



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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Series VI: Speaking Engagements, 1917-1964.

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Asbury Park, New Jersey, 1937-1944.



JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE UNITED STATES

HARRY H. SCHAFER
COMMANDER IN CHIEF
1409 FIFTH AVENUE
PITTSBURGH, PA.

W
August 3, 1937.

My dear Rabbi Silver:

You will no doubt recall that while I was in Cleveland I mentioned to you that I should be very happy if you found it possible to attend the National Encampment of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States, which is to be held in Asbury Park, New Jersey, from September 23rd to 26th inclusive.

We intend to have outstanding Friday night services, at which we expect a large attendance, and if it were possible for you to be present on Friday evening, September 24th, that would be fine. If, however, you find that date inconvenient, we shall, of course, be very happy to have you with us on either of the remaining dates.

I would appreciate your early advice as to whether you can be present at these services or at any time during the Convention.

With kind personal regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Harry H. Schaffer
HARRY H. SCHAFER

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
Cleveland, Ohio.

August 4, 1937

Harry H. Schaffer
1409 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa.

My dear Mr. Schaffer:

I have your letter of August 3rd extending an invitation to Rabbi Silver to attend the Jewish War Veterans' National Encampment in Asbury Park the latter part of September.

Rabbi Silver is, at the present time, in Switzerland, and I do not expect him to return until September 1st, at which time I shall refer your letter to him for consideration.

Sincerely yours,

H. A. LEVY

HAL:NP

GOLDSTEIN & NOVOGROD
COUNSELLORS AT LAW
ASBURY PARK, N. J.

DAVID GOLDSTEIN
WILLIAM NOVOGROD

DAVID GOLDSTEIN
U. S. COMMISSIONER

ELECTRIC BUILDING
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October 14, 1944

Dr. Abba Hellel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

The Asbury Park (Yehoash) branch of the Jewish Workers'↔ National Alliance is embarking upon an extensive cultural program for the year 1944-45, and through me, its Chairman, cordially invites you to be a speaker at one of the occasions. There will be six events in all, spaced approximately a month apart, to be conducted in the Asbury Park High School, which has a seating capacity of around 1000. Considering the fact that everyone of the speakers will be an individual of prime national importance, we anticipate no difficulty whatever in having a sell-out attendance at each of the affairs.

The objective is purely educational in nature. The subject matter of each discussion will be some aspect of the Jewish question, with the main emphasis on Palestine and Zionism. Attendance will be drawn not only from Asbury Park but from all the outlying communities within a radius of 25 miles, of which there are quite a number.

This is the first time in the history of this county that such an ambitious program has been undertaken. The fact that we expect to have Dorothy Thompson, Larry Allen, Quentin Reynolds, Van Paassen, and Dr. Thomas Mann indicates that no attempt is being made to compromise with quality. This holds true particularly in your case, for we feel that in having you here we will certainly have the most outstanding spokesman in America on the subject of Palestine.

We are supplementing this program with an entirely different series for the younger men and women, and are having a program of three events for them, one by Maurice Samuels, another by an outstanding authority on the subject of Jewish music, and the last an authority on the

subject of the art of dancing in Palestine.

A word about the Yehoash branch. It is the second largest branch in America, has a membership of about 300, and is adding to its membership at the rate of approximately 25 a month. It has during the past few years been the most dynamic element of Jewish activity throughout the county. It has given impetus to every form of Jewish activity and has invariably insured the success of every such undertaking. You cannot think of any aspect of Judaism without immediately thinking of the FARBAND. It carried on an intensive campaign last year for the abrogation of the White Paper. It has stimulated the success of every U.J.A. campaign during the past ten years. It has been behind every fund-raising activity. It has supported, successfully, every form of Jewish philanthropy. It has, in short, done everything that can conceivably be expected of a Jewish organization.

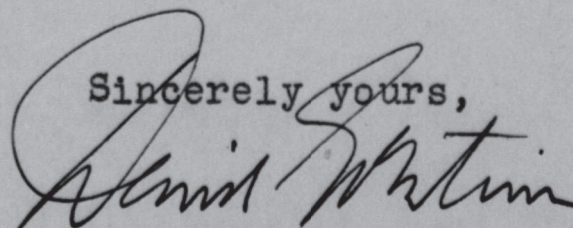
But we feel that much as it has done, there is much more that it can do. And it is with this in mind that we have undertaken the program above mentioned. Frankly, the success of the whole program will depend to a very great extent upon your taking one of the discussions. To say that Dr. Silver is a name of magic among our people in Monmouth County is to perpetrate a gross understatement. I will let it go at that. The invitation which is extended to you, at this time, comes from the unanimous voice of our Jewish constituency, and with a sincerity which beggars description.

As for myself, I could mention one or two facts which would probably be of no particular consequence, except that I am Chairman of the Monmouth County Emergency Committee for Palestine, and in that capacity carried on a very intensive campaign for the abrogation of the White Paper. I attended your Cleveland conference and made a rather imperfect "speech" when unexpectedly called upon by my very good friend Joel Gross. I have also been active in Jewish work since the time when the memory of man runneth not to the contrary. Henry Montor knows me quite well and will tell you what he cares to confide about me.

The date that we have in mind is any Sunday in November with the exception of November 26th. The most preferable date would be November 12th. The selection of this date, and of course, your affirmative answer, are the only things that are now holding up the printing of our tickets for the series. An early answer would, therefore, enhance our appreciation for your kindness in accepting this invitation.

With sincerest best wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours,



David Goldstein

October 23, 1944

Mr. David Goldstein
Electric Building
Asbury Park, N.J.

My dear Mr. Goldstein:

I deeply appreciate your kind letter of October 14 and your invitation to participate in your cultural program. I wish I were free to come. It would have given me great pleasure indeed. Unfortunately the burden of my work is such that I cannot take on any additional responsibilities. Furthermore, it is only on a rare occasion that I absent myself from Cleveland on a Sunday. As you know, I must be in my own pulpit on that day. Perhaps at some future time I may be able to be of service to you.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK