America’s ‘Young America’ movement: slaveholders and the B’nai B’rith

by Anton Chaitkin

Chorus: Ten years from now, in 1860, Lord Palmerston’s quest for world empire will enter its most critical phase: the American Civil War, provoked by Young America and other pro-British networks. A French army will be in Mexico, propping up Maximilien. Britain will ready the fleet and send troops to Canada. The only support for Lincoln’s beleaguered Union will come from the Russian Empire of Czar Alexander II, with two Russian fleets being sent to American ports in 1863 with orders from the czar to join Lincoln in fighting Britain and France should general war break out. Mazzini, Urquhart, and their assets will pull out all the stops to isolate Russia and blow up eastern Europe.

In the midst of these preparations, we have the emergence of Young Israel—B’nai B’rith—as an ideal British weapon against both the United States and Russia, and also against other nations. Lord Palmerston’s interest in Zionism was stimulated during the Middle East crisis of 1840, when France backed a rebellious satrap of the Ottoman sultan. The British found that while the French were the official protectors of the Roman Catholics in the Turkish Empire, and the Russians the patrons of the Orthodox, the British had no group of Anglicans or Puritans to sponsor. The British turned their attention to Armenians and Jews. Palmerston ordered British diplomats to take Jewish communities under their protection, since Britain was “the natural guardian of the Jews.” This gave the British a foot in the door in the Middle East, and also in Russia, including Russian Poland, where 50% of world Jewry then resided. At this time, Palmerston’s son-in-law, the Earl of Shaftesbury, wrote that “it may be safely asserted that [the Jews] contemplate a restoration to the soil of Palestine.” Shaftesbury was talking through his hat: He admitted that many Jews “will prefer a seat in the House of Commons in England to a seat under their vines and fig trees in Palestine.” But the British resolve to settle Jews in Palestine was clear.

The founder of Zionism in its modern, British-sponsored form is not Theodor Herzl, but a certain Moses Hess. Hess converted Friedrich Engels to communism, and wrote parts of Marx’s German Ideology. In 1861, Hess will write Rome and Jerusalem, which attacks Moses Mendelssohn for the idea that Judaism is a religion and a culture. For Hess, Judaism is a race in Mazzini’s blood-and-soil sense, and therefore must have a homeland. Yet another of Palmerston’s theme parks will open its doors.

In the B’nai B’rith’s official, authorized history, it says: “B’nai B’rith’s relationship to the Civil War presents something of a mystery.” They say that the arrest of the B’nai B’rith’s leader in Washington as a Confederate spymaster was unfair. They say that no one can account for why the group was not pro-Union, whereas most Jews were pro-Union, and B’nai B’rith’s lodges were almost all located in the North. Indeed, Jewish soldiers in the Union Army were intensely proud, mostly German-speaking immigrant, anti-slavery Republicans.

To solve the mystery, we go back 20 years before the start of the American Civil War.

British Foreign Minister Palmerston launched Zionism in 1840. He wrote that the Jews desired to return to Palestine (Abba Eban points out that the Jews knew nothing about this); and a month later, the British landed troops in Palestine for the first time.

B’nai B’rith was started officially in 1843 by some obscure Freemasons in New York, as a secret society “like Freemasonry” for Jews. B’nai B’rith was to shape and lead a particular political faction, with a particular agenda, within the Jewish community.

The agenda for this project came out in a famous speech given two years later at South Carolina College. The speaker was Edwin DeLeon, from a Jewish family in South Carolina that was already notorious for its involvement in the slave trade and in Scottish Rite Freemasonry. DeLeon was later a leader of the Confederate Secret Service.

DeLeon praised his teacher at the school, Thomas Cooper, an English atheist and Lord Shelburne’s adventurer, who had first proposed that the South secede from the Union. DeLeon hailed Cooper as a tender-hearted religious heretic and “an earnest . . . disciple of the school of Bentham and Malthus.”

DeLeon said, “There is a ‘Young Germany,’ a ‘Young France,’ and a ‘Young England’—and why not a ‘Young America’?” He told the students: Any great civil convulsion comes from a source that is unexpected and obscure. In the French Revolution, the priests and nobles were only the flax with which the flame was kindled. But those who first applied
the spark were the filthy, obscure savants of the Enlightenment. DeLeon reminded the students that the actors in that drama were only its creatures, not its creators.

He then proposed revolutionary military action as the idea for his Young America, to spread what he called “freedom”—by force.

The “Young America” idea first bore its bitter fruit when U.S. President James Polk ordered American troops to invade Mexico. Young Congressman Abraham Lincoln exposed the President as a fraud; he denounced the Mexican war as a slaveowners’ conspiracy that would wreck our country. Lincoln was driven out of politics until 12 years later.

This British project matured in the mid-1850s, and its active focus shifted to the West. There were two important partners out there: Isaac M. Wise, a B’nai B’rith Midwest leader based in Cincinnati; and Killian H. Van Rensselaer, a British military operative and Scottish Rite Mason northern leader, also based in Cincinnati. Between 1854 and 1860, they spread a pro-slavery, secessionist-terrorist group along the route extending down the Mississippi valley to Louisiana and Texas: the Knights of the Golden Circle. Wise’s B’nai B’rith organization spread southward along the identical route. Their plan was to spread slavery into Latin America and the U.S. West, and break up the U.S.A. into several small countries.

In Louisiana, U.S. Sen. Judah Benjamin and Scottish Rite Southern Mason leader Albert Pike worked together on this terrorist secession project. There is a bust of Albert Pike in New Orleans, celebrating his work in that pre-war southern base for the Scottish Rite, the Knights, and B’nai B’rith. Judah Benjamin’s relative (his uncle’s brother Manny) had earlier written the masonic order creating the Northern Scottish Rite organization, in which Wise and Van Rensselaer were now leaders.

**A trail of treason**

To start the Civil War, this pre-organized anti-Union terrorist force would strike for secession in the South. Those who stayed in the North during the War would be known as “Copperheads,” with headquarters in Ohio.

Before the war, Isaac Wise had two B’nai B’rith local leaders in Cleveland: Simon Wolf and Benjamin F. Peixotto. Wolf and Peixotto also worked as political agents for Democratic Party boss August Belmont, the U.S. representative of the Rothschild banks—chief moneybags of the British crown, and British puppets. Banker Belmont paid for the Knights of the Golden Circle and Young America projects, which he helped plan while he was U.S. ambassador to the Netherlands.

Benjamin Peixotto was editor of the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, a violently pro-Copperhead paper which furious citizens forced to shut down during the war. Wolf and Peixotto ran a Hebrew amateur acting group, which included their non-Hebrew friend John Wilkes Booth.
The war started in 1861. Simon Wolf went to Washington as the B’nai B’rith representative in the national capital, joining Albert Pike’s Southern Scottish Rite and Judah Benjamin’s Confederate Secret Service operations. Wolf was almost immediately arrested by U.S. Army Counterintelligence director Lafayette Baker, who worked directly for President Abraham Lincoln and for Lincoln’s Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton. The B’nai B’rith was understood to be a Confederate intelligence front. B’nai B’rith’s official history says that the “cruel” and “ruthless” Colonel Baker had Simon Wolf arrested “solely because he was a member of B’nai B’rith.” At the time, they say, Wolf was “defending several Southern Jews arrested in Washington and charged with being Confederate spies.”

Meanwhile in Cincinnati, Isaac Wise’s cohort Julius Ochs got in trouble when his wife, Bertha, was arrested for smuggling drugs to the Confederate Army in her son’s baby carriage. Later, Julius and Bertha’s son, the white supremacist Adolph Ochs, married Isaac Wise’s daughter, and then bought the New York Times. Their daughter married Arthur Sulzberger.

The U.S. Navy won an 1862 Mississippi River battle, and the U.S. Army took Memphis, Tennessee. Isaac Wise’s Memphis B’nai B’rith agent, the British-born Abraham E. Frankland, was arrested, and admitted being a Confederate spymaster. Julius Ochs sent him supplies in jail the same day, and Frankland was released on a $20,000 bond. We’ll hear more of this degenerate Frankland shortly.

The next year, B’nai B’rith leader Isaac Wise was nominated at an Ohio Convention to run for state senator on the radical anti-Union Copperhead election ticket. Wise’s running mate for Ohio governor was Clement Vallandigham, then in exile in Canada, whom President Lincoln had banished from the country as America’s leading traitor.

The B’nai B’rith leader’s candidacy caused a crisis and a newspaper scandal. The Cincinnati Jewish community was overwhelmingly pro-Union. His own synagogue issued a formal demand for him to withdraw; Wise was forced off the ticket.

The conspiracy to kill Lincoln

At the close of the war, on April 14, 1865, John Wilkes Booth shot President Abraham Lincoln while another man simultaneously attacked Secretary of State William Seward. Lincoln died the next day.

Here are some basic facts of the murder. Some months before he shot Lincoln, John Wilkes Booth deposited funds in the Montreal, Canada bank regularly used by the operatives of Confederate Secret Service head Judah Benjamin. John Surrat, a regular Judah Benjamin agent, confessed to plotting with Booth to abduct Lincoln, and admitted to using that Montreal bank for Benjamin’s funds.
In the museum which they keep at the assassination site at Ford's Theatre, the National Parks Service displays a decoding sheet, found by police in John Wilkes Booth's trunk. Displayed alongside it is a matching coding device which was found in the office of Judah Benjamin.

At the time John Wilkes Booth shot Lincoln, Booth's old acquaintance Benjamin Peixotto was international president of the B'nai B'rith. Only hours before going to Ford's Theatre to shoot the President, Booth met with his old friend B'nai B'rith Washington chief Simon Wolf, for a confidential discussion over some drinks. Simon Wolf later claimed that at this meeting, Booth told him about a woman who had turned down Booth's marriage proposal. That evening, Booth murdered Abraham Lincoln, and Wolf attributed the killing to Booth's anguish over his broken heart. (So, the "lone assassin" story of John Hinckley and Jody Foster is an old story.) Simon Wolf was later a prime founder of the Anti-Defamation League.

**Albert Pike's Ku Klux Klan**

After the war, the Ku Klux Klan was started up in Tennessee to stop newly freed blacks from voting. With their occult-satanic rituals and costumes, the KKK burned and tortured blacks and pro-U.S.A. whites. The Klan's national headquarters was in Memphis, where KKK leaders Albert Pike and Nathan B. Forrest lived and attended lodge together.

Memphis B'nai B'rith leader Abraham Frankland was an
intimate friend of Albert Pike. Frankland had been in the Pike-Benjamin spy apparatus, and wrote a blistering attack on the U.S. attempt to reconstruct the South under equal rights. Frankland now stayed on to aid Pike in his postwar task.

A notebook of Frankland’s *Kabbalistic Researches* is kept in the American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati. It is a compendium of espionage ciphers, black magic symbols, masonic ritual, and pagan religion. In his preface, Frankland acknowledges aid to his religious research by Albert Gallatin Mackey, grand secretary of the Scottish Rite, “and the Book *Lohar on the Sephiroth*, kindly loaned to me by Gen’l Albert Pike.”

KKK boss Pike was simultaneously working on his own satanic masterpiece, *Morals and Dogma*, published in 1871. On page 38 of *Kabbalistic Researches*, Frankland lists assorted gods passed down by tradition from ancient times, including “Four of the thirteen great Gods of Assyria,” plus the god “Bel.” Mackey writes that Frankland’s god Bel is a form of Baal, and was worshipped by the Babylonians as their chief deity. This is, of course, the false god which the Old Testament Jewish prophets fought to expunge from Israel. Mackey says that since 1871 the Royal Arch Masonic system has combined Bel with “Jah” for Jehova and “On” for the Egyptian sun god, into “JahBelOn,” as an “explanation” of God. The Hebrew menorah blasphemously used in the Royal Arch Masonic ritual is displayed in the Alexandria, Virginia masonic temple.

Other pages of Frankland’s notebook contain “Cypher” and “Private Cypher,” “Philosophical and Hermetic Alphabet,” “Cypher of the Rose Cross,” and “Ten Cabalistic Spheres.”

In his *Morals and Dogma*, KKK boss Albert Pike celebrates the collaboration between these two Memphis masonic chiefs, Pike and Frankland, at the height of the bloodiest assassination wave in U.S. history. Pike says, “One is filled with admiration, on penetrating into the Sanctuary of the Kabalah, at seeing a doctrine so logical, so simple, and at the same time so absolute . . . a philosophy summed up by counting on one’s fingers. . . . Ten ciphers and twenty-two letters, a triangle, a square, and a circle—these are all the elements of the Kabalah.”

So, upon the triumph of their KKK, Albert Pike appointed Abraham Frankland the head of the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry for the state of Tennessee, and an emeritus member of the Supreme Council. Simultaneously, Isaac Wise appointed Abraham Frankland the president of the B’nai B’rith district for Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, and Arkansas.

At the beginning of this century, Isaac Wise’s grandson Adolph Ochs, the owner of the *New York Times*, wrote a series of editorials attacking black voting rights in those southern states. This vicious editorial campaign helped swing the North behind the new anti-black Jim Crow laws which were then being written, which finally reversed rights gained by Union blood during the civil war. The Ochs-Sulzberger family, a great power in the B’nai B’rith, has remained in control of the *New York Times* ever since.

**Afterword**

**Chorus:** Sometimes persons who have been used by British intelligence manage to assert their own humanity and rebel. Take the example of Simón Bolívar, the liberator of several countries in Ibero-America. After a lifetime of cooperation with Bentham and his agents, Bolívar realized his mistake and repudiated his former associate. This took the form, first of all, of an 1828 decree banning in Colombia all secret societies and fraternities, described as groups “disrupting public tranquility and the established order.”

At about the same time, Bolívar issued another proclamation outlawing the teaching of Bentham in the university. Bolívar attacked Bentham and his school as “opposed to religion, to morality, and to the tranquility of the people,” and as a contributing cause in conspiracies and disorders in Bogotá. Bolívar concluded that youth was being “given a deadly poison through those authors, which destroyed their religion and morals.”

To replace Bentham, Bolívar mandated study of Latin, morals and natural law, constitutional law, and the foundations of the Roman Catholic faith.