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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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Union of American Hebrew Congregations, 1934-1935.

# THE UNION TOUR

THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE • NATIONAL FEDERATION  
OF TEMPLE SISTERHOODS • NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE BROTHERHOODS

THE SIXTH ANNUAL TOUR OF THE CONGREGATIONS OF THE UNION

LUDWIG VOGELSTEIN, *Honorary Chairman*

## TOUR COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN: DAVID A. BROWN, *Chairman Board of Finance*

### VICE-CHAIRMEN:

DR. G. GEORGE FOX  
*President Alumni Association, H. U. C.*

SAMUEL B. FINKEL  
*President N. F. T. B.*

MRS. MAURICE STEINFELD  
*President N. F. T. S.*

RABBI WM. F. ROSENBLUM  
*Chairman Alumni Tour Committee.*

GEORGE ZEPIN, *Secretary*

MERCHANTS BUILDING, CINCINNATI

October 11, 1934.

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

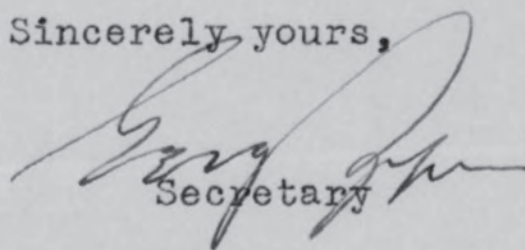
Dear Dr. Silver:

The Tour is upon us and we are busy with arrangements for meetings in the various congregations.

As the Tour speakers in your congregation we would like to send you Mr. Robert P. Goldman of Cincinnati, Chairman of the Budget Committee of the Union, together with Rabbi James G. Heller. Please let me know if this is agreeable to you. I would also like to have one or two dates that would be acceptable. On receipt of word from you I will communicate with Rabbi Heller and Mr. Goldman and endeavor to complete arrangements for the meeting.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

  
Secretary

GZ:RM

*A* TOUR of the Congregations is conducted each year by the Union. • Volunteer spokesmen for the cause of Judaism are assigned to speak on the work and function of the Union. • Rabbis, laymen, and lay women from all parts of the country are enlisted in this service • • •



October 23, 1934.

Rabbi George Zeppin, Secretary,  
The Union Tour,  
Union of American Hebrew Congregations,  
Merchants Building,  
Cincinnati, Ohio.

My dear Rabbi Zeppin:

In reply to your letter of October 11th, permit me to say that we shall be very pleased to have Rabbi James G. Heller and Mr. Robert P. Goldman occupy The Temple pulpit in behalf of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. The only date I have open is Sunday, December 2nd.

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK



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*Chairman Alumni Tour Committee.*

GEORGE ZEPIN, *Secretary*

MERCHANTS BUILDING, CINCINNATI

November 1, 1934.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I have delayed replying to your letter of October 23rd because a few other meetings hinged on the acceptance of the date which you were kind enough to let us have for the Tour Meeting in your congregation.

I can now say that we have arranged with Rabbi Heller to address your congregation on behalf of the Union, on December 2nd.

It just happens that Mr. Robert Goldman has an engagement in another city on December 2nd and will not be able to come.

May I ask you to be good enough to invite Rabbi Heller formally.

Very sincerely yours,

*George Zepin*  
Secretary.

GZ/mh

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\*Since the 1934 Tour was organized, Mr. Vogelstein and Mrs. Steinfeld have passed away.



# COMMISSION ON JEWISH EDUCATION

DAVID PHILIPSON, Cincinnati,  
Chairman

BARNETT R. BRICKNER, Cleveland  
EDWARD N. CALISCH, Richmond  
HENRY ENGLANDER, Cincinnati  
SOLOMON A. FINEBERG, Mt. Vernon  
SOLOMON FOSTER, Newark  
LEON FRAM, Detroit  
SOLOMON B. FREEHOF, Chicago  
ISER L. FREUND, Goldsboro, N. C.  
SAMUEL H. GOLDENSON, New York  
GERSON B. LEVI, Chicago  
SAMUEL H. MARKOWITZ, Ft. Wayne  
DAVID MARK, Atlanta  
JULIAN MORGENSTERN, Cincinnati  
JOSEPH RAUCH, Louisville  
VICTOR E. REICHERT, Cincinnati  
WILLIAM ROSENAU, Baltimore  
SAMUEL SCHULMAN, New York  
ABBA H. SILVER, Cleveland  
ABRAM SIMON, Washington  
LOUIS WOLSEY, Philadelphia  
GEORGE ZEPIN, Cincinnati,  
Secretary

## CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES

### Authors

DAVID PHILIPSON

### Elementary Education

WILLIAM ROSENAU

### Youth Education

SAMUEL SCHULMAN

### Adult and University Education

H. G. ENELOW

### Teacher Training

ABRAM SIMON

### Pre-School Education and Home Training

LEON FRAM

GEORGE ZEPIN

Director

Synagogue and School Extension

LOUIS I. EGELSON

Assistant Director

Synagogue and School Extension

EMANUEL GAMORAN

Educational Director

HARRY L. COMINS

Director, Youth Activities

JOINT AUSPICES

THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS  
AND THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS

MERCHANTS BUILDING, CINCINNATI, O.

November  
Fourteenth  
1934

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

According to our usual custom,  
we are sending to the members of the Commission  
on Jewish Education, complimentary copy of our  
newest publication, "Arts-Crafts for the  
Jewish Club," by Dr. Harry L. Comins and  
Reuben Leaf.

This book is the first of its  
kind devoted exclusively to the use of Jewish  
motifs in Arts and Crafts.

With kind greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,

*George Zepin*

Director

DEPARTMENT OF SYNAGOGUE  
AND SCHOOL EXTENSION.

GZ:mh



# THE UNION TOUR

THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE • NATIONAL FEDERATION  
OF TEMPLE SISTERHOODS • NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE BROTHERHOODS

THE SIXTH ANNUAL TOUR OF THE CONGREGATIONS OF THE UNION

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SAMUEL B. FINKEL  
*President N. F. T. B.*

\*MRS. MAURICE STEINFELD  
*President N. F. T. S.*

RABBI WM. F. ROSENBLUM  
*Chairman Alumni Tour Committee.*

GEORGE ZEPIN, *Secretary*

MERCHANTS BUILDING, CINCINNATI

November 21, 1934.

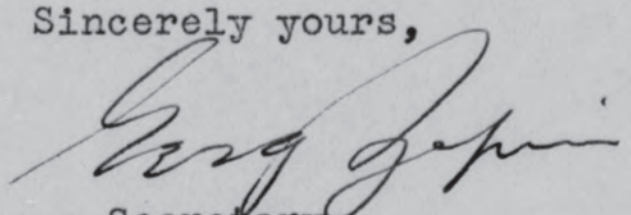
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,  
The Temple,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

In accordance with your wire  
of October 19th, December 2nd is the date  
set for Rabbi Heller's visit to your con-  
gregation.

Hoping that your Tour meeting  
will prove stimulating, with cordial greet-  
ings, I am,

Sincerely yours,

  
Secretary

GZ:SG

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# The Union Tour

## ASSIGNMENT SHEET



*City where Meeting is to be held*

Cleveland, Ohio (Tifereth Israel)

*President* \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. Eugene E. Wolf

*Address* \_\_\_\_\_ 336 Engineers Bldg.

*Date of Meeting*

December 2, 1934

### SPEAKER ASSIGNED

NAME

ADDRESS

Rabbi James G. Heller

3557 Alaska Ave  
Cincinnati, O.



# COMMISSION ON JEWISH EDUCATION

DAVID PHILIPSON, Cincinnati,  
*Chairman*

BARNETT R. BRICKNER, Cleveland  
EDWARD N. CALISCH, Richmond  
H. G. ENELOW, New York  
HENRY ENGLANDER, Cincinnati  
SOLOMON A. FINEBERG, Mt. Vernon  
SOLOMON FOSTER, Newark  
LEON FRAM, Detroit  
ISER L. FREUND, Goldsboro, N. C.  
SAMUEL H. GOLDENSON, New York  
GERSON B. LEVI, Chicago  
DAVID MARX, Atlanta  
JULIAN MORGENSTERN, Cincinnati  
JOSEPH RAUCH, Louisville  
VICTOR E. REICHERT, Cincinnati  
WILLIAM ROSENAU, Baltimore  
SAMUEL SCHULMAN, New York  
ABBA H. SILVER, Cleveland  
ABRAM SIMON, Washington  
LOUIS WOLSEY, Philadelphia  
GEORGE ZEPIN, Cincinnati,  
*Secretary*

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SAMUEL SCHULMAN  
*Adult and University Education*  
H. G. ENELOW  
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ABRAM SIMON  
*Pre-School Education and Home Training*  
LEON FRAM

GEORGE ZEPIN  
*Director*  
*Synagogue and School Extension*  
LOUIS I. EGELSON  
*Assistant Director*  
*Synagogue and School Extension*  
EMANUEL GAMORAN  
*Educational Director*  
HARRY L. COMINS  
*Director, Youth Activities*

JOINT AUSPICES

THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS  
AND THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS  
MERCHANTS BUILDING, CINCINNATI, O.

December  
Seventh  
1934

Dr. Abba H. Silver  
E. 105th at Ansel Rd.,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

According to our usual custom, we are sending to the members of the Commission on Jewish Education, a complimentary copy of "The Rise and Destiny of the German Jew" by Dr. Jacob R. Marcus.

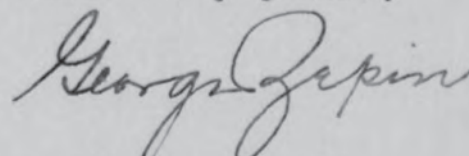
Because this book has propaganda value, it was priced low at \$2.00.

It has been suggested to us that perhaps the Sisterhoods and Brotherhoods in each city would purchase a quantity of these books for distribution among key people in each community. Would you take up this matter with your own congregational organization?

We hope that you will also take occasion to speak on this book from your pulpit and recommend it to your congregation.

With kind greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,



Secretary

GZ:DWA



# FIRST REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE

*auspices*

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION OF THE  
CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF  
AMERICAN RABBIS

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION OF THE  
UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW  
CONGREGATIONS

General Theme

**"The Synagogue and the Social Crisis."**

HEADQUARTERS  
3 EAST 65TH STREET  
NEW YORK CITY  
Tel. REgent 4-1741

December 13, 1934

Dear Friend:

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION  
OF THE UNION OF AMERICAN  
HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

Robert P. Goldman, *Chairman*  
Marcus Aaron  
Joseph J. Greenberg  
Rabbi James G. Heller  
Simon Lazarus  
Dr. David Lefkowitz  
Roscoe C. Nelson  
Arthur Hays Sulzberger

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION  
OF THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE  
OF AMERICAN RABBIS

Dr. Sidney E. Goldstein, *Chairman*  
Rabbi Solomon Bazell  
Rabbi Henry J. Berkowitz  
Dr. Philip D. Bookstaber  
Dr. Moses Bittenwieser  
Dr. Rudolph I. Coffee  
Dr. Abraham Cronbach  
Dr. Harry W. Ettelson  
Rabbi Morris M. Feuerlicht  
Dr. G. George Fox  
Dr. Ephraim Frisch  
Rabbi Abraham Holtzberg  
Rabbi Edward L. Israel  
Rabbi Ferdinand M. Isserman  
Rabbi Emil W. Leipziger  
Dr. Louis L. Mann  
Rabbi Marius Ranson  
Rabbi William F. Rosenblum  
Rabbi Leonard J. Rothstein  
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

The first Regional Conference on Social Justice will be held in the City of New York, Saturday evening, January 26th and Sunday, January 27th, 1935, under the auspices of the Social Justice Commissions of the U.A.H.C. and of the C.C.A.R.

The chief purpose of the Conference is to discuss what program the Synagogue should develop in the present social emergency. The Synagogue must translate into present day language the teachings and ideals of Israel and must take a positive stand on the maintenance of the present or the establishment of a new social order. How can the Synagogue establish itself not only as a House of Worship and as a Place of Instruction, but also as a Religious Center for Social Justice? This is the question we are to consider at the Conference and out of our deliberations we believe will come a concrete program for the Congregations.

We are calling the Conference primarily for the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the Congregations, the Sisterhoods and the Brotherhoods. If, however, it is not possible for these officers to attend, we trust you will appoint two alternates to represent your Organization. In addition to the delegates, we shall be happy to welcome other interested members. Kindly return the enclosed delegate blank as soon as possible.

You will receive additional information and a copy of the program at a later date.

Yours very sincerely,

*Sidney E. Goldstein*  
*Robert P. Goldman*  
Co-Chairmen

THE SYNAGOGUE — A RELIGIOUS CENTER FOR SOCIAL ACTION.



LIST OF APPOINTED  
DELEGATES, ALTERNATES AND VISITORS

City \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE

To the Secretary of  
THE FIRST REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE  
3 East 65th Street, New York City

The following have been designated to represent

Name of Organization \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

to the First Regional Conference on Social Justice to be held in  
New York January 26 and 27, 1935.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of Organization

Full name and address in each case

A. Delegates

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

B. Alternates

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

C. Visitors

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
4. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
5. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
6. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
7. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
8. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
9. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
10. \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

For full details see other side.



Regulations for the Appointments  
Delegates, Alternates and Visitors

Proportional Representation

Number of Delegates	Every congregation shall appoint two delegates. Every sisterhood shall appoint two delegates. Every brotherhood shall appoint two delegates.
Alternates	Every organization shall appoint two alternates who will be considered as visitors unless they are accredited delegates.
Visitors	Each organization shall be entitled to send an unlimited number of visitors.
Ex-Officio Delegates	Every Rabbi of a congregation affiliated with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, every member of a national board of the Union, every member of the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, every member of the National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods, residing in the states participating in this Conference and every member of the Social Justice Commissions of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and of the Central Conference of American Rabbis shall be ex-officio delegates. These, however, shall not diminish the number of delegates to which each unit is entitled.
Voting	Only accredited delegates will be permitted to vote but everyone will be entitled to participate in the discussions.
Luncheon Fee	There will be a nominal fee to cover the cost of the luncheon on Sunday. Only delegates and visitors who will attend this luncheon will be charged this fee.



The attached Call Letter with the enclosed delegate blank for the first Regional Conference on Social Justice has been sent to the presidents of congregations affiliated with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, to the presidents of sisterhoods affiliated with the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, and to the presidents of brotherhoods affiliated with the National Federation of Temple Brotherhoods, in the states of Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Massachusetts, Maryland, New York, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

YOU ARE AN EX-OFFICIO DELEGATE  
AND WE ARE COUNTING ON YOUR CO-  
OPERATION.



MORRIS S. LAZARON  
1914 MADISON AVENUE  
BALTIMORE, MD.

December 14, 1934.

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

Dear Abba:

I am sending you, in the strictest confidence, copy of a personal statement I made on Tuesday in Cincinnati before the Board of Managers of the Union before retiring. My term is up and I felt it was necessary to state my mind frankly. This is for your own information. The statement was made a matter of record and I hope will result in some good.

Again, let me beg you to please hold this in absolute confidence.

Faithfully,

*M. S. Lazaron*



December 11, 1934.

To the Chairman and Board of Managers of the  
Department of Synagogue and School Extension:

Gentlemen:

This is not a report of the sub-committee of which I happen to be chairman. It is a personal statement I am constrained to make before retiring from this Board. Your sub-committee was called together several times. Considerable correspondence passed between its members. At the last meeting no conclusion was reached. It has been impossible, therefore, to present a committee report on the work we were asked to do. In justice, however, to the organization which elected me to the Board of Managers and because of the many hours of earnest thought and study I have given to the subject and most of all because I desire to see the liberal Jewish movement mobilized and marching on to greater accomplishments, because of these things I make this statement.

It is not easy to say some of the things that must be said. I do not want to hurt any one's feelings. I hesitated a long time, indeed, until the last minute to put pen to paper, and yet the situation demands frank discussion. It is hardly necessary for me to say that I have no personal ax to grind; my life has been unusually blessed in the recognition of my fellow Jews for which I am humbly grateful. I cannot leave this Board, however, without giving expression to the convictions, right or wrong, which have come to me during a two-year service on the Board of Managers.

When I took the chairmanship of this sub-committee, on analysis and appraisal of the set-up and working of the Department, someone said to me: At least two other committees have studied the situation and have gotten nowhere. This was prophetic of my own experience. As I look back, I ask why? Why has nothing been done with investigation after investigation? Why do the Board of Managers and the Union still find themselves without that enthusiastic support which this great representative body of liberal American Jewry needs and deserves? Why do the Department and the Union still fight a heart-breaking battle for cooperation and financial support?

With the keenest regret I have come to the conclusion that the answer lay with the official and lay management. The conviction has been forced upon me that the present official and lay management believe sincerely that the present set-up is the best that can be arranged under the circumstances, and that they are opposed to any change whatsoever. It is for this reason that other investigations have been fruitless; for the same reason our sub-committee work has availed nothing.

Perhaps one cause for this is that the Board of Managers of the Department of Synagogue and School Extension has not taken the intimate, personal interest in the work of the Department; we have not given it sufficient time; we have perhaps shifted the responsibility to the few lay members who live here and to the executive group. It is easy, however, under such ~~stagnant~~ conditions for men, no matter how well-intentioned, to fall into a rut. I am convinced that what we need is an entirely new approach to our organization and program.

How does the Board work now?

Under our present system reports of the Director are uniformly approved, often without comment. Few questions are asked and frequently no suggestions offered, because the average member is without knowledge as to the detailed operation of the Department. It is often a waste of personal time and Union money to attend meetings as approval of reports is most often purely formal procedure.

At the last meeting of the Board of Managers, a report of the Budget Committee



was presented by a member who saw it for the first time when he read it. I favor some policy which will enable the members of the Board to work and shall move them to think about our problems.

Although it has been stated that under the present organization of the Department there is no over-lapping and our set-up is excellent, and some earnestly believe this, this is not my opinion in the matter.

One secretary concerns himself in part with the question of dues. This is unquestionably within the province of the Comptroller's department. Again, the Executive Director feels it necessary that he intimately survey every manuscript presented for publication. I am cognizant of the reasons advanced for this particular situation. Yet I do not believe, right or wrong, that the explanation offered is valid.

Since its establishment, the Department work has grown enormously. Its functions have been multiplied. Almost every new undertaking of the Union was put under the supervision of the Department, until today we find the Department must assume responsibility for a mass of unrelated activities beyond the purview of the Department. We have now reached the point where instead of doing the propaganda work contemplated by the founders, we have got to do propaganda work among our own members in order to hold them. We have devoted time to so many things that we have estranged or lost the interest of our constituent congregations. Contributions have fallen so low that drastic steps are necessary in order to meet a crucial situation.

Has the time not come to select some few activities that the Department shall undertake and work intensively on these? At the present time there is great and widespread activity but the spread is too thin. The gradual assumption during the years of one activity after another has consumed the resources and the energies of the Department and its personnel. We realize it is hard to cut out good work, but we must appraise our obligations, choose the most essential and do them well. What we need now is intention, not extension.

I am under the definite impression that while good work is being done, better work can be done. Too much time is spent by the officials in the office and not enough time in the field. I ask myself this question: Even with the limited budget at our disposal, are we getting returns commensurate with the monies expended? I am told that the organization of the Northeast Conference was opposed by the office with the argument, right or wrong, that they should be concentrated in a central office and that to set up a district with an office in New York might tend to create a rival organization. I know that in ~~this~~ a great undertaking like ours, there must be coordination. At the same time, there is such a thing as over-centralization. What happened? The Northeast Conference was organized and its budget is approximately \$10,000, out of which comes the salary of the Regional Rabbi. Active and excellent work is being done (see report) on a very small outlay. On the other hand, and again let me please emphasize that there is nothing personal in my criticisms, a Bureau of Synagogue Activities was set up with a budget of some \$8,000 to \$9,000. I may be wrong, but my impression is that the large sum spent in this way - and I do not question that the work is good - is an example of how we are pouring out money without adequate return. I believe this sum can be spent better in other ways.

It is impossible adequately to appraise our problems as the Board of Managers, without considering the situation, is the Union itself. It may be better to abolish the Board of Managers and set up a series of small committees under the Board of the Union, not necessarily composed of members of the Board; these committees to have supervision and control over the various functions at present managed by the Board



of Managers. Certainly it is necessary to maintain an Executive Secretary who should coordinate and supervise all of its activities, but it is not necessary that the Executive Secretary concern himself with the intimate details of all departments, when he might be in the field, making friends ~~for~~ and supporters for the Union.

The most successful work of our Board has been in the educational field. Unquestionably we have done an excellent job in the creation of educational literature. Why? Because the job was definite and limited. The same method should be applied to all our work. We should choose one particular job in addition to the educational work and concentrate on it. To me, there is no more important task than propaganda, organization of new congregations, field work. A great deal of the time that is taken up now in the office with matters which may or may not be extremely important might be eliminated and all our energies concentrated in the field. The success of the present regional work certainly points the way.

The vast communities on the eastern seaboard and the larger cities of the middle west, with their thousands of unaffiliated, cry out to us, challenge us. This is the primary work of the Union, but little attempt has been made to tackle the problem on a program basis. With the unlimited field, the Union has made little progress in twenty years and our membership of some 50 - 60,000 in the United States certainly does not represent potential strength of Reform Judaism here. I am convinced that the time has come for us members to de-limit our work to two fields:

1. Education
2. Propaganda and organization of congregations.

I believe everything else should be subsidiary to these two functions, and that our reorganized set-up should be directed toward these ends. I earnestly hope that at this meeting the Board of Managers will authorize our Executive Secretary to study the question from this particular angle and present at the next meeting of the Board of Managers a program along these lines.

One final thought and that is this: The Union needs the dynamic of some great personality or personalities. Is it too much to expect that the Executive Secretary, who coordinates all of the work of the Union, can at the same time be out in the field? If it is, then someone else should be constantly in the field. If Reform Judaism is to be vital and alive, it is essential that our communities must be constantly stimulated by personal contacts. At the present time we have no such stimulus. The November Tour, finely conceived as it is, has apparently lost its power to move our constituency. The Union therefore must go out and beg. It is unconscionable that our great organization, representing liberal Judaism in America, should have to go on its knees and beg support from individuals and communities. At the present time, it is dying on its feet. Certainly there is enough unselfishness and wisdom and vision among us to give it new life! I believe we can revive enthusiasm for Reform Judaism in America. I believe we can put the Union on a firm foundation.

I suggest some recommendation from this Board to the Board of the Union that in facing the new situation caused by the death of the beloved Ludwig Vogelstein, these matters be given the most earnest consideration. Perhaps we need some ~~some~~ ~~salari~~ed official at the head of the Union, such as the Federal Council has, whose job it will be to go from one end of the land to the other making friends for the Union, meeting the key people in the various cities, telling the story of the Union and offering that new dynamic which only shall put the liberal Judaism of America on its feet. Failing this, perhaps it would be helpful to draft some of our inspired



leaders, lay and rabbinical, and for a period of some months have them devote themselves exclusively to Union work. My friends, we are tired but in this job we cannot give way to weariness. We have a holy task to perform; I, for one, believe it can be done!

In conclusion, let me say that I leave this Board with regret. I feel it has been a privilege to have participated these two years in this work. My earnest prayer is that the spirit of devotion and unselfishness may prompt us all to rise to the responsibilities which are ours, and to promote the cause of liberal Judaism in America more adequately and with such intelligent and aggressive a program as shall lift the Union to the position of importance which was the dream of its sainted founder, Isaac M. Wise, and which it so richly deserves.

Morris S. Lazaron.

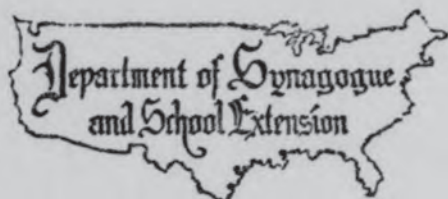




DEPARTMENT OF SYNAGOGUE AND SCHOOL EXTENSION  
UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

MERCHANTS BUILDING  
CINCINNATI, OHIO

December  
Twenty-fourth  
1 9 3 4



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Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,  
10311 Lake Shore Blvd.,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I know that you have received a copy of Dr. Marcus' book which we published, "The Rise and Destiny of the German Jew." We would appreciate it very much if you would be good enough to review the book in THE JEWISH DAILY BULLETIN.

We have received some unusually fine comments on it from men like Reinhold Niebuhr and Hans Kohn. We are now waiting for some reviews to appear in the secular periodicals. We would be greatly pleased if you could see your way clear to reviewing the book in THE JEWISH DAILY BULLETIN which has a large circulation. I need not disguise from you the fact that we are anxious to secure as large a distribution for this book as possible.

We have already sold 1000 copies of the book since it appeared on December 5th. This large sale is due to the fact that the B'nai B'rith has purchased 500 copies for distribution and the American Jewish Committee 150 copies for similar purpose.

With kindest regards and very best wishes and trusting that I may have your affirmative reply, I am

Cordially yours,

*Louis I. Egelson*  
Assistant Director

LE:RM

P. S. I have often wondered whether you found the time to prepare for us a tract on the Messianic Ideal which you had promised. I was not urgent about this hitherto because we had no money for more than one tract a year during the past few years. We are hopeful, however, that we may be able to resume a program of two tracts annually during the next year.

L. E.



## I M P O R T A N T

The number of luncheon reservations is limited to 200. It is therefore necessary to return the card at once as accomodations will be made in the order received.

Dr. Stephen S. Wise will speak intimately at the Luncheon on the role which the Synagogue should play in the formulation of a Social Justice Program.



# FIRST REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE

*auspices*

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION OF THE  
CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF  
AMERICAN RABBIS

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION OF THE  
UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW  
CONGREGATIONS

General Theme

*"The Synagogue and the Social Crisis."*

## HEADQUARTERS

3 EAST 65TH STREET  
NEW YORK CITY  
Tel. REgent 4-1741

January 17, 1935

Dear Friend:

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SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION  
OF THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE  
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Rabbi Emil W. Leipziger  
Dr. Louis L. Mann  
Rabbi Marius Ranson  
Rabbi William F. Rosenblum  
Rabbi Leonard J. Rothstein  
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

In connection with the First Regional Conference on Social Justice in New York, on January 26th and 27th, we take pleasure in sending you the following:

### 1. CREDENTIAL CARD

Kindly return the upper portion of the double card informing us whether we may expect you at the Noon-day luncheon on Sunday, January 27th. Dr. Stephen S. Wise will be the principal speaker at the luncheon. Please retain the lower section and present it at the time of registration.

### 2. OUTLINE TENTATIVE PROGRAM

Well known speakers with social vision are scheduled to deliver the main addresses.

The program is based upon the report of the Social Justice Commission of the C.C.A.R. Yearbook 1934, volume 44, page 97. We suggest that you become acquainted with its contents before attending the Meeting.

Living in an age of social change, this Conference will afford an opportunity to determine the part which the Synagogue should contribute to the making of the New Social Order. We hope that you will be able to attend.

With cordial greetings, I remain

Sincerely yours,

*Gustave Falk*

Secretary



P R O G R A M

---

FIRST REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE  
January 26th and 27th, 1935  
New York City

---

Saturday Evening Session  
January 26th, 8:00 - 10:00 o'clock  
Community House of Congregation Emanu-El, 1 East 65th Street

R E G I S T R A T I O N

"THE SYNAGOGUE AND THE SOCIAL CRISIS"

Chairman - Simon Sobeloff, Har Sinai Temple, Baltimore, Md.

Invocation - Dr. Ephraim Frisch, Congregation Beth-El,  
San Antonio, Texas

THE SOCIAL JUSTICE PROGRAM OF THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN  
RABBIS

Dr. Sidney E. Goldstein, Free Synagogue, New York City

THE SYNAGOGUE AND THE SOCIAL EMERGENCY  
Simon Sobeloff, Baltimore, Md.

JUDAISM, COMMUNISM AND FASCISM  
Judge Joseph G. Shapiro, Congregation B'nai Israel,  
Bridgeport, Conn.

D I S C U S S I O N

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

Sunday Morning Session  
January 27th, 9:30-11:00 o'clock  
Auditorium - Free Synagogue House, 40 West 68th Street

R E G I S T R A T I O N

"THE SYNAGOGUE AND THE SOCIAL ADVANCE"

Chairman - Max L. Schallek, Central Synagogue, New York City

WHAT CAN THE CONGREGATIONS DO TO ADVANCE THE SOCIAL PROGRAM?  
Max L. Schallek, New York City

WHAT CAN THE SISTERHOODS DO TO ADVANCE THE SOCIAL PROGRAM?  
Mrs. Albert J. May, Central Synagogue, New York City

WHAT CAN THE BROTHERHOODS DO TO ADVANCE THE SOCIAL PROGRAM?  
Honorable Samuel B. Finkel, Temple Israel, Boston, Mass.

D I S C U S S I O N

\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*



Sunday Morning Services 11:00 - 12:30 o'clock

"THE SYNAGOGUE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE"

Congregation Emanu-El, 1 East 65th Street

Lecture by Dr. Ephraim Frisch, San Antonio, Texas

Temple Rodeph Sholom, 7 West 83rd Street

Lecture by Dr. Louis I. Newman

Free Synagogue, Carnegie Hall, 57th Street and 7th Avenue

Lecture by Dr. Stephen S. Wise

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

Sunday Noon-day Luncheon

1:00 - 2:30 o'clock

Auditorium - Free Synagogue House, 40 West 68th Street

Words of Welcome - Joseph M. Levine, Free Synagogue, New York City

Address - Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Free Synagogue, New York City

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

Sunday Afternoon Session

2:30-6:00 o'clock

Auditorium - Free Synagogue House, 40 West 68th Street

"THE SYNAGOGUE AND SOCIAL ACTION"

Chairman - Judge Samuel J. Harris, Temple Beth Zion, Buffalo, N.Y.

THE SYNAGOGUE AND THE ECONOMIC ORDER

Lewis Fox, Congregation Beth Israel, Hartford, Conn.

THE PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT - I. Arnold Ross, Temple Israel,  
New York City

DISTRIBUTION OF THE NATIONAL INCOME - Max L. Stolz, Temple Society  
of Concord, Syracuse, N.Y.

THE SOCIALIZATION OF THE BASIC ENTERPRISES

Jacob S. Manheimer, Temple Rodeph Sholom, New York City

THE SYNAGOGUE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE

Frederick Guggenheimer, Free Synagogue, New York City

D I S C U S S I O N

Benediction - Dr. Jonah B. Wise, Central Synagogue, New York City



:: :: Detach and Mail to Conference Headquarters at Once :: ::

DELEGATE Ex-Officio

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## FIRST REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE

JANUARY 26th and 27th, 1935

in New York City

Name Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Representing Ex-Officio

City and State Cleveland, Ohio

I am herewith reserving \_\_\_\_\_ Sunday Luncheon(s) (\$1.25 per person)  
and shall pay for same at time of registration.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

(Detach here and Mail)

### IMPORTANT

Present only when registering but keep this card in  
your possession for the entire conference.

# CREDENTIAL CARD

This is to Certify that Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

is a Delegate ☐

Alternate ☐

Visitor ☐

**Ex-Officio**

to the **First Regional Conference on Social Justice**  
**Cleveland, Ohio**

Representing \_\_\_\_\_

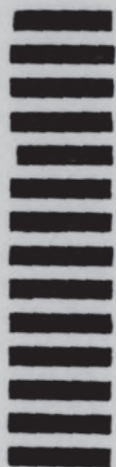
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**NEW YORK :: JANUARY 26th and 27th, 1935**

Addresses of Meeting Places on Reverse Side.





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3 EAST 65th STREET

First Regional Conference on Social Justice

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Saturday Evening Session, January 26th, at 8:30 o'clock  
Community House of Congregation Emanu-El, 1 East 65th Street

All Sessions on Sunday, January 27th  
Free Synagogue House, 40 West 68th Street



322 Central Park West  
New York, N.Y.  
January 18, 1935.

Dear Colleague:

We are enclosing herewith copy of a suggested statement by those Rabbis who desire to attach their signature.

Doubtless there has come to your attention a statement sent out recently by Rabbi Edward L. Israel, endorsing the Histadruth and the so-called Labor League. We believe that the statement we enclose is preferable to an endorsement of any party such as the Histadruth (and the Labor League.)

May we not invite you to sign this non-partisan statement, as being more in keeping with the realities of the Palestine situation and more helpful to the wise and statesmanlike development of its economic life?

We should like to express the hope that, in view of the implications of Rabbi Israel's statement endorsing the Histadruth, you may be prompted to withdraw your signature from his list, in the event that you have already signed it. But, under any circumstances, may we not look forward to your signature to the statement we enclose?

Sincerely yours,

LOUIS I. NEWMAN  
WM. F. ROSENBLUM  
SIDNEY S. TEDESCHKE  
J.X. COHEN  
HERBERT I. BLOOM  
JOHN J. TEPFER



## STATEMENT ON SOCIAL JUSTICE IN PALESTINE

We, the undersigned, appreciating the fundamental significance of economic factors in the upbuilding of the New Palestine, take this occasion to express the hope that steps be adopted to avoid the appearance in Eretz Yisrael of those errors which have tended towards confusion and distress in the economic life of other countries outside of Palestine.

As Rabbis we believe it our function and duty, irrespective of personal party affiliation, to hold forth the historic ideal of social justice as the formative concept in the economic upbuilding of the New Palestine.

We commend to our colleagues, to our congregants and the community, the wisdom of affiliating with and aiding those agencies of economic counsel and cooperation, which, irrespective of party, are assisting in the mobilization of private and public funds for constructive economic purposes in the Yishub.

As Rabbis we urge upon the leaders of the Yishub and upon the Jewish Agency the importance of so guiding the Yishub in the relationship of capital and labor that the social health, tranquillity and progress of the land will thereby be promoted; to the end that the investment of new capital be utilized for the maximum benefits of the Yishub; that unwarranted speculation be avoided; that the scale of wages be just; that working and living conditions be steadily improved; that all classes in the economic life of the country cooperate in the upbuilding of the New Palestine in accordance with the highest concepts of Prophetic and Rabbinic tradition.

We recognize that no one party or group has a monopoly upon the fulfilment of these ideals of social justice. We urge that the various parties emphasize their points of common interest rather than of difference, (since any difference is minimal in character), and that all groups cooperate in the attainment of our essential objectives, namely, the purchase of the land, the entrance of an ever-larger immigration, and the development of the agricultural, commercial and industrial life of the New Palestine. Only through conciliation and cooperation can the Yishub be able to establish the secure foundations of a productive, a happy, a culturally and spiritually creative life in the New Palestine. As Rabbis we are prepared to lend our best efforts to the promotion of this spirit of good-will and cooperation between all groups and parties striving for the upbuilding of Eretz Yisrael.



January 28, 1935.

Dr. Louis I. Egelson,  
Department of Synagogue and School Extension,  
Merchants Bldg.,  
Cincinnati, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Egelson:

Please pardon the long delay in answering  
your kind letter of December 24. I have been away  
from the city a good deal of the time and my  
correspondence has lagged.

I would gladly write a review of Dr. Marcus'  
book, "The Rise and Destiny of the German Jew", for the  
Jewish Daily Bulletin but my editorials are not in the  
nature of book reviews. I have never written book  
reviews and I do not like to step into another role --  
so late in life. I might find an opportunity to refer  
to his book in some future editorial of mine.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

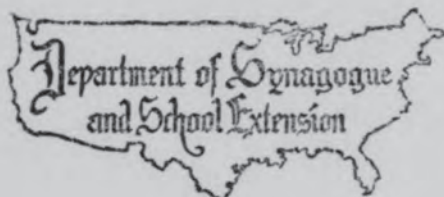
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# DEPARTMENT OF SYNAGOGUE AND SCHOOL EXTENSION

## UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

MERCHANTS BUILDING  
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January  
Thirty-first  
1 9 3 5

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Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,  
c/o The Temple,  
East 105th St. at Ansel Road,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I want to thank you very kindly for your letter of January 28th.

I really did miss your reply to my letter. I do understand, however, your disinclination to review the book. I had refrained asking the Jewish Daily Bulletin to review it otherwise because I was hopeful that you would undertake to do so. But if you refer to Dr. Marcus' book in one of your editorials I am sure that it would serve the purpose we have in mind.

There was one part of my letter that you did not answer. We do really want you some day soon to prepare a tract for us on the Messianic Ideal. We could use such a tract in a year or so if you would undertake to prepare it.

When I saw how you "doctored" me I could not help but soliloquize, *האם אנו יכולים להשיג את המשיח*. I have not yet completed my thesis on the history of the Exilarchate which I hope to finish some day for the College. When I do I will gladly accept the title that you so generously give me.

With cordial regards and very best wishes and hoping to see you at the Union Convention in Washington, I am

Cordially yours,

*Louis I. Egelson*

Assistant Director

LE:RM

XXXIV COUNCIL OF THE UNION  
Congregations - Sisterhoods - Brotherhoods  
MARCH 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 1935 - WASHINGTON, D. C.



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*Secretary, Board of Finance*  
32 West Sixth St.  
CINCINNATI

ARTHUR MEYEROWITZ  
*Field Secretary*  
3 East Sixty-fifth St.,  
NEW YORK

Mr. H. A. Levy, Ex. Secy.  
Tifereth Israel Congregation,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Levy:

Enclosed herewith is copy of a  
letter which I have just written Mr. E. E.  
Wolf.

If possible, we would like to mail  
the letters within the next two or three  
weeks.

Thanking you for your cooperation,  
and with cordial greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,

Secretary

GZ:BG

XXXIV COUNCIL OF THE UNION  
Congregations - Sisterhoods - Brotherhoods  
MARCH 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 1935 - WASHINGTON, D. C.



February 15, 1935

Mr. Eugene E. Wolf, President  
Tifereth Israel Congregation,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Wolf:

At about this time of the year your congregation is accustomed to make its annual solicitation for the Union. As always, we would appreciate it very much if you would assist us by sending out the letter of appeal over your signature.

Enclosed herewith is copy of a letter which recently went out over Mr. Roger W. Straus' signature to contributors in the New York district. Possibly you may wish to use a letter of this type this year.

You will note that the letter is to be addressed to last year's contributors only.

We will be glad to do all the clerical work in connection with the preparation of the letters. They can be typed here and your signature affixed. As is our custom, we will then send them in bulk to Cleveland to be placed in the mails.

Your cooperation in this regard will be deeply appreciated.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

GZ:BG

Secretary



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Secretary, Board of Finance  
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Field Secretary  
3 East Sixty-fifth St.,  
NEW YORK

## 282 Congregations

are joined in this Union of American Hebrew Congregations for the purpose of supporting the HEBREW UNION COLLEGE, the DEPARTMENT OF SYNAGOGUE AND SCHOOL EXTENSION, and various other religious projects that the Union from time to time espouses with the sanction and approval of its member congregations.



267

# BOARD OF FINANCE

UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

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OFFICE OF ZONE CHAIRMAN FOR NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY

ROGER W. STRAUS • 3 EAST 65th STREET • NEW YORK

February 4, 1935

It would be most encouraging for our work if you could see your way clear to make your usual check for the support of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations as early as possible this year.

Other types of activity may require larger aggregate amounts because of the volume of relief needed. However, from the point of view of our survival as Jews - the Union is equal in value to any organization that we support.

I can assure you that your support is essential to the carrying forward of our work which I believe is done as effectively and economically as possible.

With all kind regards,

Sincerely,

Roger W. Straus  
Chairman

RWS:MS



# Euclid Avenue Temple

EUCLID AT EAST EIGHTY-SECOND ST.

Cleveland

BARNETT R. BRICKNER  
RABBI

March 13, 1935

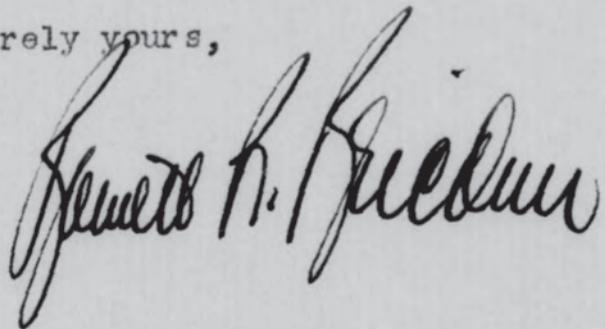
Rabbi A.H. Silver  
The Temple  
Ansel Road at East 105th Street  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

It has occurred to me that because of the turn of world affairs touching Jewish life, it might be possible to get the delegates at the Biennial Conference of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations to adopt a resolution on Palestine. I am therefore submitting for your consideration the resolution enclosed herewith.

Will you be good enough to indicate to me whether you would be willing to sign such a resolution and support it, and also whether you think it is feasible?

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Barnett R. Brickner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Barnett" being more prominent and the last name "Brickner" following in a similar style. There is a small mark above the "i" in "Brickner".

BRB:FS  
enc.



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Mr. John Smith  
32 W. Sixth St.,  
Cincinnati, Ohio.

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*Incorporated in 1873 to promote Judaism in America*

32 W. SIXTH ST. CINCINNATI, O.

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*For renewal of your contribution for 1935*



50. 00

This reminder that your subscription is again due and payable does not imply obligation to renew, but we earnestly hope for your continued support of the Cause of Liberal Judaism.

"We intend to continue our labors for the preservation in America of a type of Judaism that will win the affectionate regard of American Jews."—DAVID A. BROWN, *Chairman, Board of Finance*



The Union of American Hebrew Congregations in council assembled expresses its satisfaction with the progress made by the Jewish Agency in the upbuilding of Palestine.

We see the hand of Providence in the opening of the gates of Palestine for the Jewish people at a time when a large portion of world Jewry is so desperately in need of a friendly shelter and a home where a spiritual, cultural center can be developed in accordance with the Prophetic Hebraic tradition.

The time has now come for all Jews, irrespective of ideological differences to unite in the activities leading to the establishment of a Jewish Homeland in Palestine, and we urge our constituency to give their financial and moral support to the work of rebuilding Eretz Yisroel.

We further feel it our duty to instill a sense of this obligation in our children and young people, and we urge the Commission on Jewish Education to prepare the proper teaching materials with this end in view.



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THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS  
AND THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS  
MERCHANTS BUILDING, CINCINNATI, O.

June  
Fifth  
19 35

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
E. 105th at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I take pleasure in enclosing herewith a copy of the report which I have prepared for the Committee on Adult Education, of which you are a member.

Will you be good enough to read it and to return it to me with your approval, indicating any changes, should you care to suggest any. We need the report in connection with the forthcoming meeting of the Commission on Jewish Education, which, as you know, is taking place on Monday, June 24th, in Chicago.

With kind personal greetings, I am

Very sincerely yours,

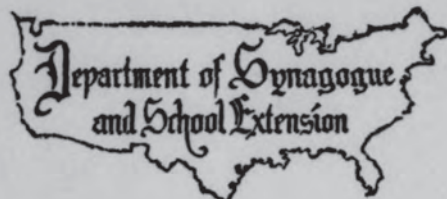
*Emanuel Gamoran*  
Educational Director

EG:RS

P. S. For your convenience, I am enclosing a return envelope.

E.G.





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UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

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**MERCHANTS BLDG. • CINCINNATI**

August  
Five  
1935

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
10311 Lake Shore Blvd.  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

This is my first opportunity to acknowledge the beautiful sentiments expressed by you as printed in the special edition of "The Informer."

Encomiums are usually earned by everyone during the course of his lifetime, but only the fortunate few actually receive them during their lifetime -- I am one of the happy fortunate few.

Again I thank you sincerely and trust that our Father in Heaven will reward you for your kindness and many courtesies by granting you many carefree and healthful years.

Sincerely yours,

PWJ:Jm