



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

Featuring collections from the Western Reserve Historical Society and
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.

Series I: General Correspondence, 1914-1969, undated.

Sub-series A: Alphabetical, 1914-1965, undated.

Reel
78

Box
27

Folder
1717

Wise, Stephen S., 1919-1920.

FREE SYNAGOGUE
NEW YORK

STEPHEN S. WISE
RESIDENCE, 23 WEST 90TH STREET

June 10, 1919

Rabbi A. H. Silver,
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Silver:

I have your letter and am delighted to think that you are planning to spend the summer abroad and especially that you are thinking of going to Palestine. Justice Brandeis at first planned to go to Palestine and subsequently, for reasons which I cannot disclose in this way, came to rest under the necessity of changing his plans. But during the last few days he has again changed his plans and now means to leave with deHaas on Saturday. If there had been any possibility of your securing a passport and a cabin on the Saturday boat so that you might have sailed with them, I would have telegraphed to you, but I know that is impossible. Moreover, Justice Brandeis does not wish to seem to be taking a party with him; so no one is to accompany him but deHaas. Personally, since you ask my opinion, I think it would be most admirable if you could go. I see no reason why you should not. Our office would facilitate your plan. If you could get away within a week or a fortnight, securing a passport through friends in Cleveland, you would have nearly three months before it ~~was~~ necessary for you to return owing to the lateness of the Holydays. If you can manage it, I should like to see you before you leave.

With hearty greetings,
Faithfully yours,

Stephen S. Wise

FREE SYNAGOGUE
NEW YORK

STEPHEN S. WISE
RESIDENCE, 23 WEST 90TH STREET

Sept. 12, 1919

Rabbi A.H. Silver,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Silver:

I am a little surprised not to have had some word from you, but I presume you have been very busy and unable to write. I write this line merely to say that I spoke to Justice Brandeis about what I hope will be the possibility of seeing you in Chicago and he and I unite in inviting you to go there. We want you there and need your help.

Faithfully yours,

Wise

FREE SYNAGOGUE

NEW YORK

STEPHEN S. WISE

RESIDENCE, 23 WEST 90TH STREET

Dec. 24, 1919

Rabbi A. H. Silver, D.D.

Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Silver:

It was I who proposed yesterday to Judge Mack and others that we call upon you for a great service,-- namely, to come here and give us a fortnight in connection with Palestine Restoration. I know it may not be easy, but do come. Put aside other things. We really need you. We have no speakers, and if you can come you should. I am bearing a load to the point of breaking down, but there are limits. If you cannot give us two weeks, give us one week. If you cannot give us a whole week, give us four or five days, and let us know what they are and we will pile up engagements. But do come by all means. If you should have wired No,--and I hope you will not have done so,--I beg you will reconsider.

Faithfully yours,

Wise

FREE SYNAGOGUE

NEW YORK

STEPHEN S. WISE

RESIDENCE, 23 WEST 90TH STREET

Feb. 11, 1920

Rabbi A.H. Silver, D.D.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Silver:

I have just returned from St. Louis where we did very well, getting one hundred and ten thousand, and Indianapolis where I went merely to lay foundations for Judge Mack or you. But something was done in the few minutes I had in which to get the train and I rather think it will be comparatively easy to continue the campaign.

I want to tell you that you cannot imagine what it means to Judge Mack and to me to feel that we may count upon your tremendously valuable assistance. The burden that just a few of us are bearing is so heavy that it is really providential to have the co-operation of one who is going to render the invaluable service which it lies within your power, and happily within your will, to accomplish.

As for your wire, I haven't caught my breath since I got in, so I cannot say now whether it will be possible for me to come to you. Give me a little time, although I ought to say at once that I think it very doubtful that I can leave town again before the end of February, when I go South for nearly two weeks. That would mean that I could not come until the end of March or early in April. I really don't think I ought to go to Cleveland. I distinctly have the feeling that it is not necessary. You and Judge Mack have done all

that can be done and my own word would surely be superfluous
in the circumstances.

With cordial greetings,

Sincerely yours,

Wise

WRHS



[19203]

February 11th, 1960

Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
23 West 90th Street,
New York City.

My dear Dr. Wise,

I received your telegram urging me to a fuller co-operation in the Palestine Restoration Fund campaign, and suggesting that I go to Baltimore and Washington February 22nd.

I would gladly give more of my time to the campaign, but we are at present engaged in our local drive, which takes up a great deal of my time. I should be glad to accept all invitations, but I cannot leave my pulpit on Sunday. I have no one to take my place, and I feel that my first duty is to my people here. I do not see why all of these cities insist upon having their affairs on Sunday night.

I have just wired you with reference to your coming here. I feel that we need you here very much. The campaign is progressing, not disappointingly, but rather slowly. Your coming here would give the necessary impetus to it. We would arrange a dinner for you, at which a number of men whom we are endeavoring to reach would undoubtedly be present.

Should you find it possible, which I rather doubt, to come here on a Sunday, I should love to have you speak in my pulpit for me. You know that my people would be most eager to hear you.

Very sincerely yours,

FREE SYNAGOGUE
NEW YORK

STEPHEN S. WISE
RESIDENCE, 23 WEST 90TH STREET

Mar. 29, 1920

Rabbi A.H. Silver, D.D.
Cleveland, Ohio
Dear Abba Hillel:

Sorry, too, we could not have met in Cleveland again. I hear you had a fine time in Baltimore and made a most effective address.

I am happy to learn that you left last night for New Orleans. I knew you meant to be there, but I imagined it was to be the 31st and that you might come to us before you left. It is fine that you are to preach for us on the 25th of April, and that I may announce it in the weekly and monthly bulletins. I understand that within a week or ten days you are to send me a list of themes from which to choose.

With hearty greetings, and hoping you and I together may place Maxwell in the near future,

Faithfully yours,

Wise

Lunched you at last night's dinner.

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

RECEIVED AT 5516 EUCLID AVENUE, CLEVELAND, OHIO

337 H CY 34

SD NEW YDRK NY 550PM APR 12 1920

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

331

TEH TEMPLE E 55 AND CENTRAL AVE CLEVELAND D

URGEN TLY REQUEST IF POSSIBLE YOU ACCEPT PITTSBURG RESTORATION FUNDS

ENGAGEMENT THURSDAY APRIL TWENTY SECOND MEETING AT CARNEGIE MUSIC HALL

STDP BULK DF MONEY EXPECTED TO BE MADE AT THAT MEETING PLEASE WIRE

ME ZIDNISTS

STEPHEN S WISE

737PM

Answered April.13, 1920- 6 p.m.

To Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, 55 Fifth Ave., New York

Are you going to be at Pittsburg meeting?

There is no need of my going. Please wire.

(Signed) Rabbi A.H. Silver

If so,

Handwritten: Pittsburg
4-20-20
C. H.

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

WESTERN UNION



TELEGRAM

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

GEORGE W. E. ATKINS, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CLASS OF SERVICE	SYMBOL
Telegram	
Day Letter	Blue
Night Message	Nite
Night Letter	N L

If none of these three symbols appears after the check (number of words) this is a telegram. Otherwise its character is indicated by the symbol appearing after the check.

RECEIVED AT 5516 EUCLID AVENUE, CLEVELAND, OHIO

263H DS 35

SD NEWYORK NY 320PM APR 14 1920

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILBER

264

THE TEMPLE E 55 CLEVELAND D

YOU

WILL NOT BE IN PITTSBURGH PLEASE GO STOP URGE/TO

ACCEPT MTVERNON ENGAGEMENT WILL MOTOR YOU BACK TO STATION

TO GET EITHER ELEVEN THIRTY OR TWELVE TWENTY FIVE TRAIN

PLEASE WIRE ME IMMEDIATELY ZIONISTS

STEPHEN S WISE

Telegraphed 4/15/20
11 o'clock

*Dr. Stephen S. Wise -
Mt Vernon*

407PM

Dr. Stephen S. Wise
55 Fifth Avenue, New York
All right, will accept
Mt. Vernon engagement.
Also Pittsburg.

(Signed) A.H. Silver

FREE SYNAGOGUE

NEW YORK

STEPHEN S. WISE

RESIDENCE, 23 WEST 90TH STREET

Apr. 16, 1920

Rev. A. H. Silver, D.D.

Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Abba Hillel:

I am delighted to have your letter. The theme is good. My one regret is that I cannot hear the address, but it will be taken down by the man who reports all the addresses in our pulpit. I will then see it and you will have a copy for revision and publication. I know we shall be glad to publish the address in our Pulpit series if you care to have that done.

So glad to learn from the Zionists that you can speak at Mt. Vernon Sunday evening, leaving in time to get to Cleveland the following day.

Heartiest congratulations and most grateful thanks for what you did at Toledo. Coffee wrote to me of your admirable address there.

Am happy that you are to be in Buffalo and possibly in Pittsburgh.

With most hearty greetings,
Faithfully yours,

Wise

FREE SYNAGOGUE
NEW YORK

STEPHEN S. WISE
RESIDENCE, 23 WEST 90TH STREET

Apr. 28, 1920

Rabbi A.H. Silver,
Cleveland, Ohio
Dear Abba Hillel:

I cannot tell you how disappointing it was not to have seen you on Monday. I tried to get into touch with you through your home and I **know** that you telephoned later, but when I phoned to the Pennsylvania you were not in.

I wanted very much to see you,-- in the first place, to thank you for the service you rendered my people and me on Sunday. Everywhere I hear of the uncommon and notable address you made. You seem to have stirred the congregation to its depths. That is the report which comes to me on every side. Then, I wanted to talk to you about a matter of very great importance. When will you be in New York? It is imperative and most urgent that we get together at the earliest moment for a joint and careful consideration of the problem that I have in mind.

I suppose you have heard that the Zionist Convention takes place on May 9th and 10th, having been called in order that we may take counsel touching the new conditions created by the conferring of the Palestinian mandate upon Great Britain. Of course you will come to the Convention.

I have been wondering whether I ought not have a Zionist celebration at my own service that morning. If you are here, of course you would have part in it, three or four of us speaking for ten or fifteen minutes apiece.

Faithfully yours,

Wise

Send me a memorandum of your expense. I don't know whether I shall ask the Synagogue to meet it or whether I shall let the Zionist Organization bear it, seeing that it had the benefit of your service in the evening and that a great deal of money was secured as a result of your appeal. When I came to your town, the Organization took care of the little expense that was involved.

WRHS



FREE SYNAGOGUE

NEW YORK

STEPHEN S. WISE

RESIDENCE, 23 WEST 90TH STREET

May 26, 1920

Rabbi A.H. Silver,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Abba Hillel:

I beg to send you a copy of a letter which has this day come from Dr. Franklin of Detroit. It is exactly the kind of letter one might have expected.

The question now arises whether those of us who will be present at the Conference ought to be prepared to offer a special program on behalf of the Zionist movement.

I shall be glad to hear from you with regard to this.

Faithfully yours,

Wise

FREE SYNAGOGUE
NEW YORK

STEPHEN S. WISE
RESIDENCE, 23 WEST 90TH STREET

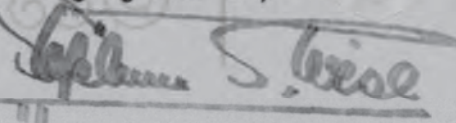
June 4, 1920

Rabbi A.H. Silver,
Cleveland, Ohio
Dear Abba Hillel:

Please forgive my failure to have sent you before this time the checks covering your expenditure in coming to us a few weeks ago.

I wish I might see you soon and talk many things over with you. Are you going to the Conference at Rochester? I wish with all my heart that you could, more especially seeing that Heller will need all possible support in making the fight for the things that are now before us as a result of the San Remo decision.

With most hearty greetings,
Faithfully yours,


11

June 9th, 1920

Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
23 West 90th Street,
New York City.

My dear Dr. Wise,

Please pardon the delay in replying to your letter of the 26th of May. I have been out of the city and very busy when at home.

I should have been happy to have accepted your kind invitation, but as you know perhaps, I am planning to sail for London on the 18th of June.

With reference to the matter of presenting the Central Conference a special program on behalf of the Zionist movement - I feel that you are in a better position to determine just what should be done.

I do hope that I shall have the pleasure of seeing you before I leave.

With kindest regards, I beg to remain,

Very sincerely yours,