



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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Series V: Writings, 1909-1963, undated.

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A year with Roosevelt, 1934.

ABSTRACT OF ADDRESS DELIVERED BY RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER OF THE TEMPLE,
CLEVELAND, IN CHICAGO, ON SUNDAY EVENING, MARCH 4, 1934.

A YEAR WITH ROOSEVELT

First moves are significant. They indicate direction and the goal reached after. Mr. Roosevelt has shown by his first decisive moves through the first year of his administration the things in which he is interested and the qualities of character which he brings to play to achieve them.

He has courage. He can face and out-face opposition. He dares to blaze new trails. He is not held captive by slogans or catch-words. He is not afraid to lead. He is willing to assume the risk and the responsibility for momentous decisions in critical times.

He is not a swaggering dictator. He does not bluster of State supremacy or ruthlessness or violence and does not seek to annihilate opponents. He does not require the theories of dictatorship as an excuse for assuming positive and personal leadership which democracies are always ready to grant to their chief executives in times of emergency.

He is not a rosewater, parlor reformer. He can set powerful hands to work at hard tasks of reconstruction. He knows how to lay the ax to the roots of an evil. He can act quickly and decisively.

He is not a doctrinaire. He is not out to vindicate any theories. He is a pragmatist and an experimentalist. He will reject his own ideas as quickly as he finds them inoperative. He has no pride of opinion. He will co-opt the best brains available. He will give them a chance to show their worth, and when found wanting, he will discard them for others.

He is a man who cannot and who will not be stampeded -- by friends or enemies. He will move forward fearlessly after due deliberation. Pressure of individuals or groups or lobbies may cause him to take stock and reconnoiter but it will not deter him from his path if he believes that it is the right path.

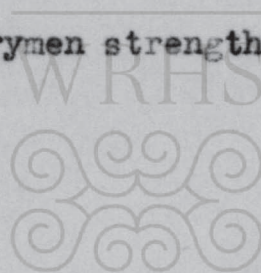
His human instincts are sound. His human sympathies are fresh, warm and strong. He likes folks. That is why common folks, with their own sound instincts, like him. They will forgive mistakes in him which they would not in others. They know that he is with them -- in their hard struggle for a better chance for themselves and their children. He is not pompous or distant or vulgarly demagogic. He does not talk at people. He does not make pronouncements from the heights of Olympus or Sinai. He talks with people frankly, simply, earnestly. He informs them of the true state of affairs, of the difficulties to be faced and of the possible outcome. He does not play upon their fears or upon their passions. He credits common folks with a large measure of intelligence, common sense and good will. He has so far not been disappointed.

The remarkable out-pouring of affection on the occasion of his Fifty-second birthday on January thirtieth last, is ample testimony to the hold which he has over the hearts and minds of his people.

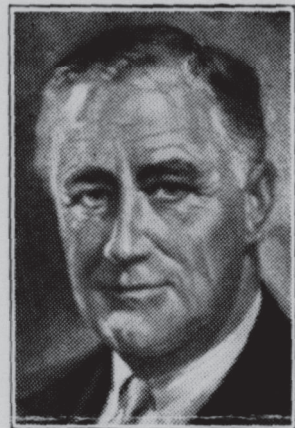
Mr. Roosevelt's first year in office will undoubtedly prove to be his easiest year. The times were critical and even his opponents were moved to voluntary or forced cooperation with him. The hard years are coming. The heroic mood will vanish. Partisanship, reaction, vested

interests will begin -- have already begun -- their sapping and their sabotage. He will be attacked bitterly. Foes will seek to discredit him and his measures. Friends also will become critical and desert. That is the fate of all leaders. All of his plans cannot succeed. Those which will succeed will succeed only partially. He, himself, may grow weary -- these desperately critical times have a way of breaking and saddening all leaders of men.

It is therefore well that at this first milestone of his administration, the American people should voice its high faith and confidence in him so that he may draw from the knowledge of the active good will of his countrymen strength and spiritual sustenance for the hard ~~xxxxx~~ years ahead.



A great man — A great cause —



PRES. ROOSEVELT

will be honored by Chicago Jewry under the auspices of seven B'nai B'rith Lodges on Sunday night, March Fourth, the first anniversary of President Roosevelt's inauguration, when the Jewish Community assembled in the Grand Ballroom of the Palmer House will hear

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER
OF CLEVELAND

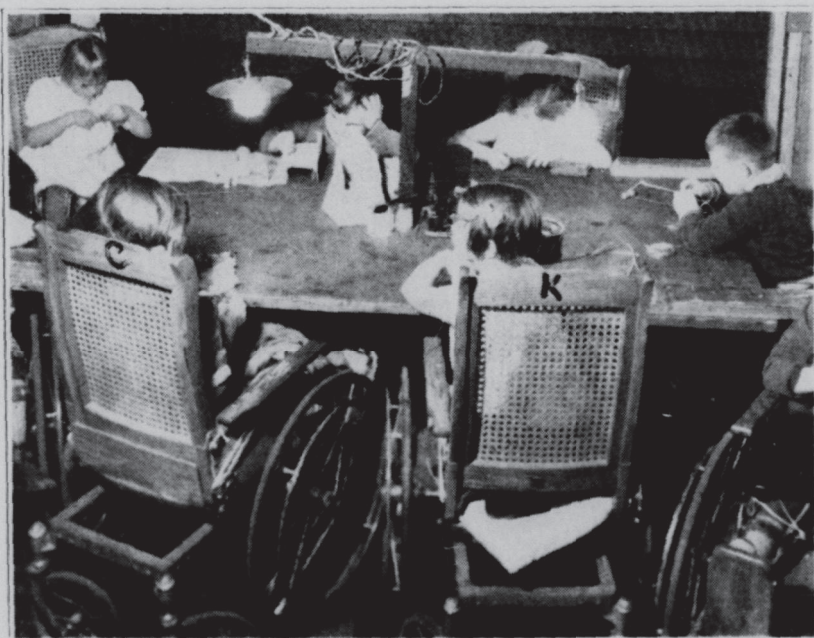
This outstanding member of the rabbinate will join us in paying tribute to the leader of this nation, who not only has lifted us from the depths of despair, but has identified himself with the liberal minorities and the broad outlook of democracy.

The price of the dinner will be \$2.50 per person. One dollar from each ticket will be devoted to the Warm Springs Foundation where hundreds of unfortunates are being helped back to lives of usefulness and where our own President regained his health thus enabling him to attain the high office he now holds. The lodges participating in this dinner are: Abram L. Sachar Lodge No. 1163, Adolf Kraus Lodge No. 72, Albany Park Lodge No. 1034 Austin Lodge No. 1100, Logan Square Lodge No.

1035, North Shore Lodge No. 1056, and Ramah Lodge No. 33.

Governor Henry Horner and Mayor Edward J. Kelly will be among our guests of honor. Hon. Joseph F. Grossman, President District Grand Lodge No. 6, B'nai B'rith and assistant corporation counsel, will preside. Dancing and entertainment will follow the banquet. Music by Art Kahn and his famous orchestra.

The number of available reservations is limited and plates will be reserved in the order in which checks are received. Please address your check and request for reservation to William Sultan, Chairman Committee on Arrangements, 130 N. Wells Street, Room 1419.



BROKEN BODIES — BUSY MINDS

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RECOVERING — THEY SMILE

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The B'nai B'rith Lodges
City of Chicago

cordially invite you to participate in a tribute,
commemorating the first anniversary of
the inauguration of

Franklin Delano Roosevelt
as President of the United States

Palmer House, Grand Ballroom
Sunday Evening, March Fourth
Nineteen Hundred Thirty-Four

Dress Optional

Cariff \$2.50 per person

Banquet, Six O'clock

Dancing, Nine-thirty P. M. till One A. M.

"A year with Roosevelt"



Presiding

HON. JOSEPH F. GROSSMAN
President District Grand
Lodge No. 6, B'nai B'rith

Guests of Honor

HON. HENRY HORNER
Governor of Illinois

HON. EDWARD J. KELLY
Mayor of Chicago

Guest Speaker

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER
The Temple, Cleveland, Ohio



From each reservation the sum of one dollar will be given to the Warm Springs Foundation, the humanitarian enterprise so devotedly supported by President Roosevelt.

Committee on Arrangements

WILLIAM SULTAN, Chairman

S. B. KOMAIKO, President	..	..	Ramah Lodge, 33
MAX KROLOFF, President	..	..	Adolf Kraus Lodge, 72
HARRY FINEGOLD, President	..	..	Albany Park Lodge, 1034
SIDNEY SCHAFFRAN, President	..	..	Logan Square Lodge, 1035
JUDGE LEON EDELMAN, President	..	..	North Shore Lodge, 1056
JUSTIN G. TURNER, President	..	..	Austin Lodge, 1100
HARRY R. POSNER, President	..	..	Abram L. Sachar Lodge, 1163