

FEBRUARY 24, 1960  
B-124INVOCATION: J.N.F. LUNCHEON, MIZRACHI WOMENALMIGHTY G\_D:

DO THOU SEND THY BLESSINGS UPON ALL THOSE HERE GATHERED: THEM, THEIR FAMILIES, AND ALL OTHERS EVERYWHERE ASSOCIATED WITH US IN OUR SACRED WORK.

GIVE US THE INSPIRATION, ENCOURAGEMENT, AND VISION TO CARRY ON [OUR MISSION OF REBUILDING THE HOLY LAND IN THE SPIRIT OF THE HOLY TORAH. BLESS WITH SUCCESS] ESPECIALLY OUR UNDERTAKINGS ON BEHALF OF THE JEWISH NATIONAL FUND, WHOSE PURPOSE IT IS TO RECLAIM THE LAND PROMISED TO ABRAHAM AS THE POSSESSION OF ISRAEL.

FOR ~~THE~~ THE J,N,F, AND ITS TREE-PLANTING PROGRAM SYMBOLIZES THE CONFIDENCE WE THY CHILDREN HAVE IN THE FUTURE OF THY LAND.

*at the occasion of a tree planting ceremony we acknowledge that*  
INDEED, THE TREE IS THE SYMBOL OF OUR PEOPLE. OUR ROOTS LIE DEEP IN SACRED HISTORY:

THE PATRIARCHS AND MATRIARCHS OF ISRAEL, THE PROPHETS AND SAGES AND RABBIS WHO DISCOURSED IN IT AND ABOUT IT. THE TRUNK IS OUR PEOPLE AS CONSTITUTED AT PRESENT: STRONG LINES INTERTWINED WITH WEAK, HARD WOOD WITH SOFT, THE ENDURING WITH THE PASSING -- BUT THEY ARE *לעולם חיים*, AND THEIR ROOTS ARE HOLY. THE BRANCHES OF ISRAEL ARE MANY. THERE IS THE PROUD BRANCH OF TORAH, OF SCHOLARSHIP AND *עבודת ה' ולימוד תורה*. THERE IS THE BRANCH OF *מסורה*, THE SYNAGOGUES WHERE THE WORSHIP OF *ה' וקבלת מצוות* IS CARRIED ON IN OUR GREAT TRADITION. THERE IS THE BRANCH OF *חסד*, OF CHARITY AND GOOD DEEDS, OF FRIENDSHIP FOR THE LONELY, MEDICINE FOR THE SICK, ASSISTANCE FOR THE NEEDY. AND THERE IS THE BRANCH OF *אגודה*, THE RECLAMATION OF THE HOLY LAND AND THE UPBUILDING OF ZION AND JERUSALEM.

WE WHO ARE GATHERED AT THIS MIZRACHI WOMEN J.N.F. LUNCHEON ARE DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION AND GROWTH OF THAT TREE -- ITS SACRED ROOTS, ITS VITAL TRUNK, AND EVERY ONE OF ITS PROUD BRANCHES AND TWIGS.

O CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH, *ה' אלהינו*, HE WHO CREATEST THE FRUIT OF

THE TREE, MAY THE TREE OF ISRAEL INDEED BE AN <sup>עץ חיים</sup> 98, A TREE OF LIFE.  
MAY IT FLOURISH, GROW TALL AND LUXURIANT, AND BEAR ITS PRECIOUS FRUIT, SPEEDILY  
IN OUR DAYS, AND LET US SAY: AMEN.

crit - just  
fabulous!  
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