



Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

Series VIII: Scrapbooks, 1902-1964, undated.

Sub-series B: Miscellaneous Scrapbooks, 1927-1962.

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Twenty-fifth anniversary at The Temple, correspondence, 1943.

The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

The honour of your presence is requested at the
Twenty-fifth Anniversary Service
in tribute to

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
upon the completion of twenty-five years as
Rabbi of The Temple
on Sunday morning, January twenty-fourth
Nineteen hundred and forty-three
at ten o'clock

Card of admission enclosed

I have been asked to read to you, tonight, a "Tzores Document" recently uncovered in a high-class library raid. While the authorship has not been definitely verified, there is much circumstantial evidence to indicate that this is the brain-child of none other than our guest of honor. Even though it may lack the scholarly quality associated with Rabbi Silver's sermons, it is, nevertheless, a document of deepest sincerity.

Rescued from the soleum depths of the Rabbi's wastebasket, it was recently brought to light, and has its first reading this evening.

This sermon is titled: "A Rabbi's Lot Is Not A Happy One". In a foreword, there is this notation: "Recently I addressed my congregation on the subject — 'Letters I Have Received From Boys at The Fronts' — which I shall now supplement with this paper, entitled — 'Complaints I Have Received From Members in Arrears.'"

~~Here is the sermon, in its entirety:~~

The Sermon, transcribed and translated
by Leo Newman, I shall now
present, in its unexpurgated entirety.

My friends as I sit in my study, overlooking Virginia, I am reminded that, although the ministry, in its more serious phase, is hardly a comic opera, there are strange analogies to the song and dance efforts of the semi-classic.

Those of you who may have heard Gilbert and Sullivan's delightful operetta "The Pirates of Penzance" may remember the song "A Policeman's Lot is Not a Happy One". It is immediately evident that neither Gilbert nor Sullivan had any real acquaintanceship with Rabbis; otherwise the song might have had a different title. What do policemen know about trouble?

In my large and extensive filing system, where I keep copies of famous sermons — for inspirational purposes only — I also have one compartment under "G", which I term "The Gripes of Wrath". Here I file, for ready reference, the thousands upon thousands of letters that are received, annually, from members of my congregation. It is upon these gripes that I shall discourse this morning. So I draw, more or less at random, one example from this Bag of Gripes. It reads:

Dear Mr. Levi -

Some months ago I had a sudden attack of indigestion brought on by eating too many Kipfel. Fortunately I recovered in a few days. However, your Rabbi failed to call on me while I was ill. It is true he came to see me the next Sunday, but I had already recovered and had gone to my gin rummy game. So of what use was such a visit to me? The next time I am sick I will try some other Temple. I am sure the "service" will be better.

And now you know why I did not contribute to the mortgage fund.

Very truly yours,

Madame "X"

And another that came to us recently:

Dear Rabbi Harris -

You have caused much trouble in my home. Did not my wife pour tea as good as any of the others? Did she not pass cakes like anyone else? Did she not bring a fine sterling silver service that we borrowed from my sister-in-law who does not like to lend it? Yet in your bulletin are the names of all the hostesses except my wife's. You preach brotherhood and good will. Does this make for brotherhood and good will? I ask you — and I answer "No." — and I say, too, that never again will my wife pass tea or cakes — or even water — at your sisterhood meetings.

And now you know why I did not contribute to the mortgage fund.

Very truly yours,

I. Schamus

A few days ago, in my pan mail, the following two complaints came almost simultaneously, providing something for a Solomon to solve. The one read:

Dear Rabbi -

Why is it that we cannot have heat in Mahler Hall? At the last meeting I had to keep my coat on during the entire performance. Fortunately it is a new fur wrap and it did warm me up a little to see how my friends stared and glared at me, wondering how I could afford it.

And the other:

Dear Rabbi -

Why do you keep Mahler Hall so hot? It is difficult to keep awake with some of the speakers you engage, and when you keep the hall so warm, keeping awake is utterly impossible. Please be so kind and put the heat on the speakers - not the hall.

And now you know why I did not contribute to the mortgage fund.

For many years there has been a peculiar difficulty of perfecting a satisfactory lighting arrangement for the interior of the Temple. This is a matter that I should perhaps bring to the attention of the Board. They, however, would find the solution difficult, inasmuch as only a few of them are familiar with the interior of the building. Pertaining to this subject, I shall quote from two letters out of my Gripe-Bag. The first is from Mrs. Moe Licht, and reads like this:

Dear Mr. Weitz - (You know he is the President.)

Why must we sit in medieval gloom every Sunday? It is hard for me to recognize people more than three pews away. And they probably have the same difficulty. Consequently, only a few people really know I have been to Temple. I believe I could get a little more light on the Rabbi's sermons if there was a little more light in the Temple. At least I could see him talking.

And here is a note from Mr. Nacht, who writes me -

Dear Rabbi -

Each Sunday I am distracted from my prayers by the large center light in the ceiling of the Temple. Instead of praying I am figuring out the amount of money wasted in burning that light, and how it would pay the interest on the new mortgage when it may be put on the Temple - God Forbid.

But not all the complaints have to do with the Temple. Some strike much closer home. Many are "Hutzpah" letters that criticize me, personally. Evidently some folks think my sermons are too long; and a few, alas a very few, complain that they are too short. Sometimes, though they seem to be just right. A few weeks ago a lady came to me

after the service and said gushingly: "Rabbi, you cannot imagine how much your sermon meant to me. You were awfully cute." Be that as it may, it has long been my practice to speak only till noon, sometimes omitting some of my most effective passages, so that my flock may get home to their rationed Gefulte Fish with Matzoh glose, and then to the movies or bridge games without undue delay. Of what doth it avail a man to save his soul and lose his seat at the poker table.

Of the subject matter of my sermons there is of course much complaint. However, I will only repeat what one of my faithful attendants said to me - "Rabbi, I think you are a great preacher. You never put any religion into your sermons."

From many of my loyal and devoted flock, I am criticized for traveling too much. "Why pay our Rabbi good money," they argue, "so that others may enjoy him, free of charge." It has even been suggested that I carry samples from Printz-Biederman, as a side line.

I shall dwell only lightly on complaints regarding the Sunday School. As there are only 800 children enrolled in the Sunday School, the complaints this year have not exceeded 800. Too much Hebrew; not enough Hebrew. Too much draft; not enough ventilation. Too much home-work; not enough home-work. Out too early; out too late. Teachers too old; teachers too young. Too many parties; not enough parties. Oy veh is mir!

And now I begin to see why I am being tendered this 25th Anniversary celebration. It is to demonstrate, no doubt, the amount of punishment that a Rabbi can absorb in 25 years.

To paraphrase a famous saying: "You can displease all of the people some of the time, and you can displease some of the people all of the time, but even a Rabbi cannot displease all of the people all of the time." But why worry? I shall never deliver this sermon anyway. It's contrary to the laws of Virginia.

1. -THE BILLS THAT COME OUT IN THE SPRING
(Tune: Flowers That Bloom)

The bills that come out in the spring, Tra la
Surprise us each year more and more.
The news is so bad that they bring, Tra la,
It reminds us of each little thing, Tra la,
That we've bought for the Temple before.
That we've bought for the Temple before.
And that's what we mean when we say or we sing,
Oh bother the bills that come out in the spring,
Tra la la la la-a, Tra la la la la-a,
The bills that come out in the spring.

Who said that the library's free, Tra la,
Didn't know that the workers get checks.
For every improvement a fee, Tra la,
For the murals and schoolrooms, and we, Tra la,
Are only beginning to grex.
Are only beginning to grex.
And that's what we mean when we tell you that he
Must think that our money grows on every tree,
Tra la la la la-a, Tra la la la la-a,
With no mortgage what next will there be?

2. -In a Black Tie
(Tune: Tit-Willow)

In our pulpit in Cleveland our rabbi does preach,
In a black tie, a black tie, a black tie.
And we said to him, "Rabbi, would there be a breach
In a blue tie, a green tie, a brown tie?"
We are sure you'd be dapper in them if you tried,
Or has Mel Harris robbed you of sartorial pride?"
With a shake of his head, he benignly replied,
"A black tie, a black tie, a black tie."

3. -A WAND'RING RABBI
(Tune: A Wand'ring Minstrel)

A wand'ring rabbi he,
Who travels o'er the nation.
To every one horse station
He's called to deliver a speech.

To army camps galore,
To Cincinnati's meetings,
To England he took greetings,
We wish he'd stay home with us more.

A birthday boy is he.
He now is passing fifty.
He still looks mighty nifty.
We hope he'll be with us for years.
— we hope he'll be with us for years.

4. -THIS IS THE TEMPLE
(Tune: This Is The Army.)

This is The Temple, Rabbi dear,
We had a mortgage made you fear,
We had you worried, it was like war,
But it won't worry you any more.

This is The Temple, Rabbi Mel,
Our congregation thinks you're swell,
You had to call up and sell before,
But you won't have to sell any more.

This is The Temple, Mr. Weitz,
No more tough financial fights,
The board sent Meisel from door to door,
And we won't pay the int'rest any more.

MAY I THANK YOU FOR THE FRIENDLY
BIRTHDAY GREETINGS WHICH YOU
SENT ME. IT WAS MOST KIND OF YOU
TO REMEMBER ME.

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER



THE OFFICERS OF THE TEMPLE AND
RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER WISH TO
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GRACIOUS
MESSAGE SENT ON THE OCCASION
OF RABBI SILVER'S TWENTY-FIFTH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION.



JOHN W. BRICKER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF OHIO
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COLUMBUS

January
Fourth
1943

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi Silver:

I am reminded of the fact that this year you will celebrate your fiftieth anniversary and the twenty-fifth year of your service to The Temple. I congratulate you both as Governor of Ohio and individually.

Your influence for good through the many civic, religious and humanitarian causes which you have served will long be felt and appreciated by the people not only of Ohio but of this whole nation.

I am proud to have a part in the tribute which will be given to you and to express the fervent hope that you may be granted the strength for many years of additional service.

Sincerely yours,

JWB:CO

City of Cleveland

FRANK J. LAUSCHE
MAYOR

December 24, 1942.

Mr. Sidney N. Weitz
Leader Building
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Mr. Weitz:

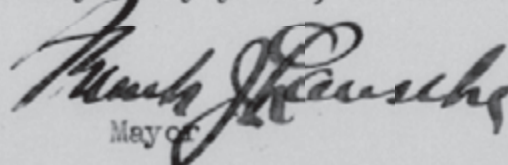
I regret that I shall not be able to be present with you on Sunday morning, January 24th, when you are having a special religious service in commemoration of the many events of the community and your Temple since the beginning of Rabbi Silver's services twenty-five years ago.

Rabbi Silver has been a great religious and civic leader of this community. He has contributed remarkably and unselfishly to the formation of social policies that have had a salutary influence upon the life of our citizens. His religious guidance has tended to awaken in the people of Cleveland an ethical concept that has made Cleveland an outstanding city of the United States. A survey of the altruistic tendencies of the people of Greater Cleveland will establish that they have no superior in their desire to give unstintedly and unselfishly to every cause that either serves the Nation or our community. Rabbi Silver has been a participant in every important civic endeavor and has been invaluable in the contributions that he has made.

May I extend at this time my felicitations to this great civic and spiritual leader of the community and to congratulate the members of his Temple, as well as the people of this City, for the good fortune of having Rabbi Silver in our midst during the last twenty-five years.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,


Mayor

FJL:H

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D. C.

December 26, 1942

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

My dear Rabbi Silver:

Please accept the heartfelt congratulations of Mrs. Burton and myself on this 25th anniversary of your service to The Temple, and your own 50th birthday.

You have broadened the horizons of Cleveland and America. You have lifted the eyes of our generation.

We are living in the midst of a world-wide crisis when our greatest needs are vision and faith. You have helped to clear the first and deepen the latter. Out of it we hope there will come a substantial advance toward the time when the will of God shall be done on Earth as it is in Heaven.

Yours sincerely,



HHB:ew

DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND

605 N. B. C. BUILDING
815 SUPERIOR AVE. N. E.
CLEVELAND

OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

December 30th, 1942.

Sidney Weitz, President,
The Temple,
E. 105th at Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Weitz:

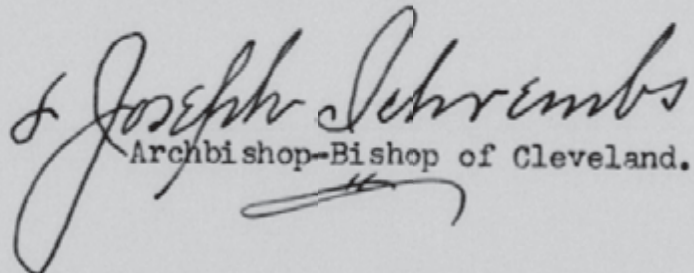
I thank you for calling my attention to the fact that this year marks Rabbi Silver's Twenty-fifth year of service to The Temple.

As you so well say in your letter, Rabbi Silver's sphere of activities has extended far beyond the Temple and his own people and has contributed much to the development of good citizenship.

It gives me great pleasure to extend to Rabbi Silver my hearty congratulations on his anniversary and the fiftieth year of his life.

With kindest personal good wishes to Rabbi Silver and to yourself, I remain,

Very cordially yours,


Archbishop-Bishop of Cleveland.

THE BISHOP OF OHIO
2241 PROSPECT AVENUE
CLEVELAND

January 14, 1943.

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

My dear Rabbi Silver:

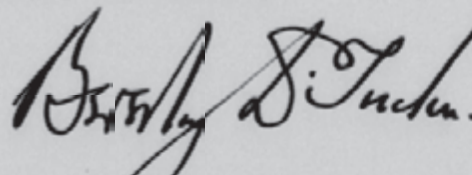
It gives me great pleasure to unite with your friends and admirers in sending you a word of congratulations and good wishes upon the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of your birth and the twenty-fifth anniversary of your ministry to The Temple.

Your fiftieth birthday fills me with something of envy for your youthfulness, for I have passed the sixth decade and am now heading on to the "three score years and ten" which the Psalmist said is the span of human happiness. A mere half-century is a cause for gratification and I wish you many happy returns of your birthday.

As a fellow-servant in the temple of religion I rejoice with your congregation in the witness you have borne to the eternal and unchanging values of human life. Your service, however, has extended far beyond the limits of The Temple, and we thank God for the contributions you have made to civic righteousness in the community of Cleveland as a great citizen. More than this, we have learned to look to you as a prophet of the unity of mankind under the Fatherhood of God, which knows no barrier of race, color, or creed.

I am grateful for the privilege of personal association with you in the Alathians and in the ministry of religion. May God bless you and give you many years of happiness and useful service.

Yours faithfully,



Beverly D. Tucker

BDT:F

RESIDENT BISHOP
THE METHODIST CHURCH
150 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

January 13, 1943

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
East 105 St. and Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

I have heard recently that you have completed twenty-five years of service at The Temple. I wish to extend both to you and to your congregation my profound congratulations. I do not know any pulpit in the country which has more consistently stood for the highest religious ideals than has The Temple during your ministry. You have never lost sight of these ideals and at the same time have wrought most effectively in getting them into the common thinking and into actual practice. Your voice is heard and respected throughout the nation and your followers constantly increase in number. I count it a great privilege to have seen and felt the power of your thought and example and I regard it a great honor to know you personally.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

Francis J. McConnell

Bishop Francis J. McConnell

FJMcC:MM

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The University of Chicago

Rockefeller Memorial Chapel

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

January 4, 1943

Mr. Sidney N. Weitz, President
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Mr. Weitz:

I appreciate deeply the invitation to share in your tribute to one of the outstanding religious leaders of our generation. It is the more appropriate on the occasion of Rabbi Silver's 25th Anniversary at The Temple and his fiftieth birthday. It was once my own chief professional ambition to spend twenty-five years in the service of one city church -- an ambition now never to be fulfilled, though I have already been a minister of religion in this same community for thirty-two years. I congratulate Rabbi Silver and The Temple the more heartily that this ambition has been fulfilled for him -- a fulfillment the more unusual because he has spent half his own lifetime in the service of one great and strategic religious institution.

During the fifteen years of this Chapel's history, many of us here have come to recognize in Rabbi Silver the outstanding Jewish Rabbi who comes to us from time to time as University Preacher. His eloquent messages of faith and hope and love still echo in our deepest souls. But even beyond these spoken words, we treasure and honor the man himself, spending and being spent in the service of his fellows, his country, his generation, and his God. May God bless and use him and you through many more years of enlarging service together, in a time that will sorely need such vision as his and such cooperation as yours.

Sincerely yours,

Charles W. Gilkey

cwg:m

Charles W. Gilkey

HARVARD DIVINITY SCHOOL

ANDOVER HALL, FRANCIS AVENUE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Dean

December 28, 1942

To Abba Hillel Silver, D.D.
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am very happy to be honored by the invitation from your friends of The Temple to send you from Harvard a greeting on the occasion of your completion of twenty-five years ministry there, and your own fifty years of life.

After the half century of varied and rich experience, and after the quarter century of distinguished service to your own church, to your city, your people, and to all men of good will everywhere, you are entitled to the encouragement which comes from widespread recognition.

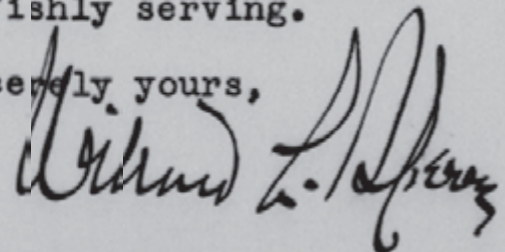
We feel, speaking through you, the majesty of the Torah, and catch from you something of the passion for righteousness that is the genius of Hebrew Prophecy.

We are living at a time when, in the world of the spirit, nothing is so much needed as men of conscience and imagination. Only a deepened sincerity can match and finally overcome the falsities that are abroad in the world, and only a quick imagination can serve to interpret races and cultures to one another, which until now have been able to live in isolated self-sufficiency. In both of these respects you merit our grateful thanks.

And most especially, as Chairman of the Board of Preachers to Harvard University, I wish to thank you for the help which you have given us in our University Church in recent years as one of our visiting preachers. Your coming to us has something of the quality of the Solemn Feast Day, and you never fail to touch our conscience and lift our spirits.

May the years to come be gracious to you, not merely for the sake of the honor and rewards you will draw from them but even more for the sake of the troubled world which you are so wisely and unselfishly serving.

Sincerely yours,



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OFFICE OF THE MODERATOR
CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

REV. FERDINAND Q. BLANCHARD, D. D.
EUCLID AVENUE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
EUCLID AVENUE AND EAST 96TH STREET
CLEVELAND, OHIO

✓

One of the outstanding quickening and inspiring experiences of my life of over 25 years in Cleveland has been the fellowship I have enjoyed with Rabbi Silver. I have watched his growing power with sincere, unqualified admiration. His thinking has been sound; daring yet never erratic. His gift of expression, marked by lucidity, grace and force has made him one of the most eloquent voices of the past generation in the English tongue. His friendliness has rendered companionship with him a delight. In many ways we are all his debtors. While his influence has passed local and even national limits, he is yet always the gracious gentleman in whose presence we have rejoiced.

Frd. Q. Blanchard

The Euclid Avenue Baptist Church
East 18th St. at Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio

EDWIN MCNEILL POTEAT

January 8,
1943.

Dear Dr. Silver,

When I learned the other day that you are presently to celebrate twenty-five years of leadership at the head of your flock, my first reaction was incredulity, my second was admiration. Incredulous because that means you began when you were twenty-five years old; admiring because you have stuck with your regiment, grown with it and lead it with conspicuous wisdom and enthusiasm.

On the occasion when your friends will do you honor, allow me to say that it is a source of genuine satisfaction that while America knows you and has felt your wholesome influence, it is Cleveland that has been honored to claim you as a foremost citizen and a splendid counsellor.

That your next twenty-five years may be as rich in satisfactions as your last twenty-five have been in fruitfulness is the hearty good wish of

Your sincere friend,

Edwin McNeill Poteat

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
Cleveland, Ohio.

EMP:af

✓
REV. A. J. MURPHY, PH. D.
DIRECTOR

Catholic Charities Bureau
DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND
1001 HURON ROAD

FLORENCE M. MASON
ASST. DIRECTOR
(CASE WORK)

January 13
1943

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I regret exceedingly that I shall be unable to attend your anniversary celebration on Sunday morning, January 24. Sunday is a bad day for me to accept engagements, as I must be at the Detention Home for services on that day.

May I take this opportunity to congratulate you most sincerely upon your splendid service to the community during the past quarter of a century. Your leadership has been of inestimable value in every worth-while movement, and all of us familiar with your activities have admired the deep and spiritual tones which your public utterances have attained.

I hope that the Father of us all will spare you for many more useful years in His service.

Sincerely,

A. J. Murphy.

Father Murphy.

AJM:C

Frank Halliday Ferris
Fairmount Church
Cleveland Heights, Ohio

Fairmount Church congratulates The Temple
and Rabbi Silver on the latter's twenty-fifth anni-
versary. His leadership has meant much not only
to his own congregation and the Jewish community but
to all the religious forces of the Cleveland area.
May it go from strength to strength!



For the church,

Frank Halliday Ferris

John Schott

THE CLEVELAND CHURCH FEDERATION

1010 HIPPODROME BUILDING

CHerry 3147



For the Advancement of Protestant Co-operation and Christian Unity

PRESIDENT—DAVID K. FORD
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BETTY STEWART
CHINESE CENTER—WILLIAM FUNG

January 14, 1943

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

Permit me to extend the fraternal greetings and congratulations of the Protestant churches of Greater Cleveland as represented by the Federation as you approach the twenty-fifth anniversary of your ministry at The Temple. You have the genuine respect and great affection of the many Christian friends you have made in your outstanding ministry to your own congregation. Perhaps you are not fully aware of all its overtones in our community.

Our good wishes and prayers will be joined with those of your people for many added years of leadership in our city.

Yours very sincerely,

Executive Secretary



The Cleveland Press

OFFICE OF
LOUIS B. SELTZER
EDITOR

December 31, 1942.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

It is a privilege to greet you upon the completion of 25 years of service as the spiritual leader of The Temple and upon your 50th birthday.

You came to Cleveland a quarter of a century ago as a young man of courage, eloquence, and righteous zeal. The passing years have added strength to your courage, fire to your eloquence, and power to your zeal.

In a quarter of a century of tumultuous and trying events, you have been a tower of strength. Your faith in God and in man have been firm. In the storm and stress of the furious currents of the life of the world, you have always raised your voice in behalf of the rights of the individual man. Ever you have fought for those things that enhance the dignity of the individual.

You have taken an active and fearless part in civic affairs, in national affairs and in the affairs of your own religion. You have been a great citizen of Cleveland, a great Jew, and a great American.

May God give you many more years of life and many more years of service as the wise leader of a great congregation.

Sincerely yours,

Louis

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

CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER

ESTABLISHED AS THE EVENING PLAIN DEALER IN 1845 MORNING AND SUNDAY
EDITIONS FOUNDED IN 1885 BY L.E. HOLDEN

LARGEST MORNING AND SUNDAY CIRCULATION IN OHIO

JOHN S. MCCARRENS, GENERAL MANAGER

PAUL BELLAMY, EDITOR

Dec. 24, 1942

Mr. Sidney N. Weitz,
The Temple,
E. 105th St. at Ansel Rd.,
Cleveland, O.

Dear Mr. Weitz:

I understand that on January 24th there will be a celebration of Rabbi Silver's twenty-fifth year of service to the Temple. May I add my tribute to the thousands which he will receive on that auspicious occasion? He has been a shining light to us all. May he live forever and prosper.

Sincerely yours,

Paul Bellamy

CLEVELAND NEWS

Mr. Sidney N. Weitz
The Temple
Cleveland

Dear Mr. Weitz:

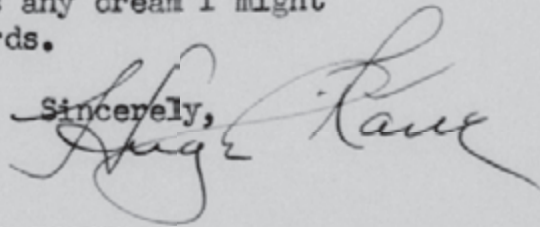
When I started out in this newspaper business a well informed and wise adviser told me that material compensation was in all probability the least of the things which might help enrich the life of the young man who linked his career to the progress of his community through the medium of a newspaper.

As the years have multiplied, I have found this to be true in a larger measure than I ever imagined at the outset. It has been my privilege to know the men who have helped keep Cleveland high among the enlightened communities of this nation. When I am taking inventory of these associations which have enriched my life, I am always grateful that through this medium of work and interest, my life touched that of Rabbi Silver.

Cleveland as well as The Temple is to be congratulated on having had a man of Rabbi Silver's stature and idealism dedicate his life and the richness of his mind to the cause of religion for a quarter of a century. I know that I have many times been inspired by his words and encouraged by his judgment of men and issues.

I am humbled and at the same time happy to have an opportunity to lift my voice in appreciation of a man whose eloquence far surpasses any dream I might have of putting thoughts into words.

Sincerely,



Cleveland News
Hugh Kane
Managing Editor
December 26, 1942



WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY
CLEVELAND, OHIO

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

January 14, 1943

Mr. Sidney N. Weitz, President
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

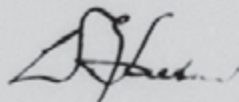
Dear Mr. Weitz:

I regret exceedingly that the extraordinary pressure of events has caused me to delay a reply to your kind note of December 18, 1942.

Let me now take occasion to convey through you to my esteemed friend, Rabbi Silver, my felicitations upon the completion of twenty-five years of great service to The Temple and my best wishes that the next succeeding years may prove even more fruitful.

His ministry to The Temple and his leadership in many community activities mark him as an outstanding fellow citizen of whom we are proud and to whom we are grateful.

Sincerely yours,



W. G. Leutner
President

CASE SCHOOL OF APPLIED SCIENCE

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CLEVELAND, OHIO

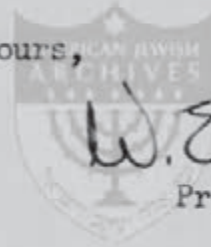
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

December 31 1942

My dear Rabbi Silver:

I have just learned that you have completed twenty-five years of service to the Temple and all the population of Greater Cleveland. Your ministry has been notable for its influence. Your own people have received at your hand full measure and over-flowing; meanwhile thousands of us who are not of your faith have come within the orbit of your spiritual influence and your personal friendship. We are deeply grateful for this experience which has illuminated our thinking and enriched our spiritual lives. I am happy to take this occasion to congratulate you upon your distinguished service, and to hope that it may continue among us for many years.

Cordially yours,



W. E. Wickenden
President

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

THE HEBREW UNION COLLEGE

CINCINNATI, OHIO

January 12, 1943.

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Rev. Dr. Abba H. Silver,
The Temple,
E. 105th Street at Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Abba:

I am informed that, this month, you will celebrate your fiftieth birthday, and likewise that your congregation will commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of your ministry to it. I can easily believe that you will be fifty years old, even though I was not present upon the happy occasion of your birth. But I find it very difficult to realize that your ministry to The Temple covers a period of a quarter of a century, although, as you know, I was actively connected with your coming to The Temple.

I remember very clearly when my old and very dear friend, Rabbi Moses J. Gries, came to Cincinnati to confer with me about the question of a worthy successor to himself to that great pulpit. It was a joy to me at that time to present your name to his consideration and, through him, to the authorities of the congregation, and to insist that there was absolutely no other alumnus of the College whom I wished to recommend for this high position. I remember, too, very vividly how, a few weeks later, when the UAHNC met in Baltimore, Ben Lowenstein and Charlie Eisenman came to me in the Belvedere Hotel and asked me to introduce them to you, so that, as representatives of the congregation, they might report back to their colleagues their impression of you. Obviously, their impression was favorable, for it was only two or three weeks thereafter that your election as Rabbi of The Temple was publicly announced.

Since then twenty-five years have passed. Yours has been a career of unique achievement and distinction. Under your spiritual leadership your congregation has gone steadily forward until, today, it is deservedly recognized as one of the outstanding congregations of the country. It reflects your spirit and mirrors your thought and purpose. But far transcending your reputation as a congregational and communal leader, you have achieved a national and a world wide reputation as one of the authoritative spokesmen of Judaism and most potent champions of the cause of the Jewish people. In every way you are one of the most illustrious and deservedly honored graduates of the Hebrew Union College.

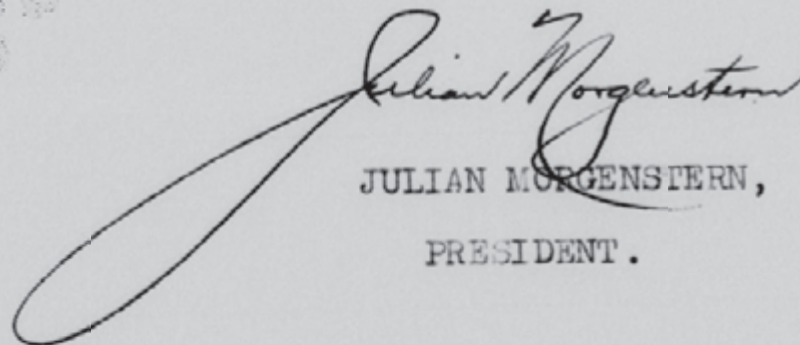
Through all this achievement by you, the College feels

-2- Rev. Dr. Abba H. Silver.

itself honored and its prestige greatly enlarged. It rejoices sincerely in your record of achievement as one of its ablest and most highly famed sons. And in all this record I rejoice as your former teacher and as your close and loyal friend from the very day on which you entered the College as a young student. As I think you know full well, during this entire period I have cherished a deep confidence in you and a sincere and abiding affection for you. And therefore, it has been a source of real joy to me to see you advance step by step to your present illustrious position as leader of world Jewry and in the religious thinking of the present day. Upon all this I congratulate you from the bottom of my heart.

But even more do I look forward to the future for you with high hopes and real expectancy. Even at fifty you are still a relatively young man, and the fullness of your spiritual growth, your greatest achievement and largest service undoubtedly lie still in the future. It is my earnest wish and prayer for you that, in the years to come, and may they be many, you may continue to achieve in steadily expanding measure for the guidance and blessing of the household of Israel and your fellowmen. And in that service and in that achievement may you and Virginia and your two fine boys find immeasurable satisfaction, unending happiness and deep consciousness of Divine blessing. All this I wish and pray for you in loyal and affectionate friendship.

Faithfully yours,



JULIAN MORGENSTERN,
PRESIDENT.

JM/bs

THE JEWISH THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY OF AMERICA
NORTHEAST CORNER, BROADWAY AND 122ND STREET
NEW YORK CITY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

December 24, 1942

Dear Mr. Weitz:

I am very glad to join with the many other friends of Doctor Abba Hillel Silver in extending to him and to your congregation felicitations on his completion of twenty-five years of service to your Temple. In the course of these twenty-five years, Doctor Silver has proved himself a devoted servant of the Jewish community and, indeed, of the whole American people. What he has contributed to the re-establishment of Palestine as a Jewish homeland and as a refuge for the oppressed will remain an eternal monument to him. His ministry has helped to bring many of our people to a keener realization of the basic contribution of Judaism to the democratic way of life and to civilization. Both as scholar and as preacher, he has won the admiration and affection of his colleagues in all groups of American Judaism. As he approaches his fiftieth birthday, we look to him for continued guidance and assistance in meeting the vast problems which today face Israel and, indeed, all mankind.

Faithfully, as ever,

Louis Finkelstein

Sidney N. Weitz, Esq.
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

srk

JUDGES' CHAMBERS
COURT OF COMMON PLEAS No. 6
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PHILADELPHIA

LOUIS E. LEVINthal
JUDGE

December 30, 1942.

Mr. Sidney Weitz,
President, The Temple,
East 105th St. at Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Weitz:

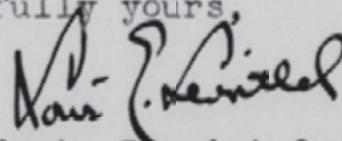
I am very happy to learn that on Sunday morning, January 24th, The Temple of Cleveland will commemorate the fiftieth birthday of its distinguished Rabbi, Abba Hillel Silver, and also the 25th anniversary of his service as spiritual leader of The Temple.

On behalf of the Zionist Organization of America, of which I have the honor to be President, and on my own personal behalf, I welcome this opportunity to join in paying tribute to one of the outstanding Jewish figures of our generation. As profound scholar and eloquent orator, he has achieved a position of eminence far beyond the bounds of the city of Cleveland, which for a quarter of a century he has served so faithfully and so brilliantly.

His tireless devotion to the United Palestine Appeal and his courageous advocacy of the Zionist cause have earned for him the gratitude, the affection and the admiration of all Jews who have pride in their people's past and who have faith in their people's future.

I sincerely trust that Dr. Silver may be granted the strength to continue for many decades to serve his congregation, his community, the people of Israel, and all humanity.

Faithfully yours,



President, Zionist Organization
of America

The celebration of the twenty-fifth year of Abba Hillel Silver's services as the Rabbi of The Temple of Cleveland is joined by a host of friends and co-workers in the Zionist movement. Dr. Silver has given exemplary devotion to his congregation and to the community at large. He has preached high civic ideals, advocated liberal causes, and participated in many movements that have enhanced the good name of the city of Cleveland. He has inspired the members of his congregation with a sense of loyalty to their faith and to the ethical ideals of their own people. He has been the educator of a generation of young people who have passed through the religious schools of The Temple and have been equipped to face the struggle for the survival of Jewish faith and ideals.

But it is in the Zionist movement that Dr. Silver has had the opportunity to give full expression to his Jewish personality, and to his great gifts. From early youth, he has been devoted to the Zionist cause. Here, on many occasions, he has spoken the appropriate word with distinction, with passion, and with great conviction. He has stirred the conscience of the world for justice to the Jewish people. He has urged, with rare eloquence, the fulfillment of international pledges, not only for the sake of the Jewish people, but in the interests of a nobler civilization. He has been a distinguished leader of a great cause. He has succeeded in arousing in the American Jewish Community respectful attention and devotion to the great heritage symbolized by the Zionist ideal.

Dr. Silver has occupied two pulpits during the twenty-five years of his Rabbinate in Cleveland. He has been the preacher of The Temple in Cleveland. On a larger stage, to a greater audience, he has been the outstanding preacher of an eloquent Zionism.

Louis Lipsky,



LAND FOR VICTORY

JEWISH NATIONAL FUND 40TH קרן קימת לישראל
ANNIVERSARY

PRESIDENT
ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN

January 12,
19 43.

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The Temple,
East 105th St. at Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

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Dear Mr. Weitz:

SECRETARY
LOUIS SEGAL

I deem it a privilege to associate myself with the great company of Dr. Silver's friends, admirers and well-wishers in the outpouring of felicitations on the occasion of his fiftieth birthday. In these felicitations the Board of Directors of the Jewish National Fund of America heartily joins.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
MENDEL N. FISHER

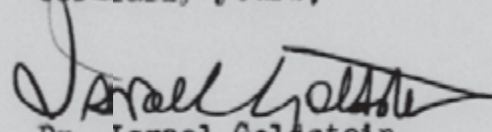
Dr. Silver's great gifts of forensic and oratorical powers have won him international acclaim. My tribute to Dr. Silver, however, is chiefly to his Jewish passion, his great intellectual and spiritual powers, his penetrating logic which ensures clarity, and his forthright courage which lends dignity to his career. This rare combination of gifts has made him one of the great spokesmen and leaders of American Israel.

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We are fortunate, as is indeed the larger community of his fellow citizens, and Eretz Israel is fortunate, that Dr. Silver is still a young man at the height of his great powers, so that we are able to look forward to many years of his continued leadership.

Of course we, his colleagues, heartily congratulate him. He has richly deserved the honor and recognition which have come to him. May each succeeding birthday draw us closer to him and draw him and us together closer to the goal of Zion built, Israel redeemed, and humanity saved.

Cordially yours,


Dr. Israel Goldstein,
President.

IG:dl

The Land of Israel, for the People of Israel,
according to the Torah of Israel.

ארץ ישראל, לעם ישראל,
על פי תורת ישראל

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January 10, 1943

DR. SILVER AT FIFTY

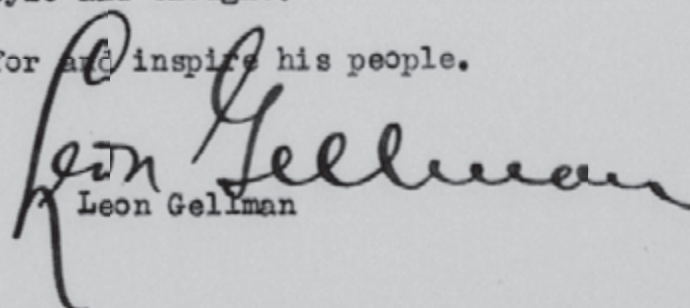
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver is the Max Nordau of the present generation.

He is the tribune of his people, a profound thinker and excellent stylist. And he is gifted with a flair for realism, coupled with an iron will and great courage. With his God-given power of speech and incisive thought he is well able to kindle the hearts of men. Like Nordau, he exposes the "conventional lies" of contemporary civilization, halts the "degenerative trends of modern society," and seeks with every fibre of his being to attain a radical solution of the "paradoxical" situation of his own people.

As Dr. Silver has developed into one of America's most distinguished personalities, there has at the same time grown the proud Jew, the Jewish champion, the national leader. The tragic lot of his people gives him no rest. His heart beats with pity. Forever he pleads and strives for the melioration of Jewish suffering.

Often, despite his great preoccupation with Jewish problems, we rejoice that he also finds the opportunity to enrich literature with his genial essays, so masterly in style and thought.

May he long continue to labor for and inspire his people.

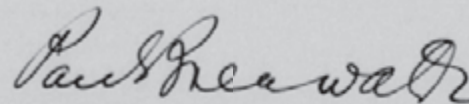

Leon Gellman

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I am happy to greet Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver on his twenty-fifth anniversary as spiritual leader of The Temple and on the occasion of his fiftieth birthday. Our times have known few more brilliant or persuasive advocates of the cause of Jews the world over. At a comparatively early age, it has been given to Rabbi Silver to be able to look back on many years of useful endeavor; and in extending to him, on behalf of myself and my colleagues, every good wish for continued well-being, I also want to express my fervent hope that his good work in the not far distant future may be carried on under conditions of world peace.



Paul Baerwald
Honorary Chairman
Joint Distribution Committee

January seventh
1943

NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE, INC.
139 CENTRE STREET
NEW YORK CITY

January 6, 1943

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

My dear Rabbi Silver:

It is a major achievement, in these trying times, when one can commemorate twenty-five years of service to a single institution. In the past quarter of a century as The Temple has grown, Jewish life around it has thrived under your guidance.

As you look back over the past twenty-five years, you have witnessed a significant change in American Jewish life -- a change in which you have played an important role. You have seen and helped to develop the "communal era," that process of growth by which literally thousands of Jewish cities in the United States have advanced from the stage of experimentation to sound community organization.

As a fellow chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, I have witnessed this process of growth in its more recent stages. That it has been achieved without sacrificing the fundamental conception of synagogical life as the focal point of contemporary Judaism, is a tribute to you and others of your stamp who serve well the synagogue and the community.

This is your fiftieth birthday, too. Half a century in time is more than my years enable me to remember. But of this I am certain -- the Jewish community of America has been more virile and its growth fundamentally sounder because it has grown with you.

The officers and Executive Committee of the National Refugee Service join me in extending heartiest greetings.

Cordially yours,

William Rosenwald
William Rosenwald, President
National Refugee Service, Inc.

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January 11, 1943

Dear Mr. Weitz:

The twofold anniversary to be observed on January 24 in honor of Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, marking twenty-five years of his rabbinate at the Temple and his fiftieth birthday, is a tribute eminently deserved.

True to historic traditions, Rabbi Silver has been scholar and minister, author and welfare leader, and in each of these fields he has achieved distinction, in both the Jewish and general community.

On behalf of the American Jewish Committee, I extend warmest felicitations to Rabbi Silver and to your congregation. With them go sincere good wishes to him for a long life of continued service to the good causes.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Sidney N. Weitz
President, The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

MW/G

EXECUTIVE OFFICES
ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE
OF B'NAI B'RITH
130 N. WELLS ST. • CHICAGO

SIGMUND LIVINGSTON
CHAIRMAN
RICHARD E. GUTSTADT
DIRECTOR

December 23, 1942

My dear Dr. Silver:

The advent of your 50th birthday and the 25th anniversary of your rabbinate in The Temple affords me an opportunity which I have long sought, that of expressing my very great appreciation of your splendid contributions made to Jewry, to our country and to humanity at large.

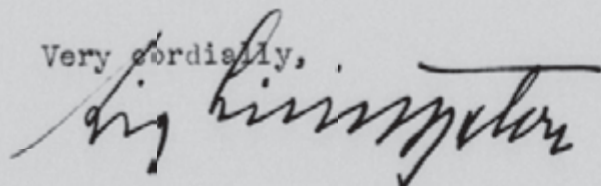
You were indeed endowed with extraordinary ability and vigor and you have applied the same for many years to the cause of justice, understanding and good-will.

There are few men in our generation who have contributed more than you have to a true knowledge of the Jew by his fellow citizens and at the same time have given largely to preserving in the Jew himself the dignity which should be his.

You have aided the Anti-Defamation League at every opportunity. In fact, you have always been ready to respond to every demand made upon you. Be assured that the officials of the Anti-Defamation League have considered your help invaluable and appreciated your cooperation to the full.

My very best wishes and congratulations and my prayer is that you may be spared in full vigor for many, many years to come and that you will see and feel a ripe fruition of your life's work.

Very cordially,



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

EXECUTIVE OFFICES
ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE
OF B'NAI B'RITH
130 N. WELLS ST. CHICAGO

SIGMUND LIVINGSTON
CHAIRMAN
RICHARD E. GUTSTADT
DIRECTOR

December 23, 1942

My dear Rabbi Silver:

I have just been advised of the impending celebration of your fiftieth anniversary coincidentally with the twenty-fifth anniversary of your occupancy of the pulpit of the Temple. On this doubly auspicious occasion, I should like to be numbered amongst your innumerable friends and well-wishers in transmitting my heartiest felicitations to you on the occasion of your fiftieth birthday, and my equally hearty congratulations to the congregation and the community of Cleveland for their very great good fortune in having had you among them for so many full and productive years.

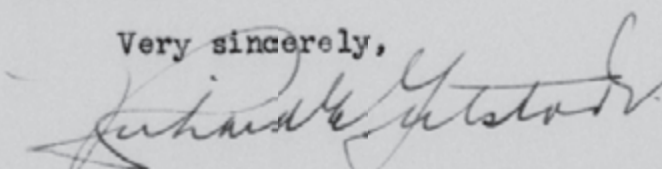
Without desire to be fulsome, I think one may in complete sincerity express his admiration for the unique contribution which, out of your magnificent capacity and your great vigor, you have made to the life and the interests of your own and the larger community. The record of your vast and manifold service is too long and too varied to permit of detailed comment. As a modest co-worker, however, in the area of Jewish and American purpose, one should be permitted to express his profound admiration for the magnitude of your accomplishment.

We have lived through very trying times, but your outstanding courage and your devotion to principle have made a very deep impress upon all who have come within the range of your influence. Certainly no name stands more pre-eminently in Jewish and American life than your own.

Recognizing the need for men of great moral stature in these stressful years, I am sure you will readily understand the sincerity of our prayer that it be given to you to have many more years of useful and constructive activity.

With most cordial personal greetings, I am

Very sincerely,



Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple, E. 105th St. & Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

✓

SHOLEM ASCH
SKY MEADOW DRIVE
STAMFORD, CONN.

December 28, 1942

Mr. Sidney N. Weitz,
The Temple,
Cleveland.

My dear Mr. Weitz,

I thank you for the occasion you have given me to express my admiration towards Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver. I had the privilege of meeting Rabbi Silver during the first World War. He was always an inspiration to me, as he is to thousands of our brethren. I do not know any other spiritual leader of Israel today who has such a great prophetic light which is illuminating from his personality.

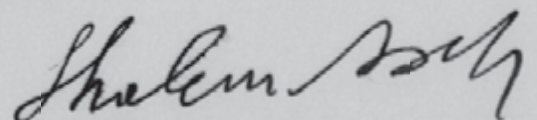
I wish with all my heart that Rabbi Silver should devote all his time to spiritual leadership in Israel, to which he is called, and to leave other activities, even at the expense of his other activities, which are so valuable.

We have so few spirits which are gifted with the ancient holy fire of our prophets, that I consider his other activities as neglects of his chosen destination.

I am proud to be able to consider Rabbi Silver as one of my nearest friends.

Most cordially yours,

Sholem Asch



Ludwig Lewisohn
P.O. Box 5078,
Tucson, Arizona.

December 28, 1942.

Dear Mr. Weitz:-

The following is 100 % so. No flattery. That will be its value.

Cordially,

Ludwig Lewisohn.

It is with profound satisfaction that I join the celebration of my friend Abba Hillel Silver's happily coincident anniversaries. I do so not primarily on account of his brilliant eloquence not on account of his literary activity which has shown such extraordinary development between his earlier writings and his last book. I want to pay a heartfelt tribute to his power of character--his fearlessness and veracity. He has used his ministry greatly. In a confused and tragic age when fashion and the glitter of the world were still opposed to the redemption of Israel he has stood foresquare for that redemption and by precious word and (through the United Palestine Appeal) precious deed has contributed to that redemption. That praise would suffice and more than suffice for a rabbi in this age. But I ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ know that Abba Hillel Silver has not let great tasks and great prestige keep him from remembering to perform those acts of kindness and helpfulness which show the alert and open heart of the servant of God. So I close with the traditional wish that his years may be prolonged to the patriarchal span.

Ludwig Lewisohn.

PETER WITT

852 LEADER BUILDING

CLEVELAND, OHIO

1/5/43

My dear Rabbi Silver:

It is indeed a privilege to be permitted to join with the members of the Temple in congratulating you on reaching the 50th mile stone in your journey through life.

It is also most fitting that outsiders be asked to participate, because the effect of your moral influence, the wisdom of your political independence, the sound-

2

PETER WITT

852 LEADER BUILDING

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ness of your economic
thinking, coupled
with your power of
expression has, for
twenty five years, gone
far beyond the walls
of the Temple and the
range of its members.

May your shadow
never grow less.

Sincerely yours
Peter Witt

✓
ROGER W. STRAUS
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK

December 24, 1942.

Mr. Sidney N. Weitz, President,
The Temple,
East 105th Street at Ansel Road,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Mr. Weitz:

Rabbi Silver while serving The Temple
of Cleveland, Ohio, for the past twenty-five years
has also served the Jewish community at large and
the American people. His eloquence, moral courage
and spiritual qualities have impressed themselves
on countless thousands of people of all faiths.

I can testify to the fact that he is
untiring and unselfish in his efforts for all causes
that have to do with the strengthening of Judaism as
a spiritual force amongst Jews. He also takes part with-
out stint in all activities that will make this country
stronger and a better place for all its inhabitants to
live in.

In efforts to bring about better understand-
ing between Catholics, Protestants and Jews he is both an
eloquent interpreter of the Jewish point of view and similarly

(2)

an interpreter to the Jews of the Catholic and Protestant points of view.

Congratulations to the Temple on being blessed by a great leader, and best wishes to Rabbi Silver for many more years of health and strength to carry forward his great mission with ever greater prestige and effectiveness.

With best wishes, I am,



Cordially yours,

Roger W. Straus
ROGER W. STRAUS.

✓
Nathan Straus
630 Sixth Avenue
New York, N.Y.

December 24th, 1942

Dear Mr. Weitz:

It is a pleasure and a privilege to participate in a tribute to Rabbi Silver. He has given of himself unstintingly for the alleviation of human suffering and for aid to those in distress. Best of all, he has been willing to raise his voice courageously in condemnation of evil-doers and in crying out that the wrongs of the world must be righted. I hope that he may have many more years of usefulness as a leader in communal life.

Faithfully yours,

Nathan Straus

Mr. Sidney N. Weitz
c/o The Temple
East 105th Street at
Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

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OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

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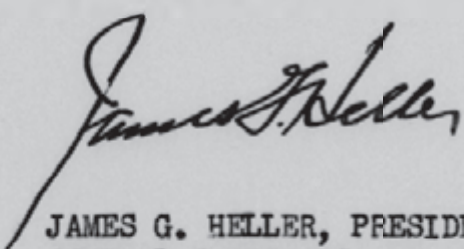
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December 29, 1942

The Central Conference of American Rabbis rejoices in the attainment of fifty years of age by its colleague, Dr. Abba Hillel Silver. Few men in the history of our rabbinate have attained a more brilliant place. Dr. Silver's remarkable gifts of mind and heart, his magnificent command of the instruments of utterance, and his own courageous consecration to the cause of faith and people, lift him to the very summit of the leadership of Jews and Judaism.

We are grateful to God for all the years of his work, and we pray that many more may be given to him.


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THE CONSUMERS' LEAGUE of OHIO

341 ENGINEERS' BUILDING

CLEVELAND, OHIO

MAin 3025

January 18, 1943

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Mr. Sidney N. Weitz, President
The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Mr. Weitz:

The officers and members of The Consumers' League of Ohio are delighted to join in the celebration of a quarter century of devoted and distinguished public service by Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver.

It is always easy to find men who are willing to give lip service and perfunctory support for matters of public concern. As Henry David Thoreau once said, with truthful bitterness, about such moral jellyfish:

"They hesitate, and they regret and sometimes they petition; but they do nothing in earnest or with effect. They will wait, well disposed, for others to remedy the evil, that they may no longer have it to regret. At most they give only a cheap vote and a feeble countenance and Godspeed to the right, as it goes by them."

But, as we of The Consumers' League have especial reason to know, Rabbi Silver, in such matters, has never hesitated nor merely regretted. He has not waited for others to remedy the evils that beset us, the while he gave only a cheap vote and a feeble countenance for the right. On the contrary, he has given freely, generously, passionately, of his time and his purse, of his tremendous moral enthusiasm and his incomparable eloquence, for the causes of social improvement and economic reform.

When unemployment insurance in 1930 was only a phrase of uncertain meaning and very questionable reputation, he threw open the doors of his study to join with our committee which met there week after week in the study of that subject. From that committee there came the famous bill which was introduced in the Ohio Legislature in 1931 - and for the first time unemployment insurance became a living issue in this state. Still later he served as a member of the Commission which Governor George White appointed to investigate the whole subject, and served with distinction. And when tiresome spade

1-18-43

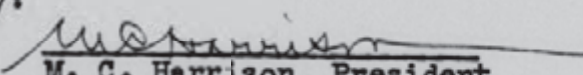
work and tedious drudgery were required to translate the proposed legislation into actual enactment and effective operation - it was Rabbi Silver who was always the first man to be called upon and the first man to respond - for conferences - or legislative committee meetings - or public mass meetings.

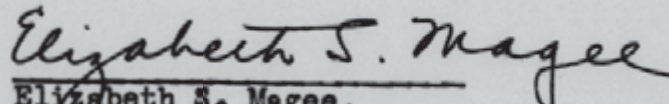
Eventually all of this work flowered into effective legislation, and at this very moment there are hundreds of thousands of men and women in Ohio who have at least some measure of economic security because of a law which came about in no small part because of his courage, his energy and his disinterested devotion to the public welfare.

It is with immense pride, therefore, that we record the fact that for many years Rabbi Silver has been a loyal, faithful, and generous member of the Consumers' League of Ohio, that he is also our beloved and honorary Vice-President, and that through all these years he has been a tower of strength in every campaign of The Consumers' League for increased protection and greater economic security for the working men and women and children of Ohio.

THE CONSUMERS' LEAGUE OF OHIO

By:


M. C. Harrison, President


Elizabeth S. Magee,
Executive Secretary.

THE ASSOCIATED CHARITIES

Institute of Family Service

Community Service Building

1001 Huron Road

CLEVELAND

MAin 8560

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ASST. TO GEN. SECY.

January 21st, 1943.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,
The Temple,
E. 105th & Ansel Rd.,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Rabbi Silver:

It is my pleasure as President of the Associated Charities to transmit to you the felicitations of our Board of Trustees and staff upon completing your twenty-fifth year here. Cleveland has benefitted greatly from the services which you have given so generously in countless ways to our community, and it is an indeed an honor to have you as one of its distinguished citizens.

This occasion is especially significant to us in that you have served as a member of our Board of Trustees or Advisory Board practically this entire period. You have lent us wise counsel and have brought a broad humanitarian point of view to our problems. Your understanding of what our agency is doing is illustrated by the following quotation from one of your speeches given at our Annual Meeting in 1926:

"The noblest charity is not that which seeks with things to satisfy wants, but that which places at the disposal of groping and helpless fellow human beings the strength which may be ours, and the experience and the wisdom - one soul reaching out to another - one mind kindling another".

Our best wishes go to you on this anniversary occasion and we hope for a continuation of your service to this community and to our agency for many years to come.

Very sincerely yours,

Willard W. Wilson

President

WAR CHEST of Greater Cleveland

OPERATED BY
CLEVELAND COMMUNITY FUND

25th YEAR



1918-1942

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COMMUNITY SERVICE BUILDING

1001 HURON ROAD - CH. 6850

December 28, 1942.

Rev. Abba Hillel Silver, D. D.,
The Temple,
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Dr. Silver:

Your twenty-fifth anniversary as Rabbi of The Temple is a milestone of community-wide importance. At the peak of your effectiveness, you already have to your credit a quarter-century of religious, statesmanlike leadership. The Community Fund is profoundly grateful for your constant willingness to be helpful to its high purposes, and for the inspirational messages you have given in its behalf.

Our own interest in humanitarian needs leads us especially to commend your nation-wide activity in financial appeals for the relief of the persecuted Jewish people in the lands temporarily under cruel oppression. The generous response of American Jews, stimulated by your voice, has long been an encouraging sign, pointing to ultimate victory.

The Community Fund joins your congregation in earnest hopes for a long continuance of your outstanding career in our beloved City.

Cordially yours,

Willis W. Clark

General Chairman.

WWC:GH

WAR CHEST CAMPAIGN OCTOBER 19-29, 1942

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✓
Grace E. Meyette

2196 Ambleside Drive

Cleveland, Ohio

January 20, 1943

Mr. Sidney N. Weitz

THE TEMPLE

East 105th Street at Ansel Road

Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Mr. Weitz:

During my long and broad experience in Cleveland, I have not known a religious or civic leader who has so consistently and courageously sponsored, often inspired, every cause which served truth and justice as has Rabbi Silver. His active devotion to Human rights, regardless of faith, race, group, or nationality has made Rabbi Silver the outstanding figure of this community.

He has always supported and defended the essential rights of man in their just cause. He has done this with courage and great good humor, even though many times the cause has been unpopular, unapplauded, and misjudged.

The cruelties and deep disillusionments of his adult life have not withered his spirit into cynicism but rather have deepened his quality of living and developed his unusual wisdom. His essential belief in the goodness of man has stimulated devotion to these many human endeavors to protect and defend their rights. All of this has earned for him an unusual place of influence and fellowship far beyond his own group or professional calling.

Cordially yours,

Grace E. Meyette

Grace E. Meyette, Director
LEAGUE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

GEM:MS

✓
CZECHOSLOVAK CONSULATE
CLEVELAND, OHIO

January 19, 1943

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver,
Rabbi of the Temple
Ansel Rd.,
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver,

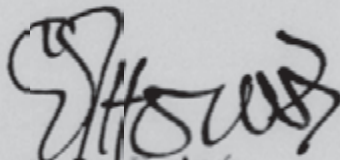
It gives me sincere pleasure to greet you at the 25th Anniversary of your service to the Cleveland community.

As a scholar, as a spiritual leader, and as a great humanitarian, your influence has reached many whom you do not even know.

I like to think that what you stand for-adherence to truth, a feeling for fellow-men regardless of creed, and your active sense of social justice, had its impact in countless ways in making for us all a better life.

I hope that we may continue to greet you in many years to come.

Respectfully yours,


L. J. Hajný
Consul

EJH:TJ

PHILADELPHIA

Allied Jewish Appeal

Campaign Headquarters - - ¹⁷⁰⁰~~1506~~ WALNUT STREET - - KINgsley 3200

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Executive Secretary

January 19, 1943

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

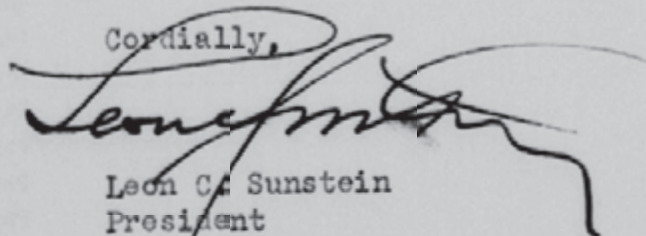
Dear Dr. Silver:

I was pleased to learn of the preparations that are now under way in Cleveland to take cognizance of your fiftieth birthday anniversary, and feel I should not permit the occasion to pass without some reference to the debt of gratitude the Jewish community of Philadelphia owes you.

Your willingness to come to our aid on so many occasions, your eloquence and your extraordinary persuasive powers have been a source of inspiration and have helped us not alone to discharge our obligations to our distressed fellow Jews overseas and to Palestine, but also to solidify our ranks and to strengthen the sense of harmony within our community.

Though Cleveland has a priority claim on you, we here feel that we have a right to share in the celebration. I know I am voicing the sentiments of our entire community when I say to you: Carry on in the same spirit that has animated you in the past, and you will continue to be a blessing to our people and to all mankind.

Cordially,



Leon C. Sunstein
President

LCS:ps

"If Not You THEN Who?"



NATIONAL LABOR COMMITTEE FOR PALESTINE

AFFILIATED WITH HISTADRUT HAOVDIM IN ERETZ ISRAEL

געווערקשאפטן קאמפייין פאר דער הסתדרות אין ארץ ישראל

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WAtkin: 9-5288

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Associate Secretary

January 21, 1943

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

On behalf of the National Labor Committee for Palestine and all the American friends of the Histadrut, I wish to extend to you our heartiest greetings upon your fiftieth birthday anniversary.

Under the present circumstances in which the Jewish people find themselves, it is not frequently that we can take time to mark important dates in our own lives, and to celebrate occasions which normally call for celebration. However, are we not justified at times to stop and tell our colleagues and leaders that we feel their presence, that we appreciate their services to our people? Indeed, this is one of those rare moments, when in adding our words of felicitation to a leader and Rabbi in Israel, we strengthen the hands of one who has and will be guided solely by historic needs of our people.

Long may you stand with us, working for the realization of a Jewish Palestine based on the teachings of social justice given to the world by our ancient prophets, and practiced in humble determination by our heroic Halutzim today.

With many wishes for your personal happiness and health, and hopes for the redemption of our people "bimhera, B'yameinu," I am

Sincerely yours,

Isaac Hamlin,
National Secretary

Forward to Victory and a Jewish Cooperative Commonwealth!

January 20, 1943

It gives me great pleasure to send my sincerest greetings and wishes to Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver on the occasion of his double anniversary.

I have known few men who can speak as convincingly as Rabbi Silver and he makes an excellent use of this extraordinary gift in the public interest.

May he serve our people and humanity in the future as he did in the past and may he find real satisfaction in his noble work.

A. Einstein.

Professor Albert Einstein.

B'NAI B'RITH

Office of the President
HENRY MONSKY
OMAHA NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
OMAHA, NEBRASKA

January 21, 1943

Mr. Sidney N. Weitz
President of The Temple
East 150th Street at Ansell Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Mr. Weitz:

The Silver Jubilee of Dr. Abba Hillel Silver's service to the Temple is an event that transcends in its significance the sphere of influence of the important congregation he has served so long. Dr. Silver's leadership in, and service to, the American Jewish community parallels the most dynamic era in Jewish history in the making of which he has had a notable part.

Inspired orator, zealous in the cause of Zion, talented administrator, militant liberal, uncompromising champion of an unashamed and undaunted Jewry, Dr. Silver is the ideal servant of Israel. We have need of the faith and courage and optimism which he has so brilliantly translated into action.

B'nai B'rith is happy to join in paying tribute, not only to one of its most distinguished sons, but to a consecrated leader of our people whose whole life is dedicated to their service and their welfare.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

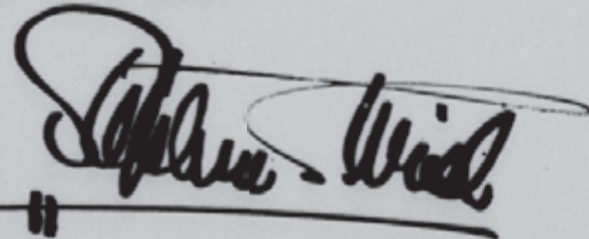
Henry Monsky
Henry Monsky

HM:me

To speak of Dr. Silver's extraordinary, perhaps unique, gifts as preacher and orator is to make mention of that which all men know. He is one of the most gifted of men, a powerful pleader for great causes, his eloquence fortified by an uncommon command of the sources of Hebraic and other literatures.

The best known service of Dr. Silver, outside of the building-up of a great community in Cleveland, has been the leadership of the United Palestine Appeal over a period of years, years difficult and perplexing, but not beyond his capacity to meet. Throughout his ministry he has stood valiantly and mightily for the rightful place of Palestine, indeed of Zion, in any working out of the problem of the Jewish people. One ventures to hope that the day may not be distant when, by general consensus, and whatever be the cost to the Cleveland Jewish community, Dr. Silver may be released from immediate congregational service and be enabled to give himself to the still more important task of giving his life through high and sustained service to the leadership of his people and of their cause, which needs all that he can give.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver has the strength of the solitary, the man who walks alone, a powerful personality, whose greatest contribution to American Israel yet remains to be made.


A handwritten signature, likely "Stephen Weiss", is written in dark ink. Below the signature is a horizontal line with a small vertical tick mark in the center.

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The Jewish Community Council

Cleveland

Chester-Twelfth Bldg. - CHerry 8176

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
E 105th & Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

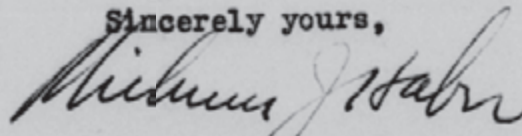
Dear Rabbi Silver:

May I in behalf of the entire Jewish community extend our deep and sincere congratulations to you on the occasion of your 25th year at The Temple and your 50th birthday anniversary.

Not only The Temple, but all Cleveland citizens of every race and creed - and indeed, the entire nation and world - join in this tribute to you. For the genius of your leadership and service have known no bounds, and have been as universal as the great Jewish tradition and learning which they exemplify. The countless numbers of persons to whom your insight and message have given inspiration, to whom your social vision has given security and happiness, to whom your humanitarian activities have given life itself, all join in deep gratitude. And all fervently pray that you may be granted many more years in which to give of your extraordinary capacities to a world which needs you so much.

With every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,



Philmore J. Haber
President

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HEBREW UNION COLLEGE

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New York, N. Y.

Jan. 20, 1943

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
E. 105th Street and Ansel Rd.
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Friend:

On behalf of your colleagues of the Hebrew Union College Alumni Association, permit me to extend cordial felicitations on the twin occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of your ministry in Cleveland and your fiftieth birthday. Your many friends congratulate you, your dear ones and your members who have been the beneficiaries of your distinguished ministry.

Your consecrated efforts in behalf of our people and mankind constitute a significant chapter in the history of American Israel. Your colleagues of the Alumni Association join your many friends in paying tribute to your many years of devoted and beneficent service. May God bless you and your dear ones, and may He establish the work of your hands.

Sincerely yours,

Harry S. Margolis
President

HSM:msr

The Epworth-Euclid Methodist Church
1919 East One Hundred Seventh Street
Cleveland

MINISTERS
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CHARLES W. HAMILTON

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January 20, 1943

Rabbi Abba H. Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

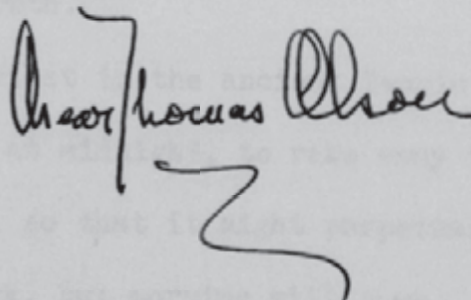
My dear Dr. Silver:

My congratulations to you on the achievement of your twenty-five years in the ministry of the Temple.

It is good to know you and great to have you in the religious fellowship of Cleveland. Last Monday evening at our Official Board meeting I took occasion to pay tribute to you personally, and to express my admiration for your religious school. The program of religious education that you are carrying on through the Temple is one of the best pieces of work of its kind that I know about.

The enclosed statement was unanimously adopted by our Official Board last Monday evening. In due course it will come to you properly engrossed. The war has taken even men of this type of skill out of circulation so that we find ourselves embarrassed in not being able to give this to you in the form that it deserves. With all good appreciation.

Yours sincerely,



OTO:em

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To Dr. Abba Hillel Silver and the Temple congregation upon the completion of twenty-five years as Rabbi of the Temple in Cleveland, Ohio, on Sunday, January twenty-fourth, Nineteen hundred and forty-three:

Greetings.

Epworth-Euclid Methodist Church salutes The Temple of Cleveland and its minister, the Reverend Abba Hillel Silver, D.D., Litt. D., L. H. D., on the twenty-fifth anniversary of a distinguished ministry to the religious life of Cleveland.

The pulpit is an essential part of the equipment of higher civilization and abiding culture. When mankind is apt to stray--and it does that at certain periods in its history--into the morass of selfishness and materialism, it is the great preacher who stands as the prophet of the Lord God, calls mankind to the way of right and devotion, and makes the appeal that helps men "to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with God".

For twenty-five years Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver has lent distinction to one of the great pulpits of America. His voice is in the prophetic tradition. Epworth-Euclid Church shares with the Temple congregation and the religious community of Cleveland in extending esteem and felicitation to this preacher and teacher of religious truth.

Was it not required of the Jewish priest in the ancient Temple that he should go through the darkness alone, at midnight, to rake away the ashes of the Temple fire, and to tend it, so that it might perpetually burn? The times in which we live are dark, but morning will come. Hebrew Temple and Christian Church must keep the altar fires of truth and freedom burning.

James Brooks
Chairman, the Executive Committee

Therese Howard
Minister

Clarence Edwin Hall
Executive Secretary

The Old Stone Church

The First Presbyterian Society in Cleveland

Organized 1820

Public Square

Cleveland, Ohio

January 22nd, 1943

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

It is a matter of deep regret to me that I cannot be present at the Twenty-fifth Anniversary Service of your ministry at the Temple. I shall, however, be represented by one of my associates, Dr. Herman A. Klahr. I shall take great satisfaction, also, in expressing over the air my congregation's gratitude for all that you have meant to Cleveland and the much wider sphere of your far-flung ministry.

On behalf of the Session of the Old Stone Church, and on my own, I extend to you heartfelt felicitations upon a quarter of a century of distinguished and enriching service which has given you a large and fruitful influence far beyond the confines of Cleveland.

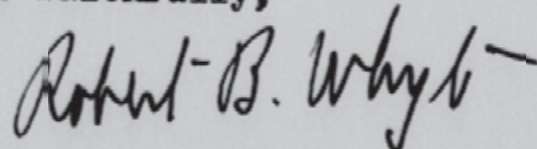
I shall be thinking of you on Sunday morning next standing before your congregation, well beloved and highly honored, with golden years behind you, blessed memories within, troops of friends about you and a bright and beckoning prospect before you of still long and ever increasing service.

Your eloquence, insight, courage, leadership, genius for friendship, passion for the noblest ideals of religion and democracy, sympathy for the oppressed everywhere, native magnanimity and kindness of heart --- all this to us, who have been beneficiaries of your friendship and influence, is less a matter for personal congratulations to you than for profound gratitude to God for your life and ministry.

Your personal kindness to me is a fragrant memory.

With affection and admiration, I am

Yours faithfully,



Robert B. Whyte

קרן היסוד

THE EREZ ISRAEL (PALESTINE) FOUNDATION FUND

KEREN HAYESOD LTD.

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CABLES: KERJESSOD JERUSALEM: 555555 • BENTLEY'S CODE • PHONE 4691 11155

January 21, 1943.

הלשכה הראשית
ירושלים ת. ר. 588
HEAD OFFICE
JERUSALEM P.O.B. 588

ADDRESS REPLY TO
ROOM 1121
41 EAST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I wish to send you my best wishes for your 50th birthday which is also the 25th anniversary of your occupying the Cleveland pulpit. I am glad that this occasion gives me an opportunity to express the feelings I have towards you and I think I may allow myself at this moment the luxury of expressing my appreciation of your character and gifts.

I have been fortunate enough to see you and to hear you time and again. I remember one occasion when I heard you speak to your congregation in connection with modern works by Jewish authors on the problem of Jesus in Jewish literature. It was apparent to me that you were deeply concerned to place your profound learning at the service of your people, to be a teacher in Israel. It seemed that light and truth were spread by your words, and it was a memorable hour I spent at your feet as your pupil. Whenever you appear in public there is in your speeches a seriousness and lack of exaggeration which carry conviction to your listeners.

Your leadership in Zionist activities has proved abundantly a rare capacity not only for making demands, but for carrying those demands through to fulfillment. That, in my estimation rests upon your power to urge your cause with a combination of passion and judgment, even when, with the inspiration of true leadership, you have had the temerity to give expression to ideas which might not be popular and conventional politicians prefer to leave alone.

I have often mentioned on behalf of the Keren Hayesod our appreciation of what you did for Palestine. I wish to repeat today how thankful we are for your untiring activities in building our funds.

Perhaps I may dare, just once, at this moment,

January 21, 1943.

to reverse our roles, and to sermonise a little to you. In the years to come, when you are harvesting the fruits of your schooling, of your rich abilities and of your many activities of the past years, I can see it as your clear duty to work with all your power and zeal for Erez Israel and for Zionism. Great politicians have their best time before them when they have passed their half century. Leaders of the people are of those mature men, who feel passionately and have rich and ripe experience.

You have studied Kabbala and the mysteries of Jewish life. You know the spiritual teachings of our people, their past and their present. You know from your studies that there are periods when the Jew can afford to wait, but also there are times when action is imperative and may not be delayed. The remnants of Israel wait at this moment for the renewal of their days in their own country and their eyes look to those few who are able to show them the way.

As an admirer of all those qualities which have made you able to realize the depths to which humanity can sink and the heights to which it can rise - and that applies to Judaism too - I wish you today good luck for a fresh start in the years of life that are before you.

Please convey to Mrs. Silver my respectful and hearty greetings.

Yours very sincerely,

Ischudak Kurt Blumenfeld

KB:GC

NAHUM GOLDMANN

41 EAST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y.

MURRAY HILL 2-1160

January 22, 1943

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I deeply regret that I cannot be personally present to join with your many friends on the twenty-fourth in celebrating the occasion of your twenty-fifth anniversary as Rabbi of the Temple and your fiftieth birthday.

I want to congratulate both The Temple and yourself on the twenty-fifth anniversary of your service as Rabbi. Your deep understanding of the spiritual aspects of Jewish life, your great learning and sincerity and your superb oratory have given to The Temple an outstanding rabbi and preacher in American Jewry.

But I want most of all to send you my personal congratulations and good wishes on your fiftieth birthday. When I think of your energy, your enthusiasm, your confidence and belief in the future of humanity and our people, it is impossible to believe that you are already fifty years old.

Your deep devotion, your readiness to undertake any task that will further the Zionist cause; your passionate belief in it, your gift of interpreting what the Zionist movement means to our own people and to public opinion, have made you an illustrious leader, not only in America, but wherever there are Zionists and Jews.

To me personally, and to my colleagues on the Executive, your identification with the Zionist movement has been heartening, encouraging and immeasurably helpful. May you be granted many further years of fruitful service to our people.

With cordial personal greetings and all good wishes for much personal happiness and satisfaction in a peaceful world,

Sincerely yours,


Nahum Goldmann

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

CLEVELAND ROUND TABLE

THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS

FOUNDED IN 1928

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

864 UNION COMMERCE BUILDING, CLEVELAND, OHIO

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January 22, 1943

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WHITING WILLIAMS

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

The Temple

105th Street and Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Rabbi:

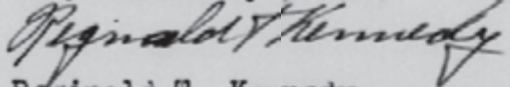
On the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of your rabbinate in Cleveland, may I extend to you the congratulations of the Cleveland Round Table of the National Conference of Christians and Jews as well as my personal congratulations.

During your rabbinate, you have been a major influence in the promotion of good will and cooperation among Protestants, Catholics, and Jews that has made Cleveland an outstanding city in the move toward these ideals. But your influence extends far beyond the confines of this city. I vividly recall the fine impression that you made upon a large New York audience, when I first had the pleasure of meeting you personally. And recently, of course, you had a part in the Army Camp program of the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

The Cleveland Round Table and I extend to you our sincere thanks for your cooperation, our congratulations on this anniversary, and our best wishes for your continued success and happiness.

With kindest personal good wishes, I remain,

Very cordially yours,

Reginald T. Kennedy
Regional Director

RTK/ep

✓

EMANUEL NEUMANN
749 WEST END AVENUE
NEW YORK

January 22, 1943

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Abba:

While I shall be unable to participate in the celebration of your fiftieth birthday on the spot, you know that I will be there in spirit.

One of my most vivid recollections is the Saturday evening when I joined the Herzl Club thirty-seven years ago. It was the night the Club celebrated your Bar-mitzvah and we were provided by your folks with basketfuls of apples and cake. From that day to this, I have witnessed your growth and the maturing of your intellectual and moral powers; and I am filled with a sense of profound gratitude that in this dark and turgid period of our history, we have been vouchsafed a spokesman and leader of your stature.

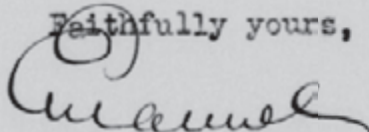
Surrounded as one is to the point of suffocation by evidences of pettiness, stupidity, myopic selfishness and all the timidities, frivolities and meannesses which muddy the stream of our national life, one is infinitely heartened by the knowledge that there are still men among us rising to the height of a great tradition.

I shall fervently join with thousands of others in praying that you be granted the strength of body and mind to continue to bear all the strains and trials which are inevitable concomitants of your position and responsibilities.

Fan joins me in sending most affectionate regards and congratulations.

That you have priceless gifts and talents, independence, influence and prestige you know, but I wonder whether you know how much you are loved by those who have been privileged to have had intimate contact with you?

Faithfully yours,



Emanuel Neumann

EN:BP

CABLE

JERUSALEM, PALESTINE,
January 22, 1943.

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER
THE TEMPLE
CLEVELAND, OHIO

PLEASE ACCEPT OUR HEARTFELT CONGRATULATIONS ON DOUBLE
CELEBRATION. WE JOIN UNCOUNTABLE HOST YOUR FRIENDS
THROUGHOUT JEWRY IN EXPRESSING OUR ADMIRATION YOUR
DEVOTED MANIFOLD ACTIVITIES OUR PEOPLE PARTICULARLY
YOUR OUTSTANDING INDEFATIGABLE WORK FOR HAYESOD
KAYEMETH WHICH HELPED TO BRING ABOUT REMARKABLE
PRACTICAL ACHIEVEMENTS IN PALESTINE WHICH FOUNDATION
OF FUTURE JEWISH COMMONWEALTH. WE SALUTE YOUR EFFORTS
STRENGTHENING ZIONIST MOVEMENT IN STATES BY WISE AND
UNDERSTANDING LEADERSHIP AND YOUR STRIVINGS FOR ACTIVE
MEASURES TO SAVE OUR BRETHREN FROM HITLER'S ANNIHILATION.
ALL OUR BLESSINGS.

ZELIG BRODETSKY



COLLINGWOOD AVENUE TEMPLE

Corner Collingwood and Acklin Avenues

LEON ISRAEL FEUER
RABBI

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President of Sisterhood

LEWIS N. OSTERMAN
President of Brotherhood

TOLEDO, OHIO

January 22, 1943

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

I am directed by our Board of Trustees, which has taken official cognizance of the occasion, to congratulate you upon the celebration of your Twenty-five years of ministry to The Temple. To the Temple, too, go our congratulations for its great good fortune in having had you as its Rabbi.

Yours is a remarkable career. Having attained the stature that compels world-wide recognition while still a young man, and I congratulate you upon your Fiftieth birthday, you stand upon the threshold of that sanctuary reserved for the Prophets in Israel. May God grant you the life and strength to continue in the way. And may he unceasingly favor you with the light of His countenance, to spare you the ills and misfortune that are our lot, so that you may continue to devote your great gifts to the benefit of your people. In giving us you, God has again shown us His benevolence.

As a Congregation, we in Toledo owe you a deep debt of gratitude for having prepared our own Rabbi. Because of your precept and example he has brought to us a spirituality never before achieved in our history. While he is a man of stature in his own right, it is nevertheless true that without the influences of your great personality, he might never have attained his own position. In your greatness, therefore, he and we have much for which to be thankful.

On behalf of the Officers, the Board of Trustees and the Congregation of Shomer Emunim, I convey to you our felicitations.

Cordially yours,

A. L. Steinfeld
President

ALS-s

TELEGRAM

NEW YORK CITY, January 22, 1943.

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER
THE TEMPLE
CLEVELAND, OHIO

PLEASE ACCEPT HEARTY CONGRATULATIONS OF MIZRACH UPON
YOUR JUBILEE. MAY GOD GRANT YOU AMPLE OPPORTUNITY
OF CONTINUING GIVING OF YOUR GREAT TALENT AND NOBILITY
FOR HIGHEST INTEREST OF AM YISROAEL AND ERETZ YISROAEL
FOR MANY YEARS TO COME

LEON GELMAN
RABBI WOLF W. GOLD
GEDILIA BUBLICK
RABBI MAX KIRSHBLUM



BUREAU OF JEWISH EDUCATION

10323 Superior Avenue

★

Cleveland, Ohio

לשכת החנוך דקליבלנד אודון

January 22, 1943

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N'VAI ZEDEK
OER CHODOSH ANSHE S'FARD
OHEB ZEDEK
ORTHODOX JEWISH ORPHAN HOME
TEMPLE ON THE HEIGHTS
THE TEMPLE

★

JEWISH TEACHERS INSTITUTE
YOUNG JUDAEA

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

Dear Dr. Silver:

Today we called the Western Union and Postal Telegraph offices to give them the message which is stated below and were informed that no congratulatory telegrams are being transmitted by wire. We are, therefore, sending you this message by letter. It expresses the sentiments of the members of the Board of Trustees and our own sentiments.

ON BEHALF OF THE BUREAU OF JEWISH EDUCATION AND
ON OUR OWN BEHALF WE EXTEND TO YOU YOUR HEARTFELT
GREETINGS AND FELICITATIONS ON YOUR TWENTY-FIVE YEARS
OF MINISTRY IN CLEVELAND AND YOUR FIFTIETH BIRTHDAY.
ANU MEACHLIM LCHA BRIUT BECHA HATZLACHA OSHER
VEOSHER LEORECH YAMM.

With sincerest personal regards,

Respectfully yours,

Azriel Eisenberg
Azriel Eisenberg,
Director

George J. Klein
George J. Klein,
President

AB/GJK/DA

C O P Y

WESTERN UNION

January 20, 1943

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio.

HEARTIEST GREETINGS ON YOUR FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY. YOUR
SPLENDID LEADERSHIP IN JEWISH LIFE, IN THE ZIONIST MOVEMENT
AND FOR EVERYTHING THAT STANDS HIGH IN A DEMOCRATIC WORLD,
IS A SOURCE OF PRIDE TO ALL WHO HAVE THE PRIVILEGE TO BE
ASSOCIATED WITH YOU. MY SINCERE WISHES THAT FOR MANY MORE
YEARS YOU SHALL INSPIRE YOUR FOLLOWERS FOR GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS
AS YOU HAVE SO SPLENDIDLY DONE IN THE PAST.

LOUIS SEGAL
General Secretary
JEWISH NATIONAL WORKERS ALLIANCE



JEWISH WELFARE FEDERATION OF DETROIT

51 WEST WARREN AVENUE

Columbia 1600

January 22, 1943

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Secretary

AIR MAIL
SPECIAL DELIVERY

The Temple
East 105th Street at Ansel Road
Cleveland, Ohio

Gentlemen:

The Jewish Welfare Federation of Detroit - its officers, its board of governors, its contributors, and the entire Jewish community that it represents - is happy to associate itself with all of the many, many friends of Dr Silver on the occasion of his fiftieth birthday and the twenty-fifth anniversary of his valuable services in your pulpit.

The Jews of Detroit are happy to express their sense of appreciation and to congratulate the Temple on its good fortune to have such an outstanding leader of American Jewry as its spiritual head and spokesman. Please think of all of us as participating whole-heartedly in the special services that you are conducting, and record us as joining in the unanimous expression of thanks for Rabbi Silver's past work in all causes Jewish. Record us, also, as wishing that both your Rabbi and your congregation will continue to serve the Jewish community and the general community for many years to come.

Cordially yours,

JEWISH WELFARE FEDERATION

Isidore Sobeloff

Isidore Sobeloff
Executive Director

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S:c



1942 — 60th Anniversary of Jewish Colonization in Palestine

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

PALESTINE FOUNDATION FUND (KEREN HAYESOD)
JEWISH NATIONAL FUND (KEREN KAYEMET)
For the Defense and Upbuilding of the Jewish National Home in Palestine

41 EAST 42nd STREET

NEW YORK CITY

Telephone: MURRAY Hill 2-3320

Cable Address—Palestine

January 22, 1943

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Henry Montor

Dear Dr. Silver:

May we take this occasion to extend to you
our very warm and hearty good wishes on the occasion
of your fiftieth birthday.

Cordially yours,

The Staff of the United Palestine Appeal

Dr. Silver
Florence M. Schuckman
Grace Gray
Elihu D. Stone
Martin Freedman
Vivian Green
Janne Schneider
Ethel Zetach
Joe Weingarten
Jaqueline Binkha
Bernice Rubing
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Clara Mirel
Florence Eitelberg
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Rita Green

"We in the United States must help strengthen Palestine"

—HON. FRANK KNOX, Secretary of the Navy

ההסתדרות הציונית של ארצות הברית

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1720 - 16TH STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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HARRY TAKIFF

February 1st, 1943

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Dr. Silver:

I am happy to enclose herewith copy of a
resolution unanimously adopted at the Greater New
York Conference which met at the Park Central Hotel
on Sunday, January 24th.

With warmest greetings,

Faithfully yours,

Simon Shetzer

SS:bg
encl.



RESOLUTION ON RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER

We, representatives of Zionist Districts and units in the Metropolitan area of Greater New York, assembled in conference at the Park Central Hotel on Sunday, January 24th, heartily join our fellow Zionists and Jews throughout the country in extending to Dr. Abba Hillel Silver our sincerest felicitations and the best of good wishes on the occasion of his 50th birthday, which also coincides with his 25th anniversary as spiritual leader of The Temple in Cleveland.

A militant leader in Israel, a dynamic and guiding force in Zionism and a scholar of note, Rabbi Silver has been in the forefront of every movement dedicated to the welfare of his people and the upbuilding of the Jewish National Homeland in Palestine. Actively identified with the Zionist Movement since his boyhood, Rabbi Silver has placed at the service of the Zionist Cause his unstinting efforts and great talents, serving as an intrepid champion for the ideal which he has made a creed of his life and an integral part of his religious philosophy. His abiding interest and faith in the renaissance of his people and in Zion restored, his guiding spirit and profound leadership in Hebrew culture has contributed in a large measure to the integration of Zionism into American life. His unique record of achievement as National Chairman of the United Palestine Appeal and in all fields of Zionist endeavor have earned for him a permanent niche in the national structure of Jewish creativeness and revival.

In behalf of the many thousands of members of the Zionist Organization of America in Greater New York, we fervently pray for his continued good health and wish him many more decades of valuable and constructive service to the cause of Israel and Eretz Israel.



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January 27, 1943

Mr. Sidney N. Weitz
940 Leader Building
Cleveland, Ohio

My dear Mr. Weitz:

I want to express to you and to the several groups of the Temple the sincere appreciation of the American Red Cross for your outstanding contribution of a station wagon in honor of Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver.

We are all very grateful to the Boards of Trustees of the Temple, the Temple Women's Association and the Temple Men's Club for the valuable donation of this station wagon. Our Greater Cleveland Chapter of the American Red Cross will use this station wagon in transporting workers from factories to our Red Cross Blood Donor Headquarters, where they will give their blood for the Armed Forces of our country.

You will be glad to know that our donations of blood from Cleveland and other cities are saving the lives of hundreds of American soldiers and sailors who are wounded in battle. The dried blood plasma which is made from our blood donations, is one of the miracles of modern science. Your valuable contribution of this station wagon will greatly expedite our Red Cross Blood Donor program in Greater Cleveland, and through your contribution you are therefore helping to save the lives of American soldiers and sailors wounded on the battlefield.

We are all grateful to you for your outstanding support at this critical time.

Very sincerely yours,

John D. Cremer, Jr.
John D. Cremer, Jr.
Executive Director