



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

Series V: Writings, 1909-1963, undated.

Reel
177

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65

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400

Mobilizing for human needs, 1936.

America is again mobilizing for human needs. We are again being summoned to enlist in a bloodless war against want and destitution, and in defense of the great human welfare agencies which safeguard our community life ~~the~~ throughout the land.

Here ~~the~~ ^{you} have a proud tradition touching planned community effort in behalf of the underprivileged. Social planning and action in this field of humanitarian effort have become an integral part of ~~the~~ ^{your} civic life. It is no longer the enterprize of a few choice spirits. It is the ~~citizens'~~ ^{city's} enterprise.

Our country is just emerging from seven weary ~~years~~ years of devastating economic depression. Never has the spirit of the American people been so severely tried in the crucible of depression as during these long, gaunt years. If our people has emerged from this terrible siege of want, unemployment and vast unhappiness, and if it has emerged unbroken, with its morale unshattered, and its free democratic institutions unimpaired, it is due to the remarkable measures for ^{quite} direct relief taken by our government and for the vital supplementary help rendered by our publicly supported and privately supported welfare agencies. These stood like sentinels guarding the integrity of American life and ^{its} internal peace. In an hour of great emergency, in the midst of a crisis which tried men's souls, our people knew that they had not been abandoned or forgotten. Our government shielded them. There was food and fuel and shelter. And the numerous communal agencies, alert, trained, manned by men and women of skill and devotion, also stood by them in their need. Our hospitals and clinics were kept open, and so were our family nursing service, ^{as} our orphanages, and homes for the aged, our child-care institutions and our recreational and community centers. They were kept open and functioning because of the labor, ~~and~~ the devotion and the sacrifice of countless men and women throughout the nation who ~~is the true American~~ ^{with spirit} saw the need, and in their practical American way, set about to meet it.

There has been suffering of ~~xxx~~ course - an uncounted and tragic amount of it! But if we, as a nation were not engulfed and overwhelmed by the tidal wave of misery, it ^{was} ~~is~~ due to the numerous dykes of ^{our social} ~~the numerous~~ agencies of ^{our agencies} ~~social~~ helpfulness, protection and mercy which did not give way in spite of the terrific strain which was put upon them.

And now, we find ourselves in the clear again, on open and ^{sure} ~~sure~~ ground. As a nation we are definitely in the morning of a new day. America is ^{girding} ~~guarding~~ itself for a great new era of industrial progress and prosperity. Our hope and our confidence are running high. But in our buoyancy and hopefulness, we should not overlook the stark fact ^{that} ~~of~~ the aftermath ^{the} ~~the~~ depression is still very definitely and very distressingly with us. No flood recedes without leaving much mud and ^{slime} behind it. No tornado passes over without leaving its frightful toll of ^{wreckage} . ^{The} ~~But that~~ human ^{wreckage} of the economic tornado which swept over our country is with us and will continue to be with us for some time. Undernourished children, youth undisciplined by work, sapped by years of enforced idleness, men who have drifted for years now, from the ~~xxxx~~ moorings of jobs and homes, broken homes, homes oppressed with heavy burdens of debt - these ~~xx~~ and many other evils, which are the sad legacy of the tragic era just closing, are with us today.

It is to private welfare agencies that this human burden of care must principally be ^{consigned} ~~given~~. Government can do much but no more. Where government and tax-supported welfare organizations stop, privately-supported agencies must ~~begin~~ step in and carry on. There is, for example, a tremendous call today for the kind of vital aid which our ~~families~~ family agencies can render to those families which have been shaken to their very core and ^{where} ~~their~~ morale ^{had been} undermined by years of dependency, ^{dole}, and hopelessness. Here there is need not alone for material aid but also for mental and spritual aid, for the specialized service of ~~xxxxx~~

counsel, of vocational guidance, family budgeting, ways of resolving numerous family conflicts - in short, ways to help the family to gain re-integration and inner adjustment.

Children whose homes are below the margin of adequate support and orphan children, and children who are the victims of broken homes, require from birth to adolescence, indispensable services such as medical care, training, opportunities for education, which should be the right of every American boy and girl.

Boys and girls now more than ever, in this unsettled and turbulent world in which they are growing up, require ^{every} wholesome influence which can be brought to play upon them. They need supervised play and directed group activities and entertainment, both as ^{release} ~~relief~~ for their energies and as stimulation to fine social interests and attitudes. The seed-bed of crime is always among the under-privileged youth who are denied congenial, ^{work} wholesome recreation and happy contacts. In our settlements and recreational centers throughout the nation, we are forging personalities. We are helping our boys and girls to grow up into the kind of citizens ^{in whose hands} ~~which will make~~ the future ^{will be} America secure.

Every age group and every living soul in our community at some time or other is touched by the healing hands of one or another of these ^{beneficent} agencies. We all live ^{constantly} within the gracious radiance of their influence. Our lives would be cruel and harsh, brutal and insecure without them.

What does this national mobilization for human needs aim to teach us in the way of basic human doctrine? First that human life is a cooperative experiment, that no man develops himself through his own resources solely, that our lives gain extension and ^{scope} as we reach out into other lives, and that the progress of our society depends upon the readiness of our people to share the gifts of their lives with others. Sorrow and disaster come to those lands where the ~~future exists~~ strong are unmindful of the plight of the weak, and where the favored ones are unaware of the life-hunger ⁱⁿ and the soul ^{of} of the denied and the dispossessed and their yearning for those ~~inalienable~~ inalienable rights to life

liberty and the pursuit of happiness for which all men yearn.

Back of all the revolutions which rock our world today are unsatisfied human needs. Our age is swept by social struggles which are characterized by extreme cruelty and ruthlessness, ~~xxx~~ Violence and savagry and tyranny have been let loose ^{upon} ~~by~~ our world because men have been denied access to the things which they need for basic life and happiness.

The remaining democracies of the world, of which ours is one, and ~~i~~ not the least, can be spared these dire visitations if ~~our~~ ^{their} citizens will show a keener awareness ~~to~~ of the needs of the underprivileged. Through free and voluntary ways we can in a democracy achieve that cooperative life, which in autocracies they are attempting to achieve through coercion. Our way is the way of community, not statism, unity not uniformity, solidarity not regimentation.

② ~~It is a hard case - All brothers~~ So many - ~~classic brother~~
Spain - Never - ~~How - suffering~~ One - ~~ness~~ - Have we not all -

We live in great cities. Great cities are great wildernesses unless there is a vision in them - a social vision - Metropolis -

- A city needs industry - trade - foundation
- " schools - mind
- " art, theater, museum - attribution
- " churches - vision
- " rest of many - heart

If the heart is strong - will animate entire frame -

- Breaking stone
- King & Beggar

Should Rabbi Stop Preaching?
Losing Contact with God
What does worship mean to me
The War for me



1. Amer. is again mob.
Cleveland - integral - choice

2. Our country - Never - If.
Sentinels.

Forsaken - shielded -

Our hospitals -

Kept open bec. of devotion

3. There has been suffering - engulfed

4. And now - char. - aftermath -
Flood -

5. It is to private -

Govt

There is for example,

Children - Seed-bed - Citizens

Every age-group

6. What does this Nat. -

Sorrow - strong -

7. Back of all revolt -

Our age is swept - social struggle
Violence - denied access.

8. The remaining demand - stand -

We can build our corp. life - in the

8a - All brothers - So many ^{- classic} ^{- opening} ^{- I feel} ^{- we} ^{- not}

9. We live in great cities -

10. A city needs industry -

10a - your task - humanism - 31 Jan

11. King & Beggar -



Our country is just emerging from seven weary years of devastating economic depression. Never has the spirit of the American people been so severely tried in the crucible of depression as during these long gaunt years. If our people has emerged from this terrible seige of want, unemployment and vast unhappiness, and if it has emerged unbroken, with its morals unshattered, and its free democratic institutions unimpaired, it is due to the remarkable measures for quick direct relief taken by our government and for the vital supplementary help rendered by our publicly supported and privately supported welfare agencies. These stood like sentinels guarding the integrity of American life and its internal peace. In an hour of great emergency, in the midst of a crisis which tried men's souls, our people knew that they had not been abandoned or forgotten. Our government shielded them. There was food and fuel and shelter. And the numerous communal agencies, alert, trained, manned by men and women of skill and devotion also stood by them in their need. Our hospitals and clinics were kept open, and so were our family nursing services, our orphanages, and homes for the aged, our child care institutions and our recreational and community centers. They were kept open and functioning because of the labor and the devotion and the sacrifice of countless men and women throughout the nation who in the true American spirit saw the need and forthrightly in their practical American way, set about to meet it.

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America is girding itself for a great new era of industrial progress and prosperity. Our hope and our confidence are running high. But in our buoyancy and hopefulness, we should not overlook the stark fact that the aftermath of the depression is still very definitely and very distressingly with us. No flood recedes without leaving much mud and slime behind it. No tornado passes over without leaving its frightful toll of wreckage. The human wreckage of the economic tornado which swept over our country is with us and will continue to be with us for some time. Undernourished children, youth undisciplined by work, sapped by years of enforced idleness, men who have drifted for years now from the moorings of jobs and homes, broken homes, homes oppressed with heavy burdens of debt - these and many other evils, which are the sad legacy of the tragic era just closing are with us today.

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The Cleveland Community Fund Presents
Official Opening

1936 NATIONAL
MOBILIZATION FOR HUMAN NEEDS

Cleveland Masonic Auditorium
3615 Euclid Avenue
Friday, November 6th, 8:15 p. m.

Prelude Recital—

Preludio-Adagio, Third Sonata.....*Guilmant*
Fountain Reverie.....*Fletcher*
Processional March.....*James H. Rogers*
MAYNARD ENGLAND, Organist

PROGRAM

Gypsy Life.....*Schumann*
The Broken Melody.....*Sibelius*
The Dainty Dorothea.....*DeKoven*
The Singers Club of Cleveland, BORIS GOLDOVSKY, Conductor

*Word of Welcome—*DUDLEY S. BLOSSOM, General Chairman, Cleveland Community Fund

*Address—*MRS. HARPER SIBLEY, Chairman, National Women's Committee
1936 Mobilization for Human Needs

Introduction by MRS. JOHN C. DABNEY, *Chairman*
Cleveland Women's Committee

*Selections—*JAMES A. McMAHON, Bass Soloist, The Singers Club
Mrs. McMahon at the Piano

*Address—*RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER, The Temple

Intermission—

With Organ Numbers by MR. ENGLAND

Through the generous cooperation of the National Broadcasting Co., Blue and Red Networks, the Columbia Broadcasting System and their Cleveland stations, the following will be heard throughout the country, 10:00 to 10:30 P. M., E. S. T.

Prelude to Act III, Lohengrin.....*Wagner*
Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra, LEOPOLD STOKOWSKI, Conductor
By Radio from Philadelphia

*Address from the White House—*PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

*Response—*GERARD SWOPE, Chairman, National Citizens' Committee for the Mobilization

Slow Movement from New World Symphony.....*Dvorak*
Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra

Landsighting*Grieg*
The Singers Club

36-5

THE CLEVELAND COMMUNITY FUND

Cordially Invites You to the

Official Opening of the 1936 National Mobilization For Human Needs

Masonic Auditorium - - 3615 Euclid Avenue

Friday, November 6, 8:15 p. m.



Gerard Swope



Mrs. Harper Sibley



Rabbi A. H. Silver

Cleveland is honored as the site of the official opening of the 1936 Mobilization, which annually promotes contributors' interest in many local Community Fund campaigns occurring each Fall.

PROGRAM FEATURES

THE SINGERS' CLUB of CLEVELAND, BORIS GOLDOVSKY, Conductor.
First appearance under its new leader.

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER, The Temple.

MRS. HARPER SIBLEY of Washington, D. C.
Chairman of the National Women's Committee for the 1936
Mobilization for Human Needs.

MR. GERARD SWOPE of New York City.
Chairman of the National Citizens' Committee for the Mobilization,
President of the General Electric Company.

COAST-TO-COAST RADIO BROADCAST, 10 to 10:30 P. M.

During this interval, PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT will broadcast from the White House on behalf of the Mobilization. MR. SWOPE will respond by radio from the Cleveland platform. The radio time (and our meeting) will close at 10:30 sharp, with selections by the SINGERS' CLUB.

ADMISSION FREE

NO SOLICITATION

Please use the admission ticket, good for two persons.