



## 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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Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 1937-1938.

June 4th 1937.,

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Under separate cover I am sending you a copy of my last year's Town Hall--which is the big Cedar Rapids, Iowa forum, which I personally operate. We had Rabbi Wise, of N.Y. City 2 years ago and ever since, our group of 1000 members have been clamoring to have me make arrangements to get ~~YOU~~ on our program for this coming fall or winter. I shall be in Cleveland in July, but might miss you. I always stop there a day or so on my way to New York and Boston soon after July 4th. What open dates have you, what will be your subjects --and what are the possibilities of our getting a date set that would fit into your schedule, ahead of my booking up 8 other speakers? I try to close the forum the week ahead of Thanksgiving. (Open in early Oct. run in 4 programs ahead of Thanksgiving. Then open up in Jan. and run until March.

Cordially and sincerely,

(Miss Grace Boston) ., Director  
Cedar Rapids Town Hall.,  
2229 Bever ave  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

*MB*

*I am your  
fan*





THE CHAMBERLAIN  
DES MOINES, IOWA



THE OTTUMWA  
OTTUMWA, IOWA



THE JEFFERSON  
IOWA CITY, IOWA



Warden

F. G. WARDEN  
PRESIDENT

HOTELS

WRITTEN FROM

June 17<sup>th</sup> 19

Dear Rabbi Silver: -

Am anxious for a moment  
with you while here. In head  
of Cedar Rapids Iowa  
Town Hall - on which program  
I am anxious to have you  
speak next fall or winter.  
Perhaps we can arrange a  
satisfactory date & fee -  
Wrote you at your Cleveland  
address a week ago, but no  
reply as yet - Mr Shambaugh  
knows me well - also our  
Forum in C.P.

Heretofore I can catch a  
glimpse of you. Am in Iowa City  
this afternoon & tonight for that  
purpose. It would not take 5  
minutes. Least word at desk here  
what time, if any, is convenient.

Yours truly  
Grace D. ...



June 17, 1937

Miss Grace Boston, Director,  
Cedar Rapids Town Hall,  
2229 Bever Ave.,  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

My dear Miss Boston:

Please pardon the delay in accepting your kind letter. I have been away from the city a good deal of the time and my correspondence has lagged.

It will not be possible for me to come to you during your Forum period prior to Thanksgiving. I may be free to come in March, say March 8th. I shall be in Chicago on March 7th. My honorarium is \$250.

With best wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



June 20-1937

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Was so happy to have heard you the other evening on the Iowa Univ. Campus. You will come back from Europe chock full of last word information, I know--and that, together with the very thought you conveyed the other evening, "This Changing World" I think you called your subject, will be wonderful. Should that be the title I use on my printed programs? I get these out very soon now, and should know. Also may I have a shiny photo of you for a cut? And any paragraph you happen to have, to put on my folders, together with the 8 other speakers?

Choose any Thurs. you can come in January (After the 10th)s, and up to March. I have Cap. Craig coming in early Feb. so if it makes no great difference to you could it be in mid Jan. or late Feb? Preferably Jan.

Cordially and sincerely,  
Grace Boston.

See you mention is entirely satisfactory. What I ~~k~~ now wish is a definite assignment of date, photo, and clipping I can use in folder. Also SUBJECT you wish to use.



June 21, 1937

Miss Grace Boston, Director,  
Cedar Rapids Town Hall,  
2229 Bever Ave.,  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

My dear Miss Boston:

Since my return I have checked over my schedule and find that the only date I have available would be the one indicated to you in my letter of June 17th, namely, March 8th. If that date is acceptable, I shall set it aside for you.

With best wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



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★ GRACE BOSTON

2229 Bever Avenue  
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

Rabbi Silver,

WRHS



Cleveland,



Ohio.



## THE HIGHEST LAW

by

RALPH WALDO EMERSON

"God offers to every mind its choice between truth and repose. Take which you please,—you can never have both. Between these, as a pendulum, man oscillates. He in whom the love of repose predominates will accept the first creed, the first philosophy, the first political party he meets,—most likely his father's. He gets rest, commodity, and reputation; but he shuts the door to truth. He in whom the love of truth predominates will keep himself aloof from all moorings, and afloat. He will abstain from dogmatism, and recognize all the opposite negations, between which, as walls, his being is swung. He submits to the inconvenience of suspense and imperfect opinion, but he is a candidate for truth, as the other is not, and respects the highest law of his being."



HUGH WALPOLE

THURSDAY — NOVEMBER 19th

It is agreed by critics on both sides of the Atlantic that Hugh Walpole, famous British novelist and author of forty books, has written some of the finest stories in the English language. His genius as a writer is fully equaled by his talent as a speaker. On his previous lecture tours of this country he has been greeted by record audiences and the leading newspapers have devoted columns to his views on life and literature.

As the scenario writer, in recent months, of "David Copperfield," "Little Lord Fauntleroy," Kipling's "Kim" (not yet released) and other famous books, his fame has spread throughout the motion picture world.

For several years he has acted as a guide in America to English literature, just as in England, he points the way to the best in American literature. He is the head of the English Book Society, an organization similar to the American book clubs.

"A NOVELIST IN THESE MODERN TIMES"

## DR. NO YONG PARK

WEDNESDAY — OCTOBER 14th

Chinese lecturer and author, holds the degrees of Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy from Harvard University. He majored in international relations. He has written several notable books, "Making a New China," "An Oriental View of American Civilization," and "Retreat of the West." Dr. Park is an exceptionally able speaker and his keen sense of humor and pleasing personality have made him much in demand. He was born and raised in Manchuria and has lived through many of the storms that have shaken the Orient. He has traveled and studied much in China, Japan, Europe and in America from Maine to Florida, and from New York to California. His debate with Dr. Minakuchi, Japanese, is bound to be a timely and colorful presentation of the situation in the Far East.



"CHINA VERSUS JAPAN"

## H. V. KALTENBORN

THURSDAY — OCTOBER 1st

It is a rare pleasure to announce that H. V. Kaltenborn, Columbia Broadcasting Company's kingpin radio speaker, will open the Cedar Rapids Town Hall forum Oct. 1st, in person. His wonderful grasp of public affairs, his bright method of putting the ideas into simple words, his faultless diction and the perfect manner in which he presents all sides of every question continue to win for him a place on many platforms of distinction, including New York City, Boston and Detroit, where he will appear shortly, following his return from an extensive tour of Europe gathering the latest possible news. He is an intensely interesting person, scholarly, thorough and does a fine job of "keeping ahead of the headlines."

"CURRENT EVENTS"

## DR. YUTAKA MINAKUCHI

WEDNESDAY — OCTOBER 14th

Native Japanese Authority on the Vital Problems of the Pacific. Will debate here Oct. 14th with a Chinese opponent, Dr. No Yong Park. He was educated in four American universities, Kentucky, North Carolina, Oberlin and Yale, and is a powerful orator, full of his subject. His message is one that grips as well as informs. Both No Yong Park and Minakuchi prefer appearing on separate programs and having a full evening to themselves for their subjects, but this is impossible so the two have agreed to meet in debate rather than appear singly.

"CHINA VERSUS JAPAN"

## LOUIS K. ANSPACHER

THURSDAY — OCTOBER 29th

Outstanding Dramatist and Philosopher. For many successive seasons, Mr. Anspacher has delivered a series of lectures at Columbia University Extension and at many other universities; and he has addressed most of the great lecture institutions of the country. An actor of note, he is also the author of many plays including "All the King's Horses," "The Unchastened Women," etc. He was one of the founders of the Drama League.

"DRAMA AS A SOCIAL FORCE  
IN A DEMOCRACY"REVEREND BERNARD R.  
HUBBARD, S. J.

THURSDAY — JANUARY 14th

Noted Jesuit priest, head of Geology Department, Santa Clara University, whose hobby is Alaska. His lecture, with still and colored motion pictures, have made him universally sought after as the exploration number on platforms such as ours. In the late autumn Father Hubbard will return from the Taku and Tulsequah Glaciers on the border of Canada and Alaska, which no white man before him has ever seen.

"THE END OF THE WORLD"

## HON. ELLEN WILKINSON

SUNDAY AFTERNOON — JANUARY 24th

Memorial Coliseum, 3:30

Member of British Parliament. Of the nine women now Members of Parliament, Ellen Wilkinson and Lady Astor are unquestionably the most outstanding. Seldom does one meet a woman with the immense store of vitality, the quick brain and the disinterested love of humanity which make up the personality of this speaker. She has met and talked with most of the famous persons of her time, from Lenin, when she was in Russia in 1921, to Gandhi, whom she visited in jail, at his request, during his famous fast in 1932.

"FINLAND AND SPAIN"

## HARRY D. GIDEONSE

THURSDAY — JANUARY 28th

Since 1930 Associate Professor of Economics, University of Chicago, and editor of "The Public Policy Pamphlets" published by that institution. Educated at Columbia University and the University of Geneva, he is a keen student of international and domestic affairs. Prof. Gideonse spent his 1936 summer vacation in Europe.

"AN ECONOMIST LOOKS AT THE  
CONSTITUTION"

## ISAAC F. MARCOSSON

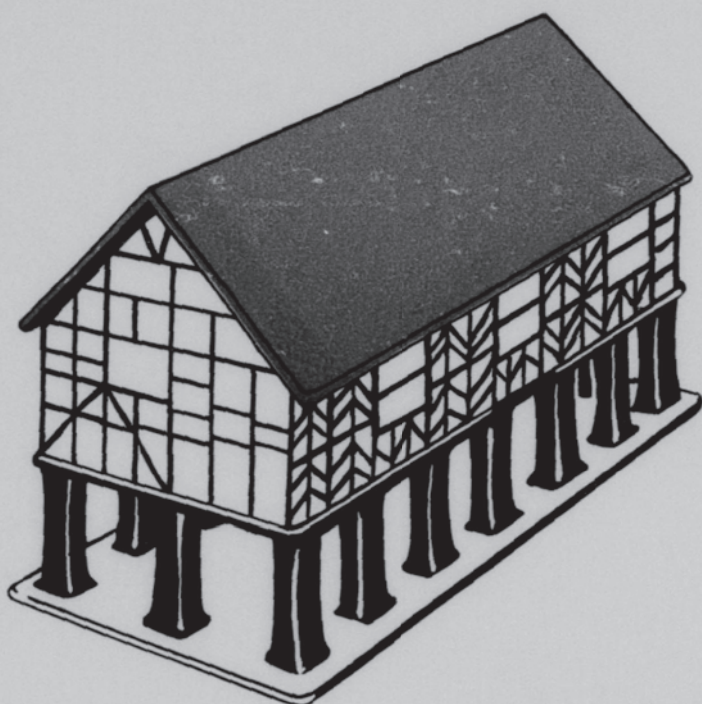
THURSDAY — FEBRUARY 18th

Distinguished Author, World Traveler and Journalist. Authority on international events, a brilliant commentator and recognized as the greatest living interviewer of celebrities. Contributor to "The Saturday Evening Post" and author of "The Black Golconda," etc. The whole world is his field.

"ADVENTURES IN INTERVIEWING"



# The Town Hall



H. V. KALTENBORN	Oct. 1st
DR. NO YONG PARK	Oct. 14th
DR. YUTAKA MINAKUCHI	Oct. 14th
(Debate)	
LOUIS K. ANSPACHER	Oct. 29th
HUGH WALPOLE	Nov. 19th
REV. BERNARD R. HUBBARD, S. J.	Jan. 14th
HON. ELLEN WILKINSON	Jan. 24th
HARRY D. GIDEONSE	Jan. 28th
ISAAC F. MARCOSSON	Feb. 18th
OPEN DATE for 9th Program. Speaker, Subject and Date to be announced later.	

Season Membership	\$5.35
Plus Tax	.65
Total	\$6.00

SEND ALL CHECKS AND INQUIRIES TO

## The Cedar Rapids Town Hall

GRACE BOSTON

2229 Bever Avenue

Phone 8558

Programs Begin Promptly at 8:00 P. M. Except January 24th  
at 3:30 P. M.



# Foreword

**G**REAT CARE has been exercised in the selection of your Town Hall programs. All speakers have been chosen by me personally, after reviewing practically every program of note to be held in the larger cities of the U.S.A. this fall and winter, because I believe they represent the best on the market in their given line of thought. Furthermore, I have paid much attention not only to their material but also to their speaking ability. The two go hand in hand, but alas! poor delivery is too often condoned. Surely writing and speaking are two distinct arts. Only persons who possess both talents make successful Town Hall timber. Never were audiences so exacting and restless, due to the upset state of the world generally. Be patient, and rest assured the best is none too good for Cedar Rapids while I enjoy your continued enthusiasm and co-operation. It makes light what would otherwise be rather a heavy task.

We are fortunate in again securing for our meeting place the Methodist Church, at 14th St. and 3rd Ave. There will be only two exceptions, as follows: Father Hubbard's lecture, being illustrated with still and motion pictures, must necessarily be held in a down town theatre or where a screen is available. Hon. Ellen Wilkinson, whose only date in this vicinity came on Sunday, will speak at 3:30 P. M. Jan. 24th at the Memorial Coliseum. There will be extra seats for the public, in the rear of members, for this occasion. The ninth number has purposely been left wide open to insure something current, should emergency arise. Otherwise, speaker and subject will be announced in early March.

Always sincerely,

*Grace Boston*



June 23-1937

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Yours at hand today, with reference to the 8th of March. That date was booked sometime ago by me for Phillip Guedella. He has not other open dates on his trip to America --and I took the last date, I was given to understand.

When I talked with you in Iowa City, in hotel lobby for a moment, and found you could not possibly come before Jan 1st, I believe I said that Jan. and Feb. would be O.Kay. That I have a speaker for the week of Feb. 3rd, but that any other day, except Sat. or Sunday would be fine. Perhaps you could come on a Sunday--but Coe College, who work with me, always have their Vespers at the very time we would be putting on the lecture, 4 PM.

In any event, won't you do this--once more scan your busy calendar--and see if by hook or crook there isn't a tiny opening of a day when you could fly to Chicago, get to C. Rapids, and return the same night? We have a flying field here now that would be handy since you are so pressed for time.

Thurs. of course, is preferable--but I would put you on any night, with your changing world talk like you gave in Iowa City -- if you can make the grade. We need a PEACE speaker like you the worst way in Iowa! and this winter sure, not next.

Do the best you can--and advise me definitely before you sail, as I will hold off any further bookings until word comes from you, as to a possible time we can work out an evening for Cedar Rapids and YOU!

Cordially and sincerely,

(Miss) Grace Boston.,  
TOWN HALL Director  
Above address.

P.S. You gave a glorious talk the other evening --

I usually try to have my  
programs at least 2 weeks  
apart.,



June 23, 1937

Miss Grace Boston,  
2229 Bever Avenue,  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

My dear Miss Boston:

The subject which you suggest for my lecture before the Cedar Rapids Forum, "This Changing World" is acceptable.

Under separate cover I am sending you a gloss and a short biographic sketch which you may use in your publicity.

I indicated in my last letter to you the date of March 8th.

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



June 25, 1937

Miss Grace Boston,  
2229 Bever Avenue,  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

My dear Miss Boston:

Would Thursday evening, January 6th  
be an acceptable date? If so, you may schedule  
me for that date.

With best wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK





June 25th., 1937

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I ramber you said you were sailing on the 30th. Be sure to wire me or drop me a line before you get off, as to the probability of a date here, that I can print on my program which will come out soon. Am trying to hold off on any further bookings until I get your final yes or no.

Cordially and sincerely,

(Miss Grace Boston)





## CLASS OF SERVICE

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

# WESTERN UNION

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## SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NM = Night Message

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LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

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1937 JUN 28 PM 12 13

ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE EAST 105 ST AND ANSEL RD=

THURSDAY JANUARY SIXTH OKAY AM DEFINITELY PUTTING YOU  
ON PROGRAM=

GRACE BOSTON=



December 30, 1937

Miss Grace Boston,  
Hotel Montrose,  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

My dear Miss Boston:

I am enclosing herewith a biographic sketch of Rabbi Silver. I am also enclosing the cut which you asked me to send you when you were in Cleveland, last summer. Please return it to me when you are through with it.

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

Enc. - 2



Jan 7th 1938

Dear Rabbi Silver:--

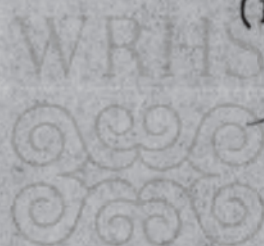
We were delighted with your evening in Cedar Rapids, and enclose herewith your fee, \$250. which the bank today signed on bottom of draft.

I have not yet seen Mr. Frankel but know you all had a fine time up to the hour your sleeper left for Chicago. Come on out again sometime and refresh us Iowans!

Cordially and sincerely,

(Miss ) Grace Boston.

*Grace Boston*







THE TRAVELER'S CHOICE

HOTEL MONTROSE - CEDAR RAPIDS, IA.  
OPERATED BY EPPLEY HOTELS CO.

Dec 28<sup>th</sup> -

Cedar Rapids Ia  
2229 Beaver Ave

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Will you get into 1<sup>st</sup> mail  
for me send a newspaper  
cut of yourself, to see the  
in Gazette this coming  
Sunday - preceding your  
appearance here on Thurs  
the 1<sup>st</sup> of Jan. Will you  
send if any delay, as  
newspaper names me & space  
to run cut. - also send  
a little writing to me -  
Where did your trip to  
Europe & Palestine take you  
this year - Anything  
the public might like  
to know about you & your  
work. Shall appreciate  
your rushing this out to  
me 1<sup>st</sup> mail -  
Sincerely Grace Bodin

you will be  
sent to the  
whole time  
very much  
frankly  
if agreeable  
to you