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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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Nordau, Max, biography, 1943-1949.

COMMITTEE SPONSORING THE PUBLICATION OF THE

MAX NORDAU BIOGRAPHY

By ANNA and MAXA NORDAU

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EZRA SHAPIRO

(incomplete)

September 23, 1943

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

When I saw you last, I was discussing with you other business and it was unpleasant for me to speak about the Nordau book.

We have made no appeals for funds. We have financed this enterprise by the sale of books. If this will not cause you any inconvenience, may I suggest that the Zionist society of Cleveland either order a number of books, or a committee be appointed to secure subscriptions and we will mail directly to everyone who will order a book.

The price of the book in the stores is \$3.75. We will sell it to Zionist groups at \$2.50. We are very anxious to give this book as wide a distribution as possible.

With best wishes for a Happy New Year,
I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Jacob Fishman
Jacob Fishman

JF:FS

October 1, 1943

Mr. Jacob Fishman
77 Bowery
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Fishman:

Thank you for your kind letter of September 23. Please have twenty-five copies of the Nordau book sent to me, for which I am enclosing a check. I shall try to distribute them locally, and if I succeed, I shall order some more.

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

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

62⁵⁰

October 1, 1943

Mr. Ezra Shapiro
Union Commerce Building
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Mr. Shapiro:

I have been asked by the Committee sponsoring the Max Nordau Biography to purchase some copies locally. I have ordered twenty-five copies for which I have sent a check. I am wondering whether you can assist me in distributing them? The price of the book in the stores is \$3.75, but they are being sold to Zionist groups at \$2.50 a copy.

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

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

LAW OFFICES
EZRA SHAPIRO
540 GUARDIAN BUILDING
CLEVELAND, OHIO
CHERRY 3737

October
4th
1943

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

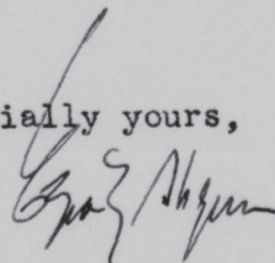
Dear Dr. Silver:

I have your letter of October 1st.
Some time ago I also bought twenty-five books of
the Max Nordau biography, and paid for them. We
are apparently in the same boat.

I enclose herewith a stenographic
copy of Lessing Rosenwald's address delivered by
him in Cleveland on September 20th. I am certain
you will find it quite interesting.

With best wishes for a Happy and
Healthy New Year, I am

Cordially yours,



EZS:K

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DR. YOACHIM PRINCZ

EZRA SHAPIRO
(incomplete)

October 5, 1943

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th St. at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver:

I am very grateful to
you for your kind cooperation and check.
We have ordered the twenty-five books to be
sent to you at the Temple as per your kind
request.

Wishing you and yours
a happy and prosperous new year, I am,

Yours most sincerely,

Jacob Fishman
Jacob Fishman

JF:FS

December 28, 1944.

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

My dear Rabbi Silver:

I read your excellent statement in the New York Times. It will cheer many true Zionists.

I know that you are burdened with tremendous responsibilities, but, nevertheless, I feel I ought to bring this to your kind attention:

Monday, January 22nd, will be the 22nd Yahrzeit of Dr. Max Nordau. Very few Zionists in the present leadership in America have the feeling of kinship to Dr. Nordau as you do. If it will be convenient for you to be in New York on January 22nd, it would be befitting that you pay the deserved tribute to Max Nordau's life and work for our ideal.

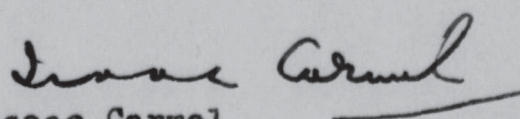
It so happens that this year the Nordau family is in this country. It is quite possible that in a year hence they may not be here and so the meeting will be attended by the members of the family.

We have not yet decided as to whether the meeting should be held at a hotel or in the Auditorium of the Herzliah Teachers Seminary and High School, which can accommodate 350 people and which is nicely located. If you will be in New York and it will be convenient for you to accept this invitation, it would also be an opportunity for you to visit the Herzliah Seminary from which, I am sure, you will have "naches."

The meeting will be held under the auspices of the Nordau Committee which published a biography of Max Nordau, of which Louis Lipsky is chairman, Jacob Fishman, treasurer and I am secretary.

Hoping that all is well with you, and with warmest regards and Zion's greetings,

Most sincerely yours,


Isaac Carmel

Isaac Carmel
31 Ocean Parkway
Brooklyn, N. Y.

January 5, 1945

Mr. Isaac Carmel
31 Ocean Parkway
Brooklyn, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Carmel:

Thank you for your letter of December 28. I should very much love to come to the Nordau meeting on January 22. Unfortunately I shall be in Boston on that day for a long scheduled engagement.

With all good wishes, I remain
Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

3, RUE MASSENET (XVI^e)

TÉL. AUTEUIL 73-31

May 22nd, 1949

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street and Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

In this month which marks such an event in our history as the first anniversary as the creation of our State, I wish to express our thankfulness to you for the great part you had in this putting up of a milestone in the slow but undeniable progress of civilization. You have fought and won the battle on another field but with the same undaunted courage as the heroes in Israel.

We cannot help thinking at the same time how cruel fate has been to Herzl and to my father, which has given them all the bitterness and not the reward of seeing their dream come true at last. What would Max Nordau say, now that even his own words of mass immigration and people living in tents are taken by the Israeli Government? It probably takes a long time until farsighted views are understood, but at last they make their way!

Do you know that this year brings another birthday? My father would have been one hundred years on July 29. He was born in 1849. Zionists and also non Jewish groups are planning here to commemorate this date. A meeting will be held, probably at the Sorbonne, and other manifestations will take place. In Israel too (I don't know yet under what form) the memory of Max Nordau will be honored. Don't you think that America should join in the remembrance of the philosopher who was Herzl's first follower and best friend and enabled him to lay the foundation stone of the building of the State of Israel and with him led our people on the way to victory? You have not forgotten Max Nordau, I know it, and your voice would be the greatest to say the words which have to be said.

Perhaps it would be feasible too that some creative work could be done on this occasion which would tie his name not only to ideology but also to some reality in Israel.

me for
Maybe you had already thought of it and excuse ~~me~~/reminding you of a date that the incredible rush of events might have swept over.

If you come to Paris on one of your trips, we shall all be happy to see you. My mother wishes to be remembered to you.

Please convey my kindest regards to Mrs. Silver and with my husband's and my daughter's best greetings, I am, in admiration

Very sincerely yours,

Maxa Nordau

Maxa Nordau.

P.S. - My husband has decided to honor my father's memory in a new manner. Together with some friends, he has constituted an important collection of paintings (from the 16th to the end of the 19th century, listing many a great name), antiques from about 500 B.C. to the 16th century, curios from different epochs, Bibles in all languages, some of them highly valuable illustrated volumes, a large art library and last but not least, Max Nordau's manuscripts, donated by my mother. The collection is now here under our ward and will be transferred to Israel as soon as an adequate building, worthy of the artistic value of the collection, can be constructed by the Israeli Government to make a museum dedicated to Max Nordau the Art Critic. I shall make the announcement myself at the ceremony for the centennial.