



## 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 VI: Speaking Engagements, 1917-1964.

---

Reel  
188

Box  
71

Folder  
10

Antioch College (Yellow Springs, Ohio), 1932-1954.



*Purs*

ANTIOCH COLLEGE  
YELLOW SPRINGS  
OHIO

April 9, 1932.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,  
The Temple,  
E. 105th Street and Ansel Road,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Silver:

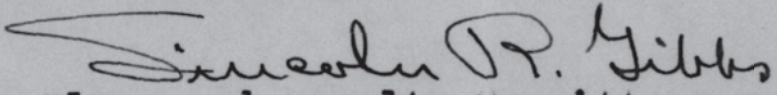
*ov.* At the request of the Committees of the graduating class and the faculty on the Commencement exercises, I am writing to ask you to make the address on Commencement day, June 25 (Saturday), this year. The exercises take place at 10 A. M., on the campus if the weather is suitable for an out-door assembly; if the weather is not favorable, they will be held in the Assembly room.

I am authorized to inform you that the honorarium will be fifty dollars, and of course all expenses of travel and entertainment will be paid. We are wholly aware that this is inadequate compensation; but both the College itself and the graduating students are more than ordinarily impecunious this year, and I believe that the occasion will offer you some compensations beyond that of cash payment, since I believe that it will be an opportunity to do some actual good which you will value, and it may be that you will welcome the chance of looking at our educational experiment at close range, even though we shall not be in working trim. We are very eager to hear you; many of our students and some faculty-members have heard you in Cleveland.



If you decide to come, I shall be glad to inform you about the temper of the audience, and to attempt to make arrangements for your visit that will involve the least possible outlay of time and energy on your part.

Very truly yours,

  
for the Class and Faculty Committees on  
Commencement





*card*

April 12th, 1932

Mr. Lincoln R. Gibbs,  
Committee on Commencement,  
Antioch College,  
Yellow Springs, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Gibbs:-

Permit me to acknowledge the receipt  
of your letter of April 9th and the invitation which  
you extend to me to deliver the Commencement Day  
address on Saturday, June 25th.

I shall be very happy to come. I should  
like to visit Antioch College and come in direct contact  
with an educational institution which has intrigued me  
for many years.

I shall be very pleased to receive any  
information which you think I ought to have in connection  
with the exercises.

With kindest regards and best wishes  
permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR



ANTIOCH COLLEGE  
YELLOW SPRINGS  
OHIO

April 19, 1932.

My dear Dr. Silver:

We are delighted to receive your acceptance of the commencement engagement.

It may be that I can furnish information that you would welcome, concerning the temper of the audience. I judge that our students are more affected by "the acids of modernity," as Walter Lippman calls them, than are most college students. We succeed well enough in breaking up their ethical schemes, as inherited from the past; but our success in giving them a positive philosophy of life does not satisfy me in the least. Many of them of course, are totally indifferent to the matter; some of the most talented are cynical, partly because of their close contact with business, and many are genuinely concerned with the problem of establishing a sound and workable program. I think they are rather more critical-minded than most college students. Their scientific studies have influenced their thinking, I believe, much more than the instruction they have received in philosophy, literature, or the social sciences. I hope you will understand that I do not wish to give you a hint about the selection of a topic - only to furnish facts that may help you to adapt the treatment to the audience.

Later I shall send you directions for reaching Yellow Springs most conveniently.

Sincerely yours, *Sincerely R. Gibbs*



ANTIOCH COLLEGE  
YELLOW SPRINGS  
OHIO

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

June 2, 1932.

Rabbi A. H. Silver,  
10311 Lake Shore Boulevard,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Silver:

In our Antioch College program, we are endeavoring to make the co-operative work of our students as educational as possible from every point of view. Our aim is not so much to make students comfortable in our present industrial order as to help them to get a picture of American industry at its best, so that the traditions they develop may be of industrial life as it might be and ought to be, rather than as it is now.

We want to make the acquaintance of those industrial organizations that have the highest standards, and that would be most educational to our students from this point of view. Although employment may not be available under present conditions, we want to develop acquaintances that will help us later.

One of our recent graduates, Mr. Morris Bean, is coming



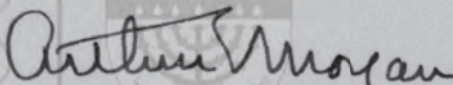
Rabbi A. H. Silver

6-2-32.

to Cleveland within a week to make acquaintance with institutions of the community that are of this character. I have asked him to call on you, and I hope you can give him some introductions or suggestions as to whom he should see.

We shall greatly appreciate any time you can give. The product we hope for at Antioch is young men and women who will live up to the best of our social and industrial traditions and then raise the standards they find by exercising their own initiative.

Sincerely yours,



Arthur E. Morgan,  
President.

AEM:HG



ANTIOCH COLLEGE  
YELLOW SPRINGS  
OHIO

June 4, 1932.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,  
The Temple,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Silver:

The publicity department of the college has asked me to request you to send a photograph of yourself that may be used in the papers hereabouts. we should like to have that rather soon. we also want a copy of your address, to be published immediately after delivery. this copy, the publicity agent tells me, should be in our hands by June 20.

if you should motor to Yellow Springs, you would find the route via Marion, Delaware, Columbus, and Springfield the most convenient, I believe. from Springfield proceed to Yellow Springs on Route 53. I will mail you a note later concerning your place of entertainment. if you come by train, the best route is probably through Springfield. there is no very convenient night train, the best being one that leaves the Union Terminal (Big Four) at 1:55 A. M. and reaches Springfield at 8 A. M. Day trains are as follows:

Leave Cleveland  
8:45 A. M.  
12:05 P. M.  
3:30 P. M.

Arrive Springfield  
12:55 P. M.  
4:00 P. M.  
7:42 P. M.

we shall meet you with a motor-car at Springfield.

photo sent  
6/13/32



The distance is nine miles, to Yellow Springs. Please inform me on what train you intend to travel.

If there is any other information you desire, or anything else in which I can be useful to you, I shall be pleased to serve you.

Sincerely yours,

Sincerely R. Gibbs

P.S. The exercises are at 10 A.M., Saturday, June 25. We should be pleased to have you come on Friday, or earlier, and make a visit at the college.



Mrs. Jessie W. Armstrong  
Yellow Springs  
Ohio

June 14, 1932.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105<sup>th</sup> Street at Arzel Road,  
Cleveland, O.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

To me has fallen  
the honor of entertaining you  
when you come to Yellow  
Springs next week to ad-  
dress the graduating class  
of Antioch College. I assure  
you that I anticipate your  
visit with much pleasure.

Will you kindly  
let me know just when  
you expect to arrive, so that,  
if you come by train, I may  
know when to meet you in  
Springfield, our nearest sta-  
tion on the Big Four R.R.

If you are driving  
down, you will find my  
home just north of the cem-  
etry on Route 53 from Spring.



field just before you come  
to the village. The house  
stands on the right behind  
a high spruce hedge.

Yours sincerely,  
Jessie H. Armstrong  
(Mrs. E. J.)





June 15th, 1932

Mr. Lincoln R. Gibbs,  
Antioch College,  
Yellow Springs, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Gibbs:-

In reply to your kind letter of June 4th permit me to say that I shall leave Cleveland on the 12:25 midnight train Friday, arriving in Springfield at 5:17 Saturday morning. I will go to the nearest hotel in Springfield and will be ready to set out with you or your representative for Yellow Springs at eight o'clock.

Please suggest to me the name of a hotel where we can meet.

I must be in Cleveland for Vesper Services Friday evening and that is why I am making this rather unsatisfactory connection.

Will you please inform Mrs. E. J. Armstrong who was gracious enough to invite me to be her guest in Yellow Springs, of the time of my arrival.

With kindest regards and looking forward with pleasure to our meeting, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR



ANTIOCH COLLEGE  
YELLOW SPRINGS  
OHIO

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

June 16, 1932.

Rabbi Abba H. Silver,  
The Temple,  
East 105th Street at Ansel Road,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Silver:

Mr. Gibbs has asked me  
to acknowledge your kind letter of  
June 15.

He suggests the Shawnee  
Hotel as being a good place to  
await our representative. It is  
located on the corner of Main and  
Limestone Streets and is but a few  
blocks from the railroad station.  
We shall have someone call for you  
there at eight o'clock.

Mrs. Armstrong is being  
notified of the time of your arrival.

We hope indeed that your  
visit to our campus will be a pleas-  
ant one.

Very sincerely yours,

*Herbert Gough*  
Herbert Gough,  
Secretary to the President.

205-  
5745

4.45-  
8.18



June 20th, 1932

Mr. Lincoln R. Gibbs,  
Antioch College,  
Yellow Springs, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Gibbs:-

Enclosed please find a copy of the  
Commencement Address which Rabbi Silver is scheduled  
to deliver at Antioch next Saturday morning.

With kindest regards, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to Rabbi Silver



## CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable sign above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

## SIGNS

DL = Day Letter  
NM = Night Message  
NL = Night Letter  
LCO = Deferred Cable  
NLT = Cable Night Letter  
WLT = Week-End Letter

The filing time as shown in the date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.

Received at  
└

10AM 25J 32DL HX New York Ny 844 AM 25

Rabbi A. H. Silver  
Antioch College  
Yellow Spgs O



Regret exceedingly cannot be present to welcome  
you to Antioch Delighted with Seniors credit you ~~with~~ for  
their Commencement am certain you will have message for them  
that they need Best Wishes.

W. M. Leiserson.



June  
27th  
1932

Dr. W. M. Leiserson,  
c/o Antioch College,  
Yellow Springs, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Leiserson:-

I was very happy to receive your telegram though I regret that you were not in Antioch last Saturday morning as I should have been very happy to see you.

I enjoyed my Commencement morning very much. This was my first visit to Antioch and in many ways it was a rare and delightful experience.

With best wishes for a very pleasant summer, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS/IR



THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE

CINCINNATI, OHIO

Department of Social Studies  
DR. ABRAHAM CRONBACH

March 6, 1945.

Dear Dr. Silver:-

The American Friends Service Committee has asked me to invite you to be the Jewish speaker at their 1945 Institute of International Relations to be held, if transportation regulations permit, between July 7 and 17th at Antioch College, Yellow Springs, Ohio. They offer \$100 and expenses for five addresses but would be satisfied to have fewer than five--to have even one if you can not spare the time for more--provided the monetary cost does not exceed their slender means.

The enclosed prospectus, used last year, conveys an idea of the project. Last year's institute was attended by great crowds.

Last year, the Jewish question was overlooked. This year the committee seeks to make amends for the oversight.

May I hear from you soon ?

Yours, with an esteem that needs no declaring,

Abraham Cronbach



May 8, 1945

Dr. Abraham Cronbach  
The Hebrew Union College  
Cincinnati, Ohio

My dear Dr. Cronbach:

Thank you for your kind letter of March 6. I should very much like to accept the invitation of the American Friends Service Committee and speak at Antioch at its Institute in July. Unfortunately I cannot commit myself to any engagements in July. There is a possibility of my going abroad and I would not wish to disappoint you at the last minute. Please keep me in mind for some future occasion.

I trust that you are well, and I hope that I may have the pleasure of seeing you before very long.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK



Civil Liberties Committee  
Antioch College  
Yellow Springs, Ohio

April 23, 1954

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
19810 Shaker Street  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

The Civil Liberties Committee of Antioch College Community Government is planning an Academic Freedom Week program for the week of May 16. It was suggested by Ernest Morgan of the Antioch community that we contact you as a possible speaker. We would like very much to have you speak to us some time that week on any subject related to Academic Freedom.

We are prepared to take care of transportation expenses and such accommodations as you should need during your visit.

If you can suggest any other people we might contact as possible speakers for our program, we would appreciate such information.

Will you advise us soon as to whether and when you can come and the subject on which you would like to speak, so we can arrange our program? We are looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

*Beverly Reice*

Beverly Reice, Secretary  
Civil Liberties Committee



April 30, 1954

Miss Beverly Reice, Secretary  
Civil Liberties Committee  
Antioch College  
Yellow Springs, Ohio

My dear Miss Reice:

Thank you for your kind letter of April twenty-third  
and for your invitation to speak during your Academic  
Freedom Week.

I regret very much that I am too heavily committed  
during the week of May sixteenth to accept any further  
engagements.

With all good wishes for a successful program, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABRA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:rms