



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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199

Box
75

Folder
235

Iowa, State University of (Iowa City, Iowa), 1927-1953.

The State University of Iowa
Iowa City
Department of Romance Languages

October 8, 1927

Rabbi Abba Silver

The Temple

East 105th. Street at Ansel Road

Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Sir:

The enclosed Retrospect and the program will indicate what the Vesper Committee is trying to do in the University of Iowa. Vespers is a well recognized part of the life of the students of an endowed institution but it may be that Iowa has a somewhat unusual record among state universities for continuity of service. These services are held monthly on Sunday afternoon from four to five o'clock and are limited strictly to one hour, including musical numbers by the orchestra and choir and very brief devotional exercises by one of the local ministers. We should like to have you speak during the year 1928-29, perhaps in the month of October. The exact date could be arranged later. Though the Committee expresses its preference, it prefers to accept the date most convenient for the speaker when this is possible.

Sincerely yours,

C.E. Cousins

C.E. Cousins

Chairman, Vesper Committee

card ✓

Dec. 5th, 1927.

Mr. C. E. Cousins,
The State University of Iowa,
Iowa City, Ia.

My dear Doctor:-

Please pardon the long delay in answering your kind letter of October 8th. I have been out of the city a good deal of the time and I have not been able to attend to much of my correspondence.

I should very much like to address one of your Vesper Services. I have heard a great deal of highly favorable comment about them. But it is simply impossible for me to leave Cleveland on a Sunday.

My own services are held on Sunday morning and most of our congregation activities take place on that day. I am away from the city so much of the time, that I feel that I owe it to my Congregation to remain in the city at least that day.

Should there be any other occasion when you will require my services, please feel free to call upon me.

With kindest regards, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS, JR

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
SCHOOL OF RELIGION
IOWA CITY

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION

M. WILLARD LAMPE
J. ELLIOT ROSS
CHARLES A. HAWLEY
MOSES JUNG

Aug. 21, 1930

Dear Rabbi Silver:

University

The Senate Board on Vesper Services at the University of Iowa have extended invitations to outstanding leaders of the various religious denominations to speak at the **All religious Services** which are held fortnightly throughout the winter. These services are sponsored by all ~~the~~ religious groups on the campus and afford an unusual opportunity for acquainting the average student and faculty member as well as the townspeople of Iowa City with vital religious messages. I have been asked to communicate with you concerning the possibility of your accepting an invitation from the Senate Board to address a student body on November 16th or November 23rd at eight o'clock in the evening. I am fully aware of the pressure of your work but I hope that in the interest of Judaism you will find it convenient to accept either of these dates. As soon as I hear from you I shall inform the chairman of the Board who will communicate with you concerning the arrangements to be made in connection with your trip.

You may be interested to hear that there are about 250 Jewish students on the campus. Iowa City is surrounded by about ten to fifteen Jewish communities who very rarely have an opportunity of receiving a Jewish message of value. Many of their members I am sure would avail themselves of your visit here to come and hear you.

With all kind regards, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

MJ:MC

Moses Jung.
Moses Jung

Rabbi A. H. Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

card ✓

Aug. 26th, 1930

Dr. Moses Jung,
State University of Iowa,
Iowa, Ia.

My dear Dr. Jung:-

Permit me to thank you for your kind
letter of August 21st.

I am very much tempted to accept the
invitation from the Senate Board on Vesper Services at
the University of Iowa to address one of its services.
At the present writing, however, I can not say just when
I can come. November is out of the question.

I have already accepted an invitation from
the University of Chicago to speak there on November 9th. This
will mean my being out of my pulpit on that day. I can not
absent myself twice in one month.

Generally speaking Sunday is a bad day for
me to leave Cleveland. Not only are our major services held
on that day but many congregational activities and other functions
such as weddings, etc. take place on that day.

I shall keep your invitation in mind. Perhaps
in the Spring of 1931 when my work will ease up here a bit I
shall be in a position to comply with your request.

With kindest regards, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AMS/IR

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
IOWA CITY

SENATE BOARD ON VESPERS

October 9, 1930

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

My dear Rabbi Silver:

We regret that you are unable to agree to come to the State University of Iowa for a Vesper address this fall, but are very glad for the suggestion in your letter to Professor Moses Jung that you might be available for a date next spring.

We are still able to offer the following dates: February 22, March 1, March 8, and March 15. Our preference would be March 1, but any of these days would be satisfactory. President Jessup, the Senate Board on Vespers, and a cooperative student-faculty committee unite in urging you to come. We would do everything in our power to make your visit worthwhile.

Awaiting your reply, I am

Very sincerely yours,

W. Willard Lamp

MWL:DM

Chairman
Senate Board on Vespers

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
SCHOOL OF RELIGION
IOWA CITY

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION

M. WILLARD LAMPE
CHARLES A. HAWLEY
MOSES JUNG
WILLIAM H. MORGAN

November 28, 1930

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

My dear Rabbi Silver:

Several weeks ago I wrote
you asking if you could come to the State University
of Iowa for a University Vesper address on February
22, March 1, March 8, or March 15.

The only one of these dates now
open is March 15. However, we are also trying to
secure a speaker for Mother's Day, May 10. Could
you not possibly arrange to come on one of these
dates? Of the two, we would prefer Mother's Day, but
we would do anything in our power to get you here
any time.

Awaiting your reply, I am

Very sincerely yours,

MWL:DM

M. Willard Lampe

Carah

Nov. Dec. 1st, 1930

Dr. M. Willard Lampe,
School of Religion,
State University of Iowa,
Iowa City, Ia.

My dear Dr. Lampe:-

I should very much love to accept your invitation to be with you either on March 15th or May 10th and I can not tell you how deeply I regret that conditions this year make it impossible for me to absent myself from my pulpit on Sunday mornings.

I have already been away on two Sundays and have two more Sundays scheduled for out-of-town addresses. I rather feel that I am doing an injustice to my own congregation in being away from my pulpit so frequently.

I shall give you the first call on my time next season.

With kindest regards and assuring you of my deep appreciation for your invitation, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
SCHOOL OF RELIGION
IOWA CITY

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION

M. WILLARD LAMPE
CHARLES A. HAWLEY
MOSES JUNG
WILLIAM H. MORGAN

December 5, 1930

Rabbi Alla Hillel Silver,
E. 105th St. at Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver:

We are delighted to know that you will give us favored consideration for a speaking appointment during the academic year 1931-32.

I am able to submit the following specific dates: October 18, November 1, and November 22. I think our preference would be October 18 as this is the day following Homecoming and we could make your presence here a feature of this occasion.

If none of these dates are satisfactory kindly suggest one of your own and we shall try to fit it into our schedule.

Believe me,

Very cordially yours,

M. Willard Lampe

MWL:DM

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION

M. WILLARD LAMPE
CHARLES A. HAWLEY
MOSES JUNG
WILLIAM H. MORGAN

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
SCHOOL OF RELIGION
IOWA CITY

February 13, 1931

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver:

I expect to be in Cleveland the early part of the morning of Tuesday, February 17, and would greatly appreciate seeing you for five or ten minutes, if at all convenient. It will be necessary for me to leave on a 10:30 train.

I will call your office to see if an appointment is possible.

Cordially yours,

MWL:DM

M. Willard Lampe

IOWA STATE COLLEGE
OF
AGRICULTURE AND MECHANIC ARTS

AMES, IOWA

February 18, 1931

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS LIFE
NELSON PAXSON HORN

Rabbi A. H. Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

Will it be possible for you to speak at our Chapel service sometime during the school year 1931-32? We have such a service about once each month on Sunday night. It is our aim to secure the very best speakers available for these occasions.

If you can come, will you submit two or three dates, if possible, on which you will be available. This will allow me a little choice in fitting your coming into our college calendar. There are quite a few dates during the school year when it would not be advisable to attempt a service of this kind. In addition to speaking at the Chapel service on Sunday night, we will also appreciate having you spend Monday with us. There would be a group conference or two and several interviews set for that day. The honorarium will be \$200.00. We will provide entertainment while you are here.

We sincerely hope that it will be possible for you to accept this invitation. Might I hear from you at your very earliest convenience?

Sincerely yours,

NPH/mw

Nelson P. Horn

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION

M. WILLARD LAMPE
CHARLES A. HAWLEY
MOSES JUNG
WILLIAM H. MORGAN

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
SCHOOL OF RELIGION
IOWA CITY

February 26, 1931

Rabbi Abba Silver,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

On returning to Iowa I find that it will be entirely satisfactory to us to have you come here on Monday, November 2,- the day following your appointments in Chicago.

Please therefore definitely reserve November 2 for us. I am conferring with the other University authorities so as to secure the very best possible hearing for you before the University.

With high personal regard, I am

Very sincerely yours,

MWL: DM

M. Willard Lampe

card

March 3d, 1931

Dr. Nelson P. Horn,
Iowa State College,
Ames, Iowa.

My dear Dr. Horn:-

Permit me to thank you for your kind letter of Feb. 18th and for the invitation which you extend to me to address a chapel service of your College some Sunday evening during the school year 1931-2.

It would give me great pleasure to accept your invitation but I find it impossible to leave Cleveland on a Sunday. Our main service of the week is held on Sunday morning and I must be in my own pulpit.

I have accepted an invitation from the University of Iowa to speak for them on Monday, Nov. 2d. If you can arrange for an evening meeting on the 3d or 4th of November, I would make an effort to come to you.

With kindest regards and best wishes,
permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR

IOWA STATE COLLEGE
OF
AGRICULTURE AND MECHANIC ARTS

AMES, IOWA
March 11, 1931

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS LIFE
NELSON PAXSON HORN

card

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

My dear Dr. Silver;

I am sorry it will be impossible
for me to use you in my program at any other
time except Sunday. However, I am sending a
copy of your letter to the chairman of our
lecture bureau. It is possible that you may hear
from him regarding the November dates.

NPH/mw

WRHS

Sincerely yours

Nelson P. Horn

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION

M. WILLARD LAMPE
CHARLES A. HAWLEY
MOSES JUNG
WILLIAM H. MORGAN

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
SCHOOL OF RELIGION
IOWA CITY

September 14, 1931

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

My dear Rabbi Silver:

We are looking forward to your visit here on Monday, November 2. I have conferred with the chairman of the University Lecture Committee who has asked me to write you to see if an honorarium of \$125 would be satisfactory.

My understanding is that you will be at the Chicago Evening Club the preceding Sunday night. You could come to Iowa City either by night sleeper or by a fast day train on Monday which arrives here at 4:00 P.M. You could return so as to be in Chicago early Tuesday morning.

We have no definite suggestion to make as to the subject of your address. Any of the topics in "Religion In A Changing World" will be very acceptable. If you should care to submit two or three topics, we should be glad to express a preference.

We are sure that your visit will mean much to the University and to our School of Religion.

Very cordially yours,

MWL:DM

M. Willard Lampe

card ✓

Sept. 16th, 1931

Mr. M. Willard Lampe,
State University of Iowa,
School of Religion,
Iowa City, Iowa.

My dear Mr. Lampe:-

Permit me to thank you for your kind
letter of September 14th.

I hope to be with you for the meeting
on Monday, November 2d. I shall let you know later on
the exact time of my arrival.

As regards the subject. I could speak on

1. "Religion in a Changing World"
2. "Liberalism at the Crossroads"
3. "The One and the Many"

Please let me know which of the subjects
you deem most appropriate for your meeting.

With kindest regards and looking forward
with pleasure to our meeting again, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
IOWA CITY
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

BENJ. F. SHAMBAUGH, PROFESSOR
FRANK E. HORACK, PROFESSOR
KIRK H. PORTER, PROFESSOR
J. VAN DER ZEE, PROFESSOR

JOHN E. BRIGGS, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
IVAN L. POLLOCK, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
GEO. F. ROBESON, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
SUDHINDRA BOSE, LECTURER

September 25, 1931

My dear Dr. Silver:

We are very much pleased to have you visit the State University of Iowa on Monday, November 2nd, to speak to the students and faculty of our institution. You will recall that the arrangements were made by Mr. M. Willard Lampe on behalf of the University.

Your lecture on the date named will be scheduled for eight o'clock in the evening, in the Natural Science Auditorium.

We leave the subject matter of your lecture to your own choosing. It was your book on "Religion in a Changing World" that attracted the attention of the Committee on University Lectures and led to the invitation that was extended to you through Mr. Lampe.

It has occurred to me that your lecture might be announced under the title of "In a Changing World". Under this title you would be at liberty to discuss religion, education, and morality in a changing world. Since the lecture is to be given on a week day as a University Lecture, I think we should prefer to use the title here suggested. Please advise me if this would be agreeable to you.

It is our understanding that you are to receive an honorarium of \$125, which will be handed to you at the close of the lecture.

I should be pleased to have you advise me of the train upon which you plan to arrive at Iowa City.

Very sincerely yours,

Benj. F. Shambaugh

Chairman of Senate Board
on University Lectures

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

S:GP

9/16

card

Sept. 28th, 1931

Dr. Benjamin F. Shambaugh,
State University of Iowa,
Iowa City, Iowa.

My dear Dr. Shambaugh:-

Permit me to thank you for your kind
letter of Sept. 25th.

I note the hour and place set for my
address.

The subject which you suggest "In a
Changing World" is entirely satisfactory to me.

Looking forward with pleasure to our
meeting, permit me to remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

(16)
R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter
NM = Night Message
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

Received at 2016 East 105th St., Cleveland, Ohio. Telephone Cedar 1867 37 MAR 23 PM 5 19

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RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER, THE TEMPLE=

EAST 105 ST AND ANSEL RD=

WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO COME TO UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
ON FRIDAY JUNE EIGHTEENTH=

BENJ F SHAMBAUGH CHAIRMAN

SENATE BOARD ON UNIVERSITY LECTURES.

*Accepted by
telegram -*

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
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Received at 2016 East 105th St., Cleveland, Ohio. Telephone Cedar 1867

1937 MAR 23 AM 7 38

HZ2 45 NL 1 EXTRA=IOWACITY IOWA MAR 22

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER=

THE TEMPLE EAST 105 ST AND ANSEL RD=

WE SHOULD LIKE VERY MUCH TO HAVE YOU ADDRESS FACULTY
AND STUDENTS OF STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA ANY FRIDAY
EVENING DURING MONTH OF JULY EXCEPT JULY TWENTY THIRD
IF YOU CAN COME INDICATE DATES AGREEABLE TO YOU
HONORARIUM WILL BE THREE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS=

BENJ F SHAMBAUGH CHAIRMAN SENATE BOARD ON
UNIVERSITY LECTURES.

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
IOWA CITY
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

March 27, 1937

My dear Rabbi Silver:

In accordance with telegrams exchanged we have scheduled you to speak at the State University of Iowa on the evening of Friday, June 18th. You will receive an honorarium of \$350.

Your audience will consist largely of members of the faculty and students attending the summer session of the State University. The summer session students are mature and will be eager to take the best you have to give. The subject of your address will be of your own choosing.

It is customary for the Friday evening University Lecturer to take part in a round table discussion on the Saturday morning following his address, and so we would be pleased if you could favor us with your presence at such round table meeting.

Everyone on the campus is pleased with the announcement that you are scheduled to visit our University again. We have not forgotten the deep impression which you made on our students when you spoke here in 1931.

Very cordially yours,

Bray F. Shambaugh
Chairman of Senate Board
on University Lectures

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. & Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

S/CC

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
SCHOOL OF RELIGION
IOWA CITY

May 1. 37.

Dear Rabbi Silver,

Professor Shambaugh told me
today of your forthcoming lecture on June 11

Mrs. Jung & I would be
delighted to have you with us for supper,
Friday evening, or Saturday for dinner, whatever
should be most convenient for you.

Looking forward to seeing you
in Iowa City

I am,
very sincerely yours,
M. Jung.

Rabbi A. H. Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, O.

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
IOWA CITY
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

May 4, 1937

My dear Rabbi Silver:

This is to remind you that in accordance with our previous correspondence you are scheduled to address the students and faculty of the State University of Iowa at Iowa City on Friday evening, June 18th, at eight o'clock and to participate in a round table discussion at nine o'clock on the Saturday morning following.

We should be pleased to have you advise us several days in advance of the hour of your arrival. A room has been reserved for you at the Jefferson Hotel.

Very sincerely yours,

Bryant Shambaugh
Chairman of Senate Board
on University Lectures

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. & Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

S/CC

May 12, 1937

Dr. Moses Jung,
School of Religion,
State University of Iowa,
Iowa City, Iowa.

My dear Dr. Jung:

Please pardon the long delay in
acknowledging your kind letter of May 1st.
I have been so absorbed in the local Jewish
Welfare Fund Campaign of which I am chairman
that I have neglected my correspondence.

I should be very happy to have dinner
with you and Mrs. Jung on Friday evening prior
to the lecture.

Looking forward with pleasure to seeing
you again, and with all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

May 18, 1937

Dr. B. F. Shambaugh,
State University of Iowa,
Iowa City, Iowa.

My dear Dr. Shambaugh:

Let me thank you for your kind note of May 4. I note that I am to address the students and faculty of the State University of Iowa on Friday evening, June 18th at eight o'clock. I trust that I may also be able to stay over for the nine o'clock round table discussion the following morning. That will depend upon my ability to make connections to get me back to Cleveland for Sunday when I have a few weddings at which I must officiate.

I shall notify you a few days in advance the hour of my arrival.

With all good wishes and looking forward with pleasure to my visit, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION

M. WILLARD LAMPE
CHARLES A. HAWLEY
MOSES JUNG
WILLIAM H. MORGAN
CHRISTIAN RICHARD

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
SCHOOL OF RELIGION
IOWA CITY

May 18, 1937.

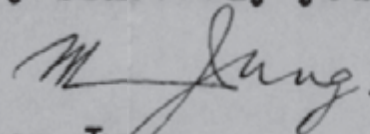
Rabbi Abba H. Silver, D. D.
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Dr. Shambaugh's secretary informed me that there is a precedent of long standing preventing friends of Senate Lecturers to invite the speaker of the evening to any social function prior to the lecture. If it should be convenient for you to substitute Saturday noon for Friday evening, Mrs. Jung and I would be very glad to have you at our home for lunch.

Looking forward with pleasure to seeing you again, I am, with kind regards,

Very sincerely yours,



Moses Jung

MJ/MH

May 23, 1937

Dr. Moses Jung,
State University of Iowa,
Iowa City, Iowa.

My dear Dr. Jung:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of May 18th. I appreciate very much your invitation to have luncheon with you on Saturday noon. I may not, however, remain over for Saturday. I am anxious to get back to Cleveland in time for important functions on Sunday, June 20th.

With best wishes and looking forward with pleasure to seeing you again, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
IOWA CITY
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

June 9, 1937

My dear Rabbi Silver:

Upon my return from a few weeks of rest in the Southwest I find your letter of May 18th on my desk.

I have consulted the local railroad agent with regard to train connections between Iowa City and Cleveland. He informs me that you can leave Iowa City on Saturday afternoon, June 19th, at 2:45 P. M. arriving at Chicago at 9:00 P. M. You can leave Chicago, via the New York Central Railroad, at 11:40 P. M. arriving in Cleveland at 7:37 A. M. on Sunday. I shall be glad to make reservations for your return trip, if you care to have me do so.

In view of the train schedule, we shall assume that you will take part in the Round Table on Saturday morning as announced.

If you could send us a gloss print of yourself suitable for making a cut for newspaper use, the favor would be much appreciated.

Very sincerely yours,

Bruce F. Shambaugh
Chairman of Senate Board
on University Lectures

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E. 105th St. & Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

MEM

DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION

M. WILLARD LAMPE
CHARLES A. HAWLEY
MOSES JUNG
WILLIAM H. MORGAN
CHRISTIAN RICHARD

THE STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
SCHOOL OF RELIGION
IOWA CITY

June 10, 1937.

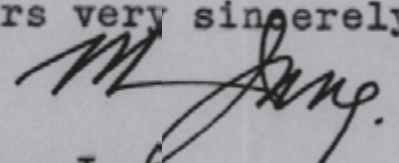
Rabbi Abba H. Silver, D. D.
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Mr. Shambaugh's office informed me that the 3 p.m. train on Saturday afternoon would bring you in good time to Cleveland. May I therefore express the hope that you will find it possible to accept our invitation for lunch on Saturday, the 19th.

Looking forward to seeing you, I am,

Yours very sincerely,


Moses Jung

MJ/MH

June 14, 1937

Dr. Moses Jung,
School of Religion,
State University of Iowa,
Iowa City, Iowa.

My dear Dr. Jung:

I shall be very pleased to have luncheon
with you on Saturday, the 19th.

With best wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

June 14, 1937

Dr. B. F. Shambaugh,
State University of Iowa,
Iowa City, Iowa.

My dear Dr. Shambaugh:

Permit me to acknowledge receipt of
your kind letter of June 9. I shall be very
happy to stay over for the Round Table on
Saturday morning.

I am enclosing herewith a gloss.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK
Enc.

419 E. Washington St.
Iowa City, Iowa

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Cleveland, Ohio

My Dear Rabbi Silver:

We have found out that you are going to lecture at our University of Iowa, Friday, June 18. We would appreciate very much if you could meet with our Zionist group at the synagogue after your lecture at the University.

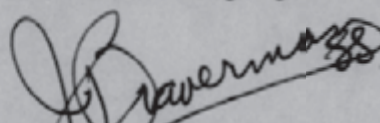
I would like to recall to your memory the happy occasion some time ago when you honored us with a talk at our synagogue under the same circumstances.

Since election to the Zionist Congress is coming next Sunday, your presence would greatly stimulate our cause.

I hope this will meet with your approval, and if possible, favor us with a reply. At any rate, we will look forward to your presence with us.

With Zion greetings, I remain

Sincerely yours,



J. Braverman
Chairman of District

SS/GP

June 17, 1937

Mr. J. Braverman,
419 E. Washington Street,
Iowa City, Iowa.

My dear Mr. Braverman:

Let me thank you for your kind letter and for your invitation to meet with the Zionists of Iowa City. I shall be traveling all day Friday and shall be lecturing in the evening. My health will not permit me to meet with another group following the University lecture and addressing it. I am sure that you will understand.

I shall, of course, be very happy to see you and any other Zionist privately during my stay in your city.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

AMES PUBLIC SCHOOLS

LEONARD A. STEGER, SUPERINTENDENT

AMES, IOWA

September 1, 1943

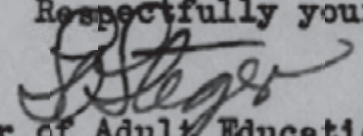
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Cleveland Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We are conducting a series of adult education forums in Ames. We are wondering if you would be free to address such a meeting sometime in November or December of this year. We are particularly concerned with a subject such as Religion in the Post-War Period, or a subject of similar nature.

If you would be interested in coming we should be glad to have you state your fee for one meeting, which would include expenses. In the event you would be interested in two or three evening addresses we might be able to arrange them in this part of the state.

Respectfully yours,


Director of Adult Education

LAS:GE

September 9, 1943

Dr. Leonard A. Steger, Superintendent
Ames Public Schools
Ames, Iowa

My dear Dr. Steger:

Thank you so much for your kind letter.
I deeply appreciate your invitation to participate
in the series of adult education forums which you
are conducting. I wish I were free to come.
Unfortunately I am tied down with so many activities
in connection with war work and overseas relief that
I am constrained to decline many an invitation which
I would normally be delighted to accept. Please
keep me in mind for some future occasion.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

AMES PUBLIC SCHOOLS

LEONARD A. STEGER, SUPERINTENDENT

AMES, IOWA

May 13, 1944

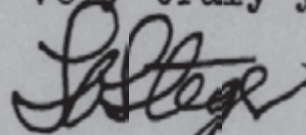
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Cleveland Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Last fall I wrote you about the possibility of coming to Ames for a forum talk, with the thought that we might also schedule two or three other forums for you in Iowa. You replied that you were too busy to assume this responsibility, but that you might be able to do it at a later time.

This summer or early fall we will again be scheduling our forums for the coming winter season and I am wondering if you might be interested in three or four appearances in Iowa at that time. If so what would you ask to make the trip and speak to approximately four adult groups in Iowa on consecutive nights?

Very truly yours,



Superintendent

LAS:S

May 19, 1944

Dr. Leonard A. Steger, Superintendent
Ames Public Schools
Ames, Iowa

My dear Dr. Steger:

I was most pleased to receive your letter and your invitation to address your forum sometime next winter. I find myself, however, in no easier position than when you first wrote to me. In fact my obligations have increased. They will probably remain very heavy until the termination of the war. Because of it, I do not feel that I should commit myself to lecture engagements for the next season.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

THE STATE
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
IOWA CITY
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

April 6, 1953

Dear Rabbi Silver:

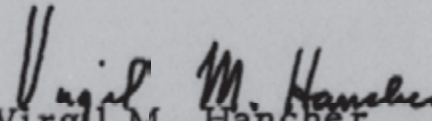
I have the pleasure to extend to you a cordial invitation to deliver the commencement address for the Class of 1953 at the State University of Iowa. The graduation ceremonies are to be on Friday, June twelfth, at nine-thirty o'clock in the morning. Let me assure you, if assurance is needed, that this decision was reached before we received the current issue of LIFE magazine.

The School of Religion, at this University, as you know, has been for more than a quarter of a century a pioneer in bringing before the students of a publicly supported university the philosophies and viewpoints of the various faiths of the world. In recognition of the importance we attach to religion as an integral part of the student's life, we desire this year to have an eminent theologian as commencement speaker.

An honorarium of \$300 is provided. If that amount is not acceptable, will you please tell us your usual fee? A rigid policy of the University against awarding honorary degrees except at the inauguration of a president, prevents us from proposing that honor.

I hope sincerely that you can accept our invitation.

Sincerely yours,


Virgil M. Hancher
President

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

H:mfj

April 9, 1953

Dr. Virgil M. Hancher, President
State University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa

My dear Dr. Hancher:

Thank you for your kind letter of April 6th and for your gracious invitation to deliver the commencement address for the class of 1953 at the State University of Iowa on June 12th. I deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness in inviting me, and I shall be very happy to be with you on that day.

With warmest regards, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA
IOWA CITY

May 18, 1953

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

It has given me great pleasure to hear that you have accepted the invitation to be our commencement speaker this year. In my capacity as the Hillel Director and the Jewish professor of our School of Religion, I feel a great satisfaction to have you with us.

It is our hope that the Jewish students and members of our small community will derive ~~the~~ satisfaction from your visit that may be anticipated. The commencement time, however, is hectic but there might be a way-for those people who deserve it most-to meet with you. Would you please advise me as to the time and length of your stay and whether you will be willing to speak to a Jewish group while here? The topic I would desire for this would be any aspect of Israel.

With highest regards,

Sincerely,

Frederick P. Bargebuhr
Frederick P. Bargebuhr

FPB:s

State University of Iowa

O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T . I O W A C I T Y

May 21, 1953

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We are delighted to have you as our Commencement speaker on June 12th.

Mrs. Hancher and I extend you a most cordial invitation to stay at the house; but, if you prefer, we shall arrange a reservation at the Hotel Jefferson.

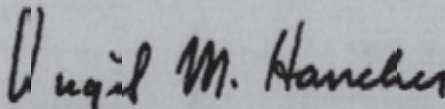
We try to give our house guests complete freedom to do as they please, and we proceed with much the same freedom in our own engagements and affairs. Occasionally our house becomes a busy place if many callers stop by, but the number is unpredictable and usually is not excessive. And you are always free to retreat to your room, if you desire seclusion.

Please let me know your wishes.

We shall meet the afternoon plane on Thursday. The Commencement exercises will begin at 9:30 in the morning so that it will be necessary for us to be at the Field House by 9:15 a. m. If you stay at the house, I shall take you there myself. If you are at the hotel, we shall see that you are called for. There will be approximately 1,200 graduates. The ceremonies will conclude in the late forenoon, in sufficient time for you to have lunch with us and then take the 2:25 eastbound plane, if that is your wish.

My son, who is a senior in the College of Liberal Arts, is scheduled to graduate on June 12 and so this is a special event for our family. We are happy that you are to share that event with us.

Sincerely yours,


Virgil M. Hancher
President

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

May 22, 1953

Dr. Frederick P. Bargebuhr
State University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa

My dear Dr. Bargebuhr:

Thank you for your kind letter of May 18th. I, too, am looking forward to my visit to Iowa State University. I regret, however, that time will not permit my making any other address than the one I am scheduled to deliver at the Commencement exercises. I plan to leave immediately after the exercises.

With all good wishes and looking forward to the pleasure of meeting you, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

May 25, 1953

Dr. Virgil M. Hancher, President
State University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa

My dear Dr. Hancher:

Thank you for your kind letter of May 21st, and for your gracious hospitality, inviting me to stay at your home. I am deeply appreciative to you and Mrs. Hancher, but I should prefer staying at the Hotel Jefferson.

I am looking forward to my visit to your campus, and I am very happy to share in this joyous occasion on the graduation of your sons.

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

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ALBIA, IOWA

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Sir,

I have just finished reading your University of Iowa address.

It is a penetrating analysis of our errors, and an inspiring blueprint of our potential. It was once said it is the duty of editors to afflict the comfortable, and comfort the afflicted. I think it is the duty of Rabbis, Priests and Preachers, too--and I think you do it beautifully.

I'm pleased, and proud, that you came to Iowa to say what has needed to be said very much--and did it so well.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Horberg

June 12, 1953



State University of Iowa

O F F I C E O F T H E P R E S I D E N T . I O W A C I T Y

June 14, 1953

My dear Rabbi Silver:

It was a great pleasure, as well as a great honor, to have you as the Commencement speaker at our June 12th Commencement. Your address made a profound impression on the audience as it should have done both from its intellectual content and the manner of its delivery.

As you know it was a very special day for me because of my son's graduation, and I was startled to discover--without having had any advance notice of the fact--that the son of the late Walter A. Jessup received a master's degree in the same ceremony. I suppose it is indeed rare in American educational history when two president's sons receive degrees in one of its convocations.

With all good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Virgil M. Hancher

Virgil M. Hancher
President

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

June 15, 1953

Mr. Donald A. Norberg
Albia Newspapers
111 Benton Ave., E.
Albia, Iowa

My dear Mr. Norberg:

Thank you for your note of June 12th. It was very thoughtful of you to write to me, and I very much appreciate the sentiments which you express.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

STATE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

IOWA CITY

Information Service

June 15, 1953

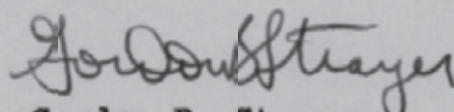
Rabbi Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We greatly appreciate^d your response to our recent request for some advance information on your Commencement address, and we hope you will feel that our story (enclosed) did fair justice to it. The story was sent to each of Iowa's 40-plus daily newspapers, 50-plus radio stations and a number of selected education editors around the country. In addition, we duplicated the entire talk and sent it to various editorial page editors.

Our job would be much simpler if every visiting speaker cooperated to the extent that you did. May I add that I heard your talk and enjoyed it greatly; let us hope that your young audience will take it to heart.

Sincerely,


Gordon B. Strayer
News Editor

Encl.
GBS:pah

FOR RELEASE AFTER 11:30 A.M. FRIDAY, JUNE 12:

(offer three faiths to 1,065 SUI graduates)

Iowa City, Iowa, June 12 -- Three "faiths that will serve us best" were offered this morning to the 1953 graduating class of the State University of Iowa by Rabbi Hillel Silver of Cleveland, O., one of the three ministers who delivered prayers at the recent inauguration of President Eisenhower.

To sustain and inspire the 1,065 degree candidates in an age when man is "seldom thought of as an end in himself but as a tool for something or someone else" and when men are "committing the most shameless acts of immorality in the name of high morality," Rabbi Silver urged:

(1) Faith in the reality of purpose in the universe, a purpose of which our struggles and aspirations are an integral part. Man will feel at home in the world "only if he believes that it is his Father's house," he said.

(2) Faith in the worth and sovereignty of the individual and of human personality. "Man must live and act always as if his life were tremendously significant, as if his soul and mind were boundless in their capacities and influence," Rabbi Silver affirmed.

(3) Faith in a method of human progress which employs the ways of justice, freedom and peace to reach goals of justice, freedom and peace. "Each single step on the way to a worthy objective must be a worthy objective in itself. When ruthless, brutal and desperate measures are employed, they not only make the attainment of exalted human goals impossible; they also turn man's long journey toward them into one of misery and horror," he said.

Rabbi Silver assured the graduates, their parents, friends and other Commencement visitors that "a golden age of universal justice, brotherhood and peace awaits the human race and can be hastened by the efforts of the human race."

In his charge to the candidates before conferring the degrees, University President Virgil M. Hancher added this challenge to Rabbi Silver's declaration of faith:
(more)

(offer three faiths to 1,065 SUI graduates -- 2)

"From you, to whom much has been given, much will be demanded. And if you fail, lesser men will undertake to do that which you should have done," President Hancher told the class of 1953, including his son Virgil Hancher, Jr.

"Your University has many claims to distinction, but none so great as that it has dared to be itself. It has dared to be creative. In an age fascinated by it has sought for itself the best in the physical sciences and in technology, the spell of the physical sciences and in technology, but it has dared also to run counter to the spirit of the age by its contributions to all that concerns man as man, from the cradle to the grave," President Hancher declared.

Candidates for degrees represented 34 states and 17 foreign countries. President Hancher conferred 67 doctor of philosophy degrees, 103 doctor of medicine degrees, and 52 doctor of dental surgery degrees. There were 165 master's and 677 bachelor's degrees awarded.

M. Willard Lampe, director of the school of religion, offered the benediction and invocation, and the university band, directed by Charles B. Righter, played traditional music.

In his Commencement address, "What Kind of Faith Will Serve Us Best?" Rabbi Silver drew from the writings of philosophers George Santayana and Bertrand Russell, mathematician Albert Einstein, Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, and the Books of Job, Isaiah and the Psalms.

Tracing individual man's gains and losses from the tribal life of primitive society to the present day, Rabbi Silver charged:

"Our age makes little of the individual. His personal life is not very important. Men are handled impersonally in the mass. Increasingly they are becoming statistics in ^{the} hands of a predatory collectivism. They are shunted about like herds of cattle. They are slaughtered by the millions. They are coordinated and subjugated to the state until the last vestige of their freedom and their rights vanishes.

"Because the religious basis of our society has been denied, and materialistic theories of life and history have taken hold of the thoughts and actions of men and governments, the stature of the individual, and with it, his rights and
(more)

(offer three faiths to 1,065 SUI graduates -- 3)

inherent dignity have suffered. Every precinct of his life is invaded and violated. Having denied to man the image of God, he has been given the mask of the robot. The most endangered person in the world today is the man who thinks for himself. The eagerly awaited 'people's century' has unfortunately become the century of the secret police."

"The classic way of religion has never been fully tried in the world. Today in an evolving atomic age wherein man's power will be vastly augmented, including the power of self-destruction, it is being ignored more thoroughly than at any time in human history. State and class autocracies have proceeded on the theory that there is no law superior to theirs, and that their brutal methods are justified by their results."

"The economic life of man has resolved itself into a bitter class struggle. Each class is resorting without hesitancy or compunction to methods of violence, suppression and war. Each class justifies its tactics in the name of some great human ideal. The shame of our age is that men are committing the most shameless acts of immorality in the name of high morality. Methods which are abhorred and denounced in one's opponents are rationalized and justified as moral imperatives when employed by oneself."

"For our civilization to survive, it is clearly necessary to revise this mood and thought pattern of our age, and to recharge our world culture with a new devotion to the sanctity of the only true method of human progress."

"We must supplement what we know by a number of heroic projections of faith which, while they outrun knowledge, experience and logical proof, are not refuted by them and are indispensable in our enterprise on earth," Rabbi Silver concluded.

June 18, 1953

Dr. Virgil M. Hancher
State University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa

My dear Dr. Hancher:

I wish to thank you for your kind note of June 14th. I need not tell you that I enjoyed greatly the Commencement exercises and the pleasant hour spent in your home. I am happy that the address was well received. The exercises were very impressive and I was able to get an idea of the size and scope of the University.

Permit me to congratulate you upon the graduation of your son. I am sorry that I did not have the opportunity of meeting him. My own son, the younger one, graduated this year from the Harvard School of Business Administration.

Please convey my best wishes to Mrs. Hancher and my deep appreciation for the gracious hospitality which I enjoyed in your home.

With warmest regards and all good wishes for an enjoyable visit in England, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er