



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

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35th anniversary at the Temple, Cleveland, 1953.



The Temple

Cleveland, Ohio

TESTIMONIAL DINNER

honoring

DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

on the occasion of his

Sixtieth Birthday

and

Thirty-Fifth Year as Rabbi of The Temple

Statler Hotel

Wednesday, January Twenty-Eighth

1953



Program

Toastmaster A. M. Luntz

National Anthem

Invocation Rabbi Armond E. Cohen

Dinner

Greetings:

The Honorable Thomas A. Burke
Mayor of the City of Cleveland

The Honorable Frank J. Lausche
Governor of the State of Ohio

Dr. Oscar T. Olson
Epworth-Euclid Methodist Church

Rabbi Leon I. Feuer
Collingwood Avenue Temple, Toledo, Ohio



Address The Honorable Robert A. Taft,
United States Senate

For The Temple:

Eli Goldston

Sidney N. Weitz

Leo W. Neumark

S. M. Friedman

Response Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

Benediction Rabbi Alan S. Green

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

FOR THIRTY-FIVE of his sixty years, Abba Hillel Silver has been Rabbi of The Temple. After attending public school and high school in New York City, Dr. Silver was graduated from the University of Cincinnati and the Hebrew Union College, and was ordained Rabbi in 1915. It was in Wheeling, West Virginia, where he had his first congregation, that he met Virginia Horkheimer, and on January 2, 1923, five years after his coming to Cleveland, they were married.

Throughout his rabbinical career, Dr. Silver has been a leader of his faith. Soon after coming to Cleveland, he became identified with many of the progressive social and educational movements in the community. In his book, "Inside U.S.A.", John Gunther speaks of Dr. Silver as "the first citizen of Cleveland".

Dr. Silver served as President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. For some years he was National Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal and Chairman of the Cleveland Jewish Welfare Fund. He founded the Bureau of Jewish Education of Cleveland.

His full life and active career did not prevent him from devoting time to the writing of important books and the publication of many articles. He has lectured throughout the nation and has appeared on many university campuses and at conventions of educators, social workers and leaders of public opinion. He is the recipient of many degrees and awards attesting to his scholarship, his leadership and his statesmanship.

Dr. Silver has been recognized as the leader of the Zionist Movement in the United States. It was Dr. Silver, as head of the American Section of the Jewish Agency, the American Zionist Emergency Council and the Zionist Organization of America, who organized American public sentiment in favor of the Zionist Movement and who led the fight for the establishment of the State of Israel in the Assembly of the United Nations.

Just a week ago additional honor came to Dr. Silver, and through him to The Temple, when he participated in the inaugural ceremonies of President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

(January 28, 1953.)

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AMERICA

By ABBA HILLEL SILVER

GOD built Him a continent of glory and filled it with
treasures untold;
He carpeted it with soft-rolling prairies and columned it
with thundering mountains;
He studded it with sweet-flowing fountains and traced
it with long-winding streams;
He planted it with deep-shadowed forests, and filled
them with song.

THEN He called unto a thousand peoples and sum-
moned the bravest among them.
They came from the ends of the earth, each bearing a
gift and a hope.
The glow of adventure was in their eyes, and in their
hearts the glory of hope.

AND out of the bounty of earth and the
labor of men,
Out of the longing of hearts and the
prayer of souls,
Out of the memory of ages and the
hopes of the world,
God fashioned a nation in love,
blessed it with a purpose sublime—
And called it AMERICA!

Written in 1918 upon the occasion of the first Cleveland Community Fund Victory Dinner, "America" has won international recognition as a great example of patriotic literature.