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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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Weizmann, Chaim, speaking at UAHC, 1926-1927.



ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

# ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA



LOUIS LIPSKY  
PRESIDENT

HENRIETTA SZOLD  
JOSEPH BARONDESS  
REUBEN BRAININ  
MAX HELLER  
HIRSCH MASLIANSKY  
DAVID A. LOURIE

HON. VICE-PRESIDENTS

ABBA HILLEL SILVER  
MAX SHULMAN  
BERNARD A. ROSENBLATT  
ABRAHAM GOLDBERG  
MRS. NORVIN R. LINDHEIM  
MRS. ARCHIBALD SILVERMAN  
VICE-PRESIDENTS

DAVID J. KALISKI  
HON. SECRETARY

MEYER W. WEISGAL  
SECRETARY

ISAAC MEISTER  
TREASURER

HARRY P. FIERST  
ASSOCIATE TREASURER

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

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JACOB FISHMAN  
BORIS GRABELSKY  
WILLIAM M. LEWIS  
I. D. MORRISON  
EMANUEL NEUMANN  
S. J. ROSENTOHN  
MORRIS ROTHENBERG  
MAURICE SAMUEL  
LOUIS TOPKIS  
S. J. WEINSTEIN  
BENJAMIN WINTER



114 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

December 28, 1926.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Silver:

I have received a letter from Dr. Heller in which he suggests that a Zionist demonstration be held in Cleveland around the time of the impending Congregational Council, January 16 - 20.

Dr. Heller thinks that it might be feasible to have Dr. Weizmann invited to address the Council. I have written to Dr. Heller, telling him that I am referring the whole matter to you, and will take your advice.

I think that any attempt on our part, to intrude into the deliberations of the Council will not be good, but if local Zionist representatives can break into the program in some form or another, it may serve our purpose. I do not think that Dr. Weizmann would want to address the Council even if invited.

Please let us know what you think should be done in the matter.

Very cordially yours,

*Louis Lipsky*  
President

LL/RW



2 - Lipsky

December 30th, 1926.

Mr. Louis Lipsky,  
114 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Lipsky,

I agree with you that it would be a mistake on our part to attempt to intrude into the deliberations of the Council. I do believe however, that should Dr. Weizmann receive an invitation to address this Council that he ought by all means to accept it. It would even be advisable to ~~make~~ certain that such an invitation be extended. There will be a thousand representatives of all the Reformed congregations of America in session here as well as the representatives of all the Sisterhoods and Brotherhoods of the country. Many of them have never seen or heard Dr. Weizmann. It would I believe, be a distinct gain to our cause if the Union of American Hebrew Congregations would for the first time in its history invite a representative of the Zionist Organization to address its convention.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours



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MAURICE SAMUEL  
LOUIS TOPKIS  
S. J. WEINSTEIN  
BENJAMIN WINTER

114 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

January 3, 1927.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

I have written to Dr. Heller, suggesting that he take steps personally, if possible, to secure an invitation for Dr. Weizmann to address the Congregational Council in Cleveland.

I think, however, that he will not be in a position to do anything. What do you suggest should be done? Of course, we cannot officially make any advances. It should be done through a friendly third party.

Very cordially yours,

*Louis Lipsky*  
President

LL/RW

P.S. Stone just tells me that you said you  
would communicate with Judge Lehman & Mr. Vogelstein.  
We should know the results soon in order  
to be able to change Dr. Weizmann's schedule.

*L*



2  
Paid Day Letter

January 5th, 1927

Judge Irving Lehman,  
Court of Appeals,  
New York City.

Have this day sent the following telegram to Mr. Vogelstein:

Quote: "Dr. Weizman is visiting America in behalf of the rehabilitation of Palestine, a cause in which all Jews are interested. Do you not think that it would be a gracious and helpful act on the part of our Union to extend an invitation to Dr. Weizman to attend the forthcoming convention as our guest"? End of quote! I believe that a word from you to Mr. Vogelstein would help materially.

A. H. Silver



①  
Paid Day Letter

Cleveland, January 5th, 1927

Ludwig Vogelstein,

61 Broadway

New York City.

Dr. Weizman is visiting America in behalf of the rehabilitation of Palestine, a cause in which all Jews are interested. Do you not think that it would be a gracious and helpful act on the part of our Union to extend an invitation to Dr. Weizman to attend the forthcoming convention as our guest?

A. H. Silver



January Sixth, 1927

Mr. Louis Lipsky,  
Zionist Organization of America,  
114 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Lipsky,

I am enclosing a copy of a telegram received from Mr. Vogelstein and a copy of my letter in reply. I also am sending a telegram to Judge Irving Lehman, asking him to approach Mr. Vogelstein.

With kindest regards, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,



Jan. 6, 1927

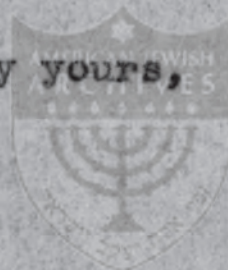
Mr. Louis Lipski,  
Zionist Organization of America,  
114 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Lipski:

I am enclosing herewith copy of the telegram which I received this morning from Mr. Ludwig Vogelstein, and also copy of the letter which I sent him in reply. I also wired yesterday Judge Irving Lehman, asking him to approach Mr. Vogelstein. I am not very optimistic as to the outcome. However, I shall keep you informed.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,





copy of telegram  
where?

January 6th, 1927.

Mr. Louis Lipski,  
Zionist Organization of America,  
114 Fifth Avenue,  
New York.

My dear Mr. Lipski:

I am enclosing a copy of a telegram received from Mr. Vogelstein and a copy of my letter in reply. I also am sending a telegram to Judge Irving Lehman asking him to approach Mr. Vogelstein.

With kindest regards, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,



COMMENT

Ludwig Logelstein

61 Broadway

Judge Irving L. Logelstein  
- Appellate Court -



# UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS

CINCINNATI

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN  
OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

1520 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK

January 7, 1927.

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

My dear Rabbi Silver,

Thank you so much for your kind letter of January 6th, from which I gather, by inference, that Dr. Weizman had intended to speak at the Council on one of the subjects pertaining to the Palestinian question. As you know, the speakers are assigned by the Program Committee, and as far as I have seen no discussion on this subject has been prepared. Of course, a delegate from one of the congregations has a right, at certain times, to bring up any subject, but whether I have a right to invite a gentleman who is not a delegate, particularly if I know that he is going to speak on a certain subject, is very questionable.

You seem to take exception to my disinclination to have the subject of Palestine, Hebrew University, etc. come up at the Council. We all are trying to make the Cleveland meeting a great success. No success would be possible if the meeting would develop acrimonious controversies and debates. The Program Committee has provided a very elaborate program which does not leave much room for discussion of extraneous matters. Judging by past experience, the affairs of Erez Isroel cannot be discussed dispassionately on account of the sentimental aspect of the matter and I am sure that you, as one of the Cleveland hosts, would regret it even more than I if the Cleveland meeting should end in disunion and disharmony.

As a practical question in the procedure of the Council: Even if I should have the authority to invite Dr. Weizman, and if Dr. Weizman could get the floor without authorization from the Program Committee, any subject which he would bring up could not be discussed by the Council without being referred to a certain Committee of the Council.



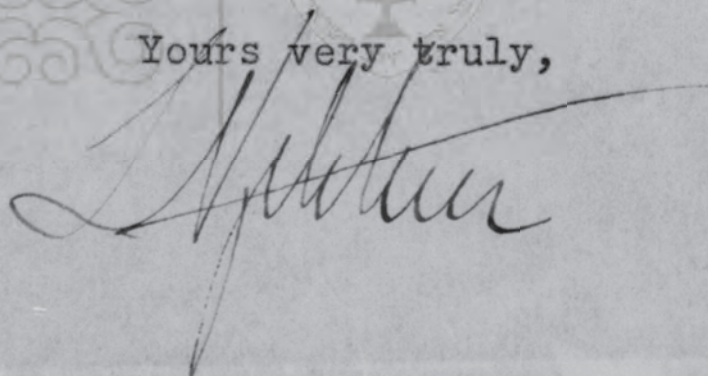
I do not think that this is the time and place for me to discuss with you the question of Palestine. My personal sympathies and antipathies have no bearing on my position in this matter. The only interest that I am thinking of is the interest of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

It might interest you to know that I had mentioned the Cleveland meeting to Dr. George Halpern, a close friend and co-worker of Dr. Weizman, telling him that he would doubtlessly like to visit Cleveland at the time to see representative Jews of the Reform wing. It never occurred to me that Dr. Halpern could take offense if such an invitation, which was absolutely informal and without any rights and privileges, would prevent him from speaking at the Council. I am sure that I do not mean any offense to Dr. Weizman for whom, as I mentioned in my telegram, I have the highest regards and personal esteem.

In conclusion I want to say that I have grave doubts as to whether I have any discretion in the matter at all and whether the power is not vested in the Executive Committee in session which, of course, has a perfect right to overrule me.

Believe me, dear Dr. Silver,

Yours very truly,





IRVING LEHMAN

ASSOCIATE JUDGE  
COURT OF APPEALS  
36 WEST 44TH ST.  
NEW YORK

January 8, 1927

My dear Rabbi:

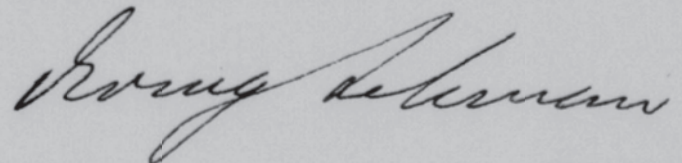
I received your telegram of January 5th, urging me to follow up your suggestion to Mr. Vogelstein that Dr. Weizman should be invited by the Union to attend the forthcoming Convention.

While I am thoroughly in sympathy with your suggestion, I have not communicated with Mr. Vogelstein. My reason, frankly, is this.

I am, as you probably know, trying to bring together the Zionists and the non-Zionists for co-operation in the work of building up Palestine. I think I shall succeed. But one of the obstacles I find in my path is that the non-Zionists are disposed to feel that I have gone over to the Zionists and am speaking for them. For that reason alone, I am trying for the next few months to do nothing which might be construed as a pro-Zionist activity.

With cordial good wishes to you personally, and for the success of the Convention, I am

Yours very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Irving Lehman".

Rabbi Abba H. Silver  
Cleveland, Ohio



2  
Dr. Weizmann  
U. of A. H. C.

January 10th, 1926.

Mr. Louis Lipsky,  
114 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Lipsky,

I am enclosing herewith  
a copy of a letter which I just received  
from Judge Irving Lehman.

Very sincerely yours,





January 11th, 1927.

Mr. Louis Lipsky,  
114 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Lipsky,

I am enclosing herewith a  
copy of a letter which I received from  
Mr. Ludwig Vogelstein, today.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

