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# New World Emerging

By DR. LOUIS FINKELSTEIN  
(Chancellor, Jewish Theological Seminary)

We are living in a time when A NEW WORLD IS EMERGING. What we are witnessing in all the troubles on our campuses and in our cities is both the death of civilization, but its birth. I do not have to tell this audience that birth also has its travails, and is not achieved without pain and agony. But these must not be confused with the pain and agony of death. To participate in this act of Creation, to be part of a generation which is putting its stamp on all future history, a generation in which the predictions of the Prophets are coming to be realized to a greater extent than ever before, is not something to be regretted, but to be thankful for. We have the opportunity, and therefore the challenge of making this new creation, the new heaven and the new earth, so much better than any which preceded it, that one of us can wish to be passive observers of the scene. But neither can we wish to be contributors only to its pains and tribulations.

There is great work to be done by those of us who, being descendants of the Prophets, are endowed, as Hillel said, with something of their gift. The foundations of the new world must be laid by those who have courage to change the old; by those whose arteries are still soft and clear, whose minds are still active, and hearts still generous.

Women's liberation must indeed be the acquisition of rights long denied, of status long ignored, of the place assured them in the first chapter of Genesis, where we are told that God created man and woman alike in His image. But it is also something more. It is the liberation not only of self, but also of humanity. It is also active liberation of the human spirit, now dormant; participation in change of the world leadership now so corrupt; in the evolution and emergence of a new spirit of creativeness open to all.

The time for oppression of any group, whether because of nationality, geography, religion, race, or gender, is over. The time for refusal to

just at a time when the nation will take it for granted that a Jew with qualifications would be considered for the White House.

That has not been the case before. The Democrats were once casting about for a successor to FDR, and they had a splendid prospect, whose name was Herbert Lehman. But he never got the nod because he was Jewish. Similarly the Republicans were looking high and low for a man who was able and a vote-getter and they had one, but they never gave him serious attention because he was a Jew named Jacob Javits. Abe Ribicoff would have made a fine president, but his Jewishness handicapped him. The biggest vote-getter in recent New York history is Arthur Levitt, who has bucked the Republican sweeps again and again in New York State to become its comptroller.

But the last election, with victories by such Jews as Milton Shapp, the new governor of Pennsylvania, the re-election of Morton Mandel and Frank Licht as governors of Maryland and Rhode Island, the candidacies of such men as Ohio's Howard Metzenbaum, Michigan's Sander Levin, and Arizona's Sam Grossman, has led the U.S. to the point of giving the Jews cognizance as prospective holders of high office.

And by the time Joseph Lieberman will be ready for the presidency, the U.S. will be ready for Joe Lieberman.

NEW YORK (WNS)--Rabbi Grainon Lazewnik, a native of Poland who has been living in Brooklyn since 1946, has received the first doctoral degree granted by New York University in its 139 year history to a student who wrote his thesis in Hebrew. Dr. Lazewnik wrote his thesis on a Talmudic subject--analyzing a medieval Hebrew manuscript.

TEL AVIV (WNS)--The budget of the expanded Jewish Agency is expected to reach \$601 million with \$400 million expected to be raised in the U.S.

NEW YORK (WNS)--American statesman W. Averill Harriman proposed a "carefully limited" lend-lease program for Israel, to "prevent Israel from spending herself into bankruptcy or to undermine the fabric of her society."

## HANUKAH FEATURE

IN HONOR OF HANUKAH, JEWISH 8-DAY TRADITION OF SACRED CANDLE LIGHTING, THE LAS VEGAS ISRAELITE WILL PUBLISH A SERIES OF STORIES TO COMMEMORATE THE HOLIDAY WHICH COMMENCES AT SUNDOWN TUESDAY, DEC. 22 AND LASTS UNTIL THE EVENING OF DEC. 30, 1970

(NO MATTER HOW YOU SPELL IT - CHANUKAH, HANUKKAH, HANUKA, HANUKAH - IT ALL ADDS UP TO HAPPY HOLY DAYS WITH SUCCESSIVE CANDLES ON THE MENORAH.)

hear the idealistic cry of the young, to pretend that because of their inexperience, their visions are unreal, and their hopes fantastic, is past. The belief that the world cannot be more rationally governed, administered, and developed has turned out to be the most unrealistic of all; for an irrational world will destroy itself.

But in this great revolution - the greatest and profoundest of all history - we as Jews, have to play a major role. In our generation we have suffered a martyrdom unknown to any people - even to us - in our long and tragic history. We have also achieved two brilliant triumphs, the emergence of the State of Israel, with its glory, and of American Jewry, with its own distinctive virtues. No group in all history has ever moved so rapidly up the intellectual, the artistic, the moral ladder as have these two sections of Jewry. No nation has shown itself more courageous than Israel, and no people more generous and loving than the American Jews.

We are then children of Prophets. That is not enough. We need also to be parents of Prophets.

We cannot let our children develop into people without identity, denied the power of their tradition, denied the force which made their remote ancestors so great, and so many of their immediate ancestors worthy of their forebears. If our children, like ourselves, are to help make a new world they will have to be not only humanitarians, but also Jews. They will have to put on the future the stamp not of the false prophets of political and social systems hostile to all humanity, but that of Isaiah, Jeremiah, Hillel, and Rabbi Akiba with their deep sense of mission, their devotion to God, their willingness to suffer in order that human life may be better, their love for fellowmen, their desire for more satisfactory, more fulfilling, more creative life for all.

Because National Women's League has before it always the two goals - the goal of a better world, and the goal of a profounder Judaism and it has been able to make a unique contribution to the betterment of mankind through the discussions it sponsors, through its influence of its members, and through them on the community.

We will have to do even more. Despite all our efforts, many of our children, perhaps most of them, are growing up ignorant of our heritage, our tradition, and our vision. Neglecting, as did the misguided idol-worshippers whom Jeremiah denounced, the wells of living waters in our tradition, they seek broken wells, which cannot even retain the waters poured into them. Until every Jewish child has received his share of our tradition, until every Jewish child is being given the privilege of understanding what it means to help create a new world, and what a new world must be like - the responsibilities it entails, the labor which it needs, the devotion and selflessness indispensable to it - we have not done our work.

We need more rabbis, more professors of Judaica, more teachers of our religious schools, and in turn more young people inspired by them. Our rabbis need sabbaticals to help refresh their spirits. They need continuing education courses as do our teachers and laymen. We need the creation of a new calling, that of the Jewish moralist to help write the books which will be for our time what Maimonides' "Guide For The Perplexed" was for his.

We can achieve all this and more if we continue the road which we have been treading as partners in a great enterprise, the greatness of which we can only begin to envisage. We will have to add to the numbers of marchers, we will have to march more steadily and vigorously, we will have to give ourselves even more selflessly than before. But our work is for our Father in Heaven; in His Name it will be blessed and effective.

## Women's Lib-Arab Style

The New YORK Times carried an un-biased interview with Leila Khaled, the Arab Hijack specialist. The peg for this story is her engagement to a man with a code name and no other identity. According to Miss Khaled, Palestinian women must fight two battles; one against Israel and the Zionists, the other "against man and the ideas that he practices on women."

In the story, Miss Khaled seems reasonable enough unless you recall what she has done, hijacked one plane and almost succeeded in hijacking another, El-Al, plane. There is nothing in her story about her companion who was killed in the action. She is an interesting kind of woman because little else is known about her, except bare facts; that she was born in "Palestine" and had to leave Israel for Lebanon. She is interesting because she is committed and her commitment is an acceptance of the possibility of death.

It is hard to believe that Miss Khaled represents the majority view of Arab women. Little is known about Arab women, except the classic image of the human being who walks behind the donkey carrying her husband. She is the work horse doing all the chores while the man sits with comrades in cafes. It would seem that the revolution to which Miss Khaled refers should begin at home, against the very practices the men commit against women. Whatever the "justice" of her cause against Israel, that will be left mainly in the hands of men. With a freer womanhood, it is likely the struggle vis-a-vis Israel could be settled both amicably and equitably.

## A Jewish President

BY RABBI SAMUEL SILVER

The first Jewish president of the United States will probably be Joseph Lieberman, of New Haven, Conn.

A scintillating speaker, young Mr. Lieberman just astonished Connecticut by breasting a Republican tide and being elected to the State Legislature on the Democratic ticket. To get the nomination he defeated the speaker of the State Senate in a primary.

Joe Lieberman is already a veteran politico. He did service in the office of Senator Ribicoff and has written a biography of James Bailey, chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

Utterly captivating and possessed of a chemical personality, Mr. Lieberman is the nephew of an Orthodox rabbi, Joseph Ehrenkrantz, of Stamford, Conn. and very comfortable and knowledgeable in Judaism.

Mr. Lieberman will get national prominence

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