



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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What we have already learned from the war, 1943.

- 1) Already - hold on -
- 2) Rediscovered obligations of citizenship - free soc.
High demands of group life - subordinated
Easy-going experience - Exacting - Gift, Land
Peoples who still have it -
- 3) Rediscovered our Am. Faith - Creed - Cynical
Intellectuals - rebels - slumps -
But as Nazi - Fasc. Conspiracy - barbarism - Scoundrels
Values precious - old words - a new pattern - 150
To-day Cynicism - Our Sons dying - Shame
- 4) Rediscovered our Confidence in D - Decadent
Totalit. order - dynamo - Proof - Levine. Wehrmacht
Defending it on its own ground -
D. is slow to gather - moves forward irresistibly
Not only noble but strong!
- 5) Caused us to Surrender Isolationism - moral & pol.
We ran out - Refused - Boast - Secure - Violent
When great wrongs -
Took us a long time - to grasp - character & measure
Basic things - Jesus - Christ - Universal Workant
When we finally understood - Sauron
- 6) Having learned these lessons - let us not forget
Exhaustion - run back -
Make second great effort - Org. world -
First failure & League - we must - know its
mistakes - Can correct them
Our Real Choice - Every 20 years
- 7) Proclaim a new Charter - Inalienable - Declaration

8/ No one is to be discriminated - persecuted - race
It is fine if we can love - respect rights
If you protect rights of minorities
Race doctrines poisoned - Nazis - to destroy
Weapons - Surest way to F. in our country
A man must be judged - (Adams)
If we want a free America - 9th Ave - "Bear"

9/ Retain - sense of Urgency - Mission
Develop a staying power, a persistence in action
It can be done! Espies - drugs -
Nothing crooked - Behind every system
It is possible to reconcile - Nat. individual
Security - Global War & Humanity
Need inspired leadership - Dear leadership
Working - new faith - new loyalty

10/ Dictators have nothing new - Reflexes - Thers
To youth - chaos - Ideas seek of champions
Have no faith in man -
Arrogant despots with Sacks & Slaves -
On way out!

11/ Dem. Faith alone can provide new leadership
This faith in man - advancing & re
cooperation can man worth
Can achieve good & peace of

12/ This is what we - Solennos

1) War has already done - and if we can hold on - great era
① Rediscovered obligations of citizenship in a free society -
- High demands of group life to which all else
- Free life is not easy-going experience - pleasant dawdling
- F. Very bracing - gift - Peoples who still have -
- Always threatened - land reclaimed - Pure eternal
we are learning disciplines, self-restraints, sacrifices

② Rediscovered an Am. Faith - Am. Creed -
- Grown rather cynical - Am. way of life - Intellectual
dawdling with rebirth - Shrimp in enthusiasm
- But as Nazi-Fascist conspiracy unfolded - stronghold
as they witnessed first with - the barbarism - sadistic
games - future chambers - scurvy - conquered
higher goals - highways - then values - precious
- found long as unfulfilling - Old words -
a new passion - 150 years ago

> To-day cynicism is gone - our sons are dying
stand shivering - yet robust - highly involved
shall not perish from the earth

③ Rediscovered an confidence in Dem. - decadent
played out - Total order was new, dynamic - invincible
Westward -

- To-day decadent Dem. is defeating W. as its own
ground -

- Slow to gather strength - but once - moves forward
unmistakably - Not only words but strength!

1) As we approach the end - question is being debated -
Our armies are in Ger - Aachen is only first.

"Festung Germania" will fall - W. F. Europa.

It will take a shorter or a longer time - but march into Berlin.
Nothing will stop them - The fond hope of Nazis that disagreement
will give them a break - will not materialize. Polish issue is
by way of reaching a little unit.

That other fond hope - prolonged resistance fighting for every town
and in every city, like Aachen, will force allies to agree to
a negotiated peace will also not materialize. The United

Nations will not negotiate with the Nazis!

No will there threat to go underground to fight on and on
as guerrillas, to sabotage all effort at pacification & for
avail them.

The United Nations defeat and success to Nazi threats
when they were backed by power for power & they can now
overcome German in their unavoidable defeat.

The German Reich will be conquered. The longer the war
lasts the more ruined and shattered will be the cities & towns
& finally, the more decisions will be to decimate its
population and the more decisions staggering than
final capitulation. The nation which set out to conquer
the world - has been humbled back, bloody, ragged and
reeling to its own borders and beyond them to its own
ruined and shattered cities, and will now have many
long years in which to reminisce and reflect upon that
mad and brutal unfurling and then brutal consequences.

- 2) As we approach the end - question is posed - what -
- And here, on an FPD, there are 2 schools of thought (1) Soft Power (2) Hard Power
- Actually, these terms have ~~no~~ ^{little} meaning. What do you mean by a
soft power? Hard power? Soft or hard in relation to what?
- A community, in self-defense, must punish criminals.
- Exactly in the apprehension and punishment of criminals - will
make ^{an environment} ~~it~~ the prey of crime and anarchy.
- It is not a question of being soft or hard but of maintaining
justice, law and order by the sure and certain punishment
of those who criminally violate the canons of justice,
law and order which the community has established.
- Nor is it a matter of a community revenge itself
upon those who hurt and evil upon it - ~~but~~ It
is a matter of prohibiting itself ^{from doing this} against the perpetrators
of crime, by bringing them to judgment and executing
the unflinching law-enforcement against them - to dis-
courage other criminals and future crimes.
- How else can decent people ever hope to live in
peace and security in their communities? Jails and
prisons in which human beings are incarcerated are
not pleasant things to behold - and prisoners with-
out whom have themselves not been hurt by the criminals and
upon them a revenge against them - But what other
device would they substitute for these and still keep
Killings and rapists and burglars and forgers and
other criminals from endangering the lives and property

1. law-abiding citizens.

3/ Modern criminology is not motivated by vengeance, but by two considerations ^{by sentiment or by passion} to reform the criminal and to protect the community and, if possible, to reform the criminal. The former is primary; for the well being of the whole is more important than that of any, its parts.

- It does not think in terms of soft ~~and~~ ^{hard} treatment, but of adequate treatment, just treatment.

- ~~If after a period~~ No criminal in any civilized community, immediately upon arrest, ^{can melt} having just ~~completely~~ ^{completely} ~~been~~ ^{has} ~~committed~~ ^{committed} a crime, is ever told "well, now, that your crime is over, and you are stopped, ^{imprisoned} from committing other crimes because we have arrested you taken your weapons away from you - you can go home now - and be a good boy. You can commit a similar crime a little while ago - and we also let you, if you remember. ^{the one tried and failing people} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~bad that~~ ^{is} ~~is~~ ^{is} trying to set fire to other people's houses. You are caught now. We'll keep you rehabilitated 7 or 8 hours. We'll give you money and credit - and in a little while we'll also help you to obtain new weapons in place, the more we ~~have~~ ^{are} taking away from you - so that you will not feel discriminated against.

- This would be sheer madness!

When ^{however} a criminal disarmed and confined, having had time to reflect - of his capacity, ^{reflexes} -

shows signs of renewed penitence, of reform, every assistance is given to him by an intelligent prison administration to rehabilitate himself -

- If, however, he remains incorrigible - or if after release he repeats his crime, no more so easily, ^{in self defense} ~~could that such a~~ could do anything else than permanently to quarantine him & render him incapable of anti-social activities for all future time.

4/ What shall be done with a defeated f.?

- To assume that this arch-animal will immediately upon signing, know this - become penitent, confute, consent - nothing for all the gross-brutal crimes - is to show stupidity

- ① Nothing in his present ^{bearing or conduct} ~~bearing~~, as one of defeat
- ② Nothing in the bragging; for prisoner - 5 - was
- ③ Nothing in its vaunted threats to go underground
- ④ Nothing in its present crimes - 300,000 Jews, Hungary
- ⑤ Nothing to indicate a change of heart
- ⑥ He does not regard this war ~~any war~~ as a sin.
The sins consists in having lost.

⑦ And he is thinking not of penitence but of Revenge - for this second defeat - And of how to prepare for next - the Third World War.

⑧ Youth of 9-10 yrs now - have been indoctrinated
Nazi made phulo. I would suggest - "Hermann"

They, ~~are~~ mothers, there, are marking the estate of mankind
too! trained, fanatical, that father first - who have
for a while about them and for a hundred years + with their
interest, contempt (that) they will be the dominant
force in German life from now on - They belong to a lost
generation which will be deeper to melancholy - They will contribute a

⑨ to see to their emergency (catastrophe) - too bad for a time
to wreck our land - you go to top - Well forget
that the war - but then, it's all one way!

And for 9 14 - The war destroyed your institutions and
your own city - Will help you to rebuild them -
if you try to do it ever before - you remember -
and, after you were defeated, we got soft hearted
on you, then; and we helped you back to your
feet - and rebuild and rearmed you - so that that
you could understand that we wanted you in the line together with us
in a free peaceful world - order - we were only wishful to
now we will proceed to make the same mistake again...

Europe needs an even stronger + reconstructed for - so we can
hold them - so we are being told again - and so we will not
thank of the countries which you ruined thoroughly - the population which
you deserted - the cities which you destroyed - the fortune of
hundreds with which you filled the habitats of the world - and the
millions of old people with who had to live because you are
immensely adventurous in world domination - but we will
proceed immediately to rebuild your cities feed your
population, rebuild your factories - so that you will not

think us bad people and try ^{again} to think could we on 20-25-16
yes. we will buy the 'Illusion' again - ~~for~~ many pseudo-
intellectuals; and soft ~~hearted~~ headed rather > soft-hearted
sentimentals generally - who are so quick to judge the
crimes committed against their people - want us to
buy the Illusion, that "Kindly Treatment will make you
less militant, less avid of revenge -

5/ What shall be done with a defeated G.?

- There are those who would have us believe that the Nazis & the Germans
are somehow two separate & distinct peoples; that if you can
get rid of the one, you ^{will} have left an amiable, peaceable people
& poets & peasants, & musicians and "gentlemen" just generally
the kind of people, whom we know as good neighbors and
industrious people here at home. We wish that it were so!

~~But~~ the facts speak against it - ~~of course~~ The German people
did rejoice at every triumph of Hitler! Every eye-witness
and impartial ^{during the war and before} observer ~~of the~~ has testified that overwhelmingly
the people were with H. - Before H. became Chancellor, the Nazis
grabbed nearly 12% votes in 1932; and, after he became Chancellor,
gave 17% in 1933. In 1932 - 13% M. voted for H. to

over ~~the~~ the G. Republic against 19% for Hindenburg -
A very substantial section of the German people - not
a small ~~German~~ terrorizing minority - was for him
and his program of aggressive nationalism - racism -
world conquest - They are for ruin still!
No underground -

The other section - the good Germans - reputationally
cannot or do not know how to make their ideas
count in Germany. They could not do it, under Hitler
under the unpleasant - jingo Kaiser ^{him} under Bismarck.
They are helpless + ineffectual! Even to them democracy
is not a living tradition. They are athens neither in it
they nor practice. Political docility and blind obedience
deep-rooted ideology & wariness and wanted the cure, the
and education was -
even from an powerful force even with them. The Junkers
and the German General Staff
have always thought how to lead them by the nose.
They are all so ready to follow any leader who will prevent their world domination.
The elimination of the Nazis after the war will not
give you a / that will be safe for Europe. World War
is necessary! (Just Dr Lowry)

6/ First of all - No Germans need evidence of defeat
inside their own frontiers. They need the sight of a
victorious army marching on the streets of Berlin.
They need to be occupied for as long a time as it
will require to convince them that they have been
thoroughly beaten - that their conquerors for military
purposes is a cruel + shabby bores. They have
been fighting on free soil. They turned other
countries into bloody battle-fields. There is no
safety until they must war and the consequences
war must be hot to them our don't stop

It does not pay!

18
Would sell out on them for as long as the desire for military adventures remain with them + craving to dominate world - must be broken.

If must never again be rapable, warring war!
It must be so rendered not by relying on the persistence, it
brides + people, ~~but~~ on the redemption, its youth, on a ~~new~~
strong interest. world ~~could~~ order capable, permanent peace.
All these will be helpful and contributory factors.

The essential + indispensable factor to curb the war-
belligerence of Gen. - is to ~~remove from it~~ the control
a reduction of its individual potential so that it will
not be able to wage a ~~modern~~ ^{modern} war. (Thus aviation)

(production) even for commercial uses - as Dr. Lomant of
Harvard suggests, should be prohibited to Germany, and
new inventions should be subjected to inspection + control.

The manufacture of armament should be prohibited -
and the United Nations should be prohibited to sell her
armaments.

If the United Nations are to assist
the arm, the armaments of Europe to rebuild their war-
destroyed ~~industries~~ ^{economies} ~~industries~~, that such armaments should in

the first place be given to those countries which a mobilization
has resisted. This ~~will~~ ^{may} ~~be~~ ^{be} about a voluntary

of European industry which would further decrease
military adventures in Europe - For us to-day
is based on mines, tanks, ships, and factories.

8) This does not imply a total de-industrialization of Germany. (9)
- ~~from~~ reducing it to $\frac{1}{2}$ agricultural ~~state~~ - as J. had planned
to do to countries which she conquered.
~~A drastic restriction of the abolition of~~

9) German war-crimes should be punished - not after long
byzantine trial - but Court-martials
of military degree - ~~to stop~~ ~~justice~~ - ~~without~~ ~~despotic~~ ~~extremists~~
~~may demand~~

10) German ~~lost~~ should be restored. Restoration Germany as desirably
factories + shipping equipment to the Reich -

11) Germany should help to rebuild to other states which
they destroyed.

12) During occupation - decent democr. elements should be given
every encouragement help to rebuild their nat. life, + educate
youth in ways / internat. good-will + cooperation

13) G. should not be discriminated Walls - for against
natural instincts interests - Unity is an ideal which
has moral justification - not to spare other nat. interests
We fight a war to stay united!

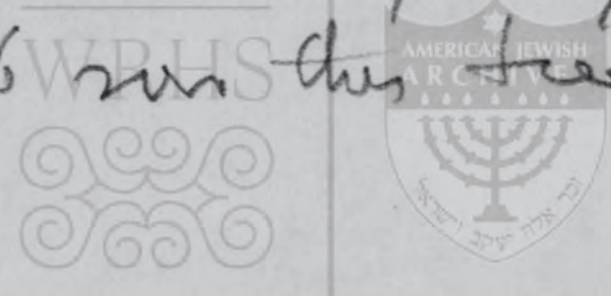
14) No positive industrialities
no financial chaos should be worked on currency
speculation / finances. They should not be penalized
for banking crimes, then speculation / finances.

15) A strong - inter-nat. order - will make secure and peace /
world -
Should not be made dependent upon 3 major powers -

likely to run into sharp disagreements as soon as peace is signed.

- If these 3 fall out and become rivals - in a another war not for a gain - they will not have
- as after last war -
- Dumbarton talks is not enough!

16) No one wishes to destroy Germany - not the evil that
is in Germany! its militarism - ^{its ~~future~~ ~~present~~ ~~past~~} the world
wants a chastened and sobered Germany in the family of
nations. But also all the world wants security from
future aggression - and how to do it -
and will work on this idea but it will
let it



1) We shall win - ① Right ② Waxing.

2) Gussuving, then, - what then?

Won last war! - and in 20 yrs - same foe - Break-down
and Black-out - Underground.

Will this war, too, end in 20 yrs. Armistice? A truce?

Dangerously poised - slithering - another catastrophe?

3) What are our Peace Aims? Too early - Too short - hickie -
+ confused - Revenge - Reparations - not.

Now is time to blue-print - World Peace Treaty

4) Not enough to defeat H. - Kaiser -

" " disarm Gen -
must eradicate evils which make reminder of H. + Kaiser
in Ger. + world.

Element in Ger - Prussian militarism - Jefferson - insatiable
craving for world mastery - must be broken -
Butch-kill - occupation - re-education -

Disarm Ger - but estab. these inter. cond. which will
make Ger. re-armament - not only impossible, unnecessary
she will obtain justice! - not conquest - hegemony

5) Pres. - 4 Freedoms ① Expression ② Worship ③ Want ④ Fear
Excellent battle-crisis - How obtain them? Keep them?

6) League - Failures ① Force ② Unanimity ③ Successors.

④ TOE has no gun
any new Order - abandon concept of abs. nat. sovereignty
utterly unworkable. State can do - Modified by idea of inter
obligations - in mutual protection

Nations should be Free and Autonomous but subject to
a rapidly devel. inter. law - rights but also duties.

10/ Civil War

6/ World fast free. industry - commerce - no inter dependent
Our Depression in 1929 - struck Europe & thousands lost
played havoc monetary systems - Aust. & Ger. banking
systems collapsed - Trade Commerce paralyzed - Unemployment
World cannot remain remain pol. fragmented - a 4th
war, League -

7/ Not finally unified - Nazi - Know - Terror. Slave
V.P. pol. condensation - Federation or Union
Principles -

1/ Rights of Man - ^{Citizen} ~~hard~~ Charter - Protec. of State.

2/ Rights of Minorities - Race Prejudice - Catalyst, Protection
attack is treason of state + world order.

3/ Social Security - Insure pres. & future - by not
paying too high a price - Insurance - Unemployment
- Social conflicts -
- Security of Job - Education - Health - Old Age - Disrupt

4/ Colonial Open Door - Access to Raw Materials
no col. imperialism - G. Brit - Immature population

11) Amer. as part of it - bright stars and legends -
Danger after this war - Back to solutions -
Twice tried to accept dread internat. resp. - war -
But not / peace -
We intervened in this war. but we refused to enter
into in peace
Must intervene in any major war - Killed at 1945
Either cooperate in world peace a intervention in world wars
That is choice

12) Better world can be had - Good - nothing that man
is possible to banish war - eradicate poverty
to " reconcile sharp difficulties - violence - later
collections - right shelter / inward
is possible to put man less securities - not freedom

13) Inspired new leadership - Welling up - new faith - change
Dictators - not inspired new leaders - Replicas - new
New world - new nat. boundaries
Chaos - Deaths - No Faith in Man
Only Democ. - Advancing Human Int. -
cooperation communities - Unity of Fig
Only humor. can achieve this good figures by
in manhood - Adam

⑤ ~~the threat~~ his one is to be discriminated - persecuted - race
or religion.

→ It is fine if you can love your neighbor - But even more
important that you respect his rights this is way to brotherhood

→ To safeguard rights & majority also then of minority

⇒ Roosevelt ^{when you are talking to the majority} doctrines poisoned our age - Nazi's Adversity -

→ So lying propaganda - Surest weapon of fascism

- A man is to be judged not.

- Adams

= If we want a free & happy America - scrupulously
guard - hate ourselves - "Do not bear false
witness against your neighbor"

6. Try to retain in deep of the heart - sense of urgency
sense of mission

→ Develop a staying power, a persistence in idealism

→ We may be able to build - a better world

Take the valley of shadow & death - to a brighter day.

→ It can be done - Do not listen to cynics - drop heels
in cups of life

→ Nothing that man has made worked - Behind every system
is a failure

- It is possible - reconcile sharp contradictions nat-interest
individ- collectivism - Sec. security & freedom

- always was - honesty

- Need inspired new leadership - definiteness

- Waking up - new faith & hope

→ Dictators have nothing new - replaces them -
To youth - chairs - Idols reek of dungeons & death

④ Helped us to surrender our moral + pol. isolationism
we ran out on mankind - Refused - Born - secure
in a violent + turbulent world.

- When great wrongs - weak natures - minutes
express deep regret
- Took us long time - to grasp nature + menace of
new forces unleashed.

- Struggle involved basic things
- What was being threatened - Judeo-Christian -
- Universal break down + blackout.

When we finally understood - Savonarola - bonds

⑤ All these things we have learned - Let us not forget this
Exhaustion run back to isolationism - dislike -

- ① Carry over something of passion - enthusiasm - Self-spirit

- ② Build a peaceful world organ - imperfect
have failed once - no more - no great ideal

- We now know its mistakes - no pre-arranged
maneuvers - not intervention or isolation

- Our real choice - not cooperation as peace or
intervention in war.

- ③ That's what we are fighting for - not to oppress
to brutal conquest - to oppression of weaker peoples - a
a peaceful, orderly world - every 20 yrs.

- ④ ^{Charters} International rights - Declaration - State - That's what.
basic human freedom + dignity

Have no faith in man - achieve -
- arrogant despots with soul / slaves - on way out!

- 7). The Democ. faith alone can provide new backbone
- For Democ. has faith in man - advancing society
cooperative commonwealth / free men.
only Democ. can achieve the good & glorious life
8). It is for Democ. that we are fighting

