

SENATORS LEHMAN AND JAVITS, MY REVERED TEACHER DR. BELKIN, HONORED COLLEAGUES,  
DISTINGUISHED GUESTS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

It is my privilege to present to you a dear and cherished friend,  
Mr. Max Stern, the Orthodox candidate for the first Synagogue Statesman Award  
of the Synagogue Council of America.

In Jewish as well as in general life, there are politicians, diplomats,  
and statesmen. The politician uses direct methods to get for the people what  
they want. The diplomat <sup>EMPLOY</sup> uses indirect, more refined ways of reaching the same  
goal. The statesman, however, is different in his very purpose. His aim is  
not primarily to satisfy the people's wants, but to obtain for them what they  
need. He must be an educator, not a functionary; a leader, not an executive.

Throughout his career of public service, Max Stern has been a statesman who  
has taken it upon himself to help provide for the spiritual needs of his fellow  
Jews.

So notable is the reputation he has achieved, that people often associate  
his name with a college rather than a man. Indeed, more than a significant  
individual, he has well-nigh become an institution.

In a manner that combines dignity with magnanimity, orderliness with  
compassion, high leadership with an amazing attention to detail, he has  
achieved the reputation of one of the most distinguished lay leaders of  
Orthodox Judaism in America and throughout the world.

As President of New York's Jewish Center for five years, his ability and  
his devotion to the synagogue have won for him the admiration and respect of  
his rabbis and his colleagues.

As a synagogue statesman, he has understood what our people truly need:  
education, learning. The ideal of our Tradition, VE'TALMUD TORAH K'NEGED KULAM,  
that study of Torah takes precedence over all other virtues, has mobilized all  
his many creative talents. He has become a builder and sustainer of Jewish



schools on all levels. In the realm of higher education, he is, of course, the founder of the first and only Jewish woman's college, named by him for his revered parents: the Stern College for Women. He is Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Yeshiva University. He is a member of the Board of Overseers of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. On the elementary school plane, he is Chairman of the Board of Manhattan Day School and a board member and supporter of countless other day schools. In Israel, he is a member of the Board of the American-Israel Culture Foundation, and a major supporter of <sup>INNUMERABLE</sup> countless yeshivahs and academies for higher Jewish learning.

Perhaps the best way to appreciate the contributions and statesmanship of Max Stern is to imagine how much poorer our community would be without him. We pray to Almighty G-d that together with his beloved wife and children, he may continue for many, many years to exercise his creative leadership with statesmanship and wisdom.

KOL HA-MEKHABED ET HA-TORAH GUFO MEKHUBAD AL HA-BERiyOT. He who honors Torah is himself deserving of honor by his fellow-men.

Max Stern has all his life given honor to Torah. He is a Synagogue Statesman.

He is eminently worthy of the honors now about to be bestowed upon him.