



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

Featuring collections from the Western Reserve Historical Society and
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.

Series VI: Speaking Engagements, 1917-1964.

Reel
208

Box
78

Folder
471

Troy, New York, 1933-1939.

TEMPLE BETH EL

בית הכנסת בית אל

1713 Fifth Avenue

Troy, N. Y.

JOEL S. GEFFEN, Rabbi

October 18, 1933.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver.
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver,

The Adult Extension Department of our Temple has requested me to ask you whether it would be possible for you to speak at one of the two forum meetings held each year by this group. Naturally our funds are limited, yet we would be willing to pay a reasonable fee to have you with us. If you can place a visit to Troy on your schedule, we should appreciate it greatly. It would also serve as a great inspiration to the Jewish youth of our vicinity. Will you please answer me as soon as it is possible and also state the expense involved (including fee)?

Yours truly,

Joel S. Geffen

10
October 19, 1933.

Rabbi Joel S. Geffen,
Temple Beth El,
1713 Fifth Ave.,
Troy, N.Y.

ok

My dear Rabbi Geffen:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of October 18th and for the invitation which you extend to me to address your Forum. For the next few months I shall be so busy that it is quite impossible for me to accept any additional out of town lecture engagements. I might be less occupied next Spring, say next March or April. If you still have need of my services at that time, please communicate with me. My honorarium in your case would be \$200.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:EK

Troy, New York

February 20, 1936.

Dear Rabbi Silver,

First I should like

to introduce myself. I am a Bein
girl - of Mansfield, Helen Bein's sister.

For some time I have been living
in Troy, New York - and of course -
became affiliated with the local
temple here.

This year my husband
became a trustee. As a trustee's
wife - I have been redoubling my efforts

to help this struggling congregation
raise the necessary funds with which
to carry on.

Several years ago you came
to Mansfield and spoke there
in the interests of our congregation.
It occurred to me that probably
we could induce you to come to Troy
and speak under the auspices
of the congregation here.

Our rabbi. Jacob Shankman -
feels that the people of the Capital
district would welcome an opportunity

to hear a message from you -
in your nationally-known style -
and we feel that we could bring
together a large number of people
for such an occasion.

Now will you please tell me just
what I am to do to convince you
that this congregation would like
to arrange an engagement here with
you - and that we will do our utmost
to make that engagement a great
success. Any date will be satisfactory
to us.

Will you please let me know
if you can come here - when - and all
the other usual details?

I hope your reply will be
most favorable - and with kindest
personal regards from my husband
and myself,

I remain -

Yours very truly
Shirley Beir Block.

Troy, New York

March the 9th, 1935.

Dear Rabbi Silver,

Several weeks ago
I wrote you - but have not received
a reply. So - assuming that my
letter was lost - I am writing again.

First I should like to
introduce myself. I am a Bein girl of
Mansfield Ohio - Helen Bein's sister.
For some time I have been living in Troy
New York - and of course - became
affiliated with the local Temple here.

This year my husband became a trustee. As a trustees' wife - I have been redoubling my efforts to help this struggling congregation raise the necessary funds with which to carry on.

Several years ago you came to Mansfield and spoke there in the interests of our congregation. It occurred to me that probably we could induce you to come to Troy in the interests of the congregation here.

Our rabbi - Jacob Shankman - feels that the people of the Capital district would welcome an opportunity to hear a message from you -

in your nationally known style - and
we feel that we could bring together
a large number of people for such an
occasion.

Now will you please tell me just what
I am to do to convince you that this
congregation would like to arrange
an engagement here with you - and that
we will do our utmost to make that
engagement a great success. Any date
will be satisfactory to us.

Will you please let me know
if you can come here - when -
and the other usual details?

I hope your reply will be
most favorable - and with kindest
personal regards from my husband
and myself,

I remain -

Yours very truly

Shirley Ben Block.

89- 23rd Street Sycamaw
Troy, N. Y.

March 12, 1936

Mrs. Shirley B. Block,
89-23rd Street Sycaway,
Troy, N.Y.

My dear Mrs. Block:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of March 9. I wish I were free to comply with your request to come to Troy. Unfortunately, my schedule is so crowded with lecture engagements for the remainder of the season that I cannot in justice to myself accept any more. As you probably know, I am National Co-Chairman of the United Palestine Appeal and that involves me in considerable traveling.

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

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



THE JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER

87 FIRST STREET

TROY, N. Y.

35-36

J. JULIUS GOODMAN, President
BERNARD CARP, Executive Director

July 5, 1938

Rabbi Abba H. Silver
The Temple
East 105th Street
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We are making plans for a Forum series for the fall. We should like to include you on our program. The date and topic to be set later at your convenience.

May I ask you to let me know as soon as possible whether such an engagement might be made and what your fee will be? I hope you will quote your very minimum. Best wishes.

Sincerely yours,

Bernard Carp

Bernard Carp
Executive Director

BC/FC

July 7, 1938

Mr. Bernard Carp, Executive Director
The Jewish Community Center
87 First Street
Troy, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Carp:

In the absence of Rabbi Silver, I am taking the liberty of answering your letter. Rabbi Silver may be available for a lecture before your Forum in November or December on a week night.

His customary honorarium is \$250.

With best wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

Secretary to Rabbi Silver.

Jewish Center Lecture and Concert Bureau

Affiliated with the
JEWISH WELFARE BOARD
220 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Lectures
Lecture Recitals
Concerts
Dramatic Recitals
Junior Programs
Marionettes
Dance Recitals
Yiddish Programs

Janet G. Weisman
Director

June 20, 1939

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We have received a number of inquiries regarding your availability for this coming season.

I realize that your calendar fills up rather early and it would help us immeasurably if we knew the dates that would bring you to New York and vicinity so that we can fill in, rather than have you make special trips. More specifically, the Troy Jewish Community Center is definitely interested in a date during the week of October 8th.

I understand, of course, that you are not available on Sundays and that your fee is \$200.

May I hear from you by return mail?

With good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Janet G. Weisman
JANET G. WEISMAN
Director

*you will be in Boston on 9th & 10th Oct.
Not a Recreation Ass'n
This is ack nowledged*

*Monday
Nov. 13
250-*

June 23, 1939

Miss Janet G. Weisman, Director
Jewish Center Lecture and Concert Bureau
220 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Miss Weisman:

Your letter of June 20th arrived after Dr. Silver had left the city for his summer's vacation abroad. I am, however, forwarding it to him. Dr. Silver will either communicate with you directly, or with me. In the latter instance, I shall be happy to write to you as soon as I hear from him.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Dr. Silver.

*Troy Jew. Com.
Hon. 200⁰⁰
week of Oct. 8
Boston - 9th*

July 8th 1939.

My dear Miss Weisman,

Your letters were forwarded to me here.

It may be possible for me to address the Troy Jewish Community Centre, but I cannot do so in October. I have an available date on Monday, November 13th.

I am free to accept the invitation of the Newark Y.M.H.A. for Monday evening, January 15th.

Please confirm these dates to me to Cleveland.

With all good wishes,

I remain,

Very cordially yours,

Alan S. Green, D. D., Rabbi
Study: 34 Pinelands Ave.
Troy, N. Y.

Temple B'rith Sholom
Third Street
Troy, New York

July 20, 1939.

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

It has been my hope that at some time I might be instrumental in giving the community of Troy the privilege of meeting and hearing you. I am writing to see whether or not this could be accomplished during the coming year through our Jewish Community Center Forum Series. Although we are a small Jewish community (about five hundred families) the Series endeavors to present in its varied program, one Jewish leader of outstanding character. Last year we had Dr. Stephen S. Wise. This year the committee desires to have you. I realize the great demands that are made upon your time and energies, and therefore hope that there might be some date during November, December or January that would be convenient for you for a speaking engagement in Troy. Could you let us know whether there is such a date, and what fee you would accept for favoring us in this way.

Troy, as you know is just twenty minutes by auto from the Albany depot, and we would be happy to meet you there.

With kindest regards from Frances and myself to you,
Mrs. Silver and the children, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Alan

Answered
Fred
Mar. 13

July 21, 1939

Dr. Alan S. Green
34 Pinewoods Ave.
Troy, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Green:

In reply to your letter of July 20, permit me to state that Rabbi Silver is spending his vacation abroad and will not return to Cleveland until the early part of September. I am, however, forwarding your letter to him.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Rabbi Silver.



Jewish Center Lecture and Concert Bureau

Affiliated with the
JEWISH WELFARE BOARD
220 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Lectures
Lecture Recitals
Concerts
Dramatic Recitals
Junior Programs
Marionettes
Dance Recitals
Yiddish Programs

Janet G. Weisman
Director

August 7, 1939

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

November 13th, the date you offered for the
Troy Jewish Community Center, is not convenient due to
conflicting affairs in the community. They would like
an earlier date, preferably the first week in November.

I shall appreciate your indicating which date
during the latter period will be most convenient for
you.

With good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

Janet G. Weisman
JANET G. WEISMAN
Director

C
O
P
Y

August 7, 1939

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

November 15th, the date you offered for the
Troy Jewish Community Center, is not convenient due to
conflicting affairs in the community. They would like
an earlier date, preferably the first week in November.

I shall appreciate your indicating which date
during the latter period will be most convenient for
you.

With good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

JANET G. WEISMAN
Director

JW: 12

I shall appreciate your letting me know what
dates are free on Rabbi Silver's calendar.

J.W.

August 11, 1939

Miss Janet G. Weisman, Director
Jewish Center Lecture and Concert Bureau
220 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Miss Weisman:

Your letter of August 7th has been forwarded to Dr. Silver. I regret that it is not possible for me to advise you of any free dates on Dr. Silver's calendar without first consulting with him.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Dr. Silver.

Jewish Center Lecture and Concert Bureau

Affiliated with the
JEWISH WELFARE BOARD
220 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Lectures
Lecture Recitals
Concerts
Dramatic Recitals
Junior Programs
Marionettes
Dance Recitals
Yiddish Programs

Janet G. Weisman
Director

August 16, 1939

Miss Bessie Kline,
Secretary to Rabbi Silver,
The Temple,
East 105th St. & Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Miss Kline:

With further reference to the date for Rabbi Silver's appearance at the Troy Jewish Community Center, this organization has decided to adhere to the original date of November 13th, which Rabbi Silver stated was free.

I am therefore enclosing herewith our booking memorandum for this engagement and would appreciate having Rabbi Silver sign and return a copy to us upon his return.

Thanking you, I am

Sincerely yours,

Dora Ente
Secretary to Miss Weisman

Enclosure

JEWISH CENTER LECTURE AND CONCERT BUREAU

Affiliated with the
Jewish Welfare Board
220 Fifth Avenue
New York City

BOOKING MEMORANDUM

From Miss Weisman To Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver Date August 16, 1939

WE HAVE SCHEDULED YOU TO APPEAR ON Mon., Nov. 13, 1939. at 8:30 P.M.
(date) (hour)

AUSPICES Jewish Community Center

CITY Troy

STATE N. Y.

PERSON IN CHARGE Fred A. Glass

PLACE OF MEETING Jewish Community Center, 87 First St., Troy, N. Y.

SUBJECT OR PROGRAM _____

TERMS \$200. less 10%

DIRECTIONS _____

Signed Abba Hillel Silver
(lecturer or artist)

Signed Hora Ente, Secretary to Miss Weisman
(for Jewish Center Lecture and
Concert Bureau)

NOTE: Please sign and return duplicate to us.

Jewish Center Lecture and Concert Bureau

Affiliated with the

JEWISH WELFARE BOARD

220 Fifth Avenue

New York City

AIR MAIL

*Lectures
Lecture Recitals
Concerts
Dramatic Recitals
Junior Programs
Marionettes
Dance Recitals
Yiddish Programs*

*Janet G. Weisman
Director*

August 21, 1939

Miss Bessie Kline,
Secretary to Rabbi Silver,
The Temple,
East 105th St. & Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Miss Kline:

The Troy Jewish Community Center are still anxious to change the November 13th date, if at all possible.

Will you therefore find out from Rabbi Silver as soon as you can whether he would be available for either November 6th or 7th? The organization would much prefer having one of these dates, since there is another lecturer scheduled in the same community around November 13th and would not want any conflict.

Immediately upon word from Rabbi Silver, I would appreciate your writing us so that we can in turn notify the Troy Center.

Thanking you for your early attention to this matter, I am

Sincerely yours,

Dora Ente

Secretary to Miss Weisman

Jewish Center Lecture and Concert Bureau

Affiliated with the
JEWISH WELFARE BOARD
220 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Lectures
Lecture Recitals
Concerts
Dramatic Recitals
Junior Programs
Marionettes
Dance Recitals
Yiddish Programs

Janet G. Weisman
Director

September 5, 1939

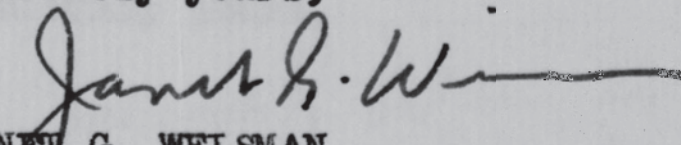
Miss Bessie Kline,
Secretary to Rabbi Silver,
The Temple,
East 105th St. & Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Miss Kline:

This is the last word on the Troy invitation.
They have definitely decided to accept November 13th.
Please be good enough, therefore, to have
Rabbi Silver sign and return a copy of the agreement by
way of confirmation.

Thanking you, I am

Sincerely yours,


JANET G. WEISMAN
Director

September 7, 1939

Miss Janet G. Weisman, Director
Jewish Center Lecture and Concert Bureau
220 Fifth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Miss Weisman:

I am returning to you herewith a signed
copy of the agreement with Troy, N.Y. as you requested.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Dr. Silver.

Temple B'rith Sholom

Third Street

Troy, New York

September 12, 1939

Alan S. Green, B. D., Rabbi

Study: ³⁴ Pinewoods Ave.

Troy, N. Y.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,

The Temple,

Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I want to acknowledge your cordial note from abroad, and to tell you that I am very happy that the Center has been able to complete arrangements for you to address us on November 13th. I was also no less happy to learn that you are safely back in the States again!

Frances and I are certainly looking forward to your coming at that time, and hope, God willing, that we can show you an addition to the Green mishpacha then.

With kindest greetings for a happy and healthy New Year to you, Mrs. Silver, and the boys from the two of us, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Alan

Jewish Center Lecture and Concert Bureau

Affiliated with the
JEWISH WELFARE BOARD
220 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Lectures
Lecture Recitals
Concerts
Dramatic Recitals
Junior Programs
Marionettes
Dance Recitals
Yiddish Programs

Janet G. Weisman
Director

September 20, 1939

Miss Bessie Kline,
Secretary to Rabbi Silver,
The Temple,
East 105th St. & Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

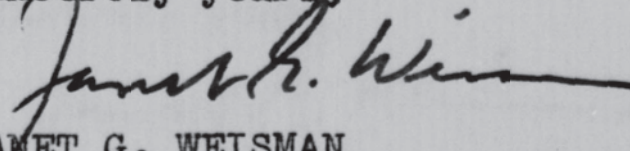
Dear Miss Kline:

I would very much appreciate receiving from you by return mail a new list of Dr. Silver's subjects and a set of mats and glossies, as well as a publicity statement if you have one.

It is most essential that we have a new list of subjects so that Troy and Newark can get under way with their publicity.

With New Year's greetings, I am

Sincerely yours,


JANET G. WEISMAN
Director

Jewish Center Lecture and Concert Bureau

Affiliated with the
JEWISH WELFARE BOARD
220 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Lectures
Lecture Recitals
Concerts
Dramatic Recitals
Junior Programs
Marionettes
Dance Recitals
Yiddish Programs

Janet G. Weisman
Director

October 10, 1939

Miss Bessie Kline,
Secretary to Rabbi Silver,
The Temple,
East 105th Street & Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

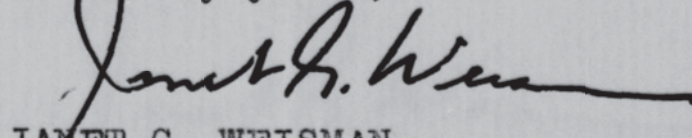
Dear Miss Kline:

I would very much appreciate receiving
a list of Dr. Silver's subjects, a biographical
statement and photographs by return mail.

You appreciate that the organizations
arranging for Dr. Silver's appearance must have
this material for publicity purposes. Will you also
please send a set directly to Mr. Fred A. Glass,
Jewish Community Center, 87 First St., Troy, N. Y.

Thanking you, I am

Sincerely yours,


JANET G. WEISMAN
Director

October 12, 1939

Mr. Fred A. Glass
Jewish Community Center
87 First St.
Troy, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Glass:

At the request of Miss Janet Weisman, I am herewith enclosing some photographs of Dr. Silver and a short biographic sketch which you may use in your publicity. If you wish additional material, kindly consult "Who's Who". I am also enclosing a list of subjects. Kindly choose one and let us know which subject it is.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK

The Jewish Community Center

EIGHTY-SEVEN FIRST STREET

TROY, N. Y.

J. JULIUS GOODMAN
PRESIDENT



FRED A. GLASS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

October 16, 1939

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

First, let me say that our community, as a whole, anticipates with pleasure your appearance in Troy on the evening of Monday, November 13. In connection with your appearance here, we are planning a dinner at a local hotel which will take place about 6 P.M. and at which time several of our leading citizens will be present.

It has been suggested that in connection with this dinner there is a possibility of securing about 15 minutes on a local radio station for the purpose of a brief discussion in connection with the subject upon which you will speak. This broadcast will be carried through an Albany station. I am interested to know whether you will have any objections in entering into such a discussion.

Incidentally, we have tentatively secured Dr. James Laurence Meader, president of the local Russell Sage College to act as chairman of the evening.

Concerning the subject you plan to discuss, I have spoken with several members of our committee including Rabbi Alan S. Green, and it is felt that the subject should basically include a philosophy that could sustain Jewry in its present crisis and that it should also appeal to the general community by indicating how the philosophy, expounded by you, applies to the general scene. I would, therefore, like to know whether you would approve of the following title, "An American Jew Faces the World Crisis." Should you have any other suggestion in this regard, I shall appreciate it.

Hoping to hear from you at your earliest convenience and anticipating the pleasure of our meeting, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Fred A. Glass
Fred A. Glass
Executive Director

FAG/FC

TROY COMMUNITY CHEST : MEMBER : JEWISH WELFARE BOARD

October 13, 1939

Mr. Fred A. Glass, Executive Director
The Jewish Community Center
87 First Street
Troy, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Glass:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of October 13. I am looking forward to my visit to Troy and I shall be very pleased to be with your group for dinner at six o'clock on November 13th. I regret that I will not be able to take part in a radio station discussion.

As far as the subject is concerned, the one that you suggest, "An American Jew Faces the World Crisis", is perfectly agreeable to me.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK

STANDARD TIME INDICATED

RECEIVED AT

BRANCH OFFICE
10514 EUCLID AVE.
GARFIELD 5044

TELEPHONE YOUR TELEGRAMS
TO POSTAL TELEGRAPH

Postal Telegraph

Mackay Radio

Commercial Cables



All America Cables

Canadian Pacific Telegraphs

THIS IS A FULL RATE TELEGRAM, CABLE-
GRAM OR RADIOGRAM UNLESS OTHERWISE
INDICATED BY SYMBOL IN THE PREAMBLE
OR IN THE ADDRESS OF THE MESSAGE.
SYMBOLS DESIGNATING SERVICE SELECTED
ARE OUTLINED IN THE COMPANY'S TARIFFS
ON HAND AT EACH OFFICE AND ON FILE WITH
REGULATORY AUTHORITIES.

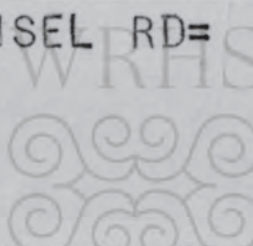
Form 16

C39 22DL=SD NEWYORK NY 31 1049A

1939 OCT 31 PM 12 29

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER THE TEMPLE=

=EAST 105ST & ANSEL RD=



PLEASE WIRE TODAY IF AVAILABLE NOVEMBER TWELFTH OR FOURTEENTH
~~DECEMBER~~ FOURTH OR FIFTH FOR GLOVERSVILLE DATES CONSECUTIVE WITH
TROY AND SYRACUSE RESPECTIVELY=.

JANET G WEISMAN.

Declined for this season

The Jewish Community Center

EIGHTY-SEVEN FIRST STREET

TROY, N. Y.

J. JULIUS GOODMAN
PRESIDENT



FRED A. GLASS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

November 3, 1939

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Ansel Road & E. 105th Street
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

As we approach the date of your lecture at the Troy Jewish Center, we are anxious to know what time you plan to arrive in Albany so that we may make arrangements for meeting you at the station.

We are making plans for a dinner at a local hotel at which time members of our committee and Dr. Meader will have the opportunity of meeting you. The dinner will take place at 6:30 P.M. on November 13.

Awaiting the pleasure of our meeting, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Fred A. Glass
Executive Director

FAG/FC

JEWISH CENTER LECTURE AND CONCERT BUREAU
Affiliated with the Jewish Welfare Board
220 Fifth Avenue, New York City

BOOKING REMINDER

From Miss Weisman To Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver Date Nov. 3, 1939

Date of appearance Monday, November 13, 1939, at 8:30 P.M.

Organization Jewish Community Center

Person in charge Frederic A. Glass

Address 87 First Street, Troy, N. Y.

Subject subject to be mailed shortly

Terms \$200, less 10%

Transportation

THE BUREAU WILL REMIT PAYMENT TO YOU ON RECEIPT OF ORGANIZATION'S
CHECK, TO BE FORWARDED TO US DIRECTLY.

November 7, 1939

Mr. Fred A. Glass, Executive Director
The Jewish Community Center
87 First Street
Troy, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Glass:

Let me thank you for your kind letter of November 3. I shall be in Schenectady for a luncheon meeting in connection with the United Jewish Appeal. The Schenectady folks are arranging to motor me to Troy. I plan to arrive in time for the dinner meeting which you have arranged.

Please reserve a compartment for me on the train leaving the same night for Cleveland.

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

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK