



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 V: Writings, 1909-1963, undated.

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Hanukkah, 1928.

1. Not intimately acquainted. Cannot throw any light upon you on the technique of your service. I know, however, that it is a vital service, and one which ought to be extremely gratifying.
2. Not so long ago I spoke before a body of Soc. Workers on the "widening" - 2 stages - 3rd.
3. It is in this 3rd sphere - that you are working.
 - a) You realize that most unhappiness - neurosis.
 - b) Family.
 - c) Childhood - the city - The high stone walls - the hard pavements - the rush & excitement is the least wholesome environment for youth - alienated - the space where energies can find vent harmlessly - without impinging upon the rights of others - alienated - the most fulvous - + calm - & undemanding. He is artificially over-stimulated & in other respects - stunted - these problems.
 - d) Immigrant parents.
4. Take this family - into such a life you come - as guide & friend - You ought to feel privileged - for you are dealing with basic mind in & thru - A Human personality.
 - a) Highest form of charity -
5. You are privileged - "The subtle art of Being Human."
 1. Not to hurt - heart beating, the jungle - How hard it is to live - desperately careful - 10% - add new burdens. Frustrations - Butcher 2 rules in life -
 2. Throw all the agony-struggle - into the making of a thing - reverses - (Kore).

54). To all I would suggest. Christian Whauchoffe. - down to dress of
social existence - criminals - by personal contact - gentleness -
- humility - without criticism - heals, the unhumbled souls - ~~thence~~
the ice - open doors - so that light & joy enters

b. Simplicity - no affektation - artificiality - force without power.

- The profundities of Simplicity -

a) looks simple things - big easy at to know the
value of little things - curious - and all things
will be revelations. No need of excitement.

- no ordinary things - Everything is a miracle.

- Sound of rain, voice of the wind, laugh like the angel, confidence
of friendship - Brother -

b). To find God around the corner of their home -
+ find themselves within the home - in the humblest
daily tasks -



1. The struggle - 400 - pol. tutelage - Persians -
- but Antiochus - imperialism - merge -
- little opposition - But Israel rebelled -
- superior -

2. The rel. which Antiochus preferred - discarded
- ~~promises~~ pathfinders - we may still learn -
Official, rel - Early Akum - patronized

3. But Israel - pioneering faith - cleaved - Very
earnest - Covenant - Rebelled world conquer -
- read and heard - listened to Psalms -
- to await - retrospection -

4. And the culture - unacceptable.

1. Jew not aware היהודי - Everywhere
in Graeco-Roman - Hellenized -
Egypt - attended academies - Read
Homer - Jewish literature -

2. In fact, the Jew has always - secret -
- secret - סודות - Much
of Bible - Philo - Martin - Spinoza -
Mendelssohn -

3. But not indiscriminately - imitator
- selected - superb eclectic.

4. Sects -

5. In Hell. culture ① and primitive

② irreconcilable diff. - Amos

6. סוד - לשון. ① אבות לשון אבות - Every
act - ritual - לשון אבות -

(h) To the Jew - all life holy - in image of God.
Slaves can be saved. - Athens - ugly mistreatment

(i) Free. all life holy - to do justice - dignity
their noblest code, manhood - a dignified
and prophetic code. Reform world. 1st

2d not p's - no such credit among J's.

Had not prophets or prophecies -

(j) Holy nation - not p's. Not to be
found among J's.

(k) Meridians -

1900. Not among J's.

(l) This people - Mess. destroyed Jew.
and from J's - Jews knew it - and refused
to surrender.

4. Have we a way for the world today?
The same! 1st 1st 1st -

(a) World swept by paganism - (a) Science
for its own sake. (b) art for art's sake. (c)
Freedom as a goal to participation in
life (d) Happiness - an end in itself. and
a movement for happiness and the happiness of
others (e) Self-expression - exploitation
(f) Happiness as a mechanism, national
policy (g) War - as a just means for nat.
superiority -

(h) There are the ancient foes - the ancient
severities which do - historically from 25
centuries - and which it is and must fight
4-day.

