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Williamsport, Pennsylvania, 1939-1946.

CONGREGATION BETH HA-SHOLOM

Corner Centre and Edwin Streets

Williamsport, Pa.

CHARLES MANTINBAND
RABBI

February 2, 1939.

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

Dear Colleague,

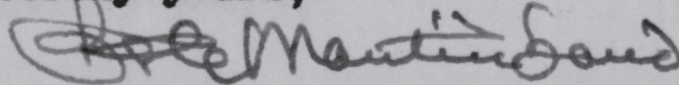
Our Congregation will celebrate its seventy-fifth anniversary late this spring, the occasion also marking the end of the thirteenth year of the writer's incumbency in this community.

Our Temple members recall the circumstance of your serving here as student Rabbi, before your graduation from Hebrew Union College, and have expressed the desire to have you honor us with your presence in connection with the above mentioned simcha.

Would you be free to consider an invitation to visit Williamsport, either May 14th or 21st. These are Sunday nights when we contemplate the Congregational Banquet. Although we appreciate how very occupied you are, we trust that, for old times' sake, you will be able to manage this appointment. If for any reason the above dates are not possible, will you suggest a time when you might be able to manage. We do want you to come.

With all good wishes, and awaiting your word,

Sincerely yours,



P. S. Too bad about Lewis of Philadelphia. He was well known here.

February 9, 1939

Rabbi Charles Mantinband
Congregation Beth Ha-Sholom
Corner Centre and Edwin Streets
Williamsport, Pa.

My dear Rabbi Mantinband:

I greatly appreciate your kind letter and your invitation to attend the anniversary celebration of your congregation on May 14 or 21. I wish I were free to come. I recall with great pleasure my early experiences in Williamsport and I should like to revisit the city. Unfortunately this year I am compelled to devote all my spare time to the work of the United Jewish Appeal. Most of the major campaigns in the country take place during the months of April and May and I shall probably be with one community or another on the dates mentioned in your letter, and all the other spare days that I can devote to the cause. I have been compelled to forego many tempting invitations because of the great need which exists today and the responsibilities which I have assumed. I am sure that you will understand.

Please convey my best wishes to the officers and members of your congregation. With kindest personal regards, I remain

Most cordially yours,

AHS:BK



RABBI BERTRAND POLLANS

1866 80th Anniversary Celebration 1946

Beth Ha-Sholom Congregation

WILLIAMSPORT, PA.

COMMITTEE: BEN HIRSH, CHAIRMAN

W. S. GREEN, SAM GITTLEMAN

MAX JAFFE, HARRY GOLDBERG

November 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
19810 Shakespeare Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

In giving public expression to more than 80 years of service to the community, we have decided to celebrate the occasion in March 1946 with special Temple services and a dedicatory dinner on some Saturday night of that month.

The Board of Trustees has instructed this committee to invite you as the honored guest of the Dinner in special remembrance of the time when you as a student-rabbi some years ago occupied the Temple's pulpit. In the opinion of the Board and the entire membership your presence and your message would lend marked dignity and great acclaim to the Temple's celebration. We are cognizant of your recent elevation to the leadership of the Zionist Organization of America and therefore feel somewhat reluctant to press you too much to accept our invitation because we know of the work and time Zionist matters will demand of your service. We hope, nevertheless, that you will be able to spare us, this one night in March, which we believe will do a great deal of lifting the moral of the Jewish people in central Pennsylvania. Any Saturday night in March will be acceptable to us.



RABBI BERTRAND POLLANS

1866 80th Anniversary Celebration 1946

Beth Ha-Sholom Congregation

WILLIAMSPORT, PA.

COMMITTEE: BEN HIRSH, CHAIRMAN

W. S. GREEN, SAM GITTLEMAN

MAX JAFFE, HARRY GOLDBERG

Your entire expense will be covered as well as an adequate honorarium for the service you will be able to render the Jewish people in this community and Temple Beth Ha-Shom.

We would greatly appreciate your consideration and look forward to an early response to our letter.



Sincerely yours,

Bertrand E. Pollans

Rabbi Bertrand E. Pollans
Milton Forman, Chairman of Ritual
William Green, President



RABBI BERTRAND POLLANS

1866 80th Anniversary Celebration 1946

Beth Ha-Sholom Congregation

WILLIAMSPORT, PA.

COMMITTEE: BEN HIRSH, CHAIRMAN

W. S. GREEN, SAM GITTLEMAN

MAX JAFFE, HARRY GOLDBERG

December 19, 1945

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
19810 Shaker Boulevard
Cleveland, Ohio

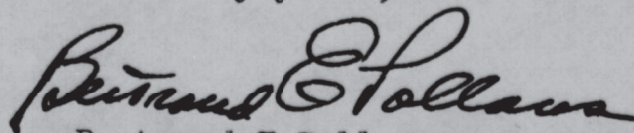
Dear Dr. Silver:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation the other day, I am enclosing the original letter of invitation that was dispatched to you during your absence from Cleveland.

May I suggest that the congratulatory message which you graciously consented to give us for our anniversary journal should be about 100 words.

With many thanks for your kindness and personal admiration for your militant leadership in our Zionist objective, I wish to remain,

Cordially yours,


Bertrand E. Pollans

TEMPLE BETH HA-SHOLOM

Corner Centre and Edwin Streets

Williamsport, Pa.

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BERTRAND E. POLLANS
RABBI

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
19810 Shaker Boulevard
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

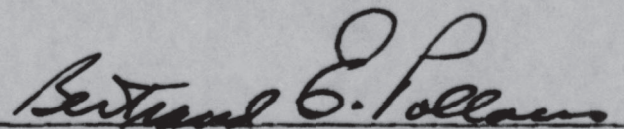
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We would greatly appreciate your consideration of our invitation and look forward to an early response to our letter.

Sincerely yours,



Bertrand E. Pollans, Rabbi
William Green, President
Milton Forman, Ritual Chairman.

January 4, 1946

Rabbi Bertrand E. Pollans
Temple Beth Ha-Sholom
Corner Centre and Edwin Streets
Williamsport, Pa.

My dear Rabbi Pollans:

I deeply appreciate your kind invitation and that of the officers of Temple Beth Ha-Sholom, of Williamsport, to participate in the eightieth anniversary service of your congregation in March of this year. I assure you that it would have given me a great deal of pleasure to come to you, especially since one of my earliest and pleasantest recollections in connection with the Rabbinate was the Holy Day services which I conducted as a student in your community many years ago.

Unfortunately, my numerous duties constrain me to decline many invitations which normally I should be most happy to accept. There is even a possibility of my being out of the country in the Spring. I am sure that you will understand. Perhaps at some future time I may be of service to you.

Rabbi Abraham J. Feldman, Vice-President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis would, I am sure, consider an invitation to represent the Central Conference of American Rabbis at your celebration. He has been kind enough to take over quite a number of my duties.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK