

6-9-74

Uptown Local Community Convocation

The New World--Joseph A. Slicker

Yptown is a Great Place to be alive--

Mr. Touchow, Mrs. Avant, Mrs. Harper, Father Closis, Rev. Haman, Rev. Raske,

and Miss Sanders, ladies and gentlemen, and others of you that are guests here today. Now I said all that not to be polite, although that's fine, that's fine to be polite, but I said it because I wanted to honor Mr. Touchow and Mrs. Avant because they represent the structures of the state of Illinois and the city of Chicago, the others that I called there, Father Closis, Rev. Haman, they represent community organizations that care for this community. and Miss Sanders because of the gift of aliveness that she gave to us this morning, and then ladies of gentlemen the rest of us because you are here because of your concern for the community. and guests wherever you go/~~because~~  
~~wherever you go~~

If you're members of other communities, cause you also can under thategis of concern where ever you may be.

You know that you can always \_\_\_\_\_

you don't want to be responsible at times, we don't even want to be honored

have to be honored and be have to decide to be present

I'd like to say to you,  
I'm glad to be here, glad to honor you and glad that we'll have a change to

~~to~~

talk. We've already begun to talk a little around coffee, we'll talk some and push more ~~with~~ with one another/on issues and visions of what can take place here in

uptown-5. So we look forward to a great day and a great happening for us

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all.

Maybe if I could start out something like this, if you'll allow me to draw a stick picture

James has already layed out for you the day, I'll like to say that we look at

It maybe like this. We're going to have 2 themes running through everything we do. And the first theme is resurgence, and I'll come back and say some more about what I mean by resurgence, but I mean coming alive or people rising up

In their situations . The other is local community,<sup>mind you</sup> I don't think resurgence is

going on today without going on in the midst of local communities around the

world. So it will be that kind of thing that we will be looking at. There

are other things going on, for example we will have a discourse and I don't

know what you call this thing I am doing up here, it's not a speech I'm not out to tell you

a whole bunch of things because we know what we know, I maybe just want to pull

things into focus very quickly so we can see what we know. Here we'll talk

about the New World that you and I are a part of and then this afternoon we'll

take a look at the new human that you and I are in the midst of this new world.

Then this morning here also as we take a look at what we're going to do, we'll be

working on various kinds of activities together and here this morning we'll be

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looking at issues. In our workshops. What are the issues before us, globally

as they come down to us in our local situation. In the afternoon are the actions

that you take here in Uptown-5 and we'll go through a process whereby we can

pull out of each of us our wisdom, knowledge and get it organized ~~and~~ so that we

can see it and then find out how to respond to that. You might say here is what

will be going on in the morning and here is what will be going on in the afternoon.

That will be sort of our journey during the day and that's what we'll be working at.

I just want to talk quickly about the New World, I think that this new world that

we're a part of is whatever else is a time of great resurgence. Local man rising

up and self-consciously participating in the creation of the new world and the

new ~~kind~~ humanity that's going on. The ward committee man said that he was feeling

the passion there, maybe that his gift of being a politician, I don't know. ~~As~~

But when he said as long as we participate, that's what we're after, how do we genuinely participate.

We're living in a time of resurgence, a time of people coming alive wanting to

participate and few people have experienced this kind of activity in history before.

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that movie? That's all right I'll just tell you the story. It had a long

introduction there and this long introduction was showing a herd of apes, maybe

people, homo sapiens minus one. They were just being a big herd of apes, you know

fighting,  
doing what a herd of apes do, just trying to get their food and one day they were

fighting and he reached over there and there was a bone so he was going around

there, like that and he hit something like that and he took it back like this, and

and he looked at what he had hit  
looked at it, and he looked at his hand/and he saw that he had not a bone but a

in his mind. suddenly  
club, I imagine/ Because then/his eyes came open and he did it again and he went

consciousness  
over and hit something else again. Self consciousness/burst through/~~was/xxx/xx/was/~~

a human being.  
and that whatever you call it became something toward being a homo sapien,/ Well

It's that kind of happening that happened when was it 2 million years ago.

And those of you that saw the movie 2001, that guy was saying that happened 2

million years ago, today that same kind of happening is happening in our time,

consciousness is ~~breaking~~  
breaking loose again. So this is the kind of world that we're living in, you know

w

It's a strange new world cause every way that you and I have thought of being a

human being is just getting all torn up. The society and all that, here we are

In a time of ~~great~~ transition and we've run into a great big ~~GAT~~ GAP. I don't know

It's sort of like, I knew what the world was like when I grew up, I'm that old.

What it was like, everything was nice and fine so to speak. It happened like

one fellow said, he looked at his world one day and he left and he went away

and he came back and the world wasn't the same. To me it came on this fellow was

traveling out on the road, his wife was always growling about his being gone/ So he decided

Just he would/cancel all his appointments and ~~come~~ return home. So he cancelled all his appoint-

ments ~~and he returned home~~ wired his wife that he was on his way home and got in

the next day the car and drove and drove and he arrived home and he ran into the house to see

his wife and found her in the arms of another man. So he said my God I'm going

and he ran out to get a divorce /and got himself a lawyer and the lawyer said let's not be too

hasty. I've known both of you for years. He said let me check with your wife

so he checked with his wife and he came back and he said well everything's all

It is- It is-- right. /He said what do you mean, I saw her. He said well she didn't get your

telegram. You're a little slow this morning.

/ and you came back  
It's like you left the world and you said "World I'm sending you a telegram and I'm

really participating in the world and you came back and the world had fallen  
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with another image of itself. That's the way it is, you and I came up against  
we're  
this/in the time of transition, we ~~thought~~ thought oh, things will change

a little bit and we hit a ~~big~~ big GAP, and nothing was the same.

One person said this is civilization up here and ~~what~~ <sup>what</sup> ever else is out here  
~~it's~~ it's not civilization

at all, civilization is gone. You and I live in some other kind of world,

well, what do we call it,  
but he didn't know he just said it was post-civilization, that's too ~~easy~~

that's getting out of it.  
easy isn't it/ The problem is ~~that~~ the change ~~is~~ has been so drastic ~~that~~

and so deep in our life that all civilization has to be rebuilt. It's that

kind of thing that is upon us. And you see that this is not something that's

in Chicago.  
Just happened to Uptown or/to the midwest or to America, it's something that

in history  
happened all over. For the first time/it's happened to every culture

Every culture has been impinged upon. Simultaneously, every ~~culture~~ <sup>nation</sup> has been hit

by this radical change. and its multiform, and that's a big long word but by

multiform I mean ~~it~~ it takes many forms, for example: there is no group left

out, If you're a youth it's hit you hasn't it? If you're a black person it's

... If you're a white person it's hit you. If you're old and bald headed

It's hit you huh. No matter where you go, female, male, what ever else, that crisis

has come into your life, civilization has to be rebuilt. And at the ~~bottom~~ bottom

of this what you see has happened, what has happened is a great happening for us

its the technological revolution. Technologically we've probably made more money

than we've ever made before. I lived during the depression and someone said,

you know the joke went around, Isn't inflation ~~bad~~ bad, this was in the early

forties, hamburger cost 25¢ now and it used to only cost a nickel, and the reply

was but now I've got 25¢. Well it's like that, we've got more than we've

as a society,  
ever had before / abundance is here, in fact for the first time in the history

of mankind, nobody has to starve. Technological explosion has taken place

like that at the ~~the~~ same time such strange things have ~~taken place~~ happened, you know that

where the sense of communication. We have the ability now to know everthing

aroundd  
that is going on ~~the~~ the world immediately. As soon as it happens any place

in the world it can be present to us here now. Not only that we have total

recall, we can remember anything that has happened from the beginning of time

to the end, through the computers, etc. Its that kind of thing.

Then we have the ability today to transcend the drudgery. My grandfather, ~~XX~~

I remember worked in the fields, He'd get up at 4 o'clock in the morning and he'd

come ~~XX~~ back at 9 o'clock at night, drudgery work all day long. That kind of

thing is released from us today, this is the kind of upheaval that has taken place

See it's not something that happens here socially and there socially it has w

what I want to call <sup>not</sup> an explosion which has happened yes but an implosion, it

goes down to the bowels of society <sup>the deeps.</sup> All the basic institution of society have

change, the family, your family is not like your father's family is it.

Your nation has changed, what it means to be a white man has changed, what

it means to be a child has changed, what it means to be a metropolitan center

~~was/changed~~ a community, a school, everything's changed. On TV the other night,

not last night, 2 nights ago the 6th of June, ~~the~~ remember that was the 30th

anniversary of D-Day and David Brinkley was remarking on that, he said "You

know what it was like 30 years ago, why everybody participated in that war

This was a great happening, everybody could ~~participate~~ fight that which they

felt was destroying mankind. Everybody in the United States felt that they

were creatively participating in society and there was no slacking, there

was no running away and it was a great thrust in their life.

The New World

verybody joined in and there was a great trust in their life. You remember  
1964 You saw it too? Oh yeah, yeah, Well the next thing he said was, Their  
was a big rumble, A very big rumble, You remember it very well, Yes, I do

too, You and I are probably the only ones in here who probably remember.

Well, you know with his voice, it got \_\_\_\_\_ and he said, its not like

this today. He said, today people hatted the yes man, people today don't

know how to creatively enter into society, He said, you won't believe it,

You who are under thirty or forty, know what it is like back then, He

says didn't think the younger people would believe it, but it was like that,

well that indicate the radicalness of the change, You see that first the

overwhelmingness is the complexity, you know of the burden of responsibility,

is so heavy, d it seems like your involved in every action that goes on, around

the world, Well, you know, this requires so much effort, so much taking place,

the odds are so overwhelming, on you, and what seems almost impossible,

to change anything, and if you did change it, would be \_\_\_\_\_ anyway,

unless the whole context of society has to change. And its like the college

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university structures said "You're going to have to change education, Y u

are going to have to change education, \_\_\_\_\_ There weree

riots on the campuses, college student change, and the professors of the administr  
ation said

ation said bu-bu-bu-wedon't know what to do here, Now what's happening,

the college students are going back, going to school, its sba changed its

changed in the light of the and so we find ourselves sort of paralysed,

sort of socially ineffective , sas impotent, unable it seems like, to do

something, and yet as we're part of society, There is no way of getting out

of it, and in the midst of that thing, well you know it seems like integrity

is demanded of us, but how do you be a man of integrity, when everything

is collapsing, and that there is a war on the other side of the world

destroying innocent people, but that's you're responsibility, the context of

and so we sort of find ourselves sort of paralysed sort of socially ineffective

unable it seems like to do something, and yet, were're part of this society

there is no way of getting out of this and in the midst of that thing, where

you know it seems like integrity is demanded of us, is how di you be a man of

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integrity, when everything is collapsing, and when you know what there is  
on the other side of the world, destroying innocent people, that's your  
responsibility, and also you know that if Indians starve in africa that  
thorn is on you. and that kind of weighs in there, But this and that, there  
is, resurgence going on. People are rising up. \_\_\_\_\_

and one person he calls this the human world, NOW we live in a post human  
world. That's interesting, isn't it? some new kind of human. and one

\_\_\_\_\_ said, The new human is coming into being, It seems  
like he's a creature coming to the stars. He's not a poor miserable  
creature, that you add to the earth like you and me. I don't know about  
that kind of poetry this time, I do know here a resurgence seems like  
breaking blues throughout the world, bridging that gap, moving beyond  
into the future. place in the area of the practical, practical-local. That is  
is where people like you and me are in the local situation practically do  
that tactic which brings things alive, which allows them to size up and to  
move into things anew. And this takes place ~~precisid~~ precisely in the midst

~~with the tragedy~~ of the deep ~~and~~ tragedies of the history, I'm not saying

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there is any kind of pollyanna kind of thing here. This age of resurgence

means that its the common man its everyman that participates in this journey.

because you see here, whether he is concious of it or whether he is appropriate

to \_\_\_\_\_ this age of resurgence means that its the common man,

its everyman, that participate in this journey. Because you see whether he is

concious of it or unconcious of it, or whether he's appropriated it he's the

one that shoved me forward here. and he can now create the vitality of the

world that you could hardy imagine after the sixties there were twenty nations

who became independent. China, giant from ~~1959s~~ 1950 to ~~1970~~ 1970 came out

of the dark ages into a world power thant just shook the rest of the world.

and people rose up all over the w world into so-called nobodies that people

that had been held down for years youknow here, the latin americans and the

Westerners, has been a great sign here, the black man, the red man, the Indians

all of these human creativity and creative energyj just bursting aloose.

and what this means is you see that ours seems to be a time of recreation

of thehuman spirit, but we don't recreate the human se spirit without refurbishing

the local community, that is community like I have that is the night I saw them

interviewing a black athelete and he said something like this, now what are

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you out to do? he said, well athletes are changing we are no longer out  
to cultivate money and ~~hess~~ to run into the nearest bar into the nearest  
place into which you can spend that money. We are out now, to give our lives  
on behalf of local communities. And the \_\_\_\_\_ didn't understand

that, he said, do you ~~mean~~ mean that boys and girls have to be athletes?

He said that he did, and we said, no, we are out to renew the local community.

and that's what I mean. The first elusive resurgence. Who would have thought

athletes might have had that kind of vision, You see that wasn't him, He's

joining with athletes across the country, Instead of selling Post Toasties.

to get bigger and stronger, they are out you know, to do something, in the

local communities Well its this kind of thing, well in our world, as it

were, the consciousness bursts loose, like it has never burst loose before.

We had one world, that is upon us, One world that is ~~intess~~ interrelated

as we said a moment ago, ~~instin~~ in other words, you were getting involved in the

whole society, whether you want to or not. The arabs turn off the oil, in

every home around the world, he begins to raise the a question, NOT whether

you like it or not, that's just the way it is, today, you know. And then

we're not in society things were like they were how grandpa had it, In

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other words we are out to exercise change, change, change. Not like well,

I'll wait awhile, until things change, then I can start to do something

No, this is going to change now and there is going to be change, change,

change, There are no more static solutions, there are no more frozen decisions

for example, I had eight years of college, If I went back to college now, You

know where I'd be? I'd be lucky if I'd finish my freshman year. That's how

much college has changed. Who wants that kind of knowledge, so to speak?

The computer can do better than we can now, So here you see, the kind of

dynamic dynamics how do you get rid of society, the knowledge change so

rapidly you can't even remember it. Well, one of the ways is to develop a

way of grasping the complexity of society and that would come about through

a social bond, Now If I drew something like this: and say doing like

that: What would you call that? What would you call that? I would say

something like this: The world You see something like this and you say,

well that's the world the globe, huh? In other words that little

picture will hold the whole world actually doesn't it? Well, now I want to

draw another picture, Now that hold the whole world. you say, what in the

world do you mean? OK lets put it this way remember you have found man

from the beginning of time to the end of time, you find that we do not do

He has to be able to sustain himself He's got to get food and clothes and

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even be able to \_\_\_\_\_ and at the same time you know he's not

like a crude animal and he goes around and roots out roots or eats vegetables

or chews up other animals in order to live he has not promised to live He

has meaning to live. or some reason for that. He give them a story about

life now why he is living or something it could be very simple like I want

to get more food or I can get more food or dress/ lth or something like that.

It could be very simple, if you have a story that he wants to help out mankind

there are many kind of stories but they always have meaning beyond itself.

If man just had these two dynamics going on why he'd just tear himself to

pieces. There has to be a way for him to decide or organize as you might say

here. what he's doing. on that and these three dynamics just go on in the

midst of life called thessss economic dynamic and the political dynamic

and the cultural dynamic for want of a better word for want of something better

than that. These are dynamics or happenings thattake place. N w the thing about i

it is, \_\_\_\_\_ the energy crisis, now my goodness

the resources do we have enough resources do we have to produce more what

distributive, ore over here in the political, president Nixon, huh, well

my god he is still there he is ordering things to get his own way, and there

got to be justice and order so that the whole nation can benefit by that, and

by that welfare we have that dynamic going on in the political. or up here

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in the cultural dimension, s while ago, they are distinctly the same, You  
won't believe the story that people live by thirty a years ago Now that's a  
different story you get a way of understanding the world, in my style, its  
simple to uphold the day here , Now the american role is changing So you see  
these dynamics go on, in all the important society in order to be my family.  
NOW my family has money He has to distribute all the husband and wife and children.  
You can go through all of these. NOW this is the kind of thing that is taking  
place, this kind of model, Here, this model is spelled out Now both resources  
and production and distribution that I'm getting through heee here, order and  
justice and welfare living in style and is simple This is filling the hole  
that is well developed this is the kind of thing that goes on here too, We  
know that in our world, that all the earth is a comprehensive picture that  
people have, they are present to all the earth They know the day they go into  
these days, in other ~~we~~ words now that you have the whole earth and you  
jolly well live by the fruits of all the earth You are going to heaven and  
the starving Indians in India they want the fruits of all the earth because  
what happens in the United states affects them besides all the things in the  
middle east affects them and therefore all of the people come and get in the  
act as you know and this is not all that is ~~called~~ called the good or bad  
I guess all the ~~psi~~ people in all the world now, know that society is not  
going to



rest in society, it is almost squeezed out, with the year ~~now~~ now,  
age backing up, for example Nixon in his speech, for a year ago said,  
I'm going to let these ecologists, have great corporations. the  
political dynamic would fix. Now its always like getting in ~~bt~~ between  
this, I ts like being in society without that interplay. The  
economic \_\_\_\_\_ Its like people can't exist without the  
meaning, the economic reason for living, the economic way of living  
and all the way around. If we ass live in the kind of world the  
technological revolution enters the possibility increased the  
\_\_\_\_\_ and it almost swallowed us up. There is a certain  
the cause of this \_\_\_\_\_ That is because we have  
overemphasized the predominance and the \_\_\_\_\_  
I can see this for example, (We learn it) Yes, why do you learn  
it? to get an education, Yes, most people get an education, He  
said a regular back. You see that? It is exactly the way most of  
us know what is. I know that the reason for our education is a  
move into the economic, The glue you might say, How do you know  
when a person is successful? Everybody calls him MR. Everybody  
knows that he is educated. He earns more money, and he looks up

to them Yes, a guy, looks up to those he is educated in this sense.  
 so the example to me is on success. and denied you what is valuable,  
 its how much money ye you earn and swallowed up, and now society  
 has tob be rebalanced, and in rebalancing it is, in order to  
 rebalance it, you have to make provision, and the provision is  
 this, just this social model, and the model or something like it,  
 know what it is what is going on there, and then, we have to have a  
 comprehensive picture, All the people and all the ear Then we see that this is  
 imbalanced, Then we see where the isps imbalances are concrete bloks  
 And then those concrete blocks are exactly stopped, It means nothing  
 I don't mean to swear by it, We initiate something that is happening  
 W  
 I find a proposal that is jinxed, Those come about in action, and that  
 action is taking place this way, For example, the action would be,  
 and I'm not going to name all of this, how you took. There are  
 certain places that for me you would put pressure, One of the places  
 you would putp pressure, there are pressure points, in whihc  
 society is changed. For example, Yiu can change people's story.  
 Its simple, And that's when Uptown 5, to be alive is a way of  
 changing their story. This whole way of changing. And another one  
 would hold the methods. Methods where they go about how they go about  
 something. Don't you have. Your ward meetings the way in which you

turned back Here are community groupings, is here the magic of the

festival, in the parking lot Now here knowledge the gregory, the a

who is the black obedient, When we were working on the west side,

what you k need to k do is \_\_\_\_\_ so that people know what is going

on, they know that nothing will happen, Well that's the kind of thing,

there is a play that you just see without the economic, Do you

change this philosophy, what my success is \_\_\_\_\_

that life isn't all money, so you begin to get these pressure points,

so you get these pss people to build the response, things like that.

The thing about integrity is that the basic roles, Is it Isn't that

good? so the owner's bowl over him. Well that was a pss pressure

point, We research the community and allow it to happen. We do the

has kind of things that take place there, Well, now you say, now what

Well, I think that the only way this is going to happen, you close

community in response, The world is going to begin to respond,

to local community, in and do that, in a kind of tactical action,

What we are speaking about here, But now well this is local \_\_\_\_\_

people, You have been calling yourself various kinds of names,

the names that you would use is the guild, That is because the

duality dynamic, \_\_\_\_\_ the pressure points. But now

lets do this, well, there are just local pss people there, its

what you people understand as \_\_\_\_\_ one of the things

you would use \_\_\_\_\_ I like that because the

global dynamic, because somebody goes on to history, wherever

people accept history, in the future to change the situation, that

could be things changing, as you look back in history you can see

that you see different kind of community, and then there are \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ praise and events, now hey, we \_\_\_\_\_

Whereaever people move intentionally into the future, situation

now that could be the guilding dynamic. to these things changing,

You look back and I guess you can see you see the different kinds

of community guilds, and the \_\_\_\_\_ in the midst of this,

\_\_\_\_\_ Kung fu, How many of you have seen it? Oh you don't

have to be ashamed, Come on, Now you have seen what you know

about, You know where that name came from? Have you heard of

Kungfucious? Aha, life! You think I'm crazy, Well, And they

may be crazy too, But anyway, Kung Fu, , lets start with Confucious,

NRw confucious was an old one, and too, lived in the court of

the emperor for twenty years, That's like he had here, Mayor Daley.

and nothing happens, and now when you go down to speak to Mayor

Daley, Not a couple of chains, Mayor H Daley isn't here, sss or

one of the voices of the people, Now Confucious after twenty years

average here is getting changed, are going to the pass people.

We got together with a group of people, and to every little village,

and they went there, and, now those people were illiterate in those

days, You begin to tell them about the society to be, And you see  
the people themselves change society. That's the guilding dynamic.

Now today, we see by wass way \_\_\_\_\_ in the middle ages

were, \_\_\_\_\_ great guilding put form to. labor unions,

ward meetings, \_\_\_\_\_ club like the ratarians, Now most of

these are residues, They are probably not too healthy, and you could

see in the past what they were doing, the point is that the

guilding dynamic is going on, for these to put form to it, Where

you call yourself the guild point. Well, I'll just go ahead and use

it, Where everyman could be engaged. They have to if they want to.

You don't eliminate people for anything, clothese for the hungry,

or anything like that. Now the guilding guilds, Those that want

to do something, They get together and sit down and vision,

it didn't work out exactly. I'll just sit around and browse and

write, and worship that dynamic, \_\_\_\_\_

and corporate thrust, and they act, like they get together and

act, with reading out here in the parking lot, \_\_\_\_\_

that they corporately begin to act, Boy this is where you expect

your life, This is where you can throw yourself in \_\_\_\_\_

and that quarters in where you begin blocking, now the vision of

what takes place there. Now it doesn't change out there, It

\_\_\_\_\_ other people to change. They pick up the ~~task~~ task

that they are going to do what other people are going to do.

Its a caring dynamic. The community needs to be cared for.

They have to have an eye to see the real problem.. You can see

the ~~see~~ real action that can take place, YOU see that he watches

over the people Maybe the sound of who they are, that ~~sees~~ closes,

Now the alternative is the dynamics that could be altered, Well,

there is a guild here, that is the Uptown 5, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ all the women. NOW I guess in our day, How

do you change and change guilds, WELL its sort of a visible c

colleague, Sometimes they are visible, and sometimes they are not.

All the applications like this in fifty one places, That just

blows my mind. WE really must be \_\_\_\_\_ - 6 \_\_\_\_\_

guilding dynamic. that are alive awakened and participating.

or even beginning to join hands and they join those communities,

in other parts of that, but them invisible colleagues around the

world, are more visible as the time goes on. Whether we start or

not is in our local community. The only place you and I could

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start. There is ~~pa~~ a ~~possess~~ possibility, yes you could start there,

the local community takes place. But James, I'm going to stop and

say that I would have today that is this kind of thing. How

many places do you have to dream dreams? Awaken the tonic?

The dreams \_\_\_\_\_ go away, because you wait, or you get cynical,

Around here we have been doing the same thing all the time? Anymore

you do the tactical vision, Down here in global community, to our

needs and at the same time we do the global happening. We need

to require our world. Well I'm anticipating a great day-year, so

take these in the back of the place there, \_\_\_\_\_

OK, fine. Applause.