



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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The Temple, correspondence pertaining to appointment in
Cleveland, Ohio, 1916-1917.



HUNTINGTON, W. VA. Oct. 2, 1916

Dear old Abe,

Last night I heard that due to the fact that he has become a very wealthy man through the death of relatives Rabbi Gries has resigned his pulpit in order to devote his whole time to the administering of their estates. I write and tell you this because I want you to go after it. I believe that no man in the country could fill that pulpit as you can. I believe if it were offered to you that you could make them forget Gries. Abe, write to some one in Cleveland, you must know some one in power, and make them give you



HUNTINGTON, W. VA.

a trial. That is all you need. If they once hear you, your career is made. If I knew one of the powers that be I would make him write to you myself.

I take this occasion to wish you a happy and joyous New Year. May God continue to bless you and may He let you go from strength to strength in your zeal for Him.

With deepest respect and sincerest regards, I am your affectionate friend,

Sam'l. Mayerberg.

@ Nov 24

PAUL L. FEISS
632 ST. CLAIR AVE. N. W.
CLEVELAND, O.

November
Four
Nineteen Sixteen

Rabbi Moses J. Gries,
C/o The Temple,
C i t y .

My dear Herr Rabbi:

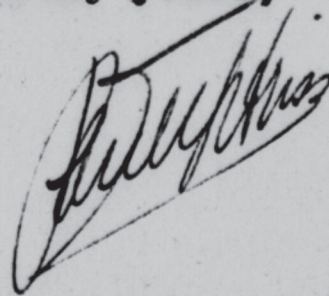
I do not know that the Temple organization deviates from accepted practices by permitting the retiring leader to choose his successor, but I suspect this is the case in this instance.

The enclosed letter from Mr. Dave Gideon of Huntington, W. Va., was received this morning and I submit it to you for your consideration. Mr. Gideon is a man of exceptional intelligence and judgment and I am sure his opinion is worthy of consideration.

As soon as you have unharnessed the yoke of office, I wish you would let me know promptly. I have been looking for a beginner on the golf links and think you are about my caliber.

With sincerest greetings, I am,

Very truly yours,



FRANK R. HERRICK
EVAN H. HOPKINS
JOHN N. STOCKWELL, JR.
ALFRED A. BENESCH

WALTER C. KELLEY
MONROE CURTIS

LAW OFFICES
OF
HERRICK, HOPKINS, STOCKWELL & BENESCH
904-912 SOCIETY FOR SAVINGS BUILDING
CLEVELAND

February 1, 1917.

My dear Rabbi Silver, -

February 25th (Sunday evening) will
be very acceptable to us. - I was under the impression that
"The Jews of Spain" was your specialty, but I am evidently mis-
taken. - We should prefer you to have your talk upon a distinctly
B'nai B'rith topic. - We shall have an open meeting
with women present, at a general topic will be more appropriate.

There will probably be three or four hundred persons present
at the meeting, if the weather permits. - Our audience are
decidedly mixed - Orthodox, Reform, and "half and half" but
young people for the most part, though many older persons
can always be found thereat. -

Please let me know your subject as soon as possible, and
also, later on, when you visit Beach Cleveland, so that I
may arrange to meet you. -

Sincerely yours,
Meredith

FRANK R. HERRICK
EVAN H. HOPKINS
JOHN N. STOCKWELL, JR.
ALFRED A. BENESCH

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MONROE CURTIS

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CLEVELAND

3-1-17.

My dear Rathi-Salon, -

Check enclosed in reimburse-
ment of your expenses. -

Let me assure you in turn of our cordial
appreciation of your efforts in behalf of Cleveland
Jdage. Your address made a remarkably
favourable impression. Rathi Woloway told me it
was the finest Jewish sermon he had ever heard.
If I ever get a meeting, he assured I
shall look you up. -

Cordially yours

Signed at Ives of

FRANK R. HERRICK
EVAN H. HOPKINS
JOHN N. STOCKWELL, JR.
ALFRED A. BENESCH

WALTER C. KELLEY
MONROE CURTIS

LAW OFFICES
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CLEVELAND

April 28, 1917.

My dear Rabbi Silver,

I, too, regret that we were not
"obtained" for a chat on Sunday last. I hope you
will surely arrange to have dinner with us the
next time you come to Cleveland.

Your sermon was splendid. I talked with many of
our intelligent members all of whom were most
favorably impressed. Of course, I had heard you
before and knew what to expect. Be sure to
command me at any time I can be of service to you.
I was pained then by Rabbi Levy's death &
dominant force in American Judaism has been lost.

With cordial regards, I am,

Very sincerely yours
Abel A. Benesch

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER
CONGREGATION LESHEM SHOMAYIM

WHEELING, WEST VIRGINIA,

April 30, 1917.

My dear Mr. Losenstein:-

Permit me to convey to you, and through you, to the officers and members of Tifereth Israel, my deep appreciation for the honor which you have conferred upon me in electing me Rabbi of your Congregation. Great, indeed, is the ~~pleasure~~ feeling of pleasure and pride which I now experience, but greater by far ~~and apparent in my mind at this moment~~ is the sense of responsibility which your trust has imposed upon me. I shall endeavor to serve your Congregation and the ~~best interests of~~ ^{best interests of} Judaism in the City of Cleveland in consecrated loyalty and devotion and upon my coming future labors and efforts I invoke the blessing of a kind Providence.

Sincerely

Abba Silver

OK.

Cleveland, Ohio, April 30, 1917.

Rabbi A. H. Silver,
Wheeling, W. Va.

My Dear Rabbi:

It is with great pleasure I inform you that at The Temple meeting of the Tiferith Israel Congregation, held last night, (Sunday, April 29th,) that you have been unanimously endorsed as Rabbi for our Temple. Yours was the only name presented, and extreme pleasure was expressed by the entire congregation at the selection we endorsed.

Kindly extend to your Board of Trustees, my sincere personal thanks for the cordial manner in which they received me, and the deference they showed, even though it inflicted sadness upon their community.

I will never forget my reception by them, and trust that they appreciate my position.

At the next meeting of our Board, which will be within 10 days, further action will be taken by the Board, and a communication sent from our Board of Trustees to the Board of your Temple.

With kindest personal congratulations to yourself, and trusting that your work may be pleasant in our midst, and assuring you of our support in any of the problems that may arise, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Benjamin F. L. L. L.

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COATS



WEST SIXTH & LAKESIDE AVE.
CLEVELAND, O.

OK.

CLOAKS

May 18, 1917.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
Wheeling, W. Va.

Dear Sir:-

It is my privilege to invite you to attend
The Alumni reception, to the incoming
confirmation class, on Thursday evening,
May 31st.

We are combining the usual reception with
a jovial rally of The Alumni, a farewell to
our beloved teacher, and the pleasure of ex-
tending to you the welcome of The Alumni.

If you can arrange to be with us on this
occasion, we know that you will have some
message to give to this particular body of
The Temple, which you will so soon guide.

Trusting you will find it convenient to be
with us, I am,

Very respectfully yours,

Chas. K. Schwarz.
CHAIRMAN

May 14

7

To the Board of Trustees of
Congregation Leshem Shomayim.

My dear Friends:

It is with a deep sense of regret that I now place in your hands my resignation as Rabbi of Congregation Leshem Shomayim to take effect July 1, 1917. A greater opportunity for service in my chosen vocation has been offered to me and prompted by the ambition of youth and the hope of greater usefulness in a larger field of endeavor I have resolved to accept it.

Permit me to assure you, my dear friends, that your splendid cooperation and your willingness and readiness to assist me in all my labors among you was a real inspiration to me. I cannot adequately express to you, and through you, to the members of Leshem Shomayim, my deep appreciation for the whole-hearted devotion, regard and consideration which you and they have at all times manifested for me. My sincere hope is that I have merited the confidence which you have placed in me and that my efforts of two years in behalf of Judaism and Jewry in Wheeling have been blessed with some measure of success.

Sincerely,

MOSES J. GRIES, RABBI
ADDRESS, 10311 LAKE SHORE BLVD.

The Temple, Cleveland

EAST 55TH STREET AND CENTRAL
OFFICE HOURS: 8:30 TO 5:00
TEL. ROSEDALE 1330

BENJ. LOWENSTEIN, PRESIDENT
ADDRESS, 1323 WEST NINTH STREET

OK-

May 21st-1917

Rabbi A. H. Silver,

Wheeling W. Va.

My Dear Rabbi:

Contrary to the conversation we had when in New York, we have decided that we shall feel honored if you will attend the Testimonial evening that we intend giving to Rabbi Gries.

The time has been changed to June 3rd. In the afternoon of that day the children of the Sabbath School will give an affair at the Temple, and in the evening we will have the regular community Testimonial, and we should like you to open the meeting with a prayer. This will be followed by short addresses by Rabbi Wm. Rosenau of Baltimore and Rabbi David Philipson of Cincinnati, also other short addresses, and musical numbers.

If agreeable, would very much like you to arrive in Cleveland on Saturday June 2nd, but not at eleven o'clock at night. We shall expect you to be our guest in the country, and the night ride

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ADDRESS, 1323 WEST NINTH STREET

#2

would not be so pleasant. Therefore, if possible
leave in the morning on Saturday, or, if you cannot
arrange it, of course we will meet you at any time
you arrive.

Trusting this finds you in good health,
and awaiting your reply, and sincerely trusting that
you will be with us on that day, I remain,

Yours very sincerely,

WRHS




Ben Lowenstein

MOSES J. GRIES, RABBI
ADDRESS, 10311 LAKE SHORE BLVD.

The Temple, Cleveland

EAST 55TH STREET AND CENTRAL

OFFICE HOURS: 8:30 TO 5:00

TEL. ROSEDALE 1330

BENJ. LOWENSTEIN, PRESIDENT
ADDRESS, 1323 WEST NINTH STREET

June 12th-1917

Rabbi A. H. Silver,

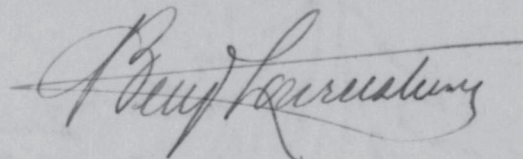
Wheeling W. Va.

Dear Rabbi:

At the monthly meeting of the Temple Board, it was decided that you should, if you so desire, attend the Conference of Rabbis to be held in Buffalo, as representative of our Temple.

Mr. Abel informs me that you intend to attend the picnic given to the children, next week. I am sure this will be an enjoyable day, and if I am in the city, will be very glad to meet you.

Very respectfully yours,



P.S.

Kindly advise amount due you as expenses on the last two trips to Cleveland.

Rabbi Moses J. Gries
Cleveland

June 18. '17.

My dear Rabbi Silver

Just a hurried line to acknowledge receipt
of your note and to assure you that I hope
to be able to give you all the time you may
want, to talk through all the problems
you are considering. Please formulate your
questions as definitely as possible.

Sorry you are not coming to the Picnic
on the 19th. Let me hear from you after
you arrive in Cleveland.

Sincerely Moses J. Gries

RABBI A.H.SILVER'S LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE
TO PRESIDENT LOWENSTEIN

NOTE FROM RABBI GRIES TO RABBI SILVER

MR. LOWENSTEIN'S LETTER OF CONGRATULATIONS
TO RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER



SUGGESTION TO RABBI A.H. SILVER
TO APPLY FOR THE POSITION OF RABBI
TO THE TEMPLE'S BOARD