



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

Series IV: Sermons, 1914-1963, undated.

Reel
168

Box
61

Folder
1091

New Year, 1922.

1. New Years in known — diary.
2. This that is always a solemn
1. What man is there.
2. Preliminary.
3. We remember also. fellow travellers
1. *אני אולי אולי אולי אולי אולי*
2. In this hushed hush - ghostly tread
 feel paths of frail mortality.
4. But we are to remember unstable
 weathers.
1. *אולי אולי אולי אולי אולי* Challenge.
2. We are children of dust, it is true
 breath of soul - Cloud.
3. We are weak. frail bodies sorted
4. *אולי אולי אולי אולי אולי אולי אולי אולי אולי אולי*
5. But see what we have done with our
 weathers -
 ① fought them fought - conquered *deems*
 ② Saw inadequacy of our senses
 eye, ear, voice
 ③ And by that same token
 ④ *אולי אולי אולי אולי אולי אולי אולי אולי אולי אולי*
 ⑤ We are not bound to fail. *by*

✓ (5) This too, we should remember - There
is hope for you - and vernal lands
and prospects ... Even unimagined

6. But these things came out of themselves

1. Civilization.

2. Man stood a shivering

3. Out of agony & want -

4. Every new idea ... He cleared
wilderness - hater his pre-
judge Emerson -

5. To rise leaders - when manhood
pulls - oh no -

7. Salvation of rare. Work.

1. Labor is hard. Sweet. Sweat.

2. No effort, long returned.
sleep - Progress not straight line

3. Every creature effort - fatigue

4. Pull of gravity -

✓ 5. Interest to point of life is

Primitive instincts ... Inhuman
cruelty - blind - by which the

6. Terrible heritage. Slipping

8. We are in such a Tired State

1. Work -

4. Read

3. Know not what to do. Tired

9. Why: preparation

2. Prohibitions

3. Sex-rodan

4- Jazz spirit

5. Intelligent Power. Best

10. Our race can be saved thus
with a sea of new energy

1. Purging virtues - Amb. Collect.

2. Refinement of fine clean

3. Thous & Surin

4. ADIX JHSS. Labor!

Sacrifice

5. Rain's Harmon. Fullness

of life then overpass & love
in higher -

11. Three ways, facing life

12. ~~Success~~ ~~Thulraa~~.

13. Such, men as judged



(see Sermon - Christy - America)
The beauty of human life, the ~~pathetic~~ ^{general} ~~pathetic~~ ^{general} ~~pathetic~~ ^{general}
whisper between two spheres - our
broken wings, The razor of 'St. John'
and the tooth of time -

(3)

But we are to remember ^{also}
~~not~~ ^{not} ~~about~~ ^{not} ~~the~~ ^{not} ~~unattainable~~ ^{not} ~~but~~ ^{not} ~~also~~ ^{not} ~~in~~ ^{not} ~~the~~ ^{not} ~~idea~~ ^{not} ~~the~~
on this ~~memorial~~ day, our manly es-
tate, the heroic destiny of man, the
his infinite capacities for greatness
and spiritual achievements - the power
that are his to subdue the world
and ^{to} rule it; This day is 1925 not
1924-1925 - the memorial is an
alarm - the echo of an unmerited
challenge to our race ^{to} effort,
struggle and victory. It is true

we are children of dust. But
dust uncharged with the breath
of God. We are ^{knocked} ~~chast~~ and ~~used~~
~~but not~~ ^{but} ~~times~~ a ^{plead} ~~plead~~ for ^{your} ~~your~~ ^{eyes} ~~eyes~~
~~that~~ ^{throbbed} ~~with~~ ^{with} ~~a divine impulse~~
~~which~~ ^{check} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~consequent~~ ^{only} ~~and~~
strengthen ⁱⁿ ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~wave~~ ^{on}

But see what we have done
with our machinery. We have
put it there, the people & their
names, and they are all
deemed of death. Then how
our glass of effort we perform
an idea and so by the force
of that idea we are struggling,
we dream after another. We
see the old machinery
our senses, the ~~help~~ helps
legislation's & our human eye,
and again, and voice. And so
we build up the sweat
of labor & put ⁱⁿ the sweat
^{our mind} the colossal
heart and giant of centuries,
mechanical eyes which now
can ^{now} see the entire sphere,
mechanical voices throats
which now carry our voices
than the ^{best} ~~last~~ instruments
of the spaces on the wings
the air - Mechanical ears

to catch the fiercest whorls
in the furthest ^{reaches} ~~courses~~, the
Earth. We built wings
to plow the air ^{and} the churning
fat the plenth ^{sea} ~~deep~~, and
the wakes under the sea.

[illegible]

היה זה - אשתו של הברון
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This, too, we should remember
 of this way of Remembrance. There
 is hope for the race of man, and
 under lands of ^{and perfect} achievement,
 and adventure, which the ^{every}
 free majesty of man should
 concern of.

We are not bound to any
place, or any moment, or
any state. We have no
wings, but by that very token
we can soar the highest.
For, as the poet says, "The wings
invisible are the ones that fly
the furthest" —



But these things came out of
themselves. only thus struggle.
The Civilization is the record of
man's struggle to conquer the
forces of nature without and
within, to subdue the jungle
without and within, to kill
the dragon called Chaos to
harness and ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~bridge~~ ^{the} ~~creator~~
forces which rush ~~onward~~
and heedless ^{then} the uni-
verse. ^{The forces for & against} Man found a shimmering,
curved, beaten, helpless
creature amidst thunder
and storm, and pain and
hunger and disease and death.
That he could not grieve.
Within him ^{burnt} ~~was~~ the force
hunger & life. Out of the
gulf of his want and
need he ^{repeated his whole} ~~for the moment~~ ^{struggled}

With bleeding hands he prepared,
Tools, and struck fire. ①
and gave birth. He formed
speech and he dug shells
and covered his nakedness.
Every new idea ^{came with} was into the
pangs of birth. It marked
him dead for time. But they
he just toward the wilderness - planted the
seed that on. Nature was
fused - built towers - and the conquest of
his old land. He began to spring
It hunted at every turn ready to spring
Whenever his vigilance and
upon him - his vigilance and
later relaxed. It was perfect
his. Races perished. Civiliza-
tions were wiped out. He even
man ^{new found} relaxed his vigilance.

The jungle ^{was} always ready to
Enveloped upon the cultivated
land. The weeds came of themselves.

To rise we must build
ladders To fall we need
no ladders. The force of parity
takes care of that.

and when mankind begins to fall - it falls as a stone falls, with accelerating velocity.

The salvation of the saved man
and of the unbel. man depends
upon is will and effort and
struggle. Man speaks prophetically
of the sweetener, but his is
not sweet. It is sweet.

habits is hard, and trying and
tiring. But ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{head} ~~head~~ ^{and} ~~and~~ ^{uses} ~~uses~~ ^{consciousness} ~~consciousness~~ ^{no} ~~no~~ ^{effort} ~~effort~~
can be long sustained. The muscles
tire. They must be reenergized
by rest and sleep. ^{is spent in sleep}
we spend 1/3 of our life sleeping.

That is why the progress man
and mankind is ^{an} upward
continuous straight line. There
are retardations, zig. zag, retrogression.
For every great creative effort
is followed by fatigue.

90
Ferm is followed by fear. In
the history of man it has always
been so: first comes the golden
hour of anticipation, when the
idea germinates, then the swift
moment of creation, and then
the many, drooping days of
labor and action.

The full of passion is too strong
for a sustained upward
flight. Man reeling with
back to the lower level, to
his single life.

The Prophet who said 2/12, is
known to posterity - knew the
story of the human race. The primitive
instincts of man are auth.
social, and cruel. He began his history
on a hunter and deer. ^{his} ~~his~~ ^{legendary} ~~his~~
the hunting instincts of cruelty and
~~ferocity~~ and ~~destructiveness~~ ^{destructiveness} of cruelty and
fleece and hunt. It is a recog-
nized fact that man is more

cruel than animals. We speak
"inhuman" cruelty. There is no real
cruelty in the whole animal world
or among men. The anthropologist
uses also not a word, nor another
cruelty, murder, rapine, by which, tortures, chains,
men do ^{human sacrifices} ~~kill~~ ^{but not for love, thinking, men}
do. A wise churchman never
said "If the lower animals
were able to formulate a religion,
they might differ greatly as to the
shape of the beneficent Creator but
they would reach all agree that
the deity must be very like a
big white man. ~~because by nature~~
~~they are by nature~~ ~~disappointed by the~~
~~do we have a terrible heritage~~
to overcome, and a terrible
^{effort} struggle to make to rise from
such horrible depths, and
to keep from slipping back
into them - a likely possibility
at any time - Whenever the

have gets tired.

(12)

We are in such a tired state
to-day. We made a ^{unhappy} blind
effort during the war, always
hurry forward after some
new god. We burnt up
incalculable spiritual
energy in the effort. We
achieved little. We were
discouraged enough. We be-
came physically confused
and spiritually tired out.
A shroud of conditions hung
up the bewilderment, the road
to-day. — (Read)

We see the danger — ^{but} ~~and~~
we are spiritually prostrate,
exhausted, listless —

Why has prophetic insight
could? Because people are

tried and irritable. ⁽¹³⁾ We even
to hate is the same thing in
the world. The first man was
the first hater. To love is
to succumb to the jungle. It
is to transcend oneself - to
desecrate oneself - an effort.

Why is our literature and our
theatre and our ~~moving~~ ^{silent}
drama, riddle-ridden? Because
its the 'Easiest' appeal the
animal appeal to the "tired
business man" - Because
all else, requires thought
and thought is effort -

The jays spirit of the age -
is the archaic primitive,
purple, why then come to
tangle, ^{the wilderness} faded tired age.

We were too 'tired' after
the war to build a tholp

pear, and so in the East (14)
The heretics & wars are
unleashed again - The East
is aflame again with burning
cities - And the world is on
the very ~~again~~ of another
universal holocaust -

If the world is not to slip
back into chaos - it needs
must have to-day.

Our race can be saved
only by the ~~unleashed~~ ^{new} ~~energy~~ ^{energy} - by
the pumping ~~with~~ ^{collectively} ~~unleashed~~ ^{new}
And ~~just~~ ^{and} ~~here~~ ^{here} we
need the refreshment of
fire, clean impulses, of
new hopes, new ~~visions~~
~~the~~ ^{of youth} ~~dreams~~ ^{the} ~~their~~
And ~~visions~~ ^{visions} of strong bodies,
strong minds, strong souls.

Why is this nation beset with
such repressive movements,
censorships, prohibitions, etc.
because they are the ^{most} foolish
expedients of tired minds
who lack the energy for
intelligent, sustained, constructive
programs - thinking.



15
It needs must bearken to
the other pass - the echo, the
challenging horn - war!
struggle! discipline! self-
restraint! Sacrifice!

That is Civilization's appeal
to-day - and that I find is the
crucial day such as this.
on the path - the world's people are
to remind you, the sacrifice,
Isaac, ~~prayer~~ ~~the~~ ~~prayer~~ ~~the~~ ~~prayer~~
- not prayer - New Year is to
remind us that the fullness and
beauty of our lives, the hope of
civilization - depend upon our
willingness to sacrifice, our
lavishness for a higher one, ~~our~~
baptism for love, ~~our~~ fear for trust,
enmity for fellowship, the
purple for the kingdom's gold.

There are 3 ways of facing life. One
 is the way of the exploiter, to get all
 there is out of it, in the way of wealth
 and power and privilege. That is the
 way of competition, rivalry, restless-
 ness and unhappiness. For man is
 never satisfied. All other desires
 of man may ~~be~~ be satisfied.
 But so the desire for possessions
 the passion to acquire and to
 hoard. That never knows
 satiety. Then there is a way
 of drifting life, drifting upon
 its currents. The way of indiffe-
 rence and complacency. I
 can't change the world. What's the
 use of trying - ^{what's the use of} and of Exerting
 one self. That is the unpardon-
 able sin. the sin ^{of demoralization} against the
 Holy Ghost! When ambitions
 are dead then the ~~human~~ soul
 rots. We live only as

17

our character and personality
are ~~continuously~~ ^{constantly} ~~being~~ ^{being} ~~made~~ ^{made} and ~~renewed~~ ^{renewed} in the
furnace heat of ^{life's} experiences
and struggles. There only
can the vision be purged & its
dress. Not to dare, that is
spiritual ^{paralysis} ~~debacle~~!

There is a third way of facing
life: the warrior's way ~~the way of the~~ ^{the way of the}
of will, of hope, ^{and} of struggle of
high adventure. The way
of great legacies and
magnificent consecration; the
way of the servant of God
who is at the same time
TO ~~fight~~ ^{fight} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~evil~~ ^{evil} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~unjust~~ ^{unjust}
and the power which beset
the race & even to storm
the citadels of wickedness,
to ~~cleanse~~ ^{but through} the embattled
towers of falsehood and error

to kill the apo-man, ⁽¹⁸⁾ the
purg-man, the heart & dayll-
ven within ourselves, to do
they his ancient legacy of
freed, and hate and cruelty.

That is the true way
^{life is a mission, said by a 33rd mi. Every one of us define}
facing life. ^{What if we}
^{fail? is false and good, all who fear to fail}
In the right & good
there is neither failure or
success. Only effort or re-
mencution. Success and
failure are terms of human
appreciation, the judgment of
men who see but the brother
are and not the full ^{circle} ~~scope~~
of the universal plan and
purpose.

The Rabbin say that on
this day the souls of men
are judged, and one by one

we pass before the judgment seat
as ~~shepherds~~ ^{sheep} pass before the
shepherd's searching eye. Each
soul tells its own story of a
year's ^{was every morning upon the range} journey. and God, the
Compassionate and Merciful One
listens to them all. ^{He is a} ~~Some~~
soul ^{that} holds up to God's sad
eye a pathetic little Toy,
and ^{10,000 have I saved and} ~~says~~ behold the
~~beautiful home in~~ mansion. I have met ^{for} ~~himself~~
myself - and another ^{with} a
humble, flitting feeble.
Behold the years I gathered
^{from three hundred days} and another a crown, a
ureath, a ribbon or a cross.
Behold the burden I have
^{in the cycle, the year} worn - but one soul
approaches the Almighty
Throne, and humbly says:

Kind Father. ^{many by ~~silence~~} I have faced
far. I ~~moved among my~~
~~brothers~~. The world into which
Then Christ sent me was hard
and dark and burdened with
much unhappiness, ~~and~~ many
temptations beset me. But I
fought the good fight, dear Father.
I ~~perished~~ ^{perished and lived}. I walked along the
~~kept~~ by men seeking my
brothers, wherever there were
tears, I dried ^{it} them. Wherever there
was an aching heart, I brought
balm to it, and food to the
hungry, and drink to the
thirsted lips. I pursued the
~~demons~~ ^{newer} darknesses. I stormed
the strongholds of injustice. I
drew the shades away - and
opened the pathway for the
light, dear Father. I am a
little ^{warrior} ~~tried~~ Father to-day. The
task was hard. ~~and~~ a little ~~warrior~~

and blessed, and my hands are
empty. ^{See} I have nothing to say
there, O Lord, nothing, - only this
blessing with which men
blessed thee because of me.

I wonder what my soul
and yours ~~would~~ ^{would} say this
night.....



New years
This day is known in the calendar of our
posteriors solemn days, as a 1555 pl.
a memorial proclaimed with the day of honor.
There are many things this day
reminds us to remember.

We are to bring to mind at this
season of the rising year that
in the diary of our ^{dead} ^{after} ^{travel} ~~journey~~
~~journey~~ another volume has been
~~filled~~ ^{filled} ^{with} ^{been} ^{filled} closed. Whence it
burden may have been the story
of the past year is ended.

The many joys, trials, and sorrows
will turn on ——— (over)

This thought is always a solemn
and a sobering one. In however
much of beauty and happiness
the record of the dying year may ^{have been} ~~be~~,
we all experience do we not, its
incompleteness, the large measure of
failure and disillusionment which
it ^{contains} ~~contains~~, the frustrated ambitions,
the dreams that never came true.

It is as if we stood ^{to us} on some
promontory ^{cut at sea} and watched
the ^{fast-receding} ^{Tides} moving sea carrying
away precious ^{parts} of our life,
a ^{gallon of} ^{precious} ^{memories} ^{arising}
a year of our brief existence to
that land beyond the horizon
where ^{land} ^{memories} ^{there is no}
turn ^{we feel} the ^{pathos} of
life slipping by us - We feel
the pathos of our frail mortality.



What man is there who can say
confidently, partnering at the cross-
roads of another year, and look
back upon the land he has
partnered, new partnering into
the shadowy past - memory and
in this twilight years as partnership
does not experience a restful-
ness, an insupportable longing
for a great renewal at the threshold
he might have done or said or
seen, ~~but~~ the tasks ~~that are~~ reflected
the darkest opportunities
for would he will never see again
all this we remember of this day after
this

We remember also on this day,
 fellow pilgrims who did not join
 and the journey with us, those
 who tried, the wear and waste of life,
 fell by the wayside and there found
 rest. Loved ones who ~~were~~ ^{during our pilgrimage}
 ring to our hearts, and eagerness
 to our marching feet whose voices
 are silenced and whose presence
 left emptiness and desolation.
 That, too, we remember on this
 Day of Remembrance!