



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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Folder
1346

The Temple, applications and recommendations for Assistant
Rabbi, successor to Feuer, 1932-1935.

Sherman - 11934

Hebrew Union College

Cincinnati

Oct., 30/32

Dear Abba; -

Just heard that
Feuer is elected to Toledo.
You no doubt will be
considering getting a
successor to Feuer. Rabbi
Sherman who was graduated
last June is worthy of
consideration. He was a
very fine student and
excellent speaker. Had all
the courses in Pedagogy
under Fraenkel. I
believe that if selected he
would fully measure up
to the responsibilities of the
office.

Trusting these lines
will find you &
yours well,

Love, as always,

Cordially yours,

— H. England —

Dorfman

2101 Lenox Road
Cleveland Heights, O.

November 1, 1934

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

I was very sorry that I disturbed you this morning, and I am sure that you were aware of the subject matter concerning which I wanted to speak. I regret exceedingly that I shall be unable to meet with you on Friday afternoon, but you will recall that I spend the week ends in Lima or Sandusky, Ohio.

This morning the Plain Dealer announced the election of Rabbi Feuer to Toledo, Ohio. I have no idea of your plans for the future but beg to remind you of the fact that I am in Cleveland from Monday through Thursday of each week, and if you would care to call upon me, I should be more than delighted to serve you in any way possible. It goes without saying that I should be more than delighted, if you consider me capable, to receive your consideration for a permanent appointment.

Will you be so kind as to grant me an interview any day next week.

Respectfully yours,

Bernard M. Dorfman

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
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SIGNS

DL = Day Letter
NM = Night Message
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
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Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is Standard Time at point of origin. Time of receipt is Standard Time at point of destination.

Received at 2040 East 9th St., Cleveland, Ohio

TELEPHONE
CHERRY 1740, LINE 87

PA165 10 NM=YORK PENN 3

1934 NOV

3 MINUTES IN TRANSIT	DAY LETTER
FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER

RABBI A H SILVER, CARE OF THE TEMPLE=
EAST 10TH ST AND ANSEL RD CLEVE=

WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE BEING YOUR ASSISTANT LETTER

FOLLOWS KINDEST REGARDS=

ALEX SEGAL.

RABBI ALEXANDER SEGEL
713 SOUTH PERSHING AVENUE
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA

November 4, 1934.

Rabbi A.H. Silver,
c/o The Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver,

I have just learned that Rabbi Feuer, the assistant-rabbi of "The Temple" has accepted the Toledo pulpit, and wishing to be considered for the vacancy, beg to present the following data to aid your committee in its decision.

I have completed eight years with Temple Beth Israel of York, Pa., which, in the decade previous to my coming, had a new rabbi almost every year. I purposely accepted the local pulpit, though it was smaller than others available at the time, to permit me to take post-graduate studies in Philadelphia at Dropsie College of Hebrew and Cognate Languages and also at the Univ. of Pennsylvania. At the latter I completed the courses in the fields of Elementary and Secondary Education as well as in School Administration, to prepare myself to assume added responsibility in Jewish Education.

While not averse to occupying the pulpit whenever necessary, I incline rather toward the other aspects of rabbinical duty: the religious school, club leadership and pastoral visitation. During my local ministry, our Congregation added an Elementary Hebrew department, a High School Department and the Temple League of young folks. We also have an adult Hebrew circle and the Sisterhood Bible Class.

Contacts in the general community have resulted in my being elected President of the York Social Service club, in which I am serving a second term, and chairman of the International Relations committee of the York Rotary Club.

RABBI ALEXANDER SEGEL
713 SOUTH PERSHING AVENUE
YORK, PENNSYLVANIA

(2)

Though I have never served as an Asst.-
Rabbi, I feel that I am adapted by temperament
to fill such a position: I believe I can cooper-
ate wholeheartedly with the Senior Rabbi.

If you decide to summon me, I believe
that I can assure you of intelligent and faith-
ful service, and a ministry that will grow in
competence and fidelity with the years.

I beg to remain,

Sincerely yours,

(Rabbi) Alexander Segel



יום א' ב' חשוון, תש"ד.

out

nothing to recommend him [Nov. 4, 1934]

אָפֿט אַבא האָט ס'הער שלום אברהם.
והר נכבא מוא:-

קרובתי ה Israelite שיהיה לי פלייט נחמה לרד בטאליטא ואלן

אני פאנע אליק בהקשה לספחני למשרה מתפרה.

סיימתי מן ה H.U.E. בשנת 1928. בשלש השנים הראשונות

שבתתי בהתנאות בסניפאיו, פא. אחר כך הסתקתני לניו-יארק
אוינגטני בירת-כנסת קטן באנג-אוינגט. ואתר משתי שנים נפתחתי

שהי עק קאסיק גבולות ואם משכורת קטנה, משכורת זלודה,
מפצתי לומר. תקותי היתה חזקה שהכל ישתדח ויסתבריפה. אבל

טעותי-זרע לוק היתה חבול אלם לי לגמרי. התחלתי ממש
משרה אחרת. במקומות אחרים נתקלתי בקיצוצים "בז'אנר" של סיסטם

וואי. אלה בעצרת רבם יבאו לי. של אוינגטסכן פלייט
שמי לפני עתאות אחרות, אבל אלא פה אחת: הקה

לני ג'וק. זה לי ואתר אחרי שנה שלח השתכרתי מאלה.
אני נשוי ואב לפני ילדים. אגב אורחא מיהם אבקרים.

עבריות:-

של אוינגטסכן ישיב עלי זלך, הן בתור תלמיד תלמידי
הן בתור רב. אני נולדתי בפנינסק מן העמין שבאתי לאמריקה

עד הפנסי ל H.U.E. פייתי מורה לעברית ואחר כך מנהל
דבות ספר חשק בסטאלאויס. גם בר. שמואל סייל מן העיר

ההטו יתלי עלי זלדה.

אני מקוה שתצטין בהקשתי.

בהבא רק

יחיאל קאמין

200-16-215 Ave.

Dr. Albano, L.I. N.Y.

Fair

May work well with
young people
- children will like him

RABBI CARL I. MILLER

HELENA, ARKANSAS

1931

Heb. Knowledge - fair -
No Spec. Educ. Training

Hard worker -

Married.

Fair Speaker

Attaches cards

Nov, 5, 1934.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I have been informed that Rabbi Feuer
has received and accepted a call from Congregation
Shomer Emunim in Toledo, Ohio. Doubtlessly you are plan-
ning to fill his position in the near future and you
are considering possible successors to Feuer.

May I submit my name to you for consider-
ation in this matter. It is needless to state that your
careful attention to this application will be greatly
appreciated by me.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Carl I. Miller

Carl I. Miller

David Max Eichhorn

(Extract from letter written by Dr. Morgenstern, October 17, 1934)

"I also recommend Rabbi David Max Eichhorn, a graduate of the Hebrew Union College of the class of 1931. He, too, was one of the ablest members of his class and one of the finest spirits in the Student Body during his entire eight years' period of study here. During the year following his graduation he carried on graduate studies here, and in conjunction therewith he did Social Service work. For the last two years and a half he has ministered to the Reform congregation in Springfield, Mass., and there did excellent work in the face of almost insuperable odds. Unfortunately, however, as you no doubt know, the dominant spirit of New England Jewry, and particularly in the small and middle-size towns, is Orthodox. The result was that this, combined with the present depression, has made it impossible for that congregation to continue. It has only during the last few weeks, following the close of the recent High Holydays, had to close its doors. For this reason alone, and not at all because of lack of ability, Rabbi Eichhorn is at present without a pulpit and is therefore staying with his parents awaiting another call.

He is a young man of fine personality, high ideals, earnest, capable and conscientious in all his work, a good speaker, a responsible and thorough thinker, and an excellent administrator. I cannot commend him to you too highly. Rabbi Eichhorn is unmarried."

(Extract from Springfield, Mass. "Republican", October 3, 1934)

"One of the best known clergymen in this district, Rabbi Eichhorn, since his advent to Springfield in 1932, has been identified with many civic and social movements in the city. He was also prominent in dramatics, having directed several plays and having organized the successful children's pageant staged last winter. He has been heard in radio broadcasts, and he was a participant in a number of round tables and panels on religious, educational, and social matters."



cut

THE TEMPLE
CONGREGATION ANSHE HESED
ERIE, PA.

November 6, 1934.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Silver:

Rabbi Gotthelf whom you met, quite casually, when you were here the other day, tells me he would like the position of assistant rabbi in your congregation in place of Rabbi Feuer. He also asks me to write you a word to learn whether you will be good enough to give him a personal interview. I am reluctant to do so because I know you will be pestered to death with similar requests. However, I do not like to refuse a favor to a young man, especially one who is so unfavorably placed as he is.

He is a graduate of the J.I.R. and for over a year has been principal of the Talmud Torah and rabbi of the B'rith Sholom Congregation, an orthodox congregation. So far as I have heard, they are quite satisfied with his work and have recently re-elected him at a slight increase in salary.

I know he will be grateful for the interview. However, if you do not wish to have him come to see you I shall quite understand it and not in the least resent your refusal.

Your address at the Community Chest banquet made a splendid impression and greatly stimulated the workers. The campaign went over the top for the first time in eleven years.

With warm greetings to you and the family from both of us,

Yours

Max C. Arnold

November 7, 1934.

Rabbi Max C. Currick,
The Temple,
Congregation Anshe Hessed,
Erie, Pa.

My dear Currick:

Thank you for writing me in behalf of Rabbi Gotthelf. A personal interview at the present time is entirely out of the question. Our Board has not yet met to discuss the subject of a seccessor for Rabbi Feuer and I have not yet made up my own mind as to the type of man we want here. You may well guess that my desk is being flooded with applications.

With all good wishes to you and Mrs. Currick,
I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

Good prospect -
CONGREGATION BETH EL
DETROIT

Walt Fraumblau

May not work well
with young people. but
mature enough.

Class 1933
- knows J. Educa-
- able -
- married
- a little "smart"

November 7th, 1934

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Abba:

You must be at this time thinking of a successor for Leon Feuer. I am taking the liberty of making a suggestion which you may be glad to have. I want to suggest to you the name of Rabbi David Cedarbaum, now of Temple Beth El, Lansing, Michigan. I have an idea that you would find in Rabbi Cedarbaum a congenial spirit. He is a pupil of Dr. Benderly, and spent several years with the Bureau of Jewish Education of New York. He is the author of what was at that time a widely discussed paper on "The Costs of Jewish Education". He is a first-rate educator both in the fields of school work and of club work. He is in addition an interesting speaker. He is frequently called in from Lansing to address large groups in Detroit. At Lansing he is heroically maintaining a very small congregation. His talents as an educator have little opportunity for exercise there.

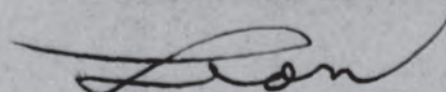
Rabbi Cedarbaum has been coming in every Monday night to teach classes at our Beth El College of Jewish Studies. He teaches the class in "Methods of Teaching in the Jewish Religious School", as well as the class in "The Sociology of Jewish Life", which is a seminar on Kaplan's "Judaism as a Civilization", Ruppiner's "The Jew in the Modern World", and similar works. He has the M.A. degree.

Rabbi Cedarbaum's address is Hotel Downey, Lansing, Michigan. He is thirty years of age and unmarried.

As you might imagine, from his association with Benderly, he is thoroughly at home in Hebrew and in the entire field of modern Jewish culture. He is a graduate of the Hebrew Union College class of 1933.

With kindest personal greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,



Rabbi Leon Fram

CORA KAHN
EUROPEAN TOURS
514 ODDFELLOWS TEMPLE
CINCINNATI, OHIO

Nov7th 1934

My dear Abba:

The knowledge that there is a vacancy in the most popular pulpit, with the most prominent Rabbi in the States, will swamp you with letters. Lucky you have a secretary to take care of all these. I dare not even prophesy how many you will receive.

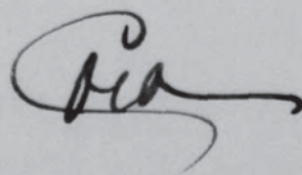
I am adding mine to the many. You may have guessed for whom I am making my plea. Yes, it is for Rabbi Paul Richman, now officiating in Steubenville.

Paul is doing some fine constructive work, I have heard all about it, ~~for~~ I have given readings in both Steubenville, and East Liverpool, and I also know his work at College, and I like him immensely, personally. I can think of no one, who would handle the Sunday School work any better than Paul. He is ambitious, a hard worker, and he has a real religious spirit, and I feel sure that he will make a splendid assistant.

Steubenville is so near to Cleveland, that one of the committee could run down there to investigate his work.

Hoping that you will give him an opportunity to try out for the position, I remain

Cordially yours,



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R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

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CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

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Received at 2040 East 9th St., Cleveland, Ohio TELEPHONE CHERRY 1740, LINE 87

1934 NOV 7 AM 3 42

GC15 32 NL=STEUBENVILLE OHIO 6

DR A H SILVER, PERSONAL=

THE TEMPLE ANSEL RD & 105 ST CLEVE=

AM INTERESTED IN THE TEMPLE ASSISTANTSHIP IF AVAILABLE
WILL BE IN CLEVELAND THIS WEEKEND AND WOULD APPRECIATE THE
PRIVILEGE OF AN APPOINTMENT POSSIBLY SUNDAY NIGHT OR MONDAY
KINDLY WIRE AT MY EXPENSE=

PAUL RICHMAN.

MINUTES IN TRANSIT

FULL-RATE DAY LETTER

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

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 F. G. KAHLE, VICE PRESIDENT
 H. L. LEILICH, VICE PRESIDENT
 H. O. BENTLEY, VICE PRES. & ATTY
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 J. F. SOLOMON, SECRETARY

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 J. W. SPURLOCK

ADDRESS REPLY TO

Lima, Ohio,
 Nov. 16, 1934.

Dr. A. H. Silver,
 c/o The Temple,
 Ansel Rd. & E. 105th St.,
 Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am taking the liberty to address you concerning our mutual friend, Rabbi Bernard M. Dorfman. It has been our good fortune to have Rabbi Dorfman conduct services every other week for the past three years. I believe the Jewish community will unanimously agree that Rabbi Dorfman has conducted the most interesting services that it has been our pleasure to attend, and if an accurate attendance tally could have been kept it would be found that he has commanded the best attendance ever had at our Temple. This evidence would be conclusive. If I could praise Rabbi Dorfman for his interesting services, I could not find words to commend his work with our children at Sabbath School. Truly he is accomplished. The children not only love him but respect him, and give him the maximum amount of attention. Both of our children were confirmed by Rabbi Dorfman. I envy them their training in religion and Jewish history. It would be a loss to this Jewish community should Rabbi Dorfman be assigned to another pulpit. However, it is too bad that a man with his ability is forced to continue at the low compensation which is all we can afford. He should not be held back in the work for which in my opinion he is so well fitted. If there is anything that you can do to assist Rabbi Dorfman to better his situation, you would not only be doing something for him but something for our wonderful cause. I hope you will not think it was presumptuous of me to write you concerning Rabbi Dorfman, but I do want you to know just how I feel about him.

With my personal regards, in which I am joined by my dear wife, whom you may remember as Jessie Simon of Cincinnati, I am,

Sincerely,

Julius F. Solomon

JFS/WS



A. WEIXELBAUM
1006 STATE STREET
LIMA, OHIO

November 19 1934

Rabbi A.H. Silver,
Cleveland O.

Dear Rabbi Silver:-

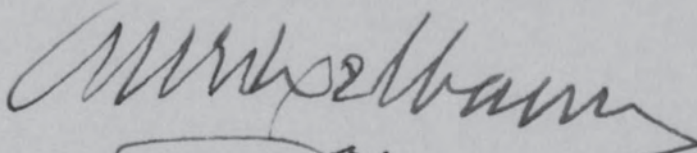
I have been informed that Rabbi Bernard Dorfman has made application for the position as your assistant.

Mr. Dorfman is now serving his third year as our bi-monthly Rabbi, and as much as we would dislike to dispense with his services, we do not wish to stand in his way to advancement, and can heartily recommend him for the position he seeks.

In our thirty years of Temple Activities we have never had anyone occupy our pulpit more satisfactory than he. Especially has he been very efficient in our Sabbath School, which is in better condition than it has ever been.

Trusting that Mr. Dorfman will be successful in securing the very desirable position he seeks, I am,

Sincerely yours



Adolph Weixelbaum,
Pres. Temple Beth Israel.

BHB/AW.

OFFICERS

ADOLPH WEIXELBAUM,
President
1006 State St.
BENJAMIN ACKERMAN,
Vice President
421 S. Jamison Ave.
DONALD S. WISE,
Financial Secretary
215 Opera House Bldg.
ARTHUR WOHLGEMUTH,
Treasurer
1065 W. Spring St.

Temple Beth Israel

M. E. WEIXELBAUM, Corresponding Secretary
115 South Collett Street

LIMA, OHIO

November 19, 1934

TRUSTEES

BENJAMIN ACKERMAN,
Chairman
HARRY L. SOLOMON
SIMON S. FISHEL
JONAS WOHLGEMUTH
GUS HOLSTINE
MRS. SYLVAN HOLSTINE
MRS. HARRY L. SOLOMON

Dr. A. H. Silver,
c/o The Temple
Ansel Road & East 105th St.,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am writing in behalf of Rabbi Bernard M. Dorfman, who has been our Rabbi for the past four years. I understand there is a vacancy for an assistant in your Temple and I earnestly urge you and your Board of Directors to give Rabbi Dorfman an opportunity to prove his value in this position.

I have lived here in Lima eighteen years and have been a member of the Temple Board of Directors continuously during the time I have been in Lima. I wish to say, never in all this 18 years have we had a Rabbi who could anywhere near compare to Rabbi Dorfman to serve us; not only in his Temple services but in taking complete charge of our Sunday School which he found in rather a deplorable condition when he came here. He has built up probably as enthusiastic and loyal a Sunday School as there is to be found anywhere. The children all love him and are anxious to be at Sunday School when he is there.

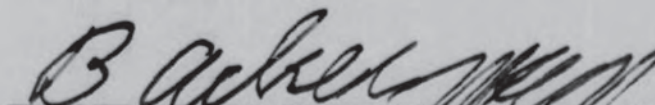
While we would exceedingly regret losing Rabbi Dorfman, yet we feel it would not be fair for us to stand in his way if there was any possibility for him to take some position where he could probably make better use of the talent and ability that he undoubtedly has.

We are a very small congregation here and it is always a battle for us to keep going at all. It has been easier though since Rabbi Dorfman has been here because of the interest he has aroused by the splendid service he has given us.

If there is anything further you would like to know, or anything I could tell you with reference to Rabbi Dorfman, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Thanking you in advance for any consideration you may give to this applicant, I remain

Very truly yours,


Chairman of the Board
TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL

B.Ackerman/DS.

THE FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH

(Universalist-Unitarian)

EUCLID AVE. AT EAST 82ND STREET

CLEVELAND

DILWORTH LUPTON
TRACY PULLMAN
Ministers

November 20th, 1934

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 107th Street - Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Abba:

Several months ago, Rabbi Richman and his wife, of Steubenville, attended our Sunday morning service. Mrs. Lupton and I invited them home to dinner with us. We were delighted with them and found them interesting and charming people.

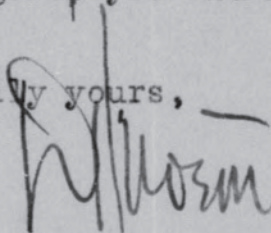
Rabbi and Mrs. Richman called at the study two or three days ago. In the course of our conversation he spoke of the vacancy caused by Rabbi Feuer at the Temple.

Rabbi Richman did not ask me to write this letter but I told him I would do so and he consented, rather reluctantly.

This is merely to give you my impression of the man in case you are considering him as a candidate.

Helen joins me in greetings to you and Mrs. Silver.

Faithfully yours,



Temple Beth El

ASHLAND AVE.
NIAGARA FALLS, N. Y.

OFFICE OF THE RABBI

708 - 8th St.,
November 21, 1934.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
E. 105th St. and Ansel Road,
Cleveland, O.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I have been given to understand that Rabbi Feuer has been called to the Temple at Toledo, Ohio, and that there may be a vacancy in your Temple on that account.

This is my sixth year as Rabbi in Niagara Falls. Originally I came here bi-weekly during my senior year at the Hebrew Union College, and upon graduation I became the Rabbi here.

As I am anxious for a larger field of service, I would appreciate hearing from you as to whether a vacancy exists, that I may write you further.

Very sincerely yours,

Abba M. Fineberg.

RABBI PIZER W. JACOBS

New York City Nov 21/34

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

Dear Colleague

I wonder if I may offer my services to you, as your assistant, when Rabbi Huer goes to Toledo. I can be perfectly frank with you, and what I say is only spoken in the spirit of helpfulness. I fully should meet your requirements to your satisfaction, if you gave me the chance. Not only would it be serving you and your congregation, but you would be serving a colleague in a noble way. So please give this your serious consideration and let me hear from you. I hope the youth

and energy, as well as the experience,
to serve you satisfactorily. Assuring
you of my profound appreciation,
and with all good wishes for your
continued welfare,

Faithfully yours
Piper Jacobs

3810 Broadway,
New York City

I have been in charge of a large
Religious School and conducted
young peoples social and
study groups.

J. H. HERMAN CO.

SANDUSKY'S

LARGEST FURNITURE STORE

SANDUSKY, OHIO

Nov. 22, 1934

Dr. A. H. Silver
The Temple
Ansel Road & E. 105th St.,
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver:

Several days ago I happened to notice in the Cleveland Plain Dealer that your assistant has accepted a call elsewhere, thereby creating a vacancy.

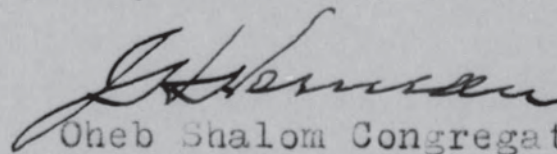
If you will pardon the liberty, may I suggest a man whom our Congregation regards as being of very high character, and who has done a great deal to eradicate factionalism, as well as increasing our attendance to 100% among our Jewish people. He has also a large non-Jewish following, who attend services regularly, thereby placing the Jewish people in a better light with the out-siders.

I have in mind Rabbi Bernard M. Dorfman of Cleveland, who has been serving our Congregation bi-weekly. It would be a great loss to us if we were deprived of his good council and lose a leader of his caliber. However in justice to him, I feel that there are not enough Jews in Sandusky to be able to compensate him sufficiently for his unusually good work.

If you could see your way clear to be able to obtain his services, I feel sure that your Congregation would be greatly benefited through his splendid ability.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

 President
Oheb Shalom Congregation

JHH:5

CLOTHIERS
Manhattan
THE STORE YOU NEED
MANHATTAN BLDG. WEST MARKET ST.
SANDUSKY, OHIO

November 23, 1934.

Dr. A. H. Silver
The Temple
Ansel Road and 105th
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

A short time ago I noticed the announcement of Rabbi Feuer's election to the Toledo pulpit. The thought occurred to me at that time that as the vacancy in your pulpit will no doubt have to be filled, why that should not be a good opportunity for our mutual friend, Rabbi Bernard Dorfman. Am therefore taking the liberty of presenting it to your attention.

In my humble opinion, Rabbi Dorfman is fully qualified to fill that vacancy satisfactorily. I need not speak of his scholarly qualifications by virtue of the training he received at the college and his experience since, neither as to his qualification *as* a forciful speaker of fine delivery -- both of which qualifications you are better able to judge than I am, but I want to say he is particularly qualified for his sociability, democracy and pleasant disposition which are so essential for a Rabbi's success these days. He is splendid company and very much liked by everyone he comes in contact with.

Since his bi-weekly visits to Sandusky, I had the honor and great pleasure of having him stay at my house, and naturally became very intimately acquainted and have learned to admire him greatly and love him for the many good qualifications he possesses. Above all is he to be recommended for the work and interest he takes in the young in the Sabbath school. The children dearly love him and are ready to follow his lead.

We of Sandusky would naturally very much dislike giving him up, but I cannot refrain from recommending him to the favorable consideration of your Temple board because I feel he deserves better than to be knocked about from week to week with his circuit work.

Trusting that I have not trespassed on your valuable time too long and that this letter may be of some benefit to our friend, and with my personal greetings and best wishes, I remain

Cordially yours,

S. Kaplan

THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE

CINCINNATI, OHIO

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

November 27, 1934.
(Dict. Nov. 26)

Rev. Dr. Abba H. Silver,
The Temple,
E. 105th St. at Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Abba:

I was pleased to receive your good telegram of the 22nd inst. and to learn from it that you will be happy to receive recommendations from me with regard to the position made vacant by the promotion of Rabbi Feuer. You will understand, I am sure, that some of the recommendations which I make herewith I present upon request. Others are spontaneous with me. All of them are offered in absolutely good faith and ^{with} full sense of responsibility. You will, I am sure, know how to evaluate correctly what I say about each particular man. I follow my usual procedure of beginning with the older men and working down systematically to the younger.

Rev. Dr. Samuel H. Markowitz, (HUC 1922) would, I have reason to believe, be interested in the position of Director of Religious Education with full charge of and responsibility for the work done in this particular field. He would not be interested in a position as Assistant Rabbi. As you know, he has done a great deal of work in the field of Religious Education and has his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago. I regard him as an able man and believe that he is exceedingly well qualified to take complete charge of the entire educational program of your congregation. If you plan to distinguish at all between the services of an Assistant Rabbi and those of an Educational Director, I believe that Markowitz would be an excellent man for you. He is married and has two children.

Rabbi Julius Kerman (HUC 1928) was Principal of a Hebrew School in St. Louis before coming to the College, and did excellent work there. He was a capable student and, of course, more mature than his fellow-students. He served for a number of years after graduation as Rabbi in Sunbury, Pa. and for the last few years in a small congregation at St. Albans, L.I., which he organized himself. He is studiously inclined and thinks matters through clearly and responsibly. How he has developed as a preacher and in other aspects of Rabbinical work since his graduation I cannot say, since I have had no contact with him that would give me this information. But I have a very high regard for him and his general ability and his integrity of character. He is married and has two children.

X Rabbi Melbourne Harris (HUC 1929) served for three years following

-2- Rev. Dr. Abba H. Silver.

his graduation as Assistant to Dr. Louis I. Newman at Temple Emanu-El in San Francisco. Since then he has filled the pulpit at Peoria, Ill. I understand that he did excellent work as Assistant Rabbi and Director of Religious Education in San Francisco and he is highly regarded by both the congregation and Dr. Newman. I understand too that he is doing excellent work in his present pulpit. He is possessed of an unusually pleasing personality. I regard him as an able man, and thoroughly sincere in all his undertakings. He is married and has one child.

Rabbi Abba M. Fineberg (HUC 1930) has officiated as Rabbi in Niagara Falls, N.Y. since his graduation. He has done work in Education at Niagara University and has an M.A. from that institution. He is earnest and sincere, painstaking in all his activities and, I understand, has done very good work in his present pulpit. He is married, but has no children.

Rabbi Phineas Smoller (HUC 1930) has officiated as Rabbi in his present pulpit, Springfield, Ohio, since his graduation. He was an able student and a fine spirit and influence here at the College in every way. He has grown in every direction since he left here. I have had occasion to watch his work during these years and am tremendously impressed by what he has done and the manner in which he has done it. He is earnest, high-minded and capable. He is studiously inclined and would, I feel certain, combine in admirable manner the duties of Assistant Rabbi with those of Educational Director. He is also modest and loyal in every way. I have an exceedingly high regard for him and commend him to your consideration unqualifiedly. He is unmarried.

Rabbi Saul B. Appelbaum (HUC 1931) a native Clevelander has served as Rabbi in Bradford, Pa. since his graduation. I understand that he has done good work there, although I myself have had little opportunity to form an independent judgment thereon. He, too, is unmarried.

Rabbi Carl I. Miller (HUC 1931) has occupied his present pulpit in Helena, Ark. since his graduation. He, too, is a native Clevelander. He was a capable student here at the College and is possessed of a very winning personality. He has done excellent work in his present pulpit. I believe he is likewise married to a Cleveland girl. They have no children at present.

Rabbi Arthur Zuckerman (HUC 1931) presents a most interesting case indeed. He was one of the ablest students of his class and for the three years following his graduation held the Morgenthau Traveling Scholarship. He carried on work at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem and likewise at the University of Vienna. He distinguished himself at both institutions and is scheduled to receive the degree of Doctor of Philosophy from the Hebrew University this year. The quality of his work added greatly to the prestige of the Hebrew Union

-3- Rev. Dr. Abbs H. Silver.

both in Jerusalem and in Vienna. He is an unusually capable man in every way. As a student he did a great deal of work with Young Judea organizations. He is, of course, an ardent Zionist, although I gather from his letters that his life and work in Palestine have sobered and matured his earlier over-exuberant enthusiasm for the cause. I feel that Zuckerman might some day become a great scholar if the opportunity is presented to him. But equally I believe that he has the potentialities of becoming an unusually capable Rabbi. He will soon be ready to return to this country and take a position. He married about a year ago a young lady, an American girl, who was also working for a degree at the University of Vienna.

Rabbi Elmer Berger (HUC 1932) is also a native Cleveland. He was a capable student here at the College and a fine influence among his fellow-students. He is earnest, high-minded and sincere, modest and gentle in his life and methods of work. He has done very good work in Pontiac, Michigan, during the two years that he has been there. He is married to a Cleveland girl. They have no children.

Rabbi Joseph Gitin (HUC 1932) has held a Conservative pulpit in Buffalo since his graduation and I understand has done very good work there. He has come to the conclusion, however, that he does not fit into a Conservative pulpit, and is eager to make a change. He is unmarried.

X Rabbi David I. Cedarbaum (HUC 1933) is an unusually capable man, and perhaps he is the best prospect for you. Before coming to the College he had done quite a good bit of work in the field of Jewish Education and has completed all his requirements for the Ph.D. in Education at Teachers College, Columbia University, except the completion of his thesis. He is an unusually capable man, has a fine Jewish knowledge and background, was an excellent student, a clear thinker, an effective preacher, and a teacher of unusual ability. He is excellently qualified to serve either as Educational Director for your congregation or to combine the duties of this office with those of Assistant Rabbi. He has a pleasing personality and his character is of the very finest. He is unmarried.

Rabbi David J. Seligson (HUC 1933) has held a Conservative pulpit in Ventnor, N. J. since his graduation. I myself had the opportunity to see his work close at hand during the two months I was in Ventnor last summer. He has really achieved marvelous things there. He has built up his congregation from a very insignificant handful of people to one of dignified size and considerable influence in the entire Atlantic City community and throughout the southeastern part of the State of New Jersey. He has one of the most lovable and winning personalities of any man we have ever had in the College, is earnest, high-minded and loyal, capable and painstaking in all he does. He was an excellent student and a pleasing preacher. I have a very profound admiration for him. He is unmarried.

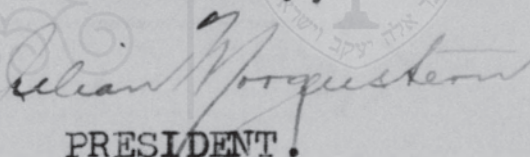
-4- Rev. Dr. Abba H. Silver.

Rabbi David Sherman (HUC 1934) was one of the most promising members of his class. That he has not succeeded thus far in securing a pulpit is due to no fault of his, but only to circumstances over which he had no control. I regard him as the ablest student in his class and as the most promising preacher of that group. What he would be capable of in educational work I do not know, since he has had little or no opportunity in that direction. He too is unmarried.

This will give you a list of the men who either are definitely interested in the opportunity which your present pulpit situation offers, or who might easily be attracted thereto. All of these men, I think, merit your consideration, some, of course, more than others. Many of them you know yourself and will have your own opinion of their fitness for the position. I hope that this will be of some service to you. If I can aid you in any way in solving your difficult and responsible problem, please do not hesitate to call upon me. It may be that I can furnish you information about some of the men whom you may have under consideration, which you could otherwise not obtain.

With cordial greetings for yourself and Virginia and all good wishes, I am ever

Faithfully,


PRESIDENT.

JM/s

November 30, 1934

Rev. Dr. Abba H. Silver
Euclid Avenue Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

At the suggestion of Dr. Morgenstern, I am taking the liberty of writing to you.

I am a graduate of the Hebrew Union College of the May, 1933 class. Since my graduation, I have been officiating as Rabbi in Ventnor, N. J., a suburb of Atlantic City. My work here has been an inspiration. Yet, the opportunities for real growth are very limited. As you know, Atlantic City has a small Jewish population the year round. There are already four well-established congregations which have been in existence many years. Naturally, personal sentiments and family traditions make it difficult for us to solicit membership in a Jewish population that, at best, remains static and for the most part is continually decreasing.

About myself, the following may be of interest. I am a graduate of the Bes Medrash Lemorim of the Yeshiva and received my undergraduate degree from Columbia. My special field of interest at the University was in the department of Religious Education under Prof. Case.

If you will think back some years, you will probably recall my father as the leader of a group of young men who inaugurated a program of Jewish cultural work in Harlem. I think the name was the Adas Bnei Yisroel. You were a frequent visitor.

If I may say so, your work and accomplishment has been held up before me as the ideal of Rabbinical leadership ever since I was a youngster. I would deem it a privilege and a sacred trust to serve you in the Rabbinate.

Sincerely yours,

David J. Seligson

Beth Jacob Congregation

604 Stockton Court

Madison, Wisconsin

OFFICERS

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December 3, 1934.

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DR. A. J. BONER
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NATHAN ZUCKER

Board of Trustees
The Temple
Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Gentlemen:

I am desirous of being considered for the vacancy that will occur when Rabbi Leon Feuer assumes his new duties. Mr. Alfred Benesch, one of your board members, indicated that such consideration is obtainable through application. I am therefore submitting my application. I am twenty-nine years old and a graduate of the class of 1933 of the Hebrew Union College. This is my second year at the Beth Jacob Temple. Upon request I shall be glad to finish references and any further information you may desire.

Respectfully yours,

Louis J. Cashdan

Rabbi Louis J. Cashdan.

RABBI SOLOMON B. FREEHOF, D. D.
RODEF SHALOM TEMPLE
FIFTH AND MOREWOOD AVENUES
PITTSBURGH, PA.

December 7, 1934.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
105th St. at Ansel Rd.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Abba:

Rabbi Norman Gerstenfeld asked me to write to you suggesting his name as a possible successor to Leon Feuer. I am glad to do so. Norman Gerstenfeld graduated from the Hebrew Union College with honors and Professor Marcus speaks to me enthusiastically of his mental attainments. I have had the pleasure of meeting him two or three times and I find him to be a very interesting and attractive young man. I heartily commend him to your attention. At present his address is 95 Chestnut Street, Boston, Mass.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

S. B. F.

SBF:RZ

66 Chestnut Street,
Boston, Mass.
December 10th '34.

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

My dear Dr. Silver,

I do not know whether you remember me. I had the pleasure of meeting you at the home of Mrs Julius Kahn in Youngstown about two years ago.

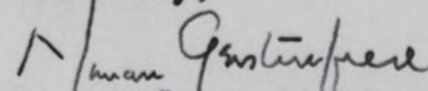
Since that time I have graduated from the Hebrew Union College ('33 with the honors in preaching and theology) and was invited by the faculty to become Fellow in Jewish Philosophy. I married Louise Mandelbaum last year and went abroad to Palestine and the rest of the Near East. I returned about two months ago and am living in Boston, continuing my research in Medieval philosophy for my doctor's degree and waiting for a position.

A few days ago I heard thru my wife's grandmother, Mrs Betty Kaufmann of Pittsburgh, that there would be a position open as your assistant. I immediately got in touch with Dr. Freehof who verified the news and said your assistant was going to Toledo and he (Freehof) would write to you himself presenting my name.

I do not know how to put it exactly but for the last ten years you have been my ideal of what I would like to be and nothing would make me happier than the privilege of working with you. I would like an assistantship where I could preach about once a month at the beginning in addition to the usual duties of an assistant in education. May I add that altho married I am in a position for a while to make all question of salary secondary. It is the opportunity of a fruitful apprenticeship under a great Rabbi that I am seeking in preference to going thru the chores of being Rabbi for ten amoratzim in the Styx. It would be hell for my wife to go to small town and the idea of being an assistant to you seems too good to be possible.

I beg you to give this application your consideration.

Sincerely,


Norman Gerstenfeld



THE ISAAC M. WISE TEMPLE
K.K.B'nai Yeshurun
Cincinnati, Ohio

OFFICE - READING ROAD AND NORTH CRESCENT AVENUE
TELEPHONES - AVON 0334 - AVON 0335

RABBIS
James G. Heller Samuel Wohl

December 11, 1934

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I think you have probably received many applications from men who desire to fill Feuer's position. May I recommend to you Rabbi Paul Richman of Steubenville, Ohio.

Rabbi Richman was with me for several years in the Religious School and he has had camp experience for many years. He is a very likable fellow and makes a very fine impression. If you will consider him, he can be reached at 608 N. 5th St., Steubenville, Ohio, Temple Beth El.

Do see him again and I am sure that you will be well impressed with him.

With best wishes and warmest regards to you, Virginia, and your sons in which Belle joins me, I am

Sincerely yours,

SW:RK

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J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

December 11

19 34

To Dr. Morgenstern

Street and No. Cincinnati, Ohio

Place

OUR COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST RABBI SHERMAN TO COME TO CLEVELAND
TO MEET WITH IT. THE SOONER THE BETTER PLEASE WIRE WHEN HE CAN COME

A H. Silver

Sender's address
for reference

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TD CINCINNATI OHIO 11

1934 DEC 11 PM 7:40

REV DR ABBA H SILVER

THE TEMPLE EAST 105 ST AT ANSEL RD CLVD

RABBI SHERMAN PLANS TO LEAVE HERE THIS FRIDAY MORNING DECEMBER
FOURTEENTH ARRIVING CLEVELAND THAT AFTERNOON STOP HE WILL
COMMUNICATE WITH YOU UPON ARRIVAL STOP HE WILL REMAIN OVER WEEKEND
OR AS LONG AS NEEDED STOP IF SOME ARRANGEMENT OTHER THAN THIS MORE
DESIRED BY YOU WIRE IMMEDIATELY

JULIAN MORGENSTERN.

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R. B. WHITE
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CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

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FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

DL = Day Letter
NM = Night Message
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Received at 2016 East 105th St Cleveland Ohio Telephone Cedar 1867

HP159 9=CINCINNATI OHIO 13 223P

1934 DEC 13 PM 2 40

HARRY A LEVI=

MINUTES IN TRANSIT

FULL-RATE	DAY LETTER
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CARE THE TEMPLE EAST 105 AND AMSELL RD=

WILL ARRIVE IN CLEVELAND FRIDAY MORNING AT SEVEN THIRTY=

RABBI DAVID SHERMAN

Sherman

*My dear Mr. Meisel
Rebain. in
your letter
J. H. G.*

RICHARD E. GUTSTADT
CHICAGO, ILL.

December 17, 1934

Mr. Max E. Meisel
The Leader Bldg.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Max:

Just returned from a strenuous 5-day trip and hasten to answer yours of the 11th.

Rabbi Melbourne Harris of Peoria is very well known to me. I hold him in the very highest esteem.

Firstly, he is one of the dignified, refined type of young Jew; conducts himself as a gentleman at all times.

He is not a pulpiteer, though he makes a very pleasing and sound talk. The children are especially fond of him. I think he has a very good mind. He is a studious type and can accommodate himself very beautifully to various situations.

I know how well he was regarded in San Francisco, the cause of his leaving there being a psychological difference between himself and Rabbi Newman, in which Harris had the sympathy of the community throughout.

His record in Peoria has been good. He is highly regarded by Jews and non-Jews alike. His position there has constantly improved and he now holds a really important place in the esteem of the whole community.

In my judgment, he would be a very worthy successor to Rabbi Feuer.

With warm personal regards, and assuring you that your good wishes are more than reciprocated, I am,

Very cordially yours,

Lick

REG:rs

TEMPLE BETH ZION
DELAWARE AVENUE
BUFFALO, N. Y.

OFFICE OF THE
RABBI
JOSEPH L. FINK, PH.D.

December 17, 1964

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
E. 105th Street and Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Friend :

Your probably have received many letters
on the same subject, but I have made a promise and here-
by keep it.

May I suggest the name of Rabbi Joseph
Gitin, graduate of the Hebrew Union College, Class of
1932? ^{as your new assistant.} He is now rabbi of Temple Emanuel of Buffalo -
a Conservative congregation. He is an earnest,
conscientious and capable young man and would deeply
appreciate the opportunity of talking with you about the
position in your congregation. If I can assist you in
any other way, please let me know.

With kind greetings, I am

Cordially yours,

Joseph L. Fink.

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CABLE ADDRESS: "EDFILMCORP"

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UNITED STATES AND CANADA



Executive Offices
1501 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

December 21st, 1934.

Rabbi Abba Silver,
The Temple,
105th & Ansil Road,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Abba:

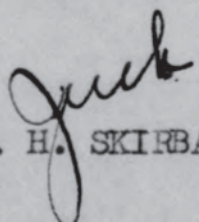
I hear that you are considering an assistant, and I want to recommend a very, very fine boy. He is Elmer Berger and is now located in Pontiac, Michigan.

I have known him since he has been a youngster, and if you will not hold it against him, I taught him in Sunday school. He is really a fine type, having a splendid mind, and a lovely gentleman. I think you would do well to consider him.

Haven't seen you in so long that I have almost forgotten what you look like. Every once in awhile I read in the papers that you are in New York but never hear a word.

Dearest regards to Virginia, the children, and yourself, as ever,

Faithfully yours,


J. H. SKIRBALL

JHS:PL

Elmer Berger

Temple Israel
Saint Louis

FERDINAND M. ISSERMAN, RABBI

OFFICE OF THE RABBI
KINGSHIGHWAY AND WASHINGTON
SAINT LOUIS

December 26, 1934.

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

Dear Abba:

I note in your bulletin that you have not as yet selected a successor to Leon Feuer, and that Rabbi Sherman has just come to be with you temporarily.

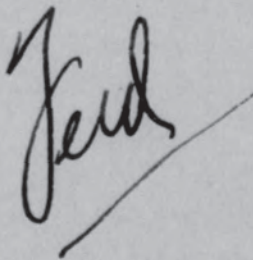
I have been in a position for the past six years to observe the work of Rabbi Herman E. Snyder of Springfield, Illinois. He has been in that community for seven years and has done constructive Jewish work. An evidence of that is the fact that his temple dedicated a new temple center a few weeks ago, which they were compelled to erect during the depression because of the splendid organization of work amongst the young people which Rabbi Snyder had effected.

If interested in him and ^{you} desire further information, I shall be very happy to post you.

With kindest personal greetings and best wishes to you and your family, I am

Sincerely yours,

FMI:BA



December 28, 1934.

Rabbi Ferdinand M. Isserman,
Kingshighway and Washington,
St. Louis, Mo.

My dear Ferd:

Thank you for your letter of December 26,
and your recommendation which I shall, of course,
turn over to the committee. We have not, as yet, made
any selection.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

December 28, 1934.

Rabbi Norman Gerstenfeld,
66 Chestnut Street,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Rabbi Gerstenfeld:

Let me thank you for your letter of December 10. I shall be very happy to present your application to the committee. A successor to Rabbi Feuer has not yet been selected although we have temporarily engaged the services of Rabbi Sherman.

With all good wishes, permit me
to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

December 28, 1934.

Mr. J.H. Skirball,
Educational Film Corporation,
1501 Broadway,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Jack:

Glad to have heard from you.

I have referred Elmer Berger's name to the committee. He had been recommended by some others too. A successor to Feuer has not been selected although Rabbi Sherman has been engaged temporarily.

I have'nt been in New York since summer. But you have been to Cleveland and haven't called to see me. However, I am a good natured man and bear no grudges. I saw your folks a few days ago and they are all well.

I shall be in New York on Monday, January 14, and shall stop at the Commodore. Give me a ring.

Yours as ever,

AHS:BK



THE ISAAC M. WISE TEMPLE
K.K.B'nai Yeshurun
Cincinnati, Ohio

OFFICE - READING ROAD AND NORTH CRESCENT AVENUE
TELEPHONES - AVON 0334 - AVON 0335

RABBIS
James G. Heller Samuel Wohl

January 2, 1934

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Miss Cora Kahn of Cincinnati returned this morning from Cleveland and told me that a successor to Feuer has not yet been named. If I seem to be over-enthusiastic in my recommendation of Rabbi Paul Richman, you will understand that it is due to my association with him for six years. He has been in our School and he was an excellent teacher. The children liked him immensely. He was always cooperative and he has the knack of getting along with colleagues and teachers.

Even the students of the College, and you know it is quite difficult to be liked by fellow students, respected and appreciated his qualities. For many years he was Associate Director of the Stimson Lake Camps in New Hampshire and he knows how to handle situations and is familiar with the psychologic and modern approach ~~and~~ pedagogy. I am sure that your teachers will get along with him very well, because his personality is attractive. And with you as his guide and counsellor, the Temple School would benefit and would be capably administered.

I know that there are certain qualities which a man ought to have to be associated with you. And as I review in my mind possible prospects for the position, I find that Richman, given the opportunity, will make good, that he will have fine contacts with parents and children and will have the friendship of teachers and your policies and plans will be carried out by a man who will be congenial and willing to learn.

With warmest regards and best wishes to you and your dear ones, I am

Yours sincerely,

SW:RK

The HEBREW CENTER OF WEST KINGSBRIDGE

5636 BROADWAY

NEW YORK CITY

Phone HALifax 5-0472

MAX KAUFMAN, Rabbi

January 10, 1935.

225 West 232nd St.,

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
Rabbi of The Temple,
E. 105th St. and Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I noticed in today's Jewish Daily Bulletin that your assistant rabbi is now with the Toledo congregation. I do not know whether you have already engaged another man, but if you have not and are looking for an assistant, I should deem it a privilege to work under you.

I find it rather awkward to enumerate for you my qualifications. However, to state these briefly, I write that besides my B.A. from the University of Cincinnati and my rabbinical diploma from the H.U.C. I have an M.A. from Columbia. My experience in the rabbinate has made me thoroughly familiar with every phase of the religious school, from the curriculum down to the details of administration, and with all sorts of junior and adult educational and cultural activities in the realm of the synagogue.

Above all I can offer you utter dependability and, I believe, an unusual readiness for service. Whatever the tasks you may require of me I could not help but tackle them wholeheartedly and with a deep eagerness to please one for

The HEBREW CENTER OF WEST KINGSBRIDGE

5636 BROADWAY

NEW YORK CITY

Phone HALifax 5-0472

▼
MAX KAUFMAN, Rabbi

2

whom I have genuine and great admiration.

Cordially,

Max Kaufman

P.S. Please write to my home address:

225 West 232nd St., New York.



66 Chestnut Street,
Boston, Mass.
Jan. 21st '35.

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

My dear Dr. Silver,

I understand that you will be speaking at the Forum in Boston early in February. I am very eager to see you and discuss the possibilities of your taking a third Rabbi in the Temple. Rabbi Sherman is a good friend of mine, a person of splendid ability and character and I am sure he will make a very good Minister of Education. The position I would do anything in the world to obtain is that of assistant preacher, where I could listen to all your inspiring sermons and with that noble example have the opportunity of preaching periodically in the temple when you are away or on alternate Sabbaths when you are in the city. I would also be glad to take care of the adult education and some of the funerals and weddings or any occasions you would like to have a substitute. Is there any possibility of such a position being formed at your temple? I would take any salary at all for this privilege and opportunity. My wife and I will have enough to cover our expenses out of our personal income and we would be glad to make the slight sacrifice involved for so real an experience and apprenticeship. If not for the fact that when some people will hear about it they may make derogatory comments I would be glad to forego all salary.

Will you please give this matter your most serious consideration. It means everything to me. Perhaps you will be able to have a meal with us on the day you come to Boston. Archie Abrams and his wife are dear friends of ours and they would enjoy being with you too. We could perhaps find a little time before or after the meal to discuss the matter further to a conclusion.

Will you please notify me at your earliest convenience.

Very sincerely,

Norman Foster

CONGREGATION ANSHAI EMETH
MONROE AND HANCOCK STREETS
PEORIA, ILLINOIS

RABBI MELBOURNE HARRIS
Rabbi

Jan. 21, 1935.

Mr. Eugene Wolf
Engineers Bnilding
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Wolf:

It may interest you to know that I have made formal announcement of my resignation from the Peoria Congregation. I am enclosing newspaper clippings of same, which contain my letter to the Board and their reply to me.

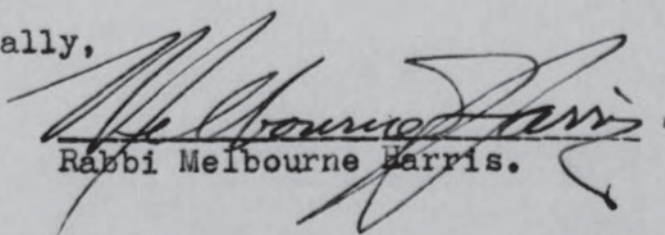
Inasmuch as the news of my election to your Temple is now current, I was wondering if you are now ready to make public the announcement in the general Jewish press. And if so, I will be happy to assume responsibility for same. I believe, however, that this matter depends upon your wishes. I think an announcement should go into the Jewish Daily Bulletin and some of the other national magazines. As for the Cleveland Jewish press, I would prefer to have you take care of same. I am herewith enclosing a copy of biographical sketch of myself for this use.

My Board of Directors here accepted my resignation with sorrowful regrets, and yet their emotions are mixed with joy, in view of the wonderful opportunity that is open for me. I believe their letter to me expressed this note.

I have just written Mr. Weitz to mail me a copy of the curriculum of the Religious School and a detailed summary of the activities of the Temple, so that in the ensuing months I may familiarize myself with the system now in operation at the Temple. I shall attempt to keep in close touch with all that goes on, so that when I come to Cleveland, I shall be au courant with the methods and programs of the Temple.

Trusting I may hear from you regarding your wishes in the matter of publicity, and with kindest personal greetings to your wife and self, in which Mrs. Harris joins, I am

Cordially,


Rabbi Melbourne Harris.

RABBI HARRIS CALLED TO OHIO TEMPLE POST

To Work With Noted Rabbi Silber in Cleveland

Rabbi Melbourne Harris of Temple Anshai Emeth will leave Peoria July 31 to become assistant to the noted Rabbi Abba Millel Silver at the Cleveland temple, it was announced to temple directors at their meeting Tuesday night.

Formal acceptance of the resignation has been made by the temple board.

The Peoria rabbi returned last week from Cleveland, where he had been called by Rabbi Silver and a committee of the Temple, Tifereth Israel congregation. He spoke in the morning services there on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 5 and 6.

Rabbi Harris will complete the Jewish year here, beginning his duties in Cleveland, August 1.

To Famous Church

The Cleveland Temple is known as one of the outstanding Jewish liberal Jewish churches in this country. Its congregation of 1600 members is the largest of that faith in the United States.

Rabbi Harris will have charge of religious education and cultural groups at the Cleveland Temple and will also assist in the preaching.

Rabbi Silver, a comparatively young man, is considered a leader in national and religious activities. He is closely identified with a number of progressive and is the author of several well known books. He was a member of President Hoover's Unemployment Relief commission in 1931.

In September 1931 Rabbi Harris came here from San Francisco, where he had been assistant to Dr. Louis I. Newman. He has taken an active part in civic affairs and has spoken before many school, club and church groups. He is known as a liberal thinker and has become a leading intellectual.

Has Been Leader

He is a member of the local Rotary club, in which he is chairman of the international committee; of the board of directors of the Y. M. C. A., of the Associated Charities board, the Creve Coeur club, the Salvation Army board and the National Research forum. He is also chairman of the Y. M. C. A.-Y. W. C. A. leisure time institute and vice-president of the Jewish Welfare Fund of Peoria.

In 1932 he spoke for the Jewish religion in a large public symposium in which Clarence Darrow, famous criminal lawyer and exponent of mechanistic theories, took part. In 1933 he was on the Washington birthday banquet program of the Creve Coeur club with Senator William Dieterich.

He is married and has one child.

Accept Resignation

In accepting the resignation, officers and trustees of the local temple wrote to Rabbi Harris:

"We regret your contemplated departure from our midst, as we feel that you have been an invaluable asset to our congregation and to our community. Your participation in the manifold activities of the Temple and community at large has been a source of great inspiration to us. We are conscious of the fact that your place will be hard to fill.

"However, we feel that we cannot stand in the way of your greater opportunity and advancement. We are happy, that, of a large number of rabbis considered, that you have been selected for this deserving honor and recognition, to serve one of the largest and one of the most widely known congregations in the country. We wish the Cleveland Temple to know that we sustain a heavy loss, with the recompense of your merited elevation."

The following paragraph was included in the message of resignation from the rabbi:

"My association with this congregation and its membership have been rich and fruitful. We have labored together these four years in unbroken harmony. We have, I believe, strengthened our group loyalty and built the Temple on a firmer foundation. In my ministry in your midst, I have endeavored to preach what I believed to be the truth, in consonance with the high traditions of our faith. I have sought to intensify the religious education of our children in the religious school. I have co-operated with every Jewish organization in the city, in the hope of vitalizing Jewish activity in the community. I have attempted to represent the Jewish people of Peoria in the community at large, in an effort to bring respect and recognition of the nobler ideals for which the Jewish people stand. Of these activities, I am duly proud; and I trust that my successor, whoever he may be, will continue the traditions of this program. It has been, in truth, a labor of love."

To Leave Peoria



RABBI MELBOURNE HARRIS

Virginia Man Is



BLOOMBERG AND WOLF

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS

ENGINEERS BUILDING

CLEVELAND

JULIUS BLOOMBERG
EUGENE E. WOLF
HARRY S. DASCH

January
Twenty-Second
1935.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
c/o The Temple
East 105th and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:-

I am enclosing herewith letter just received from Rabbi Harris, together with biographical sketch. Apparently he neglected to enclose in his communication the newspaper clippings to which his letter refers. Undoubtedly, he will discover that he omitted to enclose the same and will send them on to us.

I shall delay making a reply to his letter until I hear from you as to your wishes in the matter.

Sincerely yours,

Eugene E. Wolf

EEW:LR

To Leave Peoria



Rabbi Melbourne Harris, spiritual leader of Anshai Emeth temple, will resign at the end of the present Jewish year.

January 23, 1935.

Rabbi Melbourne Harris,
Congregation Anshai Emeth,
Monroe and Hancock Streets,
Peoria, Illinois.

My dear Melbourne:

I was very happy to learn from Mr. Eugene Wolf of your final decision to accept the invitation of The Temple to become Assistant Rabbi and head of Religious Education, and that you have made a formal announcement of your resignation to your Peoria congregation. I need not tell you how delighted I am that you have made this decision. I am confident that you will enjoy your work here and that The Temple will greatly benefit from your presence. Ours is a delightful congregation in which to work. My eighteen years of ministry here have given me great spiritual satisfactions. You will find here a responsive and cooperative group of people. I am confident, too, that Mrs. Harris will quickly make a place for herself in the social life of our community. She will be warmly welcomed and will quickly make friends.

The Temple will make a formal announcement of your appointment in the press and Jewish periodicals next week. It is too late to make the announcement in the two Jewish weeklies this week and I do not wish to have the local press "scoop" them. We will also send an announcement to the Jewish Daily Bulletin. I would suggest that whatever press announcements you plan to make be postponed until the end of next week so that all of our announcements synchronize.

I should like our people to meet you before very long. You will be coming here in August which will not offer the congregation the proper opportunity to welcome you. However, on Sunday evening, February 17,

Jan. 23, 1935.

we shall hold our annual Father-Son banquet. This is a great event in the life of our congregation and brings together hundreds of parents and their sons. It is a very old institution in the life of our congregation. I am anxious that you should be the guest and speaker that evening. It is an especially appropriate time for you to make your first appearance because of the hundreds of children from our Religious School who will attend this function. An address of about twenty-five to thirty minutes which would appeal to parents and children and which would be devoted to the spirit of the occasion would be highly appropriate. I hope that you will be able to come.

Please send me at once two or three photographs of yourself which I may use next week in our publicity.

With all good wishes and again expressing to you my deep satisfaction at your decision to come here as my colleague and co-worker, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BE

MRS. SIEGMUND HERZOG
2558 EUCLID HEIGHTS BOULEVARD
CLEVELAND, OHIO

Jan 25, 35.

Dear Rabbi Silver:-

I am enclosing some newspaper
clippings that came to us today from
Pavia friends (not Jewish) who spoke
in terms of highest praise of Rabbi
Karris. I thought you would
be interested.

Sincerely,

Leah D. Herzog.

CONGREGATION ANSHAI EMETH
MONROE AND HANCOCK STREETS
PEORIA, ILLINOIS

RABBI MELBOURNE HARRIS
Rabbi

January 25, 1935.

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

My dear Rabbi Silver:

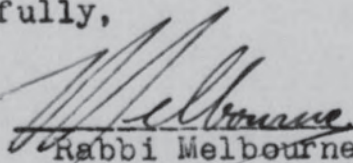
I was delighted to receive your cordial and gracious letter, welcoming me to be your associate. I regard this privilege as a rare distinction. I trust that I shall merit the honor which has been accorded me. I look forward with genuine anxiety to the time of the assumption of my duties in the Temple. The suspense of the next few months, no doubt, will prove most trying.

Although it means cancelling two local engagements, I shall be happy to accept your invitation to appear before the Fathers-Sons Dinner on Feb. 17th. It will afford a splendid preliminary contact with those with whom it will be my privilege to work later on.

As for the formal announcement of my affiliation with The Temple, I accede to your wishes in the matter. I have done nothing except to make newspaper announcement in the Peoria papers, which have been so persistent in printing same. I am glad to know that you will handle the publicity from your end. Enclosed find copy of biographical sketch of myself, together with the local press clipping. I am mailing gloss-prints under separate cover. These prints are a few years old; but I hope to have some new ones taken within the very near future.

Looking forward to the pleasure of renewing our association, if for but one brief day, on Feb. 17th, and with warm greetings from house to house, I am

Faithfully,


Rabbi Melbourne Harris.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Jan. 21, 1935.

RABBI MELBOURNE HARRIS

Rabbi Melbourne Harris - born: December 24, 1903, Oakland, California, son of Moses and Libby Harris.

Graduate of University of Cincinnati, Degree A.B. 1925

Graduate of Hebrew Union College, Cincinnati - 1929

From 1929 - 1931, he was Director of Religious Education and Activities at Temple Emanu-El San Francisco, associated with Rabbi Louis I. Newman, and Rabbi Irving F. Reichert.

Accepted position of Rabbi of Congregation Anshai Emeth, Peoria, Illinois in 1931. and has served this congregation during the past four years.

Identified with Jewish and Civic activities in Peoria:

Vice-president and Director of 1924 campaign of Jewish Welfare Fund of Peoria.
Organizer of Jewish Welfare Fund of Peoria.

~~Rabbi~~ Immediate past-president of Central Illinois Jewish Religious School Teachers Association.

Co-chairman of Anti-Defamation League committee in Peoria.

Active in B'nai Brith - also district council of B'nai Brith.

Member of Board of Directors of Peoria Y.M.C.A.
(As far as is known, first rabbi in U.S. to be elected to the Board of a Y.M.C.A.
Rabbi Heller of Cincinnati, elected after Rabbi Harris)

Member of Board of Directors of Peoria Associated Charities.
" " " " " Peoria Sunday Evening Forum
" " Speakers Committee of Peoria Community Fund -
Speaker at many worker's meetings, radio, etc. for Community Fund.

Member of Rotary Club of Peoria - Chairman of International Committee of Rotary.

Chairman of "Leisure Time Institute" under auspices of Y.M. and Y.W.C.A.
Chairman of Educational Committee of Y.M.C.A.

Member of Creve Couer Club - and Association of Commerce.

Member of Board of Directors of Salvation Army.

One of main speakers at Creve Couer Club Washington Day Banquet 1933
Speaker in symposium with Clarence Darrow - Peoria 1932.

Addressed almost every luncheon Club, woman's group, and Church group in Peoria and vicinity.

~~Rabbi~~ Assistant Rabbi- elect - The Temple, Tifereth Israel Congregation, Cleveland, Ohio - Assistant to Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver.

Married: Leora C. Davis, of Toledo, Ohio. 1929 - Have one son - Ronald Allen Harris -2 yrs.

January 29, 1935.

Mrs. Siegmund Herzog,
2558 Euclid Heights, Blvd.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mrs. Herzog:

Let me thank you for your thoughtfulness in sending me the clippings from the Peoria newspapers about Rabbi Harris. I believe that we have made a fortunate choice. He has been highly recommended to us from many sources. I am happy to know that we shall have such a fine young man in our organization.

With all good wishes to you and Mr. Herzog, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours.

AHS:BK

February 3, 1935.

Rabbi Melbourne Harris,
Congregation Anshai Emeth,
Monroe and Hancock Sts.,
Peoria, Ill.

My dear Harris:

I am enclosing herewith some of the clippings which appeared in the local press announcing your election. The news has been very favorably received throughout our community.

I am also happy that you will be with us for our Father-Son Banquet on Sunday, February 17. An address of twenty to twenty-five minutes in a lighter vein which would appeal both to the boys who will be there and to their dads would be just the thing. If you would send me the subject of the address we could use it in our publicity.

With all good wishes, I remain

Cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

Rabbi Harris Resigns to Join Largest U. S. Congregation

Rabbi Melbourne Harris, spiritual leader of Anshai Emeth temple since 1931, made known his appointment as assistant to Rabbi Abba Silver of Cleveland at a meeting of the temple board of directors last night.

Rabbi Harris came to Peoria from San Francisco where he was assistant leader of a large congregation there. Soon after his arrival here his ability as a public speaker was revealed and with Senator William Dieterich, was the speaker at the Washington day banquet of the Creve Coeur club two years ago.

During the short time he served Peoria he has become one of her most widely known citizens and proved active in her civic affairs. Rabbi Harris' views have been liberal and highly intellectual. He has been in constant demand by schools, churches and clubs as a guest speaker. At the religious forum held in Peoria a few years ago when Clarence Darrow spoke here, Rabbi Harris represented the Hebrew religion.

He has been active in Peoria's luncheon clubs, served as chairman of the leisure time school of the Y. M. C. A. last spring, a member of the board of directors of the Salvation Army, a member of the Y. M. C. A. board and officer of the Jewish Charity Fund association, and an active member of the National Research Forum.

His services have been demanded by organizations interested in young people's work. The rabbi's duties at Anshai Emeth will end July 31.

The Rabbi's letter of resignation of followers:

It is with mixed feelings of profound regret and anticipating joy that I herewith tender my resignation as Rabbi of Congregation Anshai Emeth. As many of you have already heard, I have received a call to be assistant rabbi to Dr. Abba Hillel Silver of Tifereth Israel Congregation, Cleveland, Ohio. I deem this invitation to be associated with Rabbi Silver as a signal honor and rare privilege. I likewise consider it a mark of distinction to be affiliated with the largest congregation in the country.

This call presents such a magnificent opportunity for one so young as myself, that, despite the personal desire to remain and to continue our mutually pleasant associations in Peoria, I feel I can hardly resist the opportunity that is extended to me. It is only with the thought in mind of the larger field and the unusual opportunity that I counterbalance this change of positions.

My associations with this congregation and its membership have been rich and fruitful. We have labored together these four years in unbroken harmony. We have, I believe, strengthened our group loyalty, and built the Temple on firmer foundations. In my ministry in your midst, I have endeavored to preach what I believed to be the truth, in consonance with the high traditions of our faith. I have sought to intensify the religious education of our children in the religious school. I have co-operated with every Jewish organization in the city, in the hope of vitalizing Jewish activity in the community.

I have attempted to represent the Jewish people of Peoria in the community at large, in an effort to bring respect and recognition of the nobler ideals for which the Jewish people stand. Of these activities, I am duly proud; and I trust that my successor, whoever he may be, will continue the traditions of this program. It has been, in truth, a labor of love.

To the members of the board and to the membership at large, I express my deep appreciation for the many courtesies that have been extended to my family and self. Ours has been an intimacy and congeniality that is rare between congregation and rabbi; an intimacy I cannot hope to expect in so large a city as Cleveland. We shall look back upon these years in Peoria as perhaps the happiest of our lives.

The temple in Cleveland has expressed its desire to have me assume my duties there as soon as I might conveniently obtain a release from this congregation. In discussing the matter with them, I have expressed my desire not to do anything that would disadvantage Peoria, and that leaving in the middle of the year would incur many disruptions. I have therefore persuaded them to permit me to complete the year in Peoria, so that I might be able to confirm this year's confirmation class, to help the board select a suitable successor, and to finish my work in such a manner that it might be turned over to the new rabbi unimpaired.

In view of this consideration, therefore, I ask the board to consider my resignation as of July 31, to release me as of that date, that I may assume my duties in Cleveland August 1.

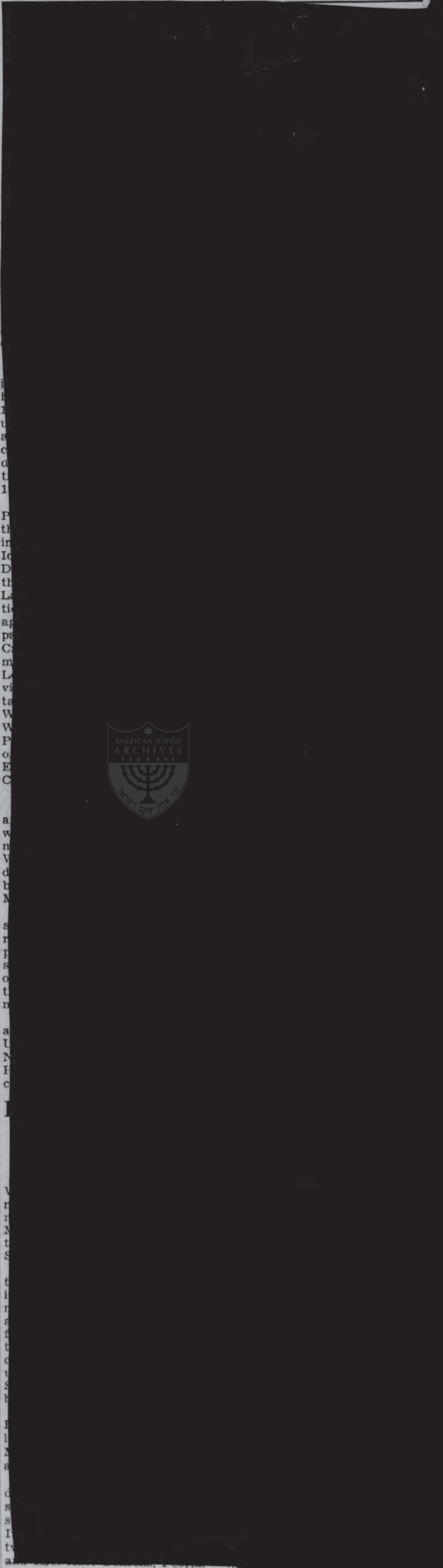
I trust that the board will understand the wisdom and the intent of this action on my part.

The board, in accepting Rabbi Harris' resignation, replied with the following letter:

It is with deep and sincere regret that the officers and board of trustees of Anshai Emeth temple acknowledge your letter of January 14, informing us of the wonderful call that has been extended to you to be associated with Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver of Tifereth Israel congregation.

We regret your contemplated departure from our midst, as we feel that you have been an invaluable asset to our congregation and to our community. Your participation in the manifold activities of the temple and community at large has been a source of great inspiration to us. We are conscious of the fact that your place will be hard to fill.

However, we feel that we cannot stand in the way of your greater opportunity and advancement. We are happy, that, of a large number of rabbis considered, you have been selected for this deserving honor and recognition, to serve one of the



largest and one of the most widely known congregations in the country. We wish the Cleveland temple to know that we sustain a heavy loss, with the recompense of your merited elevation.

As we appreciate and thank you for the splendid service you have rendered our congregation during the four years of your ministry in our midst, we feel confident that your new congregation will likewise appreciate and highly regard your abilities. Surely God's countenance has shone upon you.

We extend to you and your family our best wishes for your future happiness and success.

CHAS. L. CRAWFORD

Peoria's Rabbi

RABBI TALKS TO IMPLEMENT MEN

Dealers Hold Final Sessions

Three hundred persons attending the Implement Dealers association banquet last night at the Jefferson hotel were told by Rabbi Melbourne Harris that a new code seeking the elimination of prejudice in the relationships between men should be added to those now in operation. He declared that there is a growing tolerance among the religious groups in America.

"The first Americans came to this country to escape European oppressions but they were the very ones to institute persecutions of minorities in this country," said Rabbi Harris. "I believe that these prejudices can be controlled and conditioned if we are open minded enough to look at the program aright."

"We are just beginning to realize that it is not necessary for all to have the same set of ideals, that truth is a universal highway with millions of approaches," said Rabbi Harris.

"True civilization," said Rabbi Harris, "is one able to unite diversified elements of humanity into voluntarily co-operating groups and the recognition by each group of the fundamental needs common to all."

The convention was to be brought to a close this morning with a business session. Richard B. Bradley was on the program for the final address.

February 6, 1935.

Rabbi Herman Gerstenfield,
66 Chestnut Street,
Boston, Mass.

My dear Rabbi Gerstenfield:

Let me thank you for your letter of January 21. The Temple has elected Rabbi Melbourne Harris as Assistant Rabbi and Minister of Religious Education. It is highly problematic whether The Temple will engage a third Rabbi. Congregational budgets at the present time, as you know, are strained to the utmost to meet ordinary expenses.

I shall be very pleased to see you when I am in Boston next Sunday. With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

CONGREGATION ANSHAI EMETH
MONROE AND HANCOCK STREETS
PEORIA, ILLINOIS

RABBI MELBOURNE HARRIS
RABBI

Feb. 13, 1935

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

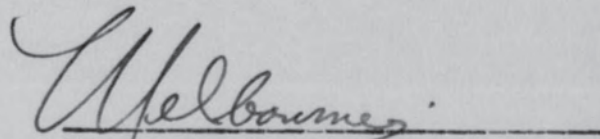
I am looking forward to my visit in Cleveland on February 17th. I shall arrive there sometime Sunday morning and will go direct to the Park Lane Villa where I presume I am to stay. If possible I will try to attend the service on Sunday morning.

I fail to send you a topic of my address because I have not been able to determine what title to give to it. I am sure the title would make no difference.

I plan to remain in Cleveland over Monday in order to acquaint myself with as much of the system as is possible in one day. Perhaps we can spend some time together on that Monday.

With kindest greetings to Mrs. Silver and yourself, I am

Cordially,


Rabbi Melbourne Harris

MH:r

CONGREGATION ANSHAI EMETH
MONROE AND HANCOCK STREETS
PEORIA, ILLINOIS

RABBI MELBOURNE HARRIS
RABBI

Feb. 13, 1935

Rev. Ralph Walker
The Euclid Avenue Baptist Church
East 18th Street at Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Reverend Walker:

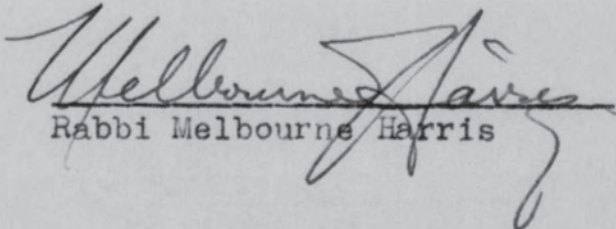
I appreciate beyond words your cordial letter of welcome on the occasion of my election to the Temple in Cleveland. I am elated over the honor which has been bestowed upon me to be associated with Rabbi Silver. I look forward to a stimulating ministry in Cleveland.

Although I donot begin my duties with the Temple until August 1st, it shall be a pleasure to make your friendship as soon after arrival as possible.

Thanking you once again for your warm message,

I am

Sincerely,


Rabbi Melbourne Harris

MH:r

THE EUCLID AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

East Eighteenth Street at Euclid Avenue

CLEVELAND, OHIO

»«

REV. RALPH WALKER D. D.
PASTOR

February 19, 1935.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Just a line of cordial greeting with the enclosure -
Rabbi Harris' letter which pleases me greatly.

It was a pleasure to see you for that brief moment
at Dr. High's lecture. I thought you looked buoyant and vigorous.
May God bless you and Mrs. Silver and your assistants in your
life and work.

Heartily and sincerely yours,

Ralph Walker

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