



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

Series II: Harold P. Manson File (Zionism Files), 1940-1949, undated.

Sub-series A: Main Manson File, 1940-1949.

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206

Wise, Dr. Stephen S., 1944.

January 6, 1944

Dr. Stephen S. Wise
40 West 68th St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Wise:

I believe that you ought to be acquainted with the enclosed material. You will recall that last October, the Executive Board of the Union decided to refer action on the Palestine Resolution to the next Biennial Council in 1945. We were all happy at this decision. Since then, the Anti-Zionist Rabbis have been clamoring for an immediate reconsideration of the action of the Executive. Rabbi Eisendrath, who has been terrified by the clamor of the opposition, summoned a few weeks ago a rump conference of Rabbis which adopted the Resolution enclosed herewith. Rabbi James Heller, chairman of the Administrative Committee of the ZOA, was one of the Rabbis who voted for it. I am enclosing herewith a letter which I sent to Rabbi Heller and to some of the other "Zionist" Rabbis who attended this meeting, some of whom, by the way, have since recanted their action. You will see from the letter which Rabbi Eisendrath wrote me a few days ago that what is being contemplated at the next meeting of the Executive of the Union which is to be held the 18th of this month, is to proclaim to the country that the Union of American Hebrew Congregations dissociates itself from the Zionist program -- not that it is neutral on the subject, but negative.

I am afraid that the anti-Zionists will succeed in having their way at the next meeting of the Executive largely because this Resolution will have the blessing of an important official of the ZOA and of some other so called Zionist Rabbis.

I have had no reply to the letter which I wrote to Rabbi Heller as Chairman of the Executive of the Zionist Emergency Council.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS: BK
Enc. - 4

January 7, 1944

Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
40 West 68th Street,
New York 17, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Wise:

I am enclosing a letter which I received from Mr. Sumner Welles. It is unfortunate that the illness of his wife will make it impossible for him to go to Washington at an early date, and to carry on with the task he had undertaken.

I was in touch this week with Mr. Nathan Strauss to learn whether he had heard anything further about the "good news" which Postmaster Frank Walker told us a few weeks ago would be soon forthcoming. Mr. Strauss said that he would get in touch with Mr. Walker immediately. Failing this, we will have to make a direct effort to reach the President, now that he is recovering from his illness. We should certainly not wish to introduce the Palestine Resolution into Congress before learning from him what the situation is. We must know, too, before our delegation leaves for London.

Very cordially yours,

P. S. The Revisionists have become active again in the public press with large scale advertisements, both in the English and Yiddish press. This is evidently an indication that they

Dr. Stephen S. Wise

-2-

January 7, 1944

have despaired of our ever acting favorably upon their formal request to be permitted to join our Emergency Council. Our friends in Palestine are unwilling to take a stand on the subject, and our parties here seem to be opposed to the proposal. I am afraid that we are missing an opportunity and that we shall be severely criticized for having turned aside the hand of cooperation and unity extended to us. Our action may even bring about a reconciliation between the Revisionists and the Bergson group.

AHS:K



January 7, 1944

Dr. Stephen S. Wise
40 West 68th St.
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Wise:

In the copy of the letter which was sent to you, written by Dr. Silver to Rabbi Eisendrath, the words "but negative" were omitted at the end of the third paragraph. The paragraph should read:

"Your letter simply confirms what I have known right along -- that the effort which will be made on January 18th is not to declare that the Union is neutral on the subject of Zionism, but negative."

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Rabbi Silver.

Arthur Lourie from Dr. Wise
January 8, 1944

RECEIVED

NOTED BY	REFER TO
DATE	DATE
	AL
JAN 11 1944	
ANSWERED	

AHS

When you see Dr. Silver will you be good enough to explain to him that his letter of January 6 reached me just a few hours before I left for the South. I am not sure that it calls for a reply.

I share his regret over the demand of the anti-Zionist rabbis for an immediate reconsideration of the action of the Executive. I take it for granted that Dr. Silver means to attend the meeting of the Executive of the UAHC and make his protest against such reconsideration prior to the confirmation of the UAHC.

h

January 18, 1944

Dear Chief:

From several sources, including England, have come reports of far-reaching importance concerning Palestine, which will necessitate our reaching important decisions. These decisions may also require an immediate trip to England by one or more of our American Zionist leaders.

Dr. Silver and I, who are co-Chairmen of the American Zionist Emergency Council, earnestly hope that you may find it possible to see us at the earliest possible moment for brief consultation. I know as well as anyone can how burdened you are, and I would not make this request at this time if I did not feel that the matter was most urgent and that my responsibility as a Zionist leader compelled me to do so.

I cannot refrain from adding that I was rejoiced by your words in your message to Congress. It is a glorious challenge to our country, which will not fail you.

Ever yours,

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America
Mizrachi Organization of America
Poale Zion-Zeire Zion of America
Zionist Organization of America

342 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.
M U r r a y H i l l 2 - 1 1 6 0

Office of Dr. Wise
40 West 68th Street
New York 23, N. Y.

January 19, 1944

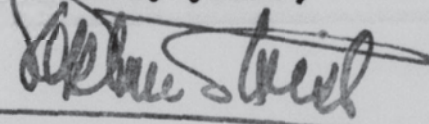
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

I think through an inadvertence, the draft of the letter I prepared for the Skipper was mailed to you. I saw Shulman later and he proposed the substitution of this letter for my own. I followed his suggestion and this is the letter that actually went to the Skipper.

I hope we may soon hear from him.

Faithfully yours,



SSW/RW
Enc.

Stephen S. Wise

January 26, 1944

Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
40 West 68th Street,
New York City,
New York

My dear Dr. Wise:

I am enclosing herewith a letter about
"The Nation".

What do you think of the suggestion
contained in it?

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:NEK

Abba Hillel Silver

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1207

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PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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

January 27, 1944 19

To Dr. Stephen S. Wise

Care of or Apt. No. 40 W. 68th St.

Street and No. New York, N.Y.

Place

WANT A REPLY?
"Answer by WESTERN UNION"
or similar phrases may be
included without charge.

HAVE YOU HEARD WH THER OUR APPOINTMENT IN WASHINGTON IS

DEFINITE AND ~~WHY~~ FOR WHAT DAY? HAVE TO MAKE TRAIN RESERVATIONS.

SILVER

Sender's Name

Address

Tel. No.

American Zionist Emergency Council

CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS

Hadassah, Women's Zionist Organization of America
Mizrachi Organization of America
Poale Zion-Zeire Zion of America
Zionist Organization of America

342 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.
M U r r a y H i l l 2 - 1 1 6 0

January 28, 1944

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

Replying to your letter of January 26th, a similar proposal came from Mr. *Wing* to the American Jewish Congress; namely, that we give \$2500 of the \$25,000 anniversary fund which is asked.

I feel the American Zionist Emergency Council may send a gift of \$500 but to give one-tenth is out of all proportion.

Very cordially yours,

Stephen S. Wise

SSW:RK

Stephen S. Wise

STANDARD TIME INDICATED
RECEIVED AT
(18)
TELEPHONE YOUR TELEGRAMS TO POSTAL TELEGRAPH

Form 16

Postal Telegraph



Mackay Radio All America Cables
Commercial Cables Canadian Pacific Telegraphs

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41 FEB 3 PM 7 50

H. CB429 1944 FEB 3 1^{PM} C. SA303 WUSB309S (FIVE) 22= LOS ANGELES CALIF
DR A H SILVER= 3 406P

THE TEMPLE (CLEVELAND OHIO)=1 Ansel E 105

WRHS



DUPLICATE OF TELEPHONED TELEGRAM

IF YOU AND STRAUS FEEL HE SHOULD SUBSTITUTE FOR ME I AM ENTIRELY
SATISFIED THIS CANNOT BE DONE WITHOUT CONSULTING JUDGE R=
STEPHEN WISE.

jk 3740

R

To Mrs S	
By BL	At 8:00 PM
By 8:40 PM	By BL

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

2-4-44

19

To Stephen S. Wise

Care of or Apt. No.

Street and No. New York, N.Y.

WANT A REPLY?

"Answer by WESTERN UNION"
or similar phrases may be
included without charge.

Place

HAVE SPOKEN TO NATHAN STRAUS THIS MORNING. WE BOTH FEEL STRONGLY THAT THE
PROPOSED MEETING SHOULD BE HELD ON THE SECOND OR THIRD AS SCHEDULED. MUCH CAN
HAPPEN IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS TO EMBARRASS US. IF YOU CANNOT RE-ARRANGE YOUR PLANS
SUGGEST NATHAN STRAUS SUBSTITUTE FOR YOU. PLEASE WIRE. KINDEST REGARDS.

A H SILVER

Sender's Name

Address

Tel. No.

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

A. N. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

1220

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LC=Deferred Cable

NLT=Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

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H. CA146

C. SC178

WUSA189S (SEVEN) DL=AB LOSANGELES CALIF 6 11 24A=

FEB 6 PM 3 27

DR A H SILVER=

East 105 and Angel Rd

Care THE TEMPLE (CLEVELAND OHIO)=

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM JUDGE R "MEETING OF FOURTEENTH IS NOT RESULT OF REQUEST BY YOU AND DOCTOR SILVER. IT IS THE MEETING THAT I HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT WITH DR NUHUM GOLDMANN AND WHICH HAS BEEN IN PROCESS FOR MANY WEEKS BUT DALAYED BECAUSE OF PRESIDENT'S WRHS MAY WE NOT ASSUME THAT OUR OTHER APPOINTMENT WILL BE MADE? REMAINING HERE TILL WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON REACHING NEW YORK SATURDAY MORNING. TELEGRAM FROM WHITE HOUSE FEBRUARY FOURTH "PLEASE REGARD MY LETTER FEBRUARY THIRD CONFIDENTIAL AS DEEMED INADVISABLE FOR PUBLICITY PRIOR TO APPOINTMENT. SECRETARY WATSON=

STEPHEN WISE.



LA 0150
Referred Sk 3740 @ Self
HF 356 P M
Rfd 357 P - HF

JUDGE R.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
342 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

CHAIRMAN
DR. STEPHEN S. WISE

February 17, 1944

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I hasten to send you a copy of a letter I have just written to Harry Fisher. I also send you his letter to me, though he may have sent you a copy.

I think it would be a most grievous mistake to do this thing. Had you not better warn him at once? I am sure that when you accepted their invitation, if you have accepted it, you did not know that it was on the basis of the Bergson *Rafalli* gangsters.

Faithfully yours,

ssw:eh
enclosures

1620 ALTON ROAD
PHONE 58-1609



JOSEPH M. ROSE, Pres.
JOE COHEN, Sec.-Treas.

COHEN-ROSE INVESTMENT CO., INC.
REALTORS
MIAMI BEACH 39, FLORIDA

March 2, 1944

RECEIVED	
NOTED BY	REFER TO
DATE	DATE
MAR 3 1944	
ANSWERED	

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
c/o American Zionist Emergency Council
342 Madison Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

copy to AFB
sent _____ date _____

Dear Dr. Silver:

You are right in believing that I have come upon all that you mention in your letter of February 28th, in every sort of way and most especially through the radio and press reports, all of them alike, disconcerting and even terrifying. I am afraid that we should have foreseen what would happen and that our Bill gave our enemies just the opportunity they waited for, our enemies within and our enemies without.

Whether things can be patched ^{up} at all, it is difficult, at this distance from Washington, to say. I am not even sure that the Chief is in Washington at this time. I will write to him and tell him of my own deep unhappiness over the turn things are taking and try to make him decide that he ought to see us.

I assume that you will not try to push the Bill if it faces defeat in Committee or in the House. I hope to see you within a week and we can talk things over. I may say to you that if I were feeling well, I would go home at once but I have been far from well and suffering great pain because of the organic disease from which I suffer.

With cordial greetings,

Yours,

Joseph M. Rose

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

To Dr. Stephen S. Wise

Care of or Apt. No. 70 Rose

Street and No. 1400 Lennox

Place Miami Beach, Fla.

3 - 7 - 44 19

WANT A REPLY?

"Answer by WESTERN UNION"
or similar phrases may be
included without charge.

Please wire me Cleve. when you will
arrive Washington. We should confer
prior to our aspt.

Silver

Sender's Name

Address

Tel. No.

March 14, 1944

Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
40 West 68th Street,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Wise:

The program of our meeting on the 21st looks very formidable and long. I instructed our office to write to all the speakers and to suggest to some of them a fifteen minute time limit, and to others twenty minutes. The only one to whom I have not written, suggesting any limitation is Dorothy Thompson.

In order to keep the meeting from dragging out, I would suggest that the introductions of the speakers, which you as Chairman will make, should be brief.

Meyer Weisgal is arranging for some music to lighten the monotony of speech-making.

I have requested Emanuel Neumann to prepare a set of resolutions to be adopted by the meeting. He will have these resolutions ready for our meeting next Monday, at which time we will have an opportunity to revise them.

You may be interested in a very good editorial "The Army in Politics" which appears in this week's issue of The New Leader, a pro-Roosevelt and a pro-New Deal weekly.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:NEK

Abba Hillel Silver

Dr. Silver

May 25, 1944.

Dr. Stephen S. Wise
40 West 68th Street
New York City

My dear Dr. Wise:

Dr. Silver asks if you will kindly have your Secretary send me a note, if one is available, on your recent conversation with Judge Rosenman, and also with Sumner Welles.

I hope that you can let me have such a note for our confidential file here, and also for purposes of mutual information.

Yours sincerely,

Arthur Lourie

AL:BI

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
342 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

CHAIRMAN
DR. STEPHEN S. WISE

40 W. 68 St.
New York 23

May 25, 1944

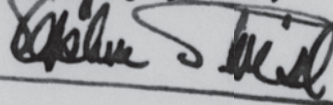
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I have thought that perhaps you and I ought to write a letter to Under-Secretary Stettinius, somewhat along the following lines. I think this may be necessary because we were so happy over what he told us that we failed to take account of the possibility of Partition. A small segmentized Palestine would be of little meaning, and least of all to you and me who had a full part in the battle against Partition years ago.

Will you return the letter to me with any suggestions that you may wish to make.

Faithfully yours,



SSW:FE

Stephen S. Wise

May 29, 1944

Dr. Stephen S. Wise
40 West 68th Street
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Wise:

I have made one or two slight suggestions in the draft of the letter to Under-Secretary Stettinius, and I agree with you that it should be sent. I suggested a revision in the second sentence of the letter because as I recall it, Stettinius indicated that the President would be prepared to make a statement around the middle of August. We should not suggest in the letter that we expect long discussions of the subject before we have a chance to see the President. Unless we can get a statement from the President and action on our resolutions before the elections, we are not likely to get either after the elections.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

June 9, 1944

Dr. Stephen S. Wise
40 West 68th Street
New York, N. Y.

My dear ~~Friend~~ *Dr. Wise*

You might be interested in the enclosed
report of the meeting between the Jewish Congressmen
and Bergson in Washington.

Very cordially yours,

AHS:DR
Enc.

AMERICAN ZIONIST EMERGENCY COUNCIL
342 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

CHAIRMAN
DR. STEPHEN S. WISE
40 West 68th Street
New York 23, N. Y.

June 14, 1944

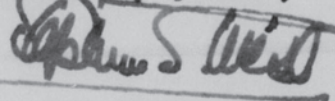
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I thank you for sending me a copy of the communication of Sack to you.

I saw Congressman Celler yesterday in Washington, where I happened to be in connection with a hearing before the House of Representatives Committee on the F.E.P.C. and at a meeting with the Polish Prime Minister. Celler evidently has been hard-hit by Bergson. He urges most insistently that you and I and others among our associates meet with the Jewish members of Congress. But we will have a chance to discuss this more fully on Monday afternoon and evening.

Cordially yours,



SSW/RW

Stephen S. Wise

June 29, 1944

Dr. Stephen S. Wise
40 West 68th Street
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Wise:

The conversation with Congressman Bloom, a copy of which I received this morning from Mr. Lourie, seems to have been quite satisfactory. I hope that Mr. Bloom goes through with his pledge. Evidently the focal difficulty, according to Bloom, is Senator Connolly and Luther Johnson. Mr. Bloom promises to see Mr. Connolly before the Resolution is brought up for action. I have not yet seen what Mr. Bloom said at his Testimonial Dinner about the Jewish Commonwealth.

What do you make of Stettinius' letter to us?

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK