NEWTON D. BAKER

August 26: *Canada*—Symposium: C. E. Silcox, General Secretary of the Social Service Council of Canada; others to be announced.

August 27: *Germany*—Symposium: George Shuster, *The Commonwealth*; Morris Lazaron, Baltimore Hebrew Congregation.

August 28: *Mexico*—Symposium: Michael Williams, *The Commonwealth*; Wilfrid Parsons, *America*; and others.

August 29: *China*—Pearl S. Buck, author and lecturer.

August 30: *Russia*—Herbert A. Miller, Bryn Mawr College.

Second Hour

General Session: 10-11 a.m.

PRACTICAL METHODS OF APPROACHING THE INTERGROUP SITUATION IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Chairman, ARTHUR L. SWIFT,

Union Theological Seminary

Lecturers To Be Announced

Third Hour

Courses: 11-12 p.m. Every day. (To be elected by members of the Institute.)

HISTORY: Backgrounds for the Study of Intergroup Relations.

Lecturer, Carlton J. H. Hayes, Columbia University.

SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY: Group Behavior in the Light of Social Psychology.

Lecturer, Kimball Young, The University of Wisconsin.

ANTHROPOLOGY: An Introduction to the Study of Culture.

Lecturer, Edward Sapir, Yale University.

LITERATURE: Its Influence on Modern Intergroup Relations.

Chairman, George Shuster, *The Commonwealth*.

Fourth Hour

ROUND TABLES: 12:00-1:00 p.m. Every day. (To be elected by members of the Institute.)

I. Cooperative Work on College and University Campuses.

Chairman, Sidney Lovett, Yale University.

II. Educational Programs for Schools and Character Building Agencies.

Chairman, Herbert A. Miller, Bryn Mawr College.

III. Programs for Women's Organizations.

Chairman, Rhoda E. McCulloch, *Women's Press*.

IV. The Theological Seminary.

Chairman, Daniel J. Fleming, Union Theological Seminary.

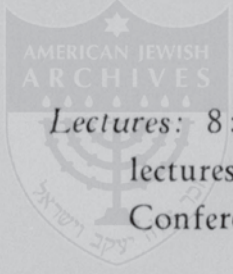
V. The Press.

Chairman, to be named.

VI. Religious Education.

Chairman, Sidney A. Weston, Congregational Publication Society.

THE EVENING PROGRAM

 Lectures: 8:00 p.m. The presiding officers at the lectures will be the co-chairmen of the National Conference of Jews and Christians.

August 25: Opening Session—Address by Newton D. Baker, co-chairman of the National Conference.

August 26: Church and State in the United States. James Truslow Adams (Invited).

August 27: Intergroup Amity and Social Security. I. M. Rubinow, B'nai B'rith.
Can Democracy Survive This Crisis? Frank Porter Graham, University of North Carolina.

August 28: The Totalitarian Idea. James Weldon Johnson, Fisk University.

August 29: Orient and Occident. Pearl S. Buck, author and lecturer.

August 30: Closing Addresses by Roger W. Straus, Carlton J. H. Hayes and Newton D. Baker, co-chairmen of the National Conference.



INSTITUTE ARRANGEMENTS

Address all correspondence about the Institute of Human Relations to The National Conference of Jews and Christians, 289 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Sessions of the Institute will be held on the campus of Williams College, Williamstown, Mass. Williamstown is on the Boston and Maine Railroad, on the line from Boston to Troy. It may also be reached by car or bus from North Adams, which is on the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, and is about five miles from Williamstown.

Many railroads offer special return rates to New England points during the summer vacation period, and these may offer considerable savings in travel for many who will attend the Institute.

For those who travel by car it will be interesting to know that Williamstown lies on the Mohawk Trail, a marvel of scenic beauty winding through the White Mountains.

The following are the rates for living:

Rooms in the dormitories of Williams College may be reserved at \$1 per person per day, in either single or double rooms.

Meals will be provided at the two local hotels at the following rates: At the Williams Inn \$12 per person for the full five days beginning with the evening meal on August 25, through luncheon August 30; or \$3 for one day, \$5.50 for two days, \$8 for three days, and \$10 for four days. Single meals as follows: Breakfast, \$1; Lunch-

eon, \$1.25; and Dinner, \$1.50. The Greylock Hotel offers meals at \$2.50 per day and single meals as follows: Breakfast, 50 cents; Luncheon, 75 cents; Dinner, \$1.25.

Arrangements for rooms in the Williams College dormitories and for meals at either of the above mentioned hotels in Williamstown may be made through the office of the National Conference.

Rooms and Meals at Hotels. The Williams Inn offers room and meals to members of the Institute, on the American plan, for \$5 to \$8 per day; and the Greylock Hotel at \$7 and \$8 per day. Persons wishing to make reservations on this basis at the hotels are asked to *communicate directly with the managements at as early a date as possible.*

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE of JEWS and CHRISTIANS

*"For Justice, Amity and Understanding Among
Protestants, Catholics, and Jews."*

289 Fourth Avenue
New York City

HON. NEWTON D. BAKER,
Protestant Co-Chairman

PROF. CARLTON J. H. HAYES,
Catholic Co-Chairman

MR. ROGER W. STRAUS,
Jewish Co-Chairman

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Editorial Secty.

DR. BENSON Y. LANDIS,
Research Secty.

DR. EVERETT R. CLINCHY,
Director



THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE of JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

For Justice, Amity and Understanding among Protestants, Catholics and Jews

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Director

ROBERT A. ASHWORTH, D.D.
Educational Secretary

BENSON Y. LANDIS, Ph.D.
Research Secretary

June 3, 1935

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
Ansell Road Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The Co-Chairmen cordially invite you to take part in the Williamstown Institute of Human Relations, to be conducted by this Conference at Williams College, August 24-30, 1935. A program is enclosed.

We are convinced that it will be both a fruitful and a strategic step to bring together both lay and clerical leaders among Catholics, Jews and Protestants at this particular time in the affairs of the world, so critical for human relations in the United States. The sessions will be highly interesting and informing. We most earnestly invite you to become a member of the Institute.

Will you kindly return the Registration Blank?

Sincerely yours,

Everett R. Clinchy

Everett R. Clinchy
Director

ERC:R

June 5, 1935.

Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, Director,
National Conference of Jews and Christians,
289 Fourth Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Clinchy:

I regret very much that I shall not be able to attend the Williamstown Institute of Human Relations to be conducted at Williams College, August 24-30. I shall be out of the country during the month of August.

With all good wishes for the success of the Conference, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

Co-Chairmen

HON. NEWTON D. BAKER
PROF. CARLTON J. H. HAYES
MR. ROGER W. STRAUS
EVERETT R. CLINCHY, PH. D.
Director

N. C. J. C. NEWS SERVICE

Operated By

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE of JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

289 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

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The Chattanooga News
MARTIN H. WEYRAUCH,
Brooklyn Daily Eagle
MICHAEL WILLIAMS,
The Commonweal

September 19th, 1935.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

One of our subscribing papers, The Pittsburgh Press, wishes to prepare a series of promotional advertisements regarding our service and has asked us to send them glossy prints of our contributors. They have agreed to furnish the engravings to us for use in our subscribing papers throughout the country.

We would accordingly appreciate it if you would send us at your earliest convenience a glossy photo of yourself for use in this promotional material.

Yours sincerely,

Robert A. Ashworth

Editor

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE of JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

For Justice, Amity and Understanding among Protestants, Catholics and Jews

289 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

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Director

ROBERT A. ASHWORTH, D.D.
Educational Secretary

BENSON Y. LANDIS, PH. D.
Research Secretary

September 23, 1935

Rabbi Abba H. Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

In conversation with Newton D. Baker and the Co-Chairmen, Professor Hayes and Mr. Straus, at Williamstown, they suggested that I write at once to a small number of thoughtful and earnest people such as I believe you to be, and invite cooperation with themselves in the financial support of this Conference program. I am happy to comply with this suggestion.

Oswald Garrison Villard's editorial comment in THE NATION quoted on the last page of the enclosed bulletin, emphasizes the desperate need for attention to the relationships of group to group within the United States in this time of world crisis, and for the precise work which the National Conference is doing.

The developments in the German situation are ominous in the extreme. Some repercussions of these events in the United States are alarming. Necessary as is relief abroad, wisdom dictates the necessity of constructive efforts to counteract Nazi-like activities here. The National Conference, under Mr. Baker's leadership, has a program to this end. It merits your generous support, now.

We are eager to enroll you as a contributing member and I am enclosing a form that shows the range of contributions members are making.

I hope that your favorable response will enable me to report to Mr. Baker that your support of the work to which he is giving so much time and thought is assured.

Faithfully yours

Everett R. Clinchy

Everett R. Clinchy

ERC:R

March 23, 1936

Dr. Everett R. Clinchy,
289 Fourth Avenue,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Clinchy:

I approve of the revised statement
which I received from you this morning and I
shall be very pleased to add my signature to
it.

With best wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



Memo from Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, 289 Fourth Avenue, New York City

Changes suggested by Dr. Henry Sloan Coffin, Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick, Dr. Worth M. Tippy and others have been taken into account in this revised statement. A list of some of those who have authorized their signatures is appended.

AN APPEAL FOR RELIGIOUS LIBERTY IN MEXICO

In this public appeal for religious liberty in Mexico, we are motivated by our interest in the highest welfare of our neighboring country. We issue the appeal because of the effect of certain policies in Mexico upon the world at large.

We regard with deep appreciation the endeavors of the Republic of Mexico for social reform and have learned of its social program with deep interest. We must regard with deep anxiety, however, the information we have received in recent months of the conflict between the government and the institutions of religion. While we would express our most earnest disapproval of control of the State by the Church, we are equally concerned about the maintenance of religious liberty. Liberty of conscience is essential to the well being of any people. Religion, for almost all of us, is identified with the symbols that express our spiritual aspirations.

Therefore we have learned with regret of the widespread closing and confiscation of churches, and the reduction of the number of their ministers to such an extent as to deprive the people of the spiritual ministrations called for by their religious traditions and customs. We have read enactments now in force which can only be regarded as almost completely suppressing religious liberty. We have been grateful to hear within recent days of the relaxation of regulations in certain states, and trust that these events mean a growth of conciliation on the part of the state and the church.

The proposals of the government of Mexico for the general education of the people are to be warmly commended. However, we must strongly protest against the intrusion of the State upon conscience in an educational program. When the State forbids the church to have schools for the teaching of religion, and also makes it impossible for the church to maintain a sufficient number of ministers and religious teachers to inculcate religion, then government is carried into the sphere of religious liberty and individual rights. We disclaim equally any claim to totalitarianism by either church or state.

We express the hope that the leaders of both the church and the state in Mexico will look forward to a new day. The state should be courageously progressive, and at the same time encourage the growth of spiritual forces. The church should through sacrifice and devotion stimulate the development of a social order built upon economic justice and consistent with religious ideals.

We urge therefore the restoration of freedom for religion by the state, and the sympathetic cooperation of the church in all just measures for the improvement of the social life of the people.

Will you let me have your answer by return post unless your letter will have crossed this in the mail?

Dr. Cyrus Adler
Dean Bernard Iddings Bell
President Arlo A. Brown
Rev. Edmund B. Chaffee
Rabbi Edward Israel
Dr. Henry Smith Leiper
Bishop William T. Manning
Dr. William P. Merrill
Mr. Clifford Morehouse
Judge Joseph M. Proskauer

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE of JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

For Justice, Amity and Understanding among Protestants, Catholics and Jews

289 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

April 16, 1936.

Co-Chairmen

HON. NEWTON D. BAKER
PROF. CARLTON J. H. HAYES
MR. ROGER W. STRAUS

EVERETT R. CLINCHY, Ph.D.
Director

ROBERT A. ASHWORTH, D.D.
Educational Secretary

BENSON Y. LANDIS, Ph.D.
Research Secretary

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
East 105th Street,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The National Conference of Jews and Christians has decided to bring together a limited number of professors in theological seminaries and clergymen among Jews, Catholics and Protestants for a consideration of "The Historical Development of Religious Values in the Nation" as outlined in the attached tentative program. The session will be held at the Hotchkiss School, Lakeville, Connecticut, September 6-11 inclusive. Preliminary conferences that we have had with members of the three groups have already indicated a considerable degree of interest in the seminar. You will be interested to know that the original suggestion for the seminar came from Rev. T. Lawrason Riggs, the Catholic Chaplain at Yale University, who has also advised us in making up the program. We have also had the assistance of Protestant and Jewish scholars.

On behalf of the officers of the National Conference, I cordially invite you to participate in the seminar and to make presentation indicated on the tentative program attached. The Conference will be able to pay your travel expenses to Lakeville and return and also your living while you will be at the seminar. The Conference will also plan to publish a report and to give circulation to the proceedings. If you have any question, will you kindly let me have it soon? Because we would like to print a preliminary program in the near future, will you kindly let me know soon if you will be able to participate. I trust that it will be possible for you to do so.

Sincerely yours,

Benson Y. Landis
Benson Y. Landis.

BYL:VMP

April 16, 1936.

This memorandum outlines an informal national seminar of religious leaders among Catholics, Jews and Protestants. The original suggestions for it have come from Rev. T. Lawrason Riggs, Catholic Chaplain at Yale University, and Mr. George Shuster, Associate Editor of The Commonweal. The following material has been arranged by Everett R. Clinchy and Benson Y. Landis.

Theme The general theme of the Seminar would be "The Historical Development of Religious Values in the Nation."

Objective The objective would be to bring together about 150 well known scholars, both clergymen and lay leaders, among Catholics, Jews and Protestants for the purpose of study and exchange of information on important questions of common interest, as given in detail below.

Time and Place September 6th to 11th, at Hotchkiss School, Lakeville, Conn., where rest and recreation will be combined with serious study. A common dining room is available. Worship services will be provided for in the manner desired by each group.

Outline of Program (Tentative)

TOPIC "The Historical Development of Religious Values in the Nation."

MORNING SESSIONS

9:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M. (with a recess).

Papers, with time for thorough discussion.
(Each presentation limited to 25-30 minutes)

MONDAY "The Genius of Our Religious Institutions in the Light of Their
Presentations by: History."

David de Sola Pool
Peter Guilday
H. Richard Niebuhr

TUESDAY "The Issues Presented by Anti-Religious Forces in the Nation."
Presentations by:

Abba Hillel Silver
George Shuster
William F. Hocking

WEDNESDAY "The Issues Presented by the Totalitarian States of the World."
Presentations by:

Edward Israel
Carlton J. H. Hayes
Joseph R. Sizoo
----- (Russian Orthodox)

THURSDAY

"The Religious Issues Presented by Science."

Presentations by:

Hordecai Kaplan
Hugh Scott Taylor
Arthur H. Compton

FRIDAY

"The Religious Issues Presented by Historical Research."

Presentations by:

T. Lawrason Riggs
Milton Steinberg
Frank Gavin

(AFTERNOONS free for rest, recreation and informal discussions.)

EVENING SESSIONS 7:30 - 9:30 P.M.

(Each presentation limited to 20-25 minutes)

SUNDAY

"Methods of Training the Clergy."

Presentations by:

Hughell E. Fosbroke
Joseph Egan
Louis Finkelstein

MONDAY

"Methods of Conducting the Parish or Congregation."

Presentations by:

George A. Buttrick
John B. Kelly
Israel Goldstein

TUESDAY

"Methods of Religious Education."

Presentations by:

Samson Benderly
George Ford
Luther F. Weigle

WEDNESDAY

"Methods of Social Service"

Presentations by:

Abraham Cronbach
Edward Roberts Moore
Edmund Chaffee

THURSDAY

"Methods of Community Cooperation."

Presentations by:

Morris S. Lazaron
Michael J. Ahern
Lynn Harold Hough

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE *of* JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

For Justice, Amity and Understanding among Protestants, Catholics and Jews

289 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

May 29, 1936

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

On competent advice, a number of individuals propose to issue the enclosed statement for publication in the newspapers, if possible, on Wednesday, June 3rd. We have carefully checked statements of fact.

We are inviting fifty Protestant and Jewish leaders to sign it. Please write or wire immediately whether your name may be included.

The statement will not be issued by The National Conference but independently as sponsored by the persons signing it. We are sending it out from this office because of our deep personal interest in its content and purpose.

Yours sincerely,

Robert A. Ashworth
Robert A. Ashworth.

RAA:PZ

We, the undersigned, lodge a solemn protest against the almost unique brutality and unfairness of the most recent attack launched by the Government of Germany, charging Catholic clergy with gross immorality. He who steals my purse steals trash -- and the religious Orders, many dioceses, and numerous individuals were robbed of their funds during the course of the now well-known trials for violation of the foreign exchange laws under which confiscatory fines and long prison sentences were imposed. After this effort failed to accomplish the desire of the Nazi government, widespread efforts were made to pin the label of "traitor" on all priests who opposed Nazi teaching at any point. Now it is the good name of the Catholic priesthood which is to be defamed, in the hope that so the ultimate suppression of all universal Jewish and Christian beliefs by the totalitarian state can be most speedily effected.

The reported trial of 276 Franciscans in Cologne for alleged immoral practices is not the first of its kind. Some weeks ago, a similar action was brought against another group. But no one was "proved guilty" and the press generally took no notice of the affair. Efforts by the Propaganda Office to gather evidence likely to support such charges have been in progress during nearly a year. Months ago, sections of the English press carried authenticated stories to the effect that priests had been "framed" and photographs faked. The archives of diocesan authorities and of religious communities have been ransacked for possible records of offenses by individuals against the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. Such defections -- rare but occasionally real -- are always carefully investigated by the ecclesiastical powers and the evidence is carefully filed. This German secret police have labored to secure. On May 21, Prince Hubertus zu Loewenstein, visiting the United States, gave an interview in which he predicted that many clergy would be placed on trial for violations of the moral code.

News concerning the Cologne hearings is sparse and vague. It is obvious that no foreign correspondent attended; and since every vestige of a free German Catholic press has long since disappeared, no information can be obtained from any source not identified with the German Propaganda Office. Our conviction is that if a tenth as much of the pitiless glare of publicity were turned on the present proceedings, the results would be the same as they were at the infamous Reichstag Fire Trial.

The reputation of the German Catholic clergy for uprightness of living and loyalty to moral principle is so well established and unequivocal that the greatest caution should be exercised before trusting even one of the reports. On this subject there is a great wealth of testimony by the German Protestant clergy over a long period of years.

Nazism can have no other purpose than the destruction of all spiritual freedom and the uprooting of all religious tradition. For our part, being as we are men dedicated to the principle of liberty of conscience, the present protest against Hitlerite tyranny seems therefore an inescapable and necessary action.

The following have already signed:

Jesse M. Bader
Everett R. Clinchy
Henry S. Leiper
Roger W. Straus
Robert A. Ashworth

COLLECT

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Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

June 1, 1936

19

To Robert A. Ashworth

Street and No. National Conference of Jews and Christians

Place 289 Fourth Ave. - N.Y.

YOU MAY USE MY NAME IN CONNECTION WITH STATEMENT ON CATHOLIC
TRIALS IN GERMAN WHICH YOU PROPOSE TO ISSUE

A H SILVER

Sender's address
for reference

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N. C. J. C. NEWS SERVICE

Operated By

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE of JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

289 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

November 13, 1936.

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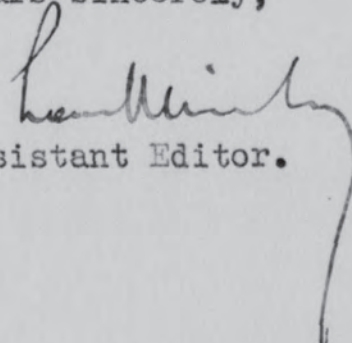
Dear Dr. Silver:

We received today from our Cleveland correspondent a story quoting from an address you made the other day on the church in relation to Communism and Fascism in which you deplored the fact that the church is crusading against Communism while not taking a similarly grand stand against Fascism and Nazism.

I wonder whether you would care to write a 750 word article on this subject for our "AS RELIGION SEES IT" feature. The article might deal with the subject of the church in relation to totalitarian forms of government in which you could state your own views with regard to the necessity of the church taking a definite stand against Fascism and Nazism as well as against Communism. I think that a clear statement on this subject is greatly needed and your article would be published in places where it would be read and do some good. I hope you will do this and let us have the article within ten days. Perhaps you can simply edit your Address on the subject and cut it down to the required 750 word length.

Hoping to hear from you.

Yours sincerely,


Assistant Editor.

LM:PZ

NEWTON D. BAKER
289 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

January 25, 1937

MEMORANDUM ON THE NATION-WIDE PRONOUNCEMENT

In various parts of the world today strife between religious groups is being fomented and misunderstanding, discrimination and in some instances persecution are being deliberately promoted on political grounds. Our own country can hardly escape the influence of what is occurring in other lands. Indeed, insidious propaganda is being actively spread in this country today and anti-Semitic, anti-Catholic, anti-Protestant and anti-religious literature is being widely distributed.

In view of this situation the National Conference of Jews and Christians, whose purpose it is to further justice, amity, understanding and cooperation among Protestants, Catholics and Jews, is inviting clergymen of the three religious groups all over the country to sign the enclosed statement of belief and purpose with the understanding that it will be given wide publicity.

Such a statement will serve to guide and stabilize public opinion and to demonstrate how widespread is adherence to the traditional American principles of tolerance and religious freedom. This should serve as a "backfire" against the spread of un-American and divisive propaganda, and establish and encourage a determination on the part of citizens everywhere to resist it when and wherever it appears.

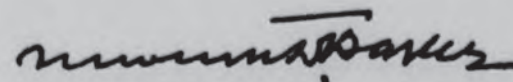
The statement is approved by the following members of the Roman Catholic hierarchy, rabbis, and Protestant clergymen:

His Eminence, William Cardinal O'Connell, Most Rev. Michael J. Curley, Most Rev. John J. Cantwell, Most Rev. Arthur J. Drossaerts, Most Rev. John J. Mitty, Most Rev. Karl J. Alter, Most Rev. Gerald T. Bergan, Most Rev. Joseph F. Busch, Most Rev. Joseph H. Conroy, Most Rev. Edmond J. Fitzmaurice, Most Rev. Michael J. Gallagher, Most Rev. Thomas K. Gorman, Most Rev. James A. Griffin, Most Rev. Wm. J. Hafey, Most Rev. Jules B. Jeanmard, Most Rev. James E. Kearney, Most Rev. Edward J. Kelly, Most Rev. Francis C. Kelley, Most Rev. Emanuel B. Ledvina, Most Rev. Robert E. Lucey, Most Rev. Maurice B. McAuliffe, Most Rev. John F. Noll, Most Rev. Edwin V. O'Hara, Most Rev. Gerald P. O'Hara, Most Rev. Paul P. Rhode, Most Rev. Henry P. Rohlman, Most Rev. Joseph Schrembs, Most Rev. John J. Swint, Most Rev. Francis J. Tief, Most Rev. Thomas J. Toolan, Most Rev. Urban J. Vehr, Most Rev. Thomas A. Welch.

Rabbi Henry J. Berkowitz, Rabbi Philip Bernstein, Rabbi Abraham Cronbach, Rabbi Solomon Goldman, Rabbi Herbert S. Goldstein, Rabbi Israel Goldstein, Rabbi Samuel H. Goldenson, Rabbi Edward L. Israel, Rabbi Charles H. Kauvar, Rabbi Mordecai Kaplan, Rabbi Morris S. Lazaron, Rabbi Emil W. Leipsiger, Rabbi Harry Levi, Rabbi Felix A. Levy, Rabbi Edgar F. Magnin, Rabbi Louis L. Mann, Rabbi Morris Newfield, Rabbi David de Sola Pool, Rabbi Abram Simon, Rabbi Elias L. Solomon, Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise.

Rev. W. S. Abernethy, Pres. A. W. Beaven, Prof. William Adams Brown, Rev. C. E. Burton, Rev. W. E. Cory, Rev. William Horace Day, Rev. Harry Emerson Fosdick, Rev. W. H. Foulkes, Pres. J. H. Franklin, Rt. Rev. James E. Freeman, Prof. Frank Gavin, Rev. Charles W. Gilkey, Rev. Ivan Lee Holt, Rev. Douglas Horton, Bishop Edwin H. Hughes, Rev. M. Ashby Jones, Rev. Edgar DeWitt Jones, Rev. E. D. Kohlstedt, Rev. John W. Langdale, Rev. Paul S. Leinbach, Rt. Rev. William T. Manning, Rev. Oscar E. Maurer, Bishop Charles L. Mead, Rev. William P. Merrill, Rev. Lewis S. Mudge, Rev. Justin W. Nixon, Pres. Albert W. Palmer, Rt. Rev. Edward L. Parsons, Rev. Norman V. Peale, Dean Rockwell Harmon Potter, Pres. George W. Richards, Prof. Howard C. Robbins, Rev. Robert W. Searle, Rev. C. H. Sears, Rt. Rev. Henry K. Sherrill, Rev. Frederick K. Stamm, Rt. Rev. W. Bertrand Stevens, Prof. Alva W. Taylor, Dean L. A. Weigle, Rev. Herbert L. Willett.

Write at once to the National Conference of Jews and Christians, 289 Fourth Avenue, New York City, by postal card or letter, giving your name, address and religious affiliation, and authorize us to add your name to this pronouncement when it is made public.



General Chairman.

The United States of America is dedicated to the truth that all men are "endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness." Civil liberties and religious rights that derive from this truth are today being assailed.

We of the Protestant, Catholic and Jewish faiths, for whom civil liberties and religious rights are based upon principles of our religion, reaffirm our loyalty to these fundamentals of just government, and our support of the traditions of American life that have championed and applied them.

Under the American tradition of liberty we are blessed by a land wherein people of different religious convictions and differing cultural traditions may live together in amity and mutual respect.

The nation can rely upon the mobilized spiritual forces of Protestants, Catholics and Jews for their support and defence of this truly American ideal.

National Conference of Jews & Christians

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

289 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE associates a number of thoughtful and earnest people in an effort to analyze, to moderate, and finally to eliminate a system of prejudices which we have in part inherited and which disfigures and distorts our business, social and political relations. The work of the Conference can succeed only as it has the support of men and women who realize the vital importance of tolerance [in the best sense] in so complicated a civilization as we Americans now have. —NEWTON D. BAKER

Because I wish to co-operate, I hereby enroll as a member for the coming twelve months, and contribute \$.....
(members contribute \$5, \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, and more, according to ability.)

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Street and Number.....

City and State.....

Members receive all publications issued during each year.