



## 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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Box  
78

Folder  
418

Rocky River, Ohio, 1930-1959.



**ROCKY RIVER HIGH SCHOOL**

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

**ROCKY RIVER, OHIO**

March 25, 1930

Rabbi A. H. Silver,  
10311 Lake Shore Blvd.,  
East Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

WRHS AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES  
Last year we asked you to deliver our commencement address but found that it was impossible for you to do so because of other engagements. We would appreciate it very much if you could deliver the address this year. Our commencement will be held Friday, June 6 at 8 P. M. in the High School building. If you are free for that evening and find it possible to be appear on our program, please let us know at your convenience.

The honorarium for this work for Rocky River High School is twenty-five dollars.

Very truly yours,

*John J. Young*  
Principal

JJY:HB



card ✓

March 28th, 1930

Mr. John J. Young,  
Rocky River High School,  
Rocky River, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Young:-

Thank you very much for your letter  
of March 25th.

I shall make every effort to be with  
you on Friday, June 6th at the commencement exercises  
of the Rocky River High School.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

AHS/IR



# ROCKY RIVER HIGH SCHOOL

OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

ROCKY RIVER, OHIO

JOHN J. YOUNG,  
PRINCIPAL

May 14, 1930

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
10311 Lake Shore Blvd  
East Cleveland Ohio

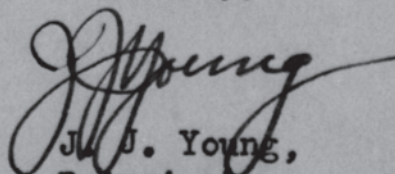
Dear Sir:

Your letter of recent date stated that probably you would be able to deliver our commencement address on the evening of June 6. We appreciate very much your willingness to help us. As we are making plans for the commencement program, there are some points which I thought best to mention to you.

One is the statement of your subject on the commencement program. Last year the speaker was announced simply with the statement that the address would be given by the speaker, and the subject was not given by title. If you prefer, we shall be glad to give the title of your address. Also, we would like to know how you want your name on the program. The third question which came up last year was the question of dress. Possibly you may have the same question in mind. It is customary for the principal and superintendent to wear the Tux-edo, so the speaker is at liberty to wear whatever form of dress he desires.

The program is to begin at 8:30. The commencement is to be held in the high school auditorium. If there is any other information which you would like to have, we shall be very glad to supply it upon request.

Sincerely,

  
J. J. Young,  
Principal.

JJY:HB



May 21st, 1930

Mr. J. J. Young,  
Rocky River High School,  
Rocky River, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Young:-

Permit me to acknowledge receipt of  
your letter of May 14th addressed to Rabbi Silver and to  
advise you that Rabbi Silver has chosen as his subject,  
"How Shall We Measure Life?"

Rabbi Silver's name should appear  
on the program as follows:

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, D.D., Litt D.

With kindest regards, permit me  
to remain

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to Rabbi Silver



Rocky River Methodist Episcopal Church

19414 Detroit Road

Rocky River, Ohio

Theodore C. Mayer, Pastor  
19428 Detroit Road  
Phone BOulevard 1866-J

November 4, 1936

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

My dear Rabbi Silver;

I am planning a series of Sunday afternoon vesper services for the month of January. Since I am young, I have dared to attempt to get the best men in Cleveland to preach at these services. I greatly desire to have you as one of the four speakers during this series.

Dr. Miles H. Krumbine has consented to be with us on January 10th. Dr. Harold Cooke Phillips is coming for the following Sunday afternoon, January 17th. I hope that you will find time in your busy schedule to come either January 24th or January 31st.

We plan the service for 4:30 o'clock in the afternoon. After the opening worship period, which will be brief, the remainder of the hour will be open to your wishes.

Rabbi Melbourne Harris can tell you more about the church and this pastor who has dreams for this church as a vital influence in the life of our Community. I have high hopes that Rabbi Melbourne Harris will assist me in persuading you to do this.

Very sincerely yours,

*Theodore C. Mayer*



November 11, 1936

Reverend Theodore C. Mayer,  
Rocky River Methodist Episcopal Church,  
19414 Detroit Road,  
Rocky River, Ohio.

My dear Rev. Mayer:

I deeply appreciate your kind invitation to address one of your Sunday afternoon Vesper services and if I were free I should have regarded it a privilege to accept it. Unfortunately my lecture schedule for the remainder of the season is so very crowded with engagements, both local and out-of-town, that I cannot in justice to myself take on any additional responsibilities. Perhaps some other season I may be of service to you.

With all good wishes, permit me to remain

Very cordially yours,

HAS:BK



# The Rocky River Methodist Episcopal Church

19414 Detroit Road

Rocky River, Ohio

Theodore C. Mayer  
PASTOR  
19428 Detroit Road  
Phone Boulevard 9008-M

December 7, 1937

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,  
The Temple, Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Silver;

I want to sincerely thank you and the organizations within The Temple responsible for the Symposium, "Religion Speaks." Yesterdays address by Dr. Niebuhr was one of the great speeches of this era and I am greatly indebted to you for this meeting.

I wanted to come out and see you personally because I thought that I could interpret my request better in person than by this letter, but your secretary suggested that I write so here goes.

Will you be one of our January Vesper Speakers? I would like to have you, January 16th. Our service will begin at 4:30 p.m.

These are my reasons for wanting you:

(1) A purely selfish reason. I would like to have the leading Rabbi of Cleveland speak in our church.

(2) It would complete what I think is a very outstanding program, namely:

January 9th - Dr. Poteat of Euclid Avenue Baptist Church. January 23rd - Dr. Phillips of First Baptist. January 30th - Dr. Whyte of Old Stone.

(3) I am doing everything I can to prevent any possible anti-semitism in Rocky River. Last Sunday a group of my boys, most of them members, attended The Temple. I arranged through my friend Rabbi Harris. They were greatly impressed.

(4) Twelve High School Students from Rocky River ~~#####~~ were in the German Exchange. We are the only Protestant Church in Rocky River so most of them were from our church. I think your coming to our church in January would be one of the most effective methods for creating good-will and understanding that you could do in this community. Remember, we of the west side have little contact with Jews.

We need you. I hope that you will see that you can make a significant contribution and that you will be with us January 16th.

Very sincerely yours,

Theodore C. Mayer



December 9, 1937

Reverend Theodore C. Mayer,  
13428 Detroit Road,  
Rocky River, Ohio.

My dear Reverend Mayer:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of December 7. I wish I could accept your kind invitation to be with the members of your Church on January 16. It would have given me great pleasure to meet your people, especially in view of the circumstances to which you refer in your letter. Unfortunately my schedule for the next few months is such that I dare not, in deference to my own health, take on any additional obligations. I am carrying a very heavy load of both local and out of town engagements and I have been working under great tension.

Perhaps at some future time I may be of service to you. With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK



# The Rocky River Methodist Church

19414 Detroit Road  
ROCKY RIVER  
CLEVELAND 16, OHIO

ROBERT G. SCULLY, MINISTER

WILLIAM H. BADE,  
MINISTER OF VISITATION

J. R. GRAHAM,  
MINISTER OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

September 9, 1959

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

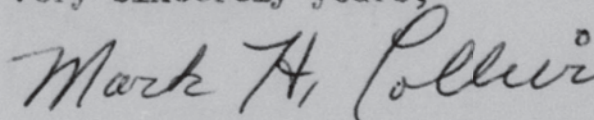
Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am writing on behalf of the Methodist Youth Fellowship of the Rocky River Methodist Church. During the coming year, one phase of our programs will concern studying several religious faiths other than our own. Thus, we were wondering if on Sunday night, January 3, 1960, you could come and speak to our group.

We thought you could tell us about the basic principles of the Jewish faith, the part the Jewish faith plays in the home of its members, the Jewish worship service, and anything else which you feel might be of interest to our group. Also, because you would be speaking at a time when our new year begins, we thought we would like to have you present a challenge to our group for the new year, if it could be tied in with the former topic.

I would appreciate hearing from you at your earliest convenience, and I would also like to know the fees which would be involved.

Very sincerely yours,



Mark H. Collier, Vice-President  
Methodist Youth Fellowship



DSa

October 14, 1959

Mr. Mark H. Collier  
Vice-President  
Methodist Youth Fellowship  
1065 Homeland Drive  
Rocky River 16, Ohio

My dear Mr. Collier:

I hope that you will forgive my long delay in answering your kind letter of September 9th. I have been ill and I am just returning to work. I should very much love to accept your kind invitation for Sunday, January 3rd, but in all probability I shall be out of the country during the early part of next year. I might suggest that if you are interested you get in touch with my son, Rabbi Daniel Jeremy Silver, who is my associate here in the Temple. If he is free he may be in a position to help you, or he may suggest someone else.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:bfm