



## The Abba Hillel Silver Digital Collection

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

Series 1: General Correspondence, 1914-1969, undated.

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

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Sermons, comments, 1917-1953.

# HOTELS STATLER

The Complete Hotels - Rates from \$1.50 per day



450 ROOMS **BUFFALO** 450 BATHS



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1000 ROOMS **CLEVELAND** 1000 BATHS



Hotel Statler, St. Louis, now building

11/25-17

THIS LETTER WRITTEN FROM CLEVELAND

Rev. A. H. Silver

Cleveland O.

Dear Sir:- Last Sunday I heard your lecture on "Anti-Semitism", and as you are a young man, you may perhaps welcome a little constructive criticism.

First of all: Twice you spoke in a derogatory spirit of thoughts "Made in Germany", now whatever our political difference is with that country, the scientific and philosophic Germany, we are under deepest obligations to, not only as Americans, but even more so as Reform Jews. The newspapers are trying hard enough to throw our brains into a muddle, the pulpit at least ought to retain clearness of thought. But at any rate, as long as we are at war with Germany, let us fight her with weapons, worthy the spirit of our past history, worthy the spirit of true Americanism, let us not sink to the level of ward politicians who throw mud at each ~~other~~ and who resort to slander, in order to down their opponent. Let <sup>it</sup> ~~us~~ be said of us, after peace is restored that we have fought like men and like Americans.

But your statements were not even correct. You accused Germany of fathering the thought of modern Anti-Semitism, the idea of superior and inferior races, with the Jews belonging to the latter. The man who stood sponsor for this thought, was Ernest Renan, who in a book written in his earlier days (I cannot momentarily think of the name of the book) made propaganda for this



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Hotel Statler, St. Louis, now building

THIS LETTER WRITTEN FROM CLEVELAND

-2-

thought. The German Junkers and Russian Bureaucrats were only too glad to take it up, and when in later years Renan took back everything he said on this subjects, Russian and German anti-Semites of course, ignored his latter statements. But this thought was "Made in France", not in Germany.

You were correct in criticising Werner Sombart for the thought for which you did, but to cast aside his entire book, just because it was "Made in Germany", is wrong, for after all, Sombart wrote a mighty good book. He was the first to call our attention to the coincidence of the migration of commerce and prosperity with that of the Jews, a statement that has not yet been contradicted to my knowledge, though his book has gone through severe criticism. Moreover his vivid description of the condition of commerce in Germany before and after the entry of the Jews in that country, is a classic, and has given us a better inside into the life of the Middle Ages in Germany than almost any historic work could do.

And one more point. Why do you lecture, why don't you preach sermons? Truly it is the function of the Reform pulpit, as of the Jewish pulpit in general, to teach Ethics, now while your lecture was instructive, it taught no ethical lessons, and you could have so easily turned your lecture into a sermon, by arriving at the conclusion, that whatever the causes of Anti-Semitism may be, we ourselves could minimize them, by leading lives of justice and righteousness, stating the fact, that while a non-Jew is personally held

# HOTELS STATLER

The Complete Hotels - Rates from \$150 per day



450 ROOMS **BUFFALO** 450 BATHS



1000 ROOMS **DETROIT** 1000 BATHS



1000 ROOMS **CLEVELAND** 1000 BATHS



Hotel Statler, St. Louis, now building

-3-

THIS LETTER WRITTEN FROM CLEVELAND

responsible for any act of unworthiness on his part, entire Jewry is accused, when a Jew falls from grace. This you could have worked up nicely by urging your hearers to lead a life for the higher things, Art, Music, Science, and last but not least, Ethics, and then ~~nx~~ you could have nicely brought in the announcement you made after the lecture, larger contributions to the Associated Charities.

You are one of the most talented youngmen in the Jewish pulpit, your opportunity is a rare one, generations yet unborn will be affected by your utterances, therefore so much the greater the obligation upon you, to take care of what you say.

It was my intention to go hear you again to-day, but unfortunately I will have to leave the city, and had to deny myself the pleasure of listening to you a second time, but hope will have the opportunity to do so at a later period.

Trusting you will accept my criticism in the spirit in which it is meant,

I remain

yours sincerely

*Geo Kaul*

Am out of personal cards, so am obliged to enclose a bus. card.

# CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER

ESTABLISHED AS THE EVENING PLAIN DEALER IN 1841  
MORNING AND SUNDAY EDITIONS FOUNDED IN 1885 BY  
L. E. HOLDEN

LARGEST MORNING AND SUNDAY CIRCULATION IN OHIO

ELBERT H. BAKER, PRESIDENT AND GENERAL MANAGER  
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JOHN S. MCCARRENS, BUSINESS MANAGER

May 13, 1918.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,  
The Temple,  
Central and E. 55th St.,  
Cleveland.

My dear Rabbi Silver:

The Plain Dealer is asking your cooperation in an attempt to improve the reporting of Sunday sermons.

We are asking that you send us what you consider the most important and readable portions of either your next Sunday's morning sermon or evening address. This request is being sent to four other prominent Cleveland pastors in the hope that they will respond.

We feel that this will serve two purposes. First, it will give Cleveland clergymen an opportunity to reach a larger public than that of their churches. Second, it will enable the Plain Dealer to get the sermon material in better form and more completely than is the case when it is hastily sought on Sunday when the ministers are necessarily busy.

We will send out our requests for these sermons in rotation, making a similar request from you several weeks hence.

We appreciate that occasionally a minister preaches only to his own congregation on matters that would not be of general interest. Usually, however, we think that leading Cleveland ministers discuss, either in the morning or evening services, some matters that would appeal to general public interest.

If you will make out notes or excerpts from your next Sunday's sermon or address not later than Saturday it will be greatly appreciated by the Plain Dealer.

You will appreciate that the notes sent us do not have to be assembled or re-written in any finished form. If you will simply have your secretary make copies of such notes as you intend to use it will be entirely satisfactory.

Very truly yours,

*Charles Henderson*

City Editor.

CH-A



May 20, 1918

Mr. Charles Henderson  
City Editor Cleveland Plain Dealer  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Mr. Henderson:-

I appreciate very much your kind invitation to contribute an abstract of my sermon to your paper. Unfortunately I did not have a sermon last Sunday morning, it was our Confirmation day and the sermon had a purely local significance. My sermons for the year closed with the week of Sunday, May 5 and I shall not preach until September. I shall however, remember your very kind invitation and I shall be more than pleased to avail myself of the privilege.

With kindest regards, I

am

Very sincerely yours,

February 24th  
1919

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

My dear Rabbi Silver:

Let me please commend on your lecture Sunday, "Judaism and Christian Science." I should like to have spoken to you personally, but, no doubt, your time is valuable and probably I can say what I want here.

Your lecture was fine. The points you brought out were very good and exceedingly well handled. Your lecture was given in such a convincing manner that no person, not a Christian Scientist would want to be one - in fact, I should say, would want to be as far removed from Christian Science as the North Pole is from the South Pole. I cannot, of course, know whether this was your intention or not, so I cannot judge - nor is it my place to judge.

Speaking from the pulpit, you impressed me as being one who desired above all things to be a just man. This, indeed, is admirable, but do you think it is just to speak against any religion from a house of worship? No matter what the religion, Jewish, Catholic, Protestant or Christian Scientist, all seek the Almighty God and His kingdom. As a preacher once said, the kingdom can be compared to a sea and the different kinds of religions can be likened unto rivers, all taking different courses but all eventually flowing into the sea.

One sometimes receives the wrong impression from a sermon or lecture and I may have - but you seemed to convey the thought that Christian Science is based solely on the New Testament and not on the Old. This is not so, and if you would ever attend a meeting on Wednesdays or Sundays you would find that the Reader reads from both the Old and New Testaments - selections which have been authorized and prepared by Mrs. Eddy and pupils taught by Mrs. Eddy. In fact, Christian Scientists are constantly reminded of the glory of Daniel in the lion's Den and God's protecting care in this instance - of the three men in the fiery furnace - of Moses' consecration - of God's care of Elijah in feeding him by ravens - in fact, all of the prophets and good men of the Old Testament are revered and Christian Scientists hold their lives as models for their own. Mrs. Eddy's remarks about Judaism which you seemed to condemn, referred, without question, to the present day, rather than to the Biblical day Jews. You seemed to infer otherwise. One, however, must admit that the Jews of today are living more in the letter than in the Spirit of religion as practiced by the patriarchs of the Old Testament. I am convinced of this, because I have been reared in an orthodox Jewish home. If you would study page 361 of Science and Health, you will find that,



after all, Mrs. Eddy has the right idea about Judaism and Christianity.

Can't we, my dear Rabbi Silver, devote our time and thought to attending our dear Father's business and isn't today full of events? Must we, today, speak against another man's religion when that religion is his very life, just like your own religion is your life? I must say, you were broad-minded in your statement that you revere a religion that can uplift humanity, etc. Most preachers are rather reluctant to admit that any religion but their own would have such a tendency.

Since the scant fifty years of its birth, Christian Science has many, many adherents, yet, it never denounces another religion - never holds a meeting where another religion is even discussed, but goes quietly on its way, seeking the kingdom of God, even as you and I. This does not necessarily mean that every other religion should do likewise. I will not let myself think that preachers, Jewish or Christian will lecture against Christian Science so that they might be able to have a stronger hold on their own congregations. It shouldn't be necessary.

Instead of creating Love in the hearts of a congregation, as a minister of God should, and as the people sorely need it, many a preacher will do the opposite, unconsciously. I heard many sarcastic remarks and many jeering, sneering remarks from people going out of the house of God yesterday. I know that that was not what you intended should be ~~the~~ the result of your sermon but such it was. All these sneering remarks were against Christian Scientists and the religion of Christian Science.

My dear Rabbi Silver, we humans are wont to put certain thoughts of lack of understanding, or differences which we cannot comprehend, or what not, under certain captions. For instance, the word "nervous" seems to cover a multitude of sins. The slightest irregularity in work, words, actions, or anything, comes under the caption "'I'm nervous" or "you're nervous" or "he's nervous." In the same manner, you use the word "mystic." What you cannot or would not comprehend, you put down as "mystic." What seems "mystic" about Christian Science to you or to another, does not seem "mystic" to a Christian Scientist. Rather, mortal existence is a phenomenon and to the Christian Scientist the Spiritual reality is perfectly clear - nothing mystic about it. You also said that Mrs. Eddy mentioned something in an "off-handed" manner. How can you infer this? You don't know this - on the contrary, she may have spent hours on what sounded to you "off-handed."

Then the subject of marriage. I do not know how you think about it, but according to Mrs. Eddy and the Bible, in heaven there are no marriages, neither are we given in marriage. According to Mrs. Eddy, ~~the~~ "Heaven is a divine state of Mind". Until this state is reached, marriages will continue to be necessary. How wicked the world now, before this state is reached, would be if there were no marriages! Scientists do not make a concession by marrying. It is against the law not to marry and even if the law did allow Scientists to live together without marrying, everybody could do this and say "Oh! I'm a Christian Scientist".

The same thing is true about eating. Mrs. Eddy says in heaven we shall neither eat to live nor live to eat and as heaven is a divine state of Mind, according to Mrs. Eddy, this won't be necessary ~~until~~ *after* that state is reached.

Suppose that "give us this day our daily bread" didn't mean just exactly that to Mrs. Eddy. I think it is beautiful to see everything in a God-like way, even bread - rivers - names, etc. as Mrs. Eddy did. You know that the All-Wise creator knows the needs of His children - He is perfectly capable of taking care of His children and supplying their needs. We should rather pray for the grace of God to be in us - that we should be free from strife and all other blessings will come to us. As for the selection, "There is no Life, Truth, Intelligence or Substance in Matter" no one can say that there is. This is irrevocably true.

So, my dear Rabbi Silver, I'm a Jewess who has taken up Christian Science and I find that I can be more loyal to God - more near Him and worship Him in more Truth than I ever did before. Before studying Christian Science I was a student of Judaism and Christian Science is a fulfillment of, or rather the logical result of Israel's devotion to the One Almighty God.

I hope I have not intruded by writing this. Human beings do not have to be agreeable on every single point in order to be compatible and 'tho we may differ, yet we can be friends and obey the Golden Rule. Oh! how I hope that that one error, preaching against another's religion in the house of God may be abolished forever!

I will say, that in spite of our apparent differences, I enjoyed your lecture and was glad to be there to hear it.

Would you mind dropping me a line, assuring me that you don't consider it wrong for me to have taken up your time in this way?

Very sincerely, I am

*Elizabeth Reiner*

c/o Famous Players-Lasky Corp.,  
811 Prospect Avenue,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

February 28th, 1919

Miss Elisabeth Reiner,  
C/o Famous Players-Lasky Corp.,  
811 Prospect Avenue,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Miss Reiner,

I was indeed pleased to receive your letter containing your comments on my lecture last Sunday.

I appreciate the nice things you say about my address, but regret that the impression has been left with you that my object was to attack Christian Science.

You will remember that this lecture was one of a series on "Judaism and other Faiths". It was a study of comparative religions.

Time does not permit me to take up all the points of your letter, much as I should like to. Should you some day have the time to come to my study, I should be most happy to discuss these matters with you.

Incidentally, permit me to say, that while you deprecate any attack on Christian Science, you are committing an offense yourself when you state in your letter that the Jews of today are living more in the letter than in the spirit of religion as practiced by the Patriarchs of the Old Testament. I am afraid you are speaking from limited personal experience.

Assuring you of my entire goodwill,

I beg to remain

Sincerely yours,



Cleveland Wch 5/20

Rabbi Akiba Silver  
City

My dear rabbi -

Having noticed what the subject of your next Sunday lecture is to be, I thought it opportune to acquaint you with an incident that you might wish to embody in the lecture, showing the clever rebuke one of those prejudiced hotelkeepers received.

An acquaintance of my niece of Dayton, O., wishing to go South & therefore make hotel reservations, wrote

to a hotel at Asheville, T.C. for such  
and by return mail received the  
following reply: "Are there any children  
in your party? You must remember  
that we do not admit children or Jews."  
The Dayton man at once wired to  
the hotel-keeper: "Now I know why  
Christ was born in a manger; Mary  
was unable to get any hotel  
accommodations, so she had to  
go to a stable."

Yours Very Sincerely  
J R Oppenheimer

1625 E 117<sup>th</sup> St.



THE SANDALPHON SCHOOL  
FOR CHILDREN DELAYED IN  
DEVELOPMENT

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BERNARD CADWALLADER  
Director  
CLEVELAND

Roger Williams Hall  
East 97th and Euclid

Phones:  
Garfield 7154  
Main 4112

Sept 30 - 1920

My dear Rabbi Silver:

I do so want to have a talk with you regarding the work we are carrying on in Sandalphon School. regardless of race or creed. We have two little Jewesses. whose parents can pay but half. & that is a sacrifice.

We are sending you under separate cover our new Catalog, dealing with our achievement, and presenting our next year's plans. In the back part of the brochure you will find expressions of our friends. I know you will be greatly pleased by the one from Rev. Dr. Sweet. The school was not organized for profit.

Last year it cost me personally over \$2000.00 because those who had pledged scholarships or agreed to contribute to the fund, broke faith.

I accepted Miriam Darnstadt because I had heard so much from Jews that they always took of their own. There is a little story in this connection which I would rather tell you personally. I know you will want to help this the only effort to do this particular bit of human uplift in Cleveland in the only way it can be done. Most Sincerely Yours  
Bernard Cadwallader

THE SANDALPHON SCHOOL

FOR CHILDREN DELAYED IN  
DEVELOPMENT

BERNARD CADWALLADER  
Director  
CLEVELAND

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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Mrs. Henry Turner Bailey  
Mrs. Bernard Cadwallader, Sec'y

Roger Williams Hall  
East 97th and Euclid

Phones:  
Garfield 7154  
Main 4112

Sept 30. 1920.

Rabbi A. Silver,

The Temple.

6. 55<sup>th</sup> AND Central Ave.  
Cleveland.

Dear Rabbi Silver:-

May I not congratulate you for  
your admirable and splendidly vigorous  
appeal to right the wrongs of humanity, as outlined  
in your Day of Atonement Sermon.

Mr. F. W. Sweet, Pastor of the E. C.  
Baptist Church came into Sandalphon School  
and suggested I go with him to hear your address.

We both enjoyed your terrific  
appeal. Surely there is something we can all  
do to counteract such pernicious pro-  
paganda. What can you suggest?

Cooperatively Yours

Bernard Cadwallader.

October 6th, 1920

Mr. Bernard Cadwallader,  
The Sandalphon School,  
Roger Williams Hall,  
E. 97th and Euclid, City.

My dear Mr. Cadwallader,

I am in receipt of your kind letter of September 30th and desire to thank you for the sentiments you express regarding my address at the East End Baptist Church on our Day of Atonement.

In the matter of the Sandalphon School, I would suggest that you correspond with Mrs. Siegmund Herzog, President of the Council of Jewish Women, which organization interests itself in work of this character for our entire community. Mrs. Herzog's address is 2558 Euclid Heights Boulevard, and her telephone number is Fairmount 1342.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

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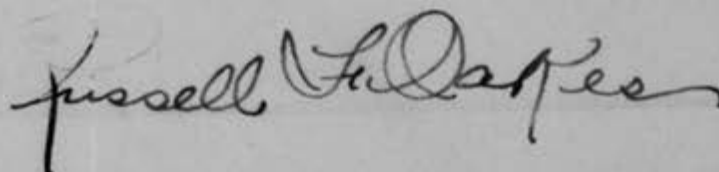
May 13th, 1924.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,  
c/o The Temple,  
Central Ave. & E. 55th St.,  
Cleveland, O.

Dear Sir:-

Just a word to supplement our phone conversation of last evening. We are indeed happy to know that you will be able to speak to the great radio audience from the Plain Dealer studio on the evening of May 28th. As I informed you, the program will be of a patriotic nature and we trust you will prepare your address on a patriotic subject.

Very truly yours,



Director of Radio Programs.

RFO:LKB



# The Lakeside Hospital

Cleveland

My dear Rabbi Silver:

Dec. 8, 1924.

Allow me to express my sincere appreciation of your Sunday morning lecture on the American Theatre. It doesn't require a European visitor to realize the silliness & sterility of the American stage. There is a young doctor here from Vienna who tells me that the Austrian stage is subsidized by the government & poor students may see first rate opera or drama for as little as five or ten cents. I do not think we have as an excuse for our cultural shortcomings the fact that we are a young country which in its infancy is floundering about to find its feet. There is too much international intercourse to make such reasoning plausible. I agree most heartily with you, however, that the state of affairs in the theatre is a sad reflection on our educational system & on those who control it. With all the available faculties for teaching that we have in our schools & universities, it is a disgrace to contemplate



## The Lakeside Hospital

Cleveland

how ridiculously low is the taste of most college graduates in the beaux arts. We place too much emphasis on technical & scientific training & ignore the classics & European literature too consistently in our college curriculum & our opinion of an A.B. degree is so shallow that we deliver it on the basis of the most superficial display of mental exercise. And the same is true in the elementary schools. There are so many to educate that the standard of attainment becomes that of the average mind. We refuse to set a premium on higher thinking I am from Boston & from Harvard, but it has frequently pained me to find that in that city where there are more than ordinary opportunities for cultural development, an insignificant fraction of the Lowell lectures audience is made up of the younger college generation. If Henry Menck is a cynic about America, it is not because he is temperamentally a cynic, but because America deserves no more favorable criticism. I think you are hopeful about the future, & so am I - but, as for me, the realization of a cultural Utopia in this country is almost as distant as the one Wells describes in his "Men like Gods".

Most sincerely yours,  
F. H. Fine.

December 12th, 1924.

Dr. J. Fein,  
Lakeside Hospital,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Fein,

Permit me to thank you  
for your letter of December 8th.  
I was very happy to get your reaction  
to my lecture on the American Theatre.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,  
The Temple,  
Cleveland,  
Ohio

OVER 114,000 VOLUMES

LIBRARY OF GARRETT BIBLICAL INSTITUTE

Evanston, Illinois

RECENTLY OUR ATTENTION WAS CALLED TO

"Woodrow Wilson's  
Contribution to Civilization."  
and my published sermon

WE PRESERVE CAREFULLY AND MAKE USE OF ALL SUCH MATERIAL. IF YOU  
DISTRIBUTE COPIES, WE SHALL BE PLEASED TO RECEIVE ONE.

*Chas. Ayres*

LIBRARIAN.

June Seventh  
1925

Mr. S. G. Ayres,  
Librarian of Garrett Biblical Institute,  
Evanston, Illinois.

My dear Mr. Ayres,

In Rabbi Silver's absence from his study (he is in Europe for the summer), I am sending you by separate mail a set of six of his sermons which have been printed in pamphlet form. I am sure Rabbi Silver would be glad to contribute these and trust they may prove of interest to your readers.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary.

Sermons Mailed:

Woodrow Wilson's Contribution to Civilization  
Some Problems of Human Life propounded in the Bible  
The Spiritual Legacy of the Pilgrim Fathers  
What is Culture  
Blazing a Trail Through Life  
Is God a Superstition



WILLIAM HIRAM FOULKES  
OLD STONE CHURCH  
CLEVELAND, OHIO

Nov 12-1925

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Most heartily  
do I congratulate you upon  
your beautiful and altogether  
admirable address yesterday.  
It manifestly came from your heart  
and it touched the community  
and individual heart.

It was also (to) a pleasure to

bare you in my pulpit, although  
the exigencies of courtesy seem-  
ed to prevent my physical  
presence, in deference to other  
churches whose pastors were  
recognized. You were sure of  
a hearty welcome, I know, and  
you surely received it and a  
most appreciative one, too.

Rabbi Isidore Silver      Most cordially,  
The Temple      Tithani Shram Faltis  
Cleveland, O.

November Sixteenth  
1925

Dr. William H. Foulkes,  
Old Stone Church,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Foulkes,

It was kind and thoughtful  
of you to send me the note which you did.  
The Armistice Day Service in the Old Stone  
Church was an inspiring event. I felt it  
a distinct privilege to have the opportunity  
of addressing that throng of worshippers  
in your historic Church and of standing in  
your pulpit.

With kindest regards, permit me  
to remain

Very sincerely yours,

# Trinity Congregational Church

WASHINGTON BLVD. AND THAYNE AVE.  
CLEVELAND HEIGHTS  
OHIO

GEO. M. GIBSON, JR.  
MINISTER

Monday  
February fourth  
Nineteen Twenty Nine

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The TEMPLE  
Ansel Road and East 105th Street  
Cleveland

My dear Rabbi Silver,--

Your prompt reply to my letter is greatly appreciated, and I am sorry you cannot undertake doing the monograph on Opinion Formation.

\* \* \* \* \*

May I also take this opportunity of commending you for what you said yesterday morning in your discussion of Crime in Our Large Cities? I gave somewhat the same emphasis in my discussion last week, stressing the need for a sociological and educational approach, and disclaiming any affinity with the typical "crusading parson".

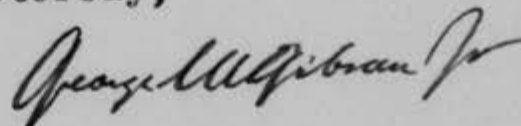
I hardly think the headlines told the true story of what either of us had in mind. Compare:--

Two weeks ago of Mr. Hudnut and myself:--  
"REPORTING AND A.E.F. SERVICE HELP THEM FIGHT VICE"

And this morning, of you:  
"SILVER SLASHES AT SNOOPING MINISTERS"

An apt example of the disservice of newspapers in intelligent opinion formation!

Sincerely,



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# The Cleveland Association for Criminal Justice

Federal Reserve Bank Building  
 Cleveland, Ohio

February 11th, 1929.

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 The Cleveland Advertising Club  
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Rabbi A. H. Silver,  
 10311 Lake Shore Boulevard,  
 Bratenahl, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

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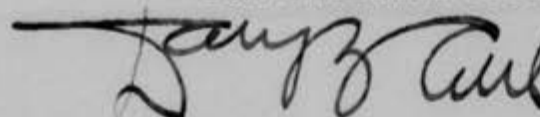
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 Dr. C. W. Stone  
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 William B. Woods

Several weeks ago your Sunday sermon dealt with the subject of crime, criminals, police officers, intelligence tests, etc. My attention has been directed to it by a number of our directors.

Would it be possible to obtain a copy of your sermon - or possibly make a copy of it in this office? We would appreciate the privilege.

Cordially yours,

THE CLEVELAND ASSOCIATION  
 FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE



Dan B. Cull,  
 President.

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Feb. 26th, 1929.

Dan B. Cull, President,  
The Cleveland Ass'n. for  
Criminal Justice,  
Federal Reserve Bank Bldg.,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Judge Cull:-

Please pardon the delay in answering  
your letter of February 11th. I have just  
returned from a three week's visit to the Pacific  
Coast.

I am enclosing herewith an abstract  
of the address which I delivered on "Crime In Our  
Big Cities and What Can The Church Do About It?"  
Should you want a complete copy of the sermon I  
shall procure it for you although it would involve  
a bit of work on my part.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR



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PAUL BELLAMY, EDITOR  
GEO. M. ROGERS, VICE PRES.

Jan. 9, 1933.

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

My dear Rabbi Silver:

Some of the things you say in your "Design for Living" recipe in yesterday's Cleveland Press interest me a great deal. At the outset let me say that I think you have contributed an unusually splendid formula to all of us seeking, perhaps less successfully than yourself, to form a philosophy of life in these changing times. I hope that some day I can define mine as precisely as you had defined yours.

At least since it became evident to me that the world wide depression was much more fundamental and deep rooted than it had at first been supposed, I have been trying to formulate a philosophy toward the change that has been going on all about us. I felt that I could not form any worth while philosophy without a comprehensive study of the past, especially as history relates to the economic and sociological experiments of past governments and past civilizations in dealing with a great many of the problems we find today under new guises. That I have been doing over the past three years.

Naturally, I approach my philosophy study through the medium of economic principles, as you probably approach yours through a deep interest in sociological study. I do not see that that necessarily leads either of us into error, or into unsound conclusions, if we pursue our whole study with an open mind.

My fundamental conclusions, reached as a result of this study, is that we are faced with the necessity of far reaching, fundamental reform of our economic and social structure, while at the same time seeking to cling to some of the old verities, what you call "certain human ideals which are indispensable to any age, regardless of its intellectual, political or economic complexion."

I find myself in the center, as it were, shuddering for fear that the overwhelming, terrific pressure for change all about us will carry us into an over-indulgence or excess of change which would sweep away with the bad those things you and I regard so highly from the past, and on the other hand, fearing change will not be intelligently directed, will bring reactions and counter-agitation, resulting perhaps in a discrediting of so many of the changes we doubtless would urge in common.

I think there never was a time when sane minds were more in need for direction of the course of change, and freer, open outlook more in

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--2--

demand to warn us against the seeds of destruction in unwise change as against the fruits of advance, in wise change. Men like yourself can render a tremendous service to the nation in these times, it seems to me, in pointing out the distinctions and the opposite ends to change.

For myself, I can say that I would rather sacrifice some of the reforms that I think are badly needed in our economic system, if the type of change required to bring them about would sweep us into an anti-religious complex such as grips Russia. I find from personal contact with many of the young liberals and radicals in our universities today that many of them are thinking in terms of an intellectually administered economic and social society that would reject religion. For myself I cannot stand for a moment with them in that desire.

Perhaps I am essentially, by nature, a conservative. I do not think the terms liberal and conservative are wholly expressive, although they do offer us the opportunity to align our general philosophy with one or the other schools. If I could design a middle ground for myself I would continue as conservative as the multiplication table and as liberal as the advancement of science. I would advocate change when the need for change has been proved, but I would reject change when it tends to lead us into fields proved dangerous by past history, or unproved by any previous human experience.

I like especially that paragraph in your article in which you stress the old-fashioned social values and virtues. I fear we are coming to lose sight of their inherent, fundamental worth. They are outwardly so unattractive in this day when so many social experiments are gilded with the lure of adventure. So I rejoice to see you giving them their due, holding fast to them with an abiding faith that only by their preservation can the human race steer clear of the pitfalls.

I think probably that is why I liked your "design" so much. You are a little ~~to~~ to the left of the center and I am a little to the right of the center, measured by current political and social yardsticks, but when it comes to a recognition and an adherence to these "abiding social values," I am happy to note that we see altogether alike.

With every personal good wish,

Cordially yours,

*Dale Cox*

DC:C

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SUPERVISOR OF JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS

October 6, 1933

Secretary to  
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Madam:

I unfortunately did not keep copies of Rabbi Silver's comment and messages after his visit to Palestine last year, and what I can recall of them is now vague. I am writing, therefore, to ask you to be good enough to send me what you have available in printed or typewritten form concerning the Rabbi's impressions and observations of Palestine.

I am writing a column for an English-Jewish weekly paper published in this State, and know well that any comment that Rabbi Silver may make evokes interest. Anything that you can send me, therefore, of the Rabbi's impressions, whether it concerns the more important political and financial aspects, or the everyday life of the Jew in Palestine, will be of real value to me. The column is, of course, on the subject of Palestine.

When I was in Cleveland four years ago, I had a little conference with Rabbi Silver as to a reprint of a message he had given then, concerning the Arab outbreaks, and received a photograph of him, from you I believe. Perhaps, if it is satisfactory to the Rabbi, I shall use what materials you send me for our Palestine campaign here.

Thanking you for what courtesy  
you may extend to me, I am

Sincerely yours

*Edith Braun*  
Edith Braun



January 12, 1934.

Mr. Dale Cox,  
Cleveland Plain Dealer,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Cox:

Let me tell you how much I appreciate your fine letter and your comments on my "Design for Living" which appeared in the Cleveland Press. I should very much like to read your design for living as I have enjoyed reading many other things of yours in the Cleveland Plain Dealer. I believe that we are in complete agreement of the fundamental things; the need for change and the need for conserving the great social and spiritual values of the past. How both of these objectives can be achieved is something which will tax the best intelligence of the leaders of our nation in the years to come. I am afraid that something of what we cherish today will be lost in the process of transition. I hope that not too much of it will be lost.

Perhaps we may have the good fortune some day soon of meeting and talking over some of these problems which are so absorbing and at the same time so disturbing. With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK





January 13<sup>th</sup>, 1934.

My dear Rabbi Silver:

It was my good fortune to hear you in your pulpit while I was a guest at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Ahlman about 10 years ago. There were a great many young people in Cleveland at that time, principally college boys and girls, attending a large fraternity convention; and those of us who listened to you then, came away with a very definite feeling that the young people of our country had much to gain from you.

Many things have happened, perforce, to our country and to us since then. It was all the more gratifying, therefore,

וְהוּא

on last Sunday to hear you again utter  
a clarion call to us who now realize much  
more fully our duties patriotically and  
spiritually. I am anxious to know if your  
radio address is in printed form and where  
I might send for it to read to those of  
my friends who were not so fortunate as  
to hear it.

This letter conveys my personal  
thanks to you for what you said.

Most sincerely yours,

Hortense Landau Rubens

(Mrs. Walter F.)

150 Beech Street  
Highland Park, Illinois

February 6, 1934.

Mrs. Walter L. Rubens,  
150 Beech Street,  
Highland Park, Illinois.

My dear Mrs. Rubens:

Permit me to thank you for your kind letter and for the sentiment which you express. I am gratified at the response which the address has evoked. I am sorry that I haven't it in printed form so that I can send you a copy. Should I ever print it, I shall be very happy to mail you one.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK



OFFICE OF  
EDWARD YOUNGER

April 16, 1934.

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:-

I have just finished considerate reading in the Cleveland Plain Dealer this morning of excerpts from your sermon of yesterday, and I now have the pleasure of doing what I have many times been impelled to do, namely, to convey to you my sense of appreciation of the sound and wholesome attitudes you so thoughtfully and consistently present to a far greater audience than you may suppose.

Very sincerely yours,

*Edward Younger*

EY\*S

April 23, 1934.

Mr. Edward Younger,  
1724 Middlehurst Road,  
Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Younger:

Permit me to thank you for your  
thoughtfulness in writing to me. I appreciate  
it very much. Reactions such as yours are indeed  
very helpful and stimulating.

With best wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

1744 Chapman Ave, #6  
E. Cleveland, Ohio  
May 1, 1934

Rabbi A. N. Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland  
Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver,

Your sermon last Sunday on "A grown-up way of Looking at Life" impressed me very much. It was most helpful. Would there be any possibility of obtaining a copy?

Although I am not Jewish, I find the Temple services very satisfying in their beauty and dignity. I feel that it is truly a "holy hour".

May I extend to you my appreciation.

Sincerely,

Belle E. Little

May 8, 1934.

Miss Belle E. Little,  
1744 Chapman Ave.,  
E. Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Miss Little:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of May 1st. I appreciate what you say about my address at The Temple on "A Grown-Up Way of Looking at Life." I regret that I have no copy of the address to put at your disposal.

Please feel free to come to The Temple at any time for you are always welcome. With best wishes, permit me to remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



May 11, 1938

Mr. George Kath,  
10609 Kimberly Ave.,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Kath:

The subject of Rabbi Silver's address at the  
service on the 29th will be: DEMOCRACY IN ARMOR.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Rabbi Silver

# Ohio Senate

## Columbus

LEO M. ASCHERMAN  
TWENTY-FIFTH DISTRICT  
1108 N. B. C. BUILDING  
CLEVELAND

January 29, 1940

Rabbi A. I. Silver  
The Temple  
Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi:

Even as "the dogs bark" we need leaders  
like yourself to keep "the caravan moving  
forward".

Your lecture yesterday morning was masterful.

I hope Coughlin sues for slander.

Cordially yours,



Leo M. Ascherman

LMA:jez

Fairmount Presbyterian Church

2757 Fairmount Boulevard  
Cleveland Heights 18, Ohio

Richard Pacini, minister

October 24, 1953

Dear Rabbi Silver,

I did not have an opportunity to see an account of your recent sermon criticized in this morning's editorial in the Plain Dealer. However, I do wish to congratulate you on the consistent stand you are taking for human rights in the face of encroachment by congressional investigation.

There are some of us who now feel that we must not only apologize for Congress, but also for our morning newspaper, which seems to fail to grasp the real issues involved today, preferring to continue the Red scare.

My hearty congratulations to you personally for your leadership in this community.

Sincerely yours,

*Richard Pacini*

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Community Temple  
3557 Washington Boulevard  
Cleveland 18, Ohio

November 3, 1953

Dr. Richard Pacini  
Fairmount Presbyterian Church  
2757 Fairmount Boulevard  
Cleveland Heights 18, Ohio

My dear Dr. Pacini:

Thank you so much for your kind note of October 24th, which I enjoyed reading very much. It has been gratifying to receive so many favorable reactions to the sermon which I preached from The Temple pulpit on October 18th.

I trust that I may have the pleasure of seeing you in the near future.

With warmest regards, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:dk

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

P.S. Your letter was addressed to me incorrectly at The Community Temple.

*(undated)*

# *Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver*

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F. Warburg	17
Mrs. Fischel	18
Rev. Leavitt, N. Y.	19
A.H.S. took one home	20
Rabbi Eckstein	21
Rabbi Halperin	22
Paul U. Kellogg- Survey	23
Miss Gannett	24
Miss McGee	25
Rabbi Davidowitz	26
A.H.S.'s sisters	29
A. H. Friedland	30

Bookshelf (15) 45

45  
43  
88

100 ordered  
88  
12 left  
11

- 1 to Mr. Henry Morgenthau 3/30/31
- 1 " Rev. Livingstone "
- 1 " Rev. Neches, Los Angeles 4/29/31
- 1 " Archdeacon Sperry, Mountville N.Y. 4/29
- 1 " Librarian
- 1 " Gold, Robt. & wife
- 1 " Rose Moss

- 1 D.F. Reed, San Diego
- 2 Tilles
- 3 Hattie Schaffner
- 4 Mrs. Singer
- 5 I. D. Blumenthal - Charlotte, N.C.
- 6 American News Co.
- 7 Mrs. Auerbach
- 8 Mr. Levy sold in office - V.H.S. money
- 9 " " A.H.S. "
- 11 Markowitz (2)
- 12 Office
- 13 Office
- 14 Rabbi Kollin - Ottawa Canada Paid
- 15 Mrs. Goldberg - A.H.S. paid
- 16 Levy in office Cash to A.H.S.
- 17 " " " "
- 20 3 on Sunday 1/4/31
- 21 A.H.S. took one home
- 22 Dorfman Paid
- 23 Rabbi E. S. Manheim, N. Y. - not paid
- 27 4 on Sunday 1/11/31
- 28 to lady on Tuesday
- 30 2 in office cash to A.H.S.
- 31 Weglein
- 32 American News Co., Toronto paid
- 33 1 sold 1/25/31 by A.H.S.
- 35 2 Sunday 1/18
- 36 1 sold 2/1/31
- 42 6 on Sunday 2/8/31
- 43 1 sold in office 2/9/31
- 44 Mrs. Behrens
- 43 A.H.S. brought book back
- 44 1 copy - Harry Feigenbaum
- 45 1 copy - Rabbi Segal - Joplin Mo
- 46 - 1 sold Sunday 2/15 Not Paid



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