



## 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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Corpus Christi, Texas, 1939.



# KANSAS CITY LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

HOME OFFICE 3520 BROADWAY, KANSAS CITY, MO.

The O. Sam Cummings Agency

JOSEPH HIRSCH  
Special Agent

411 South Broadway  
CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS

July 6, 1939

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
Cleveland

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Last Fall I acted as chairman of our U.P.A. The U.J.A. now request me to preside at our dinner to be held Sunday September 17th and to secure some outstanding speaker for the occasion.

Corpus Christi is now organizing a Jewish Welfare Fund and our campaign which will start September 18, following the dinner, has set a goal of \$20,000.00 of which amount \$10,000.00 has been fixed as U.J.A. quota.

We have about 125 Jewish families.  
About 500 souls.

Last year we had Rabbi David Lefkowitz (son of the elder Rabbi) as speaker at the J.D.C. dinner, while Rabbi Gold, also of Dallas, spoke at our U.P.A. dinner.

For the forthcoming occasion, however, marking an attempt to raise the largest amount ever subscribed by Jews of this community, we would like to have some nationally known speaker and I bespeak your assistance in obtaining one for us. I realize, however, that the date set, September 17, is the Sunday between Jewish New Year and the Day of Atonement and if you think it might be impossible for us to secure a leading Rabbi for that day, perhaps we shall have to change our date. At any rate, I bespeak your assistance, if you can spare time to render it.

If you, yourself, dear Rabbi Silver, could find it possible to come to us, we would be overjoyed beyond expression and we shall gladly pay for airplane trip and, of course, all expenses. We need some outstanding man for we are determined to attain our goal and I know, from personal experience, that our people give from their hearts and we need one who makes the emotional appeal. We would also want the speaker to address an advance meeting of Jewish leaders from whom we expect our larger contributions. These must be pledged in advance. Last year I got \$2000 at a little meeting of some 20 men. If these same men had been approached, cold, at the dinner, we would probably have obtained not more than half the amount. As a result, with \$2000, advance pledges, we got \$4000 at the dinner. We hope this year to have not less than \$10,000 in advance pledges.

I bespeak your assistance.

Yours sincerely,

*Joe Hirsch*

*You leave Cleveland  
at night arrive here  
early next morning*



July 14, 1939

Mr. Joseph Hirsch  
Kansas City Life Insurance Company  
411 South Broadway  
Corpus Christi, Texas

My dear Mr. Hirsch:

Permit me to acknowledge your letter of July 6. Rabbi Silver is at present in Europe and plans to be gone until the early part of September. For that reason as well as the ones mentioned in your letter, I doubt whether the Rabbi would be able to come to you on September 17. I am however forwarding your letter to him. He will, in all probability, write to you directly. Should he communicate with me, I shall be pleased to write to you immediately.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Rabbi Silver.