



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.

Series VI: Speaking Engagements, 1917-1964.

Reel
199

Box
75

Folder
248

Kalamazoo, Michigan, 1936-1951.

JOHN W. DUNNING, MINISTER
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

March 26 1936

Rabbi Hilel Silver, D. D.
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

One of the community enterprises in Kalamazoo is a School of Religion sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church. We have an enrollment of close to one thousand people and an attendance sometimes much larger. This is a college town and our colleges contribute largely to our attendance.

Next fall we hope to secure four of our outstanding religious leaders for addresses to our whole group. We try to have our program cover the wide field which is the basis of our several religious faiths.

Would it be possible for you to come to Kalamazoo for one of these addresses, speaking on some subject concerning religion and our life today. We have the dates October 22d, November 5th, 12th and 19th, and you could take whichever of these is most convenient for you.

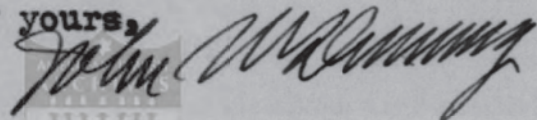
We have a fund to care for the expense of this course, and if you can come I shall be glad to have you let me know what expense will be involved in your coming to us.

JOHN W. DUNNING, MINISTER
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

I shall appreciate very much your kind consideration to this hearty invitation from our community and church.

I have read and used with great helpfulness your book, "Religion In a Changing World", and I am sure it will be with great profit to us all, if you can come.

Heartily yours,



Minister First Presbyterian
Church.

WRHS

April 9, 1936

Dr. John W. Dunning,
First Presbyterian Church,
Kalamazoo, Michigan.

My dear Dr. Dunning:

Permit me to thank you for your kind letter of March 26 and for your invitation to deliver an address before the School of Religion which is sponsored by your Church. I need not tell you that I deeply appreciate your invitation. My plans, however, for next Fall are quite indefinite and I can not, at this date, commit myself to any definite engagements in October or November. I will not know my plans for the Fall until we resume our season's work here in September, after my summer's vacation. If your program is not filled by that time, please write to me.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

JOHN W. DUNNING, MINISTER
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

April 20, 1936

Dr Abba Hilel Silver
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

I have your gracious response to my invitation to visit our church School of religion in the fall.

I appreciate the difficulty of making definite engagements for fall this early, from my own experience.

I am wondering if however, we cannot have your assurance that you will come provided your later arrangements permit, at sometime during the dates suggested, October 15 to November 16th. If you find in the fall that you cannot come, we can of course accommodate you. We want to start our publicity at an early date, and would appreciate having as definite arrangements as we can make. As to remuneration I can assure you at least \$150.00 and expenses, or whatever you may suggest as reasonable.

We have the usual amount of reflection from the German situation in our community (altho not in our churches) and we want very much to make a gesture displaying to our community our earnest good-will to those of the Jewish faith,

JOHN W. DUNNING, MINISTER
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

as well as to have your fellowship, and that of our splendid Jewish congregation here. We feel that your coming will mean much to spirit of good-will already prevailing here.

We shall appreciate very much if you can give us this much assurance at this time.

Heartily yours,



A handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "John W. Dunning", is written over a circular embossed stamp. The stamp contains a menorah and the words "AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES".

May 26, 1936

Dr. John W. Dunning,
First Presbyterian Church,
Kalamazoo, Michigan.

My dear Dr. Dunning:

Please pardon the long delay in answering your kind letter of April 20. I have not been entirely well and my correspondence has lagged.

I shall make an effort to be with you during the dates suggested, October 15 to November 16. However, I shall not be in a position to say definitely whether I can come or when I can come, until the middle of September. I organize my Fall program, as a rule, after my return from my summer vacation. It will give me great pleasure if time and my duties here will permit me to visit your School of Religion.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

JOHN W. DUNNING, MINISTER
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

September 14 1936

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

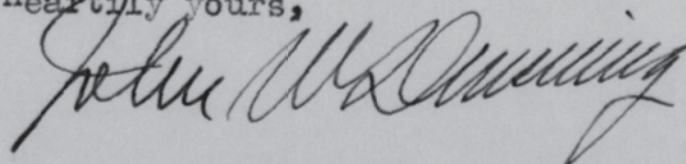
Your letter of May 26th suggests that I write you about the middle of September relative to fixing a date for your visit to our School Of Religion.

Our term is from October 22d to November 19th. We are hoping that you may be able to come sometime between November 4th and 13th, our regular nights being November 5th and 12th. We can adjust ourselves to a more convenient date for you than either of these, during that period, if you desire. If you do not find yourself free during that time, we shall try an arrange some other date to suit you, between Oct. 22d and Nov. 19th.

I shall appreciate it if you will let me know at an early date just what time your schedule offers for us.

I want again to express the hearty invitation of myself and my people and our city, and our happy anticipation of your coming.

Heartily yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John W. Dunning". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "John W. Dunning".

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	SHIP RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

September 18, 1936

19

To Dr. John W. Dunning

Street and No. First Presbyterian Church

Place Kalamazoo, Michigan

I SHALL BE PLEASED TO BE WITH YOU ON THURSDAY EVENING NOVEMBER TWELFTH

KINDEST REGARDS

A H SILVER

Sender's address
for reference

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY
IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

Sender's telephone
number

JOHN W. DUNNING, MINISTER
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

September 26 1936

Rabbi Abba Hilel Silver,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

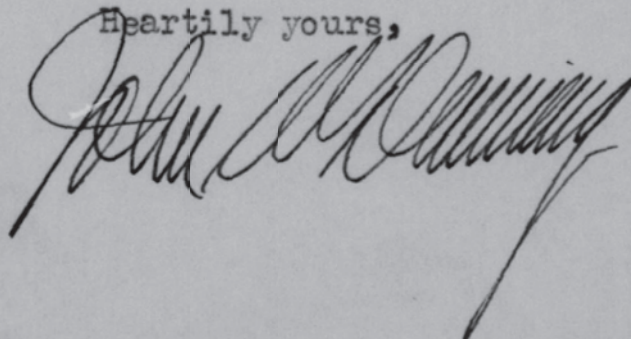
We are very happy in the prospect of your visit and address on November 12th. I am sending you enclosed a brief preliminary announcement of our school.

I shall be glad if you can give us a subject for your address for our use in special publicity connected with your coming. I would be glad also to have a photograph or cut of yourself if one is available.

I have heard very many expressions of pleasure that we are to have you with us, and I personally appreciate very much your willingness to come. I am sure you will have a large and appreciative audience.

Thanking you, I am,

Heartily yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John W. Dunning". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

School of Religion

SPECIAL BULLETIN THURSDAY EVENING SCHOOL 1936

THE SESSIONS OF OUR THURSDAY EVENING SCHOOL WILL BEGIN OCTOBER 20TH. THIS YEAR THE ENTIRE SCHOOL WILL ASSEMBLE IN ONE GROUP IN THE CHURCH AND WILL BE ADDRESSED BY OUTSTANDING LEADERS IN RELIGIOUS LIFE AND THINKING. FIVE LEADERS OF NATIONAL PROMINENCE HAVE BEEN SECURED. TO COVER EXPENSES A CHARGE OF \$1.00 FOR THE ENTIRE COURSE. DINNER WILL BE SERVED BY THE WOMENS CIRCLES OF THE CHURCH EACH EVENING FOR FORTY CENTS. THE SESSIONS WILL BEGIN AT SEVEN-FIFTEEN.

ALL SESSIONS WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAYS EVENING EXCEPT THE FIRST WHICH WILL BE ON TUESDAY OCTOBER 20TH. ON THIS DATE DR. GLENN FRANK, PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN, AND AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING THINKER ON PRESENT-DAY SOCIAL PROBLEMS WILL SPEAK ON "RELIGION AND THE SOCIAL CRISIS".

OCTOBER 29TH, MISS ANGELA MORGAN, THE COUNTRY'S GREATEST POET ON RELIGIOUS THEMES, WILL GIVE A RECITAL OF RELIGIOUS POETRY SELECTED FROM HER MANY PUBLICATIONS.

NOVEMBER 5, DR. RAYMOND B. WALKER, MINISTER OF THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF PORTLAND OREGON, WILL SPEAK ON INTERNATIONAL PEACE. DR. WALKER IS THE OUTSTANDING LEADER IN RELIGIOUS LIFE ON THE PACIFIC COAST AND COMES WITH A GREAT MESSAGE.

NOVEMBER 12, RABBI ABBA HILEL SILVER OF CLEVELAND, THE WELL KNOWN LEADER OF THE JEWISH FAITH AND AUTHOR OF "RELIGION IN A CHANGING WORLD", WILL BE WITH US.

NOVEMBER 19, DR. CHARLES REYNOLDS BROWN, DEAN OF RELIGION AT YALE UNIVERSITY FOR THE PAST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS, WILL BE THE FINAL NUMBER. DR. BROWN IS ONE OF THE ABLEST PREACHERS IN THE COUNTRY, AND FOR YEARS HAS BEEN MUCH IN DEMAND IN COLLEGES. HE WILL SPEAK ON "WHY I BELIEVE IN RELIGION".

September 28, 1936

Dr. John W. Dunning,
First Presbyterian Church,
Kalamazoo, Michigan.

My dear Dr. Dunning:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of September 26. I have asked my secretary to send you a photograph.

With reference to the subject - perhaps you can suggest to me a theme that you would like to have me discuss. In the last few months I have addressed groups somewhat similar to your group and spoke on the following: "Some Aberrations of Our Day"; "The Christian-Jewish Tradition -- And What Threatens It In The Modern World". These have proved popular. Please select one of these two subjects or suggest one yourself.

With best wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

KALAMAZOO COLLEGE

FOUNDED 1833

MICHIGAN

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

October 7, 1936

KALAMAZOO

Rabbi Hillel Silver,
Cleveland,
Ohio.

My dear Rabbi Silver:

I have learned that you are to appear in the local Presbyterian church on November 12th to deliver a lecture in the field of religion. Kalamazoo College chapel period is at 10:00 o'clock in the morning; thirty minutes is allowed.

Would it be possible for you to bring us a message on either the 12th or 13th of November? Will you inform me what honorarium you would expect? Our funds are quite limited for outside speakers but I am anxious that our constituency have the opportunity to hear you and appreciate your forcefulness in public life.

I am new at the College this autumn. In the east, where I have been for the last twelve years, it was my privilege, with Rabbi Isenberg of Chester, Pennsylvania, to set up a local conference of the American Association of Jews and Christians. We were able to accomplish a great deal in the way of promotion of better understanding and good will during the past two years. I simply report this to indicate to you how highly I value the friendship and contribution of your people to our American democracy, and my desire to use every available opportunity to promote this gospel of human brotherhood whenever opportunity is available.

Anticipating an early reply from
you, I am

Yours sincerely,

Stewart G. Cole

October 9, 1936

Dr. Stewart A. Cole,
Kalamazoo College,
Kalamazoo, Michigan.

My dear Dr. Cole:

I appreciate deeply your kind letter of October 7th and the invitation which you extend to me to address the Kalamazoo College Chapel on the day that I am scheduled to speak before the First Presbyterian Church at Kalamazoo. I should regard it a great privilege to be able to come. Unfortunately, I do not plan to arrive in Kalamazoo until late in the afternoon and I am hoping to leave that same evening in time to get back to Cleveland on the 13th. My schedule for November is very crowded and I must therefore make very close connections. Perhaps at some future time I may be of service to you.

Let me thank you again for your thoughtfulness in extending to me an invitation to address your student body. With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

JOHN W. DUNNING, MINISTER
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

November 5 1936

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

We are looking forward with much pleasure to your coming for our School Of Religion next Thursday evening the 12th. The lecture will be at seven-fifteen, and is preceded by a fellowship dinner at six.

We are very anxious to have you at our dinner, which will this week be attended by several leaders of our Civic interests.

I find that there is no way to reach Kalamazoo in time by way of Detroit except you leave Cleveland early in the morning, should you be coming here from home direct.

Should you wish to come by New York Central to Elkhart, we can meet you there, as we did once in another case. There is a train leaving Cleveland at 11.59 a .m which arrives in Elkhart at 2:41 p. m. Since this is standard time and we are on fast time, it would bring you into Kalamazoo about 5:30, it being a fifty mile drive from here to Elkhart.

JOHN W. DUNNING, MINISTER
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

Should you care to make this arrangement, either myself or my assistant will meet you in Elkhart at that time.

Kindly let me know if you wish to make this arrangement, or if you have other arrangements planned. I have made reservation for you at the Burdick Hotel in case you are staying over night. I believe you can get back to Cleveland by Detroit, without any delay. In any event we will be glad to meet you on your arrival.

We anticipate with great pleasure your coming.

WRHS
WRHS
WRHS

Heartily yours,

John W. Dunning

November 10, 1936

Dr. John W. Dunning,
First Presbyterian Church,
Kalamazoo, Michigan.

My dear Dr. Dunning:

Let me thank you for your kind note of November 5. I am looking forward with pleasure to my visit to your School of Religion and to our meeting.

I have not yet decided as to transportation to Kalamazoo. I may take the early morning plane from Cleveland to Grand Rapids and from there, a train to Kalamazoo. On the other hand, I may follow your suggestion and go by way of Elkhart. I shall send you a wire on Thursday morning informing you of my final plans.

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

8 COLLEGE GROVE
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

January 10 - 1939

My dear Rabbi Silver,

Again the First Presbyterian Church of Kalamazoo is planning a School of Religion for the fall and winter months of 1939 and 1940. We remember with deep appreciation your visit of two or three years ago. (or was it that long?), and we should like very much to have you with us again. This year we are planning on a series of monthly gatherings, instead of the weekly ones of previous years. And we should like to have them on the second Thursday of the month. So far only one date has been definitely set - that of January 1940 when Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr can include a visit to Kalamazoo as he journeys to Chicago. We ~~would~~ like to have you appear in October, November, ~~and~~ December.

8 COLLEGE GROVE
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

And I might as well frankly admit that I would prefer having you in October to open the series. That date is October 12-1939. However, if that is ^{not} convenient for you and November 9th or December 7th is more satisfactory, please feel free to tell me. I know you have a very full program with wide interests and many activities in the service of your own constituency and faith, but it is great inspiration to have a man of your ability and leadership in the religious thought and life of today speak to our community. So I hope we may make satisfactory arrangements for your coming. Please tell me what financial obligations we should assume in making your appearance possible.

With all good wishes, and the earnest hope that we may welcome you to Kalamazoo this coming year,
Sincerely yours,
(Mrs. G. W.) Frances C. Hornbuckle

The School of Religion

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

ANNOUNCES

Its

EIGHTH SERIES

FALL, 1938

•

Endeavoring to provoke thought, to widen cultural visions, to challenge to a new appreciation of the finest expressions of religion, and to stimulate a richer fellowship, the Presbyterian School of Religion invites you to participate in its program.

Friday **DR. ARTHUR HOLLY COMPTON**
October 21 **Professor of Physics, University of Chicago**

Subject: **"HUMAN FREEDOM AND PHYSICAL LAW"**

Few speakers possess the authority and accomplishments of Dr. Compton. This distinguished physicist, the recipient of the Rumford medal from the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the Nobel prize for physics from the Swedish Academy, has made singular contributions not only in his own field of physics but also in that which deals with the cultural side of life. His many audiences report how keenly interpretative, unusually clear and dynamic his lectures are. It is certain that his treatment of the subject of freedom and law will awaken a new appreciation and stimulation from those who hear him.

Thursday **DR. ABRAM LEON SACHAR**
October 27 **National Director, Hillel Foundations**

Subject: **"SOME LESSONS FROM THE AMERICAN PAST"**

Remembering Dr. Sachar's lecture to this school last year is an enthusiastic introduction to his re-appearance on this year's program. An historian, biographer, educator, Dr. Sachar is in close touch with the vital problems of our contemporary world. In this lecture he deals with the fundamental questions for the meaning of the American scene, considering the aspirations and traditions from the past in their relation to a living credo for the present. And the depth of his understanding is all the more illuminating for the simplicity and charm of its expression.

Thursday DR. JOHN WIRT DUNNING
November 3 President, Alma College

Subject: "BY-PATHS TO UTOPIA"

The former pastor of this church is welcomed back as an old and dear friend, and as one who has a message of real worth. He is to treat here a subject that is close to his heart—the high aspirations of man and the many paths that lead away from and the path that leads towards their fulfilment. It is from a past of a long experience with people, of which twenty-two years were spent in this church, that Dr. Dunning speaks. Add this to his enthusiastic interest in this day, and there is the assurance of a talk with penetrating thought and uplifting presentation.

Thursday DR. JOHN HAYNES HOLMES
November 10 Minister, Community Church, New York City

Subject: "THE STATESMANSHIP OF PEACE: IF NOT WAR,
THEN WHAT?"

In a world so needing the message of peace, none speaks more effectively or courageously than does Dr. Holmes. His ability as a speaker is buttressed by a thorough understanding of current affairs and their background. Repeated visits to Europe, the Near East and Russia, along with conferences with distinguished statesmen and leaders of public opinion, have prepared him to speak authoritatively. Dr. Holmes' long record as a defender of civil liberties, social justice and world peace is evidence of the constructive use to which he has put his knowledge and abilities.

Thursday **DR. CHARLES REYNOLDS BROWN**
November 17 **Dean-Emeritus of the Divinity School, Yale University**

Subject: **"WHAT WE LIVE BY"**

For the third consecutive year Dr. Brown has been invited to address this School of Religion. Each year he has impressed his hearers with his matchless power for reading the Bible so that its sentences take on an even richer life. His message is full of the wisdom of one long associated with the best in Christian thought and fellowship as a student and teacher, counselor and friend. To welcome back one of the most popular preachers of this generation is a delightful privilege.

Place of Lectures: The Church Auditorium, West South St. and St. John's Pl., is the location for all of the lectures.

Time: The Sessions begin promptly at 7:15 at which time the doors will be closed.

Organ Recital: From 7:00 until 7:15 an organ recital will be given by Mr. H. Glenn Henderson, Director of Music.

Dinners: Prior to each lecture, a fellowship dinner will be held in the Church dining room at 6:00 p. m. Reservations must be made by the preceding day.

Price of Ticket: Season tickets only will be sold. The price is one dollar for the entire course of five lectures.

Obtain Tickets Early: Only 1050 will be sold. It is urgently requested that tickets be obtained from the church office during the week of September 18. Reservations may be made by calling 2-7924. The concluding drive will be held from September 25 to October 2. Reservations may be made during this week by calling the drive office, 2-1929.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

309-321 West South Street
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

JANUARY 24, 1939

RABBIE ABBA HILLEL SILVER
THE TEMPLE
EAST 105TH STREET AND ANSEL ROAD
CLEVELAND, OHIO

MY DEAR RABBI SILVER:

SEVERAL WEEKS AGO I WROTE YOU CONCERNING THE POSSIBILITY OF YOUR SPEAKING FOR THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH SCHOOL OF RELIGION ON OCTOBER 12, 1939. SINCE I HAVE NOT HEARD FROM YOU, IT OCCURS TO ME THAT MY LETTER MAY HAVE GONE ASTRAY SO I AM WRITING AGAIN.

THIS YEAR OUR SCHOOL OF RELIGION IS TO BE A MONTHLY SERIES, BEGINNING IN OCTOBER AND ENDING IN FEBRUARY. WE SHOULD LIKE TO HAVE YOU OPEN THE SERIES ON THURSDAY, THE 12TH OF OCTOBER. IF, HOWEVER, THIS DATE IS NOT A CONVENIENT ONE, I THINK WE MIGHT ARRANGE TO HAVE YOU EITHER NOVEMBER 9 OR DECEMBER 7.

OUR PEOPLE REMEMBER WITH ENTHUSIASM YOUR MESSAGE OF TWO YEARS AGO AND MANY HAVE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT YOU COULD BE WITH US AGAIN..

IT IS QUITE NECESSARY THAT WE GET OUR DATES ARRANGED AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE SO I SHALL APPRECIATE HEARING FROM YOU AT YOUR CONVENIENCE. I AM ENCLOSING A PROGRAM OF THE SERIES FOR THE PAST YEAR.

WITH ALL GOOD WISHES, AND THE HOPE THAT WE MAY SEE YOU IN KALAMAZOO THIS FALL, I AM

(Mrs. J. W.) SINCERELY,
Frances S. Hornbeck

DIRECTOR
SCHOOL OF RELIGION

FSH:M

January 30, 1939

Mrs. J. W. Hornbeck, Director
School of Religion
First Presbyterian Church
309-321 West South Street
Kalamazoo, Michigan

My dear Mrs. Hornbeck:

Please pardon the long delay in answering your kind letters. I have been away from the city a great deal of the time and my correspondence has lagged.

I deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness in inviting me again to address your School of Religion. I shall be very pleased to be with you on Thursday, October 12th.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

309-321 West South Street

KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

FEBRUARY 7, 1939

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER
THE TEMPLE
CLEVELAND, OHIO

MY DEAR RABBI SILVER:

IT IS MOST GRATIFYING TO KNOW THAT YOU CAN BE WITH US
FOR THE SCHOOL OF RELIGION OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
AND SPEAK TO US ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1939.

THERE ARE TWO MATTERS WHICH I NEED TO DISCUSS WITH YOU. FIRST
OF ALL, IN REGARD TO OUR PUBLICITY, I THINK YOU HAVE ONE OF
OUR ANNOUNCEMENTS OF THIS PAST YEAR'S PROGRAM. WE WILL
WANT TO HAVE A SIMILAR ANNOUNCEMENT FOR OUR SCHOOL THIS YEAR,
BESIDES IMMEDIATE PUBLICITY IN OUR LOCAL PRESS. FOR THOSE
REASONS, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE THE TITLE OF YOUR
ADDRESS, AND SOME FACTS CONCERNING YOUR PERSONAL HISTORY,
PLUS YOUR PICTURE, AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE. IS THERE
SOMETHING NOT INCLUDED IN YOUR STORY IN "WHO'S WHO" WHICH
YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE US PUT IN OUR ANNOUNCEMENT?

NOW THE SECOND MATTER, IS A BIT DIFFICULT TO DISCUSS ON PAPER.
WE HAVE FOUND IN THE PAST THAT SPEAKERS FOR OUR SCHOOL OF
RELIGION HAVE BEEN MUCH IN DEMAND BY OTHER LOCAL GROUPS. I
AM SURE YOU WILL UNDERSTAND THAT WITH TWO COLLEGES IN
KALAMAZOO, A VERY THRIVING BRANCH OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN, PLUS ALL KINDS OF ADULT EDUCATION
PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS, THERE ARE MANY INVITATIONS FOR ALL
THOSE TO WHOM EDUCATION AND RELIGION ARE A VITAL CONCERN TO
MEET WITH GROUPS BESIDES THOSE INCLUDED IN THE SCHOOL OF
RELIGION. AND REALLY WE DON'T WANT TO BE SELFISH, BUT FROM
PAST EXPERIENCES, WE HAVE FOUND THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT TO
HAVE THESE MEN AND WOMEN MEET TOO MANY OTHER GROUPS EARLIER
IN THE DAY, AND THEN COME TO THE EVENING LECTURE WITH A
FRESHNESS OF BODY AND MIND THAT IS NEEDED FOR OUR RATHER
LARGE CHURCH AUDIENCE.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

309-321 West South Street
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

RABBI SILVER -2-

FEBRUARY 7, 1939

I DON'T WANT TO SUGGEST ANYTHING THAT WILL LIMIT YOUR OPPORTUNITY HERE IN KALAMAZOO, BUT I HOPE WE MAY HAVE A SORT OF CLEARING HOUSE THROUGH OUR CHURCH OFFICES SO THAT NOT TOO MANY DEMANDS ARE MADE UPON YOU BEFORE THE NIGHT OF THE TWELFTH OF OCTOBER.

YOU WILL BE INTERESTED TO KNOW THAT THE OTHER SPEAKERS ON OUR SERIES OF TALKS FOR THIS YEAR INCLUDE MISS MARY E. WOOLLEY ON NOVEMBER 9, DR. ERNEST LIGON OF UNION COLLEGE ON DECEMBER 7, DR. REINHOLD NIEBUHR ON JANUARY 23, AND WE HOPE THE CLOSING LECTURE WILL BE GIVEN BY PRESIDENT WISHART OF THE COLLEGE OF WOOSTER.

YOU DID NOT TELL ME ABOUT THE FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY WE SHOULD ASSUME IN BRINGING YOU TO KALAMAZOO. AND YOU KNOW THAT IS AN IMPORTANT ITEM BOTH FOR YOUR SAKE, AND FOR OURS. I AM SORRY TO ADD ANOTHER BURDEN OF CORRESPONDENCE TO YOUR BUSY PROGRAM, BUT ONCE WE GET THESE MATTERS SETTLED, WE WILL HAVE DONE EVERYTHING NEEDED FOR THE IMMEDIATE CARRYING OUT OUR PROGRAM AND FURTHER CORRESPONDENCE WILL NOT BE NECESSARY UNTIL FALL.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELPFUL INTEREST AND COOPERATION.

SINCERELY YOURS,

Fraunce C. Hornbeck

MRS. J. W. HORNBECK
DIRECTOR, SCHOOL OF RELIGION

FSH:M

WESTERN STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE DEAN OF MEN

February 17, 1939

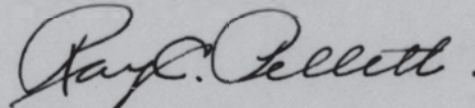
Rabbi A. H. Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street & Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

At the request of the Faculty Committee on Commencement Activities I am writing to invite you to deliver our Baccalaureate Sermon on the afternoon of Sunday, June 18, 1939, at three o'clock, Eastern Standard Time. Please state in your reply what your honorarium, including expenses, would be.

We would appreciate hearing from you soon so that our Committee may take definite action at an early date.

Sincerely yours,



Ray C. Pellett
Dean of Men

RCP:F

February 20, 1939

Dr. Ray C. Pellett
Dean of Men
Western State Teachers College
Kalamazoo, Michigan

My dear Dr. Pellett:

Permit me to thank you for your kind letter and for the invitation which you extend to me to deliver the Baccalaureate Sermon on Sunday afternoon, June 18. I would have deemed it a great honor to accept your invitation. Unfortunately I am already scheduled to address a gathering in the East on that day.

Please keep me in mind for some future occasion. With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

309-321 West South Street
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

MARCH 14, 1939

MISS BESSIE KLINE
THE TEMPLE
EAST 105TH STREET
CLEVELAND, OHIO

MY DEAR MISS KLINE:

A TWO WEEKS SIEGE OF FLU, FOLLOWED BY A SIMILARLY LONG SIEGE WITH PAPERERS AND PAINTERS, HAS MADE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO WRITE YOU BEFORE THIS. I AM SORRY. THANK YOU FOR THE PHOTOGRAPH AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES OF RABBI SILVER. HE HAS NOT YET ANSWERED MY INQUIRY CONCERNING HIS FEE. WE HAVE SET ASIDE ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS FOR HIM IN OUR BUDGET, AND WE TRUST THIS WILL MEET WITH HIS APPROVAL.

ON HIS VISIT TO KALAMAZOO, RABBI SILVER ADDRESSED OUR SCHOOL OF RELIGION ON THE THEME "THE JEWISH CHRISTIAN TRADITION AND WHAT THREATENS IT IN THE MODERN WORLD." I SHALL APPRECIATE HAVING HIS SUBJECT FOR THIS YEAR'S LECTURE AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELPFUL INTEREST.

SINCERELY YOURS,

Frances C. Hornbeck

MRS. J. W. HORNBECK
DIRECTOR OF THE SCHOOL

FWM:M

March 16, 1939

Mrs. J. W. Hornbeck
First Presbyterian Church
309-321 West South Street
Kalamazoo, Michigan

My dear Mrs. Hornbeck:

Thank you for your letter of March 14.
The honorarium of \$150 for Rabbi Silver's lecture
is acceptable.

Some of Rabbi Silver's subjects which have
been well received during the last year are:

- 1) THE STRENGTH WHICH IS AMERICA
- 2) WHY THE WORLD IS TURNING TO RELIGION

Please let me know which subject you select.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

309-321 West South Street
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

MARCH 27, 1939

MISS BESSIE KLINE
THE TEMPLE
EAST 125 TH STREET
CLEVELAND, OHIO

MY DEAR MISS KLINE:

OUR COMMITTEE HAS EXPRESSED A PREFERENCE FOR THE SUBJECT "WHY THE WORLD IS TURNING TO RELIGION". HOWEVER, IT HAS OCCURRED TO US THAT WITH THE SPEED OF THE PRESENT DAY CHANGES IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, BY FALL DR. SILVER MAY WANT TO DISCUSS SOME OTHER THEME. IF SO, PLEASE ASSURE HIM WE WILL BE GLAD TO HAVE HIM DO SO. AFTER ALL, IT SEEMS MOST UNIMAGINATIVE TO BE DECIDING NOW WHAT A MAN IS TO SPEAK ABOUT NEXT OCTOBER. IT IS ALMOST LIKE PLANNING A MENU WEEKS IN ADVANCE, THEN HAVING A CHANGE IN THE WEATHER MAKE THE PROPOSED MENU WHOLLY UNDESIRABLE. ANYWAY, WE ARE ANTICIPATING RABBI SILVER'S VISIT WITH KEEN ANTICIPATION.

I THINK ALL ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN SETTLED EXCEPT THE DETAILS OF ARRIVING, ETC., WHICH CERTAINLY CAN WAIT!

AGAIN MY GRATEFULNESS FOR YOUR HELPFUL INTEREST, AND GOOD WISHES TO YOU AND RABBI SILVER.

CORDIALLY YOURS,

Fraunce C. Hornbeck

MRS. J. W. HORNBECK
DIRECTOR OF THE SCHOOL

FWH:m

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

309-321 West South Street
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

SEPTEMBER 28, 1939

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER
THE TEMPLE
EAST 105TH STREET AT ANSEL ROAD
CLEVELAND, OHIO

MY DEAR RABBI SILVER:

IT IS NOW JUST TWO WEEKS UNTIL YOUR VISIT TO
KALAMAZOO AND WE LOOK FORWARD WITH EAGERNESS TO YOUR
COMING.

WE HAVE ANNOUNCED YOUR LECTURE WITH THE SUBJECT "WHY
THE WORLD IS TURNING TO RELIGION." IF YOU HAVE CHANGED
THIS SINCE OUR CORRESPONDENCE IN THE SPRING, PLEASE
LET ME KNOW AT ONCE SO THAT I MAY MAKE THE CORRECTION
IN THE PUBLICITY.

WE HAVE DINNER SERVED IN THE CHURCH HOUSE AT SIX
O'CLOCK AND HOPE THAT YOU WILL BE HERE IN AMPLE TIME
FOR THAT. I SHALL APPRECIATE HEARING FROM YOU ABOUT
THE HOUR OF YOUR ARRIVAL, SO THAT I MAY MAKE ARRANGEMENTS
FOR MEETING YOU.

WITH ALL GOOD WISHES,

SINCERELY,

James C. Hornbeek

FCH:M

(Mrs. J. W.)

Mrs. J. W. Hornbeck, Director
School of Religion
First Presbyterian Church
309-321 South Street
Kalamazoo, Michigan

My dear Mrs. Hornbeck:

Enclosed herewith is a brief biographic sketch of Rabbi Silver and a photograph which you may use in your publicity.

As for his subject, if you would let us know the subject of Rabbi Silver's address before your group when he visited Kalamazoo last, he would be in a better position to send you a fresh one for his meeting on October 12, 1939.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Rabbi Silver

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

309-321 West South Street

KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

My dear Rabbi Silver,

Thank you again for coming
to us. We have looked forward to this second
visit, and now we have anticipations

for a third! -

With all wishes for increasing joy and
satisfaction in your varied duties, and for
health and strength to carry on,

Sincerely yours,

Frances C. Hornbuckle

(Mrs. J. W.)

Oct. 12th - 1939.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

309-321 West South Street
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

OCTOBER 3, 1939

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER
THE TEMPLE
CLEVELAND, OHIO

MY DEAR RABBI SILVER:

WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT YOU ARE TO INAUGURATE OUR
SCHOOL OF RELIGION PROGRAM ON THURSDAY EVENING, OCTOBER
12TH.

AS YOU HAVE BEEN HERE BEFORE YOU KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT.
WE SHALL HAVE A GOOD AUDIENCE FOR YOU. IF YOU WILL
BE KIND ENOUGH TO LET ME KNOW THE HOUR OF YOUR ARRIVAL
I SHALL BE VERY HAPPY TO MEET YOUR TRAIN AND SEE THAT
YOU HAVE AS MUCH QUIET AS POSSIBLE BEFORE YOUR ADDRESS.

WITH VERY KIND REGARDS, AND LOOKING FORWARD TO THE
PLEASURE OF YOUR COMING,

CORDIALLY,

Percy Silas Heath
Minister

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
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NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Rabbi A. H. Silver
Kalamazoo, Mich.

D. L.

Oct. 12, 1939

Airplane space from Grand Rapids O.K. Cleve airport requests you contact Grand Rapids airport at least three hours before plane time or space will not be held.

Bessie Kline

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
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

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

[HW79 14=KALAMAZOO MICH 10 1138A

RABBI HILLEL SILVER=

=THE TEMPLE=



=HAVE NOT RECEIVED WORD CONCERNING YOUR ARRIVAL FOR
ENGAGEMENT THURSDAY FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH KALAMAZOO=

=PAUL HEATH=



Time of arrival would

MEA

MICHIGAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Michigan Education Building • Lansing 2, Michigan

May 3, 1951

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The Program Planning Committee of our Region Eight Conference is desirous of having you address the First General Session which will meet at 9:30 a.m., on Thursday, October 11, in Kalamazoo.

Will you please let us know if you would be available on this date, and if so what would be your flat fee, including expenses.

Sincerely yours
MICHIGAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Fontane Van Vleck
(Mrs.) Fontane Van Vleck
District and Regional Conference
Secretary

FV/

May 7, 1951

Mrs. Fontane Van Vleck
Michigan Education Association
Michigan Education Building
Lansing 2, Michigan

Dear Mrs. Van Vleck:

Rabbi Silver is at present out of the country, and I am, therefore, replying to your letter of May 3rd. While your kind invitation will be brought to his attention upon his return the end of the month, I might say that October 11th is during the period of our High Holy Days, and it is not likely that Rabbi Silver will be able to get away at that time.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Rabbi Silver

MEA

MICHIGAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

Michigan Education Building • Lansing 2, Michigan

May 11, 1951

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Rexford E. Chapman
Holland

Colon L. Schaibly
Kalamazoo
Immediate Past President

Miss Elizabeth Rice
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansell Road
Cleveland 5, Ohio

Dear Miss Rice:

We have to give copy of our programs to the printer very soon in order to get copies printed for our First Two Regional Conferences, and since you believe it is not likely that Rabbi Silver could get away during High Holy Days, I do not think we had better wait until the end of this month for his decision.

Our group will be sorry not to have Rabbi Silver, but perhaps we can secure him for a future conference.

Sincerely yours
MICHIGAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

(Mrs.) Fontane Van Vleck
Regional Conference Secretary

FV/