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Series I: General Correspondence, 1914-1969, undated. Sub-series A: Alphabetical, 1914-1965, undated.

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Union of American Hebrew Congregations, 1952-1953.



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October 24, 1952

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Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple-Tifereth Israel Cong.
E. 105th at Ansel Rd.
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Recently I wrote you a letter asking if you would be willing to participate in the exchange of pulpit commemorating the birthday of Isaac M. Wise.

As Chairman of this committee and as Chairman of the O.V.C. I am quite anxious that this program be carried out. I cannot do so without the cooperation of the rabbis and at least having them indicate to me whether or not they will participate in this program.

Having received no response to my previous request, may I ask that you give this matter your prompt attention.

An immediate reply will be appreciated.

Respectfully yours,

Lester A. Ottenheimer

October 30, 1952 Mr. Lester A. Ottenheimer Union of American Hebrew Congregations Ohio Valley Council P.O. Box 31 507 S. Walnut Street Muncie, Indiana My dear Mr. Ottenheimer: Thank you for your kind letter of October 24th. I regret that The Temple will not be able to participate this year in the exchange of pulpit program. With best wishes, I remain Most cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er

## TELEVISION PROGRAM, STATION WEWS

## NOVEMBER 20, 1952

## DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

ANNOUNCER: We are privileged to bring to you a fireside chat by one of our nation's most distinguished personalities, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, Rabbi of The Temple. On this program Dr. Silver will present an exposition of Reform Judaism, of which he is one of the country's leading exponents. Dr. Silver:

CAMERA ON DR. SILVER, SEATED, WITH SMALL TABLE NEARBY ON WHICH PICTURES LIE.

about the religious group with which I am affiliated. I do this on behalf of the Greater Cleveland Society of the Friends of Reform Judaism, which is part of a national movement devoted to the support of our eause. I am frequently interregated about Reform, or Liberal, Judaism, as it is sometimes called, and I am glad to tell you about it.

They say that one picture is worth a thousand words. I have some pictures with me here this evening which I will show you. First, let me say that the difference between Reform Judaism and other groups within Judaism is primarily one of emphasis. We place greater stress on doctrine than on form, on the ethical and spiritual teachings of the prophets and sages and Rabbis than we do on the ceremonial and ritualistic elements in our historic religion, Judaism. We are less bound by traditional authority, and we reserve the right to select from the practices and customs which have come down to us through the centuries those which we regard as extent meaningful and spiritually valuable and relevant to our day and age - and also to add and to reinterpret in the spirit of progress and newer insights.

Reform Judaism, which was begun in Germany in the early days of the 19th century, rapidly spread in the United States with the coming of the early German Jewish settlers to this country. Our two large Reform Jewish Temples in Cleveland are over 100 years old. Before long the Reform congregations of the United States and Union

Of American Hebrew Congregations, and American The first important institutes which the Union established was an academy for the training of Rabbis and spiritual leaders.

It was established in our own state of Ohio, and its guiding genius was an illustrious rabbi, Isaac Mayer Wise, of Cincinnati. The Hebrew Union College was founded in 1875 and is the oldest rabbinical seminary in the United States. Its first headquarters were extremely modest and were located in downtown Cincinnati. Here is a view of what it looked like in the days of the carriage and the horse-drawn trolley-cars.

## HOLDS UP PICTURE 1

As the College grew, it acquired a new site in Clifton Heights. It is now housed in five attractive buildings, including a Library - one of the most important Jewish libraries in the world - a famous Museum, as well as a dormitory for the students and a gymnasium building. From the halls of the College over 600 Rabbis have been graduated, and these graduages have carried the message of Judaism not only to hundreds of communities in the United States, but to other parts of the world: England, Canada, South Africa, Australia, Central America, and elsewhere. Here is an air view of the buildings and the grounds which exist today.

## HOLDS UP PICTURE 2

World-renowned scholars have taught there, with Hebrew Union College Press has published valuable scientific contributions to Jewish scholarship of members of the faculty and the Alumni, of the College. Recently Dr. Nelson Glueck, the present president of the Hebrew Union College, inaugurated a program of fellowship for Christian ministers to enable them to obtain authentic knowledge of Jews and Judaism at the College. Here in our next picture we see a group of such Christian graduate students, looking at an open scroll of the Toral - the five books of Moses.

## HOLDS UP PICTURE 3

The young man with the pointer is an instructor at the Hebrew Union College, from which he himself was graduated.

A few years ago another Rabbinic seminary for liberal Judaism was founded in the city of New York by the celebrated Dr. Stephen Wise. Recently that institution was merged with the Hebrew Union College to form one academy. The New York branch bears—
the name of the Jewish Institute of Religion. Here is a photograph showing the library of Mark branch. The Mark branch was founded in the city was founded in the cit

Here you see some of the students and you can also see a bust of Dr. Stephen Wise who founded the Institute.

Along with the training of Rabbis, the College also trains teachers for the religious schools of the Temples, and in 1909 a Teacher Institute was established at the College, and in 1923, the Hebrew Union College School for Teachers was organized in New York City, and the recently assented was opened in Los Angeles.

Reform Judaism, like other religious groups in our country, has provided chaplains to our armed forces in times of peace and war. In World War II one-half of all the Jewish Chaplains who served in the armed forces were graduates of the College and the Institute. Some of our Chaplains are at the moment in Korea. Here in this next photograph you see a typical front-line religious service conducted by a Reform Jewish Chaplain.

## HOLDS UP PICTURE 5

This picture was sent to the Union of American Hebrew Congregations from Korea.

Speaking further about our seminary, perhaps you would like to see a group of rabbinical students at the College. Here is a photo

## HOLDS UP PICTURE 6

taken in the lounge room of the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati. These young men are seen after dinner, relaxing a bit before getting down to homework. The lounge room is part of the dormitory built for the College and supported by the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, which is an auxiliary of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

leliated

Another institution properted by the combined campaign of Friends of Reform

Judaism is a School of Sacred Music. Here young men receive instruction in Jewish

liturgical music to equip them to serve as cantors and as directors of music at our

Reform temples.

## HOLDS UP PICTURE 7

Here is a group of cantors-to-be hrearsing one of the musical compositions crem the

The headquarters of American Reform Judaism are in New York City. Thanks to the generosity of the late Dr. Albert Berg and the Temple Sisterhoods, the national offices are now housed in a beautiful building on Fifth Avenue at East 65th Street. The building is known as the House of Living Judaism. In it are centered the manifold services which the national organization renders to the 450 liberal congregations affiliated with it. Within the last three years the Union was instrumental in organizing 60 new congregations. Here, the textbooks used by our religious schools are edited and produced. Here are the national headquarters of the national federations of Temple Sisterhoods, Brotherhoods and Youth Work. Here inter-faith projects are worked out on a national scale. In five years 30,000 Christian ministers, churchmen and Sunday School teachers have attended Institutes on Judaism sponsored by the Union and its affiliates.

Millions have read its Popular Studies in Judaism.

## HOLDS UP PICTURE 8

The voice of Reform Judaism is also heard through an official publication which emanates from the House of Living Judaism. It is this magazine

## HOLDS UP PICTURE 9

called American Judaism, which reaches every member of every affiliated Reform congregation in our country.

There you have some of the highlights of our movement, for the support of which we are now conducting a Campaign which will be inaugurated at a public meeting which to be held at The Temple, Ansel Road and East 105th Street, on Sunday evening, Novem-

ber 23rd, at 8 p.m. You are welcome to come to this meeting where more will be told to you about the extensive work and services of the College and the Union for the deepening and strengthening of our ancient faith. I hope that you will support this great efforts the content of the content of the college and the Union for the deepening and strengthening of our ancient faith. I hope that you will support this great

ANNOUNCER: You have just heard and seen Dr. Abba Hillel Silver of The Temple. Dr. Silver spoke to you on behalf of the Society of Friends of Reform Judaism of Greater Cleveland. This is Station WEWS.



November 25, 1952 Dr. and Mrs. C. G. LaRocco 19201 Van Aken Blvd. Cleveland 22, Ohio My dear Dr. and Mrs. LaRocco: I am indeed sorry to have missed your call this afternoon, and I want to express to you my profound appreciation for your very generous gift of \$100 to the Greater Cleveland Angual Maintenance Fund which supports the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, of which The Temple is a member, and the Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion, which trains young men for the rabbinate. Your interest in our work is deeply satisfying to me, and I hope that when you are in the neighborhood, you will again stop in to see me so that I may have the opportunity of meeting you both and of thanking you personally. With best wishes to you both, and again thanking you for your generosity, I am Most cordially yours. ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er

## Greater Cleveland Annual Maintenance Fund

1952-53 QUOTA \$100,000

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE . JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

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November 25, 1952

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My dear Rabbi:

The attached letter directed to one of our congregation is self-explanatory. Obviously a copy is being sent to you for the purpose of giving me a bit of help in connection with this important contribution for which I thank you kindly.

"Blibe Gezundt", and have a wonderful Thanksgiving Day.

Very sincerely yours.

Jack Rosenthal

JR:bz enc.

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November 25, 1952

Meyer Fine c/o Film Exchange Bldg. Payne Ave. & E. 24 St. Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Meyer:

This letter is being directed to you in the interest of the Combined Campaign of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Hebrew Union College, Jewish Institute of Religion.

Since speaking with you over the phone early last week and in the interim having attended the combined meeting of all temples at Mahler Hall, at which time I heard Mr. Louis Broido of New York present this case in a most clear and understandable manner, I decided that evening that I would direct a letter to you and shall attempt to outline the very pertinent needs in connection with this very worthwhile attempt to raise necessary funds.

Mr. Broido, who is a man of considerable stature in the field of business, has left his important position of Executive Vice-President of Gimbel Brothers, to visit cities in which sizable numbers of Meform Jews reside to acquaint us with this need of participating and effecting liberal contributions. This trip covers many major cities at a time when his business really needs him. The message as I interpret it has to do with paying off and refinancing indebtedness that covers the above organizations approximately \$500,000. Further, you have knowledge of the fact that costs for the operating of our parent organization have increased substantially and this takes increased funds. In addition to the above two facts, the desire, of course, is to continue this very worthwhile function on a basis that will give it strength for the future.

When I talked with you last week, you informed me that you were not going to participate in this needy cause and believe me, Meyer, I was very disappointed. With this thought in mind, I deemed it advisable to direct this letter to you in an effort to place before you this very important information in hopes that you would reconsider your decision by participating in this campaign in a manner that is becoming to you, one of our leading jewish citizens of Cleveland,

I thank you in advance for taking a second look, and in closing, take this opportunity of wishing you and your family a very pleasant Thanksgiving Day.

Very sincerely yours,

Jack Rosenthal

JR: bz

P. S. A pledge card is enclosed for your convenience. Kindly direct it to the attention of Mr. Leo Bamberger, The Temple.

Open Bester Star went

llor 25-52 From the desk of . . . My Lear Salts I Enclosed letter from allen Klivans is in Tryly to one from his - asking for Res Contribution Since Fary in he position to answer his Charges - Ithought leay be you lovels Care to do So -The only one that requised -- Frudert regarts Ata Kon

MIAMI BEACH, FLA. Wed My dear Meir. It was nice hearing from you but as outhered below - my record - here is one cause I will turn down again. (1) I turned it down likewie last (5) They spend \$1000,000 and over to year if they were de 10 per year in lost 6 years - thats 100 000 to graduate a Rabbi and men, of them do next earn in the fact - that owned in 25 years let alone the fact that many grin up the Robbinste in a few gens after apending 100,000 to make a Howa fast of H, U, C, isst over 300,000 a year to maintain! Why wit now that money and center all effort in Comments? He seewelt in question - my dereation does not matter to the HyU, C - the confrige orte aller Throws. However, Law an

extremist in my thinking and here is one!

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838 FIFTH AVENUE · NEW YORK 21, N. Y. · PHONE REGENT 7-8200

December 22, 1952

To the Presidents of Congregations Affiliated with the Union of American Hebrew Congregations

Dear Friend:

The Formal Call for the 42nd General Assembly of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, to meet in New York City, April 19-23, 1953, is contained herein.

The theme of the Convention will be

## THREE CENTURIES OF AMERICAN JUDAISM

since we are approaching the three hundredth anniversary of the settling of Jews in America.

In our own family, the year is also the

80th anniversary of the founding of the UAHC;

40th anniversary of the organization of the NFTS;

30th anniversary of the creation of our Commission on Jewish Education.

We shall take cognizance of these events in our Convention program through public meetings and through a number of workshops.

Our business sessions will consider a number of important subjects: the Dues Structure of the Union; the proper maintenance of the Union and the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion; the revision of our Constitution and By-Laws.

The National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, the National Federation of Temple Youth, and the National Association of Temple Secretaries will meet in New York at the same time and will be with us at our joint meetings.

Delegate blanks will be forwarded shortly to the Secretary of your Congregation. It is earnestly suggested that congregations select their delegates as early as possible so that we may inform the delegates about the subjects to be discussed at our Assembly through a series of bulletins that will be sent out in advance.

(see last page)

# THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

838 FIFTH AVE. . NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

December 15, 1952

To the Officers and Members
of All Congregations Belonging to
The Union of American Hebrew Congregations:

In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution and pursuant to action taken by the Administrative Committee of the Executive Board at a meeting held on March 2, 1952, notice is hereby given that the 42nd General Assembly of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations will convene in New York, on April 19-23, 1953 at the Hotel Commodore.

All Congregations are called upon to appoint delegates to the General Assembly in accordance with the regulations of the Constitution and By-Laws, as set forth on page three of this communication.

Attest:

Louis I. Egelson
Administrative Secretary



S. S. HOLLENDER
Chairman, Executive Board
MAURICE N. EISENDRATH
President

## PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING

Rabbis and Presidents of Congregations are not delegates unless appointed and included in the number to which the congregation is entitled.

Official Visitors may be appointed. They are entitled to all privileges except voting.

## LAWS OF

## THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

## PERTAINING TO MEETINGS OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## Excerpts from CONSTITUTION

## ARTICLE IV

#### GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- Section 1. The legislative body of the Union and its highest authority shall be the General Assembly, which shall be composed of representatives of congregations comprising the Union.
- Section 2. Each congregation in good standing shall be entitled to two delegates and to such additional representation in the General Assembly as the By-Laws may provide.
- Section 3. At the meetings of the General Assembly, each delegate or his alternate shall be entitled to one vote.
- Section 4. The General Assembly shall elect its own officers.

## ARTICLE V

#### MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- Section 1. Regular meetings of the General Assembly shall be held biennially at such time and place as the General Assembly or the Executive Board may determine. Special meetings of the General Assembly may be called by the Chairman of the Executive Board of the Union and shall be called by him upon written request of the majority of all the members of the Executive Board or upon written request of fifty member congregations.
- Section 2. A quorum of the General Assembly shall exist if the registered delegates or their alternates represent at least one-third of all member congregations, and at least one hundred of the registered delegates or their alternates shall be present at the meeting.

#### **BY-LAWS**

### ARTICLE X

#### DUE

- Section 1. Each member congregation of the Union shall pay yearly into the treasury of the Union, either directly or through its individual members, an amount equal to \$3.00 per member. This shall be considered minimum dues and shall not preclude the raising of additional funds through individual subscriptions or other methods to meet the budgetary needs of the Union.
- Section 2. No member congregation shall be entitled to representation in the General Assembly unless it shall have paid the minimum dues prescribed herein for its total membership.
- Section 3. The minimum dues herein referred to shall be applicable only to such members as enjoy full membership privileges and shall not be applicable to associate, junior, or special members. Likewise, representation in the General Assembly shall be computed upon the basis of congregational members who enjoy full membership privileges, exclusive of associate, junior, or special members, unless the congregation shall elect to pay the minimum dues for such associate, junior, or special members.

## ARTICLE XIII

#### REPRESENTATION IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- Section 1. The representation of the member congregations in the General Assembly shall be based on the number of persons for whom the prescribed minimum dues are paid. Each member congregation in good standing shall be entitled to two delegates and to one additional delegate for each one hundred persons or major fraction thereof for whom the prescribed minimum dues are paid over and above the first one hundred.
- Section 2. Each congregation shall be entitled to an alternate for each delegate, who may exercise all the powers of the delegate during the latter's absence.
- Section 3. Members of the Executive Board and of the Board of Governors of the Hebrew Union College, by virtue of, and during the term of, their office, shall also be members of the General Assembly with all the privileges of delegates, including the right to vote and the right to office. Honorary members of the above-named Boards shall be considered honorary members of the General Assembly, but without the privilege of voting or election to office, other than honorary.

We trust that your Congregation will have a full representation at the General Assembly and that we shall have the pleasure of greeting you personally in New York.

With kind greetings, we are

Sincerely yours,

President, UAHC

hairman, Executive Board

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A. B. Polinsky, Duluth Bernard W. Price. San Francisco Dr. E. E. Reisman, Jr., Chattanooga Sidney Robinson, Chicago Sydney W. Roos, New York Louis A. Rosett, New Rochelle VMrs. Louis A. Rosett, New Rochelle Jack H. Rubens, Rochester Judge Sol Rubenstein, Albany, N. Y. Isadore Sabel, Philadelphia Benjamin F. Saltzstein, Milwaukee Gilbert Sanders, Trinidad Rabbi Ira E. Sanders, Little Rock Maurice Sanditen, Tulsa Max R. Schrayer, Chicago Herbert Schwarz, New York Judge Joseph G. Shapiro, Bridgeport Irvin M. Shlenker. Houston Laurie T. Simonsky, Toronto Jack H. Skirball, Hollywood, Cal. Herman N. Slotsky, Sioux City Eugene M. Solow, Dallas Isaac Stern, New York Leonard J. Stern, Columbus, Ohio Eugene B. Strassburger, Pittsburgh Roger W. Straus, New York Benjamin H. Swig, San Francisco Israel N. Thurman, New York C. Davis Turner, Marianna Mrs. Leon L. Watters, New York Rabbi Jacob J. Weinstein, Chicago Louis Wellhouse, Jr., Tampa Leo Wertgame, Kansas City

Louis K. Friedman, Pittsburgh

GREENMAN, SHEA, SANDOMIRE & ZIMET 20 PINE STREET FREDERICK F. GREENMAN NEW YORK 5, N. Y. FRANCIS M. SHEA WASHINGTON OFFICE WARNER W. GARDNER DANIEL M. SANDOMIRE 734 15TH STREET, N. W. PHILIP ZIMET WASHINGTON PARTNER ROBERT K. MCCONNAUGHEY February 5, 1953 Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple East 105th Street and Ansel Road Cleveland, Ohio Dear Dr. Silver: I have collaborated so often with you in Union of American Hebrew Congregation matters and in other fields that I thought you would be interested in seeing a copy of my letter to Dr. Samuel S. Hollender, Chairman of the Executive Board of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. Very truly yours, 7.7. Greenman Frederick F. Greenman

January 30, 1953.

Dr. Samuel S. Hollender Chairman of Executive Board Union of American Hebrew Congregations 5 North Wabash Avenue Chicago 2, Ill.

Dear Sam:

I have just returned from a vacation when I could thoroughly review the use to be made of the time which the practise of law leaves me for other activities. The subject has always been a problem, but now it is greater than ever.

Apart from politics, am now engaged in such activity as is required by a position of trustee or director in the following organizations: State University of New York, Jewish Board of Guardians, American Jewish Committee, Congregation Emanu-II of the City of New York, Citizens Housing and Planning Council, and Union of American Hebrew Congregations (UAHC). My estimate is that the first five octupy almost all of my time and the last one would, if I give it the time it required, likewise take nearly all of my time.

You will probably say that you can understand why the first five should consume all of my time, but why should UAHC. The answer is that to me it appears that UAHC is not lay but professionally controlled. You may say that is not so, but it is immaterial whether it is or not for present purposes, because I am concerned with my time, and if in one's opinion an organization is professionally controlled, the course of conduct adopted must accord with that opinion. In order properly to serve on Boards of UAHC I must therefore not only be prepared to deal with the merits of proposals, but must also prior to meetings ascertain how the project arose, who are the proponents, what efforts have been made to obtain support therefor, ascertain the sentiment of fellow members of the Board and if a decision is made to oppose, participate in the opposition with its conferences, distribution of literature and debate. My memory is still

January 30, 1953. -2-Dr. Samuel S. Hollender fresh of what a minority must do in politics to perform its duty, and I have no desire to undertake it. The choice, therefore, is clear. I must choose the first five activities. I would, therefore, ask you to inform the Chairman of the Nominating Committee when his appointment has been made that I desire that my name be not considered for election to the Executive Hoard. I have served continuously for fifteen years, and could in any event under the by-laws serve for only a single additional term. Of course, I shall continue to contribute to UAHC, because I believe in its aims and objectives, however I may feel about the way they are carried out. And if ever the existence of UAHC be seriously threatened, I shall always be ready to aid in the preservation of its aims and purposes. With personal regards, as ever Sincerely yours /s/ Fred Frederick F. Greenman

February 13, 1953 Mr. Frederick F. Greenman 20 Pine Street New York 5, New York My dear Friend: I received your letter of February 5th and the enclosure. I read it with much interest - as well as with concern. I am wondering whether the things of which you complain cannot be rectified - whether you are not the person to rectify them and whether your continuing on the Executive Board will not be more conducive to such a rectification. I send you all my good wishes and I hope that I may have the pleasure of seeing you in the not-too-distant future. Most cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHSter

February 1h, 1953 Dr. Maurice N. Eisendrath Union of American Hebrew Congregations 838 Fifth Avenue New York 21, New York My dear Maurice: I have written to the President, and as soon as I hear from him, I shall get in touch with you. If the President cannot come, I shall then contact Mr. Dulles. With all good wishes, I remain As ever yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er

February 11, 1953 Governor Thomas E. Dawey Executive Mansion Albany, New York My dear Friend: I need not tell you how profoundly grateful I am for your presence at my Testimonial Dinner last week, and for your great address. From the response of the audience, you must have realized how much your message moved them. I tried to reach you by telephone to request your help in a matter where my help has been requested. The Union of Amarican Hebrew Congregations has asked me to transmit to President Eisenhower an invitation to attend its Fortieth Binualal Convention which will be held in the City of New York at the Commodore Hotel on Tuesday, April 21st. The Union, as you probably know, is the oldest Jewish religious body in the United States. It represents all the Reform congregations in America, numbering hundreds of thousands of members, and among its leadership are some of the foremost Jewish laymen, as well as Rabbis in the country. Through the years the Union has served with distinction the cause of religion in America and has fostered the highest ideals of American life. For many reasons the appearance of the President of the United States at such a gathering, especially at this time, would have the greatest significance and would be profoundly appreciated by our people everywhere. I wrote to the President urging him to attend this meeting. I am sure that a word from you would be very helpful. With warmest regards, I remain Most cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHSter

February 14, 1953 President Dwight D. Eisenhower The White House Washington, D. C. My dear Mr. President: The Union of American Hebrew Congregations has requested me to transmit a request to you to be their guest at their forthcoming Fortieth Biennial Convention, which will be held at the Commodore Hotel in the City of New York on Tuesday evening, April 21st. I am happy to transmit this invitation. The Union is the oldest Jewish religious body in the United States, and represents all the Reform Jewish congregations in America. In its lay leadership are to be found many of the foremost Jewish leaders of our country, and I am sure that many of its spiritual leaders are well-known to you. The Union has through the years served with distinction the cause of religion and has been dedicated to the highest of American 1deals. Its Biennial Convention this year takes on the added significance in that it will be held on the eve of the 300th anniversary of the first settlement of Jews in the United States. A personal appearance from you on such a significant occasion before such a gathering would have the greatest significance, and would be profoundly appreciated by our people everywhere. If your crowded schedule will permit you to attend, I would earnestly urge you to do so. With all good wishes, permit me to remain Very cordially yours. ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er



## Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, President 838 Fifth Avenue-New York 21, N.Y. Regent 7-8200

February 17, 1953

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105 Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland 6. Ohio

Dear Abba.

Thank you so very much for your prompt attention to the matter of writing to the President for us. Your ready helpfulness in this is deeply appreciated by all of us. I only hope that he will accept as it would be a magnificent thing for the morale of our entire Movement as well as for the whole Jewish community if he would be with us, particularly at this trying time.

I know that I will hear from you just as soon as you receive some word, and if it should be in the negative -- although I pray that it won't -- you will proceed to try to get Secretary Dulles.

Once more thanking you so very much for your never-failing helpfulness and with fondest to Virginia and yourself from Rosa and myself I am

As ever

Maurice N. Eisendrath

mne/n

STATE OF NEW YORK EXECUTIVE CHAMBER ALBANY THOMAS E. DEWEY February 18, 1953 GOVERNOR Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple East 105th Street at Ansel Road Cleveland, Ohio Dear Dr. Silver: I have your letter of February 14th and appreciate the kindly things you say about my part in the handsome dinner given in your honor at the Waldorf. I was delighted to participate and proud of my company. It will be a pleasure to add my testimony to yours as to the desira-bility of a speech by the President at the Fortieth Biennial Convention of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations on April 21st. It will be a pleasure -that is -- so long as that would not prevent him from attending a dinner next month in New York which I have already asked that he consider. With warm regards, Sincerely yours, TED: LR Thurstony

February 24, 1953 Dr. Maurice N. Eisendrath 838 Fifth Avenue New York 21, New York Dear Dr. Eisendrath: Rabbi Silver is at present on the Pacific coast, and I am acknowledging your letter of February 17th. Rabbi Silver received a letter from Governor Dewey, to whom he had also written concerning President Eisenhower's appearance at the Biennial, and he writes, in part, as follows: "It will be a pleasure to add my testimony to yours as to the desirability of a speech by the President at the Fortieth Biennial Convention of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations on April 21st. It will be a pleasure - that is - so long as that would not prevent him from attending a dinner next month in New York which I have already asked that he consider." If there are any additional communications before Rabbi Silver's return the middle of next week, I shall keep you informed. Sincerely yours, Elisabeth Rice Secretary to Rabbi Silver



## Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, President 838 Fifth Avenue New York 21, N.Y. Regent 7-8200

February 27, 1953

Miss Elizabeth Rice, secretary to Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver The Temple East 105 Street at Ansel Road Cleveland 6. Ohio

Dear Miss Rice

Thank you very much for your kindness in giving me the excerpt from Governor Dewey's letter to Rabbi Silver. I shall, of course, be very much interested in any additional communications bearing on the subject.

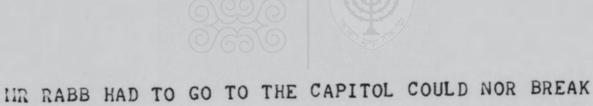
Sincerely

Maurice N. Eisendrath

## FLOWER

# MESSAGE

DR SILVER 752



DATE UNABLE TO FIND INVITATION TO WHICH YOU REFERRED

March 20, 1953 Mr. Maxwell Rabb Assistant to Sherman Adams The White House Washington, D. C. My dear Mr. Rabb: Upon my return to the hotel, I found your message. I am surprised that you could not locate the invitation which I transmitted to President Eisenhower on February lith. I am enclosing herewith a copy of the letter and also a copy of the letter of Governor Dewey which he sent me in response to a request that he write a word to the President urging him to accept the invitation. Inasmuch as the time of the Convention is not far off, I would appreciate it if we could have word from the President, which I hope will be in the affirmative. For many reasons, I feel that his acceptance of the invitation at this time would be most desirable and would be greatly appreciated by everyone. I do hope that we shall have the pleasure of seeing each other before long. With warmest regards, I remain Most cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SI WER AHS:er Enc. 2

## THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

March 25, 1953

My dear Rabbi Silver:

Mr. Rabb has turned over to me copies of your letters of February 14th addressed to the President. I am very distressed to learn that your original invitation to the President was never acknowledged and I have tried to locate the correspondence but there seems to be no record of it whatsoever. I do hope you will accept my apologies.

The President regrets that he must disappoint you, but he will not be able to be with you in New York on April 21st on the occasion of the 40th biennial convention of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. At the present time he is planning to be away on a brief vacation and we are consequently scheduling no engagements for that time.

The President appreciates your inviting him and sends his best wishes for the success of your convention.

Yours sincerely,

Thomas E. Stephens

Acting Secretary to the President

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105 Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Chairman, Executive Board: DR. S. S. HOLLENDER

JUDGE SOLOMON ELSNER
IRVIN FANE
PHILIP MEYERS
DR. GEORGE PINESS

Treasurer: OSCAR M. LAZRUS

Assistant Treasurer: JOSEPH EISNER

Honorary Secretary:
RABBI GEORGE ZEPIN

Administrative Secretary: RABBI LOUIS 1. EGELSON

Union of Hebrew



838 FIFTH AVENUE · NEW YORK 21, N. Y. · PHONE REGENT 7-8200

March 27, 1953

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

We have secured time on the NBC network for a halfhour of your talk at the Union Biennial, Tuesday, April 21. It will be a delayed broadcast.

I thought you would like to know this as you prepare the talk. It would be of help to me to have your manuscript when it is available. I understand the evening is to be entitled, "On the Threshold of the Fourth Century." Do you plan a similar title for your address?

If you want more data, please don't hesitate to write. Please accept my best wishes to you and the family for a good Peseach.

Rabbi Samuel M. Silver

Director of Public Relations

SMS:pfg

Dr. Samuel S. Hollender, Chicago Chairman, Executive Board, UAHC

Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, New York President, UAHC

Mrs. Louis A. Rosett, New Rochelle President, NFTS

Max Feder, New York

President, NATS

Joseph G. Shapiro, Bridgeport Chairman, Program Committee

Rabbi Louis I. Egelson, New York Secretary, Program Committee

685

## CONVENTION CORRESPONDENCE

42nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS 40th ANNIVERSARY BIENNIAL OF NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE SISTERHOODS 6th CONVENTION OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TEMPLE SECRETARIES

APRIL 19-23, 1953 NEW YORK, N. Y.

CONVENTION OFFICE: 838 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 21, N. Y.

Bridgeport, Conn.

April 2, 1953

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver The Temple E. 105 and Ansel Road Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

First I want to express to you the sincere thanks of our Program Committee for your efforts in trying to secure President Eisenhower to speak at our Convention. We are now trying to get Secretary Dulles to participate with you that evening.

The precise nature of the program will, of course, depend on whether or not Dulles accepts.

In any event, we would like you to give us an indigation what, in your prophetic opinion, the fourth century of American Judaism may have in store for us. We shall not limit you as to time.

We have arranged for the broadcast of your address, but whether they will take it completely, or just one-half hour of it, I do not know at the moment.

May I look forward to receiving your acceptance of our invitation.

With kindest regards, I am

JGS: MK

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

#### WASHINGTON

April 4, 1953

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The President asks me to express his sincere thanks for the cordial invitation which your letter conveys to attend the Fortieth Biennial Convention of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations in New York City on April twenty-first. He is extremely sorry that his present schedule of commitments precludes a trip to New York at that time.

However, the President is grateful for this friendly thought of him and for your good wishes.

I am sorry for the delay in sending you this reply which has been caused by the tremendous amount of mail received during the past weeks.

Sincerely yours,

THOMAS E. STEPHENS

Acting Secretary to the President

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

RESOLUTIONS OF THE RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE





Affirming, and in order to implement, the action of this Assembly on the President's Message taken at its meeting on April 21, 1953, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations offers its good services for the purpose of promoting peace and harmony between the NCRAC and the American Jewish Committee and the B'nai B'rith, and further offers to help in devising a basis of cooperation among all Jewish community relations agencies.

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

II

#### GENOCIDE

WHEREAS, the Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of the crime of Genocide outlaws the destruction of national, religious, racial and ethnic groups and has been unanimously approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations and already ratified by forty-one national parliaments, which represent a total population of one billion human beings

WHEREAS, a Special Sub-committee of the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee has recommended ratification of this Convention

WHEREAS, the Convention represents the highest ideals of prophetic religion and human brotherhood and undertakes to prevent human tragedies and destruction such as have occurred throughout history and brought great sufferings to our generation

## THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

The Union of American Hebrew Congregations, assembled at its 42nd biennial convention in New York City on April, 1953

Hereby urges the President of the United States and the Senate to hasten ratification of the Genocide Convention so that the United States of America may uphold the American tradition of moral leadership in the world.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, to the presiding officer of the Senate, and to the Chairmen of those Senate Committees charged with the consideration of this subject.

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

#### III

### BIENNIAL WORKSHOPS

WHEREAS, many delegates come to the Biennial from long distances with the hope and expectation of receiving valuable suggestions for the best interests of their temples, only to find but a limited time alloted to this purpose, with far greater time spent on business meetings and discussions, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in future Biennials a major portion of the time be allocated to the workshops -- which best serve the interests of the delegates.

VI

RESOLVED, that the General Assembly of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations calls upon its Executive Board and the Board of Governors of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion to appoint a joint commission to study and develop ways and means for the stable financing of the budgetary requirements of these Institutions of our Movement so that both will be provided with the funds so vitally needed for their respective programs upon a basis which will permit them to carry on their programs unhampered by the constant necessity for emergency appeals.

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

#### RELIGION IN AMERICAN LIFE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the national, non-sectarian program, Religion In American Life, offers an unprecedented coverage and concentration of national advertising in support of religion and religious institutions; and

WHEREAS, the program has developed into a comprehensive and intensive movement to strengthen the place of religion in the community and the nation; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of American business and the advertising industry through the program have resulted in concrete benefits to individual churches and synagogues in hundreds of communities throughout the country;

THEREFORE WE HEREBY RESOLVE to extend vigorous support of the program, Religion In American Life, and to urge every religious leader to participate in the organization of a responsible and effective local Religion In American Life committee in his community.

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

#### SYNAGOGUE ARCHITECTS CONSULTANT PANEL

WHEREAS, we have been gratified and excited by the intensive program of building activity which has been sweeping through our congregations, both new and old, resulting in many magnificent edifices in which we and our children may glorify God through the fullest and most beautiful expressions of Judaism, and

WHEREAS, a group of distinguished architects have self-sacrificingly and devotedly given of their talents and their time to counsel our congregations and to guide them in the construction of technically sound and esthetically beautiful synagogues, a service rendered at the cost of widespread travel and inconvenience, without thought of remuneration or reward,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS IN CONVENTION ASSEMBLED.

VI (Cont'd) That the fervent gratitude of this Biennial Assembly be extended to the Synagogue Architects Consultant Panel for their brilliant and conscientious contribution to our movement in the past, with the hope that their wisdom and skill will continue to be available to our congregations as they build Houses of God which will exemplify a perfect synthesis of the finest in our spiritual heritage with the noblest technological concepts of architectural practice, and that a copy of this resolution of thanks be forwarded to Mr. Harry Prince, founder and chairman of the panel, for transmittal to the panel. VII IMMIGRATION LAW WHEREAS, the highest traditions of Jewish and American life affirm the moral worth of every man regardless of race, religion, or national origin, and WHEREAS, the United States has been the "Mother of Exiles" and the haven of the oppressed throughout history, and WHEREAS, the fabric of our democracy has been woven out of the love and loyalty of peoples of diverse backgrounds, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS IN CONVENTION ASSEMBLED, That we condemn those provisions of the McCarran-Walter Immigration Law that contain national origins quotas, threats to the security of foreign-born citizens, and those other violations of the essentials

of democracy, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we applaud our President for his opposition to this law, which he characterized as "thoroughly undemocratic in its nature;" and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon the Congress of the United States to amend the McCarran-Walter Immigration Law in such manner as to reaffirm America's position as the defender of the free human spirit by enacting democratic and workable immigration legislation.

FREEDOM OF THE PULPIT

VIII

WHEREAS, since the beginning of Jewish History, the teachers of our faith from the prophets of the Bible to the Rabbi today have regarded the precepts of Judaism as ideals which must be applied directly to the daily life of society, and

VIII (Cont'd) WHEREAS, the principle of the freedom of the pulpit is consonant with the essential democracy of our faith as well as of our nation THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS IN CONVENTION ASSEMBLED That we affirm the inherent right of the Rabbis of our congregations to express freely their views and their interpretations of Jewish doctrines in the light of contemporary life. We proclaim equally the right of the congregant to dissent from the views articulated from the pulpit. IX PUBLIC EDUCATION WHEREAS, the foundations of American democracy have been buttressed by the historic loyalty of the great body of our public school teachers, and our society has benefited greatly through our traditional practices of freedom of inquiry and thought in all the educational disciplines, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Union of American Hebrew Congregations in convention assembled denounced irresponsible attacks on our public school systems by exaggerating the small number of subversive teachers out of all proportion to the true facts, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That, while boards of education should not employ or retain in our public schools Communist or subversive teachers, misuse of investigative procedures should not be countenanced. Whether conducted by legislative committees or school boards, investigations in our public schools should be conducted in a spirit of fair play, solely as a search for the truth and without abuse of the constitutional rights of the witnesses. IX INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM AND NATIONAL SECURITY We recognize the continuing danger to America and world freedom and, above all, to religious freedom, from the forces of Communism. Constant vigilance is needed to guard against these dangers. We support efforts to guard our liberties against subversion, through proper governmental agencies and due process of law. Yet we recognize that wrong methods of meeting the Communist menace can and do undermine our civil and spiritual liberties. The whipping up of hysterical fears and the irresponsible attacks upon individuals who are not given an adequate opportunity to defend themselves -procedures that have occurred in recent years -- must be condemned as un-American and dangerous. In the spirit of the resolution based upon the recommendation of the President about civil and religious freedom and adopted by this Convention on Tuesday, April 21, 1953, we recommend that the President of the United States be respectfully requested to appoint a Presidential Commission of outstanding citizens representative of the broadest possible cross-section of American life to study the best ways of protecting our nation from Communist danger without at the same time subverting our traditional American freedom; and that this Commission be charged with the responsibility of recommending such safeguards as it may deem necessary in the conduct of lawful investigations by national and state legislative bodies.



## Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath, President 838 Fifth Avenue New York 21, N. Y. Regent 7-8200

April 28, 1953

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105 Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Abba

I cannot leave for Israel without telling you that, as always, you rose to our highest expectations and even beyond in your address on Tuesday evening at our General Assembly. You gave to our historic assemblage an ever-to-be-remembered inspiration and challenge. You instilled in us new hope and confidence in ourselves and in our cause, and I have heard the most enthusiastic words of commendation concerning your never-to-be-forgotten message. Ours is, I assure you, a gratitude consonant and commensurate with your contribution.

With kindest personal greetings and the hope that all will be well with you in the ensuing weeks I am

As ever

Maurice N. Eisendrath

maurice

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DR. S. S. HOLLENDER

President:
RABBI MAURICE N. EISENDRATH

Vice-Chairmen LOUIS BROIDO
JESSE COHEN
JUDGE SOLOMON EISNER
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Administrative Secretary:
RABBI LOUIS 1. EGELSON

Union of
American
Hebrew
Congregations



838 FIFTH AVENUE · NEW YORK 21, N. Y. · PHONE REGENT 7-8200

April 30, 1953

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th St. at Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

At the Post-Convention meeting of the Executive Board action regarding the resolution on the Genocide Convention, which was passed by the General Assembly, was discussed.

It was voted that the Chairman of the Executive Board be authorized to appoint a Committee of five to make representations to the President of the United States and the Senate with regard to the Genocide Convention.

Over the phone today Dr. Hollender gave me the following names that he would like to appoint: yourself, as Chairman; Rabbi Joseph L. Fink, President of the CCAR; Rabbi Morton M. Berman; Mr. Roger W. Straus; Congressman Jacob Javits and included himself (Dr. Hollender) Ex-officio as the Committee.

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the resolution as passed by the General Assembly.

Dr. Hollender would appreciate it very much if you would let us have your consent to serve as Chairman of this Committee. As soon as I hear from you, I shall communicate with the other members of the Committee. If you would care to add any others to the Committee please let me know because I am sure that Dr. Hollender would accept your recommendations.

With kind regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Administrative Secretary

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE SISTERHOODS

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE YOUTH

LE:ES

HEBREW UNION CULLEGE-JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION

THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF TEMPLE BROTHERHOODS

Whereas the Convention for the Prevention and Punishment of the crime of Genocide outlaws the destruction of national, religious, racial and ethnic groups and has been unanimously approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations and already ratified by forty-one national parliaments, which represent a total population of one billion human beings

Whereas a Special Sub-committee of the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee has recommended ratification of this Convention

Whereas the Convention represents the highest ideals of prophetic religion and brotherhood and undertakes to prevent human tragedies and destruction such as have occurred throughout history and brought great sufferings to our generation

Therefore be it resolved

The Union of American Hebrew Congregations, assembled at its 42nd biennial convention in New York City on April, 1953

Hereby urges the President of the United States and the Senate to hasten ratification of the Genocide Convention so that the United States of America may uphold the American tradition of moral leadership in the world.

Be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, to the presiding officer of the Senate, and to the Chairmen of those Senate Committees charged with the consideration of this subject.



# UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

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ROBERT I. WISHNICK ational Field Director M. WILLIAM WEINBERG 165 West 46th Street, N.Y. 36, N.Y. PLaza 7-1500 Cable Address, UJAPPEAL, New York

May 1, 1953

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E 105 Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I was so intrigued by the extracts that I read of your address at the Union of American Hebrew Congregations in New York recently, and have heard so much favorable comment upon it, that I am very eager to read the complete text if it is available.

I would greatly appreciate it if you could send me a copy of the address which I would promise to return after reading.

With kindest regards and best wishes,

Sincerely,

Joseph . Schwartz

JJS/gfc

May 4, 1953 Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz United Jewish Appeal 165 West 46th Street New York 36, New York Dear Dr. Schwarts: I am pleased to enclose a copy of Dr. Silver's address which you requested in your letter of May 1st. You may, of course, keep the copy. With kindest regards, I am Sincerely yours, Elizabeth Rice Secretary to Dr. Silver Enc.

May 5, 1953 Rabbi Louis I. Egelson Union of American Hebrew Congregations 838 Fifth Avenue New York 21, New York My dear Rabbi Egelson: I shall be very pleased to serve as Chairman of a committee appointed by the Union to make representations to the President of the United States and the Senate with regard to the Genocide Convention. I assume that this does not imply any personal call on the President by the committee as I would not be in position to do so at this time. Very cordially yours, ABBA HILLEL SILVER AHS:er