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Western Reserve University 125th Anniversary, 1951.

# Rabbi Silver



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# CXXV YEAR CONVOCATION HYMN

by Arthur Franklin White

From nature's bounty and excess  
A hardy, pioneering folk  
Carved homesteads in the wilderness;  
And howe'er sharp the strain and stress,  
They prayed, God's blessings to invoke,  
*That He would keep them strong and free.*

They cleared the land and planted seed,  
And improvised the needed tools;  
And when God gave them for their meed  
According to their utmost need,  
They built their churches and their schools,  
*That truth might keep the peoples free.*

And ere the land was settled long,  
A few brave men of faith and parts,  
Recalling that God aids the strong  
And learning sifts the right and wrong,  
Founded a new-world school of arts  
*That truth might keep the peoples free.*

Today, O God, we celebrate  
A rich fruition from that past.  
The little college, blessed by fate,  
Has grown in stature and estate  
On sure foundations, built to last,  
*That truth may keep the peoples free.*

And as we pause upon time's curve  
To count off six score years and five  
Of history for Western Reserve,  
We thank the God whom good men serve  
That truth once kindled stays alive;  
*For truth shall keep the peoples free.*

Today let us rededicate  
This noble university  
To God and country. May its state  
Be linked with strivings soundly great  
Which shed its light from sea to sea,  
*That truth may keep the peoples free.*