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Series VI: Speaking Engagements, 1917-1964.

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Williams College (Williamstown, Massachusetts), 1938-1939.

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

For Justice, Amity, Understanding and Co-operation among Protestants, Catholics and Jews

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300 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

December 6, 1938.

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Chairman Women's Division

MRS. JESSE M. BADER

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Continuing a series of successful bi-annual national institutes the National Conference of Jews and Christians will consider at the Williamstown Institute of Human Relations a theme of compelling and urgent interest to Americans: "Citizenship and Religion: A Consideration of American Policy with Regard to the Relations of Church and State."

There will be six evening and five morning sessions on important aspects of this topic, each with a Jewish, Catholic and Protestant speaker. I extend to you a very hearty invitation to speak at an evening meeting on Friday, September 1st, at 7:30 p.m., on the subject "Can the United States Have Cultural Diversity and National Unity?" You would represent the Jewish position. The program assigns about twenty-five minutes for each of the three presentations, which means, of course, that only the most important aspects can be presented.

The National Conference will pay your travel expenses to and from Williamstown, Massachusetts, and your living while there. It will also publish a report of the Institute. We are asking all speakers to prepare their papers in preliminary form at least, by June 1, 1939, and to furnish us with a copy.

I earnestly hope you will want to participate. You will be rendering a real service to one of the most important of causes. The Williamstown Institute in previous years has been very well attended. It has secured wide publicity. Our preliminary study indicates that the 1939 topic will be a particularly timely one.

Sincerely yours,

Everett R. Clinchy
Everett R. Clinchy.

ERC:WMP

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300 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

January 5, 1939.

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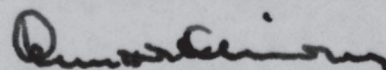
MRS. JESSE M. BADER

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We are moving ahead on our plans for the Institute of Human Relations to be held on the general theme of Church and State, at Williamstown, Massachusetts, the last week in August, 1939, about which we wrote you on December 6th. We very much hope that you will be able to participate. We have asked you to take part on the program on the subject of "Can the United States Have Cultural Diversity and National Unity?" on Friday evening, September 1st, at 7:30. I am enclosing a mimeographed copy of the outline of the program. A prompt word as to whether you can or cannot come will help us greatly at this time. If you need a little more time to make your decision, will you kindly let us know how soon you can send us a definite word?

Sincerely yours,



Everett R. Clinchy.

ERC:WMP

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300 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

March 13, 1939.

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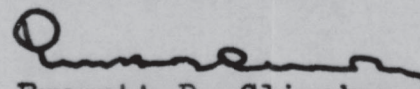
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
East 105th Street and Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

May we have your permission to list you at least tentatively on the program for the Williamstown Institute of Human Relations at Williams College in Massachusetts, about which we wrote you some time ago? You were asked to speak on Friday evening, September 1st, on the subject "Can the United States Have Cultural Diversity and National Unity?"

It will mean very much to Professor Compton, Professor Hayes and President Baxter, of Williams, who are in charge of the program, to have your acceptance.

Yours sincerely,


Everett R. Clinchy.

ERC:WMP

March 15, 1939

Dr. Everett R. Clinchy
National Conference of Jews & Christians
300 Fourth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Clinchy:

I delayed answering your former communication hoping that I might be able to state definitely that I could come to the Williamstown Institute of Human Relations. Unfortunately I am not able to indicate that even at this time. I am planning to go abroad this summer. I may have to attend a few important conferences abroad late in August. I do not know now when I will be able to return. However, if you wish to schedule me tentatively, I have no objection. If I can get back in time, I shall be most happy to address the Institute.

With all good wishes, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK

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General Chairman 1928-37

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300 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

May 8, 1939.

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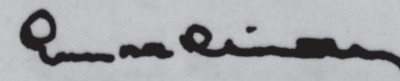
Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
East 105th Street and Ansel Rd.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

We are about to go to press and we want to have the Williamstown Institute program as nearly accurate as possible. Can you tell me at this date whether or not you positively can be with us on Friday, September 1st for the evening session at 7:30 p.m., to speak on the topic Cultural Diversity and National Unity. You can understand that we do not want to carry the names of people who may not be present because when we do not live up to our promises in the program, many of our friends are disappointed. I wish that you or your secretary might give me a reply by return post.

With cordial personal regards and all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,



Everett R. Clinchy.

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300 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

May 9, 1939.

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Chairman Women's Division

MRS. JESSE M. BADER

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

Dear Madam:

In our next Bulletin of Information which announces to our membership across the country the program of The Williamstown Institute of Human Relations to be held at Williams College, August 27 to September 1, and extending an invitation to attend, we want very much to include a half-tone of Rabbi Silver. We should be deeply grateful if you would send us as soon as possible a glossy print which we could use for reproduction.

Yours sincerely,

Robert A. Ashworth

Robert A. Ashworth.

RAA:WMP

May 11, 1939

The Rev. Dr. Robert A. Ashworth
The National Conference of Jews & Christians
300 Fourth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Ashworth:

As per your request, I am enclosing
herewith a glossy photograph of Rabbi Silver.

With best wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Rabbi Silver

May 11, 1939

Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, Director
The National Conference of Jews & Christians
300 Fourth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Clinchy:

Let me thank you for your kind letter. We have definitely decided to go abroad this summer, unless of course, there is a war. We are planning to return on the Ile de France which sails from Havre on September 1st. This would make it impossible for me to be with the Williamstown Institute on that date. I deeply regret it.

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

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK