



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, general, 1932-1933.

LAW OFFICES
BERNON, MULLIGAN, KEELEY & LEFEVER

1980 UNION TRUST BUILDING

CLEVELAND

MAURICE BERNON
P. J. MULLIGAN
GEORGE Q. KEELEY
EARL W. LEFEVER
ROLAND E. REICHERT
HENRY X. KUTASH

September 1, 1932.

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

Dear Rabbi:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of a letter
I received from Mr. Garson of The Temple Men's Club,
together with a copy of my reply to him.

May we have the benefit of your and Rabbi
Feuer's presence at the meeting? I hope you will
find it possible to attend.

Very sincerely yours,

HK/H

Henry Kutash

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HENRY X. KUTASH

September 9, 1932.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
E. 105th St.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi:

Enclosed is a copy of my letter to
Mr. Schwartz relative to the recent amendment to the
by-laws of the Men's Club.

Sincerely yours,

Henry Kutash

HK/H

Enc/

Copy for Rabbi Silver.

September 9, 1932.

Mr. Harold S. Schwartz,
415 Euclid Ave.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Schwartz:

The amendment to the by-laws of the Temple Men's Club permitting sons of Temple members to become members of the Men's Club provided they are and remain members of the Temple Alumni Association, was considered by our board Wednesday night.

Although the Alumni board appreciates your courtesy in thus extending to us the privilege of joining your club - a privilege that I believe we have never before had - and although we welcome association and cooperation with you, we none the less feel that the amendment that you have adopted contains a policy that is unsound for both organizations.

The function of our organization is to maintain Temple contact and serve the Temple needs of the young men and women of our congregation from the time they leave the religious school system until they are ready for full-fledged Temple membership. We seek to do so by presenting a program as interesting and worthwhile as we can make it, encouraging our young men and women to take part in it, and by their own participation and exercise of initiative gain joy and satisfaction for themselves, build up a pleasant association with the Temple, and provide a source for future Temple members.

To achieve this aim has been no easy task and has entailed some sacrifice. Four years ago we discovered that in order to do our most effective work we needed a unified, compact age group and that attempting to cover too much territory was detrimental to our organization. We therefore amputated what had constituted until then the largest part of our membership - the ages from 15 to 18 - and reorganized ourselves as an adult group. Experience has more than justified that sacrifice, and with an age group from 18 to about 30 we have been enabled to do increasingly worthwhile work. With the acquisition of more and active young adults, we hope to make our association as fine a Temple alumni association as this country has produced.

September 9, 1932.

Mr. Harold S. Schwartz,
Page #2.

In fulfilling that task we feel we are entitled to the exclusive attention and energies of the individuals in our age group. We want them to work in and through our organization so that not only may they develop themselves but that the organization may gain the benefit of their activities and attract to itself more young men and women of their type.

It is now proposed to permit sons of Temple members to become members of the Men's Club provided they are and remain members of the Alumni Association.

It is not quite clear to us just what the object of that amendment is. We understand that there has been some agitation in your organization during the past few years to admit member's sons as members, but that the suggestion was opposed because of the patent conflict with our activities. If the amendment is designed to remove the objection we believe that it fails to do so. The mere payment of dues to our organization would be of no substantial benefit to us. Much as we need the money, we do not seek the payment of dues from any but those desiring to really take advantage of our program. Besides, it does not seem particularly fair to those Temple members' sons to compel them to pay dues in our organization as a prerequisite to entering yours.

If these Temple members' sons are beyond our age group and have no interest in our activities, it would seem that their proper course would be to join the Temple. If they are otherwise eligible and ready for Temple membership but financially unable to assume it at the present time the root of the evil would seem to lie in the financial arrangements for Temple membership, and permitting this cheaper mode of entrance into the Men's Club must ultimately react to the disadvantage of the Temple proper.

If the primary object, as has been suggested to us, is to enable our young men to enter your organization so that you may gain the benefit of their energies in your club activities, then we feel that it means a loss to us with no ultimate gain to yourselves. To the extent that you gain their energies we lose them because as a practical proposition their time is bound to be limited, and if they really serve in your organization ours is bound to suffer. If they do not serve you have made no gain beyond their dues. Besides, their span of time in our organization is limited after all. In the normal course of events you should get them ultimately anyhow and improved by their experience in our association.

We feel that this reasoning is valid even though an occasional member may desire to join your club. While he may see some personal advantage in it for himself, we believe that such an arrangement would ultimately harm the association as a whole.

September 9, 1932.

Mr. Harold S. Schwartz,
Page #3.

And if, as we have been told, the primary object of the amendment is to secure a larger attendance at Men's Club activities, since admission will be limited to club members only, we believe that such object can be obtained in ways other and better than by a mixture of memberships. We shall be only too glad to cooperate with you in working out some suitable plans that will enable our young men to attend and help in such of your activities as are of interest to both groups, or in working out joint affairs. Such plans seem to us to be more beneficial and advisable than the proposed amendment.

I have gone into considerable detail in this letter - although even at that I have not covered all the aspects that were discussed. I have done so because I feel that you are entitled to know not only our conclusion but the considerations that guided us in reaching it.

We regret that we can not find ourselves in agreement with you on a proposal that apparently seemed to you to be unquestionably to our benefit and advantage, but I am sure that upon further consideration you will appreciate the fact that what temporary benefit might be derived from this step would be more than off-set by the ultimate confusion and weakening that must inevitably follow.

I shall appreciate your communication of our sentiments to your members, and if there is any further information that I can supply I shall be glad to do so. If after a re-consideration of the question your members see some merit in our reasoning, I know they will not hesitate to repeal the amendment.

With my kindest regards and hope that our next collaboration may be more fruitful, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Henry Kutash.

HK/H

Jan 27- Allentown
Feb 24- Atlanta
Mar 9th - ? Des Moines

Ced. 4993
Fed. 10

Dec. 17th, 1931

Mrs. Nathan Sloss,
2325 S. Overlook Rd.,
Cleveland Hts., Ohio.

My dear Mrs. Sloss:-

I have gone over my calendar for next year. I find that Wednesday evening would perhaps be the best evening for the Study Group. I understand that the Group is to meet every other Wednesday.

I should like to limit the number of meetings to eight or ten. I would be able to set aside the following evenings:

Jan. 6th and 27th -
Feb. 10th " 24th -
- Mar. 9th " 23d
Apr. 6th " 27th
May 11th " 25th

It would perhaps be well to begin on Jan. 27th. We would then be in position to continue regularly every other Wednesday for at least six times with a break on April 20th for Seder night and resuming again on April 27th.

You realize, of course, that I am doing this at quite a little sacrifice. I shall be compelled to deny myself other lecture engagements or social engagements on those evenings, apart from the preparation which the lectures will undoubtedly require. I must therefore insist that the people who wish to join the group should pledge themselves to regularity of attendance. They must not permit social duties or other avoidable engagements to interfere with their attendance at these meetings. Unless they wish to do that I would rather not tie myself down to any such large undertaking.

Continued....page 2
Mrs. Nathan Sloss.

I would appreciate also if you would let me know whether the above arrangement is satisfactory and who will definitely constitute the group.

With kindest regards, I am

As ever yours,

AHS/IR



WOLFE W. MARCUS

ATTORNEY AT LAW

SUITE 306 KEITH BUILDING

DAYTON, OHIO

May 23, 1933

Rabbi A. H. Silver,
The Temple,
Cor. E. 105th & Ansel Rd.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi:

I was one of those privileged to have
heard your lecture on Sunday and I would like
for your message to reach a group of Dayton Jews.

If it is possible, I would like to re-
ceive a copy of that lecture, also, a copy of
your lecture to be delivered next Sunday on Italy.

Upon being informed, I will gladly take
care of any charges.

Most respectfully,

W. W. Marcus

WWM:MMS

May 25, 1933.

Mr. Wolfe W. Marcus,
Keith Building,
Dayton, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Marcus:

In reply to your kind letter of May 23rd, permit me to say that I have no copies available of my lecture of last Sunday nor will I have any of next Sunday's. At some future time I may publish these lectures. In that case I shall be very happy to send you copies.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

July 17, 1933.

Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler,
Columbia University,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Butler:

The Temple Women's Association -- the women's organization of my Temple, has requested me to write to you and to extend to you an invitation to address its open meeting on Wednesday afternoon, October 11th. This association is among the largest religious groups of women connected with a temple in the United States. Annually it holds two or three open meetings to which outstanding men and women in our national life are invited to deliver an address. These meetings are significant events in the religious and educational life of our community. The association is eager this year to present you as its guest speaker. I know how tremendously busy you are and how many calls are made upon your time. But should you be free to come you would confer an inestimable favor on us and upon the Cleveland community.

The Temple Women's Association is in a position to offer an honorarium of \$250.

With all good wishes and hoping that we may be honored by your presence with us, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

P.S. If October 11th is not a convenient date for you would you indicate another day in October when you ~~can~~ *can*?

CHICAGO COMMITTEE of CHRISTIAN FRIENDS

SPONSORING

"THE ROMANCE OF A PEOPLE"

SOLDIER FIELD, A CENTURY OF PROGRESS, JULY 3, 1933

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF

THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

OF THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA

59 EAST VANBUREN STREET, CHICAGO

HARRISON 0603

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odist Episcopal Church.

VON OGDEN VOGT, Pastor, First
Unitarian Church.

COMMITTEE STAFF

J. M. ARTMAN

JESSE A. JACOBS

July 18, 1933

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
8206 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Mr. Artman and I are planning to be in Cleveland from approximately Monday, July 24, to Saturday, July 29. We will be stopping at the Hotel Statler.

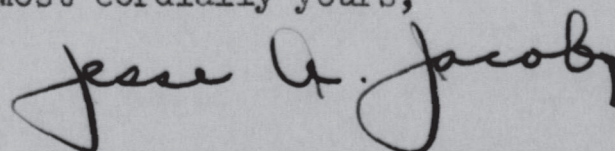
We should like to discuss with you, and a few other persons, the possibilities of giving a pageant, at Cleveland some time in October. The plan for such a pageant grew out of the unique experience we had here in Chicago in promoting the "Romance of A People", at the World's Fair on July 3d. The R.E.A. was asked to appoint a Chicago Committee of Christian Friends to enlist a group of non-Jewish people in behalf of this pageant. 150,000 witnessed this pageant at Soldier's Field.

Rabbi Goldman and others of the National Jewish Com-
mittee and the Chicago Committee of Christian Friends proposed that the R.E.A. plan a dramatic presentation which would conserve the great episodes and the publicity of the "Romance of A People" and add certain Christian scenes which would make the pageant of universal interest to all groups. We have appointed a committee of experts, who have, we believe, prepared the outline for such a drama. We have also had the counsel of several leading artists. Mr. H. Leopold Spitalny, one of this number, would be available to help if the pageant were given in Cleveland.

The Chicago pageant was one of the finest projects in inter-group friendship we have ever seen. We believe the proposal for the new pageant offers even greater opportunity.

We are very anxious to discuss with you our plan and secure your opinion. Will you not drop me a line at the above address, indicating the day and hour which would be most convenient for us to see you.

Most cordially yours,



Jesse A. Jacobs

BENJAMIN C. ROSE,
Director
Ticket Committee.

JAJ:MC

Columbia University
in the City of New York

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

July 19, 1933

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

My dear Rabbi Silver

President Butler is out of town and will be for several weeks. In his absence I beg to acknowledge your invitation, under date of July 17th, to address the Women's Association of your Temple in October.

From the replies which he has been obliged to make to other invitations to undertake speaking engagements during the coming fall, I am able to let you know at once that it will not be possible for him to plan to be out of town during that month.

Very truly yours,

Philip M. Hayden
Assistant Secretary

July 24, 1933.

Mr. Max E. Meissel,
Leader Bldg.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Max:

I should like to talk over with you Temple activities for next season. We ought to decide very soon whether we want a lecture course next year or not. If not, do we wish to introduce some new activities? Give me a ring some day soon and we will have lunch together so that we can discuss the subject.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:EK

LAW OFFICES OF
MAX E. MEISEL
TWELFTH FLOOR
THE LEADER BUILDING
CLEVELAND

J U L Y
Twenty-seventh,
1933.

Rabbi Abba H. Silver,
c/o The Temple,
East 105th St., and Ansel Rd.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Rabbi:

I was very glad to receive your note of
July 24th, as I have desired for some time to dis-
cuss our activities.

I had hoped that I might get away from the City
for a few days next week, but apparently that is not
to be, and so, unless something unforeseen develops,
I shall call you the early part of the week.

With kindest regards to you and your dear wife
in which the whole Meisel gang joins me, believe me

Most sincerely yours,

MEM:FR

Max

July 27, 1933.

Mrs. Gifford Pinchot,
Executive Mansion,
Harrisburg, Pa.

My dear Mrs. Pinchot:

The Temple Women's Association -- the women's organization of my Temple, has requested me to write to you and to extend to you an invitation to address its open meeting on Wednesday afternoon, October 11th. This association is among the largest religious groups of women connected with a temple in the United States. Annually, it holds two or three open meetings to which outstanding men and women in our national life are invited to deliver an address. These meetings are significant events in the religious and educational life of our community and the newspapers give them extensive publicity. The association, conscious of the great services which you are rendering to the cause of social justice in your state, is eager this year to present you as its guest speaker. I know how tremendously busy you are and how many calls are made upon your time. But should you be free to come, you would confer an inestimable favor on us and upon the Cleveland community.

We shall, of course, be very happy to cover all the expenses involved in your visit.

With all good wishes, and hoping that we may be honored by your presence with us, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

P.S. If October 11th is not a convenient date for you would you indicate another day in October when you could come.

CORNELIA BRYCE PINCHOT
MILFORD, PA.

July 31, 1933

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
East 105 Street
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Many thanks for your courteous invitation to come and
speak to your club on October 11th.

I accept with a great deal of pleasure. Will you tell
me what subject you want me to talk about?

Best wishes to you,

Sincerely yours,

Cornelia Bryce Pinchot

August 3, 1933.

Mrs. Cornelia Bryce Pinchot,
Milford,
Pa.

My dear Mrs. Pinchot:

I was delighted to receive your letter and your acceptance to address the opening meeting of The Temple Women's Association on Wednesday, October 11. We shall look forward with eagerness to your coming and we shall make every effort to make your visit to Cleveland a pleasant and a significant one.

Within the next few days I shall send you some suggestions for the subject of your address. Would I be imposing upon you to ask your secretary to send us one or two photographs of yourself which we could use in our publicity and any biographical material which she would deem helpful.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

August 14, 1933.

Mrs. Cornelia Bryce Pinchot,
Milford,
Pa.

My dear Mrs. Pinchot:

Permit me to to thank you for the photograph which you sent me. The publicity committee is grateful to you for your prompt cooperation.

As regards the subject of your address before the Temple Women's Association, I would suggest that you select your own subject. I am sure that out of your large experience in the field of Social Service and your more recent courageous struggle against the sweat shops in Pennsylvania, you can construct a vital message for the women of this community. Please feel free to speak whatever is in your mind and in your heart.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK