



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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Ohio Wesleyan University (Delaware, Ohio), 1934-1957.

OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
DELAWARE, OHIO

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

October 5, 1934

Rabbi Abba Silver
10311 Lake Shore Blvd.
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver:-

I do not know whether you have ever been to Ohio Wesleyan or not. We should like very much for you to come and address our chapel service. This comes five days in the week at 11:10 and lasts until 11:35. That means that a speaker would have about 18 minutes at the outside for an address.

We are exceedingly anxious to have you here. I know it is asking a great deal of you to spend a day coming to an institution as far away from Cleveland as we are. I also regret greatly to ask you to come when all we can promise is the payment of your expenses. We are hard put to it as many institutions are. We are trying, however, in every way possible to give the inspiration of leaders from off the campus to our student body of something over 1300 students.

I am not fixing a definite date but I am wondering whether you might mention certain dates on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday of any week between the middle of October and Thanksgiving time. We are only beginning to make dates with outside speakers and could quite easily fit into your plan.

I am also sure that quite a group would want to be with you for lunch after our chapel in order to come more closely in contact with you. It would be a very great inspiration to us if you could be with us this fall.

Yours very sincerely,

Edmund D. Soper

Edmund D. Soper

EDS:M

October 16, 1934.

Dr. Edmund D. Soper,
Ohio Wesleyan University,
Delaware, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Soper:

Please pardon the long delay in answering your kind letter of October 5th. I have been confined to my home with a bad attack of grippe for the last two weeks and this is my first day back at my desk.

I should very much like to come to Ohio Wesleyan but I am afraid that the general condition of my health will not permit me to take on any additional out of town lecture engagements for the next few months. I may be freer and in better physical health in the Spring. If you will write me then, I shall make every effort to come.

With all good wishes and thanking you again for your thoughtfulness in writing to me, permit me to remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

DELAWARE, OHIO

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

February 8, 1935

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

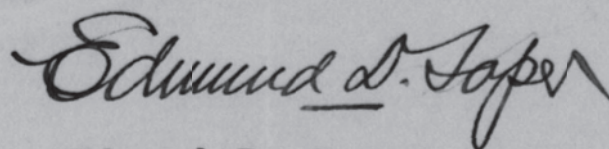
My dear Rabbi Silver:-

The desire has been expressed a number of times at Ohio Wesleyan that you might come to the University and speak at our chapel exercise at 11:10 in the morning and then speak to a group of students in the afternoon.

I am writing to you now to extend to you a very cordial invitation to come to Delaware either on Monday, February 25th. or Wednesday, February 27th. If we cannot make the arrangement for either of these dates we will try to put it a little later.

We should like very much to have you with us. I wish we could offer you a worthy honorarium. In the condition in which we find ourselves now financially I could do little more than ask you to come for your expenses. This seems pitiable and I feel very sorry for it, but I am bold enough to write to you because I believe you will be performing a real service.

Yours very sincerely,



Edmund D. Soper

EDS:M

February 19, 1935.

Dr. Edmund D. Soper,
Ohio Wesleyan University,
Delaware, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Soper:

Please pardon the long delay in answering your kind letter of February 8. I have been away from the city most of the time and my correspondence has lagged.

It will not be possible for me to come to Ohio Wesleyan University on February 25 or 27 inasmuch as I have local engagements which will keep me in Cleveland. The month of March is pretty crowded for me with out of town engagements and conventions. I would be free to come down some time in the latter part of April or the early part of May.

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK END LETTER

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

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

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

March 3

1935

To Dr. Edmund D. Soper *collect*

Street and No. Ohio Wesleyan University

Place Delaware, Ohio

REGRET CANNOT COME AT ANY TIME IN MARCH

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

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK END LETTER

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

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

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

March 2

19 35

To Babbi Silver

Street and No. _____

Place _____

COULD YOU COME OHIO WESLEYAN CHAPEL TUESDAY OR THURSDAY MARCH 26 or 28

PLEASE WIRE COLLECT WESTERN UNION

Edmund D. Soper

Delaware, Ohio

Sender's address
for reference

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

Sender's telephone
number

MEMO for Rabbi Silver
FROM
THE TEMPLE OFFICE

TELEGRAM: March 2, 1935

COULD YOU COME OHIO WESLEYAN
CHAPEL TUESDAY OR THURSDAY MARCH
26 OR 28. PLEASE WIRE COLLECT
WESTERN UNION.

EDMUND D. SOPER

DELAWARE, OHIO

OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
DELAWARE, OHIO

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

March 23, 1935

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

My dear Rabbi Silver:-

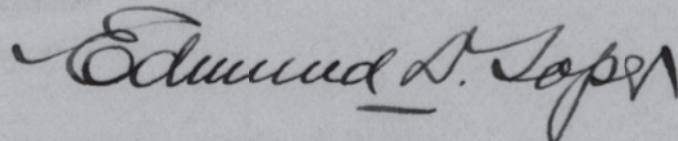
I hope you will not think me too persistent in coming back to ask you if some other time might not be suitable for a visit from yourself to Ohio Wesleyan. Would it be possible for you to come on Monday or Wednesday, April 22nd or 24th, or Monday or Wednesday, April 29th or May 1st?

We are very anxious to have you speak to us in view of so much commotion and misunderstanding today with reference to the Jewish race both in Europe and in this country. Our students are very eager to hear what you have to say on these matters.

As I said before, our chapel exercises are held at 11:10 in the morning. If you are driving a car it would be possible for you to come down in the morning and go back in the afternoon taking lunch with us as our guest in Delaware. If, however, this cannot be done and it should be necessary for you to spend the night, I want you to know that Mrs. Soper and I extend to you an invitation to be our guest over night.

With kindest regards, I am

Yours very sincerely,



Edmund D. Soper

EDS:M

P.S. Will you kindly answer by wire collect so that we may be able to make our program.

E.D.S.

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK END LETTER

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

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

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

April 1, 1935

19

To DR. EDMUND D. SOPER

Street and No. OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERISTY

Place DELAWARE, OHIO

SINCE WRITING TO YOU I HAVE ACCEPTED CHAIRMANSHIP OF WELFARE FUND CAMPAIGN

WHICH WILL KEEP ME OCCUPIED ~~UNTIL~~ THROUGH APRIL AND EARLY PART OF MAY STOP

WOULD BE VERY HAPPY TO COME SOME TIME DURING COMING SEASON 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

OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

DELAWARE, OHIO

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

November 18, 1943

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I was delighted to get your wire and know that you are going to be able to come to speak to us on Saturday, November 27.

There is a train which leaves Cleveland about 8 a.m. (railroad time), 7:00 a.m. (Ohio time) reaching here two hours and one half later. We will meet that train.

I should like to tell you a little about the meeting. It is to inaugurate our war fund drive, but we are not asking you to make any appeal for money. What we want rather is something which will make vivid to our students the situation in the world and our responsibility for it. I think I told you that we will be having not only 800 civilian students but also a thousand navy men. The gravest problem that we face is the lack of any realization of any clear purpose in the war. Because they do not see what is involved or how desperate the need. This is our one chance through the year to give them something of that realization.

Unfortunately the time is limited and you will not have over 30 minutes. But I am sure that you can do for us in that time what we want.

Will you ask your secretary to drop me a card so that I can be sure that these arrangements are understood. Thank you again and looking forward to your visit, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Laurence Sears

Laurence Sears
Professor of Philosophy

LS:DJG

OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY
DELAWARE, OHIO

November 30, 1943.

My dear Rabbi Silver:

I am enclosing a check
as a partial payment of what you did for us,
and an inadequate expression of our appreciation.
I know how difficult it is for you to get away
these days. Thank you again. It was
a splendid spell which you made.

Sincerely yours,
Laurence Seave

OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

DELAWARE, OHIO

October 16, 1947

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

This letter is to open negotiations which I hope will culminate in a visit by you to Ohio Wesleyan University. We have often spoken of our wish that you could speak to our students, and I hope that this can be made possible for this year.

My invitation is a double-barreled one. First of all, we would like to have you speak to our entire student body - some 2,000 students, at a regular Wednesday morning chapel at 11:00 a.m. The entire program lasts about thirty minutes, and you would have a full twenty minutes of this time.

In the second place, I would like very much to have you meet on the preceding Tuesday evening with a small seminar of mine in "Problems of Religious Philosophy." At that time I would want you to present to the group the central features of Hebrew Religious Philosophy. I am thinking of this as a systematic statement, rather than as a historical statement.


The dates that would best fit our program are Tuesday and Wednesday, March 2 - 3, or March 16 - 17. If these dates are not convenient, perhaps you can suggest some other time between the middle of February and the middle of May.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver - 2.

If you could come for these two sessions,
there would be an honorarium of \$75.00, and we
would provide for your local entertainment.

I shall look forward to an early reply,
and I hope that it will be in the affirmative.

Cordially yours,

 *W. F. Quillian, Jr.*

Wm. F. Quillian, Jr.
Professor of Philosophy
Chairman, Chapel Committee

WFQ:meh

October 20, 1947

Professor Wm. F. Quillian, Jr.
Ohio Wesleyan University
Delaware, Ohio

My dear Professor Quillian:

Permit me to thank you for your kind letter of October 16 and for your gracious invitation to address the student body of Ohio Wesleyan, and also to meet with your seminar. Under normal conditions, I should be most happy to avail myself of your invitation. Unfortunately I am hard-pressed with work for the next few months in connection with the Palestine case now before the United Nations, and by the first of the new year I plan to leave the country, having been granted a leave of absence by The Temple. Perhaps at some future time I may be of service to you.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

OHIO WESLEYAN

UNIVERSITY



DELAWARE, OHIO

November 10, 1955

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Tifpreth, Israel
East 105th Street
Anse l Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The Ohio Wesleyan University Chapel Committee wishes to invite you to participate as guest speaker in our chapel program on February 20, 1956. It has been a custom here at Ohio Wesleyan to invite a speaker during Brotherhood Week to discuss Jewish-Christian relationships. Because we feel that you would have a significant contribution to make to the Ohio Wesleyan community, we hope that you will consider our invitation.

We have found a twenty minute address to be most satisfactory due to both our compulsory chapel attendance and our afternoon scheduling. We hope that this would not restrict you too much. Since our chapel begins at 11:00 A.M., we like to meet with our speakers between 10:30 and 10:45 A.M. in the President's Office, University Hall, Room U-12.

Following the chapel we would like you to join with several students and faculty members in an informal luncheon.

If you are able to accept our invitation, we would appreciate receiving at your earliest convenience: the subject of your talk, any scripture or other material which you might particularly desire to be included in the chapel program, and, a biographical sketch and newspaper mat (or glossy print) for advance publicity in the Ohio Wesleyan TRANSCRIPT and the Delaware GAZETTE.

We will be most happy to meet you in Marion or Columbus and will provide transportation to the train or plane after your visit. Overnight quarters are available if you so desire. Would you please indicate your needs in this area?

We of the Ohio Wesleyan Chapel Committee feel that you would have a vital message for our student body and we would be pleased to hear that you will be able to arrange this engagement in your busy schedule. Thank you for your consideration.

Very sincerely,

Charlotte Patterson
Student Representative

Frank J. Ford
Interim President

November 17, 1955

Miss Charlotte Patterson,
Student Representative,
Ohio Wesleyan University,
Delaware, Ohio

My dear Miss Patterson:

I deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness in inviting me to address your Chapel Service on February 20, 1956.

It would have been a great pleasure if I were free to come to you on that day. Unfortunately I am committed to so many out of town engagements, quite a number of them at colleges and universities, that I cannot, in justice to myself, take on any additional out of town engagements.

I hope I may be of service to you at some future time.

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl

OHIO WESLEYAN
UNIVERSITY



DELAWARE, OHIO

March 15, 1957

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Tifpreth, Israel
East 105th Street
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The Ohio Wesleyan Chapel Committee wishes to extend a very cordial invitation to you to participate in our Chapel program as guest speaker on Monday, February 9, 1958. It has been a custom here at Ohio Wesleyan to invite a speaker during Brotherhood Week to discuss Jewish-Christian relationships. Because we feel that you would have a significant contribution to make to the Ohio Wesleyan community, we hope that you will consider our invitation.

We would be more than pleased to hear that you would be able to arrange this engagement in your busy schedule.

Please indicate your expected honorarium.

Sincerely,

David Huff

David Huff
Student Representative

Arthur S. Flemming
Dr. Arthur S. Flemming
President

March 26, 1957

Dr. Arthur S. Flemming, President
David Huff, Student Representative
Ohio Wesleyan University
Delaware, Ohio

Dear Friends:

I deeply appreciate your gracious invitation to participate in your Chapel program on Monday, February 9, 1958.

It would have given me great pleasure indeed if I were able to accept it. Unfortunately, my plans for the coming year are very indefinite. It may well be that during the first part of 1958 I shall be out of the country.

Thank you again for your thoughtfulness in inviting me and with all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:sl