



## 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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East Liverpool, Ohio, 1922-1940.

G. BENDHEIM

SHOES

EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO

12/24/11

Rabbi A. H. Silver  
Cleveland-  
Mass.

Mr. Stein from this town  
has recently spoken to you in  
regards to delivering a lecture  
in our city for the Benefit  
of our Cong. 'B'nai Israel'.  
He also told me that your  
time was all taken up during  
the month of January -  
and am therefore writing  
to you to find out whether  
you could give us a date  
at this time ~~for~~ during  
February - Any Monday,  
Tuesday or Thursday would  
suit us. Also kindly let me  
know your charges etc -  
Very Respectfully Yours  
G. Bendheim  
Pres. B'nai Israel Cong.



SAMUEL RICH, M. D.  
LITTLE BUILDING  
EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO

January 3, 1924.

Mr. Alfred A. Benesch,

Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear brother Benesch:

A committee representing the East Liverpool Chamber of Commerce and The Rotary Club of East Liverpool will pay Rabbi Silver a visit within the near future for the purpose of having him deliver an address at their joint Annual Meeting.

I am writing this letter to you requesting that you get in touch with Rabbi Silver in the meantime and use your worthy influence in an effort to have him make this trip to East Liverpool. I feel that under present conditions a man of his ability making an address before non-Jewish organizations would be excellent propaganda work. Work of this character is especially needed in the smaller communities as the status of the Jew at the present time is quite different here than in large cities.

This committee will compensate Rabbi Silver for his trip here. The fact that these organizations are seeking him without the suggestion of any of our Jewish people is all the more reason why I would like him to come.

Thanking you for anything you may do in this matter, and with kindest regards, I remain

Very truly yours,

*Samuel Rich.*



**BNAI ISRAEL CONGREGATION**

**FIFTH AND MONROE STREETS**

**EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO**

April 21, 1934.

Rabbi Silver  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Our Temple is planning an anniversary celebration this coming May thirteenth, twentieth, or twenty-seventh, and if it is at all possible for you to attend on the evening of any one of these three days as our spokesman, would certainly appreciate any effort that you might put forth to do so.

I realize only too well that your time is very much occupied, but our problem here is not merely an anniversary dinner (which is really a second consideration) but the collecting of money for German Relief Fund, which is necessary to put on again this year, is a very hard proposition in our community. This past year we collected a mere sum of five hundred dollars by soliciting each individual Jew. Our President, Mr. Bendheim and myself feel that this amount may be at least doubled or tripled if the proper surprise speaker were brought here unbeknown to our Congregation, and at the end of his speech solicited openly contributions for this good cause. By shaming them into it we might get results. That is really the only way.

Would appreciate your giving this matter your earnest consideration, and hoping to hear from you very shortly, I remain

Sincerely yours,

*Julius Erlanger*

JE:MR



April 24, 1934.

Mr. Julius Erlanger,  
Bnai Israel Congregation,  
Fifth and Monroe Streets,  
East Liverpool, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Erlanger:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of April 21st. I wish I were free to come to you on any one of the days indicated. Unfortunately I am compelled to remain in Cleveland on all those Sundays. I must be in my own pulpit and must perform many congregational duties.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK





GLENS FALLS  
NEW YORK

# ERLANGER'S

EAST LIVERPOOL  
OHIO

Men's, Women's and Children's Apparel

East Liverpool, Ohio.  
April 25, 1934.

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:



We regret exceedingly your inability to attend our Anniversary Services here in East Liverpool, and look forward with pleasure to some possible future time that we will have the opportunity of hearing you.

Kindest regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

JE:MR

*Julius Erlanger*



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April 25, 1934.

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Rabbi Abba Silver,  
 The Temple,  
 East 105th St. at Ansel Rd.,  
 Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Abe:

Julius Erlanger, of East Liverpool, writes me that he has invited you to officiate at the anniversary dinner of the Temple at a date convenient to you. Mr. Erlanger, I think, hopes to avail himself of your presence for this important occasion to inaugurate the community appeal for our campaign.

Mr. Erlanger and other leaders in East Liverpool have evidenced a tremendous interest in our undertaking, and are eager to raise a largesum of money for this cause this year than they have been able to gather for a number of years past.

It would make me very happy if I may have word from you that you will find it possible to cooperate with Mr. Erlanger and our friends in East Liverpool through the acceptance of this invitation.

With best regards from house to house, I am

Cordially yours,

*Jonah B. Wise*  
 Jonah B. Wise  
 Co-Chairman

JBW/MT



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DR. JAMES D. CHESSCROWN  
DR. REID CALCOTT, JR.

East Liverpool, Ohio. August 24", 1937.

Rabbi A. H. Silver,

Cleveland, Ohio.

My Dear Sir:-

During the entire week of November 28" to December 5", the First Methodist Church of this city will celebrate the One Hundred Tenth Anniversary of the founding of Methodism in this city. The Church Board has placed the responsibility entirely on me for the success of this special services, and I am trying to arrange a program commensurate with the occasion. With that purpose in mind, I have already arranged for the presence of Bishop Smith for the first Sabbath and Bishop McConnell for the second Sabbath, and have almost contracted for the Orpheus Male Chorus, Cleveland, for one evening. I mention this only that you may know the nature of the services that we are contemplating. I know you have many friends in this city, one of whom I have just recently discussed this proposition with, - Mr. Moyer, - so I am wondering if it would be possible that we could secure yourself for an address - (choosing your own subject that would be of interest) preferably on Tuesday Evening, November 30", although some other evening of this particular week might be arranged if Tuesday would NOT be acceptable to you? If you will come, and I hope you will, please let me know what the approximate cost would be to us, and what your subject probably would be.

We have an excellent church building, and a fine congregation and Minister, so I can assure you a very pleasant welcome if you will favor us with an address on this occasion.

Hoping to receive a favorable reply at your early convenience, I remain,

Sincerely,

*Dr. Joseph T. Williamson*  
East Liverpool, O.

Little Building,



2

September 1, 1937

Dr. J. T. Williamson,  
Little Building,  
East Liverpool, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Williamson:

I am deeply appreciative of your kind invitation to participate in the program of the celebration of the One Hundred Tenth Anniversary of the founding of Methodism in your city and I wish I were free to accept it. Unfortunately my schedule of out-of-town lecture engagements for the next few months is so crowded that I can not, in justice to my own work here at The Temple, accept any additional ones. May I extend to your Church my heartiest felicitations on this significant occasion in its history and wish it continued success in the sacred field of spiritual service.

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



SAMUEL RICH, M. D.  
LITTLE BUILDING  
EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO

September 7, 1937

Rabbi Abba H. Silver  
c/o The Temple 105th St.  
Cleveland, Ohio

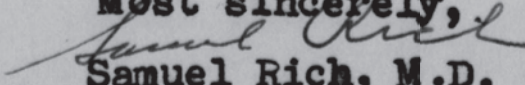
Dear Rabbi Silver:

Dr. J. T. Williamson was in to see me this morning, asking me to contact you concerning a visit to the Methodist Episcopal Church of this city, at which time, they will celebrate the 110th anniversary of the founding of Methodism in this community.

He informed me that he had already written to you and had not received a favorable reply, but felt that his congregation had not given up the hope of having you with them. As far as I know, and I have lived in this community during my entire life, this is the first time that any Christian Congregation has invited a Jew to deliver an address in one of their churches, and I feel that you would be doing the Jewish cause in this community a great amount of good, if you could possibly accept their invitation, as I personally believe that more good is accomplished towards good will by having our Rabbis address Christian rather than Jewish audiences, especially in view of the fact, that these people, themselves, have conceived the idea of having you come.

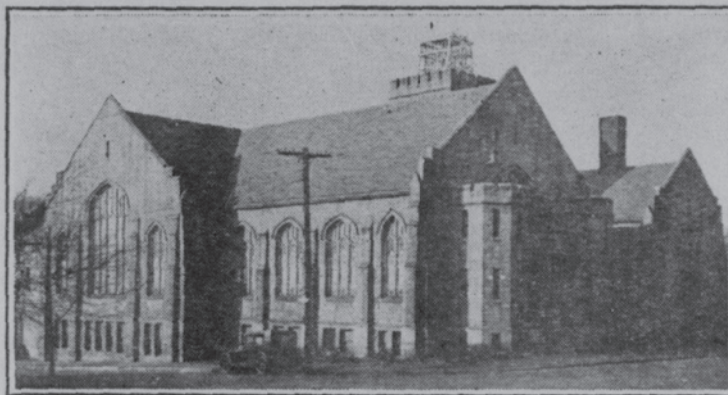
Dr. Williamson has told me that he will be in Cleveland this Friday, at which time, he will talk to you personally, and I assure you that if it is possible for you to be present, the entire community will appreciate your acceptance of his invitation.

Most sincerely,

  
Samuel Rich, M.D.

SR:E





**The First Methodist Episcopal Church**  
**East Liverpool, Ohio**

November 12", 1937.

Rabbi A. H. Silver,

Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:-

Enclosed please find program of our Special Week of Services. Please let me know what will be necessary for us to do relative to your entertainment while here. When you will arrive, Etc. The Travelers Hotel is about three squares from the Church where good accommodations can be obtained, all of which are at our expense, of course.

If convenient, we would like to know something as to your subject matter, because we expect to do considerable advertising. Anything that you choose to give us will be appreciated.

May I hear from you at your early convenience?

Thank you.

*Mr. Joseph T. Williamson*  
East Liverpool, O. *Little Bldg.*



# East Liverpool High School

EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO

G. A. BECK  
PRINCIPAL

November 16, 1937

Rabbi A. H. Silver  
Temple-East 105th Street  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Sir:

The East Liverpool High School is pleased to learn of your intended visit to this city on November 30 in cooperation with the special services to be held by the First Methodist Episcopal Church.

The Chapel Program Committee of this school would be gratified and honored to have you address the student body during your stay in East Liverpool.

An assembly would be held at your convenience.

The committee considers this an excellent opportunity for the students to be enlightened upon a subject of current meaning.

I trust this will not be an imposition.

Respectfully yours,

*Joseph Robbin*

Joseph Robbin

jr:cmg



November 17, 1937

Mr. Joseph Robbin,  
East Liverpool High School,  
East Liverpool, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Robbins:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of November 16. I deeply appreciate your invitation but I regret that it will not be possible to accept it. I plan to arrive in East Liverpool just in time to address the First Methodist Episcopal Church in the evening and I leave again the same night. My program is very crowded and I must make very close connections.

With all good wishes and hoping that I may be of service to you at some future time, permit me to remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



November 18, 1937

Dr. Joseph T. Williamson,  
Little Building,  
East Liverpool, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Williamson:

Let me thank you for your kind letter  
of November 12. I imagine that an appropriate  
subject would be: THE GREAT RELIGIOUS TRADITION -  
AND WHAT THREATENS IT IN THE MODERN WORLD.

I am not certain yet how I shall get to  
East Liverpool, whether by train or by automobile.  
I shall let you know later on.

With all good wishes, permit me to  
remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



SAMUEL RICH, M. D.  
LITTLE BUILDING  
EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO

December 3, 1937

Rabbi Abba H. Silver

Cleveland, Ohio

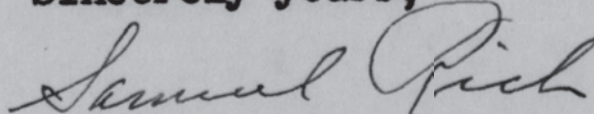
Dear Rabbi Silver:

I wish to express to you my deepest appreciation for your visit to East Liverpool on Tuesday evening, and on behalf of the Jewish people of this community, I want to extend our heartiest and most sincere thanks.

Your message delivered at the Methodist Church was timely and I assure you that the amount of good that you accomplished for our little community will be felt for a long time to come, as I have never heard an address so well received and so many favorable comments on same.

Again wishing to thank you, I am

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Samuel Rich". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large initial 'S' and a long, sweeping underline.

Samuel Rich, M.D.

SR:E



December 7, 1937

Dr. Samuel Rich,  
Little Building,  
East Liverpool, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Rich:

Let me thank you for your thoughtfulness in writing to me. I enjoyed my visit to East Liverpool very much. I am sorry that I could not linger a little longer and visit the Temple and get acquainted with some of the Jewish people of East Liverpool. Perhaps I shall have an opportunity to do so some time in the near future.

With all good wishes, and thanking you again for writing to me, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



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DR. CONSUELO WISE

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC RELATIONS  
DR. F. W. WARD, CHAIRMAN  
DR. JAMES D. CHESSCROWN  
DR. REID CALCOTT, JR.

East Liverpool, Ohio. December 7", 1937.

Rabbi A. H. Silver,

Cleveland, Ohio.

My Dear Dr. Silver:-

I want you to know how deeply we appreciate your coming down here last Tuesday. Your presence and Talk here was the best thing that has happened in this city during my remembrance:- Just as the President of the local Synagogue, Dr. Rich, said to me that the bringing together of that congregation of Jews and Gentiles was worth all the effort necessary, even though there had been nothing else, and I am sure he expressed a great truth in that sentiment.

Under separate cover, we are sending you a very slight token of our appreciation, which I hope you will accept in the spirit that we are sending it. If, for any reason, you do not get this package, I sincerely hope you will let me know in the immediate future.

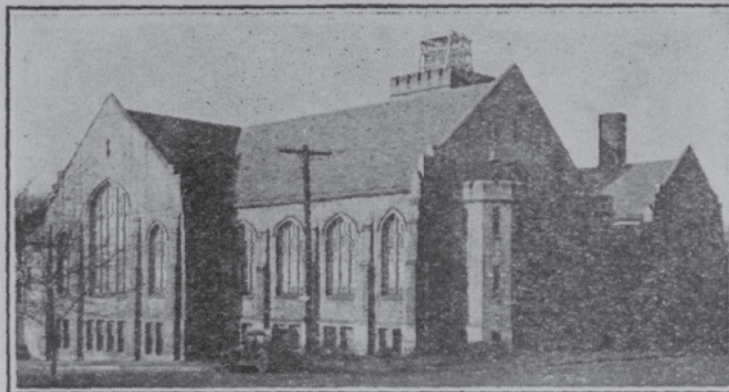
If we can be of any service to you in the future, please call on us, and come again when convenient.

Very Truly Yours,

*Dr. Joseph T. Williamson*  
East Liverpool, O.

Dr. J.T. Williamson,  
Little Building.





The First Methodist Episcopal Church  
East Liverpool, Ohio

Dec. 15 37,

Rabbi A.H. Silver,  
Cleveland Ohio

Dear Sir-----

We are sending you today Via Express a small token of appreciation, Something from the Potters wheel in the city of Hills and Kilns. Your visit here will long be remembered by our congregation after these few articles of clay are broken.

With best wishes from our congregation, We remain,

Very Sincerely

The First Methodist Episcopal Church



December 17, 1937

The First Methodist Episcopal Church,  
East Liverpool, Ohio.

Dear Friends:

It was indeed a pleasant surprise to receive your lovely gift. I deeply appreciate the fine spirit which prompted it and I shall long cherish the pleasant contacts established with your people on the occasion of my visit. Mrs. Silver is particularly grateful because of the practical nature of the gift.

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK



[May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1938]

DOROTHY STEIN GARDNER  
312 MONROE ST.  
EAST LIVERPOOL, OHIO

Sunday

Rabbi A. H. Silver  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:-

For the past two years  
are sisterhood has conducted  
a Forum. These lectures  
are held in the Temple  
and the tickets for this Forum  
are sold almost entirely to  
Gentiles. The seating capacity  
is about three hundred,  
the proceeds raised are used  
to maintain the ~~Saturday~~  
School and Temple.

Apropos of this is that



our sisterhood desires the  
privilege of being able to present  
you on this Forum, the day  
and date could be arranged  
at your convenience. These lectures  
are held at night and if you  
couldn't come to us in the early  
fall possibly you could arrange  
a date in early part of 1939.

Kindly advise me if you could  
arrange for a lecture in East  
Liverpool and the minimum  
honorarium?

I do hope you ~~could~~ arrange to  
come and that we can have  
~~the~~ privilege of presenting



you in our new Temple. Our  
Christian friends were so enthusi-  
astic about your lecture last spring  
that I had to miss.

With kindest regards to you and  
Mrs Silver and hoping you can  
do something for us.

Very sincerely yours,  
(Mrs Murray) Dorothy Stein Gardner



May 24, 1938

Mrs. Murray Gardner,  
312 Monroe St.,  
East Liverpool, Ohio.

My dear Mrs. Gardner:

I deeply appreciate your kind invitation to address your Sisterhood Forum some time next season. I wish I were free to avail myself of your kind invitation. Unfortunately I have assumed so many national obligations for the coming year that I must forego the pleasure of taking on additional out of town lecture engagements. Perhaps I might be of service to you another year.

With best wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



# B'nai Israel Temple Sisterhood

East Liverpool, Ohio

June 20, 1939

Rabbi Aba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I wrote you over a year ago asking you to appear on our Forum which is conducted by our Temple. At that time I told you the subscribers to this Forum are mostly non-Jewish. You told me to communicate with you next year.

Ever since your appearance at the Methodist Church in East Liverpool we have had numerous requests to have you on our Forum. With all this in mind I am asking you to consider appearing on our Forum this year. Any date after October until April would be agreeable to us.

Kindly advise me of your decision and what your honorarium will be.

My very sincerest regards, I remain

Cordially yours,

*Murray S. Gardner*

Mrs. Murray Gardner  
312 Monroe St.

AFFILIATED WITH





East Liverpool, Ohio  
May 27th, 1940

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

For the past four years the Sisterhood of our Temple has been sponsoring a Forum. The proceeds of which are used for the maintenance of our Temple.

The subscribers are almost entirely Christians. Each year we have three Christians and one Jew.

I have written you several times about speaking on this Forum but it seems we just couldn't get together. I am wondering what the minimum honorarium would be for a lecture by you. The day and date could be arranged to suit your convenience.

This years Forum will open on October 22nd, with Lord Marley as our first speaker, so anytime after that would be open.

I hope you can see your way clear to address this Forum.

With very kindest regards, I beg to remain

Very sincerely yours,

*Dorothy Stein Gardner*

Mrs. Murray Gardner  
321 Monroe Street  
East Liverpool, Ohio

AFFILIATED WITH





June 25, 1940

Mrs. Murray Gardner  
321 Monroe Street  
East Liverpool, Ohio

My dear Mrs. Gardner:

Please pardon the long delay in answering your kind letter. I have been away from Cleveland most of the time and my correspondence has lagged.

I wish I could come to you next season. Unfortunately I have undertaken so many responsibilities in connection with the war and overseas relief that I have been compelled to decline many tempting invitations which have come to me. I am sure that you will understand. Perhaps at some future time when life will become a little more normal, I will be able to avail myself of your kind invitation.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK