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Series VI: Speaking Engagements, 1917-1964.

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Tampa, Florida (University of Tampa), 1940-1951.

FLORIDA STATE CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK

(FOUNDED 1911)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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MARION MICKLER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT
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FURMA DEWITT

OFFICE OF THE PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

P. O. Box 2045
FT. MYERS, FLORIDA

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

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MARION MICKLER, LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS
ISABEL RICHARDSON GRIFFIN, MEMBERSHIP
HENRY REDKEY, PUBLICITY
DODD PACE, FINANCE

November 2, 1940

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver,

The Program Committee is now planning Florida's annual State Conference of Social Work to be held in Tampa, next March 23rd to 26th. Our objective is to make the program as challenging and valuable to lay people as to professional social workers, in view of the rising tide of crises that the country is having to face. The conference theme will be "Social Defenses in Florida - The Citizen's Responsibility."

The general session on Tuesday March 25th at 11 a.m., will deal with Coordinating Social Defenses With Military Defenses. The reinforcing of national morale by means of strengthening individual morale, we feel requires deep understanding and inspiration. Our committee invites you to speak to the Conference on this subject. We know so well how you can give it the illumination it needs, that we earnestly hope you will be able to accept.

Down here we seem far removed from most of the immediate pressures of the war and its possible outcome, as they are felt in the crowded cities up north. Ours is still so largely a native population concerned with local problems that the meaning of events abroad has not yet struck with full impact upon our minds. We are not clear about what we as Americans are facing, or impressed with what we are going to have to do about it. We need desperately to be told, with force and clarity.

Your speech at the National Conference at Grand Rapids was one of the most deeply moving experiences that has ever come to me. That message was so stimulating that I wished all other Floridians could have been stirred by its appeal.

Our funds for bringing speakers are most limited, since our only income is from memberships. However we will be glad to furnish railroad fare and Pullman, meals and lodging. Do you think it would be possible for you to come on that basis? Florida is beautiful in March and it is only human to want you to be tempted by the taste of this climate toward the end of winter.

We shall appreciate your letting us hear how you feel about this, within the next couple of weeks.

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs.) Furma De Witt
Program Chairman

CONFERENCE IN TAMPA — MARCH 23-26, 1941

November 11th, 1940

Mrs. Furma DeWitt
Florida State Conference of Social Work
P. O. Box 2045
Ft. Myers, Florida

My dear Mrs. DeWitt:

I greatly appreciate your letter of November 2nd and the invitation which you extended to me to address Florida's annual State Conference of Social Work in March. I feel greatly honored in having been invited and I wish that I were free to accept your invitation, but my present plans call for an extended tour of the cities on the Pacific Coast in March in behalf of Overseas Refugee Relief. As you probably know, I am National Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal and my duties necessitate my visiting a great number of communities in connection with various campaigns.

Please keep me in mind for some future occasion. I wish your organization great success. With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:w

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OFFICE OF THE PROGRAM CHAIRMAN

P. O. Box 2045
Ft. Myers, Florida

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ISABEL RICHARDSON GRIFFIN, MEMBERSHIP
HENRY REDKEY, PUBLICITY
DODD PACE, FINANCE

November 19, 1940

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

Dear Rabbi Silver,

As you can guess, we are keenly disappointed that you cannot come down to our Conference. However we appreciated your kind letter and know the heavy responsibilities that must crowd you from all sides.

It will give us something to look forward to, to hope that another year may find you free to talk to us in Florida.

Sincerely yours, .

Furma De Witt
(Mrs.) Furma DeWitt
Program Chairman



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA

TAMPA 6, FLORIDA

ELLWOOD C. NANCE, PRESIDENT

June 22, 1950

Dear Dr. Silver:

We are already looking forward to the Baccalaureate Services for our graduates of the Class of 1951. Inasmuch as, each year, we alternate between Catholics, Protestants and Jews for Baccalaureate speakers and strive earnestly to get the best man in each of these categories, we are particularly anxious to have you deliver the Baccalaureate Address on June 3, 1951.

*Sum
before
Shabbat*

Dr. David Zielonka tells me that you might be available for the 1951 Baccalaureate Address if we put in our bid early enough. I have known of your work for many years and had the opportunity to hear you speak once or twice and I don't know of any Rabbi in America I would rather have come to the University of Tampa than you.

The South and this community would profit greatly by the visit of a great leader of religious thought like you. In fact, I think you have more to offer us than we have to offer you, but I think you would enjoy a trip to this part of our lovely state. Our students come from every part of the Union and from several foreign countries. We are a co-educational institution with an enrollment of over a thousand. In the Commencement of June 2, we graduated 150 seniors and at the end of summer school, we will graduate another 50. Of course, it is too early to know how many we will have in the senior class next June. The entire community is interested in this institution, so any speaker who comes here will have a large hearing and our Commencement Exercises usually have nationwide publicity. Our Baccalaureate speaker this year was His Eminence Cardinal Arteaga, Archbishop of Havana.

We have a very fine Jewish Community here also. Louis Wellhouse, Jr. and David Falk, who are two of the most prominent leaders of the community, are on our Board of Trustees.

If you can be with us for the Commencement Exercises, I shall be very happy to recommend that the University bestow an Honorary Doctorate, Honoris Causa, upon you. You may choose the field of your doctorate, that is, Doctor of Law, Doctor of Science, Doctor of Humanities, Doctor of Letters, Etc.

Sincerely,

Ellwood C. Nance

ECN/jh
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
Congregation Tifereth Israel
105th Street and Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

June 29, 1950

Dr. Ellwood C. Nance
University of Tampa
Tampa 6, Florida

My dear Dr. Nance:

Permit me to thank you for your kind letter of June 22nd and for your gracious invitation to deliver the Baccalaureate Address to the members of the graduating class of 1951 on June 3rd. Dr. David Zielonka had spoken to me about it. While the period in early June is a rather crowded one, I shall make every effort to be with you on that occasion. I regard it as a high honor to be invited, and I shall look forward with pleasure to my visit to the University of Tampa.

Anticipating with pleasure our meeting, and with all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er



UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA

TAMPA 6, FLORIDA

ELLWOOD C. NANCE, PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

July 1, 1950

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

You have made all of us at the University very happy accepting our invitation to deliver the Baccalaureate Address to the members of the graduating class of 1951 on June 3rd. This is good news for all of us, and it is such a great relief to me to know this early in the season who our baccalaureate speaker will be for our next graduating class.

At your earliest convenience, send us a full biographical sketch and a half dozen "slicks" or glossy pictures.

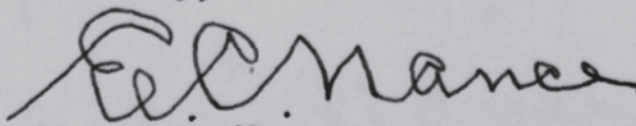
✓ We would also like to know in what field you would want your honorary degree. You may have it in Laws, Letters, Science, or Humanities.

✓ We would also like to know your weight, height, and the size hat you wear, so that we may order appropriate robe for the academic procession.

✓ We would like also to have a copy of your speech approximately 30 days before the speaking date, so that it may be multilithed for the press. We always send copies of the baccalaureate sermon together with citation and information about the speaker to the larger papers of the country, and also to AP and UP, and we also use this material for the final issue of our college paper.

A little later, under separate cover, I am sending you some information about the University.

Sincerely,


Ellwood C. Nance

ECN:cm

July 3, 1950

Dr. Ellwood C. Nance
University of Tampa
Tampa 6, Florida

Dear Dr. Nance:

Dr. Silver has left for Europe for a few weeks' vacation, and I am, therefore, acknowledging your kind letter of July 1st.

In accordance with your request, I am enclosing a biographical sketch and a few glossy prints of Dr. Silver. Will you be good enough to return them to us when you have finished with them?

Upon Dr. Silver's return to the city the end of August, I shall bring your letter to his attention, and I am sure that you will hear from him shortly thereafter.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Dr. Silver

Encs.

September 25, 1950

Dr. Ellwood C. Nance
University of Tampa
Tampa 6, Florida

My dear Dr. Nance:

Upon my return from Europe I found your kind letter of July 1st in which you ask me for some information that you would like to have in connection with the Baccalaureate Address which I am to deliver at the University of Tampa on June 3rd, and information in connection with the honorary degree which you have so graciously offered to bestow on me.

I have honorary degrees in Letters so that a degree in Humanities would probably be the most appropriate. I shall bring my own robe for the academic procession. My hat size is 7 5/8.

I shall bear in mind that you wish to have a copy of my address approximately 30 days before the speaking date.

I understand that my secretary has already sent you a few glossy prints and a biographical sketch.

With all good wishes and looking forward with pleasure to our meeting, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA

TAMPA 6, FLORIDA

ELLWOOD C. NANCE, PRESIDENT

September 29, 1950

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland 15, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I am very happy that you are going to be with us for the Baccalaureate Services at the University of Tampa on June 3, 1951 and we will be glad to keep in mind the honorary degree in Humanities which you have suggested.

We always try to make as many preparations as possible in advance so anytime you wish to send your address we will run it off on the mimeograph machine and have it ready to send to the press. We usually send the Baccalaureate Address and the Commencement Address to all of the papers of Florida and to a hundred or so of the larger daily papers all over the country that have a Sunday circulation. No doubt you have in mind publications or individuals who would want a copy of the address. We will be glad to abide by your suggestions. Of course we are always anxious to get as much publicity as possible for the speakers and the institute.

All of us around the University are delighted that you are to be with us.

Sincerely,

Ellwood C. Nance
(jh)

Ellwood C. Nance

ECN/jh

April 30, 1951

Dr. Ellwood C. Nance
University of Tampa
Tampa 6, Florida

Dear Dr. Nance:

Dr. Silver is at present in Israel for a few weeks, and will return the end of May. Prior to his departure he dictated to me the enclosed address for the Baccalaureate Services on June 3rd in Tampa.

According to present plans, Dr. Silver will arrive in Tampa the afternoon of June 2nd via Eastern Air Lines and will leave for Cleveland on Monday morning, June 4th. I shall appreciate your making a hotel reservation for him and advising me accordingly.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Dr. Silver

Enc.

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

1201

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LT=Int'l Letter Telegram

VLT=Int'l Victory Ltr.

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

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GQ.CLA252 PD=TAMPA FLO 30 401P

DR ABBA HILLEL SILVER 19810 SHAKER

1951 APR 30 PM 4 57

=THE TEMPLE EAST 105 ST AT ANSEL RD=

WHICH HONORARY DEGREE DO YOU PREFER DOCTOR OF HUMANITY
DOCTOR OF SCIENCE OR DOCTOR OF LAW ALSO SEND MEASUREMENTS
FOR CAP AND GOWN IF YOU DO NOT HAVE YOUR OWN=

=DR ELWOOD C NANCE PRESIDENT UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA

May 1, 1951

Dr. Ellwood C. Nance
University of Tampa
Tampa 6, Florida

Dear Dr. Nance:

The information requested in your telegram of yesterday was contained in Dr. Silver's letter of September 25, 1950; i.e., that he would like to receive a degree in Humanities, that his hat size is 7 5/8, and that he will bring his own robe with him.

I wrote you yesterday that Dr. Silver was in Israel for a few weeks. Should there be any additional information which you wish, please get in touch with me.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Dr. Silver



THE TEMPLE

CONGREGATION SCHAARAI ZEDEK

(Incorporated Dec. 15th, 1894)

DELAWARE and DeLEON STREETS

TAMPA, FLORIDA

DAVID L. ZIELONKA, Rabbi

May 2, 1951

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
Cong. Tifereth Israel
E. 105th St. and Ansel Road.
Cleveland 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Just a line to express my joy at receiving word that you had accepted the invitation of the University of Tampa to be its Baccalaureate Speaker. In as much as I occupy the position of head of the Department of Sociology and Religion, I was thrilled when Dr. Nance asked for my recommendation and followed through on it to the present happy conclusion. I know that the graduating students and the entire community will be greatly inspired by your presence and your message.

Would appreciate your informing me of your schedule of arrival etc. in as much as I want to meet you and welcome you to Tampa. Should you be here Friday night, I would love to have you occupy the pulpit. Will look forward to hearing from you.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Most sincerely,

David Zielonka

DLZ:ck



May 6, 1951

Rabbi David L. Zielonka
The Temple
Delaware and DeLeon Streets
Tampa, Florida

Dear Rabbi Zielonka:

Dr. Silver is at present in Israel and I am, therefore, taking the liberty of replying to your kind letter of May 2nd.

According to present plans, Dr. Silver will not arrive in Tampa until Saturday evening, June 2nd, and will leave for Cleveland on Monday morning, June 4th. It will therefore be impossible for him to occupy your pulpit.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Dr. Silver

May 22, 1951

Dr. Ellwood C. Nance
University of Tampa
Tampa 6, Florida

Dear Dr. Nance:

I have not heard from you in reply to my letter of April 30th requesting the name of the hotel where reservations are being made for Dr. Silver during his visit to Tampa. It is, of course, important that I have this information in case it should be necessary to be in touch with him.

Dr. Silver will arrive in Tampa Saturday afternoon, June 2nd, via Eastern Air Lines Flight #701, and will return to Cleveland on Monday, June 4th, via Eastern Air Lines Flight 702.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Dr. Silver

P.S. Dr. Silver will arrive in Tampa at 3:38 p.m. Saturday afternoon. He will change in Atlanta from Flight 701 to Flight 511.

Zionist Organization of America

ISRAEL BOND CAMPAIGN

41 EAST 42nd STREET • NEW YORK 17, N. Y.
MURRAY HILL 2-3205

*Office of the Chairman
Bond Campaign Executive*
Louis A. Falk

Benjamin G. Browdy
President, Z.O.A.

Dr. Sidney Marks
Executive Director, Z.O.A.

May 24th
1951

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
105 Street at Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Our people in Tampa have written to us asking whether you will find time on your schedule to address a meeting there either directly preceding or directly following the date of June 3rd when you are scheduled to speak at Tampa University.

They will be glad to arrange a bond rally, a dinner, a luncheon, or any other type of gathering that you might care to address.

I should appreciate your letting me know whether this meets with your convenience.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours

Louis A. Falk
Louis A. Falk

LAF:Cel

May 25, 1951

Mr. Louis A. Falk
Zionist Organization of America
41 East 42nd Street
New York 17, New York

My dear Mr. Falk:

Permit me to acknowledge your kind letter of May 24th. I wish I could comply with your request. Unfortunately, my stay in Tampa will be very brief as I must return to Cleveland immediately after my address at Tampa University. Furthermore, out of consideration of my health, I must conserve my energy a bit.

With warmest regards, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

June 5, 1951

Dr. Ellwood C. Nance
University of Tampa
Tampa, Florida

My dear Dr. Nance:

Dr. Silver's expenses in connection with his visit to Tampa
amounted to \$160.00.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary to Dr. Silver



THE TEMPLE

CONGREGATION SCHAARAI ZEDEK

(Incorporated Dec. 15th, 1894)

DELAWARE and DeLEON STREETS

TAMPA, FLORIDA

DAVID L. ZIELONKA, Rabbi

June 6, 1951

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Just a note to express my thanks and the thanks of all of Tampa Jewry for the splendid message you delivered to the graduates of the University of Tampa. I am still hearing only the highest of praises from all sides. Of course this says most favorably upon all of us and we are deeply grateful.

Carol and I were delighted with the opportunity to be with you and trust that ere too long you will pay a return visit.

Sincerely trust that you and Mrs. Silver have a wonderful trip.

With warmest regards, I am

Most sincerely,

David Zielonka



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA

TAMPA 6, FLORIDA

ELLWOOD C. NANCE, PRESIDENT

June 6, 1951

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street & Ansel Road
Cincinnati, 6, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

At such a time as this I crave an eloquence and facility of language which I do not possess for an adequate expression of our gratitude to you for the deep impression which your vital and timely message made on the academic family of the University of Tampa.

Many of the students did not have the opportunity of expressing their personal appreciation to you and a good number of them were under the impression that you would remain in Tampa for a few days. They have been telling me as I meet them in the hallways and at various commencement activities, how much they appreciated your message. I personally have never seen a senior class so sincerely appreciative of a Baccalaureate speaker. Members of our faculty and citizens of the community who heard you have also expressed their gratitude.

I am personally proud to have you as an alumnus of the University and I think you stand out in stature and in contribution to world progress above the other distinguished men and women who have spoken to graduating classes at the University of Tampa. You know, of course, that this list includes: Eddie Rickenbacker, Marjorie Rawling, Lowell Thomas, Tyrone Power, Rear Admiral Richard Evelyn Byrd, and Arthur Holly Compton.

We are asking the printer to do a thousand extra copies of the last issue of the Minaret, our College newspaper, in which the major emphases of your address are printed. We will circulate these extra copies among important people of the State for such an address would be appreciated.

When our new annual is published, we will send you a copy.

At your convenience, send us a statement of your expenses and a check will be forthcoming.

Reid
It is my sincere hope, and that of many other prominent people in our community, that you can return to our city again in the not too distant future. You have made many friends here.

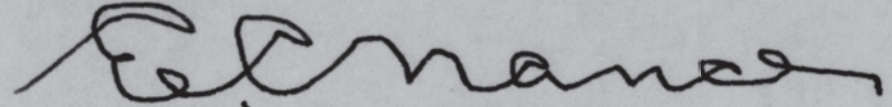
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

- 2 -

June 6, 1951

I hope your trip to South Africa and other far and distant places this summer will afford you some opportunity for recreation and pleasure. God Bless You and Yours, personally and professionally.

Sincerely,



ELLWOOD C. NANCE

ECN:LA

Enclosures



PLEASE DETACH STATEMENT BEFORE DEPOSITING CHECK

DEBIT	ACC. NO.	DESCRIPTION	CREDIT
160.00	211	<p>Address any correspondence concerning this purchase order to: Expenses to the University from Cleveland to deliver the Baccalaureate Address. MRS. JOHNNIE RAYE ASSISTANT TREASURER UNIVERSITY OF TAMPA TAMPA 6, FLORIDA Tax Exemption certificate is No. 07 00036 22 39. Purchase order number must be shown on invoice.</p>	160.00
	6	FIRST NATIONAL BANK	

June 11, 1951

Rabbi David Zielonka
The Temple
Delaware and DeLeon Streets
Tampa, Florida

My dear Rabbi Zielonka:

Thank you so much for your lovely note. I need not tell you that I enjoyed my visit to Tampa very much indeed, particularly the pleasure of meeting you and your charming wife and your lovely children.

With warmest regards and many thanks for your hospitality, and hoping that you will have a very pleasant summer, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

June 18, 1951

Dr. Ellwood C. Nance
University of Tampa
Tampa 6, Florida

My dear Dr. Nance:

Thank you so much for your gracious letter of June 6th (which was erroneously addressed to Cincinnati, Ohio). I need not tell you that I enjoyed my visit to the University of Tampa greatly, particularly the opportunity which it afforded me to make the acquaintance of you and Mrs. Nance.

I am pleased that my message was well received. It is always a delight for me to address young college people. Of course, I shall always treasure the honor you bestowed upon me in making me an honorary alumnus of the University.

I trust that it may be possible for you to visit Cleveland in the near future.

With warmest regards and hoping that you will have a pleasant summer, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er

September 5, 1951

Dr. Ellwood C. Nance
University of Tampa
Tampa, Florida

My dear Dr. Nance:

Upon my return I found the volume on the history of Tampa which you graciously inscribed. I need not tell you how appreciative I am of your thoughtfulness. The volume will remind me, as often as I see it, of the inspiring day which I spent at the University of Tampa, and in the pleasant and gracious company of Mrs. Nance and yourself. I do hope that fortune will favor me in having an opportunity again before long to visit the lovely city of Tampa and to renew our acquaintance.

Please let me know when you plan to be around these parts as Mrs. Silver and I would be most happy to have you as our guest.

With warmest regards, I remain

Most cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS:er