

IT IS WITH GREAT PLEASURE AND A DEEP SENSE OF HUMILITY
MIXED WITH PARDONABLE PRIDE THAT I OPEN THIS FIRST CONFERENCE OF
MAINE STATE SYNAGOGUE SISTERHOODS. OUR THEME IS "LET THERE BE LIGHT."
THESE WORDS "LET THERE BE LIGHT" WERE THE FIRST WORDS SPOKEN AT
CREATION. G-D BEGAN HIS WORLD WITH THE COMMAND "LET THERE BE LIGHT."
HERE HISTORY BEGINS.

WE HOPE AND PRAY THAT THE CHOICE OF OUR THEME IS
PROPHETIC. WE HOPE THAT WE TODAY ARE ALSO MAKING HISTORY. WE HOPE
THAT WE ARE STANDING AT THE BEGINNING OF LONG AND PLEASANT INTER-
COMMUNITY RELATIONS.

WE HOPE THAT AS A RESULT OF THIS CONFERENCE WE CAN
REAP THE FRUITS OF GROUP THINKING. WE HOPE THAT WE CAN SHARE OUR
COMMON EXPERIENCES AND BUILD A GREATER JEWISH LIFE FOR OURSELVES
AND OUR POSTERITY.

THE CREATION WHICH BEGAN WITH "LET THERE BE LIGHT"
ENDED WITH THE HOLINESS OF THE SABBATH. WE TOO HOPE TO BEGIN BY
SPREADING LIGHT WHICH WILL LEAD TO HOLINESS. AFTER G-D SAID, "LET
THERE BE LIGHT" THE BIBLE SAYS "AND THERE WAS LIGHT, AND G-D SAW
THE LIGHT THAT IT WAS GOOD." BEFORE THE DAY IS OVER MAY WE BE
ABLE TO SAY "AND THERE WAS LIGHT AND IT WAS GOOD." AND MAY G-D
IN HIS HEAVEN ABOVE ANSWER AMEN.