



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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Marshall Law School, graduation, 1925.

1. Congratulations you

1. Legal profession is one of the oldest in world. if not the oldest. The most prim. soc. was based on law - no social org., no tribal life is possible without adherence to certain indep. laws or rules of conduct. The first laws of mankind were of course unwritten. They were the social customs, habits or tabus. They evolved almost unconsciously out of the life of group. And they had all the binding force & author. of modern law positive law - & more! For they were identified with religion. They had the sanction of tribal god. The first lawmaker & judge was the priest -

2. Your profession is not only oldest - but divine. On the stone upon which the famous Cole & th. was discovered was the upas. Since god Shamash giving the laws to th. & Moses - then early seeing the divine infallibility of law - & renewed it.

2. Civilization is the growth of personality thru social cooperation - Civil is full dev. of each indiv. But free dev. of each individ. is possible only thru delimitation of ind. will. To be free of selves, we must respect freedom of all reciprocals - Hence we must delimit ourselves - to adhere - circumstances. And this delimitation expresses itself in law, law makes social cooper. possible. There are Civil - It is the most indep. priv. interest

3. In dedic. yourselves to the profession of law, you are dedic. yourselves to the service of Civil.

(1) You are concerned to bring to success personal success - But priv. + present for an old mindful that it is as the servant of society pledged to protect its most vital princ that you are justified in answering to H.C.

(2) Every process finds its justification in social function - Medicine - Art - Religion - Science literature - Law must facilitate the orderly relationships of life - It must safeguard the fundam mentals of social experience -

4. Great as was the pre impatience of the lawyer in the past it has increased a 100 fold in democr - The authoritat would declare the law - The people would obey - Other bad laws - Other good laws - But this was a quality of durability to these laws - + reverence as coming from a superior person or power -

1. People their own law-makers - Other times they are lured by impudence - lured by demagogues - Other times they are lured by scorn their own laws - Spurious laws waiter etc from are unconformable - It is as much as the social the legal princ + philosophers + largely trained laymen - It became of utmost importance ~~that~~

2. Industrialism has increased import lawyer - as it involved increased interest the law themselves - Great wealth - Corrupt laws defeat laws

1. Law for poor + rich - Baron.

3. Revolution - Challenge to Memorial - Crime, murder, you see seamy side -

4. Ethics - defect + justice - help to correct things the abuse - rectify wrong - restore balance.

5. Not Job. but Calling - Not Firing - but Life.

1. God created Men, apoptules
 2. Life and race-pious pursuit, Game, Death
 3. Retire - My Friend -
 4. Learn - Serve - Success Men, and Laurels.
- Think - contemplation - reflection - Self dev. - Int - Exaltation

6. When we are old - tide sets - 40 years filled
with beauty - friendship - ideas - distances - well
rounded -



"That laws were little cobwebs; where the small flies
were caught, and the great brake through" - Bacon.

"Laws friend the poor, and rich men rule
~~the~~ ^{the} ~~the~~ ^{the} Law" - Goldsmith.

"The first thing we do, let's kill all the lawyers"
- Henry VI. Pt II Act II Sc. 2

"The law. & has honored us, may we honor it"
Webster.

