



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 IV: Sermons, 1914-1963, undated.

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The just and permanent peace, 1942.

For I dipped into the future, far as human eye could see,
Saw the Vision of the world, and all the wonder that would be;

Saw the heavens fill with commerce, argosies of magic sails,
Pilots of the purple twilight, dropping down with costly bales;

Heard the heavens fill with shouting, and there rained a ghastly dew
From the nations' airy navies grappling in the central blue;

Till the war-drum throbb'd no longer, and the battle-flags were furled
In the Parliament of man, the Federation of the world.

There the common sense of most shall hold a fretful realm in awe,
And the kindly earth shall slumber, lapped in universal law.



unless the foundations of peace are made secure throughout all parts of the world.

When I say that in order to have peace this world must be free, I am only reporting that a great process has started which no man—certainly not Hitler—can stop. Men and women all over the world are on the march, physically, intellectually and spiritually. After centuries of ignorant and dull compliance hundreds of millions of people in Eastern Europe and Asia have opened the books. Old fears no longer frighten them. They are no longer willing to be Eastern slaves for Western profits. They are beginning to know that men's welfare throughout the world is interdependent. They are resolved, as we must be, that there is no more place for imperialism within their own society than in the society of nations. The big house on the hill surrounded by mud huts has lost its awesome charm.

Western World on Trial

Our Western

1) War has always done many significant things for us. How long effect.
Exalted words do unfortunately evaporate frequently.
High Resolutions are readily forgotten - when the occasion which gave
rise to them passes.

There was high idealism among youth in last war - It was
spring-tide in the hearts of men - + Triumphs were sounding -
But, you will recall, that the years which ensued followed the
war, ~~but~~ an youth went all out for a short time - Age of
Flapper - Jazz Age - Gaudy - Giddy Brown era - Melba's
Speakeasies - Gambling - House - To be followed -
Among the Defeated - youth turned to Nat. Chauvinism and
Hate Movement.

2) Perhaps we shall repeat the old again. But there is a
chance - that we shall not - We are so close to post war
that its lessons may not be entirely ignored

3) We have rediscovered the sense of ~~National~~ Responsibility -
Obligations of Citizenship (Principles) - The Higher Demands
of group life to which individual interests must be
subordinated -

The Disciplines and sacrifices of Democratic life -
Which was also, unfortunately, seen to make us aware -

To learn - that the true life is not an easy-going experience
in pleasant dawdling and ^{unrestrained} indulgence - but that it is
Exacting - Demanding - Challenging - best with Dangers & Trials
F. - never a Gift - Fight for - Hard for - always ~~for~~ - but Land Reclaimed from Sea

is a ~~great~~ ^{important} spirit. Gairi. Eternal Vig. Love - Selfless - Sacrifice

4) We have rediscovered our American Faith & Creed.

We had grown rather apathetic about - Am + Am. workers - esp. ~~as a result of~~ ^{the} disabament with last war - safe for Jewry

our intellectuals, particularly disparted too early over the disruption,
& disparities and disgraces of Democracy.

Never was there such a shock in human enthusiasm as people

for the American way of life.

But as the Nazi-Fascist empire was developed -

- as Dem. stronghold collapsed in our country

And as our people beheld - at first with indifference then
with concern - finally with shocked amazement & Fear

- the Barbarism - cruelty - depravity - Sedition - the Fifth

let loose upon the world - all in the name of a New
Order - Anti-Semite - Anti-Liberal - all the gains

They have come to realize - how precious the liberty

Old values - New Passion & Devotion for these ideal

which for 150 years - breathed the freedom

of the world - our Guicini is gone - we stand

to day before the ruins of a free people -

unwillingly - properly - as London stood at the fall

also highly resolved - shall not perish from the earth
- a vital spirit Gairi - in our land in its own field

5/ Given up an moral isolationism - Ran out on Maudsley
we withdrew from the responsibility, peace - shortly after that
we refused to assume an ^{full} share in maintaining peace, the world
we did intervene gingerly - in crises - without effect -
bec. our position & course were unpredictable - lost up

We built walls of Neutrality abt us.

When great world invasion - presentations - Danish
affair -

It took as a long time to understand - the nature
immense, new press - unleashed -

Struggle developing - involved Basic Things - Things / Destiny

What the world was being threatened with - Universal
Break-down and Black-out

End of Civilization - Renaissance - Reformation - 2 Revolutions

End of whole Judeo-Christian Tradition - Supremacy

of Moral Law - Unalienable Rights / Individual - Freedom

~~Equality~~ ^{Peace & Love} and the Quest for Peace - Pseudo-populism

Force - Power Caste + State Authority - at the behest of Imperialism

= But we did finally come to understand - & then we

~~Tore, saw~~ cut through the self imposed bonds of superstitions
neutrality + isolationism - Saulson

Joined with free men every where to preserve - what
to free men is more to be desired & life itself.

Great pain for sp. Time & chance in which youth may live

6) This is a great Hour which is fortunately not finding us
a small people. (4)

Our ^{Common} Youth, especially, should feel the challenge of the ^{future} ~~phases~~ of this hour.

Victory - will not automatically, usher in New order New
Order

Hard, turbulent, confused period of Reconstruction -

War - will clear away underbrush - open highways

My generation will perhaps even see a herald

new order - preceded 1914

But your night! Prophets of Disaster

World Pacification is possible - tho the adequate

Formula has not yet been found -

Pact ^{unification} ~~unification~~ - England - Italy - Germany - U.S. ^{great} ~~great~~ ^{part} ~~part~~ ^{idea} ~~idea~~

Part failure - should not discourage - U.S. Poverty

U.S. Poverty ^{unprepared for peace} ~~unprepared for peace~~ 1918

2nd world war - for same structures =

Along lines of League - inherent flaws - state

Sovereignty - Unanimity - Right to Life - No interference ^{Flag}

All people - including present oppressors -

is possible

h) a juster world. The work of Reconstruction shall be

Peace - not Utopia - Proper ^{Provision} ~~Provision~~ ^{Security} ~~Security~~ - Paradoxical
Contradictions

Forerunners on com. Wise

Too high a price for freedom - unemployment

Men want Security - begun -

Must find the Equation - not freedom - Social Security (5)

Perhaps the meeting in common between Soviet & Eng. U.S. - is symbolic / future

We can learn much from Soviet - nat. planning -
cooperative living - production for use

Soviet - invaluable values Freedom - peace, pros.
religion - area where free enterprise is most
desirable - proper then without seeking means to ends

Not doctrinaire - Pluralistic - Social Security

"When each man shall live under his law -"

7. A new Spiritual world is possible

- Progress without sp. inspiration a guidance - transmission
- A materialistic civilization degraded God - mass
- work

- Outreachery - Soldiers -

- Use all that service can give man - +

Unusually coordinating it all to service, for man
in spirit - 3175

8. If - after ^{our young men return} retain some vague mission
consecration - staying power - not Messiah of Israel
a new heaven to new earth -

Adam - Days, but are dark days

Joined hands -

sermon 609.1(?) (3)

6) Good climate - challenge our youth-expertise
to win war - also Peace!

No easy war! No easy Peace!

Victory will not automatic. vther in God Sec.

Hard, Turbulent Period of Reconstruction

Our generation - Tranquility - Our Children

Teach our Children - not lose confidence

World Org is possible! Patience - England

Farther League - No great Risk! Do

Avoid mistakes - ① Sovereignty ② Unanimity

③ Secede ④ No Force

Churchill - "Rightly cast aside in course
work which was accomplished by the creation
League of Nations"

Save next generation from folly of Isolationism

Choice: Cooperation in Peace - or later. in War

Our first show - No Unanimity! Majority!

7. Courage to offer more - further world

Not Utopia! Paradox - Currents of change

Speedy + resolute progress - Security

Dem. can not expect too high a price
Fascism thrives
Must find Equation

Whisper - Relief - when
Trade - barrier - occurs
Stability - Curfew - Curfew
Collect - Security

Joined with other free men - to fight for
to rally our youth - for Rep. Mandate off. spectrum.

No song wa! No song Boe!

Victory will not automatic. uske in New order
Hard, turbulent period Reconstruction - Raging

Our Generation - Traveled world = Youth -

Proposed: Deyhan - ^{Teach our children} World Org. is possible.

Patience - England Purest

No Great rev. in ¹⁹²⁰ Post Failure

- Avoid mistakes - Sovereignty - Unanimity

Secede → No Implementing Force

(Lisby Churchill) ^{best ability - [unclear] work} as basis for [unclear]
not Utopia - Paradise - Concentration C.

not utopia - Paradise - Concentration C.

more steady & resolute progress - Security

Too high a Price - Fas. thrives

Must find a gradient - Pol. Fr. - Econ. Sense

Perhaps meeting in common factors

Soviet - Anglo-Japan

- Nat. Planning - Cooper. Living - Pub. Use

- Areas where free enterprise - Value Friction

Not Doctormann - Pharmakety - Under the Virus

Courage
to
experiment

Not Doctrinaire - Pluralistic - Vibe.
"Work & Rightness shall be Power"

9b) Avoid Isolationism - Avoid Reaction

Avoid Disunity = The Technique
of Reaction.

Class Struggle = is not our way!

Race antagonism - Nazis -

most successful weapon -

Our inter-dependence! To safeguard us -

"Declaration" - we hold -

Love Humanity - Hate Neighbor.

- Don't have to love him - Exploit - Respect

9c) Avoid Materialism -

Progress without sp. corruption + fundaise

Dethroned God - Man-made - Thurs - Wolch

Soldiers - out-reaching

Need all Science - but sp. persons to
put it all to service of God Man

7d) Retain sense of Urgency! of Mission!

Strong Power -

Days of War are Dark Days (Holocaust)

8/ Ames' Role - ^{Eschew mass. prog} Site Respon. for forting Bull
Universal Land - Lease - March in every Back-ld
^{Govt. - national Philanthropist}
Cred to Disappointment - Notably - Atlas
Our own Burden - terrific - Our own people
work harder - longer - for less -
Crushing burden, debt must be paid off
Stopping taxes for generations -

9/ What we Relief - increased privates
other nations, nations, must assume
what we - restless law & order - police
Facilitate internat. Trade - Barriers
High Tariffs - Justa systems -
Access to raw material
Stabilizing currency - Tech. Skill
Govt. loans least helpful - Credit Port.
Build up an am. Econ. how soon!
+ Atmosphere of Pol. Security - our than
cease Bribing nations to be good!
+ End of Persecution - Guar. Rights
10/ Retain some Urgency - Stopping Power
Days, has on dark days (Adams)