



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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Series VI: Speaking Engagements, 1917-1964.

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Yale University (New Haven, Connecticut), 1959.

B'NAI B'RITH HILLEL FOUNDATION AT YALE UNIVERSITY

RABBI RICHARD J. ISRAEL
Director



265 Durfee Hall
New Haven, Connecticut

November 20, 1959.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Temple Tifereth Israel
105th St. and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

A lectureship has been established at Yale by the Friends of Yale Hillel. It has been established in honor of the beloved Sidney Lovett, former Chaplain of the University, who has recently retired from active service.

It is the desire of the lectureship committee to bring to the campus for the benefit of faculty and students, Jew and non-Jew a significant Jewish personality of sound academic background who would speak on a subject relating to Judaism.

It would greatly enhance our lectureship and be an enormous service to Yale if you were to agree to speak for us. You might address yourself to the topic of your book 'Where Judaism Differed' (a subject which I think would have especially great meaning here at Yale) or any other topic you might feel to be of merit. The lecture can be held any time between the beginning of February and the beginning of April at your convenience. Perhaps your speaking schedule will bring you into this area and the trip to New Haven would not be very much out of your way.

The honorarium offered for the lectureship is a modest one of \$200.00. We hope however that you will agree with us that it is immensely important to expose to the Yale campus at least once a year a person like yourself who has something truly important to say Jewishly. We will be delighted if it will be possible for you to accept our invitation.

Looking forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Israel

RJI:mfb

November 23, 1959

Rabbi Richard J. Israel
Director
B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation
Yale University
265 Durfee Hall
New Haven, Connecticut

My dear Rabbi Israel:

I wish to thank you for your kind letter of November 20th and for your gracious invitation. I wish I were free to accept it. Unfortunately, my health has not been of the best in recent months and I have been reducing my out-of-town commitments to a minimum. There is also the possibility of my going abroad early in 1960. I must, therefore, decline your invitation. I hope to be able to be of service to you at some future time.

With warmest regards and all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

ABBA HILLEL SILVER

AHS :bfm