



## 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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Neumann, Emanuel, 1920.



CABLE ADDRESS:  
ZIONISTS  
BENTLEYS CODE

החסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

TELEPHONE  
STUYVESANT 8140

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

## OFFICERS

LOUIS D. BRANDEIS	HONORARY PRESIDENT
JULIAN W. MACK	PRESIDENT
STEPHEN S. WISE	VICE PRESIDENT
HARRY FRIEDENWALD	VICE PRESIDENT
JACOB DE HAAS	EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
LOUIS LIPSKY	SECRETARY FOR ORGANIZATION
HENRIETTA SZOLD	SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION
PETER J. SCHWEITZER	TREASURER
PAUL E. MOSES	ASST. TREASURER

REPLY TO DEPARTMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES  
55 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

## EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

September 3, 1920.

WRHS



Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
c/o The Temple  
East 55th Street and Central  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Silver:

I have received your article and photograph this morning, together with your covering letter. I thank you for all three. I am using the article and photograph for the September number of the Young Judaeon, -- the latter, in the hope that it will actually "cover the multitude of the scribe's sins". A handsome face atones for other shortcomings. After a study of the picture, the article may prove to the reader a sort of anti-climax. However, one must take these risks.

With best personal regards, I am,

As ever,

Yours,

Emmanuel Krumm

write me  
at my home address  
288 Ryerson St., Brooklyn?  
I am resigning my  
position here.  
E.H.

Mr. Lipsky has told me  
of his conversation with  
you, and said that you are  
in complete agreement.  
Is that really so? I did  
want to hear your opinion.  
The situation is so difficult  
& delicate. Would you care to



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REPLY TO DEPARTMENT

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

55 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

September 24, 1920.

Mr. Emanuel Neumann  
Building.

Dear Mr. Neumann:

As a Zionist, believing in building up the Jewish National Homeland in Palestine, I am warmly interested in all efforts to further the cause of Jewish education in this country. This can, I think, be best accomplished by the creation of a national organization, whose specific aim shall be to foster Jewish education and Jewish cultural activity. While such an organization will find wide support among the ranks of the organized Zionists, it should not be the concern of the Zionists alone. Every element in American Jewry that is concerned with the important problem of Jewish education should be represented therein. Only then will it be able to secure both the financial resources and the moral power essential to its success.

Speaking in my personal and individual capacity, such an organization brought into being through the cooperation of a number of groups and organizations interested in the question, will meet with my warm approval and support. Nor have I any doubt that it will be heartily endorsed and liberally supported by a considerable number of active and leading Zionists in this country.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) JULIAN W. MACK



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REPLY TO DEPARTMENT

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

55 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

## EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

October 8, 1920.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
c/o The Temple  
East 55th Street and Central Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Silver:

At the last -- Monday evening session of the last meeting of the National Executive Committee, all the recommendations of the Administrative Committee, in reference to the Education Department were adopted, including the approval of "Plan B", for the creation of a national body for Jewish education. Furthermore, the Department of Education was authorized to form a Committee to act on behalf of the Zionist Organization of America in initiating the creation of <sup>the</sup> a new organization.

For obvious reasons, it is highly desirable that this Committee shall be of as representative a character as possible. Knowing as I do the warm interest you have taken in this work, I am sure that you will accept this invitation to serve on this Committee, even though you may not be able to meet with the Committee frequently.

Among those who are being invited to serve on the Committee are Mr. Solomon Rosenbloom of Pittsburgh, Mr. Senior Abel, Mr. Peter J. Schweitzer, Mr. Reuben Brainin, and Mr. Louis Robison of New York. Messrs. Schweitzer and Abel have already accepted membership on the Committee.

You will be pleased to learn that I have received assurances from Mr. Brandeis, Judge Mack, Mr. Schweitzer, and others, <sup>who</sup> ~~who~~ will lend their personal support. I am enclosing a copy of a letter which Judge Mack gave me, expressing his attitude.



## ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

(Rabbi Silver - 2)

Please let me have your acceptance with the least possible delay, so that the Committee may begin to function at once. May I suggest that a letter from you endorsing the plan for such an organization, and expressing your intention to take an active interest in this work, would prove of great value to me in furthering this work which is already under way.

With best personal regards, I am,

As ever,

Yours,

*Emanuel Steinman*

Educational Director.





October 11th, 1920

Mr. Emanuel Newman,  
Educational Director,  
Zionist Organization of America,  
55 Fifth Avenue, New York City.

My dear Mr. Newman,

I am pleased indeed to accept  
your kind invitation to serve on Committee  
which shall assist in the creation of a  
National body for Jewish Education.

From my conversation with you  
in the past, you no doubt realize how deeply  
interested I am in the entire problem of  
Jewish education in America. I feel that it  
is a task which should command the concern  
and the support of all Jews who are interested  
in the preservation of the great traditions of  
our people and of its spiritual creations.  
I shall regard it a privilege to be called upon  
to assist in this highly important undertaking.

With kindest regards, I beg to  
remain

Very sincerely yours,



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REPLY TO DEPARTMENT

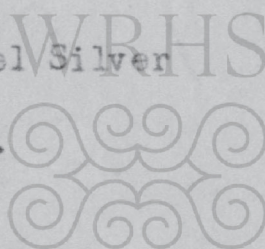
## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

55 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

## EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

October 19, 1920.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
c/o The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio.



Dear Silver:

I am enclosing a copy of a memorandum which I originally drew up for Mr. Schweitzer to read. I am anxious to have your criticism of it.

The following is a copy of a telegram received from Mr. Solomon Rosenbloom of Pittsburgh, in reply to a letter from me inviting him to serve on the Committee:

YOUR LETTER FORWARDED HERE WILL BE GLAD TO SERVE COMMITTEE  
WILL GIVE MY SUPPORT THIS AND THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY IN PALESTINE  
TO MY OPINION WILL PROVE GREATEST FACTORS IN OUR RECONSTRUCTION  
WORK AM WRITING FULLY AWAIT MY LETTER REMEMBER ME TO JUDGE  
MACK BEST WISHES FOR GREAT SUCCESS

Incidentally, I wish to thank you for your warm letter of October 11. Things are proceeding satisfactorily.

As ever,

Yours,  
*Emmanuel*



# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



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REPLY TO DEPARTMENT

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

55 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

## EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

October 22, 1920.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
c/o The Temple  
East 55th Street and Central Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

In connection with our efforts in establishing a national organization for Jewish education, I beg to report further, as follows:

Yesterday, I received the promised letter from Mr. Rosenbloom, in which he discussed the subject a little more fully, and makes a number of suggestions. It is evident from the letter that he is deeply interested in the project, and will go into the proposition "to the hilt." He expects to be in New York shortly to discuss the subject with us.

I have written to Mr. Brandeis to elicit from him a statement of approval of our aims, such as I secured from Judge Mack.

I am also trying to see Dr. Wise, in the hope that he may help, at the proper time, in securing some of the necessary funds.

I have had talks with two representative members of the former staff of the Bureau of Education. I say the former staff because since Dr. Benderly's return something seems to have gone wrong, and the whole staff has resigned in a body. These men, some of whom are highly valuable from the professional point of view, are warmly interested in our project. I am going to meet them all on Sunday, to discuss our plans, and will probably secure the cooperation of the whole group. They would be, to my mind, a very important acquisition.



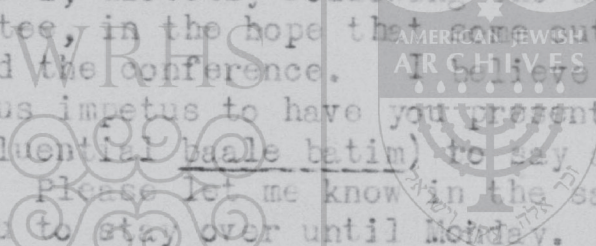
WRHS

*Handwritten notes:*  
Telegraph  
members to  
use A.H.S.  
name  
Friday - July 28th



(Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver - 2)

Today, we had a meeting of some of the New York members of our Committee, to discuss the calling of a conference of representatives of national Jewish organizations. We finally came to the conclusion that we should call a conference of a carefully selected list of persons, who may, unofficially, represent such organizations as the Z. O. A., United Synagogue, Histadruth Hamorim, and Histadruth Ivrit, and, for that matter, other influential Jews interested in Jewish education and not affiliated with any of these organizations. The call will then emanate from that conference. It was further decided that the letter calling this meeting should go out over the signature of all the members of our Committee, provided they consent. In order that there may be no delay, I am sending you a draft of that letter, and will request you, for the sake of expedition, that you wire your approval immediately.

My present plan is to hold the meeting Monday evening, November 1, directly following the meeting of the National Executive Committee, in the hope that some out-of-town people will be able to attend the conference.  I believe that it would give our efforts tremendous impetus to have you present at this conference (of 25 or 30 influential baale batim) to say a few words in support of our project. Please let me know in the same telegram whether we can expect you to stay over until Monday.

Yours, for the Rebuilding of Zion,

Very cordially,

*Emanuel Neumann*

Educational Director.

EN/FW  
Encl.



FORM LETTER

October 1920.

My dear Mr. \_\_\_\_\_:

For some time past, it has been growing increasingly evident to many of us that there is an urgent need in this country for creating a national organization for the advancement of Jewish education. Hitherto, a number of agencies have been working in this field, but their work has been largely uncoordinated, and there has not been a single body representative of all the groups or elements interested in Jewish education, which shall devote itself specifically to this problem. ~~This question~~ *The* has been the subject of discussion at the Conventions and at the meetings of the National Executive Committee of the Zionist Organization of America.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Z.O.A., held on September 30, a resolution was adopted, authorizing the formation of a sub-committee, charged with the duty of calling into being -- in co-operation with other organizations -- a national body for Jewish education. After due consideration, we have come to the conclusion that the call to the Jewish national organizations, when issued, should not be issued in the name of our Committee alone, but should rather emanate from a somewhat larger group, representing in unofficial capacity, other organizations and groups, in addition to the Zionist. We feel that the matter is of such paramount importance that no effort should be spared to bring about the harmonious cooperation on the part of all concerned.

Therefore, knowing the deep interest that you have always taken in the Cause of Jewish education, we beg to invite you to attend a conference to take place on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ . We are extending this invitation to a limited number of persons, <sup>who</sup> like yourself, <sup>are</sup> vitally interested in this question, and hope that you can attend, and would request you to inform us of your coming, on the enclosed, self-addressed card.

It is hardly necessary to add that the conference, when it meets, will be entirely free to discuss the whole question from all angles, and to reach its own conclusions, without committing the ~~organ~~ organizations with which those present are affiliated, and, of course, without binding the minority at the meeting to any views expressed by the majority.

Very sincerely yours,



Oct-25/20 Telegramms - Collect

Emanuel Newman

55- 5<sup>th</sup> Ave N.Y.

You may use my name in connection  
with your letter - A. H. S



# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

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REPLY TO DEPARTMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES  
55 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

October 27, 1920.

WRHS



Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
c/o The Temple  
East 55th Street and Central Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Silver:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of a letter from Mr. Justice Brandeis, received here the other day, which I know you will be glad to read.

May I ask you to kindly keep the amount of Justice Brandeis' contribution <sup>for the present</sup> as confidential, and not to make it public.

Yours for Judaism and Zionism,

*Received your  
telegram. Thanks.*

Cordially,  
*Shuman*  
Educational Director.

EN/FW  
Encl.



(COPY OF LETTER RECEIVED BY MR. NEUMANN FROM MR. JUSTICE BRANDEIS)

STONELEIGH COURT  
Washington, D. C.

October 22, 1920.

Dear Mr. Neumann:

Let me thank you for yours of the 20th, concerning the proposed national organization for the promotion of Jewish education in America.

With the views expressed in Judge Mack's letter of September 24 I entirely concur. If the organization is formed I shall be glad to contribute one thousand dollars toward the expenses of the first year.

In regard to the proposed minimum budget, I venture this suggestion:

If the organization is to do the full work proposed and cover the whole country, it will obviously require much more than the minimum named. But it seems to me that the chances of success -- of establishing an institution which will prove influential and permanent -- will be far greater, if the organization starts more moderately and is developed, in the first few years, carefully and slowly, and limits its operations to a small section of the country. It is the quality, rather than the quantity of the work done now which will count most. And in the early formative years, it is important that the machinery be reduced to a minimum, and that thorough thinking and enquiry be intensified.

With best wishes,

Cordially,

(Signed) LOUIS D. BRANDEIS

Mr. Emanuel Neumann



# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

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REPLY TO DEPARTMENT

## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

55 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

October 27, 1920.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
c/o Temple  
East 55th ST. and Central Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Friend:

For some time past, it has been growing increasingly evident to many of us that there is an urgent need in this country for creating a national organization for the advancement of Jewish education. Hitherto, a number of agencies have been working in this field, but their work has been largely uncoordinated, and there has not been a single body representative of all the groups or elements interested in Jewish education, which shall devote itself specifically to this problem. The question has long been the subject of discussion, but no action was taken.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Z. O. A., held on September 30, a resolution was adopted authorizing the formation of a sub-committee, charged with the duty of calling into being -- in cooperation with other organizations -- a national body for Jewish education. After due consideration, we have come to the conclusion that the call to the Jewish national organization, when issued, should not be issued in the name of our Committee alone, but should rather emanate from a somewhat larger group, representing, in unofficial capacity, other organizations and groups, in addition to the Zionist. We feel that the matter is of such paramount importance that no effort should be spared to bring about harmonious cooperation on the part of all concerned.



## ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

Therefore, knowing the deep interest that you have always taken in the cause of Jewish education, we beg to invite you to attend a conference to take place on Monday, November 1st 8:00P. M. at the Commodore Hotel (East Ballroom Parlor) 42nd Street and Lexington Avenue (near Grand Central Terminal). We are extending this invitation to a limited number of persons, who, like yourself, are vitally interested. We hope that you can attend and would request you to inform us of your coming, on the enclosed, self-addressed card.

It is hardly necessary to add that, the conference, when it meets will be entirely free to discuss the whole question from all angles, and to reach its own conclusions, without committing the organizations with which those present are affiliated, and, of course, without binding the minority at the meeting to any views expressed by the majority.

Yours, for Judaism and Zionism,

(Signed) SENIOR ABEL  
REUBEN BRAININ  
EMANUEL NEUMANN  
LOUIS ROBISON  
SOL. ROSENBLUM  
RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER  
PETER J. SCHWEITZER



LOUIS D. BRANDEIS  
HONORARY PRESIDENT

JULIAN W. MACK  
PRESIDENT

JACOB DE HAAS  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

CABLE ADDRESS:  
ZIONISTS

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

TELEPHONE:  
STUYVESANT 8140

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



YOUNG JUDAEA  
INTERCOLLEGIATE ZIONIST ASS'N  
BUREAU FOR HEBREW INSTRUCTION  
AND PROPAGANDA  
LEADERS' BUREAU  
BUREAU FOR ADULT EXTENSION  
TRAINING  
LIBRARY BUREAU  
BUREAU OF PUBLICATIONS  
BIBLIOGRAPHIC BUREAU

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
55 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

HENRIETTA SZOLD  
SECRETARY FOR EDUCATION

EMANUEL NEUMANN  
EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR

November 4, 1920.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
c/o The Temple  
E. 55th Street and Central Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Silver:

We missed you at the meeting of the National Executive Committee last Sunday, because, for one thing, we wanted to hear a report of your recent pilgrimage.

The meeting held on Monday evening of unofficial representatives of various national Jewish organizations, was, I think, a success. Rather divergent views were presented in the persons of Mr. Reuben Brainin, Mr. K. Whiteman, Dr. Turoff, Rabbi Jacob Kohn, Dr. Bernard Drachman, Mr. Abel, and others. You will get a fairly good idea of what took place from the minutes which I shall send you tomorrow. The important thing is that a Committee of Five was appointed to present at the next meeting, a statement of aims and a program of activities. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday evening, November 15, the day following the next meeting of the National Executive Committee. I feel that we are making satisfactory progress in the direction of uniting an important group of national organizations on a common platform for Jewish education. Very soon, however, it will be a question not of principles, but of money. Unless we will be able to secure the funds at the very beginning, we shall be stumbling along for a year, pottering about with this thing and that, spending ourselves in trying to raise petty sums of money, and achieving nothing. We will have to have approximately \$50,000 at the beginning to cover our activities for one year.

Do you think that Cleveland and vicinity could contribute, say, \$10,000 for this fund, within the next few weeks? If that sum seems too large, how much could be raised? What, in your opinion, is the method to be employed in securing such funds as may be raised?



# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA

(Rabbi Silver - 2)

I expect to be out in Pittsburgh some day next week to see Mr. Rosenbloom, who, I believe, will make a very substantial contribution.

A number of important matters depend upon our ability to raise funds soon. I have particularly in mind the fact that there are at least two educational experts of great value, whose services we may be able to engage, if we are in a position to do so in the very near future, but whom we will lose if we delay. One of them is Dr. Nissan Turoff, formerly the head of the Vaad Hachinuch in Palestine, the Editor of the pedagogic journal "Hachinuch", and the translator of James' "Talks to Teachers".

Awaiting your prompt reply, I beg to remain,

Yours, for Judaism and Zionism,

Very cordially,

*Enmanuel Neumann*

Educational Director.

EN/FW