



## 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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Indiana, Pennsylvania, 1933-1946.



Zion Lutheran Church

INDIANA, PENNSYLVANIA

ARTHUR J. PFOHL  
MINISTER

June 16, 1933

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Rabbi A.H. Silver  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My Dear Dr. Silver,

I am trying to arrange my Sunday evening schedule for next fall. During the past few years I have adopted the practice of having a few out of town speakers as our guest preachers, men who will give us the kind of message we need during these times.

I am more than anxious to have you as one of these guest preachers. I spoke to Dr. Miles Krumbine, with whom I was associated for a few years, about it and he advised me to write to you. He also asked that you call him on the telephone if you want to know anything about my set-up here.

I wonder if it would be possible for you to give me some Sunday evening, preferably when you are on your way to or from Cleveland, for the best remuneration that I can offer you is \$50. I could pick you up either at Pittsburg or Johnstown or whatever place would be most convenient for you.

I know your coming here would help me considerably in my work. Most of the people here in town have read your book and are most anxious to hear you.

Any consideration that you will give to this invitation will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully Yours

Arthur J. Pfohl



June 20, 1933.

Reverend Arthur J. Pfohl,  
Zion Lutheran Church,  
Indiana, Pennsylvania.

My dear Dr. Pfohl:

Permit me to thank you for your kind letter of June 16th and for the invitation which you extend to me to address your Church. I wish I could see my way clear to come. Unfortunately I am compelled to reduce my out of town lectures next season to a minimum as I have been away practically the whole of this year on a leave of absence.

Perhaps at some future time I may be of service to you. With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK



Rabbi J. H. Wagner  
37 North Fifth Street  
Indiana, Pa.

September 11, 1940

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, D.D.  
The Temple  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Attempting to create a more profound understanding among the various groups in our community, I last year organized a Community Lecture Series. We were crowned with a goodly measure of success in our undertakings. We gave two programs during the season, one by Dr. Freehof, the other an inter-faith symposium described in the enclosed pamphlet.

We are at this time, desirous of arranging for a new series of lectures. From many sources in our cultural community, has come the sincere request for a lecture by yourself. Knowing the community, I would say that we have a great problem, dear Rabbi, and we must call upon the Leaders in Israel to aid in solving it. Our Christian friends are becoming more cognizant of the value of these lectures, and I know that your coming here would create an effect



Rabbi J. H. Wagner  
37 North Fifth Street  
Indiana, Pa.

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positively unachievable otherwise.

We should like to have our first lecture after January first. Indiana is located fifty miles east of Pittsburgh, fifty miles west of Altoona, and twenty eight miles from Johnstown. Should you desire to travel by rail to any of these points, we shall be more than happy to call for you there with an automobile.

Knowing the demands that a trip of this type makes upon a very occupied man, we are prepared to present an honarium plus all expenses.

I am anxious to receive a favorable reply at your earliest convenience.

Wishing you a K'si-vah V'cha-si-mah  
Tovo, I a m,

Respectfully yours,

Joseph H Wagner



September 13, 1940

Rabbi J. H. Wagner  
37 North Fifth Street  
Indiana, Pa.

My dear Rabbi Wagner:

I greatly appreciate your kind invitation to participate in the series of lectures which you are arranging, and if circumstances permitted, I would gladly have availed myself of it. Unfortunately, I am overwhelmed with work. I am compelled to devote most of the time which I can spare from my congregational duties to the work of the United Palestine Appeal and the United Jewish Appeal. I have had to decline many invitations which under normal conditions I would have been most happy to accept.

Perhaps at some future time I may be able to be of service to you. I wish your undertaking great success. With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK





COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE  
INDIANA, PENNSYLVANIA

Office of the President

June 8, 1945

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

For a number of years the college has sponsored a series of union services on four Sunday evenings throughout the school year. These services are supported by Hebrew and Gentile and we usually have very good audiences. Our auditorium seats 1600.

We would like to have you this year for an address for one of these meetings and we could use you on October 7 or December 2. If neither of these dates suit you, we might possibly arrange for October 14 or December 9, but the first two are much preferred.

We shall be glad to pay you an honorarium of \$150 and if necessary meet you at the Pittsburgh station or airfield.

I hope that you may find it convenient to favor us with your services.

Very sincerely yours,

*J. M. Uhler*  
J. M. Uhler  
President

JMU:g



Pa. R.R.

Lv. Cleve 2:20 p.m.

Arr. Pitts 5:45 p.m.

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Erie Pa

Lv Cleve 2 p.m.

Arr. Pitts 5 p.m.

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June 19, 1945

Dr. J. M. Uhler, President  
State Teachers College  
Indiana, Pennsylvania

My dear Dr. Uhler:

Please pardon the delay in answering your kind letter. I have been away from the city a good deal of the time.

I deeply appreciate your kind invitation to address one of your union services. I find that the date most convenient would be Sunday evening, December 9. There is, however, this difficulty. I must be in my own pulpit in the morning. I can take an afternoon train bringing me to Pittsburgh around 5 p.m. Would there be enough time for me to reach Indiana for the evening service? If the connections can be made, I shall be very happy to be with you.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK





COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE  
INDIANA, PENNSYLVANIA

Office of the President

June 25, 1945

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

Oct 28

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We are pleased with the contents of your letter of June 19, holding out the hope that you may be able to be with us this coming year.

In my last letter, I suggested two dates in October, as well as the December dates. Apparently, neither of these will be convenient for you but I am wondering whether October 21 or 28 or November 4 or 11 might suit you. I am making this suggestion because the weather in this region usually gets bad in December and to depend upon getting to Indiana in time for an evening service would be exceedingly risky if you do not arrive in Pittsburgh before five o'clock. However, earlier in the year the risk would not be so great. We can send a car down to Pittsburgh and get you to Indiana in time, provided your train is reasonably on time there.

Will you kindly give these dates consideration, and if you can meet one of them I will take the matter up with our local ministerium and try to arrange for one of these dates.

Very sincerely yours,

J. M. Uhler  
President

JMU:g



June 29, 1945

Dr. J. M. Uhler, President  
State Teachers College  
Indiana, Pa.

My dear Dr. Uhler:

Thank you for your kind letter of  
June 25. I shall make every effort to be  
with you on Sunday, October 28.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

A HS:BK







COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE  
INDIANA, PENNSYLVANIA

July 2, 1945

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We shall definitely set aside October 28 for a union service, at which we expect you to be the speaker. This will be a regular religious service, at which members of all denominations will participate.

We should like to have an address of a religious nature, but the subject we shall leave to you to choose.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. M. Uhler".

Joseph M. Uhler  
President

JMU:lba



September 12, 1945

Dr. J. M. Uhler, President  
State Teachers College  
Indiana, Pa.

My dear Dr. Uhler:

I feel that I should write to you to let you that there is a real possibility that I will not be able to keep my engagement with the Indiana State Teachers College on Sunday, October 28. Negotiations are now pending which may necessitate my going abroad the latter part of October. I would not like to cancel my engagement with you at the last moment.

I should very much like to come to you. Perhaps, if your schedule is still open, it would be possible for me to come in the Spring; if not, I should be very happy to be of service to you during your next academic year.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK





COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE  
INDIANA, PENNSYLVANIA

Office of the President

September 13, 1945

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

In view of the indefiniteness of your ability to serve us October 28, I am proceeding at once to try to secure a substitute, so will you kindly reserve for us a date in February or March, and we will have you come then instead of in October.

I appreciate the fact that you have written to me at this time and thereby given me an opportunity to secure someone else for the 28th, because that date has already been set aside by the churches of the town for a union service.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J. M. Uhler".

J. M. Uhler  
President

JMU:g





COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION  
STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE  
INDIANA, PENNSYLVANIA

Office of the President

January 2, 1946

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
East 105th Street at Ansel Road  
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

You will recall that last July we fixed on a definite engagement for you to speak in our Auditorium Sunday evening, October 28. Then, September 12, you wrote me expressing doubt whether or not you could fill that engagement, but held out hope that you might serve us some time in the spring of 1946. September 13, I wrote you stating that in view of the indefiniteness we would cancel the October 28 date and write you again for a date in the early part of 1946. Since then, we have had no correspondence, but we are still as anxious to have you come as we have been at any time and if you can submit us two or three dates in February, March or April, when you could come, we will try to arrange for one of them and again fix it as a definite date. I hope you may be able to do this.

Very sincerely yours,

J. M. Uhler  
President

JMU:g