



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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185

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Funeral of William B. Cohen, 1954.

(2)

Our faith counselled us not to be afraid of death. God is here and in the hereafter, in the known and the unknown. "If I ascend into heaven - thou art there; If I make my bed in the nether-world, behold, thou art there. And if I say: Surely the darkness shall envelope me, and the night light about me shall be night; even the darkness is not too dark for Thee, But the night shineth as the day; The darkness is even as the light."

Our faith also counselled us not to mourn too long for their dead. "When the dead is at rest, let his spirit rest." Rather to think of the quality, than of the quantity of their life - for the deeds, the rightness, not our tears and monuments, are their true memorials.

Our dear friend, Mrs. B. Cohen, who has been summoned away ^{to the will of God} from us, and left us ~~bereft and stricken~~ ^{bereft}, has left ~~us~~ ^{behind} ~~for~~ ^{us} ~~and~~ ^{behind} beautiful memorials ~~after~~ ^{behind} him, that in our sorrow we are not entirely bereft. "The memory, the rightness is a continuing blessing" - said our eyes. It abides as a living presence, an inexorable influence, in the lives of those who cherish that memory, who will not surrender it to oblivion.

"The righteous are alive in death" - for they continue to pluck with invisible fingers upon the strings of our hearts - and to fill our souls with the music of sweet remembrance, of unspoken companionship, of love that reaches across the gulfs of the grave, ~~and~~ ^{and} the spheres of the

and on-coming
rebutless years; they live in an ~~active~~ ^{active} ~~on~~ ^{on} ~~living~~ ^{living},
~~and~~ in the pride which is ours, that they belong to
us, ^{and} that we share their lives and their hopes. ~~and~~

Not only those who were very close to ~~the~~ ^{the} Cohen
in the intimate circle of ^{his} family life, loved him, but
many who were not so close - a veritable host of friends
and acquaintances - who were drawn to him by his
charismatic ^{and engaging} ~~friendliness~~, his sincere cordiality, the
warmth of his personality. He was, what one might call

1/23/71 to 2/1/71 - He and all pleading to his fellow men,
He walked with his fellow-men ^{as a companion} ~~along~~ ^{along} the road of life,
eager to ~~show~~ ^{be helpful in all ways} ~~in their tasks~~, to ready at all times
to carry his share of the burden - to give the helping
hand, to meet the ~~beating~~ ^{beating} ~~word~~ ^{word}.

In his business ^{associations} ~~activities~~, he was a man of honor
and integrity - and ~~he~~ ^{he} made his contribution to the development
of our community. He was a ~~loyal~~ ^{loyal} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~devoted~~ ^{devoted} and
patriotic citizen of his beloved country.

Mr B. Cohen was a proud and loyal Jew ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~Temple~~ ^{Temple}, of which he was a ~~honored~~ ^{honored} ~~member~~ ^{member} and officer for
many years, was an ~~especial~~ ^{especial} object of his love and devotion.
His pride in the Temple was matched only by the ~~Temple's~~ ^{Temple's} ~~pride~~ ^{pride} in him. As Chairman, the House Committee
he devoted countless hours of his valuable time and
~~much~~ ^{much} of his energy and thought to the ~~care~~ ^{care}, and
embellishment of this beautiful edifice. There were times when
he was in and around the Temple building there and

