

Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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Series VI: Speaking Engagements, 1917-1964.

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Fort Worth, Texas, 1935-1939.

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FORT WORTH OPEN FORUM

509 Holmes Building
Phone 2-3640
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

April 6, 1935

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Mr. Elmer Scott of the Civic Federation of Dallas tells me that he has been endeavoring for some time to bring you to Texas for appearances on the platforms of various Open Forum and lecture groups in this locality.

I wish to add my voice, not only as secretary of the Fort Worth Open Forum, but also as a member of the Jewish community who has heard your inspiring messages on a number of occasions in Cleveland and who is aware of the wide audience awaiting you in the State of Texas. In these critical times, particularly, I feel that your rare understanding and inspiration will be a healthy influence among the many deleterious forces at work.

Mr. Scott has undoubtedly advised you of the alliance of forum and lecture groups recently effected in Texas, which will insure a thorough employment of the time you will be able to devote to this tour.

I hope you will make every effort to find a place for us in your program during the next fall and winter season.

Yours sincerely.

& B. Joseph Secretary)

SBH:McD

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May 5, 1935. Mr. S. B. Horwitz. Fort Forth Open Forum, 509 Holmes Building, Fort Worth, Texas. My dear Mr. Horwitz: Let me thank you for your kind letter of April 6. I am enclosing a letter which I have just sent to Mr. Elmer Scott. It is very difficult for me at this time of the year to plan my program for the Fall. With all good wishes and hoping that I may have the pleasure of someday being with you. I remain Very sincerely yours, AHS: BK Enc.

Temple Beth-El BROADWAY & GALVESTON TELEPHONE 2-7532 SAMUEL D. SOSKIN, RABBI 721 WOODLAND FORT WORTH, TEXAS RES. 4-7673 Oct. 5, 1937. Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Ansel Rd. at 105th St. Cleveland, Ohio. Dear Colleague: Have heard that you are scheduled to speak in Tulsa, Oklahoma in the near future and am writing to ask whether that trip could be extended a bit. We are attempting a Jewish Forum this year after many other attempts in the past had failed. This year we are assured of the co-operation not only of the Jews but of Non-Jews. We feel sure that it will be successful. Is there any chance for you to arrange your schedule so that this Tulsa trip may include a side-trip to Ft. Worth? If you can possibly arrange it we will then be assured that with you as our first speaker the Forum will be a complete success. Hoping to receive a favorably early reply and with Warmest Greetings, Sincerely, Samuel D. Soakin P.S. Regards to Mel. and remind him that he owes me a letter!

October 7, 1937 Rabbi Samuel D. Soskin, 721 Woodland, Fort Worth, Texas. My dear Rabbi Soskins Let me thank you for your kind letter of October 5 which I received on my return from Tulsa. I made a hurried trip to that community to open its drive for foreign relief. The good people of Tulsa had been after me for quite a few years to come out for one of their campaigns and I finally had to yield. Perhaps at some future time when I will again visit the Southwest, I will give myself the pleasure of addressing your group. With all good wishes, I remain Very sincerely yours, AHS: BK

JOE HERMAN, Secretary :: 1617 MAIN STREET

THE JEWISH FEDERATION

FORT WORTH, TEXAS

April 13, 1939

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver The Temple Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Have your letter of April 7th and you can rest assured that we will try to reach our quota. Due to the Holidays last week, we are just getting into additional solicitation now. We have obtained about \$4000.00 additional, since the dinner, from a few people whom we had contacted before. Our active solicitation covering the whole city will start the first of the week.

I am rather curious to know the results of the meeting held in New York the Sunday after you were here; at which an effort was to be made to reach a group of potentially large givers while they were together. At your convenience, will appreciate hearing on this.

We all enjoyed your visit here very much. Only regretted that your stay had to be so short.

Sincerely yours,

THE JEWISH FEDERATION

BY Aprachmely

April 20, 1939 Mr. S. Brachman, President The Jewish Federation 509 Trinity Life Bldg. Fort Worth, Texas My dear Mr. Brachman: Permit me to acknowledge the rece pt of your kind letter of April 13. I am happy to know that you are making progress in your campaign, although Fort Worth seems to be moving somewhat slower than most of the other communities in Texas. The meeting in New York was an historic one. Those who attended it proclaimed it the most important meeting ever held in the history of the New York Jewish community. The response of the people was extraordinary. There were present some three hundred twenty-five men and women, and they contributed, that afternoon, over \$3,000,000. Two gifts were for a quarter of a million dollars each. Other gifts were in the amounts of \$150,000, \$100,000, \$75,000, Etc. Twenty people who gave, last year, \$1,000 each gave, this year, \$10,000 each. We were all mightily heartened by the response of the New York community. I shall be very glad to hear of the final success of the Fort Worth Drive. I emjoyed your meeting greatly and I hope that next time I will have a little more time to spend in your lovely community. With all good wishes, I remain Very cordially yours. AHS: BK