



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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Paris, Kentucky, 1953.

St. Peter's Protestant Episcopal Church

311 High Street
Paris, Kentucky

The Rev. J. Perry Cox
Rector

July 17, 1953.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am writing you this personal letter in behalf of our Chamber of Commerce. We have a "Religious Activities Committee" composed on the broadest possible level, one man is a Jew, one a Presbyterian, one a Catholic, and I am Chairman. Our corporate desire, focusing the desire of the entire Chamber of 160 members, is to help break down the various differences that beset us and separate us. To this end, we are formulating three meetings in our Public School Auditorium (seating capacity 3,000). Our first is in November, Bishop Sheen is to be the speaker. In January, we would like you to make the Address. In this we have the complete and enthusiastic of our local Rabbi Maurice Davis in Lexington. In fact, he teaches our Seminary men their Hebrew. We ask you in the most earnest and

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genuine manner to set a date during the month of January when you can come to us. We will arrange for you to fly from Cleveland to Cincinnati to Lexington. We will assume all the responsibilities and expenses of your visit to us. The meetings are for all peoples. We have complete and whole-hearted co-operation from all quarters in this movement. We cannot stress our desire to have you without almost pleading with you to consent. We are confident that our National Religious leaders can throw light on our path which local leaders can tread with people to a glorious end which the future holds in its grasp.

Our third meeting in March is to be addressed by Dr. Ralph W. Sockman of New York. I am quite sure you know him.

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In behalf of my fellow Committeemen I
cannot close my appeal to you without
uttering a prayer to our God for your
continued health and prosperity in your
Ministry.

Respectfully yours,
J. Perry Cox.



August 4, 1953

Rev. J. Perry Cox
St. Peter's Protestant Episcopal Church
311 High Street
Paris, Kentucky

My dear Rev. Cox:

I deeply appreciate your gracious invitation to address a meeting under the auspices of the Religious Activities Committee of the Chamber of Commerce some time in January. I feel highly honored that you have invited me, and I do wish that I were in position to accept the invitation. Unfortunately, I shall in all probability be out of the country during that time, and I am accordingly refraining from making any out-of-town lecture engagements.

I wish you every success in your splendid undertaking. With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABRA HILLEL SILVER

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