## HAPPY NEW YEAR

New Year Message

By Elmer L. Winter President, American Jewish Committee

As American Jews prepare to mark the be-ginning of the year 5737, they join with their fellow citizens of all faiths in a prayerful appre-ciation of what the American democratic heri-tage has meant in helping to assure a secure, free and open environment for each of us to fulfill his destiny bounded only by individual capacity. As our bicentennial year draws to a



LAS VEGAS ISRAELITE

close and as our nation prepares to engage in a Presidential election, the highest expression of participatory democracy, we give thanks that we live in a land dedicated to the proposition that all mon are created actively. that all men are created equal.

We trust that the agonies through which our country has passed in recent years are at last over. We feel certain that the idealism and energy that have made our country great will once again be harnessed in the service of all our people and, indeed, of all mankind,

At this time, we send our affectionate greetings to our brethren in Israel and express the hope that at long last, they and their neigh-bors will move toward a complete and final

Our hearts go out to our fellow Jews in the Soviet Union, who continue to suffer intimidation, harassment and inequality.

We are disturbed over the increasing Soviet practice of expelling Jewish students from uni-versities, so that they may be drafted into the Soviet armed forces and thus prevented from emigrating. We are likewise troubled by the Soviet imposition of confiscatory taxes on parcels of food and other necessities sent to Jews

We have particular cause for anguish at the continuing imprisonment of Prisoners of Con-science in Soviet labor camps. We are concerned too with the fate of Jewish

communities in many countries of Eastern

In Latin America, the upsurge of anti-Semitic literature that has appeared in recent months, especially in Argentina and Mexico, is a source of anxiety

We decry the continuing trend of politici-zing the United Nations and its agencies by the Arab bloc and its allies, in their continuing attempt to besmirch Israel.

Thus, as we face the New Year, we are aware of the long roster of tasks yet to be accom-plished and the obstacles that Jews and mankind generally must yet overcome in order to achieve peace and human brotherhood. But our heritage and our faith help sustain our determination to move forward toward the goals enunciated more than 4,000 years ago. May the sound of the shofar once again summon us to our responsibilities and to our opportunities



By Mrs. Irving S. Benjamin Pres. Nat. Fed. Temple Sisterhoods

As Jews around the world join together at the start of the religious New Year 5737, we share a heightened sense of our relationship with God and all humanity. We pray for the end of terrorism and violence and that the United Nations will yet overcome the many stumbling blocks to its being a truly forceful instrument for peace among states and peoples. Our members in Sisterhoods in the United States were continually reminded in the Ameri-

States were continually reminded in the Ameri-can Bicentennial year of the similarities between the values of their founders 200 years ago and those of their brothers and sisters in Israel now. We in the United States, like our brethren in Israel, regard hard - won freedom as a

precious treasure to be carefully guarded, During the Days of Awe, we reflect on our conduct and the conduct of humanity. Hope is reborn each Rosh Hashanah and each Yom Kip-

reborn each Rosn Hashahan and each Yom Rip-pur we are strengthened by a spiritual renewal. We fervently hope that this year will see the beginning of a new era in the world, ushering in an age of peace and development, of justice and righteousness for all people. We yearn for the day when humankind shall

live together in harmony with respect, dignity and justice for all. The National Federation of Temple Sister-

hoods, whose program serves Jewish and human-itarian causes, includes more than 100,000 Jewish women in 630 Sisterhoods throughout the United states and in cities of Canada and 13 other countries of the united Nations. NFTS is encountries of the united Nations. NFTS is en-gaged in a diversified program which includes service to local synagogues and communities; work on behalf of the blind; religious and family education; intergroup relations; projects of social justice; support for Israel and Soviet Jewry; youth activities; rabbinic student aid; service to the elderly; and efforts to improve

international understanding. NFTS is the women's agency of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations; the central organization. of Reform Judaism in America, and is affiliated with the World Union for Pro-gressive Judaism gressive Judaism.

