Little Black Book

645. ON NOT ANSWERING CRITICISM

"Seldom, if ever, do I pause to answer criticism of my work and ideas. If I sought to answer all of the criticisms that cross my desk, my secretaries would be engaged in little else in the course of the day, and I would have no time for constructive work. But since I feel that you are men of genuine good will and your criticism are sincerely set forth, I would like to answer your statement in what I hope will be patient and reasonable terms."

–Martin Luthur King, *Letter from a Birmingham Jail*

646 NAZIS: ART/MUSIC...

In short, an educated generation. To the narrator's observations, let us add Goebbels, a novelist and playwright, Speer, an accomplished architect, and perhaps also Goering, an art collector with a taste for masterpieces. None of this can surprise. Germany before World War II was known to have the most educated population in Europe, with the highest standard of literacy. Yet the plot of Schlink's narrative turns not on the literacy that was overwhelmingly typical of Germany, but rather on an anomalous case of illiteracy, which the novel itself recognizes as freakish.

CYNTHIA OZICK
Commentary, 1999
Vol. 107 Number 3

647. Charity; Anonymity; Miserliness

Rabbi to rich man for charitable cause. Rich Man: I give plenty anonymously (מתן בסתר), so I can't give you for your cause." Rabbi: "Strange, what you sin secretly is known all over the town, but what you give charity secretly remains a secret!"

640 דער אמת'ער גדול הדור

דעם מאמר חז"ל, "יפתח בדורו" וכו' (ר"ה כ"ח), האט דער קאצקער געטייטשט: דער וואס עפענט דעם דור – געמיינט זו זאגען דער וואס פארשטייט זיין דור, עפענט זייערע הערצער, וויזט זיי א וועג און פילט דעם פולס פון דער צייט–אין א ריכטיגער מנהיג, גלייך ווי שמואל הנביא בשעתו.

641 דער וואס איז א חסיד?

דער רבי ר' בונם פשיסכער האט געזאגט: אן אמת'ער חסיד הייסט דער וואס טוט זאכען לפנים משורת הדין, ווייל דער דין איז "לא תונו איש את עמיתו, (בהר כ"ז, י"ז), איינער דעם אנדערן זאל נישט נארען. אבער לפנים משורת הדין איז אז מען זאל זיך אליין אויך נישט נארען...

642 די הויפט זאך איז כבוד שמים

חסידים און מתנגדים זיינען מחולק אין נוסח פון דאוונען: די חסידים האלטען אז מען זאל זאגען הודו" פאר ברוך שאמר". דאקעגען די מתנגדים זיינען ביי דער מיינונג אז מען דארף זאגען "ברוך שאמר" פאר הודו. וועו עס קומט אבער צו "יהי כבוד ה' לעולם", גלייכען זיך ביידע אויס. פון דעם קען מען זען, אז דער עיקר איז כבוד שמים. וועו עס האמעלט זיך וועגען כבוד פון באשעפער דארפען אלע נוסחאות און מיינונגס פארשידענהייטען אויפהערען, און מען דארף אלץ טאן כדי מפרסם צו זיין כבוד שמים ברבים...

643 א מצוה וואס שלעפט זיך

דער רבי ר' אברהם חיים פלאנטשער איז אמאל געגאנגען צחאמען מיט א גרופע חסידים מחדש צו זיין די לבנה. דערווייל איז דער הימעל געווארען שטארק פארוואלקענט און ער האט געווארט א לאנגע צייט. אויף דער פארוואונדערונג פון די חסידים, האט ער געזאגט, "מצוה גוררת" – א מצוה וואס שלעפט זיך, "מצוה"–איז אויך א מצוה. דאס עצם ווארטען אליין איז אויך א מצוה...

644 בלויז אלס עשירים

"רבי מכבד עשירים" (עירובין פ"ו). וואס מיינט דאס? זאגט דער ראזימינער: רבי האט מכבד געווען די עשירים בלויז אלס עשירים, אבער נישט ווי אנדערע מאכען זיי אויס פאר חכמים, לומדים, צדיקים...

635 ועכו כברו

אז מ'גיסט אריין ווין אין א פלאש, דארף דער ווין געזען ווערען פון דרויסען. דאס זעלבע איז ווען איינער לערנט תורה. האט זיין תורה נאר צעמאלט א קיום אז מ'זעט אן פון דרויסען, מיט זיין אויפפרונג, אז ער האט געלערנט תורה וועלכע פירט צו מעשים טובים.

636 דער אמת דארף מען זוכען

א רבי האט אמאל געזאגט: דעם אמת דארף מען זוכען ווייל דאס איז א זך וואס אלע באהאלטען...

637 פארשלאפענע יוגענט-יאהרען

די חז"ל זאגען: איינס פון די דריי זאכען וואס זיינען "מוציאין את האדם מן העולם" איז, "שינה של שחרית", שלאפען שפעט אינדערפרי. האט דער קאצקער געטייטשט "שינה של שחרית", פארשלאפענע יוגענט יאהרען.

638 אפענער רוח הקודש וועגען אוישוויץ

ווי עס איז באוואוסט, זיינען די הייליגע ברידער דער רבי ר' אלימלך פון ליזשענסק און דער רבי ר' זושא פון האניפאלי צוזאמען געגאנגען אפריכטען גלות און געוואנדערט פון שטאט צו שטאט. ווען זיי האבען זיך דערנענטערט צו דער שטאט אשפיצין" און געוואלט אהין אריינגיין, איז פלוצים דערשינען דער שטן און זיי זעגאגט אז זיי זאלען צוריקגיין. "דאס איז מיין,רשות" האט דער שטן צו זיי געזאגט. ביידע ברידער צדיקים זיינען געשטאנען פאר די טויערען פון אשפיצין און ביטער געווויינט. חסידים האבען דאס אויסגעטייטשט, וויייל אשפיצין ליגט ביי דער גרענעץ פון עסטרייך-דייטשלאנד, און פון דארט האט זיך אנגעפאנגען די דעפארט באוועגונג. ערשט אין אונזערע טעג, ווען די שטאט אשפיצין איז טרויעריג באקאנט געווארען אלס די שטאט "אוישוויץ" וועט עס קלאר ווערען עס איז געווען דאס שטימע געווייין אן ווערטער פון די צוויי הייליגע ברידער.

639 אן פוסטע בארימערייי

עס איז נישט שיין צו בארימען מיט דעם וואס מען האט אדער מיט דעם וואס מען וויסט. אבער נאך מיאוס'ער איז זיך צו בארימען מיט דעם וואס מען האט נישט אדער מען וויסט נישט...

CRITICISM

g) He has the right to criticize who has the heart to help.

MODERATION

h) In grave emergencies, moderation is generally safer than radicalism.

LAW - GOOD & BAD

i) The best way to get a bad law repealed is to enforce it strictly.

MALICE; BIGNESS

j) I shall do nothing through malice; what I deal with is too vast for malice.

CHANGE OF LEADERSHIP; PREPARE

k) I shall do my utmost that whoever is to hold the helm for the next voyage shall start with the best possible chance to save the ship.

PRESIDENT; UNITY

l) I may not have made as great a President as some other man, but I believe I have kept these discordant elements together as well as any one could.

FIRE; EMPLOYEES

m) During the Civil War, President Lincoln dismissed one member of his Cabinet. A political ally then suggested Lincoln fire the whole Cabinet. Lincoln responded that it reminded him of a farmer he knew in Illinois who was bothered by skunks raiding his chicken coop. "I shot one skunk," the farmer said, "and it raised such a stink that I let the other seven go."

n) Congressman Lincoln found expansionist talk of 'Manifest Destiny' troubling. To one supporter of the Mexican War, Lincoln told a farmer he knew in Illinois.

"I ain't greedy," said the farmer, "I only want what jines mines."

o) VICHY; HERITAGE; DEBATE

A story is told about an appearance by Lincoln in a state legislative campaign. His opponent alluded to distinguished forebears and the eminence of his family. When he finished, Lincoln rose and began, "I only know this about my ancestry, I came from a long line of married folks."

RESPONSIBILITY; SPEECH

p) At times like the present men should utter nothing for which they would not willingly be responsible through time and eternity.

FOOL; SPEECH; SILENCE

q) Better to remain silent and thought a fool than to speak out and remove all doubts of it.

VICES; VIRTUES; HUMAN NATURE

r) It has been my experience that folks who have no vices have very few virtues.

621. **Prayer: The Externalities/The Internal**

The external must be joined to the internal to obtain anything from God, that is to say, we must kneel, pray with the lips, etc., in order that proud man, who would not submit himself to God, may now be subject to the creature. To expect help from these externals is superstition; to refuse to join them to the internal is pride.

--BLAISE PASCAL
Pensees, 1670

622. **Prayer: Efficacy of**

We make requests of our fellow creatures as well as of God: we ask for the salt, we ask for a raise in pay, we ask a friend to feed the cat while we are on holidays, we ask a woman to marry us. Sometimes we get what we ask for and sometimes not. But when we do, it is not nearly as easy as one might suppose to prove with scientific certainty a causal connection between the asking and the getting.

--C. S. LEWIS
The Efficacy of Prayer 1959

623. **If at first you don't succeed**

If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that you tried

624 **If at first you don't succeed**

If at first you don't succeed, skydiving is not for you.

625. **Conclusions; Speeches**

A conclusion is the place where you got tired of thinking.

626. **Experience**

Experience is something you don't get until after you need it.

627 **Criticism**

For every action there is an equal and opposite criticism

628. **Criticism; Mistakes**

No one is listening until you make a mistake

629. **Politics; Principles; Pragmatism**

To succeed in politics, it is often necessary to rise above your principles.

630. **Heredity; The Gene Pool**

The problem with the gene pool is that there is no lifeguard.

631. **Conscience; Memory**

A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.

632 **Love; Marriage**

Love may be blind but marriage is a real eye-opener.

633. **אהבת התורה**

דער סטראשטווער, דער בעל "אבני נזר", איז אמאל
געפערליך קראנק געווארן אח די דטקטוירים האבן
איהם פארבאטן צו לערנען : ער האט אבער נישט
געפאלגט דעם פארבאט און יא געלערנט. ער האט שטארבן פון
: וועל איך פאלגען דעם דאקטאר, וועל איך שטארבן פון יא
נישט לערנען, איז שוין גלייכער צו שטארבן פון יא
לערנען.

634. **תורה אן וראת שמים**

דערימאנאוועד פלעגט זאגען וועגען די וואס קענען א סך
לערנען נאר עס פעלט זיי יראת שמים, אז זיי זיינען פונקט
ווי א הייפטעל קרויט, עס איז טאקע א בלאט אויף א
בלאט, אבער אינענווייניג איז פארען א וואסם...

617. **Criticism; Popularity; Insults**

It is a great example of our collective eagerness to disparage without knowledge or information about the thing disparaged, when the reward is the pleasure of sharing an attitude one knows is socially approved."

–Marilynne Robinson, "The Death of Adam"

618 **Human Nature; Reductionism; Simpliscism**

Puppet theories of human nature are always popular, partly because they are so simple, partly because they endow their proponents with the illusion of elite knowledge. How thrilling to know that human culture is really only a reflection of economic forces (Marx), that love is merely an alibi for lust (Freud), that altruism is a blind for genetic propagation (some followers of Darwin).

–Marilynne Robinson, "The Death of Adam"

619. **Science; Religion; Morality; Values**

"The modern fable is that science exposed religion as a delusion and more or less supplanted it. But science cannot serve in the place of religion because it cannot generate an ethics or a morality. It can give us no reason to prefer a child to a dog, or to choose honorable poverty over fraudulent wealth. It can give us no grounds for preferring what is excellent to what is sensationalistic. And this is more or less where we are now."

–Marilynne Robinson, "The Death of Adam"

620.

THE WIT & WISDOM OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN

RESPONSE TO INTRODUCTION; MODESTY

a) I have never professed an indifference to the honors of official station.

NEW IDEAS; PAST & PRESENT

b) The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present... As our case is new, so we must think anew and act anew.

SERVICE; POWER; LEADERSHIP

c) I desire so to conduct the affairs of this administration that if at the end, when I come to lay down the reins of powers, I have lost every friend on earth, I shall at least have one friend left, and that friend shall be down inside of me.

PUBLICITY

d) What kills the skunk is the publicity it gives itself.

INSULT; CENSURE

e) I can bear censure but not insult.

SPEECH; SUPERFICIALITY

f) Lincoln said of one prolix lawyer, "He can compress the most words into the smallest ideas of any man I ever met."

606. **Pornography; Literature**

In a landmark decision in 1933, John M. Woolsey, a United States District Judge, ruled that while "somewhat emetic, nowhere does [*Ulysses*] tend to be an aphrodisiac."...

607. **Speech; Nuance;Synonyms**

The Eskimos have 40 different words for "snow." We have only one...

608 **Optimism; Progress; Politics**

Russian politician: "Last year we were at the brink of the abyss. This year we will make a giant step forward."

--*Jonathan Sacks/O-U '98*

609 **Judaism: rich, children of the poor**

Judaism will not be saved by the poor; they do not have the resources. Not by the children of the rich; they are motivated to emulate their parents. Judaism *will* be saved by the rich who, if they have the will, have the resources; and by the children of the poor: היזהרו מני עניים שמהם תצא תורה

610. EMREMEJ; MODERATION

In answer to the sober Greek "nothing too much (*meden agan*)," Hindu excesses seem to endorse Mae West's observation that "too much of a good thing can be wonderful."

611. **Death; Moderation**

"Death is nature's way of telling a man to slowdown" --*Henny Youngman*

612. **Unity; Not too smart;**

אין דער תורה אז עם איז דא א הפסק אין א אות, דאדף מען אי(דער ספר תורה ניט לייענען, ווייל בא אידען דאדף זיין אחדות. אז עם מאכט זיך עפעם אין דער תורה, דאדף מען פרעגען א תינוק דלא חכים ודלא טיפש. אזוי ווי עם טויג ניט א טיפש, אזוי טויג ניט א חכים. צופיל קלוג -- טויג אויך ניט, עם דאדף זיי(ערענסטקייט, און דאס איז א כלי צו תורה.--*מדש"ז בעל התניא*

613. **Speech; Poetry**

רבינו הזקן אמר: הלשון הוא קולמוס הלב, השיר הוא קולמוס הנפש--*מדש"ז בעל התניא*

614. **Family**

מאחד הזקנים שקבל מחסידי רבינו הגדול (*דש"ז בעל התניא*) שמעתי, אשר רבינו הגדול בתחילת נשיאותו--בערד שנת תקמ"ה או תקמ"ו--סדרו הי' לדבר ברבים בעניני הנהגת איש עם בני ביתו, אשר ידוע שהקפיד הן על אלו שדאגו רק אודות עצמם ללמוד ולהתפלל ועזבו הדרכת בני ביתם, והן על אלו שנהגו בני ביתם ברמה היינו בציווים ופקודות מבלי הגד טעם וסברא. וחפצו הי' כי ידריכו ב"ב וההדרכה תהי' בקירוב ככל האפשרי, אם לא לעתים רחוקים שצריכים להשתמש גם בצד שמאל.

615. **Children; Poverty; Birth**

"I come from a very poor family. They couldn't afford to have children, so our neighbor had me

--*Henny Youngman*

616 **Family; Marriage; Children; Mood**

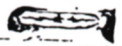
"My wife has a nice, even disposition. Miserable all the time..."

"A man is incomplete until he's married--then he's really finished"

"I've got two wonderful children--and two out of five isn't bad" --*Henny Youngman*

555. **Leadership**

Kotzk: (ר"ה כ"ח) יפתח בדורו כשמואל בדורו -- means: real leader is one who "opens" his generation, i.e., penetrates their ways, ideals...



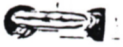
556. **Strengths; Faults; Virtues**

המשורר נתן אלתרמן כתב על עזריאל קרליבך:
יהזכר נא ויגד
כי חגלשותיו היו נחלת רבים בינינו
אבל מעלותיו היו שלו בלבד

557. **Death; Tragedy; Loss of Vision**

"The greatest loss is not death but what dies within us while we are still alive"

--Norman Cousins



558. **Action! Passivity; Timing**

חגי א:2-4 "כה אמר ה' צב-אות לאמר: העם הזה אמרו--לא עת בוא, לא עת בית ה' להיבנות: ויהי דבר ה' ביד חגי הנביא לאמר: העת לכם אתה לשבת בבתיכם סְפוּנִים, והבית הזה חָרֵב?

" ...the time is not come, the time that the Lord's house should be built...Is it a time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled homes while this house (=Temple) lies waste?"

559. **Suffering from Saints**

הקוצקאי: "אולי יש חמשים צדיקם בתוך העיר האף תספה ולא תשא למקום למען חמשים הצדיקם אשר בקרבה". מדוע הביטחון הזה שבזכות 50 צדיקים אין להשחית כל העיר? התשובה: כי כשיש 50 צדיקים--הם עצמם יחריבו את העיר...

560. **Suffering from Saints**

What's the difference between צדיק גמור ושאינו גמור? Answer: צדיק גמור suffers from the world; but the world suffers from the צדיק שאינו גמור...

561. **Loving Jews**

Late kapishnitzer Rebbe known as the *Ohev Israel*: an *Ohev Israel* is not one who loves a *talmid chakahm*, because that is an *Ohev talmid chakahm*; not one who loves a charitable person, because that is *Ohev Tzedaka*; similarly for *Chesed*. A true *Ohev Israel* is one who loves Jews who are none of the above...

562. **APATHY; IGNORANCE**

Q: "What's the difference between apathy and ignorance?"

A: "I don't know and I don't care."

563. **Sabbath Observance; morality; humanity**

The same kapishnitzer replied to someone who recommended a friend as a *shomer shabbat*: I am not interested in that ; I want to know if he is a *shomer Chol*, i.e., does he conduct his business honorably, is he honest and forthcoming in his social relationships...

564. **MAJORITY; DEMOCRACY;**

Only what Yeats called "the mad intellect of democracy" could ever have devised the caprice that the mass of people corner wisdom...

565. **MAJORITY; DEMOCRACY**

Shakespeare had little respect for "the many-headed multitude." Mill castigated "the tyranny of the majority." Ibsen was certain "the majority is always wrong." Shaw joked that "forty million Frenchmen can't be right." Mencken inveighed against "boobocracy."...

545. **Fools & WiseMen; Passover**

ר' מאיר'ל מפרמישלאן שאל: מדוע לכל פסח מדפיסים וקונים הגדות חדשות? והוא השיב: הסיבה היא שהתם והאינו-יודע-לשאול מאשתקד נחשבים היום כחכמים...

546. Books; Brevity

By means of [this book] I only intend to impart a single thought. Yet, notwithstanding all my endeavors, I could find no shorter way of imparting it than the whole book.

–Arthur Schopenhauer
The World as Will and Idea

547. Judges; Lawyers; Malaeska

In *The Nature of the Judicial Process,* Cardozo wrote that a judge

> Is not a knight-errant, roaming at will in pursuit of his own ideal of beauty or of goodness. He is to draw his inspiration from consecrated principles. He is not to yield to spasmodic sentiment, to vague and unregulated benevolence. He is to exercise a discretion informed by tradition methodized by analogy, disciplined by system, and subordinated to the primordial necessity of order in the social life.

548. Judges; Prejudice; Insults; Accusations

Lawyer to Witness: "Do you have any biases?" She: "Yes, you're a crook!" "How about the opposing lawyer?" "He's a crook too." Judge calls recess, calls in both lawyers: "Any one of you who asks what she thinks of me I'll cite for contempt."

549. Advice;

Farmer to Rabbi: "My only goat, source of sustenance to my family, is ailing. What shall I do?" Rabbi: "Feed it oats, only oats." 2 weeks later, "He's worse off!" Rabbi: "Barley." 2 weeks: "goat it death's door." "Corn, only corn." Farmer distraught: "Rabbi, goat died." Rabbi: "Truly sorry, especially since I have so much more advice to offer you..."

550. Credibility; Belief; Confidence;

"Who are you going to believe--me or your own eyes?" --Groucho Marx

551. Principles

"Those are my principles. If you don't like them, I have others." --Groucho Marx

552. Posterity

"Why should I care about posterity? What has posterity ever done for me?" --Groucho Marx

553. Marriage

"I was married by a judge. I should have asked for a jury." --Groucho Marx

554. Marriage; Success; Women

--"Behind every successful man is a woman, and behind her is his wife." --Groucho Marx

--Behind every successful man stands a surprised mother-in-law...

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486. Vision; Dreams

מתורת האדמו"ר מאיזביצא: "כי לא על הלחם לבדו"--א"כ מה הוא צריך לחיות? לח"ם למפרע הוא: חל"ם. האדם זקוק לחלומות בכדי להתקיים. גמ' ברכות--מי שישן ז' ימים בלי חלום הריהו רשע--שמקלקל עצם חייו, כי על החלום יחיה האדם! ובאמת--זקוקים גם ללחם גם לחלום-- וכמו יוסף הצדיק שחלם לאחיו וגם חילק להם לחם...

487. - BEAUTIFUL SOUL; GOD CONSCIOUS

488. COURAGE; DECISIONS

- Even the lowly turtle must stick its neck out to make progress

489. COURAGE; LEADERS

- Even the lowly turtle must stick its neck out to make progress

490. **CRITICISM& ACTION; SUCCESS**

It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out that the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and threat and blood... who errs and comes short again and again because there is no effort without error and shortcomings... who spends himself in a worthy cause, who at best knows in the end the high achievement of triumph and who at worst, if he fails while daring greatly, knows his place shall never be with those timid and cold souls who know neither victory nor defeat.

-- Theodore Roosevelt

491. **TRUTH AND FALSEHOOD**

...someone who so treasures the truth that he expends it sparingly.

-- George Frank Will

492. **SUCCESS AND FAILURE**

*Babe Ruth, considered by sports historians to be the greatest athlete of all time and famous for setting the home run record, also holds the record for strike outs.

*Thomas Edison's teacher said he was too stupid to learn anything.

*Leo Tolstoy flunked out out of college. He was described as "both unable and unwilling to learn."

493 **PASSION; POLITICS**

The absence of honest passion is the distinguishing feature of professional wresting and American politics

-- Columnist Murray Kempton

494 **APPLAUSE; PLATITUDES**

Applause usually is the echo of a platitude.

495. Unconventional; Different

The Novordoker was chided: why aren't you mainstreaming your approach? His answer: Jacob had an inspiring dream about linking the spirit with the earth, and that was symbolized by a ladder. Now think: a ladder is useful only when it is placed at an angle; a "straight" ascent, while logical, would make it impossible for the climber to reach his goal and experience the spirit.

496. Real Religion

A people profoundly religious, a people whose very history has been the history of an idea, are to be made to feel again the truth, that life of the spirit is not a thing apart, that it is in every thought, and every word and every act.

The submergence of self in the pursuit of an ideal, the readiness to spend oneself without measure, prodigally, almost ecstatically, for something intuitively apprehended as great and noble, spend oneself one knows not why--some of us like to believe that this is what religion means.

--Benjamin Nathan Cardozo (1870-1938) -- *Values*, 1931

497. EGOISM; SELF-CENTERED

some people have Copernican complex - the belief that all planets revolve around oneself

498. NATURAL + ARTIFICIAL

Rand: you don't understand - I'm naturally artificial"

Daniel

...pleasantly.

499. TEARS; COMPASSION

סח לי הרב שמואל אריה. בילדותי דרתי בכפר קישיליביץ, הוא כפר קישיליביץ שיצא לו שם בעולם. שהבעש"ט קודם שנתגלה חיה שם שו"ב. מצאתי שם שו"ב זקן למעלה משמונים. אמרתי לו, אפשר שהכרת אדם שהכיר את הבעש"ט? אמר לי, יחידי שראה את הבעש"ט לא מצאתי, גוי שראה את הבעש"ט מצאתי. בימי חרפי חייתי דר אצל אכר אחד גוי. כל פעם שהייתי יוצק מים על אבן המשחזת להשחיז את סכיני היה זקינו של האכר, זקן כבן תשעים שנה או כבן מאה שנה, מבעבע ראשו. סבור הייתי שמחמת זקנה הוא עושה כן. פעם אחת הרגשתי בו שעושה כן דרך בגאי. שאלתי אותו, מפני מה אתה מבעבע ראשך בשעת עבודתי? אמר לי, אי אתה עושה את מלאכתך יפה. ישראלקי כשהיית משחיז את סכינו היה מלחלח את האבן בדמעות.

500.
PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS;
Bio of Former Ch.Rabbi Hertz: "He believed that every problem had a peaceful solution, after all other alternatives have been exhausted

501.
POOR BUSINESSMAN; POPULARITY
Fruit vendor in Paris gets idea to increase sales by sign: Fruit from Israel. Then tries to improve: from Israel-Jerusalem; then: Isr-Jer-Kotel Maaravi. Asked: did you get lots of business? Ans: No, but you should see the crowds lining up to kiss the fruit!

502- MARRIAGE; GOLDEN WEDDING
Asked: How did the 50 years go?
Ans: went by like 2 days...

503. **One's Own Truth; Honest to Own Self**
ר' הירש מרימונוב: כתיב, "ולא תונו איש את עמיתו," ויש לומר גם בחילוף עיין לאל"ף, דהיינו: "לא תונו איש את אמיתו," כלומר, על כל אדם לשמור את האמת שלו מזיוף ומאי-נאמנות, לא להונות את האמת שלו....

504. **Leadership--and its Pains**
המלים "והסר ממנו יגון ואנחה" אינן נמצאות בברכת רפאנו ולא בראה ולא בשמע קולנו...אלא בהשיבה שופטינו, דהיינו החזרת ההנהגה הרוחנית כבימי קדם..(הרב יעקבזיע)

505. **Hope--its Rewards**
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Jonathan Swift defined Happiness as, "perpetual possession of being well deceived" or, "the serene state of being a fool among knaves"

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Rabbi: Had sore throat all week, thought I won't give sermon. But, changed mjy mind: why should you derive pleasure from my misery?

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521. ALIENATION:

THERE is a spoiled-brat quality about the self-consciously alienated. Life must have a meaning, history must have a goal, and everything must be in apple-pie order if they are to cease being alienated. Actually, there is no alienation that a little power will not cure. - Eric Hoffer

523. COMMITMENT; SELF-SACRIFICE

Anyone aware of the imperfections inherent in human affairs is hardly capable of total commitment. Part of him will inevitably remain uncommitted. It is this perch of uncommitment which makes an act of self-sacrifice sublimely human, and distinguishes the man of faith from the fanatic. - Eric Hoffer

524. **Perspective; Babies; War**

~200 yrs ago, people mesmerized Napolean's march. Same time, babies were being born. But who cared? In 1yr (1809), midway betw Trafalgar & Waterloo, following born: Gladstone/Liverpool; Tennyson/ England; Oliver Wendell Homes/Mass.; Ch. Darwin /Shrewsbury; Abe Lincoln/Kentucky; Felix Mendelsohn /Hamburg...*Which more important?*

--F.M.Boreham/England

525. **Cynics; Humbug**

P.T. Barnum (1865): "The greatest humbug of all is the man who believes--or pretends to believe--that everything and everybody are humbugs. We sometimes meet a person who professes that there is no virtue; that every man has his price, and every woman hers; that any statement from anybody is just as likely to be false as true and that the only way to decide which, is to consider whether truth or a lie was likely to have paid best in that particular case...Poor fellow! He has exposed his own nakedness. Instead of showing that others are rotten inside, he has proved that he is.

526. **Response to Introduction: לומדיש**

Thank for compliments, but I cannot accept them. Law is ושוחד לא תקח, & only prohibition mentioned is: *taking*, not *giving*--and Rabbis speak of שוחד דברים; hence, you may offer, but I may not accept . (Actually, Halakha=that ofering is not violation of ושוחד לא תקח but is violation of לפני עור ...)

527. **Knowing your goals.**

Yogi Berra: "If you don't know where you're going, you will probably end up some place else."

528. **Guilt Feelings; Empathy; Jews/Non-Jews**

Dean Purpura told me (2/14/97) in Palm Beach that he was eating breakfast & ordered bacon, but immediately cancelled the order because he felt guilty--then he changed his mind again, asking himself "Why do I feel guilty--I'm not even Jewish!"

529. **Experience; Trial & Error**

Interviewer to tycoon: Reason for success?
Tycoon: "good investments."
Interviewer: "Yes, but how know which are good?"
Tycoon: "Experience."
Interviewer: "Yes, but how gain experience?"
Tycoon: "Bad investments."

530 - SILENCE; LIES

"I would want to keep silent, but my silence tells a lie." -- By a polish poet about the Holocaust, q. by Zvi Kolitz

531. ANCESTORS; PAST; TRADITION; BOOKS

T. S. Elliot once wrote, "not only the best, but the most individual parts [of a writer's work] maybe those in which the dead... his ancestors, assert their immortality most vigorously." The same can be said of the study of Torah... which explains what the rabbis meant when they wrote that when you repeat a *devar Torah* in someone's name, his lips move in the grave.

532. . "**SEEING & UNDERSTANDING**

"What can you see? Nothing at all. All you do is gawk. Gawking is not seeing"
--(*Galileo to assistant who protests that he can see the sun moving and the earth standing still-- in Brecht's Galileo"*)

533 **COURAGE TO THINK ALONE**

"Good philosophers...fly alone, like eagles, and not in flocks like starlings...A single Arabian steed can outrun a hundred plowhorses"
--Galileo

534. **TRUTH AND FALSEHOOD**

"Someone who doesn't know the truth is just thick-headed. But someone who knows it and calls it a lie is a crook.
---(Galileo in *Galileo* by Brecht)

535. **SCIENCE--AND ITS PITFALLS**

"One of the main reasons why the sciences are so poor is that they imagine they are so rich. It isn't their job to throw open the door to infnite wisdom but to put a limit to infinite error."
---(Galileo in *Galileo* by Brecht)

536 **SCIENCE--& SOCIETY**

"As things are, the best that can be hoped for [from science] is a race of inventive dwarfs who can be hired for any purpose."
--(Galileo in *Galileo* by Brecht)

537. COMPROMISE; MATURITY

"Compromise is the inevitable price one must pay for his maturity."

--P.M. Buchan

538. BOOK REVIEW
Ambrose Bierce: "The covers of this book are too far apart."

539. OPTIM/PESSIMUM; LIFE; UNDERSTANDING

Life *is* a battle. On this point optimists and pessimists agree. Evil is insolent and strong; beauty enchanting but rare; goodness very apt to be weak; folly very apt to be defiant; wickedness to carry to day; imbeciles to be in very great places, people of sense in small, and mankind generally, unhappy.... In this there is mingled pain and delight, but over the mysterious mixture there hovers a visible rule, that bids us learn to will and seek to understand.

Henry James

540. **Charity; Pledges; YU**

3 friends on boat--Jew/Christian/Muslim--lost, end up stranded on island. Decide to attract attention. Christ'n forages for wood, builds big cross, burns it at night--no help. Muslim--same for minaret. All the while, the Jew sunning self at beach, whistling nonchalantly. Others perturbed, complain. Jew: no worry; I pledged $1.5M to YU, *they'll find me*!

541. **FORGIVENESS; ENEMIES**

"One should forgive one's enemies, but not before they are hanged"

--Heinrich Heine

542. BEYOND "LIBERAL EDUCATION"

"Knowledge is one thing, virtue is another; good sense is not conscience, refinement is not humility ... Liberal Education makes ... the gentleman. It is well to be a gentleman, it is well to have cultivated intellect, a delicate taste, a candid, equitable, dispassionate mind, a noble and courteous bearing in the conduct of life. These are the connatural qualities of a large knowledge; they are the objects of a University ... But ... they are no guarantee for sanctity or even for conscientiousness; they may attach to the man of the world, to the profligate, to the heartless ...

--*Cardinal Newman*

543. **Dangers of Happiness; Good News**

An old man wins a $200M lottery. His family gets a doctor to break it to him slowly. Asks him: "What would you do if you won $200.00?" "By a new suit..." "$2,000.00?" – "Rent a new car..." and so on. Then says, "$200M?" to which the old man answers: "I would give you half." Whereupon, the doctor drops dead.

544. עם קשה ערף -- Stubbornness

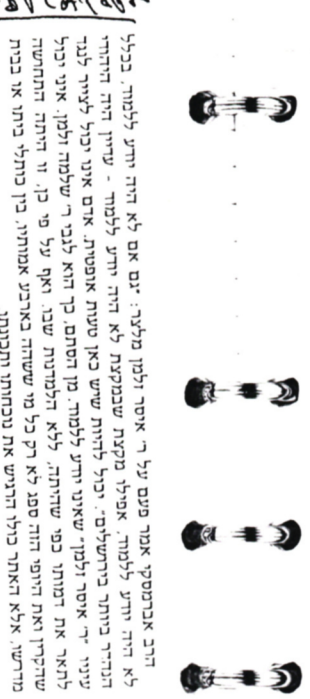
Two interpretations: One I heard from R. Sitruck of France: a "stiff-necked" person=one who develops that condition because whenever he hears a criticism (directed at him), he turns around to see whom the speaker *really* meant, thus exposing only his back (of the neck) to you...

The other is mine: a "stiff-necked" person=one whose head can move only up/down--thus, a negative response, "no"-- but is unable to move right/left--which implies a positive response, "yes."

486. Vision; Dreams

מתורת האדמו"ר מאיזביצי: "כי לא על הלחם לבדו"--א"כ מה הוא צריך לחיות? לח"ים למפרע הוא: חל"ם. האדם זקוק לחלומות בכדי להתקיים. גמ' ברכות--מי שישן ז' ימים בלי חלום הריהו רשע--שמקלקל עצם חייו, כי על החלום יחיה האדם! ובאמת--זקוקים גם ללחם גם לחלום-- וכמו יוסף הצדיק שחלם לאֵיו וגם חילק להם לחם...

487. "BEAUTIFUL SOUL"; [illegible]



488. [illegible]

A [illegible] when [illegible] a turtle on the road -- help it.

489. COURAGE; PROGRESS

- Even the lowly turtle must stick its neck out to make progress

490. CRITICISM& ACTION; SUCCESS

It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out that the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and threat and blood... who errs and comes short again and again because there is no effort without error and shortcomings... who spends himself in a worthy cause, who at best knows in the end the high achievement of triumph and who at worst, if he fails while daring greatly, knows his place shall never be with those timid and cold souls who know neither victory nor defeat.

-- Theodore Roosevelt

491. TRUTH AND FALSEHOOD

...someone who so treasures the truth that he expends it sparingly.

-- George Frank Will

492. **SUCCESS AND FAILURE**

*Babe Ruth, considered by sports historians to be the greatest athlete of all time and famous for setting the home run record, also holds the record for strike outs.

*Thomas Edison's teacher said he was too stupid to learn anything.

*Leo Tolstoy flunked out out of college. He was described as "both unable and unwilling to learn."

493 **PASSION; POLITICS**

The absence of honest passion is the distinguishing feature of professional wresting and American politics

-- Columnist Murray Kempton

494 **APPLAUSE; PLATITUDES**

Applause usually is the echo of a platitude.

495. **Unconventional; Different**

The Novordoker was chided: why aren't you mainstreaming your approach? His answer: Jacob had an inspiring dream about linking the spirit with the earth, and that was symbolized by a ladder. Now think: a ladder is useful only when it is placed at an angle; a "straight" ascent, while logical, would make it impossible for the climber to reach his goal and experience the spirit.

496. **Real Religion**

A people profoundly religious, a people whose very history has been the history of an idea, are to be made to feel again the truth, that life of the spirit is not a thing apart, that it is in every thought, and every word and every act.

The submergence of self in the pursuit of an ideal, the readiness to spend oneself without measure, prodigally, almost ecstatically, for something intuitively apprehended as great and noble, spend oneself one knows not why--some of us like to believe that this is what religion means.

--Benjamin Nathan Cardozo (1870-1938) -- *Values*, 1931

497. EGOISM; SELF-CENTERED

some people have Copernican complex - the belief that all planets revolve around them

498. NATURAL + ARTIFICIAL

Rand: "you don't understand - I'm naturally artificial"

499. TEARS; COMPASSION

מח לי הרב שמואל אריה, בילדותי דרתי בכפר קישיליביץ, הוא כפר קישיליביץ שיצא לו שם בעולם, שהבעש"ט קודם שנתגלה היה שם שו"ב. מצאתי שם שו"ב זקן למעלה משמונים. אמרתי לו, אפשר שתכירת אדם שהכיר את הבעש"ט? אמר לי, יתדי שראה את הבעש"ט לא מצאתי, גוי שראה את הבעש"ט מצאתי. בימי ורפי היתי דר אצל אכר אחד גוי. כל פעם שהייתי יוצק מים על אבן המשחזת להשחיז את סכיני היה זקינו של האכר, זקן כבן השעים שנה או כבן מאה שנה. מבעבע ראשו. מבוך היתי שמחמת זקנה הוא עושה כן. פעם אחת הרגשתי בו שעושה כן דרך גבאי. שאלתי אותו, מפני מה אתה מבעבע ראשך בשעת עבודתי? אמר לי, אי אתה עושה את מלאכתך יפה. ישראלקי כשהיה משחיז את סכינו היה מלחלח את האבן בדמעות.

500.
PEACEFUL SOLUTIONS;
Bio of Former Ch.Rabbi Hertz: "He believed that every problem had a peaceful solution, after all other alternatives have been exhausted

501.
POOR BUSINESSMAN; POPULARITY
Fruit vendor in Paris gets idea to increase sales by sign: Fruit from Israel. Then tries to improve: from Israel-Jerusalem; then: Isr-Jer-Kotel Maaravi. Asked: did you get lots of business? Ans: No, but you should see the crowds lining up to kiss the fruit!

502- MARRIAGE: GOLDEN WEDDING
Asked: How did the 50 years go?
Ans: went by like 2 days...
כאילו 2 ימים עברו...

503. **One's Own Truth; Honest to Own Self**
ר' הירש מרימונוב: כתיב, "ולא תונו איש את עמיתו," ויש לומר גם בחילוף עי"ן לאל"ף, דהיינו: "לא תונו איש את אמיתו," כלומר, על כל אדם לשמור את האמת שלו מזיוף ומאי-נאמנות, לא להונות את האמת שלו....

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Language was invented to ask questions. Answers may be given by grunts and gestures, but questions must be spoken. Humanness came of age when man asked the first question. Social stagnation results not from lack of answers but from the absence of the impulse to ask questions. —Eric Hoffer

521. ALIENATION:

THERE is a spoiled-brat quality about the self-consciously alienated. Life must have a meaning, history must have a goal, and everything must be in apple-pie order if they are to cease being alienated. Actually, there is no alienation that a little power will not cure. - Eric Hoffer

523. COMMITMENT; SELF-SACRIFICE

Anyone aware of the imperfections inherent in human affairs is hardly capable of total commitment. Part of him will inevitably remain uncommitted. It is this perch of uncommitment which makes an act of self-sacrifice sublimely human, and distinguishes the man of faith from the fanatic. - Eric Hoffer

524. **Perspective; Babies; War**

~200 yrs ago, people mesmerized Napolean's march. Same time, babies were being born. But who cared? In 1yr (1809), midway betw Trafalgar & Waterloo, following born: Gladstone/Liverpool; Tennyson/ England; Oliver Wendell Homes/Mass.; Ch. Darwin /Shrewsbury; Abe Lincoln/Kentucky; Felix Mendelsohn /Hamburg...*Which more important?*

--F.M.Boreham/England

525. **Cynics; Humbug**

P.T. Barnum (1865): "The greatest humbug of all is the man who believes--or pretends to believe--that everything and everybody are humbugs. We sometimes meet a person who professes that there is no virtue; that every man has his price, and every woman hers; that any statement from anybody is just as likely to be false as true and that the only way to decide which, is to consider whether truth or a lie was likely to have paid best in that particular case...Poor fellow! He has exposed his own nakedness. Instead of showing that others are rotten inside, he has proved that he is.

526. **Response to Introduction: לומדיש**

Thank for compliments, but I cannot accept them. Law is ושוחד לא תקח, & only prohibition mentioned is: *taking*, not *giving*--and Rabbis speak of שוחד דברים; hence, you may offer, but I may not accept . (Actually, Halakha=that ofering is not violation of ושוחד לא תקח but is violation of לפני עור ...)

527. **Knowing your goals.**

Yogi Berra: "If you don't know where you're going, you will probably end up some place else."

528. **Guilt Feelings; Empathy; Jews/Non-Jews**

Dean Purpura told me (2/14/97) in Palm Beach that he was eating breakfast & ordered bacon, but immediately cancelled the order because he felt guilty--then he changed his mind again, asking himself "Why do I feel guilty--I'm not even Jewish!"

529. **Experience; Trial & Error**

Interviewer to tycoon: Reason for success?
Tycoon: "good investments."
Interviewer: "Yes, but how know which are good?"
Tycoon: "Experience."
Interviewer: "Yes, but how gain experience?"
Tycoon: "Bad investments."

530- SILENCE; LIES

"I would want to keep silent, but my silence tells a lie." -- By a polish poet about the Holocaust, q. by Zvi Kolitz

531. ANCESTORS; PAST; TRADITION; BOOKS

T. S. Elliot once wrote, "not only the best, but the most individual parts [of a writer's work] maybe those in which the dead... his ancestors, assert their immortality most vigorously." The same can be said of the study of Torah... which explains what the rabbis meant when they wrote that when you repeat a *devar Torah* in someone's name, his lips move in the grave.

532. "**SEEING & UNDERSTANDING**

"What can you see? Nothing at all. All you do is gawk. Gawking is not seeing"

--(*Galileo to assistant who protests that he can see the sun moving and the earth standing still-- in Brecht's Galileo"*)

533 **COURAGE TO THINK ALONE**

"Good philosophers...fly alone, like eagles, and not in flocks like starlings...A single Arabian steed can outrun a hundred plowhorses"

--Galileo

534. **TRUTH AND FALSEHOOD**

"Someone who doesn't know the truth is just thick-headed. But someone who knows it and calls it a lie is a crook.

---(Galileo in *Galileo* by Brecht)

535. **SCIENCE--AND ITS PITFALLS**

"One of the main reasons why the sciences are so poor is that they imagine they are so rich. It isn't their job to throw open the door to infnite wisdom but to put a limit to infinite error."

---(Galileo in *Galileo* by Brecht)

536. **SCIENCE--& SOCIETY**

"As things are, the best that can be hoped for [from science] is a race of inventive dwarfs who can be hired for any purpose."

--(Galileo in *Galileo* by Brecht)

537. COMPROMISE; MATURITY

"Compromise is the inevitable price one must pay for his maturity."

538. BOOK REVIEW
Ambrose Bierce: "the covers of this book are too far apart."

539. OPTIM/PESSIMISM; LIFE; UNDERSTANDING

Life *is* a battle. On this point optimists and pessimists agree. Evil is insolent and strong; beauty enchanting but rare; goodness very apt to be weak; folly very apt to be defiant; wickedness to carry to day; imbeciles to be in very great places, people of sense in small, and mankind generally, unhappy.... In this there is mingled pain and delight, but over the mysterious mixture there hovers a visible rule, that bids us learn to will and seek to understand.

Henry James

540. **Charity; Pledges; YU**

3 friends on boat--Jew/Christian/Muslim--lost, end up stranded on island. Decide to attract attention. Christ'n forages for wood, builds big cross, burns it at night--no help. Muslim--same for minaret. All the while, the Jew sunning self at beach, whistling nonchalantly. Others perturbed, complain. Jew: no worry; I pledged $1.5M to YU, *they'll find me*!

541. **FORGIVENESS; ENEMIES**

"One should forgive one's enemies, but not before they are hanged"

--Heinrich Heine

542. BEYOND "LIBERAL EDUCATION"

"Knowledge is one thing, virtue is another; good sense is not conscience, refinement is not humility ... Liberal Education makes ... the gentleman. It is well to be a gentleman, it is well to have cultivated intellect, a delicate taste, a candid, equitable, dispassionate mind, a noble and courteous bearing in the conduct of life. These are the connatural qualities of a large knowledge; they are the objects of a University ... But ... they are no guarantee for sanctity or even for conscientiousness; they may attach to the man of the world, to the profligate, to the heartless ...

--*Cardinal Newman*

543 **Dangers of Happiness; Good News**

An old man wins a $200M lottery. His family gets a doctor to break it to him slowly. Asks him: "What would you do if you won $200.00?" "By a new suit..." "$2,000.00?" – "Rent a new car..." and so on. Then says, "$200M?" to which the old man answers: "I would give you half." Whereupon, the doctor drops dead.

544. עם קשה עורף -- Stubbornness

Two interpretations: One I heard from R. Sitruck of France: a "stiff-necked" person=one who develops that condition because whenever he hears a criticism (directed at him), he turns around to see whom the speaker *really* meant, thus exposing only his back (of the neck) to you...

The other is mine: a "stiff-necked" person=one whose head can move only up/down--thus, a negative response, "no"-- but is unable to move right/left--which implies a positive response, "yes."

Dr. Norman Lamm

STORIES

1. Reb Zusya – "why were you not R. Zusya?"

2. Pres. So. American country why N Am – USA – more progressive: search God (Spaniards), search G-d (Puritans)

3. Rupshitzer (czar Nicholas vs Napoleon: terrible ~~sight~~ crime Tzar: why not your colonel?

4. Sea of Galilee – Dead Sea = outlet or not

5. 4 Hebrew I'm Shtetel !! – yes, just measured myself in little village words

6. visiting tract gallery Greek: don't covet impostors Greek: Sir, it is our virtues don't own pictures that are material" – (same w. Torah)

7. composer: symphonies w. philosophy – not trad yid: Rumanian: take apart violin, don't find music

8. Talmud: Stirke: ... on, merely love words, dweller Hasidic: then why ...? – why the town

STORIES (cont'd)

10- "Guoabye g-l, going home now" (WOMEN) SA

11. you beat up my father, I'll beat your

(P. Eliz – Banquet)

12. WOUK-ASH (SA Banquet) (MEG AVAT)

13- Manuel Samuel - Rabbi Foster -
"Rabbi F, what would you do if you were Je

RESPONSE

14. "I will not bore you for long, since we
have distinq. guest spkr for that purpose.

(SA Banquet) (Palm Spr '70)

15. Appeal: MALBIM - complaint: Kiss
(Author - SSgt) hands, give w. curtsy; reverse.

16. (for DELAY): Texan oil Artiller
- you should see our trains! (RETORT)

17. 21 G-GS - TOUGH-MAZEL (SA FAREWELL)

(AVAILABLE MEG)

18. YUD HAKADOSH: Fl(y) when see me
man for whom all gen's labored

(Pretoria - Durban) (AVAT)

STORIES (cont'd)

19.

There are some Jewish types you have met among Jews who is willing to pay for it but does not wish to live with it.

The "Agricultural Jew," who affiliates for the purpose of cemetery privileges.

The "Cardiac Jew" who feels he need not attend services because his Judaism is in his heart.

The "Gastronomic Jew" whose Judaism consists of eating what he likes to call Jewish food.

The "Revolving Door Jew" who comes into Temple on Rosh Hashana and goes out on Yom Kippur.

The "Retired Jew" who rose too early in the ranks of leadership. After becoming president of everything in sight by the time he is forty-five, he has no new worlds to conquer and

aims to retire from the scene.

—Rabbi Maurice Davis in
"The National Jewish Post and Opinion"

21- Intimacy w. God : mother filling cup.

22- APPEAL - story BUILDER - community surprise gift - skimps - ~~banquet~~ - present : TO HIM ! Banquet

23- SURVIVAL - PRES'V'N SSM - CONFANC immigr't Rabbi, did w many to preserve "fish → "pickle fish"

24- IN HONOR OF HOSTESS - Absorb'l on ... - follows ... to welcome hospitality (not so ...

25- RESPONSE - like cologne - smelled, not swallow

26- RESPONSE - not so great as said, but not so bad as you're thinking

27- RESPONSE
Aff't, honored: "How many great men in world tonight?" she: "one less than you think" (SA women)

28- KOSHER FOOD - Kind that to be able to eat it [illegible] stomach like -le

29- APPEAL-FUNNY - Hav'cus [illegible] -- in case recession - that thing cut in charity, yeshiva · In casualties, last resort - prayer. (Oxford)

30- APPEAL STORY - fabled gem-king no player-visitor: plain! Anx: hold hand ...

31- APPEAL STORY - return from funeral son esp. distraught - father tried call me - but my line was busy!...

32- GIVING (APPEAL-TYPE) - Kotel [illegible]

5

33- APPEAL STORY (funny)-
Rabbi appealed - wealthy miser-
only $25 - price ceiling fall down -
silence - raised it to $100 - Rabbi
audible undertone "should hit
him again!" (SA Banquet)

34- TO WORKERS: THOROUGHNESS
Talmud: [illegible] (SYD-AVST)
[illegible] - just try a
little; but Kotzker: [illegible]

35. MIRACLES; PARTNERSHIP
[illegible] - Bishop - polemic -
doubt in faith & miracles - partners:
a) Mary - Jesus; he - from Father...
b) Jesus buried; he - resurrected
c) Jesus only 12 men heard; he - fed 300

(Farewell SA)

4/24/68

36- Interpretation - [illegible]

37- Strength - Rarity - Life

But who has such luck -
may be one in a million!

38- [illegible] for New Answers - Question

"all day long - same question,
different answers!"

39- Response to Introduction

"Here R. Lamm was to finish...
as chairman. I will not bore you
for long since we have brought
R. Lamm here for that purpose

40- Response - [illegible]

41 - Response; humility - Easier to Rabbi: Look who thinks he's a nebbish!

42- Rabbinate - Rabbi in hospital "BA- Director who you [illegible] vol 17-4"

43- D.J. - story Brecks Sybil -- I: first, only Rabbi to found a Catholic [illegible]

44- Trying to Join - follow burning Chicago approached to [illegible] - No, never mate good relation always [illegible]. And when about Amen! - I never tried!

45 - Optimism - Bubbe Kaye

46. Politics (R. Nissim:) [illegible] came to us to get in [illegible]. Now get [illegible]. So-found [illegible]. From [illegible] - politics

47- Denouncing Scoundrels - Stephen Wise
introduced to NY politics: Oh you
know me Rabbi Wise, you've denounced me
often enough! Wise: often yes, enough not

48- Agnon-key (good ending) (ייא)
story of [illegible] - story of
lost key ... to share ...
words: takes key back to ייא.
With: why? Talm. [illegible]
[illegible] - way was
key. So - we're holding it.

49- Politeness; Education - Father-
knows little school - no speak Hebs
Friend: what your children learn?
Pa: only 3 words: [illegible]
Friend: send them to [illegible]
school in Israel 2 yrs. later
Friend: now? Pa: Now they speak
Hebs perfectly know everything
- except for 3 words ...

50- Differentness - Exoticism -
flying saucer leaves - 3 little people run
out dressed in [illegible], orbiting etc.
- where you from? "Mars." All dress
that way there? "No - only Tuesday!

51- LONG SPEECHES or PROGRAMS - follow coming from 2-hr [illegible] concert: "It was a real appeal." ? - "½ hr. I listened to next 1½ hrs prayed should be over."

52 Being in MESS [illegible] (increase [illegible] appeals [illegible] at every public event, celebrities [illegible] what [illegible] visiting? [illegible] - [illegible] apps if you [illegible] bill

53 PEOPLE SPEAKING - [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

1. INTROD - LEAR Johnny Gardner:
[illegible] shapes him musical-
Carl: your [illegible] firm, attract customers,
[illegible] personality, [illegible] Turns over
coal, "Hmph - That's not your [illegible]

[illegible]

3. RESPONSE INTROD - [illegible] scholar-
[illegible] - [illegible]

6. LANGUAGES - [illegible]
[illegible]

9. [illegible] - [illegible]
[illegible]

12. REFORM - MISSION - [illegible]
[illegible]

15. CONFERENCE, COMING PEACE - Johnny [illegible] a song which
[illegible] will have rather [illegible]

64. PERSPECTIVE - (Article in Field & Stream review)
"Lady Chatterly's Lover" - grandstand to gamesmanship, many insights garnered by alert hosting reviews - but too much effort required to wade thru before coming to gist. So can't recommend as subst. for general in gamesmanship WVSS

65. JEWS everywhere - Turkey (Bronstein) Norway (Rothstein) returning Asian Communist friends; Nazi citizens are Exiles? What Jew would wear ring thru nose? (Palm Spr 70)

66. Anti-Sem - Definition: one who hates Jews more than is absolutely necessary

67. Rabbis Intervene-Limitations bumpy flight, frightened passengers to Rabbi seated next: Why don't you do something? R: Sorry - I'm in sales, not management.

68. Refusal to Give - after yr, customer got no interest on large deposit in Bizarchi Bank: Sorry, against our principles to give interest - so return my money. Sorry, against our principles to return principal...
Flat [illegible] 73

69 Saving Jim

An old woman whose pushcart tipped by urchins, began yell. He: why cry? Better learn drama pick up what you can! so w. Jim...

70 - Heaven + Hell - Rabbi Non-Rel

Famous Hasidic Rabbi died, his pupils pray to visit him in Heaven. Fast 30 days, permission granted. 9 days see him at table conversing young beauty. Shocked: "Rabbi, is this your idea of Heaven?" "Oh no! I am in Hell..."

71 - Price we pay for our pleasures

Mrs Litshitz studying ancient Hebrew "Litshitz Dammit - 3000 [illegible] world. Not like Hopes + Kohlmans divorce, Litshitz Diabetes cured!" "What was it?" — "Litshitz!"

72 - RESPONSE [illegible]

13- Escaping JSS. Lev Rivkin:

Fr. assimil'd J wants join Hebrew Fr-Chr club. Friends: But you're JSS Heb. But we are also Xians. They: OK, but fill out application blank inquiring. Latin. They: Living grandparents? Cousins? Name - Flavie-des-Roses (Rosenblum); U - Sorbonne (Yeshiva); prof. metallurgist (metal junk); all this & all't. But when asked for "Religion" why'd you write: Goy?!

14. Fund-Raising (Irving Bunim)

15. SOLUTIONS; Reciprocity

16. [illegible] SPEAKERS

77. RED TAPE (up in ISRAEL) - Lion escapes zoo in Tel Aviv, frightened, hides in Agency bldg. After unfamiliar, gobbles up [illegible]. No one misses him, weeks later, gets one more, same. Then lion makes fatal error: pounces on someone who serves tea - to immediately missed...

78. REFUSAL TO SPEAK [illegible]

79. RED TAPE (sequel to #77) - stranger comes in Agency bldg at 2:30pm - finds only cleaning lady, asks: [illegible]

80. Generation gap - when [illegible] PROFESSIONAL TITLES [illegible] "Funny - sometimes they call me a shoemaker ..."

82 - THANKS; THANK GOD

2 Israelis: 1: How's family? 2: Thank Brezhnev, OK; 3: " business? " .. .. 1: what kind name is that? Doesn't Jew say "thank god"? 2: that we'll say when Brezhnev dies!

83 LAST-MINUTE APPEARANCE - Superstitious Warren Hill. old Italy arriving car 65-75-85 mi/hr cop gives chase, she pulls up to garage, runs ladies' room, tells cop, "Bet you thought I'd never make it"

84 THROW "LAMBS" TO WOLVES; ANOTHER SPEAKER

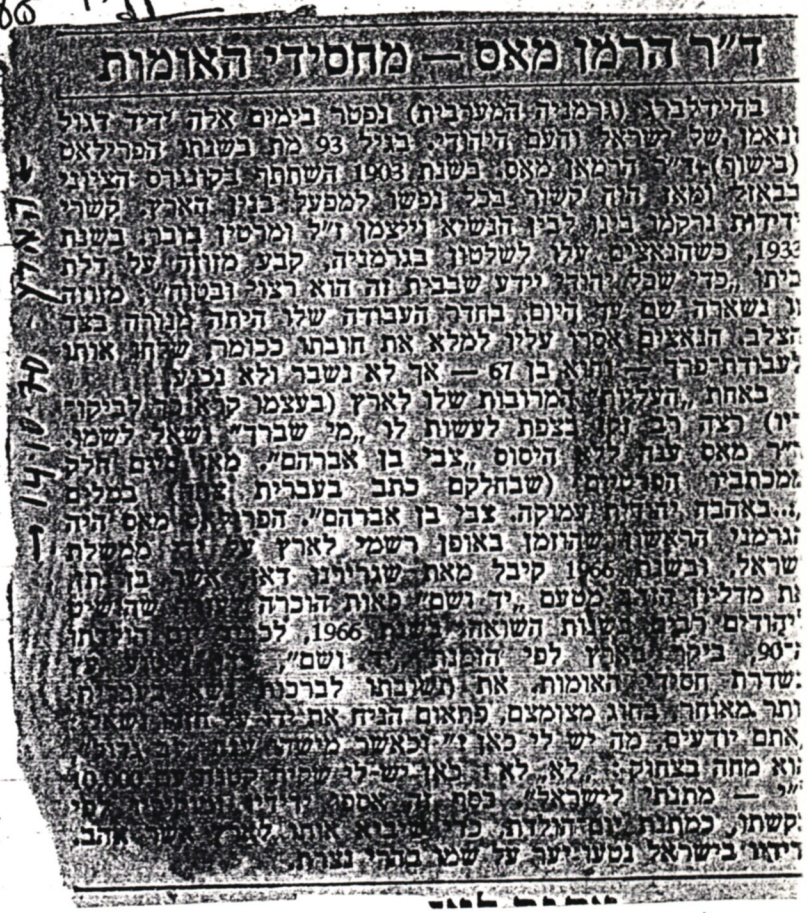
visiting Rabbi's 2m sees ravenous wolf to little lamb own cage, sign [illegible] to keep. How possible? Keeper simple - a new lamb every day ...

85 - "PEACE" AMONGST SCHOLARS; RABBI'S DIVISIVE

[illegible] Melbourn

85 April

ד"ר הרמן מאס — מחסידי האומות



בהידלברג (גרמניה המערבית) נפטר בימים אלה ידיד דגול
ונאמן של ישראל (והעם היהודי. בגיל 93 מת בשנתו הפרופ
(בישוף)+ד"ר הרמן מאס. בשנת 1903 השתתף בקונגרס הציוני
בבאזל (מאז היה קשור בכל נפשו למפעל בנין הארץ. קשרי
ידידות נרקמו בינו לבין הנשיא וייצמן ז"ל ומרטין בובר. בשנת
1933, כשהנאצים עלו לשלטון בגרמניה, קבע מגוריו על דלת
ביתו, כדי שכל יהודי יידע שבבית זה הוא רצוי ובטוח. מעודו
נשארה שם עד היום, בחדר העבודה שלו, היתה מנורה באד
צלב. הנאצים אסרו עליו למלא את חובתו ככומר שקיבל אותו
עבודת-פרך — והוא בן 67 — אך לא נשבר ולא נכנע.
באחת "העלונים המרובות שלו לארץ (בעצמו קראה לביקו
יון) רצה רב-קן בצפת לעשות לו "מי שברך" ושאל לשמו.
ר מאס עבד לא היסוס "צבי בן אברהם". מאז שנים חלק
מלחביו הישנים (שבחלקם כתב בעברית) כמלים
...באהבת יהודים עמוקה. צבי בן אברהם". הפרופ' מאס היה
גרמני הראשון שהוזמן באופן רשמי לארץ ע"י ממשלת
שראל, ובשנת 1966 קיבל מאת שגרירנו דאז אבן חן
ת מדליון היוקרה מטעם "יד ושם" לפאות הזכרה
יהודים לבין שנות השואה בשנת 1966, לכ
ב-90, ביקר בארץ לפי הזמנת "יד ושם",
שדרת חסידי האומות, את תשובתו לברכה
תר מאוחרת בחזון מצומצם, פתאום הניח את-ידו
אתם יודעים, מה יש לי כאן?" וכאשר מישהו
וא מחה בצחוק: "לא, לא, לא! כאן יש-לי שקוד
" — מתנתי לישראל". נפסק לו אסיפת ידידי
קשתו, כמתנת יום הולדת, כדי שיביא אותו
ידיו בישראל נטע יער על שמו ברחי נצרת.

57- נערה ישראלית (Yaffa Eliach)

Israeli girl wears mini-skirt dress
with biblical man walks up to her
and offers her apple. "Eve from Paradise
has the same dress as yours
with an apple"

88a. APPEAL [illegible] (heard from [illegible])
[illegible] preacher came to son to church after
service, conversation, noticed no one [illegible]
[illegible] collection box, so [illegible]. Later,
[illegible] came running over, said: "can't
afford it, but will give you all in my
collection box." Handed him [illegible] son:
"Dad, how you given more, you would
have gotten more..."

88b. EDUCATION, PURPOSE OF: Thomas
Carlyle: "-- that each become all
he is capable of being." (quoted
in the Best of Sunday)

88c. APPEAL PRIDE; DOUBT: Dr. Physician
Art Buchwald: "We all have strength
to go thru - But you have always more..."

88d. DEFUNCT ORGS, INSTITUTIONS: Fr. Lehmann
[illegible] that number 5 would whisper in
ear of [illegible] "Know, God that you have
most"... Some one right to me that to contain
virgo which contains [illegible] life only have
of supernatural virtue

88. INTRO. TO LENGTHY TALKS

(heard from Sam Schechter) Prof to class: my job is to lecture; yours to listen. If you finish yours first, let me know

89. DEMOCR; PRINCPL; RABBISCHMN;

(heard of late): Rabbi (Ref) arguing to retention bit Hebrew in Union Prayer. His 5 officers opposed. R: I'll fire them fighting to your-help me. Thinking/writing. Pres: OK, vote is now 5-2 !

(cf. Saturday in [illegible] only if [illegible])

90. BOMBING OUT; 2ND SPEECH IN ROW

Prof. on lecture circuit, wowed bomb on plane. Org's colleagues, prof statistics - odds 1 of 73,000. "Not good enough" so; odds vs. 2 bombs = astronomical - so - take along bomb with you on plane... (heard: Sam Schechter)

4 VFAC-oct 78

90a. OPTIMISM/PESSIMISM

In 1969, a story popular in Israel went as follows: One person asks another: Are you an optimist or a pessimist? The answer was: an optimist. Well, if you are an optimist, why do you look so glum? The answer: Do you think it is easy to be an optimist?

kaH

91. ABORTION; PAYING DEBTS

Lecture 2 pm 5/74

Monsignor to Bishop: what are we going to do about the Abortion bill? Bishop - pray it to keep quiet (Irv. Bernim)

92. BARGAINS; BUSINESS; [illegible]

Eng + France let out bids to tunnel under channel - $25 million, 31, 28... But overlook from Cohen + Goldberg - $12,500. Law requires investig. to take them. Cohen: Easy - I stand in Eng w. shovel + Goldberg in France + we begin tunnig. Goodman: what if you don't meet under channel? Cohen: oh no!! In you'll get 2 tunnels for the price of one!

93 - WRITTEN DOCUMENTS - ORAL PROMISES

[illegible] with w. univ. profs for most part things in paper. Work with Jew lawyers [illegible] by hand, get Dow + Jones trouble to work it out word for word in [illegible]

94. IGNORANCE OF JEWS by JEWS

Chr. lady berates Rabbi that he doesn't inform congress's duty, etc. He: you'd be surprised at my congr's true attitude re. my duties to them.

95. CAN'T PLEASE EVERYBODY

96. DON'T SELL (OR BUY) TOO CHEAP

97. PROUD OF BEING A JEW

David Schoenbrun (reporter) in Paris in 1948, on receiving visit to Premier Bidault, says - "I'm proud to be a Jew!"

Blumstein: "Why? What are we doing
to be proud of it? First graduate
something I will have right to
be proud - one of us parents will be proud

98- SPIRIT; ATMOSPHERE

Parents decide on [illegible]
times - on movie, budget, launch etc.
Relatives, animation: "Their presence
"Well, the BM was OK - but
there was no atmosphere"

Cornell Nov 14 - Oct 88

99. [illegible] GREAT MOM

[illegible] שאמו [illegible]
[illegible] הוא [illegible]
[illegible] ...

100- SPEAKING TOO MUCH - Dr. Nygaard
(Comp. Sc. N.Y. State) - Dr. Belkin once told him
"Each speech you make is better than
the next ..."

101- GIVING TO CHARITY

we are People of the Book in 2 ways -
learning (בית) & checkbook - (בית)

102- MUCH TOO MUCH OF SOMETHING - 2 judges
out fishing - one checks diary - a "No Fishing
Day"! Row to bank, one tells other - guilty? Ex
extenuating circumstances? No. Fined $5.
Then reverse rules, same dialogue. Fined -
$15. "But your Honor, in recent case - only $5 -
"yes, but we've been having much too much
of that sort of thing recently"

102- QUESTIONS - Pres. Katzir (1973) met
distinguished scientist, asked if 25th at control
of career - yes - Rabbi neighborhood, met every day.
[illegible] NO DISCUSSION but
[illegible]

103 - MISDIRECTED INTENTIONS - Rabbi visits sick
Christian, all hooked up, many nurses everywhere, R. gives
him pipe or pencil, dies before can read, looks for children
afterward, reads will to family as last will - s -
"Damn Fool, you're stepping on my oxygen tube"

104 - NO ONE MUSICOS/ TALKS TO ME - Man goes
to parliament (בית) w. above complaint, finally
called out, "Next!"

סיכום דיונים הבוקר

105 - SEMANTICS, מסמנטיקה

106 - LANGUAGE, PLEASURE, "EXTRA-SOMETHING"

Judy Silberg tells: R. Engelkirchen's comment from [illegible] (Shirat Hayam), proof of how [illegible]. In Leviticus: Zera Yisrael, calls to [illegible] "I want a drop of tea." She, [illegible] with pleasure." He - [illegible] "only tea." She: [illegible]

107 - RESPONSE AS LAST SPEAKER

108 - SOMETIMES ONE HAS, SOMETIMES [illegible]

In Fiji - blue laws, religious on Sun. So - one store on International Airline, w. an entrance outside.

109 - LAST SPEAKER : 3 kinds people who leave train: those who rush to get off first; those who wait till train stops; & the little fellow who makes sure his seat one left. Then goes thru cars picking up what everyone else forgot ...

110- JEWS: CONVERT DARKNESS TO LIGHT!!

- group Bedouins in Sinai - well, called B'ir Chunis (חוני בור) = well of lanterns -
- 32 group settled it, named it חוני המעגל

111- PRINCIPAL, LEADER - (unpopular) - another welcoming sign. "get right to work!" Don't want it - why? "students hate me, teachers hate me, everyone hates me" "but you gotta go instead" "why?" "Because you're important"

112- PATIENCE, SPIRIT - MONEY. [illegible] to say that a Jew needs 3 - 6's -

113- ON REPEATING PRAYER (after others)

114- PRAISE AUDIENCE; THOSE NOT PRESENT

115- BAD NEWS - IN DISGUISE

A committee was appointed to investigate student's system at town. Report: all good - teachers, curriculum... only 2 things lacking: candle shaving. ? - Ans: ~~Coffee~~ [illegible]

116: St. Israel; good news + Rough Conservatives

R. Braiman: "For 2000 yrs. Jews are praying to return to Zion - it's about time it happen to me." (Also: Chinese curse - "may you live in interesting times")

117. Introd. [illegible] speaker. Fellow crossed a parrot + tiger. Asked: what's it good for? Ans. Don't know, but when it talks, we listen...

118. Speaker on Difficult Subject

Lord Russell invited to Harvard, lecture on Quantum Theory. After. Alfred North Whitehead said, "I congratulate Lord Russell for leaving the vast darkness of the subject undisturbed."

119. Introv. Last Speaker (more than one season)

Acc. to the [illegible] last?

120 - Expression of Humility

121 - WRONG TO BE SILENT - Kirk in

122. SEMANTICS: G-D'S WAYS. Father teaches

daughter not to say: "what does it mean?"

Father translates. Child: "Oh. In that

case I'm older than I thought

I am then."

123. FLEXIBILITY; UNCHANGING PRINCIPLES,

Sen. Everett Dirksen (Ill.) was fond of saying:

"I am a man of unbending principle, but

the first three of my principles are

very flexible.

124 - DANGER of APOLOGETICS (warn from Im-Intellects) -- Do-nothing record of Taliun (1st Am. IV) with the great majority (in mtg. in Wn. Room: Phila-Dolphia's great literary mtg. in order to appeal to the Am. Century. Progress should consist in doing progressive!

125 - FREEDOM: NO THOUGHT, NO CONSCIENCE

Use in Mark Twain: Our society - 3 great blessings: Freedom of Thought, Freedom of Conscience - & Providence to make use of neither of them

126 - HALF-HEARTED MEASURES

Grillparzer wrote of the Hapsburgs: "It is the curse of our proud dynasty / To move ½-heartedly, to strive ½-way / To craft ½-measures hesitantly"

127 - UNIV. PRESIDENTS - Nyquist at my institution: Univ. Pres. sleep like baby - sleep an hour, cry an hour, then again... Also - in slightest state of resignation

128- SPEECH TO AUDIENCE OF EXPERTS. a man who lived thru Johnstown flood bored everyone by constantly retelling story how he was saved from J. flood. After meal, tells Angel Gabriel: everyone has to relate some important deed. He will tell how I was saved ... Gabriel: good-but I must inform you that in the audience will be Noah ...

129- CONCILIATORY/UNYIELDING - Professor Haber - to discuss a famous arbitrator, tells of [illegible] a rebbe. Catholic labor leader who told him he always prays before entering negotiations: Lord, make me conciliatory - but unyielding.

130- AMERICANIZATION; DE-JUDAIZED JEWS; REFORM (Con Prof Marvin Bressler, principal) - Stephen Wise drew criticism for audience as "a great Jew & an even greater American" One woman in audience translated to mother:

131- WELCOME PROBLEMS [illegible] Hasid commented to Prof R. Nafeli of Ryzhik about misfortunes of [illegible], the rebbe:

132- NO HOPE? NO CHANCE?

P. Peli tells me - friend, [illegible], applied telephone, arranged on, what to answer - check status beard. "Very difficult." "You mean I have no hope?" "No, you have hope. But you don't have a chance!"

133- (NOT) UNEXPECTED TRIBUTE; RESPONSE

[illegible] very [illegible], does want to give gift of book to teacher (R. Steinberg), when it is [illegible] [illegible] [illegible], after recess, comes in turns to page — not there. Turns pg — nothing. Frantically turns the upside down — it falls to the floor. Beatific smile. Turns to class:

[illegible]

134- SELF-CONFIDENCE · 4'11" S. immigrant from Ukrainia approaches Lumberjack for pic. Why? what experience? - Sahara Forest But Sahara is a Desert? so! — Now it's a desert ...

130- POLITICS; EDUCATIONAL POLITICS — is similar to the life of an elephant: whatever may happen, it is trumpeted about; it's conducted on a high level; it takes a long time for results to be evident.

136- COMMITTEES - a committee is a group of people who, as individuals, can do nothing, but who then meet & collectively decide that nothing can be done.

136a. YEATS - W. H. Auden - "a poet is someone who talks in somebody else's sleep"

136b BOOKS - Lionel Trilling: "People don't read books, books read people. I have been read by "The Castle" & ..., & often they have been rejected even in the beginning ..."

136c cf PREVENTION & TREATMENT. In Berlin they discovered that people were falling off the mountains. So they built a hospital in the valley.

136d TIME IS PRESSING, ACTIVISM - Shulman Alexander

136e Action & Passion - Oliver Wendell Holmes (1884) - I think that as life is action & passion, it is required of a man that he should share the passion & action of his time, at the peril of being judged not to have lived.

137 - 2 kinds of People - Robt Benchley - The world can be divided into 2 kinds of people: those who divide the world into 2 kinds of people, & those who don't.

137 SELF-SACRIFICE, GREAT GOALS - Post Office Saying. A Jew has to sell his last shirt in order to become a millionaire.

STORIES

1. Reb Zusya – "why were you not Reb Zusya?"

2. Pres. So. American country why N. Am – USA – more progressive: search gold (Spaniards), search G-d (Puritans)

3. Rupshitzer: Czar Nicholas vs Napoleon: trouble ~~sight~~ Crime: Tore: why not you instead?

4. Sea of Galilee – Dead Sea = outlet or not

5. 4: the boy: I'm still there. ?? – yes, just measured myself w. little violin I made.

6. visits to Art Gallery Guard: don't touch pictures, Guard: Sir, it is our visitors don't our pictures that are natural" – (same w. Torah)

7. costumes: sweatshirts w. telescope – with trick yarmulke: take apart violin, don't trust music

8. Talmud: Stroke: 39 ron, much more work, double Hazzle: Friendly Jews? – why to Zion

138- COLLECTIVE WISDOM. Nahum Goldmann:
the more collective, the less wisdom

140- CRITICISM - John Gardner: we should write
an exploring critic or an uncritical lover.

141- DECISIONS - Harry Truman said he was in
good at making decisions when there were no alternatives

142 EVIDATION: H.G. Wells - The future is a
race between education & catastrophe

143- APOLOGY FOR SPEECH IN NO EXIT -
Dr. Johnson: "Sir, I do not want to be interrupted
so much as to remind you." Sir, I hope that it
I do not interrupt, at least I will remind you...

144- SPENDING $ YOU DON'T HAVE - Dying
man to lawyer, "I leave $ to my eldest
son, $ to mother, $ to daughter..."
Lawyer "But all your loan is $5K?"
He "Sir, what, let them work for it!"

145- EMPTY WORDS - Judge Learned Hand:
"...epidemics of hallowed catchwords & formulas
"... it is the power of reiterated suggestions a
concentrated platitude that at this moment
has brought our entire civilization
imminent peril of destruction"

146- LAWYERS, JUDGES, TRIALS - R-Dave Hunsaker tells of Russian-Jewish immigrant in Dublin who answers door to 3 men who say: "we want to talk to you. We are Jehova's witnesses." Hunsaker: "yes; I hope you win your case."

147- MONEY; COST; graduation

[illegible] should [illegible] its [illegible] to higher education in the most and most fundamental way, as illustrated by an incident involving Clarence Darrow. When the famous lawyer was young he did an important service for an elderly lady. "I just don't know how to thank you," she said. "Well, my dear lady," he replied, "ever since the Phoenicians invented money there has been an answer to your dilemma."

[illegible] financial support like

148- DUTY - FAR (WRL) [illegible] - Signs: "For payment of Duty" & "Nothing to Declare: If you must pay or otherwise nothing duty, then you have nothing of importance to say..."

149- SIMPLIFICATION OF COMPLEX PROBLEMS
Disciple to Confucius: "a master should be wonderful to know so many things."
Confucius: "I do not know many things. I know only one thing."
i.e., in every situation there's an underlying reality that holds the key to understanding.

150- HESITATION, DOUBLE ENTENDRE... & ON THE OTHER HAND...
Jerry Seinfeld Music: I want one-armed bandmen: men who don't sing, "on the one hand..." & on the other hand...

151- LOOPHOLES - W.C. Fields was found reading the Bible. ? - "I'm looking for loopholes"

152- MIXED EMOTIONS definition: your 16-year old daughter coming home at 3am in a pickup truck rather than a police car

153- PARENTS-CHILDREN - Insanity is hereditary - you get it from your children.

154- MY DEBT - paraphrase Art Buchwald
We all owe much to our parents, and I owe more than most...

154 - [illegible] ... (שכרם [illegible])
[illegible] - [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

165- EXPERTS. Abba Eban: an expert is a man who knows everything - but nothing else

166. GUEST OF HONOR. Abba Eban: Jews who said [illegible] never heard of American testimonial dinners.

167- GOLDBERG, FEINBERG, etc. Korean Jew sitting at bar. Jew goes over & says Korean what? - Pearl Harbor. But I'm Korean not Japanese? You're all the same. You bombed Pearl Harbor, Korean dies & goes to Jew. Why? - Titanic. But that was sunk by iceberg?! Iceberg, Goldberg, Feinberg - it's all the same.

168. OVERSPENDING: "My wife (school-) has a middle-of-the-road economic philos - she (it) spends money left & right."

169. NO PREPARED STATEMENT; QUESTIONS FROM FLOOR. Drunk comes home stinking, expects hell from wife. Knocks in door, she's ready to burn & fit. He: "Just one minute" sticks water sprayer, says, "OK: Fill dispenser w. any prepared cocktail & take questions from the floor."

170. REASONABLE EXPECTATIONS. Store window displays 4 persons: "Passion," "Heroism," "Death," "Slave Existence." — a: "Reasonable Expectations."

171- GUEST OF HONOR & TESTIMONIAL. Difference between eulogy & testimonial - at latter one person believes it...

172- SPEECHES; OXFORD - the Rolls-Royce of speeches - smooth, barely audible, great performance

173- LECTURES; PROFS; STUDENTS

I once began a lecture and talked for several minutes before noticing that I was in the wrong room. I'd have noticed sooner if the students weren't taking notes.

174- LAWYERS when Solzhenitsyn visited USA, dinner thrown was a veritable banquet. As celebrated, Sh.A. Leonard and, nowadays lawyer: never done homework/research and Sh.A. nothing has changed in the product: Short person some a lawyer w. hands in his own pockets

175. ANTI-SEMITES; JOURNALISTS; PEN at PEN club mtg Solzhenitsyn when he visited USA, an anti-Semitic writer spoke: had thrown a talent to the J-persecutors - done long before. Left at Jews counting money. When Sh.A got up to spk: I threw had dreamed what if I could do Christian Russia, Light was granted. BT when I got there Sh.A not do a single solution

176- PROMISES.

177- PREGNANCY; SHAME; IMPOTENCE

178- SUCCESS; IN-LAWS

179. BAD SCANDAL CONDITIONS

180 BAD NEWS-GOOD NEWS -

181- ANSWER; MAYBE; LADY vs. PHILOSOPHER/SCIENTIST

182- PAYING FOR WHAT YOU ALREADY HAVE
Man to Rabbi: what must I do to be a Jew?
R: get circumcised + bloody mat by age...
Then: 30 days bathe water 2/3 p.
M: what else? R- #1 pray to God.
R: incidentally - never asked you with your
wife to be 1/3. Th: but my
grandfather was a Jew. My father
was one too...

183- JOHN CONN -- DEALING W. NUDNIKS
customer to waiter: two cups air-conditioner,
1 pt hot. Waiter: 5 min water labor. Jew
cold, turn it off. He sir. Ow! add! ma...
After meal, customer tells: He
drove you crazy, didn't he? M- F
drove him crazy - we borrow etc...

184- MARRYING OFF CHILDREN. (Issue #191)
Debate when life begins. Pivot - sperm
ovum. Mixture - fertilized egg in womb.
Rabbi - when baby cries / can be born

185- JEWS - GUESS - CULTS. NY Jewish Fed
tries desperately reach remote communities
visit area. Complicated flights ... air,
canal ... finally reaches Bahrain.
Assistant: you're only permitted 5 steps
in area. OK. Has anyone not?
"ISRAEL, COME HOME"

186- JOBS - PROMOTION - Begin awakened
call at 4 AM - "I've been offered job with
my dept chief does" "So? At 4 AM...?
called to tell you I want ~~to be~~
~~Begin. OK, I'll approve~~ to take this
plan". Begin: "I'll approve if the
commander says it's OK w him".

187- THE OLDER I GET... AGE: ADVANTAGES
when asked how she liked being married to an
archeologist, Agatha Christie replied: it's
wonderful the older I get the more interesting he

188- LETTING YOUR HAIR DOWN - Will Rogers: if we
dared let our hair down & go crazy every
whack, we'd all go insane.

189- HANGAR[illegible]
[illegible] why? - because within
[illegible] But what if we go to
other places - the Talmud says [illegible]

190- HANGARIANS - 3 [illegible]
[illegible]
and [illegible]

191- MEDICAL DOCTORS: [illegible] THE OTHER
alternative energy to [illegible]
[illegible], for Jews, interfaith [illegible]
from medical school

192- CAN DO NO WRONG - art 3:3 does. Heaven
3 metaphors: not a single sin would
embarrass Abe, Moses. Sent bride to
room, how explain - she answers:
[illegible]

193- OVERALL PHILOSOPHY
S.V. Naipaul says of one of his characters in The
Enigma - she has many opinions but
no point of view.

194- MUST give charity. Rabbi tells
donate to IRS. Freshman: "Rabbi Cohen, do
you have receipt for today?" "yes"
"Did he contribute & look to synagogue
1933?" Rabbi forgets, looks down,
up — finally says "He will, he
will..."

195. INTRO. TO SHORT SPEECH
As King Henry V said to his army,
"I won't keep you long."

196 HOME; HEBREW;

There is an anecdote about Ben-Gurion chiding a Jew from Germany: 'Aren't you ashamed of yourself? You've been in this country 20 years and still haven't learned to speak Hebrew?' Replied the German Jew: 'Forgive me, Mr. Ben-Gurion, but it is easier to be ashamed than to learn Hebrew.'

197- MOTHER-IN-LAW - Dashing young father marries girl, says: nothing before or after any other woman. 2nd daughter - marries same line. But married virgin overhears "for the real world." Decides to seek divorce for the strict justice - King Solomon "Find smaller cousin Youth... Tells executioner to split him in half... woman #1: relents. Says girl, but can't bear to live knowing I lose him. woman 2: "Split him in half" Returns to woman #2 - "Divorce the real world!"

198 - BALEBATIM מי שעשה נס לאבותינו הוא יעשה נס לנו

~~מי שעשה נס לאבותינו הוא יעשה נס לנו~~

מי שעשה נס לאבותינו הוא יעשה נס לנו

199 - WORRY : PERSPECTIVE

What is text of the Gemara that Rabbi Kahaneman quotes?

"Start worrying now - Later follows."

200 - TORAH & MONEY

Finally, Rabbi Kahaneman (R. Kahaneman) gives us a lengthy and powerful

201. - Administrators, sing - it still light

Nevertheless, fleas and all, campuses are great places to work. Sometimes, as administrators, I think we pretend unhappiness, because it is the thing to do. Roland Dille, of Moorhead State in Minnesota, tells of seeing an ad in the paper that read, "Lost: black and white spotted Tom, partially lame in back legs, blind in one eye, recently castrated, answers to the name of Lucky." Well, as Roland avers, we are lucky to be working on a campus. With all its limitations and disordered responsibilities, it's a great universe if we see it realistically and deal with it in practical ways. ■

202. IMMORTALITY; TRIBUTE; LONGEVITY

Woody Allen: "I want to attain immortality – not through my works, but by not dying."

203. EXTREMES · Nicholas Murray Butler = the extremes are always logical - but absurd.

204. LAWYERS · Scientists now using lawyers instead of rats for lab experiments – for 2 reasons: a) there are more of them; b) you don't form personal attachments to them...

205. DEARTH OF PHILANTHROPISTS

Rarkesk approached Phil't Nathan Straus for contribution: S: "why always me? There are so many other millionaires in USA."
RK: story primo lost forest. Finally - two peasants recognized. Ordered light meal fried eggs. After: how much owe you? They: $50- why so exorbitant? Shortage eggs? They: 1 no - shortage princes...

206. LAWYERS

Scientists have begun to use lawyers instead of rats for lab experiments: for 2 reasons: A) there are more of them available; B) you don't form personal attachments to them

207. TRANSITIONS Wm. Ralph Inge (Anglican Dean, d. 1954): After first parents expelled Paradise, Adam to Eve: "my dear, we are living in an age of transition"

208. RABBIS (JUDAISM) WHO CAN'T BE GETTEN RID OF

Q: which item is not displaced in following list: AIDS, Herpes, Rabbis, Communism?
A: Communism - because it can be gotten rid of.

209: BAD REPUTATION; NORMS

Evita Peron exalted onto roof Plaza de Mayo in Buenos Aires w. husband Min. of Defense, when crowds began to insult her - "prostitute" etc. She was fiercely upset. Minister pulled her inside doorway & consoled her: Don't worry I retired as general many years ago, & they still call me "General" ...

210. JOHN: "ONE IF BY..."

At mtg Sec. State Gen. Schultz & PM Shimon Peres (Oct '85), Schultz: Disclosure of part of family for USA. Peres: Not actually US family story: Israeli helicopter ran out of gas over Mediterranean, landed on US aircraft carrier, shocked Israeli Captain, who demands explanation. Pilot: - Showing shoulder: "I thought it was on right over..."

211. CHECKING THE CAMPING BOOKS, WKD 1/14

"As Carl Becker, the great American historian observed, 'It is important every so often to look at the things that go without saying to be sure they're still going.'"

212. RESPONSE TO INTRODUCTION
--Truth in Advertising" laws prevent me from opening with your dear wife--

213. POOLING RESOURCES; FUNDRAISING
SUITOR to prospective bride's father: I want to marry your daughter.
Father: NO. You can't afford her. You'd be a fortune hunter; I barely can.
Suitor: In that case, let's pool our resources...

214. GARBAGE IN CONVICTIONS; [illegible]
Alan Dershowitz tells me: when beginning Dr. Exc. at Harvard Law, was asked to teach an [illegible]. Refused. Dean [illegible] insisted: are you getting symptoms?
D: I'm ... improper questions - G: can't make exceptions. D: That's your problem. G solved problem - by driving away [illegible] best at Harvard Law all together

215. [illegible] ; ADVICE ; [illegible]

customer to waiter: "For breakfast I want 2 eggs, oatmeal, toast, coffee + a [illegible]: waiter answers up the 2 eggs, oatmeal, toast + coffee. Customer: "what about the [illegible]?" waiter: "The [illegible] is DON'T EAT THE EGGS!"

216. MODERATION

MarkTwain: "Moderation in all things - including moderation"

217. HOPELESS SITUATION.

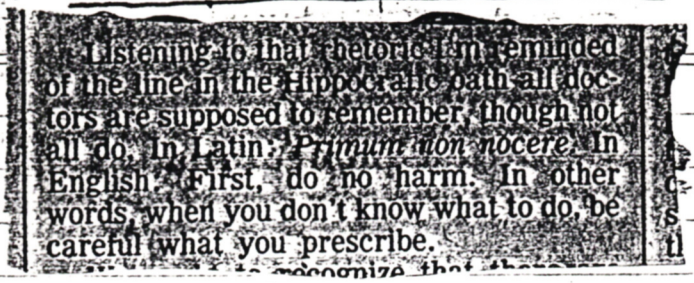
Neanderthal and Proto-Hungarian Empire: The situation is hopeless - but not serious.

18- LONG RANGE vs SHORT-RANGE PLANNING

Henny Youngman: I have enough to live on for the rest of my life - provided I die by 4pm today.

19- BUDGET CUTS. Model seeks malpractice insurance. Company A - premium $30,000/yr. Co. B. $50/yr - Difference? Co. B. has a 2-week deductible...

220. CAUTIONS, GRATUITOUS ADVICE



Listening to that rhetoric I'm reminded of the line in the Hippocratic oath all doctors are supposed to remember, though not all do. In Latin: *Primum non nocere*. In English: "First, do no harm." In other words, when you don't know what to do, be careful what you prescribe.

224. SUCCESS, FAILURE

Oscar Wilde: "In the world, there are only 2 tragedies: One is not getting what you want, & the other is - getting it."

222. CONSOLATION on BEING REBUFFED; FOMPOSITY OF AUTHORITIES

[illegible] applied to NIH for a grant & was turned down. Pink slip gave 3 reasons: a) shows lack of creativity but not more recently; b) just published as a book, instead of journals subject to peer review; c) his work has not been successfully replicated by others.

223: SUCCESS. FAILURE

Martin Buber: some lives are filled w. success after success - some failure. Others - filled w failure after failure - & then success

1: Charity. Sara Goldsmith

Mr. Goldberg. very sick. hooked up tubes, Dr. to her. "let me talk to you outside" -- "he can't survive success: start at first: become big [illegible] questions, he: what Dr. say? she: "you're going to die"

225 Chasing the Jewish

Albert Einstein was reported to have said, "I'm sorry I was born Jewish, because now I can't choose to be a Jew of my own free will."

226 INTERVIEWS VS. EXPLICIT STATEMENTS

2 Jews in airport, Rabbi make [illegible] to [illegible]. First: "I wish you [illegible] with me." Second: "You're starting to [illegible]?"

227. PROPHECY; ISAIAH; PROPHETS
Oh Weizmann: Does it say in
Yom the prophet instead --
Isaiah much more reference from
the original prophets.

228. JEWISH/JEW ...
Gentiles (Ps 47 w. Jews) +
Dr. Burg: "I have problems w
my Ostpolitik" - Brandt
Burg: "I envy you". Q?
A: In Isaiah we have "Compas-
sionate" -- all creation -
E/W/N/S --

229. MEN VS. WOMEN; FUNERAL
Marshall, social orthodox. Friend:
why do I? Just returned from
burying wife. Then why is
dignity, poise? Are the
stresses of expressing + being buried

23. WIFE'S DEATH: MARRIAGE
... ? ... ...

231- OPTIMISM/PESSIMISM

ys. I'm an optimist -- I believe today is better than tomorrow is going to be.

232- "SLIGHT ERRORS"; MISTAKEN IDENTITY

A to B: "You know, Joe made a million dollars in the sale of a diamond"

B: "Well, not quite. It wasn't a diamond but real estate; not $1 million; not Joe but Sol; & he didn't make it - he lost it"

233- UNQUALIFIED PEOPLE; DISCORDANT NOTE

"There were 3 great musicians in the world -- Jesus Christ, Hitler (I'm not sure), & my brother Chester"

234- ATTAINABLE GOALS

During the Revolution, when colonial leaders, preparing them: on day each of us will have a street named for us. Jim raised hand: "Excuse me, can I have a lot & a house"

235. OPENING REMARKS; SPEAK W/O FEE
~~your chairman called me: "you teach~~
this is bicentennial Constitution?"
"sure." "which is your favorite in
Bill of Rights?" "Free speech"
"good. Then show up on ——
at —— + speak for us."

236. DEATH; BEING IN MINORITY
Life is never recovered;
it is weighed

237. OPEN MIND

Samuel Butler, that breath of fresh air in the stuffy Victorian age, once wrote: "Cursed is he that does not know when to shut his mind. An open mind is all very well in its way, but it ought not to be so open that there is no keeping anything in or out of it. It should be capable of shutting its doors sometimes or may be found a little drafty."

238 - RABBI - [illegible] give example:

"What is rabbi + what can you do about it?" answers, "Rabbi is Jewish priest + there is nothing you can do about it."

239. PHILOSOPHY; DOCTORATE; Ph.D.

grandmother: "Maurice, what do you want to achieve in the life?"
grandson: "A Ph.D." - "what's that?" "Doctor of philosophy" - "Ah, a doctor - that's nice, no. But tell me - what sort of disease is philosophy?"

240. WIFE-BEATING; [illegible]

[illegible] "[illegible] ... [illegible]

241. [illegible]

[illegible]

242. STABILITY; PERMANENCE vs. EPHEMERAL

Sky - clear - fog - searchlight - lighthouse; cliff - cave - rock; flashlight. "At 10' North". Sky: "Now at 10' North". Cliff: "I am a cliff." Sky: "I am a first mate." Fog rolling in. Other message. "I am communicating with the ship now at 10' North." Sky: "I am standing a lighthouse now at 10' North."

243. PRESENT, CHANGING; INSTANT

visitor - [illegible], leaving, with [illegible] souvenir characteristic of country, city, shops, restaurants! Parent. See 3. Child? Trust - #1! Why so close? Speaks [illegible] translating simultaneously. Tells it [illegible] words, but [illegible] expressive. Dad? - #2! [illegible] + Accordion. Service. Thank? #3! What does it do? Why... I don't know, it's for [illegible] (Russian) ...

244. GOD: SHEKINAH

The late Rabbi Joseph Lookstein used to say: if you can't find me, look for me in CAR; I'm there most of the time.

245. PSYCHIATRIST: A PSYCHIATRIST meeting a safari. Talk drop - get lost. Night. Sleeping. Morning - being stalked by cougar. Psychiatrist begins to strip. Psychologist: what are doing? Psychiatrist: stripping so I can run faster. Psychologist: You think you can outrun a cougar? Psychiatrist: I don't have to; I just have to outrun you...

246. MARRIAGE, DIVORCE

Couple celebrating 60th wedding anniversary. Husband, reminiscing about thoughts of divorce? - Asks: "Oh, never! But thoughts of murder - often!"

247- BEARDS: APPEARANCE + REALITY

248: IDEAS - IMPLEMENTATION

Adam Hyman Rickover: "Good ideas are not adopted automatically. They must be driven into practice with courageous impatience."

249. LEAVING; ABSENT-MINDED PROFS

PROF. LUDWIG Wittgenstein + 2 doctoring friend ~~colleagues wait at Oxford depot to~~ train. Deeply engrossed philos. research. Train arrives, wants ~~to~~ begins to leave. they alarmed, begin to ~~get~~ get. Prof thot he heard self call train. Prof Elizabeth Anscombe ~~[illegible]~~. Wittgenstein remains strangely, disconsolate. Later by: Some years, prof, another train in ~~[illegible]~~. W: "But you don't understand: they were coming to see me off ..."

250. REWRITING/REVISING HISTORY

Kissinger: USSR is the only country with an unpredictable past.

251- MONEY; BUDGETING

In J. very. life, it is true that money should not come BEFORE everything else; but it certainly is BEHIND everything (Rabbi Jud. H. Cornstein)

252. FUNERAL - ENJOYING IT

Dying wife to husband: I know you hate my mother, but before I die promise me that at funeral you'll hold her by her arm + walk with her. Husband: sure I'll do it for you, but I see already that this is one funeral I'm not going to enjoy.

#253 **Jewish business**

Three Jewish men met for dinner.
The first one said: 'Oi!'
The second said: 'Oi yevay!'
The third said: 'If you boys are going to talk business, I'm off. . .

254. **Book review ; put-down**

An author wrote to the perpetrator of a fiercely offensive review: ' am sitting in the smallest room in the house. Your review is before me It will soon be behind me.'

255. **Time ; Behind the Times**

Captain of aircraft, about to land at Belfast Airport: 'The time locally is 16.00 hours. Kindly put your watches back 50 years. . .'

256 **Opinions ; submission to Authority**

A Russian Jew was asked whether he didn't have any mind of his own on political affairs. He replied: 'Yes, of course I do. I have my own opinions. But I don't agree with them.'

257. **Civilisation**

Ghandi was asked: 'What do you think of Western civilisation?' He replied: 'I think it would be a very good idea'.

258 **Fatherly boast ; Fathers + Sons**

I have never raised a hand to my son – except in self-defence. (*Lo Janner*)

259. **Corporations**

Lord Thurlow once said: 'A corporation has no body to be burne and no soul to be damned. . . .

280. **Contorted logic ; Statistics**

It appears that only some 30 per cent of serious road accidents are actually caused by drunken driving. In the remainder of cases the drivers were sober. It follows that sober drivers are more of a danger than drunken ones.

261. WRONG WAY; WRONG APPROACH; BEGINNING
Traveller to chelm maiden: How do
get to minsk? Ans: I don't know,
but if I were going to minsk,
I wouldn't start from here...

262. MONEY; HUSBAND/WIFE STEREOTYPE
Ch. Brentman: father tells him about
man who complained wife always
demanding money from him. "So,
what does she spend it on?" "I don't
know; I never give her any..."

263. JESUS was Jewish
3 reasons: ① lived at home till he
was 30; ② went into his father's
business; ③ his mother thought he was God.

264- DYING & GETTING INTO DEBT; JEWISH
Before HighHolidays 1989 I received
a fund-raising letter from a Jerusalem
Rabbi appealing for help "during
the Days of Awe"...

265- "I HAVE ONLY ONE" - SYMPATHY-FOR
Doctor to patient: "Let me see
your tongue." Looks, says, "I
don't like it!" Patient: "But
doctor, it's the only one I have!"
(- Ellen Wiesel)

266

Anti-Semitism, Some of my best friends . . .

When King Khaled of Saudi Arabia first greeted US Secretary of State, Henry Kissinger, he launched into his renowned attack on the Jews and Israel . . . and how they had taken over the world banks and financial institutions, its communications and its newspapers, its television and its radio. 'They have even infiltrated into positions of high power in the Foreign Ministries of the world', declaimed His Majesty.

Then, realising what he had said, the King added: 'But you, sir, we welcome warmly – not as a Jew, but as a great human being. . .'.

Secretary Kissinger replied quietly: 'Your Majesty, many of my best friends are human beings. . .'.

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267. ~~Safety in theatres~~ "Where do you come from?"

A woman who had been sitting towards the back of the stalls left her seat during the interval. When she returned, she found a man lying across the seat. She asked him to move. He just groaned. Eventually, she called the manager. 'Come on, come on, my man . . . please move along', he said. The man opened his eyes and said nothing. 'If you don't move, I'll have to call the police', said the manager.

Eventually, the policeman arrived, with his notebook. 'Very well, where do you come from?', asked the officer.

'From the balcony', the man groaned.

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268. Averages, Statistics

There was once a Russian doctor who bustled into the ward and said: 'I'm in a terrible hurry. Please give me the average temperature of all the patients. . .'. (*Shimon Peres*)

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269. FANATIC

Winston Churchill: "A fanatic is one who can't change his mind and won't change the subject."

270. 3PM; AFTERNOON TORPOR

Mark Twain once said that in Hell it is always 3 PM

271. WELCOMING CHANGE; [illegible]

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

272 - POETS: TRUTH

[illegible] said about poets: "A poet can be a thief or a murderer - but never a liar."

273 - DREAMS, VISIONS

The late R. Kahanamoku (Foresight Rav, told practical dreamers to share their dreams with close Yeshivat community members (Chevrusa). Said was: Foresight [illegible] - [illegible]: "[illegible] - אין חלום בלי [illegible]."

374. GENUINESS, SINCERITY, PASSION

[illegible]

25. GERMAN-JEWS; YANKEE

Claim [illegible] that they got the best of both cultures – marketing from the Jews, a reservation from the government...

26. TIKING THE AUDIENCE

Administration: only 5 for next 20 minutes will talk; rest to listen. I hope we begin and end together

277.

EDUCATION; THE EXOTIC & THE FAMILIAR

I was davenning in a Sephardi synagogue when a man next to me commented, "I find the Ashkenazim exotic." My reply: "Education is the process of making more & more of the world less & less exotic & more & more familiar."

278. [illegible]

[illegible]

279. [illegible]

[illegible]

(#278 ...)

280. [illegible]

[illegible]

(Carol Tavris, ... Brooklyn ... 1980

MONEY; COMFORT; MATERIALISM

281. My financial condition approximates that of the old gentleman hit by a bus, then laid gently on the sidewalk by bystanders, his tie loosened and head resting on the overcoat of one among them who, while awaiting the arrival of an ambulance, asks him if he is comfortable. "*Comfortable* I don't know," says the old gentleman. "I make a nice living."

OVERSIMPLIFICATION; COMPLEXITY

282. H. L. Mencken said that for every one of the great problems of life there is an answer--simple, plausible, and wrong--Bernard Lewis adds: also self-serving.

LIES; INACCURACIES

283. a) Samuel Butler: "I don't mind lying, but I hate inaccuracy."

283-b) SILENCE; SPEECH

R. David Cohen (1959) was a man given to long periods of silence. When someone said to R. Levi (1920) that 5B's was a quiet talker, but his language is that of silence...

284. ALIYAH; VISION → DREAM → REALITY

[illegible] Aliyah, is [illegible] speaking + preaching Aliyah. Give — + returns [illegible]. Asked: why? Sup-

285. TESHUVAH; CAN'T SEE TRUTH; CHANGE MIND

Thomas Hobbes: "Hell is truth seen too late"

286. ADMITTING AN ERROR; CHANGE MIND

Famed economist John Maynard Keynes was reproached for changing his mind. He replied: "When I discover I'm wrong, I change my mind. What do you do?"

287. CRISIS; PANIC

It is said of the Tories in England, that they never panic--except in crisis.

288. POOR REVIEWS; BIAS; [illegible]

Wm Buckley (on National Review): We review the media. You may disagree, review ourselves.

289. EXAMPLE OF ETHICAL [illegible]

[illegible]

290. FACING THE FACT/TRUTH; CHANGE

Writer James Baldwin: "Not everything that is faced can be changed. But nothing can be changed until it is faced."

291. **PETTY CRITICS: TRIBULATIONS OF HONEST AMBITION**

Public servants

Edmund Burke: "Those who would carry on great public schemes must be proof against the worst fatiguing delays, the most mortifying disappointments, the most shocking insults, and what is worst of all, the presumptuous judgment of the ignorant upon their design."

BUILDERS AND FARMERS

292.

Synagogue shuls

I heard from a friend (David Weingarten) that when Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik was invited to address an event at the Chaim Berlin School in Stone Avenue, Brooklyn, in 1942, he said the following:

> What is the difference between working for a Synagogue and working for a Yeshiva? This can be compared to builders and farmers.

Builders are engaged in something very constructive, something very important. In addition, the builder gets pleasure out of the immediate gratification of his ambitions and he sees the structure rising before his eyes and then reaching perfection. However, once it is done, it is done, and it is then subject to the vicissitudes of climate, accident, and natural decay.

A farmer, contrariwise, must control his desire for immediate satisfaction, and delay his gratification. He plants seeds which take a long time to grow, and trees even longer. However, once he has done this, he now not only has the fruit or grain, but also seeds for future generation and in future areas.

Working for a Synagogue is like constructing a building. You have it, it is a thing of beauty and holiness -- but it usually does not and cannot endure. However, working for a Yeshiva or a day school is like planting a tree or seeds -- it is the agriculture of culture, seeding the future in the present, and the consequences of one's efforts last on and on.

293 - SKIMPY AUDIENCE

He reminds me of an Orson Welles tale. Seems he was the speaker at a meeting of a women's club where the attendance was skimpy. Said Welles: "Ladies, I'm an actor, I'm an author, I'm a director, I'm a producer. I appear on stage, on film and on television. Isn't a pity that there are so many of me and so few of you?"

294. REFORM; OPTIONS; NO DUTY

Actual event: during Gulf War (1991) USA mission in Iraq told to practice fitting on gas masks. All do except one. "Why?" - Ans: "Because I'm Reform & everything is optional."

295. FUNDRAISING; "ANYTHING BUT MONEY"

296. IMPRAISE OF WIFE WHO "made" her husband

mayor + wife strolling. Guilty victim worker: "Hello Daisy." She: "Hya Jim."
Mayor: "How come you know her?"
wife: "We used to go together." He: "Well, even tho' you lucky you married me—could have been wife of convict or worker!"
She: "Wrong. If I'd married him he'd be in prison..."

297. CLERGYMEN & POLITICS

When Shaws came down the aisle of the Ivy, Pharoah was heard to growl, "clergymen shouldn't mix in politics"

298 – SHALLOWNESS; superficiality

Dorothy Parker: "On the surface, that is very profound, but deep down it is quite shallow."

299. ACCENTS; JEWS; LANGUAGE

Shortly after Dr Brauer sang with Cantor Kavinoky (Cantor + he was FAT Evelyn. Brauer: "How remember: was '04-04-04'". Kavinoky: "Certainly, Dr. Brauer."

300. MARRIAGE; APPEARANCES

"It is often difficult to tell things by appearances alone. A smart and bright-looking man may yet be married after all."

301. VACUOUS SERMONS/LECTURES

דרשות שב"ד: (מאת: אלכסנדר [illegible])

302. ON NOT GETTING INVOLVED

Judge: And what is your verdict?

Jury Foreman: We decided not to get involved...

303. LAWYERS; BORING PROFESSIONS

Legal Colloquialism: And thank to my mother she bore me. Now, as a lawyer, I can bore her...

304. **FUN:** Family fun. There is no such thing as fun for the whole family.

305 **TEENAGERS:** If Isaac were a teenager, Abraham would not have thought he is bringing a sacrifice.

306 **MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE:** A man who is divorced once said that he would never marry again; he would just find a woman he didn't like and buy her a house.

(All 3 above from Curmudgeon's Journal)

307. UNAWARE OF THE OBVIOUS

Man meets a deformed fellow w. enormous handbook: "Sorry about your handbook." He: "What handbook?"

308. CONTROVERSY - CIVIL

[illegible]

309. THINKING IS PAINFUL

Cartoon kindergarten kid to mother: "Today we learned to think. It hurt."

(Reader's Digest)

310. THINKING -

Winston Churchill as undistinguished officer in WW I, & poor reading poetry at Siegfried Sassoon, criticized: "as a pacifist - demoralize troops." W.C: "or to afraid of U.S.; the war threatens - I am afraid of people who do not think"

311. FREE ADVICE - AND REALITY

מספרים שכפרי בא לרבי שלו והתאונן בפניו שבלול האווזים שלו נפוצה, כנראה, מחלה הקוטלת את האווזים והוא עלול להגיע לפת לחם. נתן לו הרבי עצות מה לעשות למניעת המגיפה. משהעצות לא הועילו בא לרבי פעם שניה ושלישית וכל פעם ביקש וקיבל עצות. לבסוף אמר לו הרבי: יש לי עוד עצות אבל האם נשארו לך עוד אווזים?

312.

Sensitivity; *Ahavat Yisrael*

Shalom davened Musaf in Kiev (RH '91). Rabbi (Yankel, 27 yr-old Stoliner, Boro Pk) announced at Maariv: Shofar tomorrow AM, also 6PM as in Stoliner Minhag. Shalom: You kidding? Reb Yankel: I know most can't attend morning, work; don't want to make them feel bad, yet hear shofar. So I made up Stoliner minhag...

313 ## *The Eternal Word;* IN WRITING GOES

The biologist Julian Huxley, in 1912, asserted that the success of the written word is due in part to the human desire to outwit death. An excerpt from "The Individual in the Animal Kingdom" is in "From Gaia to Selfish Genes: Selected Writings in the Life Sciences" edited by Connie Barlow (MIT).

By speech first, but far more by writing, and more again by printing, man has been able to put something of himself beyond death. In tradition and in books an integral part of the individual persists, and a part which still works and is active, for it can influence the minds and actions of other individuals in different places and at different times: a row of black marks on a page can move a man to tears, though the bones of him that wrote it are long ago crumbled to dust. In truth, the whole of the progress of civilization is based on this power. Once more the upward progress of terrestrial life towards individuality has found apparently insurmountable obstacles, gross material difficulties before it, but once more through consciousness it finds wings, and, laughing at matter, flies over lightly where it could not climb.

314 ## JERUSALEM AND NEW YORK

The late Professor Saul Lieberman used to say that Jerusalem and New York are mirror images of each other: In New York its safe to go out during the day, but dangerous at night, whereas...

315 SENSE OF WONDER

The practice of medicine, the physician and anthropologist Melvin Konner argues, has been impoverished by our reduction of life to its most anonymous components. This is in "On Doctoring: Stories, Poems, Essays" edited by Richard Reynolds, M.D. and John Stone, M.D. (Simon & Schuster).

At the conclusion of all our studies we must try once again to experience the human soul as soul, and not just as a buzz of bioelectricity; the human will as will, and not just a surge of hormones; the human heart not as a fibrous, sticky pump, but as the metaphoric organ of understanding. We need not believe in them as metaphysical entities — they are as real as the flesh and blood they are made of. But we must believe in them as entities; not as analyzed fragments, but as wholes made real by our contemplation of them, by the words we use to talk of them, by the way we have transmuted them to speech. We must stand in awe of them as unassailable, even though they are dissected before our eyes. □

GEORGE F. WILL
"COMMENCEMENT AT DUKE"
AMER. SCHOLAR (AUTUMN 1991)
(next 5 items)

316.
Cultural Amnesia

To those who say we are threatened by a suffocating "hegemony" of Western civilization's classic works, I say: "If only that were the problem!" The real

danger is not cultural hegemony but cultural amnesia, and the concomitant Balkanization of the life of the mind.

– geo. will

317.

Reverse Alchemy; Polit & Art

Such thinking causes the study of literature to become a subdivision of political history and to be studied as sociology. This reduction of the arts to social sciences is reverse alchemy--turning gold into lead.

– geo. will

318.

Elitism; Outvoting; Minority

To produce suitable elites, universities need leaders with the confidence of Benjamin Jowett, who for many years was head of Oxford's Balliol College. Once when Jowett submitted a matter to a vote of Balliol's dons and was displeased with the result, he announced, "The vote is 22-to-2. I see we are deadlocked."

– geo. will

319

Fads; New Ideas; Conserv'm

I subscribe to the "Ohio in 1895 Theory of History," so named, by me, for the obscure but illuminating fact that in 1895, in Ohio, there were just two automobiles -- and they collided. The moral of the human story is that things go wrong more often that they go right because there are so many more ways to go wrong. Truths increase arithmetically; but errors increase exponentially. Most new ideas are false; hence most "improvements" make matters worse. That is why wise people are wary of intellectual fads and are respectful of the received greatness which, in academic context, is called the canon.

- S20. W-11

320-1

Prophecies of Doom; illuccrfyokt.

My life around politics has taught me the hazards of making predictions. When I was in Oxford thirty years ago, the university press published volume three of

Isaac Deutscher's biography of Trotsky, and the student Marxist Association had for Deutscher a party, which I infiltrated. There I heard Deutscher say -- quite solemnly -- this about Trotsky: "Proof of *Trotsky's farsightedness is that none of his predictions have come true yet.*" Recurring predictions about the final ruin of America's universities have not come true yet, and, I wager, never will. — Rev. Will

8:DD:8

321. Quoting for Convenience

ר'מאיר שפירא נלסה להתרים גביר א', והלה סירב: הלא אמרו חז"ל, וזהי דרכה של תורה, פת במלח וכו'. השיב הרמ"ש: דע לך שלכל אחד יש לו פסוק משלו ואסור לו לתפוס פסוקו של חברו. כגון: ללוה יש פסוק "לוה רשע ולא ישלם" ולמלוה: "מלוה חונן ונותן". כך גם כאן: לת"ח יש מה שצטטת, ואללו לך ולכל גביר יש: "עץ חיים היא...ותומכיו מאושר"

322

INTRODUCTION TO A LECTURE

The late Rabbi Baskin, who was a ר"מ בירל"א for many many years, came to חפר to visit his brother-in-law, who was the head of their Yeshiva. He invited him to give a שיעור. Rabbi Baskin began by telling the story of Ch. Nachman Bialik's first visit to New York. When they asked him how he liked the skyscrapers (which in Yiddish is וואלקן-קראצערס, or "cloud scrapers"), he said, "why, we have them in Tel-Aviv too." But, came the rejoinder, are they the same as here? "No," he answered, "the difference is a simple one: in New York you have וואלקן-קראצערס, whereas in Tel-Aviv we have them separate --וואלקענס and קראצערס..." And so, he concluded, you have to excuse me if I am only a קראצער..

323

DEMOCRACY; WRONG PREDICTIONS

In 1988, the French political commentator, Jean-Francois Revel, published a whole book--*How Democracies Perish*--devoted to the thesis that "Democracy may, after all, turn out to have been a historical accident, a brief parenthesis that is closing before our eyes."

324

LOST FAITH; GULLIBILITY

C. K. Chesterton: "those who have lost their faith in G-d do not believe in nothing; they believe in anything."

325. Growing Older; Strength
קוו ה' יחליפו כח--not only *renew* strength, but lit'y *exchange* strength -- from physical stamina to mellowed, moral, mature wisdom. (Gil Klaperman)

326. Expertise
"I know many people who contribute to Cancer Care -- but that doesn't make them oncologists..."

327. THE FUTURE

" I never think of the future. It comes soon enough."
—ALBERT EINSTEIN

" An optimist is someone who thinks the future is uncertain."
—WALT WHITMAN

328.

CENTRISM; LEFT AND RIGHT

Mrs. Thatcher, former Prime Minister and leader of the Conservative Party, said that it is all right to have different approaches -- right-wing, left-wing -- just like a bird. But, again like a bird, the brains are in the center...

329. A DECLARATION OF OPTIMISM/HOPE

"...אני אופטימי. אני אופטימי, כשאני מתבונן במהלך ההיסטוריה היהודית. אני אופטימי מתוך הערכתי לאנשים פשוטים העושים את מלאכתם באמונה. אנשים המאמינים באמת ובתמים. פשוטי עם וגם מי שאינם פשוטי עם. אנשי מדע ורוח הנושאים את הכוח האמיתי של העם, ותמיד היו קיימים בעם היהודי, בכל המחנות. אני אופטימי, מפני שלמרות כל הפגמים וכל הבעיות, אני פוגש לפעמים אנשים צעירים שעזבו הכל ובאו לחיות כאן בארץ, מתוך אמונה. הם לא רבים. אף פעם לא היו רבים. אבל הם ימשכו אחריהם אחרים, יהיו מודל לחיקוי. ואני אופטימי משום שאני מאמין במאבק האדם נגד יצריו ומפני שאני מאמין בכוחות הגדולים הגנוזים בעם היהודי".

פרופ' אפרים אלימלך אורבך זצ"ל

330. FUTURE & PAST

Israeli cartoon: "The faster we get to the future, the more it seems like the past."

331. KNOWLEDGE AND PAIN

King Solomon, "He who increases knowledge, increases pain." And the Kotzker commented: Krenken zolst du, aber kennen must du.

332- COMPLIMENT: SMART & GOOD

"You've got brains in your heart"
(Yitzhak Navon to Tzi Levitsky
Beijing April 1992)

333. BEST SELLERS vs SCHOLARLY WORKS; POPULARITY

Once a learned Seminary scholar who had recently finished his magnum opus — a painstaking work of detailed academic scholarship — was approached by a student in the hall. The student breathlessly informed the scholar that a certain book recently in the news had been a remarkable bestseller.

"Professor, can you imagine? A hundred thousand copies in one year! Doesn't it make you wonder about the work you're doing?"

"Ah," the professor replied. "That book sold a hundred thousand copies in one year; my book will sell a hundred copies a year — but for a thousand years!"

334. BOOKS NOBODY UNDERSTANDS

When Karl Marx's Das Kapital was translated into Russian, it was passed by the Tsarist censor on the grounds that no one would understand it anyway! (Told to me by Prof. Ivan Dobroshytsky)

338. FREEDOM & SLAVERY

פון הרב אהרן בדציון שורין

די גמרא זאגט: „אין אומרים בפני המת אלא דבריו של מת" (ברכות ג:); ווען מען קומט מספיד זיין א מת, זאל מען נאר איבערדערציילן וואס ער אליין האט געזאגט בײַ זיין לעבן, אדער דערציילן וועגן די מעשים וואס ער אליין האט געטאן. אין אנדערע ווערטער: איבערדערציילן דעם „אני מאמין" פון דעם וואס מען גייט דא איצט מספיד זיין. דערמיט וועלן די ווערטער אין מעשים פון נפטר דינען די א ביישפיל פאר די קומענדיקע דורות.

דערפאר וויל איך דא היינט איבערגעבן עטלעכע שטריכן פון אַט־דעם גרויסן איד אין גשיכטענעם ישראל־פרעמיער מנחם בעגין נ"ע הדרך זיינע איינגענע ווערטער; געזאגט אין ישיבה אתיהערסיטעם, כ"ז ניסן, תשל"ח – מאי 4, 1978.

זיין רעדע איז געווען א היסטאַרישער איבערבליק פון אידישע מעשים; טהדיערזיקע און הערלעכע בילדער פון אונזער תקופה, פון דעם איינציקן „אהתערשט – פון חדבן אין מדינה" אויפקום. די האַויפּטע רעדע איז ארויך געווען א שיר ושבח פאַרן מזרח־אייראַפּעאישן אידנטום.

הענדערמער ישיבה־בחורים פון אלע

„אחד העם, דער גרויסער אידישער דענקער און אידעאַלאָג פון ציוניזם, שילדערנדיק דאס לעבן פון דעם מערב־אייראַפּעאישן איד, האט באַצייכנט זייער לעבן ווי א לעבן פון „עבדות בתוך חרות" (פון א פאַרשקלאַפונג צוריק אין א פרייער געזעלשאַפט). אַבער אונזער דור, דער דור פון מזרח־אייראַפּעאישן איד, האט געלעבט א לעבן פון „חרות בתוך עבדות".

„אונזער דור האט טאַקע אין דער בריטער עפנטלעכקייט פאַליטיש ניט געלעבט אין פריהייט, אין אונזערע מזרח־אייראַפּעאישע שטעט און שטעטלעך. אַבער צוריק זיך, אין אונזער אייגענעם היימישן ווינקל, האבן מיר דאך געפילט גייסטיק פריי.

„מיר האבן טאַקע געלעבט אין קלויזע, אַרום־אידישע היימען. אַבער אונזערע אידישע היימען זיינען געווען פול מיט אידישער לעבשאַפט: מיט לעבשאַפט צום אידישן שבת, צו די אידישע ימים טובים און מיט א לעבשאַפט צו דער אידישער תורה, צו גאט פון ישראל און צו ארץ ישראל. מיר, אונזער דור, איז שטענדיק געגאַנגען אין די האַויפּט וועגן אין וועלכע אונזערע עלטערן האבן אונז

336. HEAD & HEART; INTELLECT & FEELING

. Jacques Maritain used to say that the tone of this era has been set by people with weak heads and sensitive hearts, or people with powerful heads and hard hearts, whereas few people unite a sensitive heart with a powerful head.

337. Truth Above All

הרב קוק: על האדם לבקש לא לעבד את ה' ולא לש"ש ולא מצות אלא את האמת, כי הוא חותמו של הקב"ה וממנה למצא דרכו לה'.

338. Half-Quotes; Half-Truths

מי שמצטט רק חלק של משפט מסלף את האמת. כך, למשל, אפשר להכשיר ע"ז שהלא כתוב, "וסרתם ועבדתם אלהים אחרים והשתחוית להם..." ולהתעלם מסוף הפסוק..

(Isaac # 321)

339. LONGSUFFERING; PATIENCE; אריכות אפים; LIFE-JOB

One Sunday a couple of months ago, after the weekly cabinet meeting, when reporters were pestering him about Israeli foot-dragging on the peace conference, Cabinet Secretary Elyakim Rubinstein parried them, as he often does, with a Jewish joke: A Jew asked the village rabbi to give him a job so he could make a living. Stand at the edge of town, the rabbi said, and announce the arrival of the Messiah. What's the pay? asked the Jew. Fifty rubles a month, said the rabbi. Is that all? Well, the rabbi nodded, it may not be much, but it's a job for life.

340. PRESSURE, [illegible] STRESS

pressure makes diamonds

(irritation = oysters)

341. INGRATITUDE ; DEBT TO ONE'S HOST/SOURCE

אני זוכר שיחה של אחד ה"משגיחים" בישיבה, שהתייחסה למקרה דומה, אבל לא במימדים של מדינה או מפלגה אלא בהיקף של חוג מצומצם למדי.

קולו התנגן בנוסח המגידים, עלה ונישא ברעם גדול עד קצה האולם: "לא תתעב אדומי כי אחיך הוא, לא תתעב מצרי כי גר היית בארצו" אומר רש"י, אומר רש"י, אומר רש"י, שימו לב, שימו לב: "לא תתעב אדומי, לגמרי, אף על פי שראוי לך לתעבו, שיצא בחרב לקראתך. לא תתעב מצרי: מכל וכל, אף על פי שזרקו זכוריכם ליאור, מה טעם? שהיו לכם אכסניה בשעת הרחק, לפיכך".

342. HONESTY IS THE BEST POLICY?

343. שחוד-BRIBERY

344. ALIYAH - לארץ-TO THE RIGHT KIND

345. DIALOG/GREETING NOT ALWAYS GIVEN

Hazel + Brad lived in Vienna at same time. Imagine if Hazel had come to Dr. Freud to tell him about his dream...

346. ISRAEL; ALIYAH; LIVING ABROAD

Chaim Goldblum is in interrogated by the Polish Communist Secret Police: How can you say you have no relatives abroad? How about Golda Goldblum in Tel-Aviv? "She is my sister." How about Moshe Goldblum in Jerusalem? "He is my brother." How can you say you have no relatives living abroad? "I don't; it is I who is living abroad..."

347. ASSIMILATION; GOYIM; SOCIALIZING

Mr. Greenberg, who makes a fortune, decides it is time to become assimilated. Changes his name to Greenhill, fixes his nose, joins a non-Jewish country club--- and exchanges his Rubens for a Goya.

348. FAREWELL PARTY

At a memorial meeting attended by

150 Ind Rd

34a:

MEMORY: Individual and Collective - (Heard at Yarnton seminar, June 1992). In French, there are two words for memory -- souvenir, which is the individual's memory of something he personally experienced, and memoir -- which is a memory that an individual did not personally experience but which he hands on to his children after him.

Thus, those of us who lived during the Holocaust but did not experience it personally, do not have souvenir, but are summoned to preserve it as memoir..

(Compare this to famous vort by R. Hayyim Brisker on the Haggadah.)

350.

מועצת גדולי התורה

על הפסוק "וימת שם משה" אומר רש"י: הקב"ה אומר ומשה כותב בדמע... ואומר על כך סבי האדמו"ר בעל "תפארת שלמה" מרדומסק: לא על "וימת שם משה" שפך משה דמעות, אלא על שהיה צריך לכתוב על עצמו את השבח – עבד ה'.

הרהרתי בדברי ה"תפארת שלמה", בראותי ברחובות בני־ברק וירושלים מודעות על פטירתו של האדמו"ר מגו"ר זצ"ל, עליהן חתום – **מועצת גדולי התורה**. אם אחרים קוראים לרבנים אלה "גדולי התורה" – ניחא. אבל איך יכולים אישים דגולים, גדולי תורה ויראי שמים, לקרוא על עצמם גדולי התורה? איני מבין!

351. Eulogy: What the Times Demanded, God Gave

Abr. Lincoln on Henry Clay's death: "Such a man the times have demanded, and such, in the providence of God, was given us."

352. Friends and Enemies

"We must never sell old friends to buy old enemies" -- Abraham Lincoln (in letter to Ozias M. Hatch)

353. Specious Arguments; Sophistry

"...is but a specious and fantastic arrangement of words, by which a man can prove a horse chestnut to be a chestnut horse" (A.Lincoln, in 1st Lincoln-Douglas Debate)

354. Criticism; Ridicule; ... הַשְׁתָּוָאוֹת

"I have endured a great deal of ridicule without much malice; and have received a great deal of kindness, not quite free from ridicule. I am used to it." (Abr. Lincoln in a private letter)

355. Eulogy for great person

Sec. of War Stanton on A. Lincoln upon his death: "Now he belongs to the ages"

356. Deliberation; Retraction;

Lincoln: "I am a slow walker, but I never walk back."

357. Firm Resolution; Resist Bullies

Lincoln's secy, John Hay: "He will not be bullied - even by his friends"

358. JEWS-GOYIM; PROVINCIALISM

A shtelt Jew once paid his first visit to a relative in Bialystok. The city Jew was amused at the way his country cousin gawked at the buildings and crowds. "How many live in your little town?" he asked.

"24 together," was the answer. "all of us Jews, except for Ivan, our ***shabbos goy***. And how many live here in Bialystok?"

"Bialystok," said his proud cousin, "is home to 100,000 people". Pausing for effect, he added, "And 70,000 of them are Jews!"

The shtetl dweller was amazed. "70,000 Jews!" he exclaimed, unable to conceive such a multitude. "But wait," he said, "that leaves 30,000 ***goyim***. What do you need so many ***goyim*** for?"

359. CHALLENGES

We never know how high we are
Till we are called to rise;
And then, if we are true to plan,
Our statures touch the skies.

—Emily Dickinson

360. COMPROMISING ONE'S SELF

"Don't compromise yourself. You're all you've got"

361. Immortality of a [illegible]; R. Hayyim Brisker

I recently heard of something that happened at the Brisker Yeshiva in Jerusalem, led by Rabbi Dovid Soloveitchik, son of R. Velvele Soloveitchik.

An old, bent over man wandered into the Yeshiva one day, and sat down and began to learn by himself. Reb Dovid came over and greeted him. The old man said, "is this the Hebron Yeshiva?" No, answered Reb Dovid, this is the Brisker Yeshiva. At which the old man opened his eyes wide and, in disbelief, asked, "is then Reb Hayyim still alive?"

It transpired that the old man had studied in Brisker when Reb Hayyim was still alive and left in 1913. Caught up in the Russian Communist Revolution, he was exiled to Georgia, and completely cut off from any contact with fellow Jews, especially those from Lithuania. He continued his studies for some 75 years all by himself until the great Soviet emigration to Israel. He had just arrived, and that is why, upon encountering the Brisker Yeshiva, he thought that Reb Hayyim was still alive...

And, indeed, Reb Hayyim still lives...

12/7/92

362 - Jewishness - not easy; a Burden

I see big black man in York, reading Riddle before - for Jewish?

[illegible]

(Chaim Herzog)

363. PUBLIC • PRIVATE MORALITY

— Thinkers as diverse as Aristotle, Montesquieu, and Madison to Engels and Weber have all recognized that genuine public morality and ethical behavior in the community spring from private morality. Otherwise, displays of ethics become specious, guided by the letter of the law, rather than by internal codes of behavior.

Without internal codes and values that transcend convenience, no free society can thrive for long. Without certain values—notions like responsibility, accountability, moderation, hard work, deferred gratification, sacrifice, integrity, civic-mindedness, commitment to family and education, an acceptance of risk, and individual initiative—free markets and self-governance cannot work. When kids kill each other for sneakers, or go wilding for fun, or when young men genuinely can see no responsibility in fathering a child, we have lost the basis for a free society.

- Heather Richardson {in Policy Rev. Fall '91, p 18}

364. Minority View; Outsider

"... made to feel "like a flat-earther at a conclave of astronomers" -- Lech Walesa

365. Unbelief; lack of (?) in/c

All that we have gained then
by our unbelief
Is a life of doubt diversified
by faith,
For one of faith diversified
by doubt

- Browning

366. **THE LONE THINKER; MINORITY VIEW**

Scientists and men and women of letters from Copernicus to W.E.B. Dubois have from time to time stirred the suspicion and suffered the hostility of contemporaries who felt threatened by having in their midst anyone who thought ahead of, or contrary to, conventional opinion. Book burning as a feature of our past intellectual phobias has its contemporary counterpart in book banning, selective publication, and political correctness, which is to say public consensus under duress. Group-thinking has always been the "safest" expression of cerebration, if any, and even today we are no more comfortable with independent thinking than they were when Columbus acted out his novel geographical theorem by sailing West in his efforts to reach the East.

- Professor C. Eric Lincoln
Duke University

367. UNIVERSITY: **CONTRARIETY**

The true university initiates and endows the great conversation, the exchange of ideas to be tried and tested in a crucible of contrariety.

- Ditto

368. **Irresponsible Politicians**

Three types of bonds were issued: the Bush Bond, the Quayle Bond, and the Clinton Bond. Why were 3 necessary? Because each had a different weakness. The Bush Bond had no interest, the Quale Bond lacked maturity, and the Clinton Bond had no principle...

369.

"THANK GOD I DON'T NEED TO..."

Mrs. Goldberg takes her big hulking son to the Posh Hotel in Miami Beach. She orders a wheelchair to take her son into the hotel. As they arrive in the lobby, the receptionist offers her sympathy on the fact that her son is disabled. "Oh no," she replies, "nothing is wrong with him." "Then why is he using a wheelchair?" "Thanks God, he doesn't have to walk..."

370. PETTINESS vs. LARGE VISIONS

Disraeli: "Life is too short to be small"

371. IGNORANCE

Goethe: "Nothing is so terrible as to witness ignorance in action."

372.

"COGNITIVE DISSONANCE"; HYPOCRISY; INCONSISTENCY; MIXED MESSAGES

A Russian Jew visits the Hadassah Hospital and asks to see the "eye and ear specialist." The nurse thinks his language is faulty and says, "you really want one or the other, not both." "No," says the Russian Jew, "I need a specialist in both." The reason? -- "my problem is that I hear one thing but see another..."

(Heard from Mike Tabor)

373.

MUSIC: PREFERRING NO SPEECHES: G.B. Shaw at party, asks band leader, "Do you play requests?" Answers: " Yes." G.B.: "In that case, I request that your musicians play dominos, because I like peace and quiet at my meals."

374.

LIMITED KNOWLEDGE; NO EXPERTISE: G.B. Shaw was invited to speak on 18th century literature. G.B.S.: "How long?" Answer: "15 minutes." G.B.S.: "How is it possible to tell what I know about a subject in 15 minutes?" Answer: "That's okay, just speak slowly."

375 ON TALKING TOO LONG

Adult asks child: Who was Socrates? Child answered: "A philosopher who talked a lot and so they poisoned him."

376. "WHY ME?"; RESPONSE TO HONOR

After World War II, Pres. Truman called a Californian to offer him chairmanship of Wage-Price Board. "Why me? I can think of 100 others more deserving." HT: "Yes, and I called each and every one of them and they turned me down."

377- HISTORY: G-D'S HAND

378- WAR - JUSTICE

379. LEADERSHIP: ITS BENEFITS

Eskimo proverb: "Only the lead dog is entitled to a change in scenery."

390 Human Nature

A police chief was interviewed, asked to explain corruption in his dep't. Said: It's all because of our recruitment pool. Reporter: And what's that? Answer: The human race...

391 WHY EVEN THE GREATEST CAN ERR

פעם סיפר רבי יצחק מוורקי לרבו מנחם מנדל מקוצק כי ראה בפירושיו של המהר"ל לתורה שכתוב אצל אברהם: ושני נעריו עמו ואצל בלעם ושני נעריו אתו. והרי בתורה נאמר להיפך, אצל אברהם: אתו, ואצל בלעם: עמו.

זרק הרבי מקוצק, כדרכו אתגר לתלמידו: "יצחק, מה אתה אומר (על כך)?".

ענה רבי יצחק מוורקי: הס לנו לומר שהמהר"ל טעה!

מיד נענה ר' מנחם מנדל מקוצק בתריפות: "ואני אומר – שטעה, וזאת במכוון מן השמים, להראות הגם שהיה איש אלוקים ולא היה רבר רז נעלם ממנו, עם כל זה היה רק בשר ודם ושגיאות מי יבין...".

392 Literary Style: Mild Words

"He writes like a committee, shying away from any strong statement."

דרשות על תלמוד תורה זב"ט

מאמר השלישי מליקוטי הכרמים ח"ר תלכב

א) חכמינו אומרים. מפני מה נענש אברהם ונשתעבדו בניו למצרים מאתים ועשר שנים מפני שעשה אנגרי' בת"ח (נדרים ל"ב). חטא הגלות היא איפוא. מקורו בחסרון של ביטול תורה. שעשה אנגרי' בת"ח שהוליכן למלחמה... בני אדם שחינך לתורה (ר"ן שם). ותשאלת השאלה: כמה אנשים נלקחו מלימוד התורה? אחד ויחיד אליעזר. זה רחושבני' הכי, אליעזר בניסטרי' הרי שלוש מאות ושמונה עשרה. איזה תורא! גלות מצרים הנוראה אשר היתה גם הגדום לכל הגליות המאוחרות יחד. כאה בעונש על ביטול תורה של אדם אחד ויחיד. עד כמה גדול הוא ערכה, כוח התורה אם ביטולה מביא עתו חיצאות כה מבחילות, ואם ביטול תורה של יחיד עלול לגרום לשיעבוד של עם שלם, הרי ודאי שליימוד תורה של יחיד יכול להביא גאולה לעם שלם. הרי כוח הטובה עדיף: מרה טובה מרובה ממרה פורענות (סוטה י"א).

ב) ושם עצום עושה לימוד-התורה אפילו של אחד יחיד. חכד"ל אומרים: לא היו ימים טובים לישראל כחמשה עשר באב ויוהכ"פ שבהן בנות ישראל יוצאות בכלי לבן. בחמשה עשר מהו — יום שפוסקין בו לכרות עצים למערכה (תענית. כ"ו) מביאים אנו היטב למה יוהכ"פ עודד שמחה כי הוא יום סליחה מחילה וכפרה, אבל מהו השמחה כ"כ גדולה בחמשה עשר באב. ביום שהכהנים פוסקין בו לכרות עצמם למערכה, ולמה נחסך יום זה, ליום שמחה כלליה לכל כלל ישראל. כתב רבינו נרשון בב"ב "לפי שהיו עוסקין לכרות עצים למערכה היו מבטלין זה"ז אבל אותו יום פסקו — עשאוהו יום טוב שמכאן ואילך היו עוסקין בתורה". — כמה כהנים כרתו עצים, בודאי רק מספר מועט. ואותן הכורתים בודאי לא נתפסקו בכך יומם ולילה ועוד נותר להם זמן לעסוק בתורה. אלא מאי שבטי"ו באב הי' להם יותר זמן ללמוד מאשר קודם לכן. אירוע כזה עודד שמחה כה גדולה ולהשוותה לשמחות אחרות שהתורה ציוותה עליהם בצורה מחייבת בכתובה: ושמחתם. הנה כי כן, כמה גדול הוא לימוד התורה אפילו רק של יחיד בלבד.

ג) אמרו חכמינו ז"ל (אבות, פ"ג) "אם אין קמח אין תורה" למה לא אמרו, אם אין לחם אין תורה, והלא אין אוכלים קמח חי כי לחם אפוי, ומה לנו לדעת ממה שהלחם נאפה ושקדם לו הקמח? — וכתב הגר"א, החכ"ל מתכוונים לרמוז לנו כמה יגיעות וכמה עמילות מוצות לנו בכדי להשיג את אמיתה של תורה, אין כור הלחם גדל בשדה או על עץ, לחם נעשה מקמח, והרבה פעולות נחוצות בכדי להפך את הקמח ללחם. לישה, גלגול, עיסוי, אפי' וכו', וכן הוא עם השגת וכישות התורה, אין התורה נקנית אלא ביגיעה ועמל, לא בן-לילה, ולא על רגל אחת, לא כלי מאמץ ועמל משיג היהודי את התורה, ובעיקר השגת התורה במדה כזו — שתהפכנו ליצור חדש, עד כדי היותו יהודי-תורה, ולהשגת מדרגה זו זקוקים להתאבקות, לדריכות ולהתרכזות של שנים ושנים. לילות כימים בלי כל היסח-הדעת, דרושה לכך החלטה מוצקה להיות חודג ומשתמט ויוצא בשתי רגליו מן העולם של הבל ולחיות כולו בעולם של תורה. וכשם שהלחם שיהיה מוכן לעיכול נוספי דרושות כמה וכמה יגיעות, כן גם בענין התורה, בכדי שהמזון הנשפר הלזה יהיה מזון אמיתי, מחיה ומגדל, צריכות הרבה יגיעות ועמילות. ומה גדולה היתה העמילות של האי גאון נסלא הגר"ד הלוי זצ"ל.

ד) כל השונה הלכות בכל יום מובטח לו שהוא בן עולם הבא (סוף נדה) לא נאמר יהי' לו עולם הבא, לשון עתיד ושייך כל שכר לעולם הבא אלא "מובטח לו שהוא בן עולם הבא" לשון הווה. הווה אומר, מי שלומד כל יום זוכה לעולם הבא. הבא כיד כבר בעולם הזה. הלימוד מכניס את האדם לאווירה של עולם הבא. הלומד מרגיש מיד טעם עולם הבא. הגר"ד אף טעם טעם עולם הבא בהיותו יושב יומם ולילות כל ימי חייו ולומד. ועוד מה. למד וחידש חידושים נפלאים. מלאים עמקות ויצירה אדירה. וכותב הזוהר הקדוש: אם אדם לומד ומחדש חידוש בתורה הקב"ה מנשקו לו בראשו. והקבלה מחיגעת לפרש כוונת הדברים: מנשקי לו בראשו

384 "WE": Royal Pronoun

Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes: "We" as a singular should be legitimate usage only for the Pope, the Holy Roamn Emperor, the Queen of England, and one suffering from tapeworm...

385. MARRIAGE; ITS DEPTHS

Kotzebue (Wm. N [illegible] - indeed, can't find - because it [illegible] person of inner depth. can't grasp [illegible] he is [illegible]. There are layers upon layers awaiting discovery.

386. TOLERANCE; RELATIVISM

How can the modern relativist exercise tolerance if he doesn't believe in anything to begin with? It is not hard to exhibit toleration toward a point of view if you have no point of view of your own with which that point of view conflicts.

Up From Liberalism

William F. Buckley, Jr.

387. EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS

[E]ducation is, after all, a serious business. Its lifeblood is standards. If there are no standards, how do we call something higher education?

William J. Bennett

388. EDUCATION OF THE SOUL

[A]ll real education is the architecture of the soul

William J. Bennett

389. COMPETENCE + GOV'T

The single most exciting thing you encounter in government is competence, because it's so rare.

New York Times, March 2, 1976

Daniel Patrick Moynihan

390. LIFE ABOVE ALL? p.313?

p.313?

Those who say life is worth living at any cost have already written for themselves an epitaph of infamy, for there is no cause and no person they will not betray to stay alive.

Attributed

Sidney Hook

391. LIBERALS + NEOCONS

[A neoconservative is] a liberal who has been mugged by reality.

Irving Kristol

392 - LIBERALS → MORALS

A liberal is one who says that it's all right for an 18-year-old girl to perform in a pornographic movie as long as she gets paid the minimum wage.

Irving Kristol

393 - DO BOOKS HAVE AUTHORS?

[To believe that] no one was ever corrupted by a book, you almost have to believe that no one was ever improved by a book (or play, or a movie).... No one, not even a university professor, really believes that.

Reflections of a Neo-Conservative

Irving Kristol

394.

English & American English

(Eban) When Eisenhower flew to England to take over United Command, asked Eng. sec'y for schedule (skedule) She: "We say shedule." That evening at reception, Churchill asked Ike how long he knew Gen. Bradley. Ike: "Oh, we went to shool together."

395. (DULL) TEACHERS

Poet John Ciardi: There are no dull teachers, only dull people in class-rooms impersonating teachers

396 LOW STANDARDS

A man recently reported that he has had to withdraw a manuscript he recently submitted to a small university press because "a new editor there... eliminated very large chunks of it and rewrote the rest into language geared to retarded 10-year-olds." Such stories are becoming less and less uncommon; in fact, there is now even a name for the impulse at work behind them: "dumbing down." you dumb down something by making sure it is accessible to the least intelligent portion of its potential audience.

-*American Scholar*

397. FEMINISM

Modern feminism, I sometimes think, is about the right of women to spend their lives just as mediocrely as do men.

-*American Scholar*

398 **CRAZY WORLD; TRYING TO UNDERSTAND IT**

The historian G.M. Trevelyan (1876-1892), as early as the end of World War I, not yet fifty, writes: "I didn't understand the world we live in, and what I understand I don't like."

399. **PROGRESS**

A Southerner whose family owned a vast cotton company, on the night of Neil Armstrong's landing on the moon, asked his father if he thought he would ever live to see such a thing. "Son," his father replied, "I never thought I would live to see the day when I could relieve myself in my own house."

400 **TOPSAY-TURVY WORLD; *OLAM HAFUKH***

In 1884, when he was 41, Henry James noted that "imbeciles [were apt] to be in very great places, people of sense in small."

401. **QUICK ASSIMILATION**

A successful young Englishman, wishing to thank his immigrant Jewish father for helping to put him through Oxford, arranges to have a splendid suit made for the old man at one of the best tailors in London. Two, three, four fittings, and the suit, a work of great elegance, is finally completed. The old gentleman puts on this magnificent garment and straightaway begins to weep. "Papa," asked his son, "Papa, what is wrong? Are you crying because you are so touched by my gift?" "Not at all, my boy," the man says, "Now that I'm in this wonderful suit, I'm crying because we've lost our empire."

403. CONSTRUCTIVE - DESTRUCTIVE

Speaker Sam Rayburn: "Any jackass can kick down a barn door, but it takes a carpenter to build one."

403 **THINKING SLOWLY; SOUTHERNERS**

Malcolm Hoenlein was addressing Rotary Club in Alabama, was told must finish 30 minutes exactly. At 28 minutes sat down, no applause for 2 minutes. Puzzled. Chairman: You probably wondered...Reason: You New Yorkers think fast, but we Southerners think slow, so took us couple minutes to catch your last paragraph"....

404 **JUDAISM AND MUSEUM**

These past few weeks (1/23/94) that Lefrak gave $10 million to Met Museum of Arm, & Ronald Perlman $10 million to Guggenheim. At this rate, all of Judaism and American Jewry will be ready to be encased and exhibited in a museum...

405.

ACCEPTING AN HONOR; THANKS; SHORT AND LONG SPEECH

Adlai Stevenson once advised that, if honored, you can respond with one of two speeches: one short, one long. The short one should be, "I thank you all." The long one should be, "I thank you all very much"...

406

ACCEPTING AN HONOR; DENIAL OF HUMILITY

Justice Cardozo one said, when receiving rather lavish praise, "I am singularly accessible to demonstrations of regard."

407

FEAR OF GENTILES AND FEAR OF FELLOW JEWS
(Heard from Shimon Peres May 16, 1987)

In reminiscing about Ben Gurion, Peres relates that he was asked to prevail upon the late Nobel Laureate, Sh. Y. Agnon, to visit Ben Gurion in Sdeh Boker. Agnon was reluctant to leave Jerusalem at any time, but he nevertheless agreed.

Upon his return from Sdeh Boker, he remarked to Peres, "It seems that Ben Gurion is not afraid of the Gentiles -- and he is not even afraid of the Jews..."

408

INTELLECTUALS; LANGUAGE; "P.C."

...notions such as "political correctness" or P.C. are best described in Orwellian terms: some ideas are so ludicrous that only an intellectual can believe them.

409

EULOGY-SHAKESPEARE:

"He was a man, take him for all and all, I shall not look upon his like again."

410.

HALF-WAY MEASURES-RICHARD NIXON:

"The price for doing things half-way is no less than for doing it completely, so we might as well do them properly."

411

SECOND CHANCES; PHONEY EXCUSES; PRAISE FOR THE WRONG REASON

Justice Stephen L. Robbins of Ontario tells the following story: A drunk appears before a judge charged with giving his wife a black eye. He waives all counsel and defends himself brilliantly, giving all kinds of excuses. The judge is impressed, and decides to let him go with a slight reprimand. The next morning the defendant is back again on the same charge -- of blackening his wife's other eye. The judge is now irate, furious. "How can you explain it?", he asked. The defendant answers: "Well, I had to celebrate my victory at court so I went to the bar. One drink let to another, and I came home stone drunk. When I did come home my wife said, 'You are a drunken bum.' I considered that too and found it a justified complaint. But then, your Honor, she said, 'If that stupid old judge hadn't freed you yesterday, we wouldn't be in this mess today.' Now, your Honor, I can accept such assaults against me, but when anyone tries to insult the judiciary..."

413- NOT TO INSTRUCT BUT TO REMIND

כל. הספקות. ואף על פי כן. וראי הוא בעיני שיש מקום. ואולי גם צורך. לשוב ולדון בשאלות אלה לפרקים. אם לא חודשים לבקרים. יש לשוב ולהידרש לאותן סוגיות. מטכרות לכאורה ונדושות. ולו בשל מרכיותן בתודעתנו חתדעתנו. להזערנן ולהתעמד עמן מחדש. והלוא כך מקובלנו מביה מדרשו של הרמח"ל בהקדמתו למסילת ישרים:

> והיבוד הזה לא מיכרחיי ללמד לבני האדם את אשר לא ידעו. אלא להזכירם את שידוע להם ככר. אפשרסם אצלם פרשום ברור. אלא שכפי רוב פרסומם וכבוד מה שאפתחם גלויה לכל. כך ההפלם מהם מצוי מאד והשכחה רבה.

הדברים נכונים ויפים. ויכול אדם להעיד על כך מבשרו-שלו. גם ביחס לסוגיות מרכיות אחרות בתודעתנו הדתיות. — (הרב זלמן י' גולדשטיין)

414- TORAH WITHOUT HUMAN SENSITIVITY

נבדו בעל ה"צמח צדק". ושתגלגל למקום מסויים בו קיבל דירה בת שלושה חדרים. חדר לפנים מחדר. וכשיסח לצד השני ויתח דרך החדר האמצעי. ויהי היום ובעל ה"תניא" ישב ולמד בחדר השני. ה"צמח צדק" בחדר האמצעי. ובחדר החיצוני שבב תיטק בעריסה. לפתע הזיל התינוק ולבבות ה"צמח צדק". שהדרו היה סמוך לחדרו של התינוק. היה כל כך שקוע בלימודו. שלא שמע את בכיו של התינוק. בעל ה"תניא" שחדרו היה רחוק יותר שמע. והפסיק את לימודו ויצא להרגיע את התינוק. משסיים להרגיעו החזירו למקומו. חזר לחדרו. עבר דרך חדרו של בעל ה"צמח צדק". ואמר לו "בשלומדים תורה ולא שומעים בכיו של תינוק יהודי - משמו פנים בלימוד". — (הרב דוד זאבי)

415. GREED CORRUPTS EVEN THE RIGHTEOUS

416. DYING INSTITUTIONS

417. EQUALITY : ITS DEPTHS

Henri Bergue: The effect of equality is that we desire it only in our superiors

418.

MUTUAL CONSENT

A shtetl Jew returns from a visit to the big city and is asked what he did there. Answer: "Theater" "What happens there?"

Answer: "Simple: When he wants, she doesn't want; when she wants, he doesn't want; when both want, the curtain comes down..."

-Family Story, by President Ezer Weizmann

419.

THE WORLD LEARNS NOTHING

"The world has learned nothing and forgotten everything."

-Emmanuel Levinas

420.

LAST SPEAKER

Abba Eban when asked if he heard Arafat's last speech, replied, "I certainly hope so."

421.

TOO MANY SPEECHES

The reason there are so many long speeches in the Knesset is because everything has been said, but not everyone has said it...

422.

POMPOUS SPEAKER

Israel Zangwill to an egotistical academic who had just delivered a bombastic, metaphysical address and asked Zangwill what he thought: "Sir, I believe you misunderstood yourself."

423.

UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS

A University president has to be one part psychiatrist/nanny/Top Sergeant/fire hydrant...

424.

INNER STRUGGLES, CONTRADICTIONS

Zwei Seelen Wohnen, acht in meiner Brust (Two souls dwell in my breast)

--Faust

425.

EDUCATION AND ITS COST

John Adams (letter of 9/10/1785): "The whole people must take upon themselves the education of the whole people, and must be willing to bear the expense of it."

426.

LEADERS BUT NO FOLLOWERS

An Italian Colonel orders his men to attack at
Precisely at that time, blows whistle, shouts,
"Avante" braves flying bullets--then looks back
and sees his own men remaining in their trenches
but clapping and crying out, "Bravo Colonel."

(From President Ezer Weizmann)

426a.

THE ELITE AND THE MASSES

David Hartman's father to him when he became a Rabbi: Remember that nine Rabbis do not a *minyan* make, but ten customs peddlers, *pashuteh yiddn*, do...

427-b

TENURE

The following came from the Internet (attributed to Univ. of Wash.)

"The juvenile sea squirt wanders through the sea searching for a suitable rock or hunk of coral to cling to and make its home for life. For this task it has a rudimentary nervous system. When it finds its spot and takes root, it doesn't need its brain anymore so it eats it.

It's rather like getting tenure."

427-c

CONTENTMENT WITH MEDIOCRITY

Cartoon in The New Yorker (7/94): Two cows talking to each other: "I'm very comfortable with my bovinity"...

427-d

MADMEN, EVIL

The madman, Chesterton once wrote, is the one who has lost everything but his reason.

427-e

EVIL - NO EUPHEMISMS

We need to name evil for what it is. To accept the euphemisms that mask it will not do. It is imperative that we do not tolerate a phrase like "ethnic cleansing" as an evasion of its true homicidal intent. We cannot allow the language of psychobabble to smooth over or excuse what is clearly wrong in our own lives or our own culture

Lawrence Cunningham
(Notra Dame Magazine)

427-f Mastering More Than One Discipline

When Joe DiMaggio and Marilyn Monroe divorced Oscar Levant said that he supposed no man could excel at two national pastimes.

427-g SPEAKING SOFTLY: CIVIL LANGUAGE

The hardest thing in America is to be what one is-softly.

--Leon Wieseltier

427-h

PASSION: CIVIL LANGUAGE

The fervor with which a proposition is believed tells nothing about its truth. Except for its practical consequences, passion is beside the point.

--Leon Wieseltier

427-i

ON BECOMING JEWISH

To paraphrase Kierkegaard, "It is easier for somebody who is not a Jew to become Jewish than it is for somebody who is a Jew to become Jewish."

428.

THE INDIVIDUAL AND THE SOCIETY

"This is a moment when the innumerable interests, organizations, and groups that make up our national life must keep their part of the bargain with the society that gives them freedom by working toward the common good. At least for now, a little less *pluribus*, a lot more *unum*."

--John. W. Gardner

429.

RUNNING AWAY FROM PROBLEMS

Linus (in the "Peanuts" cartoon) once said that there's no problem so big and complicated that it can't be run away from.

430.

BELIEVING IN YOURSELF; FAITH IN FAITH

William James said: "Just as our courage is often a reflex of someone else's courage, so our faith is often a faith in someone else's faith." If you believe in me, it's easier for me to believe in myself.

--John W. Gardner

431.

LEADERS AND FOLLOWERS

In the conventional model, people want to know whether the followers believe in the leader. I want to know whether the leader believes in the followers.

--John W. Gardner

432.

THE IS AND THE OUGHT; LAUGHING & CRYING

William Hazlitt said "Man is the only animal that laughs and weeps; for he is the only animal that is struck with the difference between what things are and what they ought to be."

433.

THE MIND & THE UNIVERSE

For the history that I require and design, special care is to be taken that it be of wide range and made to the measure of the universe. For the world is not to be narrowed till it will go into the understanding (which has been done hitherto), but the understanding is to be expanded and opened till it can take in the image of the world.

--Francis Bacon, *The Parasceve*

444.

BOOKS AS BOATS

Time-conscious as no other man of his era, he viewed books as boats with precious cargoes launched on the great sea of time.

--Loren Eisley on Francis Bacon

445.

OOKS & BOATS; AUTHORS GET NO CREDIT

Bacon was right in his noble and elevating remark that books, like ships, pass through the seas of time and touch other minds in distant ages. It is troubling to our human wish for remembrance that the launcher of such frail vessels never sees upon what shore they land or whether his precious cargo is carried off by erudite smugglers. Broken by the winds and waves of other ages, what the author painstakingly accumulated may be picked up piecemeal as wreckage and distributed in other holds. His one compensation must lie in the hope that the cargo, if not the master, is saved.

--Loren Eisley

446.

LIVING IN THE PAST: A VIRTUE

"I seem to have my conversation among the ancients more than among those with whom I live."

--Francis Bacon

447.

INNER CONFLICTS

"Sir, in my heart there was a kinde of fighting, that would not let me sleepe."

--Shakespeare

448.

THE PAST & PRESENT; THE DEAD & THE LIVING

By and large, as the mass of knowledge grows, men devote little attention to the dead. Yet it is the dead who are frequently our pathfinders, and we walk all unconsciously along the roads they have chosen for us. We find what they warned us to look for, and sometimes, also, we are unknowingly entrapped in some half-enchanted circle of ideas woven by a vanished mind.

--Loren Eisley on Francis Bacon

449.

SCIENTISTS/COMPASSION; COCKHMAH U'VINAH

Bacon defined, in addition, the image of what a true scientist should be: a man of both compassion and understanding. He whispered into men's careless ears that knowledge without charity could bite with the deadliness of a serpent's venom.

--Loren Eisley (

450.

DIFFICULT IDEAS--APPEAR SIMPLE

Bacon himself has suffered from the effects of his own observation that "great discoverers appear simple once they are made."

--Loren Eisley

451.

SCIENTISTS-BARBARIANS

No one need object to the elucidation of scientific principles in clear, unornamental prose. What concerns us is that fact that there exists a new class of highly skilled barbarians--not representing the very great in science--who would confine men entirely to this diet. Once more there is revealed the curious and unappetizing puritanism which attaches itself all too readily to those who, without grace or humor, have found their salvation in facts.

--Loren Eisley

452. LIFE AS A CHANCE PERIOD

453. WHAT IS SAID, NOT WHO SAID IT

454. The TRUTH-FINDING/PROCLAIMING

Paul Johnson on Karl Marx: "He was not interested in finding the truth but in proclaiming it."

455.

OLD AGE

I am admonished in many ways that time is pushing me inexorably along. I am approaching the threshold of age; in 1977 I shall be 142. This is no time to be flitting about the earth. I must cease from the activities proper to youth and begin to take on the dignities and gravities and inertia proper to that season of honorable senility which is on its way.

-- Mark Twain in a letter on 19 July 1901 refusing an invitation to attend 80th anniversary celebrations of the state of Missouri.

456. TRADITION & EXPERIENCE

"What you have as heritage,
Take now as task;/For thus
You will make it your own!"

--Goethe, *Faust*

457. DENYING MEMORY

...what Czeslaw Milosz has called the "new obsession...a refusal to remember"

458. RESPECT FOR PARENTS

We do well to recognize as infantile an attitude toward our parents that regards them as all-wise or all-powerful and that is blind to their human foibles. But we must recognize no less that it is adolescent, once we have discovered those foibles, to deny our parents the respect and reverence that is their due for having been, under G-d, the means through which has come the only life we have.

--Jaroslav Pelikan,
The Vindication of Tradition

459. TRADITION, ITS VALUE

...during much of our history, and down to our own time, tradition has provided the perennial themes and the key metaphors by which creative expression has been preserved form the banality and the trivialization to which a total immersion in the here and now could have subjected it.

--Jaroslav Pelikan,
The Vindication of Tradition

460. LEADERSHIP; CONFIDENCE

וארא: חן בנ"י לא שמעו אלי ואיך ישמעני פרעה ((אחד מעשרה ק"ו בתורה). רלב"ג: הלא ק"ו מופרך, שמיד לפני זה נאמר "ולא שמעו אל משה מקוצר רוח ומעבודה קשה". ומשיב: קוצר חרוח חיח--של משה! ומנחיג שאבד תאמון בעצמו ובשליחותו עתיד לחכשל...

461. LOVING AND LIKING

We love *despite;* we like *because...*

--Mike Tabor

462. SPIRITUAL GROWTH

The Alte of Navardok, on why he followed an unconventional path: Jacob's dream was that of a ladder between heaven and earth--and a ladder is effective only when at a slant, never when exactly straight. So...

463. OPPOSITES; OPTIMISM; JOY

Hasidim encourages us with a comma:

הזורעים בדמעה ברנה, יקצורו

464. EXPERTS; PROFESSORS

"Specialists without spirit, sensualists without heart; This nullity imagines that it has attained a level of civilization never before achieved."

--Max Weber

465. READING; TEXTS;LISTENING

Wayne Booth has insisted that we should think of texts as potential friends and has given us the golden rule of hermeneutics: "Read as yu would have others read you; listen as you would have others listen to you."

466. READING;TEXTS;FRIENDHSIP

Literary critic Wayne Booth extends the Aristotelian notion of friendship to include a reader's relationship to the author of a text. ..."We can extend the boundaries of the academy to include the living and the dead, those who speak to us face to face and those who address us from across the centuries through the printed word...We are formed to a great extent by the 'company we keep.'"

--Mark R. Schwehn

467.TEACHERS;UNIVERSITY;

The personal influence of the teacher is able in some sort to dispense with an academical system, but that system cannot in any sort dispense with personal influence. With influence there is life, without it there is none; if influence

is deprived of its due position, it will not by those means be got rid of, it will only break out irregularly, dangerously. An academical system without the personal influence of teachers upon pupils is an arctic winter; it will create an ice-bound, petrified, castiron University and nothing else.

--Cardinal Newman

468. ART;TECHNOLOGY;BEAUTY

The poet Octavio Paz observed that much of modern industrial technology has given us function without beauty, and much of modern art has given us beauty without function.

469. UNIVERSITY;TRUTH;RESEARCH

The principal heresy of modernism, the one that animates the research university, is, like all heresies, not so much a falsehood as an obsessive exaggeration of one truth to the point of distortion.

--Mark R. Schwehn

470. MAN; HIS INSIGNIFICANCE

Man is an animal suspended in webs of significance he himself has spun.

--Max Weber

471. INTELLECTUALS;RESPONSIBILITY

One of the delights of being an intellectual is that one is expected to have opinions on everything while incurring responsibility for nothing.

--Aristides, *American Scholar*, 1995

472. READING;FORGETTING;INTELLECTUAL

Part of being a cultivated person is knowing what to forget. Gertrude Stein recorded the happy moment when she realized she couldn't read all the books in the world. The truly cultivated person realizes that he probably hasn't a chance to read even all the good books in the world.

--Ibid

473. NEWS;HISTORY;INTELLECTUALS

The cultivated person...has a strong historical sense, so that he tends to be less impressed by the crisis of the week that agitates the news media, which they in turn use to agitate the rest of us...He knows that this caravan has passed before, and that another, not very different one, will pass through next week and another the week after that. [He] is interested in information that either has been around for a while or will probably be around in the future.

--Ibid.

474. TRUTH; KNOWLEDGE

Writing to her friend Sir James Steuart, in the eighteenth century, Lady Mary Wortley Montagu remarked: "It is true a very small proportion of knowledge is allowed us in this world; few truths permitted, but those truths are plain; they may be overseen or artfully obscured from our sight, but when pointed out to us it is impossible to resist the conviction that accompanies them."

--Ibid

476. REPENTANCE; ILLNESS; SPIRIT; EMOTION

I am not a mechanism, an assembly of various sections.
And it is not because the mechanism is working wrongly, that I am ill.
I am ill because of wounds to the soul, to the deep emotional self--
and the wounds to the soul take a long, long time, only time can help
and patience, [and a certain difficult repentance
long difficult repentance, realization of life's mistake, and the freeing oneself
from the endless repetition of the mistake]
which mankind at large has chosen to sanctify.

--D. H. Lawrence

476 **PROCESS>GOAL; EFFORT>SUCCESS**

Kotzk: יגעתי ולא מצאתי אל תאמין means don't believe that anyone who has toiled in matters of the spirit ius a failure: progress in non-material realm can't be quantified, & the subtle changes that take place as a result of suffering is what it is all about. כי עצם היגיעה כבר הישג ומציאה--

477 PESSIMISM; DISCONTENT; ONE WORLD

An old Jew walks into the Visa Office in Moscow.
„Good morning. I would like to go to America."
He's instantly given the go-ahead.
„By all means,"
says the clerk.
„Just fill in the application forms."
He starts writing, but after a short while he says:
„Listen! What exactly would I do in America?
There's a lot of crime there.
It's a different culture.
What do you think? Should I go to Israel instead?"
„Why not!"
says the clerk.
„Here's another form. Just fill it in."
So the old Jew starts writing again,
but after a little while
he puts down his pen and asks:
„But what would I do in Israel?
There's a war there,
imperialism and a lot of Arabs.
Perhaps I should go to Australia?"
„Listen!"
says the clerk.
„Go and take a look at the map of the world.
Choose a country and go to that one!"
So the old Jew goes and has a look at the map.
but after ten minutes he reappears
and says to the clerk:
„Excuse me, I can't find one I like.
Have you got another map?"

478. **Litvaks and Extremists**

(תנועת המוסר, from Katz, told to my R.Amital)

When R. Israel Salanter came as Rabbi to Danzig, found that on שבת his people came to shul, then--to work. Asked, "Any Litvaks here?" One was, so--said nothing. Next week again--but no Litvaks. So, got up and said, when you go to work try not to write. Next week, repeat--again no Litvaks, so continued: try to work with left hand...But if Litvaks present, was afraid to imply חילול שבת to avoid היתרים....

Litvak Pious Asceticism; Soloveitchiks

479.

(שמעתי מהרב שמעון סג"ל)--הנצי"ב ובית הלוי שמשו יחד כר"מים בולוזין (לפני הדין תורה הידוע). הביה"ל היה מאוד מאוד מדקדק בכל דיוקי הלכות חג הפסח עד שנעדר מתפילת מעריב בליל החג. למחרת היה נהוג שאחרי מוסף עשו ריקוד ושמחו בשמחת החג. הנצי"ב היה עליז--וביה"ל עצוב... שאלו תלמידיו את הנצי"ב, לתוּגָה זו של ביה"ל מה זו עושה? ומה על מצות "ושמחת בחגיך"? ענה ואמר: מדוע אתם תמהים על יהודי גדול זה, הלא בטוח הוא שמַצָתו חמץ, שהד' כוסות אינן כדין, שלא יצא י"ח במרור שלו... מדוע לא יהיה עצוב?

480. Old Age and Sickness

(שמעתי מהרב שמעון סג"ל) --גדולי ליט"א לפני כשני דורות היו נוהגים לבלות בקיץ בפונדק אחד. פעם נזדמנו לאותו אַתַר ר'שמעון שקאַפּ, ר'ברוך בער לייבוביץ', ר'וועלוועל סולובייציק, ועוד גדול אחד. כולם היו בערך אותו גיל, בשנות ה70, ורק שמעון שקאַפּ בתוך השמונים. התאנח ואמר, איי איי, אני זקן. ענה ר'ברוך בער, "זקנה היא מחלה". השיב ר' וועלוועל, "כן, אבל על מחלה שכזו אין אומרים לאדם: לא עליכם"...

481.

Eulogy for Great Person/עמל והתמדה

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow in his "The Ladder of St. Augustine:

The heights by great men reached and kept
Were not attained by sudden flight,
But they, while their companions slept,
Were toiling upward in the night

482.

SENSITIVITY; EDUCATION; [illegible]

Today we use less and we use more of our mental capacity than we did in the past; and it is not exactly the same kind of mental capacity as it was either. For example, we use considerably less of our sensory perceptions. When I was writing the first version of *Mythologiques (Introduction to a Science of Mythology)*, I was confronted with a problem which to me was extremely mysterious. It seems that there was a particular tribe which was able to see the planet Venus in full daylight, something which to me would be utterly impossible and incredible. I put the question to professional astronomers; they told me, of course, that we don't but, nevertheless, when we know the amount of light emitted by the planet Venus in full daylight, it was not absolutely inconceivable that some people could. Later on I looked into old treatises on navigation belonging to our own civilization and it seems that sailors of old were perfectly able to see the planet in full daylight. Probably *we could still do so if we had a trained eye.*

--Claude Levi-Strauss

483.

DYING; CONTEMPT; ZIONIST

Isaiah Berlin tells of Haim Weizmann's last words. When, on his deathbed, he coughed badly and felt choked, Weizmann's doctor told him to spit. "But there is no one to spit at," he replied in Yiddish, and died. It was also Weizmann who said that it is not necessary to be mad in order to be a Zionist, but it helps.

484.

SCIENCE; SOC'L ENGINEER'G; HUMAN NATURE

There is a great gulf between respecting science and accepting the ideology of scientism. Scientism hides from us the deep Kantian truth, that "out of timber as crooked as that from which man is made nothing entirely straight can be carved." Within the human sciences, people cannot be expected to be arranged into classifications and patterns governed by natural laws and certainly they cannot be aligned within a social order built according to a master plan.

The fact that it is impossible to "straighten" people is, for Isaiah Berlin, a source of joy, not a source of gloom. He is happy about human diversity. And so he is skeptical about progress as the march of humanity toward a well-defined goal, and prefers what his contemporary Karl Popper described as piecemeal engineering, that is, mending and improving upon those areas of human activity in which we may be able to predict the outcome of our deeds.

485.

INTERPRETATIONS; CLEAR SPEECH

At wedding, waiter goes table to table, announces: "די כלה איז א זונה!" Father of bride:!!xx! Waiter: The משגיח told me to say so. Mashgiach: I told him to announce: די חלה איז א מזונות....