



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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186

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Israel's 10th anniversary, 1958.

I have attended several functions in recent weeks in celebration of Israel's Tenth Anniversary.

Two have given me especial pleasure: The Celebration which I was privileged to witness in Israel -- and your celebration here this evening.

I need not tell you that the celebration in Israel was profoundly moving and exalting - a grateful people pouring out its deepest emotions in one glorious, unprecedented Hallelujah for its freedom, its independence, its achievements, its confident hopes for the future.

I shared with them fully in their mood of _____ in their joy, their pride and thanksgiving.

I am also very happy in this celebration which the Cleveland Jewish Community has arranged this evening.

For our community has had a genuine share in the establishment and the development of the State of Israel in the last decade -- and is warranted in sharing also in the joy, the pride and the thanksgiving.

Devoted men and women in this community have through the years, given of their energies and substance to bring the State into existence - to expand its economy - to build and maintain its institutions.

Many of them labored loyally through the unrewarding years - long before the State was established - when the dream seemed unreal and the difficulties insurmountable.

Cleveland lay and spiritual leaders have, with rare exceptions, been the warm friends of a Reborn Israel - and our people as a whole have been commendably generous in providing the brick and mortar for the building of the State -- the financial support!

Jews throughout the world have reason to rejoice -- not least among them, the Jews of Cleveland.

What was it that happened ten years ago that causes us to celebrate the event ten years later, that will be a source of glad and grateful commemoration for all future time?

If I were asked what has the State of Israel achieved for us - for our people outside of Israel?, I would say:

These last ten years have restored to our people its lost pride, the confidence which the cruel centuries almost succeeded in destroying. The last ten years saved us from fatal despair after the Nazi horrors which caused the spirit of our people to languish, almost unto death. These last ten years have healed us and made us whole again. They have restored to us the sense of national worth and national mission. History has led us back after many dangerous and desperate detours to the royal highway of our national destiny.

Is our work done after these ten magnificent, exciting, heroic years? Our work will not be done until the ingathering of refugees is completed, until the national economy of Israel is stabilized, until its borders are made secure and its enemies cease from threatening and harassment.

Many difficult problems lie ahead. Problems of economics -- an unfavorable trade-balance -- problems of security -- the hostility of unreconciled neighbors -- the large-scale arming of its potential enemies, the competing interests of world powers in the Near East. Many dangers may lie in the offing. But as a people, we are inured to crisis and dangers and difficulties. Our movement has known how to mount upon the rungs of frustration and alternate exhilaration and depression to victory.

I am confident that in the future also, both our cause and our historic sense as well as our resolute will, will sustain us throughout all the unpredictable years.

On October 13, 1886 Dr. Theodore Herzl wrote in his "Diaries"

"I must frankly admit to myself: I am demoralized. From no side, help; from every side attacks. Nordau writes me that nobody stirs any longer in Paris. The Maccabeans in London are more Pickwickian than ever... In Germany I have only opponents. The Russians look on sympathetically while I slave away, but none of them lends a hand... The prosperous Jews are all against me..."

And on December 20th of the same year he wrote in his "Diaries":

"I feel that I am growing exhausted. Oftener than ever I believe that my movement is at an end. While I am still absolutely convinced of its feasibility, I cannot overcome its initial difficulties".

And yet, on September 3, 1897, following the first Zionist Congress in Basle, he wrote:

"If I were to sum up the Congress in a word -- which I shall take care not to publish -- it would be this:-- At Basle I founded the Jewish State! If I said this out loud today I would be greeted by universal laughter. In five years perhaps, and certainly in 50 years, every one will perceive it."

(He missed his guess by exactly eight months -- for in May 1948 the State of Israel was proclaimed.)

THE CLEVELAND ZIONIST SOCIETY

Invites You to Celebrate

**The Tenth Anniversary
of**

The Founding of the State of Israel

Wednesday Evening, June 4th, 1958

at 8:30 o'clock

SEVERANCE HALL

11001 EUCLID AVENUE

SPEAKERS : **G. Mennen Williams,**
Governor of Michigan

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver

MUSIC: **AN ORIGINAL CANTATA FEATURING CLEVELAND'S
CANTORS AND OUTSTANDING MUSICAL TALENT**

SPONSORED: BY THE JEWISH COMMUNITY FEDERATION
and a CITY WIDE COMMITTEE of 100, in-
cluding both Ohio's Senators, all local Con-
gressmen, the Governor, the Mayor, the
Presidents of all universities in our area,
outstanding leaders in Cleveland's business,
labor, civic and religious life.

R E S E R V E T H E D A T E

Admission is free and the public is invited



CLEVELAND OBSERVANCE OF THE
10th ANNIVERSARY

OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 1958, 8:30 P.M.
SEVERANCE HALL, CLEVELAND, OHIO

SPONSORED BY THE JEWISH COMMUNITY FEDERATION OF CLEVELAND

PROGRAM

LAWRENCE H. WILLIAMS, Chairman

THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER Phyllis Braun

HATIKVA Cantor Isaac Goodfriend

MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO

RABBI BARNETT R. BRICKNER Rabbi Armond E. Cohen

WELCOME Max Simon

President, The Jewish Community Federation

GREETINGS —

FOR THE CITY OF CLEVELAND Anthony J. Celebrezze

Mayor of Cleveland

FOR THE STATE OF OHIO C. William O'Neill

Governor of Ohio

FOR THE STATE OF ISRAEL David S. Teshler

Consul General of Israel, Chicago, Illinois

CANTATA: THE DREAM AND THE DEED

ADDRESS G. Mennen Williams

Governor of Michigan

ADDRESS Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

PRAYER FOR PEACE Cantor Saul Meisels

BENEDICTION Cantor Simon Bermanis

AMERICA Cantor Irvin Bushman

THE DREAM AND THE DEED

SCRIPT: Sidney Z. Vincent

PRODUCTION: Mark Feder

MUSIC COORDINATION: Cantor Saul Meisels

MUSIC DIRECTION: Dr. Harold Fink

NARRATORS: Howard da Silva and David Lazarus

SOLOISTS: Cantors Simon Bermanis, Irvin Bushman, Isaac Goodfriend,
and Saul Meisels, and Phyllis Braun

CHORUS

SOPRANOS:

Phyllis Braun
Tillie Shenker Fine
Celia Loveman

ALTOS:

Gloria Shafran
Ilona Strasser

TENORS:

Albert Bender
Emanuel Schechter

BASSES:

David Ginsburg
Morton Katz
Philip Matlow

ACCOMPANIMENT:

Stephen Marks, *Percussion*; Florence Meisels, *Flute*; Albert Michelson, *Cello*

Lighting by Jerry Rose

To maintain the continuity and mood of the musical portion of the program, we ask
the audience kindly to withhold applause until after the completion of the Cantata.

WRHS

SONGS

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES



IM ESHKACHECH, YERUSHALAYIM

"If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, Let my right hand forget her cunning."

YERUSHALAYIM: ES BLOSST A KALTER VIND

*In the darkest days of the Exile, the dream of the Holy Land is the refuge from the cold winds
of hatred and persecution.*

ONU BONU ARTZO

"We have returned to the land to rebuild it and to be rebuilt by it."

ZOG NISHT KAINMOL

*A song of the concentration camps: "Never say that this is the final road we travel . . . We shall
yet be present at the day of deliverance."*

ANI MAAMIN

The great medieval profession of faith by Maimonides.

SONG OF THE PALMACH

*The army of the new State expresses its readiness for whatever trials lie ahead in order that
Israel may be free . . .*

HEY DAROMA!

"On to the virgin South; on to the Negev; build . . . that its arid fields may be green."

AITZ HARIMON

*As the arrow longs to return to the bow . . . as the plucked pomegranate yearns for the tree, so
does the soldier at the front long for his sweetheart.*

SHEHECHIYONU

Blessed art Thou, O Lord our God, who hast preserved us to this memorable day.

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Howard Wertheimer
Rev. Bruce Whittemore
Dr. Carl F. Wittke
Ben D. Zevin

*Deceased



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