



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

Series V: Writings, 1909-1963, undated.

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Installation of Rabbi Brickner, Cleveland, 1925.

*The Board of Trustees
of The Euclid Avenue Temple
cordially invites you to be present
at the
Installation
of
Rabbi Barnett R. Brickner
on Friday evening, October the ninth
Nineteen hundred and twenty-five
at eight o'clock
at the Temple
Euclid Avenue and East Eighty-second Street*

To-night, my friends, you are consecrating ^{one of the essential} bonds of
human relationships, that ^{which exists} ~~exists~~ between a minister and
his congregation, between a leader and his disciples. ~~the~~
So much of ~~human~~ the spiritual progress of mankind depends
upon inspired leadership and devoted discipleship, that
an act such as you are consummating this evening,
partaker of the character of a ^{profound} ~~social~~ ^{spiritual} assembly,
hardly ~~not~~ ^{is} ~~supposed~~ ^{to} ~~be~~ ^{your} ~~task~~ ^{mission} ~~among~~ ^{another} ~~functionary~~ ^{functionary}
nor ~~will~~ ^{is} ~~he~~ ^{who} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~content~~ ^{to} ~~to~~ ^{confer} ~~his~~ ^{his} ~~vision~~ ^{vision} and his talents to such
a performance. You called for a guide and a light
and a leader, and he who graciously answered your
call proffers you ^{his} ~~his~~ ^{life's} ~~life's~~ ^{strong} ~~strong~~ ^{purposes} ~~purposes~~ ^{and} ~~his~~ ^{his}
faith and his inspiration. Such a union holds
within it the ~~rich~~ ^{great} promise of ~~abundant~~ ^{blessings} ~~for~~ ^{to} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~world~~ ^{world}
alone to ~~you~~ ^{you}, but to the ~~whole~~ ^{community} and to the ~~entire~~ ^{entire} ~~Israel~~ ^{Israel}.

And it is with ^{great} confidence that I look
towards the fulfilment of this promise; for I know
the quality of this ~~great~~ ^{great} congregation so rich in tradition
and in service, and I know also (and well) the
character of the man who is now assuming its
rabbinah, so generously endowed with the gifts of
mind and soul.

It is pleasing to reflect that ^{your} ~~this~~ congregation
now resumes its ~~important~~ ^{career} ~~that~~ ^{adequately}
~~led~~ ^{and} ~~it is~~ ^{that} the Rabbi begins ~~perhaps~~ ^{what}
will undoubtedly mark the ~~most~~ ^{great} ~~fruitful~~ ^{period} of
his ~~career~~ ^{career}, ~~adequately~~ ^{adequately} reinforced ~~by~~ ^{by} the manifold
assurance of your loyalty and eager cooperation.

These are stirring times in which to be a
leader of men - and these are heroic days in
which to preach the message of ^{our} ~~faith~~ ^{faith}.

[illegible]

And blessed is the man who in this hour
of the ~~renewed~~ ^{the escaped} ~~darkness~~ ^{renewed}
conflict bet. true religion & false religion
can speak in the name & a faith such
as ~~our~~ ^{our} - liberal Judaism - & raise
his voice in behalf of the ~~immortal~~ ^{which take root} ~~spirit~~
by its prophetic spirit, ~~can raise his voice~~
in defence of ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~creeds and~~
dogmas of the day, ~~the priest and the temple and the ritual~~
imperishable ~~truths~~ ^{which are the} ~~truths~~ ^{the living word} ~~and~~
heroic defence, ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~our~~ ^{our} ~~liberal~~ ^{liberal} ~~Judaism~~ ^{Judaism}.

great, too, my friends, as a minister
 of opportunity to-day to speak the needed word
 for Economic liberalism, for racial liberalism,
 for universal liberalism — to champion the
 cause of the denied and the exploited, to ~~show~~ ^{confound}
 the with reason the ^(arguments) ~~(fallacies)~~ of those who would find
 in race the insurmountable barrier between
 men, and make birth the test of character;
 to ~~seek peace~~ and pursue it, to help
 forge the bonds that will ^{some day} join ~~join~~ the
 severed bits of a broken brotherhood.

And rare, too, and exhauling is ~~the~~ will be
your Rabbi's privilege to speak in the name
of a faith which whose voice has not been
silenced by the angry clamor of the 19th Century,
and of and to a people which is as young
to-day as ever today. It must behold the

replanning theophany ~~in Sinai~~, the risen
people of an immortal mission: The
world at last is turning to our vision of
the ~~one~~ spiritual God, ~~of the sacredness~~
~~human life~~, of justice & righteousness, of brother-
hood and peace - ideal which was carved in
the our hearts, as in an arc of the covenant
across the burning sands of adversity those
long, wearying centuries. The day new
day is a day of heroic facts vindicated
for Israel even as it is a day of ~~heavy~~
burdens and responsibilities.

~~He~~ The heart of your Rabbi must $\therefore$ be
charged with joy and eager anticipation as it
thinks of the future service which he shall be
permitted to render to his God, his people
and his country, and a service ~~is~~ added by
the dignity and height which the pulpit
of this ~~great~~ city will lend to his utterance.

But, his heart is, at this hour ~~undoubtedly~~
also filled with a certain apprehension,
when he surveys the ~~size & magnitude~~ ~~the~~
knows that he will find his tasks exceedingly
oneros, and that he will require all the
strength of his body & spirit to carry on.
I know that he will repeat to himself in the
months & the year to come the plaint which
Moses ~~once~~ uttered. 22/10 1321 11/11 11.

^{we must}
~~And you will find the deepest import of your ministry~~
~~first in~~ popular acclaim, which at best is ~~only~~ ^{usually} fickle
and which can be had only at the cost of ~~serious~~ ^{popular} idols. ~~Forst comes the foggy - found then the less and deeper~~
~~you to hear~~ ^{you} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~popular preachers. Leadership~~ ^{popular prophets - though}
is a crown, to be sure, but a crown of thorns.
~~you will~~ ^{one must} ~~follow~~ ^{wade} the road of the unpopular
comes - ~~the road of frustration and defeat~~ ^{the road of the unknown}
~~which leads at last to the only victory which~~ ^{you wish to carry off}
matters - the victory of the spirit. A great number
of cheap and easy victories may be won by a talented
minister in the manifold skirmishes of his profession.
But the victory which ~~matters~~ ^{is} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~life's~~ ^{life's} ~~great battle~~
Victory for truth, for justice, for freedom, for honor, can
be won only by ~~after~~ ^{after} ~~world~~ ^{world} ~~recipies and heartaches~~
and disillusion ~~to which~~ ^{to which} ~~you are now bringing~~ ^{you are now bringing} ~~at the expense of your health, and all my dear friend~~
~~will find in the same~~ ^{will find in the same} ~~freedom~~ ^{freedom} ~~of the~~ ^{of the} ~~ministry, (you~~ ^{ministry, (you}
it will ~~afford~~ ^{afford} ~~you~~ ^{you} ~~to speak the word of truth as it will~~ ^{to speak the word of truth as it will}
~~be~~ ^{be} ~~profit~~ ^{profit} ~~you~~ ^{you} ~~to speak~~ ^{to speak} ~~to touch some human soul~~ ^{to touch some human soul}
with the burning fingers of your own ~~profession~~ ^{profession}
to guide youth and aged ~~to the higher levels~~ ^{to the higher levels}
to ~~help~~ ^{help} ~~comfort~~ ^{comfort} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~conquering~~ ^{conquering} ~~to cheer the silent~~ ^{to cheer the silent}
sufferers. - The deepest satisfactions which the
year of your ministry will bring you - and I
pray to God that they be many - will be the
treasured recollections of those blessed hours,
when, having been ~~tried~~ ^{only} ~~you were not~~ ^{you were not}
found wanting, when, having been ~~suffering~~ ^{suffering}
defeated you were not ~~deterred~~ ^{deterred} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~you were not~~ ^{you were not}
you were not ~~defeated~~ ^{defeated} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~recollection of having~~ ^{recollection of having}

1- To-night you are consecrating - essential bonds
So much -

Assuredly you have not summoned
Such a bond holds promise

2- And it is with great confidence that I look
And I know the quality

3. These are stirring, testing, unsettled - which hold
Our world is full of change - Pol - Econ - Moral

4. The great opportunity of the Church - The Thruage Abide
Virgil - Georgics - epilogue (Intro)

Opportunity of Religion to remind - 5000 -

(1) God (2) Moral Law

(3) Individual Worth and Freedom - c 13 -

(4) Brothers - Nazi - race - "one law"

(5) Justice - 732 - 733 - protected against disability

(6) Peace - Mussolini - - 1921 -

5. great opportunity for minister - to speak of
these - not allow clamor -

Must speak courageously - with sympathy
Not pamper you - or please you

- must at times speak - run counter to
- you must not - check - desert - hollow

6 - I know R. F. - He will not sacrifice -
nor crave constant adulation

This has proved tragedy - popular -
shimmering foam - less and deeper
✓ You hear of popular preacher - prophets

7 - The Rabbi, to-day, must walk hard road -
frustration - defeat - lead to real victims

✓ This opportunity to champion - touch
guide - cheer

8. My dear Friend! You come
I pray -

" " the deepest satisfactions -

"Thus I sang of the care of fields, of
cattle and of trees, while Great Caesar
thundered by deep Euphrates, and gave
a victor's law unto willing nations
and essayed the path to Olympus"

While vast pol. changes

tillage - planting - rearing of cattle -
keeping of bees -

This was one - as fields - trees -
revolving seasons -