



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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Herzliah, 1944.

1/ At a time both sad and hopeful.

- Program of annihilation proceeding. Catastrophe of disaster - Blackout

- And yet - darkness before Dawn. ~~But~~ Long War will ~~not~~ end

Hard fighting still ahead - costliest battles - to be fought

- But Wehrmacht is doomed! Great Defeat is around! It is

bleeding to death. Rings of Steel - Scourge of fire from heaven

- Gangsters know us to be beaten. No longer boast - 100000.

- Good & frighten their people -

Chief victims of helpless civilian populations - even they

as in Warsaw - spirit defiance

2/ There is danger of Hunger. To-morrow will not be the perfect

not consummation - Freedom to build our world - return

to classic highways - detours - descended into valleys & deaths

- Plagues - where there is light, breezy winds & wide vistas

3/ We have hopefully begun to plan post-war world - Translating

pronouncements - Atlantic Charter - Four Big - Mersey like

blue-prints -

- We, too, should plan for J. life after the war - altno deply ^{enough} ~~at all~~

in work of rescue & relief.

- Everyone realizes that Europ. Jewry - energy - phys. ravaged

seriously depleted numbers, resources

- will find cos - tensions - not entirely relieved - granting of the

~~the~~ Butter econ. imbalances -

- Large scale aid will be required - for a considerable time -

- Jews in war-stricken countries have special problems of their
which can only be met by substantiation and of fellows Jews

4. There will be vast uprooted populations - a floating population of human misery - seeking new homes - wherever will Palatians. It will be P. or nothing! For if in P. when we have an internat. recognized status -

= Work for U.S. statehood - to see that the work of uprooting is continued uninterruptedly - illegal stores are removed

5. Europe spiritually shaken & ravaged. Sp. 1277 as great as Sp.

= Many old centers, phys. destroyed - many cultural & rel. institutions - swift away - Academies - schools

= Scholars & their students scattered

= 3.1/2 to 5.2 to 7.1 to 9.2

= Every planned it to - in every land - kill off its institutions - seed destruction & ruination

= Exp. with gas - afraid of our spirit - burn our books our synagogues - schools - Torture they our men of spirit.

= In 1917 - 3M Jews - 1M for 2M - ceased to feed - retire since 1933 - The rest of Europe Germany - crushed under Yoke of want - physically ruined.

= World Germany is facing a sp. crisis of apalling dimensions

= Never since Dispersion 1-2 centuries - have we faced

6. While planning to care for phys. rehabilitation - Care for bodies - Minds not only - spirit is

How to keep alive some spirit, soul - light of
thought - torch of J. Baruch. - a major concern
our Heritage & our contribution to mankind.

7. What has preserved us - given dignity & structures to our
lives - & meaning to our cultural suffering - דבר - our
religious culture - the ethico-rel. idealism of Judaism

- ~~we were~~ our ancestors' content דבר 120 - 10000 hills -
- something exquisitely noble - worthy - essential
- In our rel. tradition - they knew - are the unshakable
and premises of human freedom - rights / man
brotherhood + life / peace
- ~~the~~ They possessed in their faith & code - דבר
those who lay hold of it are happy, those who forsake
it - Dictatorship - Brutality - war - Terror & Blind

8. In their synagogues & schools - then their sacred liter.
written in the holy tongue - they taught - gen.
of the generation.

Then & again world forgot them - return to their
- a new discovery - Social Justice - 19th Century

Am. Rev. 16 C - 20 C. democracies = Jewish! "Hells"

9. World needs דבר to-day - Sacredness of human life

Pity - Shame - Peace -
Edge of wilderness - Science

Knowledge - Gordons & Hoffmans
Faith - Blessings
Truth - used as well as free
change - papers
in direction - clever deals - talents

- all human inpenitency - Blitzkrieg

Man kind must recover: נחמנו is good. נחמנו is inadequate

Sp. & moral mandates of life

10. Only 2 ^{centers} great centers left - Pol. & America

now largest in world -

Future of J. life on a scale worthy, will depend on what we

1) Center of interest & Euphoria must shift - philanthropy - to
educational - cultural - spiritual

we have an urge of aspirations etc.

Our rel. life has been laughing - Our young people not
experiencing Judaism as a direction force - has old

Army - given them institutions.

Many lay leaders - prominent in convents - seldom -

last decades chaotic envelops centers

11) Am. Jewry - no Jewry - can survive as ^{philanthropic} that alone
as an isolated anti-Semitism

Its sp. & moral life must be nourished

~~Remember - Golden Age as then far away shores~~

12) Our fathers taught us study of history - to every

crisis - turned not to their statesmen, generals, philanthropists
School-men, teachers - Ezra - Johanan & Zadok

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Teachers = always, then captains & generals
Pupils - " " soldiers fighting men
Rabbi - " " fathers

Whenever an center - destroyed - men of the spirit & book
carried seed of nat. resurrection to a new center

13/ Those who build her - a y as do - a new ~~all~~ a enlarged
school - are true saviors of our people

14/ Ammer Golden Age -

