



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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Series VI: Speaking Engagements, 1917-1964.

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Oil City, Pennsylvania, 1958.

March, 17, 1958
4 Hone Avenue
Oil City, Penna.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Doctor Silver;

In our community of approximately eighty Jewish families we have recently completed the building of a beautiful Synagogue, which will be dedicated on Sunday, June 8, 1958. I am writing to ask you to be our guest speaker at this ceremony, so very meaningful to us here. Knowing full well how very busy you are, nevertheless, I put aside all hesitation in asking you because in my heart I know what it would mean to our people here. This is a community in which Judaism has been a "way of life". In the dedication of this new building there will also be a renewed dedication in spirit and feeling.

If you can possibly give us the privilege of hearing you on this date, a reply at your earliest convenience would be deeply appreciated. Transportation and lodging would of course, be provided. Please let me know what your fee is, as this is a consideration.

In closing, please let me say again that it would mean so very much for us to hear you speak. In our people, this building is the culmination of many dreams, aspirations, and years of hard work. In you, Dr. Silver, we would have a speaker worthy of this dream.

Most sincerely,

Mrs. Harry Shalof.
Writing for The Tree of Life Synagogue

File: Tree of Life Synagogue

March 20, 1958

dictated 3/19/58

Mrs. Harry Shalof
4 Hone Avenue
Oil City, Penna.

My dear Mrs. Shalof:

I deeply appreciate your gracious invitation to dedicate your new Synagogue on Sunday, June 8th.

It would have given me great pleasure indeed if I were free to come to you. Unfortunately, I must remain here in Cleveland for congregational duties, including some weddings which I must officiate.

Permit me to wish you and the members of your congregation all good. I hope that your community will prosper in the new edifice to our beloved faith which you are erecting.

With kindest regards, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:sl

ABBA HILLEL SILVER