



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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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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Tribute to Samuel Silbert, 1963.



9.9

Tribute to Judge Samuel Silbert  
on the occasion of his  
80th Birthday Testimonial  
May 9, 1963

I am delighted to join Judge Silbert's host of friends in the Testimonial which is being accorded to him on the occasion of his eightieth birthday. Whenever I think of him -- and I do frequently, with affection and esteem -- there rises before me a man of quiet dignity, deep humanity, a compassionate servant of his fellow-man, and I am grateful that such a man lives among us and has, for so many fruitful years, helped in the administration of justice in our community and in the elevation of its civic tone and character.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER



63-8  
16  
1) I received - 5 minutes

The only other time - 3 minutes  
I thought then that the time allotted to  
- for I believed that the Republicans  
needed more prayer than that  
Now the Democrats, a few years later,  
at the inauguration of Pres. Kennedy  
were more conspicuous  
They asked Cardinal Cushing to pray  
at least 20 minutes for them

2) Now to speak of Judge Sam Silbert  
You do not require even 3 minutes.  
All you need to say is what the  
Good Lord said, when He looked over  
~~the~~ His Handwork on each, the 6 days  
of Creation.

"And the Lord saw that It was Good"  
all you need to say when you  
look over God's Handwork Sam  
Silbert, is - "Behold, He is Good"

3) There is an interesting phrase 2:1 P.D.N.  
"wise heart"  
There are people who are wise - intellect  
- a good mind - who know what is  
right



but not the will to do it  
who have a good mind - but not a good heart  
The ideal man combines the two - wisdom  
with goodness

4/ In S.S. - the two were happily met  
The sound mind to know the Law  
The good heart to guide him in applying it.

5/ The true judge looks not only at the  
surface evidence, but beneath the  
surface - into the heart of things - motives  
- the strivers, and tensions in the  
tangled lines of men and women -  
And his decisions come to reflect not  
only justice but compassion.

6/ Always S.S. strive for reconciliation  
bet. men and women - to guide them  
into the ways of forgiveness to  
save homes and families from  
disruption, and children from delinquency.

7/ And our people appreciated this  
man, the "wise heart", and res-  
ponded to him - to his humanity -  
his kindness - his simplicity  
At the throne of God, it is not the  
nobly-born that are beloved, but the  
nobly-risen



- They responded to his youthful <sup>(3)</sup>  
bucyant spirit, which as could  
not diminish  
8/ To give you an example of how 'wise' heart  
At 80 S.S. is still young - What  
was said of Moses - His eye is  
not dim - not his vigor  
abated -
- 9/ If he runs again for office -  
I will undertake to stuff the  
ballot boxes...

