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Series VI: Speaking Engagements, 1917-1964.

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Columbia University (New York, New York), 1930-1963.

Columbia University
in the City of New York
EARL HALL

November 6, 1930

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
105th Street and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I have suggested to one or two Jewish student organizations on the Columbia University Campus that you might possibly be available on one of your many trips to New York to appear before the student body. Obviously, the organizations are not in a financial position to defray your expenses, and yet want you to appear under their auspices before the University. I sincerely trust that you will find it possible to notify me of any available dates upon which you will be in New York and will be willing to address these student groups.

I sincerely trust that I may hear favorably from you very soon.

Very faithfully yours,

Baruch Braunstein.

*File 7th avenue
2-22-32*

Columbia University
in the City of New York
EARL HALL
OFFICE OF THE COUNSELOR TO JEWISH STUDENTS

December 21st, 1934

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th & Ansell Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

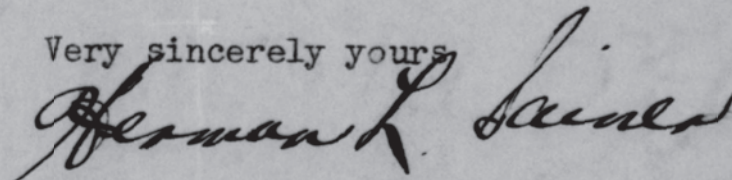
On behalf of the Jewish Graduate Society of Columbia University I extend an earnest invitation to you to speak at the next meeting of the Society on Tuesday evening January 8th. It has come to our attention that you will be in New York City about that time and it would be a great privilege for our Society to have you address us.

We think we can assure you of a worthy audience and a stimulating discussion upon the subject of your address. We have a membership of over one hundred, and several hundred students come out to our meetings. We have no other source of income outside of our \$1.00 membership dues and consequently are unable to give any honorariums to our speakers.

If it is agreeable to you we would prefer to have you speak to us on "Zionism" or "Palestine."

I hope you will be able to let me have a favorable reply in the near future.

Very sincerely yours,



Herman L. Sainer, President,
Jewish Graduate Society

December 28, 1934.

Mr. Herman L. Sainer, President,
Jewish Graduate Society,
Columbia University,
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Sainer:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of December 21. I regret that I will not be in New York around the date of January 8 and must therefore forego the pleasure of accepting your kind invitation. An invitation had been sent to me to attend the Welfare Conference on January 6 but I was unable to accept it.

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

Jewish Students Society

Earl Hall

Columbia University

New York

October 20, 1937

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

At a recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the Jewish Students Society of Columbia College, there was a vigorous hope expressed that we would have the pleasure of listening to you some time during the present academic year. We are not in a position to invite you ourselves to take this trip just to address us, but if you could let us know when you will be visiting New York for some other occasion we should endeavor to fit our meeting to meet this opportunity.

May I hope for a reply at your earliest convenience?

Very truly yours,

Alan D. Kandel

ALAN I. KANDEL,
President, Jewish Students Society

P. S. You may remember that I had the pleasure of meeting you in Palestine in 1933.

AK:IR

Jewish Graduate Society

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

EARL HALL

NEW YORK CITY

BENJAMIN H. LIPTON
PRESIDENT

RABBI I. B. HOFFMAN
ADVISER

November 12, 1938

FRANCES KWARTLER
MORTON NEWMAN
VICE-PRESIDENTS
MORTON S. BRENNER
TREASURER
HELEN COHEN
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY
THELMA SPELLMAN
RECORDING SECRETARY
FLORENCE P. STEINHORN
CHAIRMAN PROGRAM COM.
HENRY MENDELSON
CHAIRMAN PUBLICITY COM.
JUDITH LOUISE HARWELL
CHAIRMAN SOCIAL COM.
MAX M. KLEINBAUM
CHAIRMAN MEMBERSHIP COM.

CONSTITUENT SCHOOLS

GRADUATE FACULTIES
TEACHERS COLLEGE
NEW COLLEGE
EXTENSION DIVISION
BUSINESS
LAW
PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS
DENTAL AND ORAL SURGERY
OPTOMETRY
PHARMACY
LIBRARY SERVICE
JOURNALISM
ENGINEERING

JUILLIARD

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th St. and Ansell Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

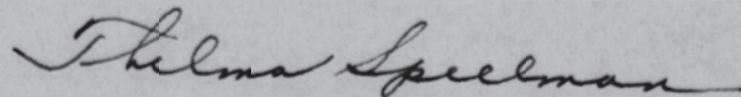
On behalf of the Jewish Graduate Society, composed of over 200 students in the graduate and professional schools at Columbia University, I invite you to address some meeting of the Society to be held within the next few months. In view of our limited financial resources, we cannot offer to pay a fee or travelling expenses. Consequently, we would be glad to arrange the date of our meeting so that you could address it when you will be in New York for other purposes. I understand that you had come to New York or this vicinity fairly frequently during the course of the year.

Our meetings are held in a large auditorium on the Columbia Campus on weekday evenings. I wish to suggest some time around the middle of December or February or March.

We shall be glad to let the matter of the subject rest in your hands. I am enclosing a folder which was sent recently to 3,000 students at Columbia.

I would appreciate it very much if you would reply just as soon as possible so that we may proceed with the rest of our program. In view of the latitude in regard to dates and inasmuch as a large attendance is assured, I do hope that you will consent to speak for us.

Sincerely yours,



THELMA SPELLMAN

Chairman, Program Committee

November 8, 1938

Miss Thelma Spellman, Chairman, Program Committee
Jewish Graduate Society
Columbia University
Earl Hall
New York, N.Y.

My dear Miss Spellman:

I deeply appreciate your kind invitation to address the Graduate Society sometime when I am in New York. I shall keep your invitation in mind. I hope that I shall have the pleasure at some time of meeting with your group.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:EK

Jewish Graduate Society

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

EARL HALL

NEW YORK CITY

BENJAMIN H. LIPTON
PRESIDENT

RABBI I. B. HOFFMAN
ADVISER

February 1, 1939

FRANCES KWARTLER
MORTON NEWMAN
VICE-PRESIDENTS

MORTON S. BRENNER
TREASURER

HELEN COHEN
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

THELMA SPELLMAN
RECORDING SECRETARY

FLORENCE P. STEINHORN
CHAIRMAN PROGRAM COM.

HENRY MENDELSON
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JUILLIARD

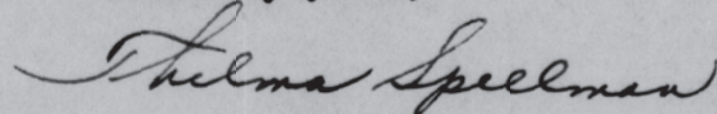
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
East 105 St. at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

In your letter of November 8, 1938 you generously indicated your willingness to address a meeting of our Society some time during the year. May I now suggest that we try to find a convenient date during March when, in connection with a trip you are making to this part of the country, you could speak to our Society. Any week-day evening would be possible for us and our preference is for the latter part of the month.

Assuring you of our appreciation for your interest and co-operation in this large student group and awaiting a favorable response from you in the near future, I am,

Sincerely yours,



THELMA SPELLMAN

Chairman of the Cultural Committee

TS:JK

Jewish Graduate Society

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

EARL HALL

NEW YORK CITY

BENJAMIN H. LIPTON
PRESIDENT

RABBI I. B. HOFFMAN
ADVISER

February 16, 1939

FRANCES KWARTLER
MORTON NEWMAN
VICE-PRESIDENTS

MORTON S. BRENNER
TREASURER

HELEN COHEN
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

THELMA SPELLMAN
RECORDING SECRETARY

FLORENCE P. STEINHORN
CHAIRMAN PROGRAM COM.

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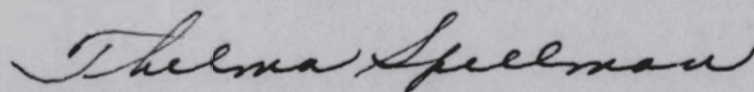
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
East 105 Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver,

In view of the pressure of time for adequate publicity and arrangements for the cultural program for March, it is necessary for me to take some more of your valuable time with this letter. On February 1, I wrote with regard to the possibility of your addressing our group some time in March, as you so generously indicated in your last letter.

May we hope for an early favorable reply?

Sincerely,



THELMA SPELLMAN

Chairman of the Cultural Committee

TS:JK

May 17, 1939

Miss Thelma Spellman
Chairman of the Cultural Committee
Jewish Graduate Society
Columbia University
Earl Hall
New York, N.Y.

My dear Miss Spellman:

You have written to me twice and I have failed to answer you both times. That was not due to any intentional neglect, but purely to the fact that I have been traveling so extensively in recent months in connection with the United Jewish Appeal and other national Jewish causes, that I have not had an opportunity to attend properly to my correspondence.

I wish I could come to the Jewish Graduate Society but unfortunately all my spare time and energy have to be devoted these days to campaigns for overseas needs, Palestine, etc. I cannot do many of the things that I should like to do, and conserve my health too. Perhaps when things ease up a bit, I will be able to come to your organization.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

**Columbia University
in the City of New York**

EARL HALL

RABBI ISIDOR B. HOFFMAN
THE COUNSELOR TO JEWISH STUDENTS

September 16, 1942

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

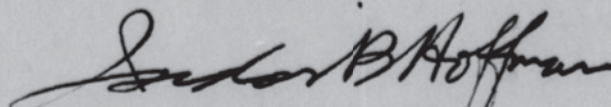
Dear Rabbi Silver:

An earnest invitation is extended to you to be Guest of Honor at an "Open House" for the Jewish students of Columbia University to be held in Earl Hall on the campus on Monday afternoon, October 19, from 4 to 6. While this is an informal occasion, we should be glad to have you give a brief talk to the students.

I write to you in regard to this particular date with the thought that you will probably be in New York at this time in connection with the annual convention of the Zionist Organization of America. If, however, it would be more convenient for you to be with us the week previous--that is, Monday afternoon, October 12--we should be very happy to have you then. And if you do not expect to be in New York at this period at all, won't you suggest some other time, a little later in the year, when you will be here and when you could be our guest at one of our weekly "Open House" affairs.

With best wishes for the New Year.

Sincerely yours,


Isidor B. Hoffman

IBH/mh

Columbia University
in the City of New York

EARL HALL

RABBI ISIDOR B. HOFFMAN
THE COUNSELOR TO JEWISH STUDENTS

November 24, 1942

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

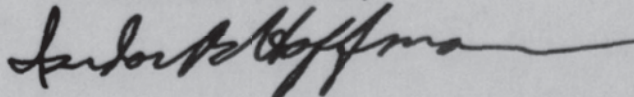
Dear Rabbi Silver:

You may recall that an invitation was extended to you several months ago to be Guest of Honor at an "Open House" for Jewish students at Columbia University. This was at the time when I thought it would be feasible in connection with your presence here for the Zionist Convention. I received no response from you, but I would like to assume that this was not because you were indifferent to the invitation. I want to renew it now since you are to be in New York in connection with the United Palestine Appeal meeting on December 6.

This Open House will take place in Earl Hall on the campus, Monday, December 7, from 4 to 6. You would be Guest of Honor and be expected to speak briefly--from 15 minutes to half an hour--on any subject you like. I would suggest that you plan to come at 4:30 and spend about an hour with us.

I should appreciate a prompt response.

Sincerely yours,



Isidor B. Hoffman

IBH/mh
Airmail

Columbia University
in the City of New York

EARL HALL

RABBI ISIDOR B. HOFFMAN
THE COUNSELOR TO JEWISH STUDENTS

November 30, 1942

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

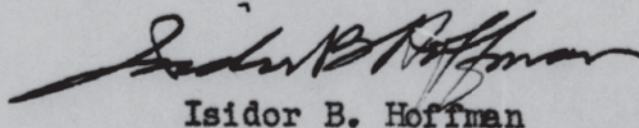
Dear Rabbi Silver:

I would appreciate getting some answer to my letters to you. I know how busy you are with various good causes, but it does hold up our plans not to know whether or not you can be with us.

You will recall that we invited you to be our Guest of Honor at an Open House for Jewish students on Monday afternoon, December 7, at 4:30. Our suggestion is that you give a brief address, say 15 minutes, on Hanukkah.

Won't you please wire me at once as to whether or not you can come.

Sincerely yours,



Isidor B. Hoffman

IBH/mh
Air Mail

• COLLECT

12-1-42

RABBI ISIDOR B. HOFFMAN
EARL HALL
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
NEW YORK

WAS UNABLE TO ANSWER YOUR SOONER BECAUSE MY PLANS WERE INDEFINITE. REGRET
THAT I WILL NOT BE ABLE TO COME TO NEW YORK FOR UPA CONFERENCE ON SIXTY.
MUST THEREFORE FOREGO PLEASURE OF BEING WITH YOU FOLLOWING AFTERNOON.
KINDEST REGARDS.



A H SILVER



The American Assembly

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
NEW YORK 27, NEW YORK

August 20, 1963

Dear Rabbi Silver:

This is to invite you to the Twenty-fourth American Assembly to be held at Arden House, Harriman, New York, October 24-27, 1963. The subject will be THE UNITED STATES AND THE MIDDLE EAST. Among the topics to be discussed are: nationalism and the role of the military; economic conditions; inter-Arab relations; the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The Assembly will be made up of about sixty people from business, labor, government, education, medicine, religion, and other professions. Some will be specialists in problems pertaining to the Middle East; others, interested lay leaders.

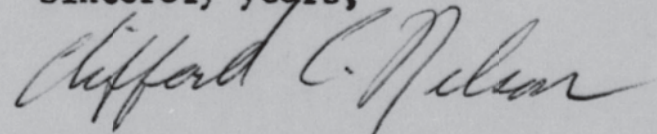
Preparation for the Assembly consists in reading background papers of moderate length written by several authorities. Participants will receive them about two weeks before the Assembly. At the close of their discussions, the participants will approve a statement of findings and recommendations for United States policy. This, together with the background papers, will be published and circulated widely.

The Assembly will convene for luncheon on Thursday, October 24th and continue through luncheon on Sunday, October 27th. Because the conclusions are those of the participants, not The American Assembly (which takes no position), it is important that those who come should remain through the plenary session on Sunday morning.

Transportation from New York City to Arden House and return will be provided. During your stay you will be the guest of The American Assembly. If you have no organization budget for travel, we can reimburse you for your round trip expenses to Arden House.

An Assembly on these subjects could be a valuable public service. I hope I may count on your participation.

Sincerely yours,



Clifford C. Nelson
President

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
University Circle and Silver Park
Cleveland, Ohio

41-1
D.S. w
August 30, 1963

My dear Mr. Nelson:

Let me thank you for your gracious invitation to participate in the Twenty-fourth American Assembly on October 24-27, 1963. The program seems very interesting, indeed, and I should very much love to come but, unfortunately, commitments here in Cleveland of long-time standing will make it impossible for me to come.

May I suggest that you invite, if you have not already done so, Dr. Emanuel Neumann of New York, who has been my co-worker for many years and is among the best informed men in the United States on Arab-Israeli relationships. His address is:

Dr. Emanuel Neumann
515 Park Avenue
New York 22, New York

With warmest regards and all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfn

Mr. Clifford C. Nelson
President
The American Assembly
Columbia University
New York 27, New York