

Judge Mr Keating

Chancellor
Dr. Bookstein

~~MSHHA~~

REMARKS

~~Dr. Balkin~~

Minister
Evron

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY

FRIENDS OF BAR ILAN UNIVERSITY

NEW YORK CITY

DECEMBER 18, 1966

Edward Adams

Mr Ludwig
Jesselson

Dr. Sage -
Albert Parker

Adams
Jesselson
Sage
Parker

I am delighted to be here this evening with so

many loyal friends of Bar-Ilan University. And just as I was

equally delighted earlier this year to receive a copy of the Charter granted Bar Ilan by the Board of Regents of New York State.

(wonderful Evening - Dedication to Education)

This has been a good year for you, and I wish you many, many more - even more than the traditional one hundred and twenty. !

The other day I read something - in connection with the award of the Nobel Prize in Literature to Samuel Agnon and Nelly Sachs - which set me to thinking.

↳ I read that the city of Jerusalem has closed the street where Agnon lives to ^{any} bus traffic, and has put up a sign that reads: "Quiet - Agnon is writing." !

↳ These are simple gestures, yet to me they speak volumes.

a chosen people but also
They remind me that Jews are ~~indeed~~ *not only* "choosing" people - that, throughout their history, they have chosen always to seek and to honor the highest summits of human achievement.

the ↳ The debt which civilization owes to this relatively small and almost constantly harassed people is well-nigh incalculable. ↳ Until the time of the prophets, most of mankind was chained to the belief that the individual was helpless to affect his destiny; that life was at best an endless cycle of birth and death, growth and decay. ↳ It was the prophets who proclaimed the

*Progress
Since!*

liberating truth that man, by his own good deeds, can
earn the mercy of God - ~~the~~ ^{and this works} idea that, for the first
time, made human progress conceivable and possible!

Even in many centuries of wandering and
oppression after the fall of Jerusalem, the Jewish
people achieved brilliantly whenever and wherever they
were given half a chance. But it was only with the
Emancipation which began at the close of the 18th
Century that the world once again witnessed the
full unfolding of their great talents.

~~I think all~~ Americans can be proud that it
was here in the New World, through the Declaration
of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of
Rights that the Jewish people, for the first time in
many bitter centuries, achieved the status of first-class
citizens. We can be proud, too, that our Bill of Rights
inspired the French Assembly to do likewise -- setting a
precedent which, in due course, the other nations of

Western Europe followed.

Never has a fundamental truth - that no one can measure the full capabilities of man's mind and spirit until he is fully free to realize them - received a more dazzling confirmation. The Jewish people had hardly emerged from the ghettoes of Europe before they were climbing to the topmost heights of artistic, literary, professional and scientific achievement. Here in America their contributions have been so outstanding in range and quality - and in selfless civic spirit as well - that it is difficult to imagine what we would be like without them.

Is there some hidden magic in this - some secret formula - that is accessible to Jews alone?

Not at all. It is the openest of secrets. It is something the American people have known from the beginning - although most of us have yet to act upon that knowledge with anything like the diligence and dedication of our Jewish fellow-citizens.

↳ The secret, of course, is education - the deep veneration of the Jewish family for learning, and its fierce determination that each child shall have all of it that he or she is capable of absorbing.

↳ That shows in the figures. ↳ Today, something like a fifth of ^{all} Americans of college age are actually in college. For Americans of Jewish faith, the proportion is nearly four-fifths.

↳ You are not alone, however. Already the proportion of Chinese - and Japanese-Americans in college is double the national average, and the results are beginning to be visible. ↳ Despite the remnants of racial prejudice - despite our shabby treatment of the Japanese-Americans during World War II - these descendants of penniless peasants now have, on the average, somewhat better jobs and higher incomes than white Americans.

↳ But the richness of human capabilities, fully developed by education, is most spectacularly demonstrated by Israel. ↳ This small and sorely beleaguered country, with little in resources save its people, has led the developing world in economic performance. ↳ And it has done this despite shouldering the enormous task of feeding, housing, clothing, and finding a place in its economy for a million or more immigrants from Africa and Asia, most of whom arrived with virtually nothing.

↳ When we witness how much Israel has accomplished in a mere 18 years, we must marvel at how much more it might have done but for its need to invest so heavily in its security.

↳ Unfortunately, there is great potential for conflict in the Middle East. But our policy is unmistakably clear.

↳ We will ~~energetically~~ oppose aggression there which could threaten the peace. As part of that objective, the United States is committed to the integrity of Israel as an

independent state."

↳ I would like to say a word about the quality of the relationship between the United States and Israel.

It reaches wide and deep into the fabric of Israeli society. ^{*both the American and*} _{*ies.*}

Today, for instance, the United States government provides about one quarter of all the funds Israel spends on non-military research and development. Fifteen United States government agencies are at work supporting some 350 science projects in fields ranging from health and education to weather and vocational rehabilitation. ^{*and*} American funds support significant portions of the development budget in agriculture, railways and school construction. Our experts are sharing their knowledge in the field of water development. All this against a background of over \$1 billion in aid since 1948.

↳ I say this not to boast of what our government has done, but to make clear that, although ^{*Two*} our nations may, *from time to time, as friends,*

as ~~friends~~, disagree, we stand together in commitment

to the growth and freedom of Israel. We see Israel
for what it is - a free and Independent
nation that cherishes, and defends
~~its~~ freedom - that ~~defends~~
bravely defends its right to live -
that sends forth its sons &
daughters to help others aspire
to freedom and progress.

Israel understands that defense
& social economic progress go
hand in hand - Education is the ^{frontline} ~~of~~ independence

America must understand that
we can keep our International
commitments and keep our
promise to our own people
to build a better America -
we can do both - we must

In the ongoing growth of this gallant and industrious nation, Bar-Ilan University - the youngest of Israel's ~~fully fledged~~ ^{genuine} academic institutions - has for eleven years played an active and constructive part.

During all these years, it has acted on the principle that learning is not something a part from everyday life, but an integral part of it. Thus, in addition to studying and teaching the historic heritage of the Jewish mind and spirit, it has addressed itself energetically to the problems of today's Israel - and particularly to the integration of the immigrants from Africa and Asia, which Prime Minister Eshkol has called "the prime concern of our generation."

I was interested, for example, in the studies of juvenile delinquency conducted by Professor Shlomo Shoham, ^{Shlō-mō-Shoham} the head of Bar-Ilan's Institute of Criminology.

not an island
rebut
but a
field
Action!

✓ { Among other things, he found that the rate of juvenile delinquency increases with urbanization. He found also that, the stronger the barriers against the immigrants rising in status, the higher the delinquency!

✓ { It seems to me there is a lesson here which more Americans need to take to heart. It may help them to understand that the fault is not so much with people as with the circumstances which they confront.

✓ { Indeed, I note that Professor Shoham and his colleagues took full account of the studies of immigration which have been made in other countries, notably our own.

✓ { That is as it should be. As our own Benjamin Franklin said: "Experience keeps a dear school, but fools will learn in no other."

and The least costly kind of experience is other
people's. *↳* Therefore, if we are not fools - if we seek
to avoid repeating the same mistakes that other people
have already made - we will take care to inform
ourselves about their experience, their successes
and their failures. *o*

That is a very important part of the new and strong emphasis our government is putting upon international education, an emphasis which in itself shows that we have taken to heart what the few centuries of American experience - and the many centuries of Jewish experience - teach us about the central significance of education. *(Different - Can't be both free and dependent)*

Urbanization Throughout the world, peoples are moving, as we have, from a rural and agricultural society to an urban and industrial one. The rate at which they are moving varies, and so do the local circumstances. But many of the problems they are encountering are basically the same.

Therefore, we are seeking to broaden and deepen the sharing of ideas and experiences about the problems and challenges of modernization - of industry, technology, housing, city planning, cultural conflicts, juvenile delinquency, and many others. Above all, we are concerned with the overhanging challenge of making

technological progress enhance rather than diminish
human values.

↳ For instance, plans are already in progress for
a White House Conference on International Education next year.
Its purpose will be to look beyond the programs presently
under way, or even contemplated - into the 21st Century,
which is, after all, only a 34 years away.

↳ But the promotion of the international exchange
of ideas and experiences is not a matter for government
alone. ^{Elan} I am therefore pleased that the chartering of
Bar-Ilan by the Board of Regents has made it possible
for Americans to study there and receive full credit here
for their work.

^{Lookstein} ^{Stein} ^{Elan} As your distinguished President, Dr. Joseph
Lookstein, has said, this should stimulate American
enrollment in Bar Ilan, as well as attract some of the
best American teachers and researchers to your campus.

① Mrs. Kessler's
comment
help

Lookstein

There is, after all, no more effective way of transmitting ideas than to package them in the people most capable of expounding them. And it is high time we opened up the four walls of the classroom not only to the community but to the whole wide world. The world of scholars should know no boundaries, geographical or ideological. And the spirit of the true scholar should be that which Chaucer attributed to his Clerk of Oxford: "... gladly would he learn, and gladly teach."

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BAR-ILAN UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION-DINNER
IN HONOR OF VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY
SERT ROOM, WALDORF-ASTORIA
NEW YORK CITY
DECEMBER 18, 1966

Transcript

MR. LUDWIG JESSELSON: Will everyone please rise for our National Anthem and the Hatikvah and remain standing for the Invocation. Cantor A. Joseph Cohen of Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun will lead us in the singing of the National Anthem and the Hatikvah. The invocation will be delivered by Rabbi Gilbert Klaperman, spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Sholom.

(The National Anthem was then sung.)

(The Hatikvah was then sung.)

Almighty God, source of all knowledge and eternal bridge between nations and land, we commemorate this night, the prodigious achievement of a great institution of learning. For tonight we mark the granting of an absolute charter by the Board of Regents of the State of New York to Bar-Ilan University, an event, the first of its kind which spans international boundaries in the world of scholarship and creates another link between this country and the land of Israel, providing a vital contribution to a growing, understanding of democracy in the Middle East. Tonight we pay tribute to a giant figure on the American political scene, the distinguished Vice President of the United States, the honorable Hubert H. Humphrey, humanitarian, social scientist, dedicated American and profoundly sensitive human being. As an unequalled ambassador of good will and an articulate leader in the advancement of education, he has struck magnificent blows for Israel and Bar-Ilan University as he dons the hood of the first honorary

doctorate presented by Bar-Ilan University. We pray for him and for the University, for our beloved United States of America, and for the land of Israel, continued success and fulfillment, greater dreams and their realization and above all, peace for them and for all mankind, Amen.

(After dinner)

May I call again upon Cantor Cohen to lead us in saying grace.

(Grace was then said.)

It is my pleasure to bid you welcome and to thank you very much for having joined us tonight to celebrate a most important occasion in the life of Bar-Ilan University. We are, today, for the first time in the history of Bar-Ilan conferring an honorary degree on a most distinguished citizen of our land. Considering the stature and position of this first recipient, the occasion rises to one of great significance. The honorable Hubert H. Humphrey, Vice President of the United States of America, through his (applause) through his very presence here tonight, evidences the great concern of our government for education, of progress and, in particular, a soul of understanding for our educational aims in Israel. We are thankful for the assistance received from the American government through research grants, exchange of Fulbright scholars, and in construction of the Abraham Lincoln Physics Building and loans totalling more than one million dollars. We do hope that Bar-Ilan will continue in the future as well, to be the well deserved recipient of further generous attention from our government. This University, barely

10 years in existence, has made a mark for itself as one of the foremost institutes of higher learning in Israel and in the entire Middle East. As we have heard before from Rabbi Klaperman, Bar-Ilan was recently granted an absolute charter from the Board of Regents of the State of New York. It, thus, becomes a bridgehead of American ideals in the Middle East, a beacon of light to teach and spread the ideals of democracy and human kindness through a broad and modern education in one of the most troubled parts of the world. The young State of Israel, a fulfillment of the Jewish people after never-ending hopes and prayers for nearly two thousand years and after suffering and sacrifices, the like of which hardly any other people have endured, this young state speaks enlightenment through education for all the people in the land and in the world. "Not by might nor power, but by my spirit" sayeth the Lord. This often-used quote of the Prophets so vividly expresses the philosophy of Israel. Bar-Ilan, founded on the basic principle of Israel's heritage and tradition and recognizing, at the same time, the significance of modern sciences and conceptions is fulfilling a momentous task, a mission of great import on the Israeli scene. We are fostering a lively exchange of students and professors between the United States and Israel. This serves as one of the best vehicles for better understanding between nations.

Mr. Vice President, in this very troubled world of ours, where hypocrisy rules so many nations, we are grateful that liberty and democracy are still meaningful words in our homes, and that our government pursues the spirit of these aims throughout the globe. Bar-Ilan's future obviously depends on the continued

welfare of the State of Israel, but it also must rely a great deal on all of you, my friends, who are here tonight. Your support and your sacrifices are needed to intensify and extend the meaningful work of Bar-Ilan. We are making history, if we do not shirk our responsibility. We can, and must, direct the future recordings of our time through our positive actions. Don't let us fail. Thank you. (Applause.)

I have now the privilege of introducing my dinner co-chairman, Mr. Albert Parker, who will guide the second half of our evening program. Albert Parker's devotion to the welfare of our community is outstanding. His philanthropic endeavors are many-fold. For many years he has served with dedication as Vice Chairman of the Board of Overseers, of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, of Yeshiva University. Only last week, he was elected National Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal. We are proud and happy that Bar-Ilan University has caught the imagination and has become a beneficiary of his boundless efforts and skills. With great pleasure, I present my co-chairman, Mr. Albert Parker (Applause)

MR. ALBERT PARKER: Ludwig, it is very gratifying to receive so gracious an introduction from so dedicated a person as you are. My deepest thanks to you. You are truly a wonderful friend and an inspiration always.

Mr. Vice President, Chancellor Dr. Lookstein, Phillip Stollman, Revered Rabbis, Judge Keating, Max Fisher, other honored guests and friends, your presence this evening is a moving tribute to our honored guest and to the University. But it is also a tribute to your own sense of dedication. It was my privilege to be among those who shared the dais at the Annual Conference Dinner

of United Jewish Appeal held a week ago yesterday. With the Vice President, Mr. Abba Eban, the Foreign Minister of Israel, Mr. Pincus the President of Jewish Agency and our own Max Fisher, whose forceful message as National General Chairman inspired the more than 2600 Jewish leaders of our nation who gathered that evening. It was an occasion of historic significance, the annals of Israel and the United Jewish Appeal.

Mr. Vice President, may I say to you that the understanding you expressed that evening, your eloquent presentation of that which you, in your individual right believe, and what you stated as the will of our government brought to our Jewish community, and I'm sure to the dedicated people of Israel, and added sense of security (applause) and the hope for peace and greater understanding. May your words, Mr. Vice President, be heard throughout the world.

Each visit to Israel is a revealing and enlightening experience. The study mission to Israel in which we recently returned was no less dramatic. Trying events were happening daily. But this much is evident, neither the tensions of serious border incidents nor the great burdens of defense nor the problems of their economy will deter the people of Israel or their institutions from the attainment of their ultimate goals to bring a meaningful and fruitful life with equality of opportunity to all of the people of Israel. Foremost, as a national goal, and second only to defense is the determination of the State of Israel to extend its educational facilities and opportunities to all of its young men and women, no matter what their origin. Bar-Ilan University has been meeting that challenge. The vision of the founders of the University and those of you and all others who devoted yourselves to its cause, have made that possible. Not much more than

a decade ago, Bar-Ilan University accepted its first freshman class at Ramat Gan, which is incidentally a beautiful city. Seventy-seven students were the avant garde. Seventy-seven students only ten years ago and this year three thousand young men and women will share the teaching of this, your, University, Bar-Ilan (Applause)

Bar-Ilan University reflects the age-old truth that it is the spirit of the Jewish people that has the greatest meaning, i.e., its essence. The University has translated this promise into an institution of learning, American in concept, steeped in the rich heritage of our people and grounded on the highest academic standards. Bar-Ilan is a university of vision, realism and a special sense of dedication and purpose. Though created on the ancient soil of our fathers, it was founded to enable its students and faculty to become useful and purposeful to the needs of modern society, to be resourceful citizens of a state that has been the haven of rescue to 1,250,000 of our people. Is this not what education is about today? Is this not the broad subject of education even at the international level?

As years pass, Bar-Ilan will have many of the other institutes of a university complex, but first things first. What greater need to a nation which in the brief period of its independence has experienced a population increase of more than 1,500,000 souls? People from a multitude of countries, more than 80 in fact, backgrounds of various cultured lives or without any cultural life in many cases a background, a way of life centuries apart from today. What greater needs than education teaches clinical and educational psychology, social service and, above all, an inspired knowledge of your own history and tradition?

The young men and women who comprise the student body at the University reflect the international concern for education, and a search for meaningful communication and understanding among all people. They also reflect an understanding of their purpose to Israel, a purpose which fundamentally is the need to cope with its problems and develop the potentials of most nations, if in varying degrees of their own nations, as with most nations have been varying degrees. There are students from many South American nations, from Canada, from Sweden. Yes, even from the Soviet Union. In all, from some 25 different countries, included are more than 100 young men and women from the United States.

You visit the University as we do each year, and as we had the privilege as we did only a few weeks ago, is a revealing experience to meet and talk with these fine young men and women who are to inherit from us the responsibility of preserving and energizing our way of life. Ask them if you will, what are some of their ambitions? What are their study goals? And they will tell you - teaching, psychology, government, science.

At Bar-Ilan, the largest enrollment is in the school of education. Truly this is a source from which Israel will have the teachers which are one of its most vital needs and will continue to be a most vital need for survival. Teachers without whom there can be no education. Psychology, need I even recite how vital the need in a State growing in proportion faster than most of the great nations of the world with a citizen population, and the new-comers to Israel do all become citizens, for more than 80 different nationalities, traditions, cultural or non-cultural backgrounds as I said before, many from an 18th century existence. The psychological factors to be bridged and resolved with humanity

and meaning to create a society that hopefully will be one people and one nation. Psychology has the second largest enrollment at Bar-Ilan and its Department of Psychology is in the forefront of psychology in Israel. What a great meaning for Israel. What a wonderful world of opportunity with students, graduates and faculty to work toward the constructive building of a State and its people.

Social service is a must in the State of Israel. You can go to frontier towns and communities and find 6500 souls looking for a way of life and one social service worker. Bar-Ilan, this year is opening a social service school. Forty-five students will enter the commencement class. These will be students trained by professors and professional field workers in the field of social service who will bring to Israel a great and vital need, social service workers in the field to teach to the people who come from an almost obsolete civilization, a way of life in Israel.

We have learned in modern days, at times almost too late, how important it is to know our history, to know our tradition and heritage. We've come to learn that there can be no leadership without a knowledge and understanding of the history and traditions of other nations. Bar-Ilan, in its liberal arts program, does embrace history. The humanities and all the related field of study, but fundamental in its teaching are religious studies.

Inspiring in its teaching is the realization that these studies thread throughout its entire curriculum. Natural sciences also have a major role in the University's program.

As you visit Bar-Ilan, you were in the midst of splendid institution on a beautiful campus. You are at home, because among these find buildings, is the Abraham Lincoln School of Physics. Earlier I told you of our visit with students at the University. Among them was a fine young lady who had arrived from Russia only four weeks before our visit. She had already chosen her career for study. Visualize, if you will my friends, the emotions, the new hopes, the almost never-to-be realized aspirations of this child, the realization of her emotions is the gratifying answer to the purpose of Bar-Ilan and its founders.

A great faculty at Bar-Ilan University are always responsive to every area of Israel's economic, civil and social life. It has a department and faculty of Hebrew Literature, professed by Baruch Kurzweil, as chairman of that department. A great mutual regard existed between Professor Kurzweil and Samuel Agnon, and it was Professor Kurzweil who had the honor to propose Mr. Agnon to the Nobel Committee.

Israel by tradition and dedication will be in the forefront of nations that will bring to the people of Israel and to all the peoples of the world its finest product, education. And Bar-Ilan University, steep in the vision and tradition, which in a short 10 years have made it a great institution of higher learning and which has been brought glory to all the people of Israel will be, my friends with your help, in that forefront. Thank you. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN PARKER: And now ladies and gentlemen it is my privilege and pleasure to present to you the honorable Minister of the Israel Embassy in Washington. A diplomat who has distinguished himself through his dedicated service to the State of Israel, Minister Ephraim Evron. (Applause)

MINISTER EPHRAIM EVRON: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Vice President, Chancellor Lookstein, friends of Bar-Ilan and the State of Israel. I'm greatly honored to be here tonight and to bring to you friends of Bar-Ilan and to Vice President Humphrey the greetings and good wishes of the Government and the people of Israel.

Right from the beginning of the re-emergence as a free and independent country, it was clear to the leaders and to the people of Israel that if we were not to become just another dot on the map of the Middle East, then our educational institution, our learning institution would have to grow even faster than the State itself. In order to survive, in order to continue as an independent nation, in order to contribute to the world at large we had to maintain and enlarge the qualitative elements in our society.

Former Primer Minister Ben Gurion put it this way: when he said: "For Israel to survive and develop to be able to defend herself, to be able to continue to regional and world progress, education is the key tone. Education," he said, "equals survival." And I don't think there are many more sure actions than that. And in that process Bar-Ilan University is playing an ever-growing and an ever-important role. In a way I am speaking to you tonight also in a personal capacity, because my home in Israel is right across the road from Bar-Ilan. I'm sort of a neighbor. I remember the first buildings as they grew up, more

than 10 years ago. I hope that they continue to grow as a neighbor.

But scientific knowledge, research in all its varieties, a high standard of education, all those things are necessary, not just as answers to our problems, they are also Israel's contribution to the inventory of human knowledge, not parochial but global. The people of Israel are not waiting for miracles to deliver us from our difficulties, and there are many. As Dr. Weizmann used to say: "Of course, miracles happen, but it needs hard work to make them." And this is true also of Bar-Ilan University, which is a miracle in itself. It is a product of devotion, of foresight and of very, very hard work which you all contribute to. Bar-Ilan made a very wise choice when it decided to confer its first honorary doctorate on Vice President Humphrey. There are fewer people in this country who are more devoted to the cause of Israel, who are better friends than the Vice President is. There are fewer people who are more devoted to the cause of education than the Vice President is. His whole orientation is education, and if I'm not mistaken, his first public office in his native state of Minnesota was that of Director of Education there. For him politics is a means for education and enlightenment. Vice President Humphrey has even another connection with Israel as the State of Israel celebrates today its 18th anniversary, so does Mr. Humphrey, because he was elected to the Senate in the year 1948. And his political career in Washington runs parallel to the existence of Israel as an independent nation. (Applause)

Israel is very fortunate in having many friends in this country. From President Johnson to across the aisles the Republican Party, as we are witnessing tonight in the presence amongst us of our good friend Justice Keating. (Applause) But there are very few people, very few leaders who have been more constant in their friendship to us than Mr. Humphrey has been. He has not been just a fair weather friend. He has been with us throughout our trials and tribulations. He has shared in our agony sometimes and he was a partner in our triumphs. We've always known that when we have a problem we can find an open door and an open ear and an open hear with Mr. Humphrey. (Applause)

We are passing through difficult days, the problems of Israel have once again gone into the headlines. Prime Minister Eban in his short visit to the United States tried to bring home to the people of this country and to its leaders the meaning of these problems to Israel and to its people. One can very easily take a very detached attitude to some few, what you might think are, incidents which take place six or seven thousand miles away. But for the people of Israel we saw very real and very serious matters. We do hope this country and its leaders have now a better understanding of our problems and of our reactions.

More than 3000 years ago Israel's total was triumphantly announced by the , who on the column of victory, in his temple of the dead he inscribed: Israel's seed exceeds no more. Paradoxically, my friends as you all know, this was Israel's introduction on the stage of history. Present days seem to be trying to copy that message which was inscribed by . They speak about inevitability of war with Israel and aim at her eventual destruction. They will do well to recall that ancient

herald because despite the to the north and to the south of us, our generation is witnessing the re-establishment of Israel as a permanent feature of the panorama of the Middle East. (Applause) As we look into the future, we should draw strength and trust from our people's capacity to overcome setbacks and difficulties, and to survive and to flourish despite everything. With the book in one hand and with the sword, if necessary, in the other, Israel, with the support of her friends everywhere, will march forward, fulfilling its destiny in the family of nations. And I would like, Mr. Chairman, to end my greetings by quoting the last verse of Psalm 29: that beautiful psalm which the Vice President read with us in Washington at the Sabbath Service last week, which says; "The Lord will give strength to his people, the Lord will bless his people with peace." Thank you. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN PARKER: Minister Evron, it's a privilege and an honor to have you with us. I was interested in your comment that you live across the street from Bar-Ilan University. I have a sort of feeling that in the hearts and spirits of each and every one here tonight, including the Vice President and Judge Keating, Israel is across the street from each of us. (Applause)

Now it is my privilege to introduce someone we all love and adore. This is going to be his first public appearance, in his newly elected office as Chancellor of Bar-Ilan University. There is nothing that I could add that you don't know about Dr. Joseph Lookstein, a very wonderful person. (Applause)

DR. JOSEPH H. LOOKSTEIN: Mr. Vice President, Minister Evron, Co-Chairmen Albert Parker and Ludwig Jesselson, Chief Rabbi Shuster of Amsterdam, President of Tel-Aviv University, my dear friend Dr. George Wise; Chairman of the Board of Yeshiva University, Mr. Max J. Etra; dear Charles Silver, Chairman of our own Board of Trustees, Mr. Phillip Stollman; pro-rector, Professor Schachter, delightful and industrious and indefatigable Edward Adams (Applause), worthy rabbis, trustees, let me, of course, never forget Dr. Frank Kille of the State Department of Education who is as much a celebrant tonight as any of us (applause), Judge Keating, who is beyond party and beyond politics (applause), ladies and gentlemen, the dais is long and I am short, so let's just (laughter).

You heard this is my maiden address (laughter) as Chancellor, just elected, of Bar-Ilan University. The New York Times gave prominence to it today, but in their zealous overkindness they almost made me lose my job as Rabbi of my congregation (laughter). I found out what really a Chancellor is. Mr. Vice President, a President of the University is, in reality, what we call in Hebrew, a Meshulach, which means a fund raiser. (Laughter) A Chancellor, in addition is the President's Meshulach. We have a great President, Professor Max Jammer, who is in residence at Bar-Ilan in Ramat Gan and I will have to cover the American front. Since I explained what the major function of a Chancellor is, let me therefore tell you that we are embarking on an eight-year plan during the course of which we would like to obtain \$20 million, of which more than 10% has already been pledged and we haven't started, in order to double the registration at Bar-Ilan University,

in order to increase our faculty with distinguished scholars from all parts of the world, in order to establish more schools, graduate and professional, in order to encourage students from all countries of the world through scholarships and grants and every other deserving inducement, to come and spend a year or two or four at the University, to inhale the air of the land of our fathers, to return to the lands of their origin and to bring back this pure, unpolluted, spiritual air to the lands of their residence. This evening a number of people spoke to me and when I remarked to the Vice President, who in addition to everything else, if I may be permitted an informality, is one of the grandest, loveliest, and sweetest human beings that you will ever meet (applause). I told him that I was on the floor soliciting while he was signing autographs (laughter). I don't think he wanted to change places (laughter). I was informed that Mr. and Mrs. David Fink are establishing a scholarship fund of \$25,000 at Bar-Ilan (applause). That Mr. Ludwig Jesselson who has been extremely generous in the past, is adding to his American-Israel Faculty and Student Exchange Fund, in addition to the \$100,000 already contributed, another \$20,000 (applause). That Mr. Benjamin Kaufman a member of our Global Board of Trustees, is bringing up his total contribution to \$50,000 (applause). That Mrs. Joseph Greenberg and her family are going to provide a facility as a memorial to her beloved husband through a gift of \$35,000 (applause). That Dr. Walter Floersheimer, now in Palm Beach, has joined our family of Founders for \$10,000 (applause).

That Joseph I. Lubin, well-known throughout the country for his generosity, has become a Founder at \$10,000 (applause). That Bernard Striar for the Striar Family of Bangor, Maine has added an additional \$10,000 (applause). That Arthur Belfer, who made possible the Belfer Graduate School of Science at Yeshiva University has become a Founder at \$10,000 (applause). That Colonel J. R. Elyachar from Israel, now in America, and is using American dollars and not Israeli pounds is contributing \$10,000 as a Founder (applause). That Mrs. Sophie Wittenberg is establishing a memorial for her sainted parents Rabbi and Mrs. Alperstein for \$10,000 (applause). And that the Stollman family is bringing from Detroit with them tonight an additional \$150,000 (applause). I think for a young Chancellor that's enough for the time being. (Laughter and applause).

Ladies and gentlemen, I will not deliver any address. I came for two purposes, I came to confer and I came to hear. To confer upon the Vice President an honorary degree and to hear from the Vice President words which always deserve to be heard, understood and obeyed. What we are going to do now is unique. We will, as it were, adjourn this dinner and the Vice President and the Pro-rector and I will put on our academic gowns. The Vice President will be presented by the Pro-rector. He will be hooded by Mr. Max Fisher and by, oh, he left so we have a very deep bench. Phillip Stollman will do the hooding and Mrs. Max Stollman, a sister-in-law will join him. After the degree is conferred the evening will be turned over to the Vice President. So without music and without any procession, on with the gown.

PRO-RECTOR: Mr. Chancellor, in the name of the Senate of Bar-Ilan University, I have the great honor to present to you the honorable Hubert H. Humphrey for the degree of Doctor of Laws, honoris causa. (Applause)

DR. LOOKSTEIN: Hubert H. Humphrey, we welcome you as the second in command of our nation's destiny. We salute you as a brilliant expounder of the doctrine of human rights. We acknowledge you as a friend of the under privileged and handicapped, as the savior of those mired in poverty, as father to the young of our country and as brother to all men. The Civil Rights bill that is now the law of our land was made possible by your vision, determination and masterful generalship during your days as United States Senator. It is your choicest offering upon the alter of American democracy to borrow your own metaphor. You helped to wash the face of America clean. Your papers and addresses will one day rest in our National Archives, but they will also be on the lips and in the hearts of your countrymen, old and young. For they are masterpieces of rhetoric, couched in the timeless accents of prophecy and distilled out of the heart and mind of a great spirit. Bar-Ilan University in Israel is proud to confer upon you the first honorary degree of the youngest university in the youngest democracy of the Middle East. With it, we offer you our esteem, admiration and affection. By virtue of the authority in me vested I consider it a privilege, sir, to confer upon you the degree of Doctor of Laws, Honoris Causa. In token thereof, I cause to be placed over your shoulders, the visible symbol of our University and I hand you this diploma (applause).

Ladies and gentlemen, the Vice President of the United States. (Applause).

VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT H. HUMPHREY: Thank you, very much. Thank you, thank you. Thank you, Dr. Lookstein, distinguished young Chancellor, whom seems to have already mature ways about handling these responsibilities. I'd say he does it very well, wouldn't you? (Applause) Rabbi Klaperman and Dr. Schachter and Mr. Jesselson and Mr. Parker, Minister Evron, my friend, Senator Keating, Judge Keating, because once a Senator always one in my book (applause). I note that our good friend Max Fisher has departed but I would only want to say once again what a joy it was to be with Max on the occasion of the United Jewish Appeal dinner just about a week ago and I'm delighted to see my old friend Charlie Silver with us tonight. We were together this morning (applause) and I'm always delighted to see that happy, that effervescent Eddie Adams here. Eddie. (Applause) I can plainly see that we're going to have a most enjoyable evening, at least I've had one thus far, and I've been told under the circumstances that have been described, that from here on out it's my evening. And I'm going to just use it to the best of my ability to visit with you for a while.

First, I want you to know how very singularly honored I feel tonight to be the recipient of the first honorary degree of Bar-Ilan University. Bar-Ilan is a fine wonderful institution. Young, vital, promising, and I can't imagine anybody in public life that wouldn't want such an association, at least I'm happy to have it. I should tell all of you that I'm a refugee from a classroom, in case you didn't know it. At one time I was Professor

of Political Science. I had the privilege of teaching in my own university at the University of Minnesota and out in the Colaster College and earlier than that in Louisiana State University. And knowing the uncertainties of elected public life, I always like to have academic robes put on my shoulders (applause, laughter). You just never know what will happen. (Laughter) And I may be one of those new teachers that they're looking for. So, Bar-Ilan better keep a watchful eye on me. Because I may be knocking on the door and I'll come see my friend, this young Chancellor.

Well, friends, there is so much in my heart this evening to talk to you about. I couldn't help but think how wonderful an occasion it is to be with good people that want to do something about education. Thomas Jefferson once said that you can not be both free and ignorant. You sort of have to make up your mind which of those you're going to have. It was his way of saying that freedom requires education, demands it, it's an essential, not a luxury. I guess it was H. G. Wells that once said that civilization is a race between education and catastrophe. And I'm sure that as we see this world in which we live, as we see the troubled areas of the world, as we see the fantastic rate of illiteracy in so many areas of the world and then see the violence and see the troubles of wars, I'm sure that we can well understand once again that possibly H. G. Wells was very right. That civilization, as we know it, is a race between education and catastrophe. Between understanding and suicide. So tonight I am particularly delighted to be with people that are devoted and dedicated to the achievement of higher standards of education and to be with so many loyal friends, friends of Bar-Ilan University,

the friends too of education and many universities. You know I've been so lucky in my life. I noted earlier it was said that my political career in Washington by Minister Evron, runs paralleled to the State of Israel. Yes, we both have been on the public scenes, so to speak, about 18 years. We both had to struggle, and we both had our days of joy. We've had some moments of pain, but I can say this to you that both of us have unbounded faith in the future.

(Applause) So I'm delighted for his high honor and this occasion. And I was equally delighted, may I add, earlier this year to receive a copy of the charter granted Bar-Ilan by the Board of Regents of New York State. And permit me to congratulate the Board of Regents on this - on its vision, on its foresight, because it is so right that we have these great universities in other lands helped and endowed by Americans. These great American-assisted universities are towers of understanding and strength for all that we believe and what a joy it is to know that those responsible for education excellence in the State of New York have seen fit to take this step and to exhibit this leadership. Well, this has been a good year for you. And I want to go on record right now wishing you many, many more such good years. Even more than the traditional 120. (Applause) And Chancellor Lookstein if you get by 120, why you'll have 120 more, I'm sure of that.

The other day I read something that I'm sure came to the attention of all of you, something in connection with the award, the Nobel Prize in Literature to Samuel Agnon and Nellie Sacks. What I read set me to thinking a great deal about this occasion and about the role of education in international life. I read that the city of Jerusalem has closed the street where Agnon lives

to any bus traffic and has put up a sign that reads: "Quiet, Agnon is writing." (Laughter) Well, I've seen signs that said: "Man at work." But in Jerusalem, Israel understood the importance of writing, of meditation, of reflection, of the beauty of the mind and the spirit as it comes to the pen and to the word. Now these are simple gestures. Yet to me they speak volumes. They remind me that the Jewish people are not only a chosen people, but also are a "choosing" people, that throughout their history they have chosen always to seek and to honor the highest summits of human achievement. Ponder with me for just a moment now and I'm sure that you will, the debt which civilization owes to this relatively small, that is in numbers, and almost constantly harassed people and ponder with me that that debt is well nigh incalculable. Until the time of the Prophets, and they were teachers, man, or should I say most of mankind, was literally chained like a slave to the belief that the individual was helpless. Helpless to effect his destiny. That life was at best an endless cycle of birth and death, of growth and decay. There was a sense of helplessness and hopelessness, until those great voices and minds of the Prophets were heard and understood. It was the Prophets who proclaimed the liberating truth that man, by his own deed, by his own actions can earn the mercy of God and this was the idea that for the first time made human progress conceivable and possible. That was the great breakthrough and since that time man has been making, even falteringly, but he has been making progress. Even in the many centuries of wandering and oppression after the fall of Jerusalem. The Jewish people achieved brilliantly whenever and wherever they were given half a chance. Sometimes you wonder if it wasn't the adversity which drove them to it.

But be that as it may the record is there of a brilliant achievement, but it was only with the Emancipation which began at the close of the 18th century and came really into its own in the 20th century that the world once again witnessed the full unfolding of their great talents. Now, Americans can be proud that it was here in the new world through the Declaration of Independence, our Constitution, The Bill of Rights that the Jewish people for the first time in many, many bitter centuries achieved the status of first-class citizens. But it should be remembered, and I say this as a student of American Government, that many of the fundamental principles which are found in our immortal documents of Government had their genesis, so to speak, in Jewish literature. And the thoughts and the immortal truth, as expressed by the Prophets.

You can not really be a student of democracy without understanding the Old and the New Testament. You can't really do it rightly, and that's why I've said so many times that when you really think of freedom you must think of those who first preach the doctrine and the truth of the oneness of humanity, the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man and the dignity of the individual. Now, those are not political principles, those are moral principles. And they come from your religion. They come from my religion. When I used to be a teacher I would have my students put away their books and I'd say, let us talk about democracy. It isn't just the right to vote, because they vote in totalitarian countries. It isn't just a written constitution because some of the totalitarian countries have constitutions much longer than that of America or Israel. And it isn't just that you can own property, because in some totalitarian countries there were people who owned property. No, the basis of democratic government and institutions, the basis of democratic

government and institutions, the basis of democratic thought is essentially ethical, moral, religious. And it is to be found in the preaching and in the utterances and the eternal truth - the Prophets. Prophets who preach the oneness of humanity. Prophets who preach like Amos for social justice. Prophets who preach like Nathan, that thou art the man. The oneness and the individuality. A oneness of humanity and yet the individuality of the person. Well, this is just a thought that passed through my mind as I was thinking of our country and the role of philosophy, the Jewish people and their philosophy in this great development of our land. You know we can be proud too that the thoughts that were embodied in our Bill of Rights inspired the French Assembly in its revolutionary period to do likewise, proving once again that ideas are contagious. They leap over walls, there is no way you can stop them. And thereby we set a precedent which, in due course, the other nations of Western Europe followed. I thought so many times how many of our fellow Americans in this day and age ought to understand the power of the idea. The idea of freedom, the idea of human dignity, the idea of self-government, the idea of representative government. It brought down every throne in Europe and that idea saw its first implementation here in America. And we never sent a soldier to invade another land, and yet every crown was uneasy when men believed and leaders believed in the divine right of kings, as they called it. That divine right was a challenge by the power of people and the right of people to their own destiny.

Well, never has a fundamental truth that no one can measure the full capability of man's mind and spirit until he is fully free to realize them received a more dazzling confirmation than out of your experience and our experience. The Jewish people have hardly emerged from the ghettos of Europe before they were climbing to the topmost heights of artistic literary, professional and scientific achievement. And here in America their contributions had been so outstanding in range and in quality and in selfless civic spirit, as I've witnessed here tonight once again, that it is difficult to imagine what we would do or what we would be like without them. Now, is there some hidden magic in this? Some secret formula that's accessible to Jews only? I think it's a fair question and I believe the answer is not at all. It's the openest of secrets, it's something the American people have known from the beginning, although most of us have yet to act upon that knowledge with anything like the diligence and the dedication of our Jewish fellow citizens. The secret, of course, is education. The deep veneration of the Jewish family and some of you here know so much of what I speak, particularly that older Jewish family. The deep dedication and veneration for learning and the fierce determination of that family, that each child shall have all of the learning, all of the education that he or she is capable of absorbing. And I've heard our President, President Johnson, speak this way many times. Do you know that our Government is literally filled with teachers and educators? The President of the United States was a teacher. The Vice President of the United States was a teacher. There are in the Cabinet of the United States seven Ph D's and they have been teachers. The

Majority Leader of the United States Senate is a teacher. The Majority Leader of the House of Representatives is a teacher. And I could go all the way down the line, the teacher, the professor, that once was scorned, in a sense, has come into his own.

Well, I speak now that of this fierce determination for an education. And I speak of it of the Jewish family and I think the figures show that I'm right. Today something like a fifth of all Americans of college age are actually in college, but for Americans of Jewish faith, the proportion is nearly four-fifths. Four-fifths of all the young people of Jewish families of college age are in college. But less you get to feeling too good. You are not alone, may I say. Already the proportion of Chinese-Americans, Japanese-Americans in college is double our national average and the results are beginning to be very, very visible despite the reminiscence of racial prejudice, despite our shabby treatment of the Japanese-Americans during World War II, these descendants of penniless peasants now have on the average somewhat better jobs and higher incomes than other Americans, and particularly white Americans. But the richness of human capability is fully developed by education, is most spectacularly demonstrated by Israel. And this is an international fact. This small and sorely to be led country with little resources save its people, and that is the real resource, has led the developing world in economic performance and it has done this despite shouldering the enormous task as has been indicated here tonight of feeding, housing, clothing, finding a place in its economy for over a million or more immigrants from Africa and Asia from 80 countries, most of whom arrived

with virtually nothing, as you too well know. Nothing except themselves and their determination, their desire to live a good life, and when we witness how much Israel has accomplished in these mere 18 years, we must marvel at how much more it might have been able to do, how much more it might have done but for its need to invest so heavily in its security. Oh, my fellow Americans, my heart is heavy when I think of the unbelievable amounts of money of energy and manpower that we have to put into weapons these days. Some day, maybe we'll learn that it would be so good for all to learn, everyone has everything to gain, everyone regardless of ethnology, without any regard to geography has everything to gain from beating the swords into plow shares, from disarmament, from arms control, billions of dollars being expended, billions. For weaponry that soon becomes obsolete, but yet necessary in a world of tension and of fear.

Well, I've said that Israel has done well. Unfortunately, though, there is a great potential for conflict in the Middle East as elsewhere, but I want to repeat once again tonight what I have tried to say a number of times about our policy, the United States policy, because I come to you as your Vice President. And it must be and it is unmistakably clear we will oppose aggression in the Middle East which could threaten the peace. As part of that objective, the United States is committed wholeheartedly, fully to the integrity of the freedom and the independence and the territorial sovereignty of the State of Israel as an independent state. (Applause.)

Now, I want to say a word about the quality of the relationship between the United States and Israel, because more needs to be said than what I have just said. The quality of that relationship reaches wide and deep into the fabric of both the American and the Israeli societies. It isn't just diplomatic, it isn't just on the surface. Today, for instance, the United States Government provides about one quarter all the funds Israel spends on military research and development. In non-military research and development, fifteen United States Government Agencies are at work right now supporting some 350 science projects in fields ranging from health and education to weather and vocation rehabilitation. And American funds support significant portions of development budgets, in agriculture, railroads and school construction. Our experts are sharing their knowledge in the field of water development and we're going to get a breakthrough - a great breakthrough one of these days in the desalinization of water and the desert shall bloom again. Just as surely as you're in this room. And the Negev which has been so long a desolate place, even though it is now being developed bit by bit, the day is not far off, my fellow Americans when the waters of the seas, the waters of the oceans shall lose their bitterness and their salt, and shall become sweet water, to water the deserts and fruit shall come therefrom, just as surely as you're here. (Applause)

And what I say tonight about our help to our friend and neighbor, yes, neighbor, just across the street so to speak, the State of Israel, is not to boast of what our government has done, because we don't need to boast, it would be impolite and unkind. But merely to make clear that our two nations may, of course, from

time to time as friends disagree on some issue, but let the world know, we stand together in commitment to the growth, to the development, to the safety and the freedom of Israel. (Applause)

Israel understands the defense and social economic progress go hand in hand. She understands that education is a front line of her defense. And I must say tonight to my fellow Americans that America must understand that we can do - that we can keep both our international commitments and we can keep the promises to our own people to build a better America. We can afford both, we can afford to do no less, so let us not shirk on our responsibilities. (Applause)

Now, just a word more about Bar-Ilan University, the youngest of the Israel splendid educational academic institutions. It's played a great role for 11 years, of constructive help. During all of these years it has acted on the principle that learning is not something apart from every-day life, but an integral part of it. Thus, in addition to studying and teaching the historic heritage of the Jewish mind and spirit, it has addressed itself to the energetically, to the constructive, or should I say to the contemporary problems of today's Israel, and particularly to the integration of the immigrants from Africa and Asia which Prime Minister Eshkol has called the prime concern of our generation. This great University understands that a university should be part of the life of a nation, not apart from it. It should not be merely an island of meditation but a field of action. It should not merely be a place for reflection, but it should be a place for constructive purpose. I was interested, for example, in the studies of juvenile delinquency conducted by Professor Shoham the head of Bar-Ilan's Institute of Criminology. Among other things

he found that the rate of juvenile delinquency increases with urbanization. He also found that the stronger the barriers against immigrants rising in status, the higher the delinquency. Now, it seems to me that there's a lesson here for us to learn. It may help some of us understand that the fault is not so much with people as with the circumstances which confront people. Indeed I note that Professor Shoshan and his colleagues took full account of the studies of immigration which have been made in other countries, notably our own. And this is how it should be. As our own Benjamin Franklin said once: "Experience keeps a dear school, but fools will learn in no other." And the least costly kind of experience is other people's experience, if you're willing to learn. Therefore, if we are not fools, if we seek to avoid repeating the same mistakes that other people have already made, we will take care to inform ourselves about their experiences, their successes, and their failures. Now, that is a very important part of the new and strong emphasis our government is putting on international education. An emphasis which, in itself, shows that we have taken to heart what the few centuries of American experience and the many centuries of Jewish experience teach us about the central significance of education. Throughout the world peoples are moving as we know from a world to an agricultural society - from a world and agricultural society to a city or an urban industrial society. And the rate at which they are moving is rapid, but it varies in many places. But many of the problems that they are encountering are basically the same in country after country. Therefore, we're seeking now to exchange information, to learn, to share ideas and experiences, about the problems and challenges of modernization, of industry, technology, of housing,

of cultural conflicts, of crime and others. Above all, we're concerned with the overhanging challenge of making technological progress, scientific progress enhance, rather than diminish human values. For instance, plans are under way right now for a White House Conference on international education next year. What will be its purpose? To look ahead. To look ahead to century 21. What are we going to be like? What kind of an America are we going to have? What kind of a world? Now some of you may say, century 21 my goodness. Why so far? Because it's just 34 years from now and the young in this room will be at the prime of life when the 21st century is their calendar.

But the promotion of international ideas and experience is no problem only for government alone. I am, therefore, very pleased that the chartering of Bar-Ilan by the Board of Regents of New York has made it possible for Americans to study there and to receive full credit here for their work. What I am saying is that we as citizens must also do what we ask our government to do. As your distinguished Chancellor, Dr. Joseph Lookstein, has said: "This should stimulate American enrollment in Bar-Ilan as well as attract some of the best American teachers and researchers to your campus." There is, after all, no more effective way of transmitting ideas than to package them in people, not just to send books, not just to send periodicals, not just to exchange letters, but the best way to transmit a good idea is inside a person the teacher, the student, the scholar, the travels and goes to learn, to listen and to teach. And I think it's high time that we opened up the four walls of our classrooms not only to the community in which those classrooms are located, but to the whole world, because the world of tomorrow is a smaller

place every day. And I can see the day my friends when the teachers of Bar-Ilan University will be communicating directly with the great universities in New York, not just by the exchange of persons but by, believe it or not, communication satellite, where a professor in the University at Bar-Ilan will be speaking and his voice will be instantly heard, his vision, his profile, his image will be immediately on display on closed circuit television in a world-wide university classroom. And how long will it be? Five years, ten years at the most. We are just beginning to live. I think that we ought to close this meeting tonight in the spirit of a true scholar, and the spirit of the true scholar should be that which Chaucer attributed to his clerk of Oxford. And you remember what he said about his clerk. "Gladly would he learn, and gladly would he teach."

Let us, therefore, gladly learn of one another and once we have learned, let us be willing to share that which is the most precious of all our thoughts, our ideas, our spirit, because it is in that way that we truly demonstrate that we believe what we say. That there is a brotherhood of mankind and there is a oneness and a fatherhood of God. Thank you. (Applause)

CHAIRMAN PARKER: Mr. Vice President, ladies and gentlemen, Mr. Vice President, what our young Chancellor said a few moments ago I think bears repetition. We love you, because you are a wonderful soul. But as you spoke this evening, I think we are moved to say what a wonderful world this would be, what a world of better understanding, what a world of greater human respect it would be if all of our statesmen had your understanding, your vision, your courage, your heart. You've brought great heart and meaning to this evening and we close on a very happy and a very re-assuring note. We thank you. (Applause)



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