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

Series III: Personal Correspondence, 1914-1964, undated.

Sub-series B: Alphabetical, 1915-1963, undated.

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Krohngold, Bertram J., President of The Temple, Cleveland,
1961-1962.

BANKS-BALDWIN LAW PUBLISHING COMPANY
AMERICA'S OLDEST LAW PUBLISHING HOUSE • ESTABLISHED 1804
UNIVERSITY CENTER
CLEVELAND 6, OHIO

Our 157th Year
March 9, 1961

Mr. Bertram Krongold
President of The Temple
East 105 Street and Silver Park
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Mr. Krongold:

I am writing to you at the suggestion of Rabbi Daniel Silver.

Banks-Baldwin Law Publishing Company wishes to erect a modern two-story office building to the rear of our present offices. We hope to commence construction during the early part of the summer. A major problem is the fact that the new building would substantially eliminate our present off-street parking area. It is necessary for us to secure other parking space (12 car maximum) for our employees before going ahead.

If at all possible, we hope we may effect some arrangement with The Temple for the use of a portion of your parking lot in the area adjacent to our rear property line. This area would be used only for employee parking and would not be used for other access to our offices, or deliveries.

The new structure would be entirely separate from and additional to our present offices. It will scarcely be visible from East 105th Street or The Temple Area -- unless and until the adjoining apartment building to our north might be razed. The structure would be a modern two story building with full basement, entirely air conditioned and completely fireproof. Although of a modern style of architecture it would harmonize with the present offices and adjoining structures. Our architect is Willard Hirsh.

The new offices will provide additional space which we shall require in the years ahead. Prior to use of all space, we have an allied publishing operation (owned by me) which will occupy the second floor.

Upon completion of the new building we would raze our present frame garage and landscape the rear yard extending approximately 54' to our rear lot line (and your parking lot).

To give you an idea as to our property, with the location of present buildings and the new structure, we are enclosing:

- (1) A survey plat (the proposed structure in red).

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March 9, 1961
2.

- (2) The architect's first floor plan for the new building.

We love our present location and intend to stay here for the foreseeable future. We are wide open to your thoughts as to an arrangement for our use of your parking space. Here are several suggestions as to the type of arrangement we might effectuate:

- (1) An agreement, subject to cancellation by either party on thirty day notice, whereby Banks-Baldwin would have the use of space to accommodate up to 12 vehicles in the area at our rear lot line in return for paying a stated amount toward expenses for upkeep of your parking area.
- (2) A similar arrangement where Banks-Baldwin has the use of such areas for a token payment of \$1.00 per year, with the understanding that Banks-Baldwin will try to reciprocate for The Temple's generosity.

Any agreement or understanding could include the following provisions:

- (1) Our use of the specified area would be limited to day time office hours Monday through Friday, exclusive of Jewish holidays or any other date when The Temple notifies us they require the area.
- (2) Banks-Baldwin will not use The Temple's areas for deliveries, or other general access.
- (3) Banks-Baldwin will carry insurance to protect The Temple and itself for any use of the area.
- (4) Banks-Baldwin will bear all costs for gates, fencing and landscaping at our common lot line.

In making this request we are somewhat desperate to obtain necessary off-street parking. I approached Rabbi Daniel Silver approximately one year ago concerning our plans, before you purchased and paved the area immediately behind our property. At that time he indicated that an arrangement might be worked out with you, but we both agreed that there was no point in proceeding further until our plans were more definite. We like to feel that we are an asset to the neighborhood, and our new structure should contribute to the long term stabilization and improvement of the area.

If at all possible, we would like to work out an agreement which could be approved at the April meeting of your Board, or very shortly thereafter. To work toward this end I would appreciate any opportunity to meet with you or other representatives of The Temple to furnish further information and shape up a concrete proposal in a form you might desire for consideration at the April meeting. Rabbi Silver advises that there will not be a March meeting of the Board.

WHD:hd
cc: Rabbi Silver
Mr. Hirsh
Encl.

Sincerely yours

BANKS-BALDWIN LAW PUBLISHING COMPANY

W. H. Drane
W. H. Drane, President



FIFTH AVENUE AT 61ST STREET
NEW YORK 21, N. Y.
TELEPHONE TEMPLETON 8-8000
CABLE ADDRESS PIERREOTEL

May 10, 1961

Rabbi Abba H. Silver
The Temple
East 105th and Silver Park
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi,

Needless to tell you how very disappointed I am to be unable to officiate at the Annual Meeting.

I am anxious, however, to convey to the Congregation a short message and greetings, and ask that you please arrange to have the enclosed read at the opening of the meeting on Sunday.

I want to tell you how very much I appreciated your 'phone call, and also your most welcome letter.

I happen to have a very non-committal doctor, but can report excellent progress daily.

I hope you, and Virginia, and the family are enjoying the best of health.

Connie joins me in sending you both our best love.

With all good wishes,

Cordially,

Bert.

Enclosure

*Message was put in the
Annual Meeting Minutes.*

June 5, 1961

Alfred R. Bachrach, President
c/o Congregation Emanu-El
Fifth Avenue at 65th Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Bachrach:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter under date of May 23.

My answer has been delayed on account of illness. I am now convalescing and my doctor has advised me not to plan a trip to New York by June 18.

I have, therefore, decided to send to you (herein enclosed) a copy of "Statement of Policy as passed by The Temple Board of Trustees on April 13, 1961, in regard to the proposed Social Action Center in Washington D. C."

We feel that this resolution is a sound one, and states our position very clearly; namely, that our Board of Trustees will instruct its delegates to the November Biennial not to vote in favor of the establishment of a Social Action Center in Washington D. C. I ask that you do not publicize, advertise, or reprint our resolution at any time without our permission.

Am very sorry I cannot be with you at your meeting on June 18. Wishing you and the other representatives a fruitful and successful meeting, and with all good wishes,

Cordially,

Bertram J. Krohngold
President

BJK:pav

October 30, 1961

My dear Bert:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the Resolution which Dr. Eisendrath requested that I draft. It may serve as a basis upon which both sides can agree.

With all good wishes, I remain

Cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfm

Mr. Bertram J. Krohngold
The Krohngold Shoe Company
338 St. Clair Avenue, N.W.
Cleveland 13, Ohio

Enclosure

December 13, 1961

My dear Bert:

I want to thank you for the beautiful 1962 calendar which you sent me. It is a handy and useful calendar which I shall keep on my desk.

With all good wishes, I remain



Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfm

Mr. Bertram J. Krohngold
13600 Shaker Boulevard
Cleveland 20, Ohio

Copy to Rabbi Daniel J. Silver

Please advise at once if you suggest any changes.

TB JK.

May 4, 1962

Mr. Jack Davis, General Chairman
Combined Campaign for American Reformed Judaism
c/o Union of American Hebrew Congregations
838 Fifth Avenue
New York 21, New York

Dear Mr. Davis:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter under date of May 1st with regard to our recent meeting with your Mr. Louis Wernick, Area Director.

It was suggested that we would be willing to endeavor to work out a 10% proportional dues plan on basic dues with strict limitations regarding a solicitation of supplemental individual contributions from our members. ✓

Our membership is broken down into the following categories:

Approximately 1,850 senior members at basic dues of \$120.00 \$222,000.00

Approximately 300 members, widows, senior citizens, etc.
at reduced rates which average \$46.00 13,800.00

Approximately 140 junior members at a special rate of \$36.00 5,040.00

Total \$240,840.00

Kindly note that this is merely a suggestion on my part and we are in no definite position to adopt this plan until this matter is brought up and passed by our Board of Directors.

If after giving this matter consideration and you decide to accept this offer, I shall make every effort to make this plan possible and workable.

With all good wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Bertram J. Krohngold
President

BJK:pav

Dear Rabbi :-

Thought
you might like to
see a copy of letter
I sent to Edith
Goldsmith.

Regards

Bert.

June 4, 1962

Mrs. Edith Goldsmith
13700 Shaker Blvd.
Shaker Heights, Ohio

Dear Edith:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter indicating your resignation from The Temple.

I most certainly do not want to accept this letter as final and, therefore, have not processed same through our membership committee.

I personally feel very badly about your decision. The Temple will also miss you very much and I know that you personally will miss The Temple since it has been a very important part of your life for so long.

I could go on with a full page giving you reasons why you should withdraw this decision, but I will leave that to your good judgment as well as the dictates of your heart.

So very often things happen in one's life which we must forgive and forget and by so doing we feel happier and have peace of mind.

I am hoping sincerely that you will reconsider your decision and await your reply.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Bertram J. Krohngold
President

June 11, 1962

My dear Bert:

Enclosed is a copy of the letter which I sent
to Edith Goldsmith.

AHS:bfm



Most cordially,



ABBA HILLEL SILVER

Mr. Bertram J. Krohngold
339 St. Clair West
Cleveland 13, Ohio

June 6, 1962

My dear Edith:

Bert showed me your letter of resignation. Inasmuch as your grievance is against the Temple Women's Association and neither I, nor any Rabbi or officer of the Temple had anything to do with the program of the Temple Women's Association which offended you, I feel that you owe it to the Temple with which you and your parents were prominently identified for so many years and to me, its Rabbi and your friend for many years, to come in and talk it over with me before your letter is presented to the Board. I shall be pleased to see you at the Temple at any time convenient to you.

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfm

Mrs. Walter Goldsmith
13800 Shaker Boulevard
Cleveland 20, Ohio

Mrs. Walter A. Goldsmith
13800 Shaker Blvd.
Cleveland 20, Ohio

June 12, 1967.

Dear Rabbi Silver, This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of June sixth. As regards the objectionable action of the Temple Women's Association, it is necessary to conclude that the philosophy of the various Temple groups must necessarily reflect that of the Leader of the Congregation. Events in the past have led to the belief that this obviously represents the true feelings.

This is not the spirit that dominated the Temple when my Parents and my Ancestors were active members. Therefore I insist that my resignation be presented to the membership committee of the Temple.

Very truly yours
Edith J. Goldsmith

June 13, 1962

My dear Mrs. Goldsmith:

Your resignation will, of course, be presented to the Board of Trustees of the Temple.

You did not have the courtesy or the courage to come in to see me as I requested in my letter, nor the grace to accept in good faith the apology which Virginia made when she came to see you. I had advised her not to go, but feeling that she might have unintentionally hurt you by the quite proper suggestion which she made to the Board of the Temple Women's Association, she did go. But you chose rather to follow the dictates of false pride or listen to hostile voices.

I am not impressed by your reflections on the "Leader of the Congregation", which I regard as insolent. I do not stand in need of your approval. I would suggest that you look closely into the real motives behind your own "philosophy". But references in your letter to your parents make me aware how different was their consistent friendship and loyalty to me and to the Temple, through the years, from those of yours.

Sincerely,

AHS:bfn

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

Mrs. Walter Goldsmith
13800 Shaker Boulevard
Cleveland 20, Ohio

June 25, 1962

My dear Bert:

For your record, I am sending you a copy of the letter which Mrs. Edith Goldsmith wrote to me, and my answer. I thought that you might want to have them.

With warmest regards, I remain



Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfm

Mr. Bert Sam J. Krohngold
339 St. Clair, N.W.
Cleveland 13, Ohio

Sands of Los Angeles

Motor Hotels—11461 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, California

Sunday.
July 1 - 1962

My Dear Rabbi; -

Want to report to you I am feeling wonderful. Enjoying a fine rest. Playing a little golf and getting plenty of this beautiful California Sunshine. Both Connie and I are getting thrills, and so much pleasure from our children.

We are also helping them get settled in their lovely new home, and of course you know what great pleasure that can be.

We are having a lovely vacation. Expect to be back home in about a week. Hope all is going well at The Temple, and that you and Virginia + family are all well.

Connie joins in sending
both of you our best love.

Sincerely

Bert.

