



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.

Reel
165

Box
60

Folder
958

America and the rebirth of freedom, 1955.

AMERICA AND THE REBIRTH OF FREEDOM

Concluding the series of lectures
on
The "New Look" in World Affairs

October 30, 1955

We speak of the Rebirth of Freedom. Abraham Lincoln spoke of the Rebirth of Freedom. The term is very significant - for Freedom must be reborn time and again. Freedom is a precious gift which is however never given to us. It is never given as a gift to any people. It must be won through struggle. And the fact that it has been won once does not mean that it is permanently secure. That is something that the lovers of freedom frequently lose sight of. Freedom must struggle for its survival. It is frequently menaced and must be continuously defended. And the methods which are used in its defense are unfortunately, sometimes self-defeating. This is especially true in perilous times, when the threats to freedom are grave and imminent. It is unfortunate that freedom, and the institutions of freedom, democracy -- that they have not yet elaborated a wise and effective procedure, which is consonant with their basic tenets, in order to combat the very shrewd techniques and tactics of dictatorship, which are highly elaborated, which are worked out to the last detail. Thus, for example, when democracy should be on the alert, in times of relative peace, it is frequently relaxed and indifferent so that the enemy has little difficulty in penetrating its defenses. When on the other hand, freedom and democracy are confronted with real danger, apparent, palpable, visible danger, and when they should remain, because of this present danger, collected and circumspect and coldly reasoning, they are easily panicked and stampeded into doing the very things which the enemies of freedom would wish them to do. So that they resort, in these serious times, frequently, to headlong restrictions upon the freedom of men, restrictions upon the written word, and the spoken word, restrictions upon academic freedom. At such time they are prone to deny citizens their rights guaranteed to them by the constitution of their

country. They are inclined to deprive them of due process and equal protection of the laws. Unwisely they are moved to brand men guilty by association and to destroy the reputations and the livelihood of men who have not been found guilty in any court of law. There is a tendency at such times, in a democracy, to discredit any man who expresses any unorthodox political or economic view, even though the motives of such men are most sincere and patriotic and in no way related to subversion. It is in such a climate of opinion, which comes in times of crises, when the dark reactionary forces of the nation who are eager to foster and exploit such a time, for their own partisan advantage - it is at such times when they proceed to terrorize the minds of free men. Intellectual freedom which means freedom of descent, and freedom to think and to question and to investigate. Intellectual freedom, which is the very sign and symbol and the salvation of a free society is driven underground. The schools and colleges, the teachers, writers and journalists, lecturers and preachers are forced to conform out of fear of a variety of punitive measures - not all necessarily legal measures, or measures taken by government, but measures which may be taken against them, not the least of which measures are economic ruin and the loss of a livelihood. It is at such times that frightened citizens, in all sincerity, as well as self-serving schemers and demagogues, raise the cry which would render nugatory and inoperative the First and Fifth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States, which declared that Congress should make no law abridging the freedom of speech or of the press and that no persons shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself or be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law.

It is at such times that Congressional Investigation Committees attempt to usurp the prerogatives of our courts and to brush aside these clear constitutional guarantees of American citizens. All of course in the name of saving our democracy from such external or internal threat of communism. Depriving men of the guarantees which dictatorships first destroy -- the very hallmark -- the very end-all and be-all of dictatorship is the ruthless rejection of these sacred guarantees enshrined in our

Bill of Rights.

Such times are the heyday, the time of greatest opportunity for lobbyists, for special interest groups, for smart opportunists, the clever demagogues who know how to manipulate the fears and hates of men in order to rise upon the rungs of this ladder to the top of his mounting ambitions. It is at such times when the bigot emerges in all his glory, the fanatic, the "primitive", the mobster, the inferiority obsessed and little noticed individual, who now senses an opportunity to play a role in the limelight to satisfy his starved and hungry soul.

We passed through such a period recently. We are not fully out of it yet. It may well come to be known in our history as the McCarty period. The name does not matter. It was a definite period - easily recognizable - possessed of all the ear marks to which I have referred. A free democracy, beset with danger, struggling to defend itself, and resorting in desperation to measures and methods which are contrary to its own genius, and to that extent, dangerous as well as unavailing.

But fortunately, we are steadily coming out of that mood. We are no longer in a panic. A more sober and more confident mood is asserting itself. We are no longer scared by these raucous shouts, which we heard for some years no, that every department of our government is honey-combed with spies and saboteurs and traitors. That the campuses of our universities, the pulpits of our churches are filled with fellow travelers or outright communists. That every writer or official of our government who favored some rapprochement with the East, with the Soviet Union or with Communist China was, ipso facto, a Red and a potential enemy of this country. That everyone, who at one time, however long ago, belonged to some organization which had advocated friendship between the United States and the Soviet Union -- a policy which was strongly favored by our government during those years, when Russia was our ally in war, fighting a common enemy - an organization to which the leading statesmen, and ambassadors and national figures of our country belonged - but which in later years was infiltrated by

communists and so became, in the eyes of our Department of Justice, subversive - that every such man was by the very fact of his belonging to such an organization, suspect and unfit to serve his country in any capacity. That any citizen, who was in any way, or at any time associated, professionally or otherwise with a known communist, was by that very token of association, guilty and a branded character. That every citizen at whom an informer, who was a former communist, working against our country, but who later on returned to his democratic convictions from which he had lapsed. That any citizen at whom such an informer pointed a finger of accusation was without further investigation and without the possibility of cross-examining his accuser, assumed to be guilty. That anyone whose parents, brother and sister, who had at some time belonged to some left-wing organization, or a student in a naval or military academy of our country whose father or mother may have been purchasing or receiving some communist newspaper - by that very fact these people were looked upon as definite security risks and were denied employment or commission. That mood fortunately is passing away from our country. It was a dangerous and a shameful mood for a free people to tolerate.

We are today in a calmer mood. The President of the United States, a few months ago at Geneva, sought to create a friendlier mood in our relations with the East and tried to end the cold war and this ugly era of denunciations, of suspicions, of incitement, of isolation, of fear -- the iron curtains have begun to lift a bit. The peoples of the East and West have begun to visit one another and to speak more decently to one another. Great religious bodies of our country have begun to send representatives to re-acquaint themselves with the peoples of the East. It is no longer dark heresy to think critically and analytically of the problems confronting the world and to say a kind word to each other. The die-hard exponents of the irreconcilables are no longer in the saddle of American public opinion. Our people again are beginning, as free men should, to think for themselves and

the frightening slogans and terrifying catchwords, which silenced all thought, are proving less and less effective.

More and more we are returning to the traditional American view, so clearly enunciated by the Supreme Court of our country, and again some years ago:

"If there is any fixed star in our Constitutional Constellation, it is that no official, high or petty, can prescribe what shall be orthodox in politics, nationalism, religion, or other matters of opinion, or force citizens to confess by word or act their faith therein."

That's basic Americanism.

Now it is not that we have become more tolerant of communism, more tolerant of dictatorship. The communist and the totalitarian ways of suppression and tyranny, are as hateful and obnoxious to us now as they ever were. It is that we are less uncertain today of our own strength to resist the communist ways in our national life. We have rediscovered our own strength - our own stability. As a people we are not afraid of being communized. It is unthinkable that the American people in the midst of its greatest prosperity in its history will abandon its cherished democratic institutions and its system of free enterprise which have made that prosperity possible - and the privileges of free men and the dignity of free men - that they will abandon them for the chains of communism, for political dictatorship and economic regimentation and the terrorization of life at the behest of a few skillful communists and communist agitators in our midst. And if our democratic convictions are that weak, as those who would frighten us would have us believe, that we are in danger of succumbing to the agitation of these communists - then we ought to fear not these communist agitators - we ought to fear ourselves and we should become gravely concerned - not with a few miserable pamphleteers or the propaganda sheets which are scattered

about, but with our schools our churches our press our entire economic system itself, which presumably failed to inspire our people with strong convictions and great love - with what we call the American way of life.

But this is clearly a travesty on the American people. This is an absurd thought. American people are deeply devoted and emotionally and intellectually deeply rooted in their great traditions of freedom and human rights. For one hundred and seventy five years they have maintained ~~their~~ them and defended them - their liberties. They have encountered and survived many a crises in the past, including a terrible civil war. And their institutions have remained in tact. The American people, in the depth of their souls, know that they need not fear the so-called temptations of communism. Communism has nothing to offer them and they know it, either economically or politically or spiritually, in any department of life -- it has nothing to offer them. And the American people too have come to understand that there are others, besides communists agitators in their midst against whom they must guard themselves. The Fascist, in the mantle of the super-patriot; the bigot ~~in~~ the guise of Americanism; the racialist who would monopolize the opportunities of American life for his own race exclusively. These are forces against which America and American democracy must guard itself. The men, for example, who today are fighting peace, segregation in our schools, and who are openly defying the clear ruling of the Supreme Court of our country - they are a real threat to ~~the security~~ America - much more so than the communist agitator. The men who in some Mississippi - freed the two white men who kidnaped and killed, after torturing, Emmett Louis Till, the 14 year old Chicago negro lad, who was alleged to have wolf-whistled at the wife of one of the murderers, these men who cynically, against the clear evidence, left this criminal off - they are the real enemies of our country. And all those who approved of their action, or who silently approved of their action - are the potential foes of freedom. All men who foment religious hatred - who discriminate in employment against men

because of race or religion, who would interfere with the civil rights and the basic guarantees of our citizens - these are the real and present dangers to America.

And I think the American people are coming to understand it now - and they are determined to defeat these forces. The thoughtful among us have come to understand that the struggle between light and darkness, between freedom and dictatorship, between liberalism and reaction, is a global struggle and will be an age-long struggle and for the forces of freedom and democracy to triumph they must set their own house in order - they must day by day fight for their principals and their way of life - at home, here, in their own communities, in their own states, in the nation - to keep America strong - spiritually wholesome, morally mobilized, for this titanic struggle which may perhaps take a century before it is resolved.

Two years ago these words were spoken - I read them to you:-

The good life is not possible without freedom. But only the people, by their will and by their dedication to freedom, can make the good life come to pass. We cannot leave it to the courts alone, because many of the invasions of these freedoms are so devious and so subtle that they cannot be brought before the courts.

The responsibility for these freedoms falls on free men. And free men can preserve them only if they are militant about freedom. We ought to get angry when these rights are violated, and make ourselves heard until the wrong is righted....There are times when the defense of freedom calls for vigorous action. This action may lead to trouble, and frequently does. Effective effort to preserve freedom may involve discomfort and risk. It takes faith, unselfishness and courage to stand up to a bully; or to stand up for a whole community when it has been frightened into subjection. But it has to be done, if we are to remain free.

We have to start wherever we can--in the family, the lodge, the business community, the union, our local government, party, church--and work outward; asserting, demanding, insisting that the most unpopular persons are entitled to all the freedoms, to fundamental fairness. Almost always, the issues are raised over unpopular people or unpopular causes. In the cause of freedom, we have to battle for the rights of people with whom we do not agree; and whom, in many cases, we may not like.

I don't have to defend people because I like them!.

These people test the strength of the freedoms which protect all of us. If we do not defend their rights, we endanger our own.

These words were spoken by the former President of the United States, Harry S. Truman. They are not the words of an agitator, not the words of a lover of communists, they are the responsible words of one who was the responsible head of a great and beloved country. I am happy that a new spirit is coming to prevail in our land and that as men and women we will find ourselves freer to work for those things which are dear to our hearts, to keep this wonderful country of ours really free - so that it may serve as a light and a beacon to all the peoples of the earth who may yet be in chains, longing for the freedom which is our birthright. Amen.



Sermon 8796

1) Freedom is a precious gift which ~~was~~ is never given as
a gift to any people - but must be won in struggle.
The fact that it has been won, does not mean that
it is permanently secure.

~~It~~ ^{Freedom} must struggle for its survival. It is frequently
vulnerable. It must be constantly defended.

* The methods used in its defense are sometimes self-
defeating. This is especially true in perilous
times when the threats ^{to} ~~against~~ Freedom are grave
and imminent.

Freedom, ^{& Democracy} ~~has~~ not yet elaborated an effective pro-
cedure, ~~against~~ ⁱⁿ consonance with the basic tenets,
to combat the ^{spread} ~~propaganda~~ and tactics ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~enemies~~
~~of~~ dictatorialism which are ~~sharply~~ ^{being} worked
out to the last detail.

When they should be on the alert, they are relaxed
and indifferent.

When, confronted with a real danger, they shall remain
cool, collected, circumspect, they are easily panicked
and stampeded into doing the very things which their
enemies of freedom & democracy would wish them to do.

They ~~will~~ resort to head-long reiterations upon the freedom
of the written and the spoken word, upon negative
freedom. They will deny ~~the~~ ^{the} rights
guaranteed them by the Constitution of their country.
They will define their due process and equal protection

the laws. They will brand men justly by association - and
destroy the reputations and livelihood of men ~~against~~ who have
not been found guilty in any court of law.

They will discredit ~~any man~~ who expresses any ~~unpopular~~
pol. or econ. view - even though his motives are the most sincere
and patriotic - and in no way related to Communism.

In such a climate of opinion, which the dark re-
actionary forces of a nation are eager to foster & exploit to
their partisan advantage, the brand man is ~~terrified~~ ^{instructed}
Intellectual freedom, which ~~is the very sign of a liberal and~~
salvation, a free society is ~~driven underground~~ ^{driven underground} schools
and colleges, teachers and writers, ~~become~~ ^{are} ~~forced~~ ^{are}
forced to conform out of fear of ~~punishment~~ ^{measures} which
may be taken against them, not the least of which is economic
mining and the loss of livelihood.

3). It is in such a twist that frightened ~~citizens~~ ^{in all sincerity}
self-serving schemes and demagoguery, raise a ~~cloud~~ ^{cray}
to ~~make~~ ^{render inoperative} the first and fifth Amendment to the Constitution
which declare that Congress shall make no law abridging the
freedom of speech or of the press; and that no person shall be compelled
in any criminal case to be a witness against himself, or be
deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of
law.

It is at such times that Congressional Investigations
attempts attempt to usurp the powers of ~~the~~ ^{our} courts
and thus ~~clear~~ ^{undermine} ~~the~~ ^{our} ~~clear~~ ^{our} ~~Constitutional~~ ^{our} ~~guarantees~~ ^{our}

7 American citizens - all in the name of saving our lives.
from the threat of cannibalism, whose very ^{hall-mark, who are} "all and end all" is the rejection of these ^{very} guarantees enshrined in our Bill of Rights.

4/. Such times are the heyday, the time of greatest opportunity for special interest groups and their ~~hopes~~ ^{hopes} for the smart apparatus, the chosen demagogue, who knows how to manufacture the fears and hates, men and ~~scals~~ ^{scals} before their eyes, the latter, his mounting ambition. It is the time for when the bigot emerges in all his glory, the favorite the "promoter", the mobster, the infernal ~~scoundrel~~ ^{obsessed} ~~little~~ ^{little} ~~unworked~~ ^{unworked} individual who now feels that ~~seems an opportunity~~ to play a role in the limelight and so satisfy his hungry heart!

5/. We passed through such a period recently. We are not fully out of it yet. - It may well come to be known in our history as the McCarthy period. - The name does not matter. It was a definite period - persecution, all the ear-marks to which I have referred, a few demagogues. Host by words danger, struggling to defend itself, and working in a large measure, to methods which are conducive to its own perish, and, to that extent, dangerous as well as a - a raiding.

6/. But we are steadily coming out of it. We are no longer in a panic. ~~There~~ ^{There} is a new sober and confident mood ~~it~~ ^{is} ~~exerting~~ ^{exerting} itself. We are no longer scared

[illegible]

the most shameful and dangerous era in the history, the world.

~~the~~ The iron curtains have begun to lift. The peoples the East & the West have begun to visit one another by air - & to speak ~~to one another~~ ^{to one another} ~~directly~~ ^{directly} to one another. It is no longer black heresy to say a kind word to each other.

The die-hard opponents, the irreconcilable - are no longer on the saddle of Amer. public opinion.

More and more we are beginning to thrust for ourselves - and the fighting slogans and catch-words are proving less and less effective.

More and more we are returning to the fund. Amer. view - so clearly enunciated by the Supreme Court, the UD - some 12 years ago:

"If there is any fixed star in our constitutional constellation it is that no official, high or petty, can prescribe what shall be orthodox in politics, nationalism, religion, or other matters of opinion; or force citizens to confess by word or act their faith therein."

8). It is not that we have become more tolerant of communism, in dictatorship, the ~~to talk~~ ^{to talk} ways of suppression and slavery, are as hateful to us ~~now~~ ^{now} as they ever were. It is that we are less uncertain, as ~~we~~ ^{we} ~~are~~ ^{are} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~visit~~ ^{visit} these ways in our own national life. - We are ~~not~~ ^{not} afraid, ~~communist~~ ^{communist} ~~being~~ ^{being} convinced - the Am. people in the midst, the bravest freest in the history, abandoning their cherished

devoted individuals who have helped them acquire this
property and all the privileges and dignity [for men] by
the chains of discipline and regimen taken at the school of
a few ^{strenuous} encouraged apt talents.

(6)

If our demor. convictions are that weak - then we
ought to fear not the ^{case} agitator but ourselves - then we
should be partly concerned wth the poor wretched
paupers and paupers which they scatter - but not
our schools, our churches, our press, our even system
itself which fail to inspire our people with struggle
convictions and resist loss for what we dare to
call the un. system - the un. way of life -

But this is probably ^{the} ~~is~~ ^{most} ~~is~~ ^{honest} ~~is~~ ^{on the} ~~is~~ ^{Am. peopl.}
they are deeply devoted and unflinching. deeply rooted
in their great traditions of freedom and human rights.
For 175 yrs - they have maintained & defended their way
of life - their liberties. - They have encountered and surmounted
many crises. - including a severe civil war. They know
that they need not fear their "temptation" of misleading
to commence.

9) Americans have come to understand that their other, ~~the~~ consumers, ^{on they are} parent where they must find themselves: the Fascist in the market, the super-patient; the bigot in the press, the American; the racist who would merge the Africans, live for his own race or color.

The men who fight desegregation in our schools - and who
defy the ruling of the Supreme Court the U.S. are, ^{to} real
~~not~~ enemies of Americans.

The men ^{in my opinion} who freed the ~~murderers~~ ^{two white men who kidnapped and killed} Emmett Louis Till, the
19 yr. old Chicago Negro lad, who he alleged to have "wolf whistled"
at the wife of the murderer - are the real enemies of our
Country - and so are all those who approve of their
actions.

The men who prevent rel. hatred - discrimination in employment
of. men res. race or religion - who would interfere with
the civil right to grant promote our citizens - these are

are a real and present danger to us.

10/ For the very very st. global - set our eyes on order
and fight for our way of life - here at home - unafraid

(p. 111) 1953. Former Pres. U.S. - Harry S. Truman

AMERICA AND THE REBIRTH OF FREEDOM

~~Address at the service of the~~
~~The "New Look" in World Affairs~~

~~October 30, 1955~~

Sermon 879
Edited
for
Beyliss Wheatley
address

We speak of the Rebirth of Freedom. Abraham Lincoln spoke of the Rebirth of Freedom. The term is very significant - for Freedom must be reborn time and again. Freedom is a precious gift which is however never given to us. It is never given as a gift to any people. It must be won through struggle. And the fact that it has been won once, does not mean that it is permanently secure. That is something that the lovers of freedom frequently lose sight of. Freedom must struggle for its survival. It is frequently menaced and must be continuously defended. And the methods which are used in its defense are unfortunately, sometimes self-defeating. This is especially true in perilous times, when the threats to freedom are grave and imminent. It is unfortunate that freedom, and the institutions of freedom, ~~democracy~~ that they have not yet elaborated a wise and effective procedure, which is consonant with their basic tenets, in order to combat the very shrewd techniques and tactics of dictatorship, which are highly elaborated, which are worked out to the last detail. Thus, for example, when democracy should be on the alert, in times of relative peace, it is frequently relaxed and indifferent so that the enemy has little difficulty in penetrating its defenses. When on the other hand, freedom and democracy are confronted with real danger, ~~apparent~~, palpable, visible danger, and when they should remain, because of this present danger, collected and circumspect and coldly reasoning, they are easily panicked and stampeded into doing the very things which the enemies of freedom would wish them to do. So that they resort, in ~~these~~ serious times, frequently, to headlong restrictions upon the freedom of men, restrictions upon the written word, and the spoken word, restrictions upon academic freedom. At such time they are prone to deny citizens their rights guaranteed to them by the constitution of their

country. They are inclined to deprive them of due process and equal protection of the laws, Unwisely they are moved to brand men guilty by association, and to destroy the reputations and the livelihood of men who have not been found guilty in any court of law. There is a tendency at such times, ~~in a democracy~~, to discredit any man who expresses any unorthodox political or economic view, even though the motives of such men are most sincere and patriotic and in no way related to subversion. It is in such a climate of opinion, which comes in times of crises, ~~that~~ when the dark reactionary forces of the nation, ~~who are eager to foster and exploit~~ such a time, for ~~their own~~ partisan advantage, ~~it is at such times when they proceed to terrorize the minds of free men. Intellectual freedom, which means freedom of descent, and freedom to think and to question and to investigate, Intellectual freedom, which is the very sign and symbol and the salvation of a free society, is driven underground. Schools and colleges, teachers, writers and journalists, lecturers and preachers are forced to conform out of fear of a variety of punitive measures - not all necessarily legal measures, measures taken by government, but other measures, which may be taken against them, not the least of which measures are economic ruin and the loss of a livelihood. It is at such times that, sincere but frightened citizens, in all sincerity, as well as self-serving schemers and demagogues, raise the cry which would render nugatory and inoperative the First and Fifth Amendments to the Constitution of the United States, which declared that Congress should make no law abridging the freedom of speech or of the press; and that no persons shall be compelled in any criminal case to be a witness against himself or be deprived of life, liberty or property, without due process of law.~~

It is at such times that Congressional Investigation Committees attempt to usurp the prerogatives of our courts, and to brush aside the clear constitutional guarantees of American citizens. All of course, in the name of saving our democracy from ~~such the~~ external or internal threat of communism. Depriving men of the guarantees which dictatorships first destroy -- the very hallmark -- the very end-all and be-all of dictatorship is the ruthless rejection of these sacred guarantees enshrined in our

Bill of Rights.

Such times are the heyday, the time of greatest opportunity for ^{the} lobbyists, for special interest groups, for smart opportunists, ~~for~~ ^{the} clever demagogues who know how to manipulate the fears and hates of men in order to rise upon the rungs of ^{such a} ~~this~~ ladder to the top of ^{their} ~~his~~ mounting ambitions. It is at such times ~~when~~ ^{that} the bigot emerges in all his glory, the fanatic, the "primitive", the mobster, the inferiority-obsessed, ~~and~~ little noticed individual, who now senses ^{his} ~~an~~ opportunity to play a ^{and} ~~role~~ in the limelight to satisfy his starved and hungry soul.

We passed through such a period recently. We are not fully out of it yet. It may well come to be known in our history as the McCarty period. The name does not matter. It was a definite period - easily recognizable - possessed of all the ~~ear~~ ^{marks} to which I have referred, ^a ~~and~~ free democracy, beset with danger, struggling to defend itself, and resorting in desperation to measures and methods which are contrary to its own genius, and to that extent, dangerous as well as unavailing.

But fortunately, we are steadily coming out of that mood. We are no longer in a panic. A more sober and more confident mood is asserting itself. We are no longer scared by these raucous shouts, which we heard for some years ^{ago} ~~that~~ every department of our government is honey-combed with spies and saboteurs and traitors; ~~That~~ the campuses of our universities, ^{and} the pulpits of our churches are filled with fellow travelers or outright communists; ~~That~~ every writer or official of our government who favored some rapprochement with the East, with the Soviet Union or with Communist China was, ipso facto, a Red and a potential enemy of this country; ~~That~~ everyone, who at one time, however long ago, belonged to some organization which had advocated friendship between the United States and the Soviet Union -- a policy which was strongly favored by our government during ^{the} ~~those~~ years, when Russia was our ally in war, ^{and we were} fighting a common enemy - an organization to which the leading statesmen, ~~and~~ ambassadors and national figures of our country belonged - but which in later years was infiltrated by

communists and so became, in the eyes of our Department of Justice, subversive - that every such man was by the very fact of his belonging to such an organization, suspect and unfit to serve his country in any capacity; That any citizen, who was in any way, or at any time associated, professionally or otherwise with a known communist, was by that very token of association, guilty and a branded character; That ~~every~~ ^{any} citizen at whom an informer, ~~who was~~ ^{who had} a former communist ~~working~~ ^{working} against our country, but who later on returned to ~~his~~ ^{the} democratic convictions from which he had lapsed, That any citizen at whom such an informer pointed a finger of accusation, was without further investigation and without the possibility of ~~being~~ ^{being} ~~cross-examined~~ ^{cross-examined} ~~him~~ ^{him}, assumed to be guilty; That anyone whose parents, brother and sister, who had at some time belonged to some left-wing organization, or a student in a naval or military academy of our country whose father or mother may have been purchasing or receiving some communist newspaper - by that very fact these people were looked upon as definite security risks and were denied employment or commission. That mood fortunately is passing away from our country. It was a dangerous and a shameful mood for a free people to tolerate.

We are today in a calmer mood. The President of the United States, a few months ago at Geneva, sought to create a friendlier mood in our relations with the East and tried to end the cold war and this ugly era of denunciations, of suspicions, of incitement, of isolation, of fear -- the iron curtains have begun to lift a bit. The peoples of the East and West have begun to visit one another and to speak more decently to one another. Great religious bodies of our country have begun to send representatives to re-acquaint themselves with the peoples of the East. It is no longer dark heresy to think critically and analytically of the problems confronting the world and to say a kind word to each other. The die-hard exponents of the irreconcilables are no longer in the saddle of American public opinion. Our people again are beginning, as free men should, to think for themselves and

the frightening slogans and terrifying catchwords, which silenced all thought, are proving less and less effective.

More and more we are returning to the traditional American view, so clearly enunciated by the Supreme Court of our country, ~~and again~~ in some years ago:

"If there is any fixed star in our Constitutional Constellation, it is that no official, high or petty, can prescribe what shall be orthodox in politics, nationalism, religion, or other matters of opinion, or force citizens to confess by word or act their faith therein."

This is
~~That's~~ basic Americanism.

Now it is not that we have become more tolerant of communism, more tolerant of dictatorship. The communist and the totalitarian ways of suppression and tyranny, are as hateful and obnoxious to us ^{to-day} ~~now~~ as they ever were. It is that we are less uncertain today of our own strength to resist the communist ways in our national life. We have rediscovered our own strength, ~~our own stability.~~ As a people we are ^{really} not afraid of being communized. It is unthinkable that the American people in the midst of ~~its~~ ^{the} greatest prosperity in its history, will abandon its cherished democratic institutions and its system of free enterprise which have made that prosperity possible - and ^{all} the privileges of free men and the dignity of free men - that they will abandon them ^{all} for the ^{galley} chains of communism, for political dictatorship and economic regimentation and the terrorization of life, at the behest ^{and the persuasion} of a few skillful communists and communist agitators in our midst. ^{We are also coming to understand that} ~~And~~ if our democratic convictions are ^{real} ~~that~~ weak, as those who would frighten us would have us believe, ^{we} that we are in danger of succumbing to the agitation of these ^{rather} communists - then we ought to fear not these communist agitators - ^{we} we ought to fear ourselves, ~~and~~ ^{we} we should become gravely concerned - not with ^{the} a few miserable pamphleteers or the propaganda sheets which are scattered

on the other hand system for

-6-

about, but with our schools, our churches, our press, our entire economic system itself, which presumably ^{have} failed to inspire our people with ^a strong ^{devotion} convictions and great love - ~~with~~ what we call the American way of life.

But this is clearly a travesty on the American people! This is an absurd thought. ^{the} American people are deeply devoted and emotionally and intellectually deeply ^{devoted to} ~~rooted in~~ their great traditions of freedom and human rights. For one hundred and seventy five years they have maintained ~~their~~ them and defended them ~~their liberties~~. They have encountered and survived many a crises in the past, including a terrible civil war. And their institutions have remained intact. The American people, in the depth of their souls, know that they need not fear the so-called temptations of communism. Communism has nothing to offer them and they know it, either economically or politically or spiritually, ~~in~~ any department of life. ~~it has nothing to offer them.~~ And the American people, too, have come to understand that there are others, besides communists agitators, in their midst against whom they must guard themselves. The Fascist, in the mantle of the super-patriot; the bigot in the guise of Americanism; the racialist who would monopolize the opportunities of American life for his own race exclusively. These are forces against which America and American democracy must guard itself. The men, for example, who today are fighting ~~peace~~ segregation in our schools, and who are openly defying the clear ruling of the Supreme Court of ~~our country~~ ^{the Uni (3/15/45)} - they are a real threat to ~~the country~~ America - much more so than the communist agitator. The men who in ~~some~~ Mississippi ~~freed~~ the two white men who kidnaped and killed, after torturing, Emmett Louis Till, the 14 year old Chicago negro lad, ~~who was alleged to have wolf-whistled at the wife of one of the murderers, the~~ men who cynically, against the clear evidence, left ~~this~~ criminal off - they are the real enemies of our country. And all those who approved of their action, or who silently approved of their action - are the ^{active} ~~potential~~ foes of freedom. All men who foment religious hatred - who discriminate in employment against men

because of race or religion, ^{and} who would interfere with the civil rights and the basic guarantees of our citizens - these are the real and present dangers to America.

~~I~~ I think ^{that} the American people are coming to understand it now - and they are determined to defeat these forces. The thoughtful among us have come to understand that the struggle between light and darkness, between freedom and dictatorship, between liberalism and reaction, is a global struggle, ~~and will be~~ an age-long struggle, ^{in order that} and ~~for~~ the forces of freedom and democracy ^{may} triumph, they must set their own house in order - they must (day by day fight) for their principles and their way of life - at home, here, in their own communities, in their own states, in the nation - to keep America strong - spiritually wholesome, morally mobilized, for this titanic struggle which may perhaps take a century before it is resolved.

⁶⁰ years ago these ^{words} were spoken ~~I read them to you:-~~

The good life is not possible without freedom. But only the people, by their will and by their dedication to freedom, can make the good life come to pass. We cannot leave it to the courts alone, because many of the invasions of these freedoms are so devious and so subtle that they cannot be brought before the courts.

The responsibility for these freedoms falls on free men. And free men can preserve them only if they are militant about freedom. We ought to get angry when these rights are violated, and make ourselves heard until the wrong is righted.... There are times when the defense of freedom calls for vigorous action. This action may lead to trouble, and frequently does. Effective effort to preserve freedom may involve discomfort and risk. It takes faith, unselfishness and courage to stand up to a bully; or to stand up for a whole community when it has been frightened into subjection. But it has to be done, if we are to remain free.

We have to start wherever we can--in the family, the lodge, the business community, the union, our local government, party, church--and work outward; asserting, demanding, insisting that the most unpopular persons are entitled to all the freedoms, to fundamental fairness. Almost always, the issues are raised over unpopular people or unpopular causes. In the cause of freedom, we have to battle for the rights of people with whom we do not agree; and whom, in many cases, we may not like.

I don't have to defend people because I like them!.

These people test the strength of the freedoms which protect all of us. If we do not defend their rights, we endanger our own.

These words were spoken by the former President of the United States, Harry S.

Truman. They are not the words of an agitator, not the words of a lover of communists,

they are the responsible words of one who was the responsible head of ^{our} great

and beloved country. ^{RP} I am happy that a new spirit is coming to prevail in our land

and that as men and women we ~~will~~ find ourselves freer to work for those things

which are dear to our hearts, to keep this wonderful country of ours really

free - so that it may serve as a light and a beacon to all the peoples of the

earth, who ^{are still} ~~may yet be~~ in chains, longing for the freedom which is our birthright.



Sunday Morning Service

10:30 o'clock

RABBI SILVER

will speak on

America and The Rebirth of Freedom

Concluding the series of lectures
on

The "New Look" in World Affairs

Friday Evening Services
5:30 to 6:10

Sat
Sunday Morning Services
11:15 to 12:00

Organist and Choir Director
A. R. WILLARD

Editor
SOPHIA LEVINE

A. M. Luntz President
L. W. Neumark Vice-President
A. J. Kane Treasurer

Published weekly, except during the summer vacation.
Entered as second-class matter November 12, 1931, at the
Post Office, Cleveland, Ohio, under the Act of March 3,
1879. Fifty Cents per Annum. Member, Union of American
Hebrew Congregations.

Ansel Road and East 105th Street
SWeetbriar 1-7755

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE

This Sunday morning Rabbi Silver will speak on America and the Rebirth of Freedom, concluding the series on The "New Look" in World Affairs.

A recital of sacred music at 10:15, by The Temple organist, Mr. A. J. Willard, precedes the service which begins at 10:30. The doors of The Temple open at 10 o'clock.

New improved parking facilities have been made available and a nursery class will take care of pre-kindergarten children.

The Temple conducts Sabbath Eve Services in Gries Memorial Chapel every Friday from 5:30 to 6:10 throughout the year.

Sabbath Morning Services are conducted in The Temple every Saturday morning from 11:15 to 12:00 o'clock from October through May.

The Temple Museum is open every Sunday morning from 10:00-10:30 A. M. and again at the close of the services.

The Temple Library is open Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., from 9:00 to 12:00 on Saturday and Sunday and is closed on Mondays.

WHY JOHNNY CAN'T READ a panel discussion presented by the MR. AND MRS. CLUB

On Wednesday evening, November 9th at 8:45 P.M. in Mahler Hall, the Mr. and Mrs. Club will gather for a panel discussion on the subject "Why Johnny Can't Read." Basis for the subject is the currently growing controversy on phonics vs. sight reading, stimulated by Rudolf Franz Flesch's recent book, "Why Johnny Can't Read and What You Can Do About It". Moderator for the discussion will be Dr. Zoltan Klein, noted pediatrician, and participating in the discussion will be an eminent child psychiatrist and Miss Edna Horrocks, Supervising Director of Language Arts for the Cleveland Board of Education.

Temple members and friends are invited to attend.

TWA TO CELEBRATE TENTH BIRTHDAY OF UNITED NATIONS

The Temple Women's Association will celebrate the tenth birthday of the United Nations on Wednesday afternoon, November 9th, in Mahler Hall. Dr. Frank Corrigan, Surgeon and Diplomat, now on a United States-Latin American mission to the United Nations will deliver an address on "The United Nations, Known and Unknown."

Refreshments will be served prior to the address at 1:30 P.M.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The flowers which will grace the altar on Sunday morning, October 30th are contributed in commemoration of the birthday of William B. Cohen by his wife and children.

hand made puppets, bears, horses, all kinds of animals and each made by the ladies of the toy section.

Here is the quilting group. Luscious silks and fabrics of all types are hand stitched by the ladies of this department. Did you want an unusual color or pattern? Just place your order. These quilting artists will make up just what you desire.

See that beautiful party apron, brown organdy on one side, blue silk on the other, unusual pockets? The kind of thing you can never find in the stores because it is so different. Need an attractive kitchen apron? Just place your order with the apron department.

What is that group doing? Beading felt telephone book covers. Sound unusual? They certainly are; unusually beautiful.

Does your daughter, grandchild, small friend, like felt skirts? Here they are, in various colors, some appliqued and others with matching trimmed sweaters.

Where else can you find a quilted black satin bridge table cover? Or, if you prefer, take covers in corduroy, felt and other fabrics handsomely monogrammed.

And there is the Gadget Shop, ready to take orders for personalized stationery, paper products of all kinds, cards, household knick-knacks, books and games.

Let us go walking during Tuesday Sewing. You will find just the right gift for that shower, anniversary, birthday, wedding and precious baby. And if you are still walking by noon you can stop and partake of a delicious lunch prepared by the ladies of the canteen committee. Come, visit, join our group. You'll enjoy every minute of it.