



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.

Series VI: Speaking Engagements, 1917-1964.

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Austin, Texas (University of Texas), 1928-1961.

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
DEPARTMENT OF PURE MATHEMATICS
AUSTIN

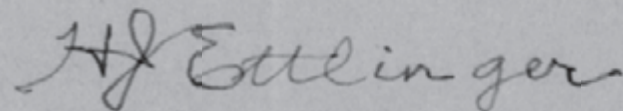
October 25, 1928.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
E. 105th St. at Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Rabbi Ephraim Frisch has very kindly sent me a copy of your letter of October 9th to him. We would be very much interested in your coming to Austin to address our 210 Jewish students and such others whom we would invite to be present. Your visit amongst them would be a real inspiration, inasmuch as most of our boys and girls are from very small towns in Texas and far away from even the backwash of Jewish life. It would be a wonderful opportunity for them to hear as eloquent and able a man as you give them a message on Judaism. However, I fear that the expense of bringing you to Austin would be too heavy for our slender purses because of the fact that it will be out of the question to charge admission to our Jewish University students and I do not know how it would work to charge ^{an} admission fee for others who might come. I am wondering whether you would be embarrassed by answering this question: What is the minimum honorarium that you would accept for a visit to talk to our group? Let me assure you again that it would be a rare treat to have you and if it can be arranged at all, I should love to do it. The time you mention in your letter, of Tuesday, October 5th to Dr. Frisch would be satisfactory to us. Please let me hear from you at your convenience concerning this matter.

Very sincerely yours,



Professor of Pure Mathematics.

lv. Chic 10 am - Sun

7:40 " " Tues



Patrons League
FOR THE
JEWISH STUDENTS OF THE
University of Texas
AUSTIN

November 20, 1928.

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
3110 HARRIS PARK AVE.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
East 105th St. and Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

About three weeks ago, I wrote you concerning the prospect of securing you for an address before our Jewish student body at the University of Texas during the course of your trip through Texas en route to California. To date I have not received a reply and fearing that my letter might have gone astray, I am writing again. My letter was originally written at the suggestion of Dr. Frisch of San Antonio. I am very eager, if it is at all possible, to arrange for your speaking to our students on any subject that you might choose. We have about 210 Jewish students, most of them from the smaller towns far away from the main current of Jewish life or even the backwash, which may be found in some of our larger Texas cities. An address from you would remain with them for a long time as an abiding inspiration, Jewishly speaking, and I am very eager for them to have this opportunity. I mentioned in my letter that we would probably not be able to pay \$300 for such an address and I wondered whether in consideration of the fact that this could not be a "pay" event, you would be willing to accept a smaller honorarium. I am not trying to bargain with you but the facts are these: We have a state organization known as the Patrons' League for the Jewish Students of the University of Texas and through this League, I am able to do some things; for example, the Patrons' League will pay your honorarium. They will also give a supper in your honor, to which all of the Jewish students of the University will be invited as guests; this to precede your address.

I trust that I may have the pleasure of hearing from you at an early date as to whether it will be possible for you to set a date aside for us in Austin at the University of Texas.

With best wishes, I beg to remain,

Yours very sincerely,

A. J. Ettlinger
A. J. Ettlinger,
Prof. Pure Mathematics,
University of Texas.
Executive Secretary,
Patrons' League.

card

Dec. 4th, 1928.

Prof. H. J. Ettlinger,
The University of Texas,
Austin, Texas.

My dear Prof. Ettlinger:-

Permit me to thank you for
your kind letters of October 25th and Nov.
20th.

I wish I could see my way
clear to come to Austin. The honorarium would
not be the deciding factor. It seems that I
shall have to leave Cleveland at a later date
than I had expected and that I shall not have
time for more than the two addresses which I
have already scheduled for Texas.

I shall be in Houston on the
sixth of February and in El Paso on the seventh
and from there I must go right straight on to
San Francisco.

I am sorry that I must forego
the privilege of addressing your body. Perhaps
at some future time that privilege may be mine.

Thanking you again for your
kindness in inviting me and hoping that I may
have the pleasure of meeting you in person,
permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR

Patrons League

FOR THE
JEWISH STUDENTS OF THE
University of Texas
AUSTIN

December 13, 1988.

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
3110 HARRIS PARK AVE.

Rabbi Abba Hillel,
E. 105 St. at Ansell Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I hasten to answer your letter of December 4th, which I have been unable to do sooner because of a siege of the "flu". It is with sincere regret that I note in your letter that you will be unable to come to Austin on this trip. I am wondering whether Texas geography is familiar enough to you to know that Austin is but 166 miles from Houston and that you could leave Austin at 11:30 P. M. on February 5th and arrive in Houston at 6 o'clock of the morning of February 6th. We should be very glad to pay the same honorarium that you will receive for your other two engagements and we could have a large public meeting at the state capitol, if you should find it possible to include Austin in your itinerary. I do not know when such a wonderful opportunity will come to us in Austin again and I trust that you will, therefore, understand my apparent persistence in being unwilling to give up hope with respect to your coming to Austin. Please bear us in mind and if you can possibly include Austin on February 5th, we shall be very grateful to you indeed.

With very best wishes, I beg to remain,

Very sincerely yours,

H. J. Ettlinger
H. J. Ettlinger.

card ✓

Dec. 18th, 1928.

Prof. H. J. Ettlinger,
3110 Harris Park Ave.,
Austin, Texas.

My dear Prof. Ettlinger:-

Permit me to thank you for
your kind letter of Dec. 13th. I hope that
you have completely recovered from your siege
of the "flu".

I have gone through the train
schedule again and I find that by leaving
Cleveland Monday morning at 2:00 a. m. I can
arrive in Austin on Tuesday at 7:00 p. m. This
would of course be making close connections.
Should the train be late both you and I would
be out of luck.

There is one possibility of my
catching an earlier train. Of that I shall
write you later. I shall look forward with
pleasure to meeting you and your people in
Austin.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR

Patrons League
FOR THE
JEWISH STUDENTS OF THE
University of Texas
AUSTIN

December 25, 1928

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
3110 HARRIS PARK AVE.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver,

I am very happy to have your letter under date of December 18. I fear that it would be too great a risk for you to plan to arrive in Austin at Seven PM on February 5th. At this time of the year on account of inclement weather, our trains frequently run five or six hours late coming from St Louis. I am wondering whether it would be impossible for you to plan to come into Austin on the morning train. This could probably be arranged if you could leave Cleveland Sunday morning.

We are looking forward to the pleasure of having you in Austin.

Very sincerely yours,

A. H. Silver

Dec. 28th, 1928.

Prof. H. J. Ettlinger,
3110 Harris Park Ave.,
Austin, Tex.

My dear Prof. Ettlinger:-

I find that the best I can do is to leave here Monday at 2:00 a. m. and arrive in Austin Tuesday at 3:05 p. m. If this is satisfactory, please let me know and I shall definitely schedule the meeting in Austin.

It is out of the question for me to leave Cleveland on Sunday morning as I wish to occupy the pulpit that morning.

With kindest regards, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR

Jan. 17th, 1929.

Prof. H. J. Ettlinger,
3110 Harris Park Ave.,
Austin, Tex.

My dear Prof. Ettlinger:-

Under date of Dec. 28th Rabbi Silver wrote you as follows:

"I find that the best I can do is to leave here Monday at 2:00 a. m. and arrive in Austin Tuesday at 3:05 p. m. If this is satisfactory, please let me know and I shall definitely schedule the meeting in Austin. It is out of the question for me to leave Cleveland on Sunday morning as I wish to occupy my pulpit that morning."

Up to date we have not had a confirmation from you. Will you kindly let us have a reply to this letter at your very earliest convenience.

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

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J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

DL = Day Letter
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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 2016 East 105th St., Cleveland, Ohio. Telephone Cedar 1867 1929 JAN 24 PM 1 59

HA171 9=AUSTIN TEX 24 1220P

DR A H SILVER=

EAST 105 AND ANSEL RD=

WILL EXPECT YOU IN AUSTIN FEBRUARY FIFTH LETTER FOLLOWING=

H J ETTLINGER.



H. J. ETTLINGER
ACTING DIRECTOR
OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

The University of Texas
Athletic Council
Austin

January 25, 1929.

Dr. A. N. Silver
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver,

I am sorry that my doing
double duty since December first,
as both Professor of Mathematics and
Director of Athletics has militated against
promptness in our correspondence.

I wired you today as
follows:

"We will expect you in Austin
February fifth letter follows." The
since you sent your last letter, the
time schedule has been speeded up.
My understanding of these matters
is as follows: If you leave Cleveland
at 2 a.m. on the Big Four, you arrive
in St. Louis at 1:30 P.M. You connect
with the Texas of the Missouri
Pacific Lines which now arrives in
Austin at 2:02 P.M. instead of 2:58
P.M. as formerly. If you miss the Texas
you take the Sunshine at 6:45 P.M.

H. J. ETTLINGER
ACTING DIRECTOR
OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

The University of Texas
Athletic Council
Austin

and arrive in Austin at 5:55 P.M.
The earlier train would leave more
room to see something of Austin.
at 6:30 P.M. you will be the honor
guest at a dinner, to which all of
our Jewish students will be invited
as guests of the Patrons League for the
Jewish Students of the University of
Texas. We should like for you to
speak informally to the students
at this time. At 8:15 P.M. we will
adjourn to our Temple where you will
address our Jewish student body and
our Jewish community and invited
friends. We had planned to have
a large public meeting at the State
Capitol but night sessions of the
Legislature make it impossible.
May I have your subject for the
address at the Temple?
Assuring you that we are looking
forward eagerly to your coming to
Austin, I am
Very sincerely yours,
H. J. Ettlinger

Jan. 28th, 1929.

Dr. H. J. Ettlinger,
The University of Texas,
Austin, Texas.

My dear Dr. Ettlinger:-

Permit me to thank you for your
kind letter of January 25th.

I hope to arrive in Austin on Feb.
5th at 2:02 p. m. My subject will be "Jew and
Christian - Will They Ever Meet?"

I would prefer not to have any
preliminary address to the students at dinner.

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

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR



Religion in Life Week Committee

February 23—March 2
1958

2200 Guadalupe St.
Austin, Texas

December 2, 1957

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Temple Sinai
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Religion In Life Committee, University of Texas,
extends an invitation for your leadership during
Religion in Life Week, February 23-March 2 or any
part thereof.

We will pay all expenses and, if desired, provide
an honorarium.

This year the Religion in Life Committee will
approach the campus with the conviction that religion
IS life. Feeling that every decision has religious
implications, the Committee divides student life
into three areas - vocational, cultural, and personal.

We have announced no theme our speakers
may discuss the aspect of religion in life in which
they are most interested and capable.

Therefore, we need men who can articulate the
significance of religious faith in life.

Please wire night letter, collect.

Sincerely yours,

Dick Hunter

Dick Hunter
2505 Rio Grande
Austin, Texas
GR 8-5097

Religion in Life Week Committee

December 6, 1957

Mr. Dick Hunter
2505 Rio Grande
Austin, Texas

My dear Mr. Hunter:

Thank you for your kind letter of December 2nd and for your gracious invitation to participate in your Religion in Life Week.

I wish I were free to come. Unfortunately my previous commitments for the next few months are such as to make it impossible for me to take on any additional ones.

I wish you every success in your fine work.

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:sl

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
AUSTIN 12

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
MAIN UNIVERSITY

December 13, 1960

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. & Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

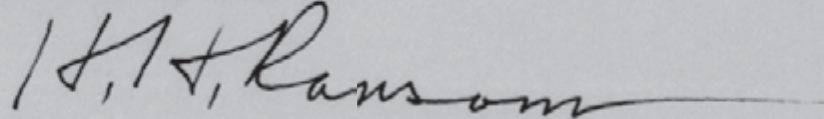
Dear Dr. Silver:

The University of Texas would be most appreciative if you could arrange to deliver the Baccalaureate Address at our inter-faith Baccalaureate Service to be held on Saturday, June 3, 1961. This service is in the morning, and it would probably be necessary for you to arrive here on June 2. The formal University Commencement ceremonies are held Saturday evening, and should you care to remain for these ceremonies we would be happy to have you as our guest.

We will be able to offer you an honorarium of \$300 to cover the expenses of your transportation and will, of course, provide you housing while you are with us.

It is my sincere hope, and that of the Commencement Committee, that you will be able to accept our invitation. We will be awaiting your reply.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "H. H. Ransom", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

H. H. Ransom

jr

52.
January 4, 1961

Dr. H.H. Ransom
The University of Texas
Austin 12, Texas

Please pardon the long delay in replying to your kind letter. I have just returned from a Caribbean cruise and I hasten to acknowledge your gracious invitation to deliver the Baccalaureate address at the University of Texas on June third. I shall be very happy to be with you and I shall look forward with great pleasure to meeting you.

With warmest regards and all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfm

make plane reservations

5a
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
AUSTIN 12

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
MAIN UNIVERSITY

January 12, 1961

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th St. & Silver Park
Cleveland 6, Ohio

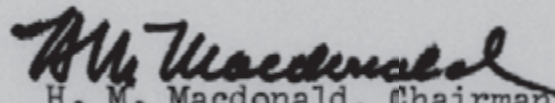
Dear Dr. Silver:

Dr. Ransom has informed me that you have accepted our invitation to deliver the Baccalaureate address at the University on June 3. We are indeed grateful.

Mrs. Mary Bell James, Chairman of our Advisory Committee on Religious Life, will contact you in due time with the details regarding the Baccalaureate Service.

I am looking forward to meeting you when you come to Texas, and again with appreciation, I am

Sincerely yours,


H. M. Macdonald, Chairman
Commencement Committee

HMM:jr

Congregation Beth Israel

3901 SEIDERS AVENUE

Austin 5, Texas

CHARLES D. MINTZ, RABBI

PHONE GLENDALE 3-1417

FEBRUARY 16, 1961

DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER
THE TEMPLE
EAST 105TH STREET & SILVER PARK
CLEVELAND 6, OHIO

DEAR DR. SILVER,

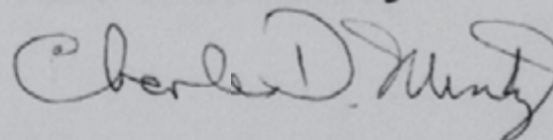
MRS. DONALD JAMES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HAS JUST CALLED TO INFORM ME THAT YOU WILL BE GIVING THE BACCALAUREATE ADDRESS ON JUNE 3. IT WILL BE A SOURCE OF GREAT PRIDE AND SATISFACTION TO THE ENTIRE JEWISH COMMUNITY TO HAVE YOU WITH US AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR VISIT WITH GREAT ANTICIPATION.

ON BEHALF OF ALL OF US HERE AT TEMPLE BETH ISRAEL, I SHOULD LIKE TO EXTEND A WARM INVITATION TO PREACH FROM OUR PULPIT ON FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 2 AND IF YOUR HEAVY SCHEDULE OF COMMITMENTS WOULD PERMIT, WE SHOULD LIKE TO TENDER A DINNER IN YOUR HONOR ON SUNDAY EVENING, JUNE 4.

PLEASE SAY HELLO TO DANIEL FOR NATALIE AND MYSELF.

LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU, I AM

VERY CORDIALLY,



CHARLES D. MINTZ
RABBI

DS2

February 20, 1961

My dear Rabbi Mintz:

Let me thank you for your letter of February sixteenth and for your gracious invitation to preach in your pulpit on the occasion of my visit to the University of Texas. I wish I were free to accept your invitation. Unfortunately, I must limit myself to the one address at the University and I must return to Cleveland on Sunday, June fourth, to keep an important engagement that evening.

I want to thank you for your thoughtfulness in inviting me and please convey my deep appreciation to all your people. Looking forward with pleasure to seeing you, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfm

Rabbi Charles D. Mintz
Congregation Beth Israel
3901 Seiders Avenue
Austin 5, Texas

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY STATION
AUSTIN 12

DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

February 21, 1961

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street & Silver Park
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

The University of Texas Advisory Committee on Religious Life is delighted that you have accepted Dr. Ransom's invitation to deliver the Baccalaureate address at the University on June 3, 1961. We hope that it will be possible for Mrs. Silver to come with you.

In accordance with Dr. H. Malcolm Macdonald's letter of January 12, 1961, to you, I shall set forth in outline form provisions for your entertainment, details regarding the Baccalaureate Service, and information which this Committee will need.

I. ENTERTAINMENT

1. Hotel reservation has been made at the Driskill Hotel--a twin bedded room--for June 2 and 3. This will be held for late arrival.
2. Members of the Advisory Committee on Religious Life, Rabbi Charles Mintz, Temple Beth Israel, Austin, and perhaps others will meet you (and, we hope, Mrs. Mintz) at the plane or train. Please let us know the time of your arrival and mode of transportation.
3. Rabbi Mintz is planning for your entertainment the evening of June 2.
4. The University and the Advisory Committee on Religious Life will be happy if you find it possible to remain for the formal Commencement Exercises at 8:00 p.m., June 3.

II. INTER-FAITH BACCALAUREATE SERVICE

11:00 a.m., June 3, in Hogg Memorial Auditorium. All participants will meet in President Ransom's Office at 10:40 a.m. Transportation from the hotel to the University will be arranged for you.

Participants in the Baccalaureate Service other than yourself:

- a. Invocation--Father Robert J. Murphy C.S.P., Director, The Newman Foundation, Austin.

- b. Scripture--Rabbi Charles Mintz, Temple Beth Israel, Austin.
- c. Special Music--(not yet finally determined).
- d. Benediction--Rev. William M. Logan, D.D., The University Presbyterian Church, Austin.

Neither religious nor academic robes are worn at this Service.

III. INFORMATION WE WILL NEED

For publicity and program preparation, the Advisory Committee will appreciate your sending at your earliest convenience the following:

- ✓ a. Two gloss prints of your most recent picture.
- ✓ b. Any additional biographical data not in Who's Who.
- c. The title of your Baccalaureate address.
- d. The Scripture which Rabbi Mintz will read.

If there are questions which you wish us to answer or any information which I have overlooked giving you, please let me know.

With kindest regards to you and Mrs. Silver,



Sincerely yours,

Mary Bell G. James

Mary Bell G. James
(Mrs. Donald D.)
Chairman,
Advisory Committee
on Religious Life

MBGJ/wc

March 6, 1961

Mrs. Donald D. James
Chairman, Advisory Committee
on Religious Life
The University of Texas
University Station
Austin 12, Texas

My dear Mrs. James:

Dr. Silver has asked me to send you the enclosed two glossy photographs and biography. The subject he has selected for his Baccalaureate sermon at the University of Texas on June 3, 1961 will be "A GREAT AGE". For the Scripture lesson he would suggest "Leviticus" - Chapter 19.

If there is any other information you need, please let us know.

Very sincerely yours,

Beatrice F. May (Mrs.)
Secretary to Dr. Silver

Enclosures: (3)



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

AUSTIN 12, TEXAS

SYSTEM OFFICES
CHANCELLOR

May 17, 1961

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street and Silver Park
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Several social events are planned honoring guests who will be in Austin to participate in the Commencement exercises. Will Mrs. Silver accompany you on this trip? If so, of course we want to include you both in these events if you do not have other plans.

On Friday evening, June 2, we are having a buffet supper at Westwood Country Club at 7:00 p.m.

On Saturday, June 3, I am having a stag buffet luncheon in the International House, on the University campus, at 12:30, following the Baccalaureate services. At the same time, Mrs. Ransom is having a small ladies' luncheon at Green Pastures, beginning at 12:30.

If you plan to stay Saturday evening for the Commencement exercises, perhaps you would like to join a small group at the Headliners Club immediately following the exercises for coffee and sandwiches.

May we hear from you at your early convenience?

Sincerely yours,

Harry Ransom

Harry Ransom
Chancellor

HR:gl

5a
May 22, 1961

Mr. Harry Ransom
Chancellor
The University of Texas
~~At~~ 12, Texas
Atkin

My dear Mr. Ransom:

Permit me to thank you for your letter of May 17th. Mrs. Silver will not be accompanying me. I shall be very happy to be with you on Friday evening at 7:00 for the buffet supper at Westwood Country Club and at the luncheon on Saturday following the Pacca-laureate services. I shall be unable to attend the Commencement exercises Saturday evening.

With warmest regards and looking forward to the pleasure of seeing you, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfm

VIA AIR MAIL

Economy Furniture

Monday, May 22nd, 1961



Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
105 East and Silver Park
Cleveland, 6, Ohio

Hello, Rabbi Silver:

Allow me to introduce myself .. formally, I am known as Mrs. Milton T. Smith, but my friends call me, Helen. A very plain, simple name ... Helen Smith.

I'm really shaking as I type this ... and probably will make a jillion errors in typing! Let me explain ... I write as a plain person .. a member of the Congregation Beth Israel which will celebrate its 87th or 88th anniversary with an annual Congregational dinner on June 4th. I know that you are aware of this because Rabbi Mintz has written you. You see, I am also the secretary of the Temple Board and so we were told of your reply ... but .. yesterday, in our Sunday paper, there was your picture with a very nice article about your forthcoming visit to town because of the Baccalaureate Service at the University of Texas. And, being the female of the species .. er .. ahem .. ugh .. I probably have a little extra "chutspa" and it is in this vein that I write you.

Rabbi, I know that this is a big trip for you and that you give so much of yourself to all who ask and I truly understand that you need rest. Austin, Texas is a pretty town ... not big enough to be called a city and too big for a real town. It boasts of hills (Texas is so flat) .. and its Jewish community is about 375 families. It is typical of what I call the

"hinterland of American Jewry". It isn't rolling in dollars but it has been a very lucky community in that it doesn't have indigent cases as other metropolises do. It is so smug! It is so self satisfied! It has so many wonderful, well educated, well meaning folk ... who .. sit on their hands, yes, and on their hearts! They give of their monies and of themselves ... to a point. They don't know what it means to give that lil' extra. And, these are the parents of our future! Ours is also a young community in chronological age of its members. They have youth! They have vitality! But .. sadly enough, they don't know it and they don't use it. And this is what is part of our future. If we don't awaken them with some education, who is going to help us in the years to come?

So ... here you will be in Austin .. just the day before the dinner. I know you are exhausted. But, Rabbi .. gee whiz .. your name is so revered and so respected ... golly .. it's "saintly" (odd expression to use as descriptive .. but it is even if I am "talking" to a rabbi) ... if only you would come to the dinner and if called on for a few words of "greeting" ... gosh! you don't have to write any speeches .. the few jewels that will slip from your lips will be the very shot in the arm they need! This is the inspiration to spurt them on! Even if you didn't say anything .. just to be able to look at you.

I am expressing myself badly ... but if you would like to "check" on my "character" so that you know you are not reading an epistle from a ranting woman, you can write Dr. Levinthal, of the Brooklyn Jewish Center, and ask him. I was one of his pupils quite a few years ago, and he knows what Milt and I have been doing since our marriage re the Jewish community and how deeply we are concerned with its problems.

I'll even offer you a "deal" and this is unheard of when speaking with a rabbi. We live on top of one of Austin's highest hills. You can stay with us ... you can rest .. meditate ... really relax while you breathe in the wonders of nature. Ask Arthur Lelyveld about his "relaxing visits". I promise you that after your duties at the university, you can be incognito up on the hill ... and noone will bother you! If you like to swim, we have a pool. If you like to "shoot pool", we have a table ... if you wanna just

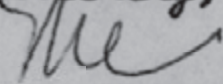
sit, we have all kinds of chairs and lounges ... the house is airconditioned, so you won't be hot

Rabbi, won't you please reconsider? Won't you help give them the awakening they need?

I might add .. that noone knows I am writing you this is strictly "off the record" ... but gee .. if you only knew what it would mean and what it would do!

Thanks so much for listenin' and I do hope that we do get to meet.

Sincerely,


Mrs. Milton T. Smith

I am enclosing a self addressed stamped envelope for your convenience.



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY STATION
AUSTIN 12

DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

May 23, 1961

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street & Silver Park
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Final arrangements for all Commencement functions at The University of Texas are being completed and the Advisory Committee on Religious Life is anticipating the pleasure of meeting you upon your arrival in Austin. Accordingly, the Committee will appreciate your asking your secretary to let us know as soon as possible your mode of transportation and arrival time.

Sincerely yours,

Mary Bell G. James
(Mrs. D. D.)

Mary Bell G. James
Chairman,
Advisory Committee
on Religious Life

MBGJ/wc

752

May 24, 1961

My dear Mrs. Smith:

I deeply appreciate your gracious letter of May 22nd and your invitation to attend the Congregational Dinner of Beth Israel on Sunday, June 4th. I wish I were free to come but I intend to leave Austin on Sunday morning in order to attend the dedication services at the Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati.

I am especially grateful to you for your offer of hospitality at your home. I hope that I may be of service to you at some time in the future.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfm

Mrs. Milton T. Smith
5100 East Fifth Street
Austin, Texas

May 29, 1961

My dear Mrs. James:

In reply to your letter of May 23rd, please be advised that Dr. Silver will arrive in Austin on Trans-Texas Airlines at 2:59 P.M. on Friday, June 2nd. This is the flight that leaves Dallas at 1:40 P.M.

With all good wishes,



Very sincerely yours,

Beatrice F. May (Mrs.)
Secretary to Dr. Silver

Mrs. D.D. James
University of Texas
Austin 12, Texas

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
AUSTIN 12

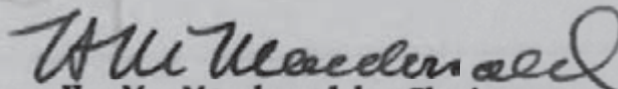
June 5, 1961

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street and Silver Park
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

For myself personally and the Commencement Committee I want to express our appreciation for your being with us this past weekend. It has been an honor to have you as our Baccalaureate speaker, and we are grateful for the time and effort you extended in our behalf. We hope you can be with us again sometime. You will always be welcome.

Sincerely yours,


H. M. Macdonald, Chairman
Commencement Committee

HMM: jr

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY STATION
AUSTIN 12

DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

June 6, 1961

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street and Silver Park
Cleveland 6, Ohio

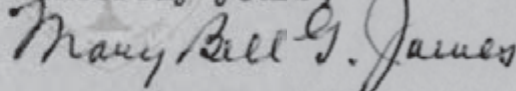
Dear Dr. Silver:

It is with a sense of deep satisfaction that I personally and other members of the Advisory Committee on Religious Life at The University of Texas review the committee's recommendation for the 1961 Baccalaureate speaker.

Your splendid address will leave a lasting impression on all who were privileged to hear you, and The University has been honored by your presence among us.

Thank you again for the major contribution you made to the total 1961 Commencement program.

Sincerely yours,



Mary Bell G. James

Mary Bell G. James
(Mrs. Donald D.),
Chairman,
Advisory Committee
on Religious Life



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS

AUSTIN 12, TEXAS

SYSTEM OFFICES
CHANCELLOR

June 8, 1961

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street & Silver Park
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

We are all deeply grateful to you for a memorable baccalaureate address. I do not recall any such occasion during my twenty-five years at the University at which the speaker received a warmer reception instantly, nor any speech which drew so many deeply interested remarks afterward.

I hope that it will be possible for you to return to Texas--let us make it in a season cooler than June--and come to know better the University community and our work here.

We will stay grateful to you.

Sincerely yours,

Harry Ransom
Harry Ransom
Chancellor

HR:jrc

June 16, 1961

My dear Chancellor:

I deeply appreciate your lovely note of June 8th and the very complimentary things which you say about my Baccalaureate address. I enjoyed the occasion immensely and I will look forward to the pleasure of returning to your great University. I was tremendously impressed by everything I saw and was delighted to have the opportunity to meet so many of the officials and members of the faculty.

With warmest regards and all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfm

Dr. Harry Ransom
Chancellor
The University of Texas
Austin 12, Texas