

SUMMARY

OF THE

TWENTY-SIXTH
GENERAL CONVENTION

B'NAI B'RITH

OCTOBER 13-17, 1971

PHILADELPHIA, PA.

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1640 RHODE ISLAND AVENUE, N.W.,
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

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This pamphlet contains an edited and condensed summary of the proceedings of the 26th General Convention of B'nai B'rith. Texts of addresses and the full proceedings are part of the official transcribed minutes of the Convention on file at the Office of the Executive Vice President of B'nai B'rith in Washington, D. C.

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WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1971

First Plenary Session

Dr. WILLIAM A. WEXLER of Savannah, Ga., president of B'nai B'rith, called the Convention to order.

HERBERT REIMAN of New York (*District 1*), led the Convention in the National Anthem.

Rabbi BENJAMIN M. KAHN of Washington, D. C., national director of B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations, delivered the invocation.

PERRY J. SHERTZ of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., (president of *District 3*), conveyed the greetings of the host District.

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE. Rabbi KAHN and Dr. ALFRED JOSPE of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations conducted the memorial service in remembrance of members and staff of the Supreme Lodge who had died during the triennial period.

E. ALBERT PALLOT of Miami Beach, Fla., (*District 5*), national chairman of B'nai B'rith Community and Veterans Services, spoke in tribute to the late SIDNEY G. KUSWORM, SR., treasurer of B'nai B'rith and founding chairman of the CVS program.

SEYMOUR GRAUBARD of New York, national chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, spoke in tribute to the late SAMUEL DALSIMER, his predecessor as ADL chairman.

IRVING RUBINSTEIN, SR., of New York (*District 1*), national chairman of B'nai B'rith Vocational Service, spoke in tribute to the late WILFRED S. STACHENFELD, his predecessor as chairman.

MARTIN D. COHN of Hazelton, Pa., national chairman of B'nai B'rith Adult Jewish Education, spoke in tribute to the late Dr. HAROLD WEISBERG, his predecessor as chairman.

HARVEY PLATT of New York (*District 1*), executive vice-president of District 1, spoke in tribute to the late Rabbi JAY KAUFMAN, executive vice-president of B'nai B'rith.

The Service of Remembrance paid tribute to the memory of:

District 1. LESTER AVNET, WILFRED FEIGA, MARK FRACKMAN and JOSEPH GOTTLIEB.

District 2. Judge ROBERT L. ARONSON, A. J. GRANOFF and GENE B. ROSEN.

District 3. DAVID BORTIN, WILLIAM GINSBURG, ALBERT PARADISE and HARRY STARK.

District 4. OSCAR A. MATHEWS and MAURICE L. RAPHELD.

District 5. TOBIAS C. COOPER, LOUIS HEIMAN, ELI HURWITZ, MEYER MAZOR, LOUIS OSSINSKY, SR., NATHAN RICH and THOMAS J. TOBIAS.

District 6. EDWARD E. COHN, AARON DROOCK, ISADORE I. FEINGLASS, JOSEPH FOX, FRED A. MANN, SAMUEL A. MARRECK, BENJAMIN I. MORRIS, MAX PINSKI, NAT H. RAPPIN and HARVEY STEADMAN.

District 7. RICHARD M. BARNETT, WILLIAM P. BLOOM, MANNY DELUGACH, WILLIAM EISEMAN, ALBERT FELDMAN, ISADORE I. FRANK, ROBERT GERVIS, MARION W. GRONER, J. B. MILLER, JAMES MORTON, AARON RABITCHEV, WILYUM SHER and ALVIN WISENBERG.

District 14. MAX MAZAR BRANT, EDWARD GELBER, AVRAHAM KRINITZI, SCHMUEL ZVI OPENHEIM, MEIR BAR MOSHE, Prof. SIMHA BUNIM ORBACH, EIZIK REMBA, Prof. JOSEPH YOEL RIVLIN and Dr. SHOSHANA PINNES UVILER.

District 15. HADASSAH LION, DANIEL SCHONFIELD and BENJAMIN YOUNG.

District 19. ALFRED ABRAHAM, ALBERT BRANDENBURGER, ALBERT HAROUCHE, GASTON KAHN, LEOPOLD NOUDEL, PAUL PFEFFERKORN, Dr. GUSTAV WARBURG and Dr. ELIE WURM.

District 20. EGON GLUCKSMAN and Dr. JUAN KLEPETAR.

District 21. LUTZ METZ.

District 22. SAMUEL BRONFMAN, LOUIS HERMAN, q.c., ISADORE MARKUS and RALPH NIKEN.

CREDENTIALS AND RULES. The Report of the *Convention Committee on Credentials and Rules* was presented by BERNARD R. FRIEDMAN of Griffith, Ind., (*District 2*), chairman of the Committee:

The rules of this Convention shall be as follows:

1. The Convention shall open each morning at the hour stated in the printed program, unless otherwise ordered by the previous session.
2. One hundred (100) members representing at least five (5) Districts shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
3. All resolutions shall be presented in writing and all other written propositions, shall be presented to the Convention Coordinator before recess on Friday noon, unless authorized to be received by two-thirds vote of the representatives present; except those offered in Committee reports. The Convention Coordinator shall number the same in order received and the same shall be referred to the appropriate Standing Committee.
4. The President of the Order shall appoint all Standing Convention Committees. The presiding officer shall appoint all other committees, except when otherwise directed by the Convention.
5. After the vote of any proposition is announced by the presiding officer, three members may call for a division which shall be held forthwith by a rising vote. The Convention Coordinator shall count those voting for and against the proposition, and the Chair shall announce the result. If any number of representatives from five different districts demand the votes by *ayes* and *nays*, it shall be so taken, in which event the roll shall be called by the Convention Coordinator of all the representatives, using therefor the District delegation lists, and the votes shall be recorded and the results announced by the Chair.
6. No member shall speak more than once on any question and not to exceed five minutes, except by leave of the Convention. A motion to extend the time or for permission to speak again shall not be debatable.
7. A member desiring to speak shall rise and address the presiding officer as "Brother President," and upon being recognized by the Chair such member shall then state his name, home city and District he is representing at this Convention.
8. Point of order shall be decided by the presiding officer and shall be subject to an appeal to the Convention. A member may appeal from any decision of the Chair by a motion, duly seconded, and the question of such appeal shall be stated in this form: "*Shall the decision of the Chair be sustained?*" During the debate on the appeal, the presiding officer from whom

the appeal is taken shall vacate the Chair, but before doing so he shall designate a Vice-President or some other member of the Board of Governors of the Order to preside. Appellant or such representative as may be designated by appellant may discuss the grounds of his appeal and the presiding officer whose decision is appealed from may reply thereto. No one else may speak on the appeal. The question shall be determined by a majority vote. To overrule the Chair, a majority vote shall be required.

9. The following shall be deemed privileged questions not subject to debate, and shall have precedence in the order in which they are stated: (a) to adjourn; (b) to lay on the table; (c) to postpone indefinitely; (d) the previous question. A motion to refer to a committee shall be deemed a substitute motion and shall be subject to debate.

10. When a motion for the previous question has been made all debate shall cease and the presiding officer shall immediately ask, "Shall the previous question be now put," and if carried by a two-thirds vote, the presiding officer shall then put (a) any other privileged motion; (b) the substitutes in the reverse order and, if such be not carried, then (c) an amendment to the amendment; (d) an amendment to the original motion; (e) the original question; provided, however, that the maker of the motion or any one member designated by him in his place may close the debate, five minutes being allowed for such purpose, notwithstanding that the previous question has been ordered.

11. There shall be but one amendment allowed to the main motion and but one amendment to the amendment. Substitute motions may be offered to a motion after amendments thereto have been offered, but such substitutes shall not be subject to amendment.

12. Any member may call for the reading of papers referred to in the subject under consideration, but no paper shall be read more than once without leave of the Convention.

13. (a) The election of officers shall be a special order of business at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, October 15, 1971. The newly elected officers shall be installed before the close of the Convention.

(b) For nominations and elections of members to all commissions, each District shall submit the names of their nominees to the Convention Coordinator, in writing, at one time, in the order designated by the presiding officer.

(c) For nominations and elections of Vice-Presidents, members of the Board of Governors and members of the Court of Appeals, each District shall submit the names of its nominees in writing to the Convention Coordinator, at one time.

(d) For nomination and election of the President of the Order, the Treasurer of the Order, and Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals, each District shall be called upon in numerical order. There shall be one nominating speech of not more than ten minutes for each candidate, and not more than two seconding speeches of not more than five minutes each for each candidate.

(e) In all elections where there are more than two candidates, election shall be by majority vote of all delegates voting. If no majority is obtained by a candidate on the first ballot, the candidate with the lowest number of votes shall be dropped. Thereafter, balloting shall be resumed and on each subsequent ballot, that candidate with the lowest number of votes shall be dropped until a majority vote is obtained by one candidate. The balloting shall be by closed ballot.

14. The Supreme Lodge shall not resolve itself into a committee of the whole.

15. The Convention may by a majority vote go at any time into executive session and during such sessions none but accredited representatives shall be permitted to attend.

16. A member who has discussed a pending question shall not be permitted while holding the floor, either during or at the end of his discussion, to move the previous question, to move to lay on the table, or to postpone indefinitely.

17. Unless a member attends each day the sessions of the Convention and until its final adjournment, he shall not be entitled to receive payment of his reimbursement, unless his absence is excused by the Convention or the presiding officer.

18. These rules shall not be suspended, repealed or changed, except by two-thirds vote of the members present; except that Rule 1 may be changed by a majority vote.

19. All propositions or resolutions submitted or referred to the several committees shall be reported out by each of said committees, indicating the action taken upon such propositions or resolutions, either affirmatively or adversely (minority reports), or a substitute proposal be offered, in order that the proponents of any such resolutions may have an oppor-

tunity to move for consideration of any such resolutions by the Convention as a whole.

20. Action of the convention on any subject matter referred to more than one convention committee shall not be taken until the convention has before it the report of all such committees.

21. Matters of Order not specifically provided for by the rules of the Convention shall be determined according to parliamentary usage as embodied in *Robert's Rules of Order*.

The Report of the Committee on the Rules of the Convention was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PRESIDENT. Dr. WEXLER presented from his address on the *State of the Order* recommendations for Convention action, as follows:

Three years ago, in an assessment of B'nai B'rith priorities, and in an effort to adjust our administrative structure to be more responsive to those priorities, the B'nai B'rith triennial convention adopted a recommendation of the President that, in effect, consolidated two major programmatic units by merging the Commission on Israel with the International Council. Now, three years later, we have the advantage of hindsight. It is clear—certainly to me—that we acted wisely. In no way have B'nai B'rith programs for and in Israel been diminished by the administrative change. Indeed, they have been expanded; perhaps not yet as widely as they must ultimately be, but expanded nonetheless.

What we did diminish—and this I can say from close personal involvement—were some of the wasteful overlappings that had existed when, in the natural process of B'nai B'rith growth, we had reached a stage where two separate administrative units of B'nai B'rith were doing the work of one.

At the same time, three years ago, this Administration raised another issue—perhaps even more controversial than the question of the Israel Commission—that is consequential to any analysis of B'nai B'rith priorities. That issue was the future of B'nai B'rith Vocational Service.

There are those among the founders of B'nai B'rith Vocational Service thirty-three years ago who are still here to testify that it was the infamous quota system in higher education and the pressures of job discrimination against Jews which motivated them to establish the program. Theirs was a mandate fitted to the moment; and they fulfilled it admirably.

But these motivations of a generation ago, happily, no longer apply. Few vestiges—hardly consequential—remain of employment discrimination against the Jew. And few vestiges—hardly consequential—remain of what had once been the peculiarly Jewish motivation for a B'nai B'rith vocational counseling program.

Moreover, B'nai B'rith pioneered with a program that has since proliferated in many directions. Career counseling is now an integrated part of public education. Within the Jewish community, it is now a federation-sponsored Jewish occupational guidance agency in many local communities.

During this Administration and, I suspect, the administrations that immediately preceded it, more time has been consumed in bickering confrontations with federations and welfare funds that have contended B'nai B'rith is duplicating their own local programs, than were the aggregate hours spent for all other B'nai B'rith programs that receive welfare fund allocations.

Now, nothing I say—and nothing I propose—challenges in any way the competence, the quality, or the usefulness of a B'nai B'rith-sponsored vocational counseling program. Anyone who concludes otherwise does me—and himself—an injustice. There are many among you—I know this by the advance outpouring of stimulated resolutions with which I have been favored—who are unshakeable advocates of the BBVS program. In most cases, I have no quarrel with you. If the counseling programs maintained in New York, in northern New Jersey or in Philadelphia are of such capacity, quality and need that their abandonment, or even diminution, would mean a real hardship to both B'nai B'rith and the community, then let's not abandon or diminish them.

I too am a *hasid* of many aspects of our vocational counseling. My own observations and inquiries persuade me that its outreach program is unique and particularly effective for its minimal cost. I would be more than reluctant to discontinue the publications service, which pays a good part of its own way and has widespread acceptance in the Jewish community, and elsewhere.

I am not a proponent of any meat-axe approach. Three years ago, I maintained that there

were too many unanswered questions, too much investigation and evaluation still to be done, for B'nai B'rith to come to any decisive conclusions on the substantive future of its vocational service program. I'm not certain that we have enough answers yet for this Convention to approach the substantive question. I propose no such action.

What I do recommend is, simply, that we take another step forward toward greater administrative cohesion—and the staff integrations and cost economies it offers—by again adopting the principle that was successfully applied three years ago with the International Council and the former Commission on Israel.

I recommend for affirmative action by this assembly the absorption of the vocational service program by the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization.

Let me state, as clearly as I can, what the proposal means—and what it does *not* mean.

It does *not* mean any decision by this convention to contract or phase out—or, contrarily, to expand—the vocational counseling program. The substantive character of the program continues precisely as it has in the past.

The proposal does mean a sensible recognition of the fact that some 70 per cent—and perhaps more—of those who seek out our career counseling services are members of BBYO. The two activities have a direct programmatic relationship with each other that will be poorly served if they continue to be administered separately, competing with each other for the B'nai B'rith dollar.

The recommendation does *not* imply any threat to the Vocational Service staff. It does *not* mean any unnatural transitions or contractions in that staff. It does mean a more effective interchange of ideas and planning between two groups of B'nai B'rith specialists who serve the same youth constituency. It means promoting more effectively the objectives of both programs.

The proposal does *not* mean depleting our leadership ranks of the talents and loyalties of able men and women who have been the guiding force of Vocational Service as members of its national commission. It does mean their continuing involvement in a more advantageous way: as an integral part—as a vocational counseling committee—of a single B'nai B'rith commission that is vitally concerned with a single constituency: Jewish teenagers. It means greater administrative tidiness within the totality of B'nai B'rith. It means a single, unified budget. It means less of the built-in separatisms of our institutional framework which you have persistently—and properly—criticized and deplored. It means, in an authentic way, an important step toward the coordination among B'nai B'rith programs that you have persistently—and properly—called for.

Three years ago, the B'nai B'rith Convention mandated and funded a new program department.

I have delayed formalizing the program department into an operational activity—and I have been criticized for it. I suffer the criticism gladly.

It has been less costly than spending for an action that left the President and the Executive Vice-President—when they reached the *tachlis* stage of trying to implement the mandate—with some troubling doubts.

We were confronted with two fundamental questions: Programming for whom? And how?

The answer to the *who* was reasonably self-evident. The convention's motivation in creating a new program operation was to respond to the inertias, the disinterests, the difficulties in communication, that permeate a mass-membership organization in a modern society. The *who*, therefore, was the B'nai B'rith member. The way to reach him was through the B'nai B'rith unit with which he is directly affiliated: the individual lodge and chapter.

But the *how* was not self-evident. In fact, it was contradictory.

We already have several quasi-independent programming departments which are presumed to pinpoint on the same, single constituency—the B'nai B'rith lodge. And the women's chapter too—to the degree that they can do so without colliding into the lines of the B'nai B'rith Women's structure.

These departments go about their business competitively—not by design, but by circumstance. We—not they—created the circumstance. What we created discourages any real efforts at cohesion or mutuality, and denies a lodge leadership any guidelines about priorities. The well-intentioned lodge president is overwhelmed with separate mailings, separate visitations, separate sets of instructions. If he isn't confused, he is surely burdened.

If our departments have little day-to-day relationship to each other, the absence of that relationship has less to do with personalities than it has to do with structure. When we create separate, self-contained and somewhat autonomous operations, each with its own budget and its own policy board, we are administratively isolating these operations from each

other. We are – I again emphasize – inevitably encouraging each to do its own thing in its own way.

The new program department, as first conceived, seemed to me to be compounding the proliferation. It would be another department, with all of the administrative trappings and separatisms, competing with still other B'nai B'rith departments that program for our membership.

This raised another question: What would be the programs of the program department that are not now the domain of other departments? That question still perplexes me.

Therefore, instead of still another department, I propose that we reverse the process – by consolidating the administration of B'nai B'rith programming, into a single department.

This proposal has a clear frame of reference: it is for programming that is directed specifically to B'nai B'rith's constituency through our lodges and chapters.

I therefore recommend for affirmative action by this Convention the amalgamation of our adult Jewish education activities, our community and veterans services, our experimental efforts with leadership development, the still-undefined program department; and such ancillary operations as those of the Senior Citizens Housing Committee and the B'nai B'rith Historical Committee (which administers the Klutznick Exhibit Hall). In short: all programming for lodges and chapters unified into a single program department.

I propose that it be designated the B'NAI B'RITH DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES.

I propose that the department be administered by a constitutionally-designated commission of B'nai B'rith, replacing existing commissions and committees involved in the consolidation.

The new commission would, in its wisdom, constitute itself into operational committees and subcommittees that would retain the identity of its programs. That is, there would be a committee on adult Jewish education, a committee on community affairs, a veterans committee, and so on. The intent is not to submerge identity – these are important B'nai B'rith trademarks. The intent is to consolidate administrations.

The department would have a single director and a group of specialists appropriate to the need of its specialized programs. But that staff would operate as an integrated unit.

The department would have a second – and equally fundamental – function: it would be the basic conduit from Washington headquarters by which programming and guidelines reach the lodge and its members (whether this is done through the District, a B'nai B'rith council, or directly to the lodge).

I do not limit this function to the department's own programs. We have specialized operations headquartered in Washington – Hillel, BBYO, the International Council – whose primary constituencies are not the lodge and chapter, or whose primary functions do not easily fit the concept of consolidated programming. But when their activities need to be communicated to the B'nai B'rith constituency, the transmission will normally be by the same single conduit.

In the totality of this centralization we might at last reduce, if not avoid, the problem of inundating a lodge administration with separate and competing communications and bulletins, about separate and often competing programs, from separate and competing departments. The lodge president – or whomever – would get a single, all-encompassing directive on programmatic matters. He would get it regularly. He would now have a single address to which he could convey his own needs and concerns – and not get lost in the maze that now exists. Above all, he would get some clear advice from Washington on program priorities.

We have experimented with this kind of operation for the past six months or so – through a Program Division created by Jay Kaufman to determine the feasibility of consolidation. The results point to it being a more effective means of operation.

Here again, it should be clear what the proposal means – and what it does not mean.

It does *not* mean – this should be obvious – the diminution of any of the existing programs or submerging their respective identities.

What the proposal does mean – at least to the extent of the savings in administrative costs – is some possible expansion in these programs, even without any windfall increases in their present budgets. It should mean, in particular, less of a starvation diet with which our community and veterans services have lived for too many years.

The proposal does *not* mean – this too should be obvious – that we abandon or lose the many distinguished scholars who have associated themselves with our adult Jewish education activities. To do so would be sheer nonsense.

Nor does it mean that we lose the competent commissioners who have directed the CVS program, or the lay leadership of the other committees involved in the consolidation. I repeat:

the Commission on Education and Community Services would have its committee on adult education, its committee on community services, and so on. We are sophisticated enough to recognize that we can streamline our operation without losing valued leadership.

Neither of the recommendations for consolidation is particularly radical in content. Neither involves any drastic change—except the possibility of expansion and improvement—in any existing program of B'nai B'rith.

Each is a specific effort to respond to your expressed concerns—and my own first-hand awareness of the needs—for a more orderly, more integrated, less costly, administration of an organization that, by the good grace of its growth, has become administratively massive and complex.

Both recommendations are nothing more than an extension of an administrative principle we've applied in the past—and found workable. We consolidated the former Commission on Citizenship and Civic Affairs and the Veterans Service Committee—and gained by it. We consolidated the B'nai B'rith International Council and the Commission on Israel—and gained by it. We can add to our gains.

The proposals are no panacea. They will not melt away all of B'nai B'rith's problems—or even many of them. But they are steps forward by which B'nai B'rith can stay more in step with the times.

The Convention recessed until 8 p.m. During the recess of the plenary session the following Convention Committees met at the call of their respective chairmen:

Action in Areas of Social Concern. Chairman: SOLOMON ROSENBAUM of Fitchburg, Mass., (District 1).

Action for Financial Growth. Chairman: JACK J. SPITZER of Los Angeles, (District 4).

Action for Israel. Chairman: HENRY BLATT of Montreal, (District 22).

Action for the Jewish Family. Chairman: JACK J. JENKINS of Washington, D. C., (District 5).

Action on Organization and Structure. Chairman: BERNARD ROMAN of Chicago, (District 6).

Action for Membership Growth. Chairman: MARTIN GLUCHOW of East Liverpool, O., (District 2).

Action for Soviet Jewry. Chairman: JUAN PLAUT of Caracas, Venezuela, (District 23).

Action on Anti-Semitism and Urban Affairs. Chairman: MERLE D. COHN of Seattle, (District 4).

Action for Youth Programming. Chairman: MURRAY H. SHUSTERMAN of Philadelphia, (District 3).

Constitutional Drafting. Chairman: MOSES L. KOVE of New York, (District 1).

Fiscal Matters. Chairman: MYRON E. HERZOG of Chicago, (District 6).

General Resolutions. Chairman: DANIEL L. BRENNER of Kansas City, Mo., (District 2).

Second Plenary Session

FRED SIMON WORMS of London, (District 15), a vice-president of B'nai B'rith, presided.

The National Anthem and *Hatikva*, led by the Jewish Community Chorus of Philadelphia, conducted by SHALOM ALTMAN, were sung by the assembly.

S. HARRY GALFAND, City Representative of Philadelphia, presented a message of welcome on behalf of Mayor TATE and the city and people of Philadelphia.

Mrs. NATHAN HOLSTEIN of Pittsburgh, president of B'nai B'rith Women, conveyed the greetings of B'nai B'rith Women.

Report: The Six Years, a documentary slide film, produced by LEN OXENBERG and depicting B'nai B'rith highlights during the six-year administration of Dr. WILLIAM A. WEXLER, was screened.

BERNARD ROMAN of Chicago, (*District 6*), a vice-president of B'nai B'rith, presented Dr. WILLIAM A. WEXLER to the Convention for presentation of the *President's Message on the State of the Order*.

Dr. WEXLER delivered the *President's Message on the State of the Order*.

[Note: Full text of the President's Message on the State of the Order, including the recommendations of the President for Convention action as excerpted and presented at the First Plenary Session, is published separately.]

The Convention recessed; delegates and guests attended the President's Reception.

Third Plenary Session

PHILIP LAX of Claremont, N.J., (*District 3*), a vice-president of B'nai B'rith, presided.

CREDENTIALS AND RULES. The report on credentials of the *Convention Committee on Credentials and Rules* was presented by JAY MARKOWITZ of Tampa, Fla., (*District 5*), a co-chairman of the Committee.

Brother MARKOWITZ reported that the Committee had authorized credentials for 388 delegates, as follows:

District 1	84
District 2	34
District 3	56
District 4	32
District 5	26
District 6	62
District 7	22
District 14.....	8
District 15.....	3
District 19.....	3
District 20.....	1
District 22.....	22
District 23.....	4
District 25.....	1
B'nai B'rith Women	26
At-Large.....	4

Total 388

The Report of the Committee in the matter of credentials was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

ACTION FOR THE JEWISH FAMILY. The Report of the *Convention Committee on Action for the Jewish Family* was presented by JACK J. JENKINS of Washington, D. C. (*District 5*), chairman of the Committee:

We are a crisis-oriented society; we take action only in the event of catastrophe or calamity. In the light of this, this Convention Committee declares that the Jewish family is in crisis and the future of the Jewish people is imperilled. To quote Rabbi Isaac Trainin, director of the Commission on Synagogue Relations of the New York Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, who served as our consultant: "We are likely to lose more Jews through intermarriage and assimilation in the decades to come than we have already lost through the pogrom and the

holocaust.” Prevention of further attrition of the Jewish family by strengthening it at its source—through intense Jewish education for the young as well as for parents—must, we feel, become a top priority for B’nai B’rith, equal in urgency to that of the security of Israel or the rescue of Soviet Jewry.

The nature of the Jewish family crisis was defined by Rabbi Trainin in the following terms:

“In the past Jews were not ashamed of being different from their Christian neighbors. On the contrary, maximal Jewish education and observance in the Jewish home transformed the Jewish difference into a positive value system transmitted from one generation to the next. Today, however, little or no difference exists between Jews and non-Jews. Twenty-five years ago statistics showed less divorce and intermarriage among Jews than among non-Jews. But not so today: Jews are the greatest of conformers. Once they began living like Anglo-Saxons, their lives began reflecting majority behavior patterns. Since this is a time of great permissiveness, the Jews fall into line, only more so.

“Not only do we emulate the majority, but we beat the majority at its own game. Jews are rapidly catching up on divorce rates, alcoholism, mate-swapping and other patterns of sexual promiscuity.

“We have been living on myths about ourselves, including the one that there are no poor Jews. And today we are being shocked by the disclosure of the more than 800,000 poor Jews, many of them trapped in high-crime ghettos, many of them elderly widows and widowers living alone and afraid to go out even in broad daylight to buy food, let alone attend synagogue or take care of any urgent personal business. Some have been abandoned by affluent children living in the suburbs, who couldn’t care less about the hopeless, fear-ridden situation of their aging parents.

“Small wonder then that our young people have little or no desire to be Jewish or involve themselves in the Jewish Community. And they act out their distaste and their revolt by marrying out of the faith, or by indulging in drugs, or by joining far-out communes, or a combination of all three. As a result, in 1971 the drug problem among Jews is greater than with any other ethnic group. And it is only today that Jewish parents and social workers and rabbis are beginning to admit that the problem exists and can no longer be swept under the rug.”

The problems are interrelated. There is need for involving our lodges and chapters in programs to strengthen the Jewish family from within as well as to develop community action programs. B’nai B’rith, a family organization representing the entire span from teenagers to older adults, has a unique opportunity and indeed an obligation to develop programs and projects to strengthen the Jewish family. So vast are the problems and needs that a veritable treasure chest of rewarding *mitzvot* can be offered for involving our entire membership—whether in family education, drug prevention, quality Jewish education or community services to the Jewish poor and Jewish aged.

The Committee recommended:

1. The convening of a National Conference for the Preservation of the Jewish Family. The conference to be convened by B’nai B’rith, inviting the participation of other Jewish organizations. Its purpose would be to alert the Jewish community to the crisis threatening Jewish survival in the dissolution of the Jewish family, and to devise intensive programs of Jewish education for both youth and adults.

2. The mounting of a drug prevention program targeted for young parents. The program would be conducted in B’nai B’rith lodges and chapters through ongoing seminars and institutes which would explore the interrelatedness of family lifestyles and rebelling youth, and ways and means of strengthening the Jewish dimension in family living.

3. The establishment of Gemilut Hasadim (Lovingkindness) Corps. These would be made up of BBYO and Hillel youth and of adults to develop services to the elderly and the poor in the inner city. The corps could ferret out the needs, then devise ways of meeting these needs—whether by visiting the lonely, providing help with shopping and transportation for medical care, assisting golden age clubs, and the like. Other services might include real estate committees to assist in relocating Jewish owners of “mama and papa” stores who have been caught in the turmoil of the inner city. Essentially, the corps could offer service on a person-to-person basis.

The Recommendations of the Committee were adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

ACTION FOR FINANCIAL GROWTH. The Report of the *Convention Committee on Action for Financial Growth* was presented by JACK J. SPITZER of Los Angeles, (District 4), chairman of the Committee:

“Sugarman Resolution.” The Committee reviewed a resolution submitted by District 2, that the Supreme Lodge “restudy the ‘Sugarman Resolution’ in order to make it more understandable and practical.”

The Committee, after deliberation, amended the language of the “Sugarman Resolution” to read as follows:

With due consideration of the needs of all agencies of B’nai B’rith and to promote coordination within the overall fund raising program of the Order, these rules are established for the more effective operation and utilization of funds raised or received by B’nai B’rith lodges.

No lodge which has failed to meet its B’nai B’rith dues and nationally approved lodge fund raising quotas* shall contribute any funds from any source to any B’nai B’rith agency or non-B’nai B’rith project. A lodge which has met its B’nai B’rith dues and nationally approved lodge fund raising quotas* may contribute its excess funds to any B’nai B’rith agency without limitation, provided no commitment not heretofore made shall be made to any agency for more than one year.

No lodge which has a pre-existing commitment may continue the same without first meeting its B’nai B’rith dues and nationally approved lodge fund raising quotas.* Provided, however, said pre-existing commitment may continue if said lodge meets the requirements of the rules existing at the time the commitment was legally made.

A lodge which has met its B’nai B’rith dues and nationally approved lodge fund raising quotas* may contribute its funds to non-B’nai B’rith projects but not exceeding a total of 10% in any one fiscal year, apart from B’nai B’rith dues, raised in such fiscal year.

When a lodge which has failed to meet its B’nai B’rith dues and nationally approved lodge fund raising quotas* contributes to a B’nai B’rith agency, the amount of such contribution shall be deducted from the allocation to that agency by the Supreme Lodge.

Any lodge which has failed to meet its B’nai B’rith dues and nationally approved lodge fund raising quotas* and which contributes to a non-B’nai B’rith project shall be subjected to such sanctions as the District Grand Lodge in which it is contained or the Supreme Lodge may impose.

No agency, or representative of an agency of B’nai B’rith, shall make any solicitation from lodges for funds unless that lodge has met its assessments.

In exceptional cases or situations of emergency, upon prior approval of the appropriate District Grand Lodge, any of the foregoing provisions may be suspended by the Supreme Lodge Board of Governors either in session or by mail vote of the majority.

This resolution is intended to apply only to LODGE funds. It is understood that quotas are set in consultation with respective Districts.

The “Sugarman resolution,” as amended by the Committee, was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Anti-Defamation League. The Committee considered the following resolution submitted by District 4:

“Whereas, anti-Semitism is on a world-wide increase, fanned by the Arabs, Communists,

as well as right- and left-wing extremists groups, and

"Whereas, the social, political and economic status of the American Jew is being increasingly threatened, and

"Whereas, if the strength of the American Jewish community fails, then in turn the entire spectrum of causes it supports, and especially Israel, will in turn weaken and fail and

"Whereas, the one organization capable of mounting a professional and effective counter-attack (i.e., the Anti-Defamation League), has been badly crippled by a severe cut in funds, personnel, and support,

"Therefore, Be It Resolved, that this Grand Lodge immediately memorialize the Supreme Lodge to do whatever is necessary to restore the ADL to the strength it must have to succeed in its vital mission."

The Committee withheld action on the resolution, incorporating its purpose in the discussion of "United Fund Raising."

Unified Fund Raising. The Committee considered a resolution submitted by District 2 that the Supreme Lodge *"work toward a goal of one united B'nai B'rith fund raising effort for all agencies, of the Order, including the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith."*

This proposal was considered in conjunction with a similar recommendation submitted by the Fund Raising Cabinet.

The Committee accepted the concept and recommended that discussions now in process between the Supreme Lodge fund raising leadership and ADL be continued.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Direct Solicitation. The Committee considered the following recommendation submitted by the Fund Raising Cabinet:

*"B'nai B'rith recognizes that our traditional fund raising methods are not adequate to meet present Youth Services needs. We have found that Service Fund revenues are not sufficient to sustain and expand our youth programs. In January 1971, in an effort to develop additional sources of revenue for Youth Services, we reaffirmed the direct solicitation approach to fund raising. This person-to-person technique, which asks every Ben B'rith to give a realistic gift in accordance with his means, has already demonstrated its potential for developing significant funding over and above Service Fund income. Because we feel this approach may well hold the solution to our fund raising problems, we recommend **that the Convention formally reaffirm the principle of direct solicitation**, originally adopted at the 1968 Convention, and urge every District and lodge to support and undertake man-to-man solicitation."*

The Committee adopted this recommendation with the following addition:

"... for the President's Club and the Century Club, using as a goal one per cent for the President's Club and ten per cent for the Century Club."

Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

"Service Fund" Change of Title. The Committee considered the following proposal submitted by the Fund Raising Cabinet.

*"With direct solicitation coming so prominently into play, fund raising in the lodges becomes more than the traditional service fund idea. To cover this expanded fund raising concept, we recommend to the Convention the designation *Service Fund* be changed to the more encompassing and precise designation, *Lodge Fund Raising*."*

The Committee recommended disapproval of the proposal.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Competing Appeals. The Committee considered a recommendation submitted by the Fund Raising Cabinet that *"each lodge shall report the projection of its*

national fund raising program to the District Fund Raising Committee for clearance and approval.” The Cabinet, in its presentation of the proposal, noted that the pressures of simultaneous fund raising appeals by diverse B’nai B’rith agencies—Youth Services, ADL, Israel programs, and local B’nai B’rith and community service projects—tend to create conflict and confusion in lodge fund raising, diffusing and diminishing the B’nai B’rith dollar by lack of fulfillment of quotas and goals.

The Committee amended the proposal as follows:

“Each lodge, council and/or state association shall report the projection of its total fund raising program to the District Fund Raising Committee for review and approval.”

The Recommendation of the Committee was approved by voice vote of the convention.

Approved Philanthropies. The Committee considered a recommendation submitted by the Fund Raising Cabinet that *“the Supreme Lodge Fund Raising Cabinet shall establish a list of approved philanthropies for lodge fund raising. After a lodge has met its primary quota for Youth Services and ADL, as established by its respective District.”*

The Committee recommended disapproval of the proposal.

The recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Clearance for Local B’nai B’rith Fund Raising Projects. The Committee considered a proposal submitted by the Fund Raising Cabinet that *“no funds should be raised for local B’nai B’rith needs without consultation with Commission directors who, in turn, should consult with fund raising leadership to be sure it can be done without harm to the overall fund raising effort in that area, and in accordance with guidelines established by the Supreme Lodge Fund Raising Cabinet.”*

The Committee recommended approval of the proposal.

An amendment to the proposal, submitted during the plenary debate, added *“... and the professional executive of each District”* to the wording of the proposal.

The Recommendation of the Committee, as amended in the plenary debate, was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Lodge Fund Raising Authority. The Committee considered a recommendation submitted by the Fund Raising Cabinet that *“each lodge shall have one fund raising committee which shall have complete authority and supervision for all fund raising activities conducted within the lodge and by its membership.”*

The Committee amended the proposal to read: *“each lodge shall have one fund raising committee which shall have complete authority and supervision for all fund raising activities conducted by the lodge.”*

The recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote at the Convention.

Eligibility for President’s Club and Century Club. The Committee considered the following recommendation submitted by the Fund Raising Cabinet:

“The purpose of the President’s Club and the Century Club is to develop an on-going base of support for Youth Services through continuity in the giving of larger gifts, and to give special recognition to major donors for continuing contributions. The key word is ‘continuity.’ It is vital that continuity be established and maintained if this concept is to prove fruitful.

“We therefore recommend that the convention adopt the following eligibility rules:

“1. Each Century Club or President’s Club member must sign a pledge or make a verbal commitment later confirmed in writing, of his intention to make a continuing annual contribution of the amount required for membership.

“2. Even if a contributor is unable, for some reason to meet his commitment in a given

year, he continues to maintain his membership and is billed again the following year. However, if a contributor fails to meet his commitment for three successive years, his name will be removed from the membership roster.

“3. One-time contributors of \$100, \$500 or \$1,000 and more who have not signed a pledge or indicated their intention to make a continuous gift will not be eligible for either club. Other forms of recognition will be available in these instances when it is appropriate to present an award to such a contributor.

“4. To be considered an official member of either club, the District must file the contributor's name and address with the Supreme Lodge office.”

The Committee recommended a more concise statement of purpose and eligibility, as follows:

“The purpose of the President's Club and the Century Club is to achieve continuity of giving as well as minimum cost of fund raising. However, the donor has the option to terminate expressly his obligation. If a donor has not terminated his obligation but has not paid for a three-year period, it will be assumed that he wishes to terminate his membership.

“The names and addresses of proposed members have to be submitted to the Supreme Lodge office in order to receive their designation. They shall be billed annually, and otherwise serviced.”

The Recommendation of the Committee was approved by voice vote of the Convention.

Selection of Honorees. The Committee considered a resolution submitted by District 1 *“to instruct all B'nai B'rith agencies and commissions—national, regional and local—when engaging in fund raising affairs or other events in which an individual or institution is the honored guest or is being honored, to consult for advice and consent in advance of the selection of such honoree with the appropriate B'nai B'rith unit having concurrent jurisdiction over the geographical area involved, whether the same shall be the Supreme Lodge or a District, Council or lodge.”*

The Committee recommended that the resolution be referred to the Fund Raising Cabinet for further discussion.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Fund Raising Cabinet. The Committee, acting on a proposal that the structure of the Supreme Lodge Fund Raising Cabinet be clarified, recommended:

“(a) That the Fund Raising Cabinet is to meet at least quarterly and (b) include in its membership the President of the Order, the chairman of the Supreme Lodge Fund Raising Cabinet, the Executive Vice President and Treasurer of the Order, the national chairmen of the President's Club, Century Club, B'nai B'rith Committee on Tours, 'Million Dollar Fund,' Committee on Legacy Development, Committee on Welfare Fund and Federations and ADL Appeal; the national fund chairman of B'nai B'rith Women; the chairmen of District Fund Raising cabinets, and others as are appointed by the President of the Order and the chairman of Supreme Lodge Fund Raising Cabinet.

“That a similar Cabinet involving the chairman of each District facet of fund raising, together with his ADL and BBW counterparts, with an overall District chairman, be established and function in each of the North American districts, which Cabinet shall meet at least semi-annually.”

The Committee recommended approval and immediate implementation of the proposal.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Service Fund Goal. The Committee noted that the lodge Service Fund objective of \$14 per member was adopted 12 years ago, and that the cost of living factor

has since risen by over 45%. The Committee accordingly recommended that the "minimum lodge Service Fund objective be \$20 per member.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

SAM J. STONE of Peoria, Ill., (District 6), a member of the Supreme Lodge Board of Governors, presided.

ACTION FOR YOUTH PROGRAMMING. The Report of the *Convention Committee on Action for Youth Programming* was presented by MURRAY H. SHUSTERMAN of Philadelphia (District 3), chairman of the Committee.

The Committee's format was to have representatives of each of the three B'nai B'rith Youth agencies make a formal presentation and then participate in the Committee's discussion.

It is the Committee's view that each of the youth agencies is projecting a program which recognizes that the issues and problems of the 1970s differ from those of the preceding decade, and is seeking to program accordingly.

The Committee's recommendations do not spell out a program in detail. Their intent is to highlight what the Committee finds necessary if B'nai B'rith is to achieve the goals it has established for its youth work. More over, it is recognized that much of the implementation of these general recommendations is a matter for the respective commissions involved.

The Committee recommended:

1. Greater B'nai B'rith involvement in local federations and welfare funds. In order to stimulate greater community support for B'nai B'rith's youth agencies, it is vital that the B'nai B'rith lodge encourage its members to become actively involved in local federation and welfare fund campaigns, and to participate in federation and welfare fund boards and committees.

2. Public relations. An intensified public relations program is needed to interpret B'YO, Hillel and Vocational Service more adequately to B'nai B'rith and the Jewish community.

3. Interagency communications. There is need for more effective methods of communications between the youth agencies and the leadership of B'nai B'rith lodges, chapters and councils, and an interagency committee should be established to develop such methods.

4. Local lodge support. B'nai B'rith lodges that have met their obligation to the District Service Fund should be encouraged to provide scholarships for Hillel and B'YO programs, and to otherwise further assist the youth programs to meet their local fiscal needs.

5. Fund raising. Major functions of the Youth Service campaign should include the participation of lay and professional personnel of the respective youth agencies.

6. Vocational Service. BBVS, is an integral part of B'nai B'rith's youth programming and should be permitted to grow and prosper.

7. Fund Priorities. The Supreme Lodge should review the totality of its commitments with a view to establishing priorities for the 1970s in determining which activities it will support. This should also be done within each of the youth agencies (as exemplified by the decision of the B'YO Commission to discontinue B'nai B'rith Young Adults, in view of the limitation of B'YO funds).

The Recommendations of the Committee were adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Fourth Plenary Session

MAURICE A. WEINSTEIN of Charlotte, N.C., (*District 5*), chairman of the B'nai B'rith International Council, presided.

Professor MAURICE FRIEDBERG of the Russian and East European Institute at Indiana University addressed the Convention on the current status and plight of Jews in the Soviet Union.

Note: Full text of Professor FRIEDBERG's address is published separately and available on request.

ACTION FOR SOVIET JEWRY. The Report of the *Convention Committee on Action for Soviet Jewry* was presented by JUAN PLAUT of Caracas, Venezuela, (*District 23*), chairman of the Committee:

It need not be repeated too often that Soviet Jewry is a top priority item on the agenda of B'nai B'rith and the Jewish community. This Committee wrestled with the strategic and tactical issues confronting B'nai B'rith on a world level in dealing with the problem, and has formulated for convention consideration a detailed action program.

An analysis on the current state of Soviet Jewry, as well as the essential programmatic objectives for attracting world attention to the problem, was presented to the Committee by PAUL COOK, chief of the U.S.S.R. division of the Bureau of Intelligence and Research of the U. S. Department of State. Mr. Cook, who lives with this and related problems on a day-to-day basis, spelled out the broad areas of discrimination faced by Soviet Jews, striving for emigration to Israel, and emphasized that world opinion, particularly Left opinion, has played a critical role in stimulating the Soviet government to permit certain concessions to Soviet Jewry, especially that of allowing some 7,000 Jews to emigrate thus far in 1971.

Mr. COOK, however, cautioned that tactics of harassment and violence not only are not helpful but serve counterproductive purposes by providing Soviet hardliners a pretext for further repression. Mr. Cook paid respect and appreciation to the kind of leadership role performed by the B'nai B'rith International Council in its responsible and vigorous activities that have placed the plight of Soviet Jewry on the conscience of mankind.

A report to the Committee by MOSES L. KOVE of New York, (*District 1*), chairman of the European Affairs Committee of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, detailed programs undertaken by ADL since February 1970 with the goal of helping to mold public opinion.

The Committee first took note of the Koch Bill, which would have permitted 30,000 Soviet Jews to emigrate to the United States, should Soviet authorities grant them exit visas. The bill was withdrawn, however, by Congressman Edward Koch and the issue become moot when Attorney General John Mitchell, speaking on behalf of the Administration, officially announced that the United States would admit all Soviet Jews who succeed in obtaining exit visas.

The Committee urges the *Supreme Lodge* to express appreciation to Congressman Koch and to Senator Clifford Case for focusing public interest on this matter and achieving the desired results.

The Committee considered the work of the Academic Committee on Soviet Jewry, an instrument created, coordinated and subsidized by the B'nai B'rith International Council. After noting the very significant growth of the Academic Committee and its extremely effective work, the Committee recommends that *B'nai B'rith continue to support and fund the Academic Committee* and, indeed, to expand allocations to it so that its fullest potential can be realized.

The Committee studied B'nai B'rith's ongoing action program. A tactical issue was raised within the Committee as to whether the heretofore double B'nai B'rith objective—obtaining the right of Soviet Jews to leave and ameliorating the situation of Jews within the U.S.S.R.—ought to be altered with exclusive stress placed upon emigration. The Committee concluded and recommends to the Convention that B'nai B'rith continue to seek both goals.

A further tactical consideration concerning *the advisability of resuming tours to the Soviet Union* was deferred for further study and consideration by appropriate administrative bodies at their discretion.

Major discussion of the Committee was centered on the formulation of an effective policy on Soviet Jewry that combines militancy with responsibility and eschews boycott and violence as counterproductive. As an example, the Committee recommends that rather than use of the boycott and disruption of visiting Soviet cultural programs a more appropriate and effective posture would be peaceful, lawful, nonviolent demonstrations having as their purpose the education of both attendees *and* performers on the plight of Soviet Jewry. Stress was on an activist program, with the following detailed 12-point program for B'nai B'rith lodges and chapters recommended for approval by the Convention:

1. Develop community programs timed to coincide with significant occasions, such as *Simhat Torah* (October); and the anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (December); Passover (March-April); *Shavuoth* (May-June); the anniversary of the execution of Soviet Jewish writers and artists (August 12, 1952).

2. Organize Soviet Jewry speakers bureau to seek audiences among non-Jewish professional, business, religious, civic and civil liberties groups, PTA's and neighborhood associations.

3. Lodge and chapter bulletins featuring a regular column on Soviet anti-Jewish acts, as well as the latest letters, petitions, sit-ins and protests by Soviet Jews. Information for these columns could come from a newsletter on Soviet Jewry issued by the Supreme Lodge.

4. If TV spots are available, lodges and chapters should place them with local stations.

5. Soviet Jewry booths at local shopping centers, trade shows, exhibits, etc. A variant could be a Soviet Jewry prison box with bars, inside of which is a lodge member representing a specific Soviet Jewish prisoner, typical Soviet prison meals and hand-out materials.

6. Participate in peaceful picketing of Soviet cultural performances and in delegations meeting with the Soviet performers.

7. Participate in daily silent, nonviolent vigils in front of Soviet embassies and consulates.

8. Attorney members should urge their local bar associations and professional associations to condemn trials of Soviet Jews, protest Soviet legal and human rights violations, offer legal assistance to arrested Jews and appeal to legal groups in the U.S.S.R.

9. Home discussion groups where non-Jewish friends are invited for refreshments and to discuss the plight of Soviet Jewry.

10. Attractive B'nai B'rith visual emblems—"Freedom Seals" for letters, bumper stickers, arm bands, buttons, etc.—that call attention to and dramatize the Soviet Jewish problem.

11. Soviet Jewry mobile exhibits—with photos, cartoons, charts, graphs, and reports—which B'nai B'rith units could rent and arrange to be displayed in their communities.

12. An ongoing program of sponsoring recent Soviet Jewish *olim* who could visit B'nai B'rith-organized meetings, college campuses and special gatherings in communities throughout the B'nai B'rith world.

The Committee recommended for adoption by the Convention the following resolutions:

Resolution on American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry. *Whereas* B'nai B'rith was one of the founders and remains one of the member organizations of the American Jewish Conference on Soviet Jewry; and

Whereas the purpose of this Conference is to plan and coordinate programs and activities to assist our brethren in the Soviet Union and to enhance their opportunity to emigrate to Israel and/or any country of their choice;

Now, therefore be it resolved that B'nai B'rith undertake initiatives designed to implement the program of the Conference and to supplement the efforts of the Conference with intensified independent activity on behalf of Soviet Jewry.

Resolution on Soviet Jewry. *Whereas* this past year, as never before, the plight of Soviet Jewry has captured the attention and sympathy of the world. Jewish communities throughout the world met, petitioned and demonstrated to stir the conscience of mankind. As a consequence, governments intervened with Soviet

authorities, and leftists and intellectuals pressed the Soviet regime to live up to its humanitarian professions.

This worldwide effort was inspired by the unprecedented daring of Soviet Jews who shed their silence and demanded their rights under Soviet and international law. An aroused world opinion together with these modern-day Soviet Maccabees compelled the Soviet Government to make a dramatic reversal in its policy—thousands of Soviet Jews were granted permission to leave the country, and it is expected by the end of 1971 that some ten thousand Jews will have rejoined their families in Israel and other lands.

We are gratified by this development, but we must note that it has done little to solve the basic problem. There are still tens of thousands of Jews (perhaps as many as a half million, according to some estimates) who wish to exercise this fundamental human right to leave their own country.

Of equal importance is the plight of those who have been imprisoned because of their participation in this struggle for the right to leave. The Soviet Committee on Human Rights, headed by internationally prominent Soviet physicists, has labelled the charges against these prisoners of conscience ridiculous.

Therefore, be it resolved that B'nai B'rith call upon the Soviet Government to abide by its obligations to international law and, in keeping with the principle of reunion of families which it upholds, to allow all Jews who wish to reunite with their families in Israel to do so.

B'nai B'rith further demands that the Jewish prisoners of conscience, whose only crime is their desire to be reunited with their families, be promptly freed, in accordance with the pleas of men of good will everywhere including the Soviet Union.

B'nai B'rith also, as it has in the past, calls upon the Soviet Government to end its anti-Jewish campaign, crudely disguised as anti-Zionism—which has even stooped to the themes of the notorious Czarist forgery, *The Protocols of the Elders of Zion*. It is a campaign that assaults the respect of every Jew and gives covert sanction to every anti-Semitic bureaucrat.

B'nai B'rith again calls upon the Soviet Government to abide by its Constitution and ideological pronouncements and grant the Jewish community all communal, cultural, linguistic, religious and institutional rights enjoyed by the other Soviet national and religious groups.

B'nai B'rith, noting that egregious discrimination against Jews is practiced in the Soviet education, employment and in the political arena, urges that the Kremlin institute measures to end these patterns of discrimination that contradict both Lenin's teachings and international human rights principles.

B'nai B'rith pledges its untiring efforts to secure for Soviet Jews their fundamental rights both to maintain their heritage and identity within the U.S.S.R. and to leave for Israel or elsewhere if they so choose.

The Report of and the Resolutions recommended by the Committee on Action for Soviet Jewry were adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

WILLIAM A. WEXLER MEMBERSHIP CLASS. SAM J. STONE of Peoria, Ill., (District 6), chairman of the Membership Cabinet, reported on the William A. Wexler Membership Class:

The Membership Cabinet initiated a special enrollment campaign in April with the goal of enrolling 10,000 new members by the time of the Convention as a special tribute to Dr. WEXLER for the character of his leadership during a turbulent period in Jewish life.

The William A. Wexler Membership Class created a series of enthusiastic events and activities such as we have not seen in membership recruitment in many years. The final results of the campaign will not be known until January 1972, when all reports will be in. It appears, however, that by that time we will have achieved our goal of 10,000 and the tide of diminishing membership will have been stayed and, hopefully, reversed.

Brother STONE then introduced PHILIP M. KLUTZNICK of Chicago (*District 6*), honorary president of B'nai B'rith and chairman of the special campaign for the William A. Wexler Membership Class.

Brother KLUTZNICK presented Brother WEXLER an engraved volume that contained the names of more than 7,500 new members enrolled in the William A. Wexler Membership Class. In his words of presentation, Brother KLUTZNICK said:

If I had to select, from my own experience as president, one thing to strengthen B'nai B'rith, it would not be the Constitution, the by-laws, even the programs – it would be the numbers of people involved. The president is no better than the people he represents.

The only way you can have a mass organization is to have mass difficulties. Freedom is a difficult thing and democracy can only be practiced with people.

What SAM STONE and the Membership Cabinet projected is the finest gift that we can present to the president. It not only honors BILL WEXLER but through him the instrument that he served so well and that which this assembly would want to bequeath his successor – a greater membership and a stronger B'nai B'rith.

We have the names of some 7,500 already enrolled and the promise of SAM STONE that the total will be 10,000.

Bless you, BILL; here is your gift – and may you go from strength to strength.

Fifth Plenary Session

BILLY B. GOLDBERG of Houston (*District 7*), chairman of the B'nai B'rith Cabinet on Israel, presided.

Brother GOLDBERG addressed the Convention briefly on the activities of the Cabinet and presented Shalom Doron of Jerusalem (*District 14*) to the Convention.

Brother DORON addressed the Convention on the importance of “personal involvement” by each member of B'nai B'rith in strengthening the economic viability of Israel. Brother DORON urged B'nai B'rith-sponsored promotions for the purchase of Israeli products, the establishment of “investment clubs” specializing in Israeli securities, a “second home” in Israel for those with the means to do so, and Israeli stamps and coins through philatelic and numismatic groups.

Brother DORON, acting on behalf of Prime Minister Golda Meir of Israel, presented to President Wexler as a token of appreciation from the State of Israel the first “Let My People Go” medallion minted by the State of Israel to express its solidarity with the Jews of the Soviet Union.

ACTION FOR ISRAEL. The Report of the *Convention Committee on Action for Israel* was presented by HENRY BLATT of Montreal (*District 22*), chairman of the Committee:

When the 1968 Convention converted the Commission on Israel into the Cabinet on Israel Affairs of the International Council, it had one overriding objective: to make the programs for Israel stronger and more effective through a streamlined, administrative setup.

The Cabinet came into being shortly after the Six-Day War when Israel's danger shifted from the battleground to the diplomatic conference room. Responding to the overwhelming demand by members, the lodges and chapters in B'nai B'rith undertook to give the vast membership the opportunity – through the *Action Program* – the information and know-how necessary to make its voice and interest felt in the shaping of public opinion.

The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, through LAWRENCE PEIREZ and ARNOLD

FORSTER, made a 40-minute presentation to this Committee of its extensive program on countering Arab boycott and defending Israel's image.

Essential to the very security of Israel and her quest for peace is her economic stability. The Committee has reviewed the two B'nai B'rith programs designed to ease this burden: Israel Bonds and Israel investment clubs. More than \$144 million in Israel Bonds—nearly 10 per cent of all bond sales in North America since 1951—have been bought and sold by B'nai B'rith, and \$39.6 million, about 27 per cent of that total, have been credited to B'nai B'rith since the last Convention—a reflection of the B'nai B'rith bond program's dramatic growth in recent years.

Each three-year period has shown consistent increases. The \$39.6 million sold since the last Convention is \$9.8 million higher than the figure reported in 1968, and \$24.4 million above the 1965 figure. Much of this was achieved by communities where B'nai B'rith conducts its own bond functions—nearly 40 urban centers including New York, Buffalo, Rochester, Kansas City, St. Louis, Denver, Newark, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Baltimore, Chicago, Detroit, Toronto and Montreal. Of the \$13.4 million sold in 1970, only \$4.2 million came from B'nai B'rith participation on a community-wide basis, and more than \$9 million from B'nai B'rith functions.

In April, at its annual meeting, the Cabinet on Israel Affairs adopted a goal of \$27 million for 1971—or more than two times the 1970 goal. To reach this unprecedented figure, every lodge and chapter is urged to conduct its own Israel bonds function and for members to buy on a proportionate scale. In the next two and one-half months, until December 31, the Israel Bonds Organization must supply a minimum of \$150 million to the State of Israel and B'nai B'rith must assume responsibility for \$15 million of that figure.

Beyond the end of this year, the problems which Israel will continue to face has dictated a goal for Israel bonds sales for 1972 in the amount of \$450 million. If B'nai B'rith is to continue its responsibility of achieving 10 per cent of Israel bonds sales we must not only adopt a \$45 million goal but also reinforce our structure and redouble our efforts in the mobilization of B'nai B'rith towards the realization of that vital result.

HERBERT WARSHAUER, national field director of the Israel Bond Organization, briefed the Committee on the urgencies for maximal participation by B'nai B'rith in Israel bond sales and purchases. Our goal in 1971 is to double the previous year's sales and we have urged every lodge and chapter to conduct its own bond function with every member purchasing at least one bond. Working with local bond managers, B'nai B'rith should participate in community wide campaigns when B'nai B'rith bond functions are not feasible.

Although the investment club idea met with considerable grass roots enthusiasm before last year, the program floundered because clubs were unable to get authoritative and up-to-date information on Israeli securities and firms, and could not get assistance in handling transactions. Through the cooperation of Bank Leumi, these obstacles have been removed. Today, 60 of the 100 Israel investment clubs in operation in North America are sponsored by B'nai B'rith.

One of the foundation stones of the B'nai B'rith Israel program is the Martyrs' Forest. The highest tree sales in the 17-year history of the B'nai B'rith Martyrs' Forest were recorded during this triennium, enabling B'nai B'rith to complete the second 500,000-tree section. Last year's (1970) figure of \$313,673 represented a 54 per cent increase over 1969's \$209,095, the previous record. The \$833,461 in tree sales since the last Convention was \$235,695 ahead of the figure reported in 1968 and \$435,958 above that of 1965. Total Martyrs' Forest income now stands at \$2,319,755.

Last year several overseas Districts started their own Martyrs' Forest program. The combined effort of Districts 15 (Great Britain and Ireland), 21 (Australia and New Zealand), Venezuela, and the B'nai B'rith Council for Southern Africa resulted in \$25,493 in tree sales.

The B'nai B'rith Scroll of Fire monument, sculpted by Natan Rapoport and cast in bronze by the well-known Italian foundry, A. Pierotti & Son, has been completed and now stands on top of Mt. Kasalom. Official dedication is set for March 7, 1972, and the hope is to bring hundreds of B'nai B'rith leaders to Jerusalem on a special tour arranged for this historic occasion.

The reciprocal twinning program between Israel lodges and B'nai B'rith units in North America has not kept pace with its early growth. During the first years of the program—instituted in 1966—some 80 lodges in Israel established a cultural exchange with U. S. and Canadian lodges, state associations and councils. But except for a pilot effort to revive the program in District 4 and other programs by a few lodges in New York, Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania and Virginia, the project has failed to attract new participants. The units which have been jealous in maintaining communication have established meaningful relationships which have resulted in mutual visits and the extension of traditional hospitality.

The Committee considered the cultural gap separating the two Israel's—one of Ashkenazi Jews who have the advantage of Western culture, the other of culturally deprived Oriental, or Sephardic Jews from Arab countries. A program to assist qualified but disadvantaged Israeli children in obtaining a high school education would help integrate Israel's population and strengthen the country's economy and society. The Committee recommends that B'nai B'rith lodges and chapters which have satisfied their B'nai B'rith Service Fund obligations be encouraged to adopt a program to provide scholarships of \$1200 (approximate tuition for four years) that will be administered by an appropriate committee from District 14. This project can also be undertaken by individuals. The lodge or individual, in effect, adopts an underprivileged youngster for a high school education.

Also considered by the Committee was a proposal for a major project in Israel. For years B'nai B'rith leaders in the United States and overseas have been calling for a B'nai B'rith project of high visibility to symbolize B'nai B'rith's vital interest in Israel. Over the years several such projects have been suggested: a year-round youth camp estimated to cost a half-million dollars; a high school for overseas youth projected for \$1.5 million; and a B'nai B'rith Village which would cost undetermined millions. Financial conditions required postponement of this ambitious goal. Meanwhile, the Committee gave consideration to a less costly project which is worthy of attention. Fostered by Dr. Jack Cohen of the Hillel Foundation at Hebrew University, it grew out of the Arab-Jewish dialogue on campus and is already being conducted by Hillel and B'nai B'rith Women. It is the Arab-Jewish Teach-In, whose purpose is to promote better intergroup relations between Arabs and Jews in Israel. Unlike the other suggested major projects which cost millions of dollars and involve an initial commitment of several hundred thousands, this project is open-ended and can be funded with as much or as little money as the budget permits.

After hearing Dr. YEHOSHUA MAZUR of District 14 and Rabbi Samuel Fishman of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations, the Committee adopted a resolution recommending that the Arab-Jewish Teach-In, or intergroup project, be expanded. The Committee also recommends that the incoming President appoint a special committee to examine, study and report to the Board of Governors, the desirability for a world-wide B'nai B'rith project in Israel, including a high school capable of accommodating 200 youngsters.

The Report of the Committee on Action for Israel was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Mrs. NATHAN HOLSTEIN of Pittsburgh (president of B'nai B'rith Women), asked to be recorded as "nay," on that section of the report dealing with the Arab-Jewish Teach-In. Mrs. HOLSTEIN noted that the project has been an activity and responsibility of B'nai B'rith Women and that any decisions regarding it should await "serious consultations" between the Supreme Lodge Board of Governors and the Executive Board of B'nai B'rith Women.

Resolution on Middle East Peace. B'nai B'rith believes that the truest security for Israel and the other nations of the Middle East lies in the establishment of peace. The basic obstacle to the achievement of peace remains the unwillingness of Israel's Arab neighbors to accept her existence as a sovereign state. Even now when Egypt's new president professes on one day his willingness to sign a peace agreement—albeit on his terms—he threatens resumption of the war on the next.

Genuine peace can be achieved only by the negotiations and agreement of the parties in conflict. The role of third parties can be constructive in the search for peace only insofar as they contribute to a directly negotiated agreement between Israel and the Arab states. Peace cannot be imposed by outside powers; the powers can only impose a precarious truce.

Soviet ambitions to dominate the Middle East are a second major obstacle to peace. The Soviet tactic of encouraging Arab intransigence, and supplying planes, pilots and technicians, has fortified the Arabs in their refusal to face reality and negotiate with Israel. While the Soviet Union may not desire a fourth round of hostilities that would bring it into confrontation with the United States, the Soviet policy of promoting tension in the Middle East can lead to the kind of Arab miscalculation which triggered the Six-Day War.

The United States is entitled to great credit for the resourceful efforts which produced a cease-fire in August of 1970. Its policy of refusing to permit the arms

balance to be tipped against Israel—its decision to match Soviet missiles on the Suez with deterrent weapons on the Israel side—has helped maintain the cease-fire and is an essential contribution to peace in the region.

The American effort to define boundaries has not, however, served the cause of peace. It has undermined Israel's bargaining position and confidence, and has cast doubt on the American profession that peace should not be imposed.

B'nai B'rith welcomes Israel's readiness to reopen the Suez Canal as a significant step towards ultimate peace. It views Israel's offer to withdraw to secure lines as an evidence of desirable flexibility in negotiations. Because Israel has had the bitter experience of finding herself alone when she was in mortal peril—solemn international guarantees and commitments proved hollow when Arab armies three times threatened Israel's existence—Israel has every right to insist that the new boundaries be more defensible than the old vulnerable boundaries which Arab leaders found so tempting.

B'nai B'rith calls on the United States and other great powers to use their influence to bring about genuine negotiations between the Arab States and Israel and to assure that the arms balance is not tipped against Israel.

The Resolution on Middle East Peace was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Resolution on Aid to Israel. The United States has an immense stake in peace and stability in the Middle East. It confronts a Soviet drive for dominance in the area that is fueled by the Arab-Israel conflict. War in the Middle East could endanger the peace of the entire world. More than ever, therefore, a strong and stable Israel, working for peace with her neighbors, is in America's true national interest.

One of the keys to peace in the Middle East is the maintenance of the arms balance. Three years ago President Richard M. Nixon told the B'nai B'rith Convention that the arms balance "must be tipped in Israel's favor" lest Arab leaders be tempted into new aggressions. That policy is no less sound or relevant today. It should not be compromised by requiring Israel to make territorial concessions as a precondition to aid when those concessions undermine the security that the aid is designed to protect.

Arab unwillingness to recognize Israel's sovereignty has imposed upon Israel huge defense expenditures. Israel spends almost 30 per cent of her Gross National Product on defense, as compared with an American expenditure, despite the war in Viet Nam, of less than 8 per cent.

B'nai B'rith expresses its deep appreciation to President Nixon and to the Congress for the military and economic aid extended to Israel. We call upon President Nixon and the Congress to remain sensitive to the need of preserving the arms balance even as the search for peace continues. Maintaining the flow of arms—particularly supersonic jets—and providing economic aid helps not only to preserve the one true democracy in the Middle East, it is also an investment in peace.

In 1941, the United States launched the plan of lend-lease aid which enabled the democracies of Europe to withstand the Nazi onslaught. Today, Israel's resistance to Arab aggression and Soviet domination is a significant contribution to the preservation of America's interests in the Middle East and is entitled to a form of lend-lease aid.

For all these reasons B'nai B'rith calls on the President and the Congress to consider a program of lend-lease and other appropriate economic aid to Israel.

The Resolution on Aid to Israel was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Resolution on Members' Personal Involvement on Behalf of Israel. The Convention calls upon all B'nai B'rith members for greater personal involvement on behalf of Israel. In addition to United Jewish Appeal contributions and invest-

ment in Israel Bonds, members are urged to participate in Israel investment clubs, form Israel coin and medal collections and purchase Israel products.

The Resolution on Members Involvement on Behalf of Israel was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Resolution on Israel's 25th Anniversary. The Convention recommends that B'nai B'rith hold a world-wide conference in Israel on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the State of Israel. This conference of B'nai B'rith leaders from all parts of the world should discuss the subject of mutual intellectual influence between Israel and the Diaspora. The format and date of the conference should be determined by the Board of Governors.

The Resolution on Israel's 25th Anniversary was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Resolution on Eliezer Argov. The Convention notes with sorrow the untimely passing of ELIEZER ARGOV, a member of the Cabinet on Israel Affairs and a beloved Ben B'rith.

His friendship and warmth will be sorely missed. May his memory be for a blessing an inspiration to us in our pursuit of good deeds for B'nai B'rith and Israel.

The Convention recessed for District caucuses.

“An Evening With Elie Wiesel”

The Convention reconvened in the Irvine Auditorium of the University of Pennsylvania.

Admittance was provided for delegates and alternates, and their guests; and for students and faculty of the University of Pennsylvania. Approximately 1,000 persons attended.

DAVID M. BLUMBERG of Knoxville (*District 7*), a vice-president of B'nai B'rith, presided.

MARTIN D. COHN of Hazelton, Pa., national chairman of B'nai B'rith Adult Jewish Education, presented ELIE WIESEL, author and lecturer, to the audience.

Mr. WIESEL's address included a series of readings from Jewish literature.

Friday, October 15, 1971

Sixth Plenary Session

JEFFERSON E. PEYSER of San Francisco (*District 4*), a vice-president of B'nai B'rith, presided.

ACTION FOR MEMBERSHIP GROWTH. The report and recommendations of the *Committee on Action for Membership Growth* were presented by MARTIN M. GLUCHOW of East Liverpool, Ohio (*District 2*), chairman of the Committee.

Membership Eligibility at Age 18. The Committee reviewed proposals from Districts 1, 2, 3, 6, 7 and 22 that the minimum age of eligibility for membership in B'nai B'rith be lowered from 21 to 18 years of age.

The Committee, noting that such a change would be in keeping with current trends, as evident in the Amendment to the U. S. Constitution lowering to 18 the age of voting eligibility, recommended that *Section 131* of the Constitution be amended by deleting the words "*at least twenty-one (21) years of age*" and inserting in place thereof the words "*at least eighteen (18) years of age.*"

The Recommendation, having the effect of making the age of 18 the minimum age for eligibility for membership in B'nai B'rith, was adopted as an amendment to the Constitution by a two-thirds voice vote of the Convention.

Extending Junior Member to Age 29. The Committee considered a proposal submitted by the Membership Cabinet to extend from age 26 to 29 eligibility for junior membership in B'nai B'rith.

The Committee concluded that most persons eligible for membership in B'nai B'rith have achieved a position of financial stability by age 26, and that requests to the Membership Cabinet for extending the maximum age for junior membership have been negligible.

The Committee recommended that the proposal be disapproved.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Dual Membership. The Committee considered a proposal submitted by District 1 for Convention action authorizing that "*any lodge may accept affiliation of members in good standing of any other lodge, and exclude from any dues or fees (imposed by such accepting lodge upon the affiliated member) a sum equal to an amount of the Supreme Lodge and District assessments; said lodge shall not be required to remit any such sums not imposed as a result of such affiliation.*"

The Committee concluded that the proposal would be administratively unwieldy and financially destructive to lodges.

The Committee recommended that the proposal be disapproved.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Designation of "Jewish faith" on Membership Application. The Committee considered a proposal submitted by District 6 to delete the words "I am of the Jewish faith" on the application for membership in B'nai B'rith and insert in place thereof the words "I am a follower of the Jewish faith."

The Committee concluded that the proposal, as stated, was without sufficient merit. The Committee, however, recommended that a change in wording on the application for membership be made to read "I am a Jew."

The Recommendation of the Committee was disapproved by voice vote of the Convention.

Designation of "Jewish Faith" for Membership Purposes. The Committee considered a proposal submitted by District 4 that Section 131 of the Constitution be amended to include the following words: "For the purpose of membership in our Order, a member of the Jewish faith shall include a male who voluntarily desires to join our Order, who affirmatively supports the precepts of the Jewish faith and the principles and purposes of our Order, and who is born of at least one Jewish parent, or who must have been converted to the Jewish faith, or who, having a Jewish wife, does not actively support another faith."

The Committee, cognizant of the sensitivity and far-reaching effect of the proposal, concluded that a change in the current requirement for membership eligibility would be destructive to the unifying purposes of B'nai B'rith.

The Committee recommended that the proposal be disapproved.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Life Membership. The Committee considered a proposal submitted by the Membership Cabinet for the establishment of *Life Membership* in the form of "a minimum contribution of \$1,000 or such other amount as might be determined. The funds would be deposited in the B'nai B'rith Foundation Endowment Fund and annual dues would be distributed to the Supreme Lodge and the respective District and local lodge from interest and dividend earnings. Upon the death of a member, the principal would be retained by the B'nai B'rith Foundation for its Endowment Fund or for distribution by the trustees of the Foundation."

The Committee approved in principle the proposal for Life Membership.

The Committee advised that it had forwarded the proposal to the Committee on Fiscal Matters for consideration by that body.

Membership-at-Large. The Committee considered a proposal that the Supreme Lodge reconsider previous actions rejecting membership-at-large and move to authorize membership in B'nai B'rith through direct payment of dues to the Supreme Lodge, enrolling such members in an At-Large Lodge established in Washington, or through such other administrative means as might be devised.

The Committee concluded that the proposal would be detrimental to the status of the local lodge as the basic unit in the structure of B'nai B'rith.

The Committee recommended that the proposal be disapproved.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Honorary Membership. The Committee considered a proposal for establishment of two classes of honorary membership in B'nai B'rith: (1) Honorary membership to non-Jews as recognition of their distinguished services to the community and society; (2) Honorary membership to certain persons of the Jewish faith as recognition of their distinguished services to the community and society.

The Committee recommended that the proposal be disapproved.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Reduction of Dues for Members over 65 Years of Age. The Committee considered a proposal submitted by District 6 to authorize, on specific request of the member involved, a reduction of dues for members 65 years and older, or members whose earnings are limited to a pension or who are permanently disabled.

The Committee concluded that such "hardship cases" have been and can continue to be resolved on an individual basis by the local lodge.

The Committee recommended that the proposal be disapproved.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Minimum Charter Membership. The Committee considered a proposal submitted by District 5 that *Section 124* of the Constitution be amended to delete the minimum requirement of 20 members for chartering a lodge.

The Committee concluded that the proposal would provide greater flexibility for the establishment of lodges in small communities.

The Committee recommended that *Section 124* of the Constitution be amended by deleting the words "*signed by not less than twenty (20) persons eligible for membership in the Order,*" and inserting in place thereof the sentence: "*Rules as to the minimum number of applicants required shall be established by the National Membership Cabinet and shall take local circumstances into consideration.*"

The Recommendation was adopted as an amendment to the Constitution by a two-thirds voice vote of the Convention.

Waiver of Dues. The Committee considered a proposal submitted by District 6 for a Constitutional amendment to authorize waiver of dues to members attending an accredited college or university under a qualified degree program.

The Committee recommended that the proposal be disapproved.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Reduction in Dues and Voluntary Assessments. The Committee considered a proposal submitted by District 4 for a Constitutional amendment to authorize a reduction of 50 per cent in dues and voluntary assessments (*i.e.*, Service Fund) during a period of unemployment.

The Committee recommended that the proposal be disapproved.

The Convention, on motion from the floor, referred the matter back to the Committee for further consideration.

[Note: No further report on this matter was made to the Convention. The Committee recommended that the matter be referred back to the Membership Cabinet for its consideration.]

Remission of Dues to Former AZA and Hillel Members. The Committee considered a proposal submitted by District 2 for a Constitutional amendment to authorize remission of dues for one year to former members of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations who enroll as members of B'nai B'rith when they become of age.

The Committee recommended that the proposal be disapproved.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Dr. WEXLER presided.

Brother WEXLER gave formal recognition to HERMAN J. NUDELMAN of Miami Beach, Fla., (*District 5*) as the national leader in membership enrollment during the 1970-71 campaign year. Brother NUDELMAN was credited with having enrolled 273 members.

LAWRENCE PEIZER of Cleveland (*District 2*) was cited for having enrolled

254 members and GORDON ROSENBERG of Chicago (*District 6*) for having enrolled 179 members, each during the 1970-71 campaign year.

MOE KUDLER of Los Angeles (*District 4*), a member of the Supreme Lodge Board of Governors, presided.

ACTION FOR MEMBERSHIP GROWTH. A supplemental report of the *Convention Committee on Action for Membership Growth* on the matters of *Attracting and Involving Young People* was presented by GERALD KRAFT of Indianapolis (*District 2*), a co-chairman of the Committee.

B'nai B'rith co-ed units. The Committee noted that the Supreme Lodge Board of Governors and the Executive Board of B'nai B'rith had authorized, as an experiment, the chartering of B'nai B'rith co-ed units under certain guidelines. The authorization limited the experiment to not more than four co-ed units in each District. The first unit was chartered in Cleveland on September 12, 1971.

The Committee recommended that the Convention endorse the co-ed experiment as an important pilot program.

The Committee further recommended that a special committee be established by and under the direction of the Membership Cabinet to review, evaluate and refine the current guidelines for co-ed units for a more effective development and implementation of the program.

The Committee proposed that said special committee be instructed to develop specific suggestions for consideration by the respective Districts to alter, amend, suspend or otherwise modify District rules, regulations and constitutions to accommodate the establishment and operation of co-ed units.

The Committee further recommended that the four categories authorized for co-ed units—(a) “singles,” (b) “young marrieds,” (c) “industry” and (d) “small community clusters”—be retained.

The Recommendations dealing with Co-ed Units were adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Transition of BBYA chapters into co-ed units. The Committee noted that in view of the formal dissolution of B'nai B'rith Young Adults, the Supreme Lodge Board of Governors had authorized, wherever possible, the transition of BBYA chapters into co-ed units, and that such units are to be in addition to the four experimental units authorized in each District.

The Committee recommended that the original guidelines for co-ed units, insofar as they relate to BBYA chapters in the process of dissolution, be amended to require that each such unit (a) comply with the regulations of its respective District with regard to minimum charter membership requirements and (b) comply with the dues structure of its respective District.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Seventh Plenary Session

SEYMOUR GRAUBARD of New York, national chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, presided.

DORE SCHARY of New York, honorary chairman of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, addressed the Convention on the need for constant Jewish communal involvement to help resolve the problems—urban, ecological, socio-

logical— affecting the nation, and to resist erosions of freedom directed against any group.

Note: Full text of Brother Schary's address is available on request.

ACTION ON ANTI-SEMITISM AND URBAN AFFAIRS. The report of the *Committee for Action on Anti-Semitism and Urban Affairs* was presented by MERLE D. COHN of Seattle (*District 4*), chairman of the Committee:

The Committee considered four important and provocative subjects submitted by the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith in specially prepared papers.

The subjects were:

1. *The New Anti-Semitism*, presented by WARREN FREEDMAN of New York (*District 1*).
2. *Violence and Jewish Security*, presented by Judge DAVID A. ROSE of Boston (*District 1*).
3. *Preferential Treatment*, presented by BURNETT ROTH of Miami Beach, Fla. (*District 5*).
4. *Race Relations*, presented by Mrs. D. J. WASSERSTROM of Kansas City, Mo., (*B'nai B'rith Women*).

The New Anti-Semitism. Brother FREEDMAN defined "the new anti-Semitism" as a form of anti-Jewishness in "respectable places." A change in the general climate is seen in that ideas which were *verboden* yesterday are tolerated today in literature, television and in the press. Thus, television shows like *All in the Family*, rock musicals like *Jesus Christ, Superstar*, the flood of books exploiting the psychopathic in minority communities, have become *the thing*. Even the ethnic comic seems to be once again fashionable. Combating this new trend without being subject to charges of censorship or violating freedom of the press is extremely difficult and ADL will have its expertise greatly challenged.

The new anti-Semitism is also finding form in the New Left and Old Left. It has become an instrument to project political philosophies which are pro-Arab and pro-Communist; there are reasons to believe that the Soviet Union is the fountainhead of this effort. The new anti-Semitism calls for violence and revolution. It condemns Israel and supports the Arab bloc. It needs to be carefully watched, documented and exposed.

Black anti-Semitism is relatively new. It is being used as a tool to destroy by polarization, which black extremists justify as a necessary evil to obtain their ideas of social justice. This too must be exposed and opposed, with the full realization that black anti-Semitism is no more representative of the black majority than white anti-Semitism is of the white majority.

The Jewish radical (not to be confused with the radical Jewish student) who exploits his Jewishness to gain radical ends, is also new to the scene. His use of violence and his disregard of the law is vulgar and blasphemous, and exacerbates anti-Semitic attitudes.

The Committee was agreed that present B'nai B'rith policy is adequate to deal with these situations. However, members of the Committee expressed concern with what they regard as an attitude of apathy among some elements of the Jewish community.

Violence and Jewish Security. Brother ROSE attributed much of the prevalence of extremism and violence to urban problems and political revolution. The "guerrilla warfare" on city streets and university campuses presents a particular danger to the Jewish community in that it polarizes groups and threatens democratic processes. It has produced a sharp reaction in large sections of the American populace that can become a catalyst for repressive legislation and create a climate hostile to civil rights and liberties. This is evident in legislation for preventive detention, charges against the mass media which can lead to self-censorship, the broad use of wiretapping, indiscriminate surveillance of private citizens, and the like.

Preferential Treatment. Brother ROTH reviewed current Supreme Lodge and ADL policy on "preferential treatment" in government employment, private employment and admission to institutions of higher learning. The issue itself is the center of much ambivalence and controversy, brought on by the gap that exists between disadvantaged minorities who seek upward mobility in employment and education and those who, as a result, are subject to displacement, many of them Jews. Jews see themselves as threatened, and no longer protected by the merit system in public employment and college entrance requirements.

Current B'nai B'rith policy supports enforcement of the merit system in public employment (while, at the same time, encourages government funding to give special training and education to the disadvantaged so that they might qualify for positions under the merit system) and approves preferential treatment in private employment. The policy also urges that

institutions of higher learning, when admitting less than qualified members of minority groups, add to their enrollment facilities so that the admissions are not closed to any qualified applicant.

The Committee had an intensive discussion on the issue of preferential treatment. It recommends that the national commission of the Anti-Defamation League review the subject at its next meeting and advise the Board of Governors of its findings.

Race Relations. Mrs. WASSERSTROM's report noted that the plethora of new spokesmen and leadership that has emerged in the black community has neither replaced nor reached the national eminence achieved by the late Dr. Martin Luther King, the late Whitney Young or Roy Wilkins. It is a scattered leadership of many different spokesmen, making Jewish community approaches to it more complex and difficult.

There has also been a sharp shift in the black community's focus, with less concern for new civil rights legislation and more emphasis on full enforcement of present civil rights laws. This has led to some harsh confrontations in many communities. Yet one of the positive effects has been the increased participation of blacks, Puerto Ricans and other racial minorities in the political process. The black Congressional caucus has emerged as an exceedingly important factor on the national scene.

Jews have been turned off in their relationships with the black community because of black anti-Semitism. Jews feel threatened in employment and education, and are demanding protection and security. Yet if the Jewish community is to make any progress, it cannot lose sight of its own responsibility in dealing with prejudice and stereotyping among elements within its own group. This is a difficult and frustrating task, but one from which it cannot withdraw.

The problems in the cities are immense. The prognosis is discouraging. Urban areas continue to deteriorate at an alarming rate. Since Jews are basically urban dwellers, they are directly affected. But the problems that beset them cannot be solved until basic problems affecting urban areas—unemployment, inadequate health facilities, mediocre educational systems, sub-standard housing, poverty—are solved. These are concerns that must command the attention and involvement of B'nai B'rith.

Resolution on Violence and Jewish Security. *Whereas*, recent years have seen major outbreaks of violence on the American scene, some of them stemming from unsolved social problems in our cities, others from the planned and deliberate tactics of extremists and revolutionaries; and

Whereas, the violent tactics of extremists of the Far Right and of the Far Left undermine the law which forms the foundation of democratic government in America and the order upon which civilized society and democratic processes depend; and

Whereas, government by law under constitutional safeguards protects each American because it protects all; and

Whereas, violence of all kinds, including planned violence by extremists for their own political purposes, is intolerable in a system of government which provides avenues for peaceful and legal change in our society through the courts, the legislature and the ballot box; and

Whereas, violence produces calls for repression that endanger civil liberty, the right of peaceful dissent and protest, the right of privacy and other constitutional safeguards; and

Whereas, the Jewish community in the United States, along with all other Americans, enjoy the blessings of liberty, free government and the fundamental freedoms contained in the Bill of Rights; and

Whereas, the National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence have conducted lengthy and perceptive studies of the underlying causes for violence in our society and made numerous recommendations for action to resolve the causes of violence in America;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that B'nai B'rith, (1) calls upon the President and the Congress of the United States to implement the recommendations of the National Commission on Civil Disorders (Kerner Commission) and of the National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence (Eisenhower Commission),

and to deal with the fundamental causes of civil disorder and violence; (2) urges adoption by the Congress of legal registration requirements and procedures governing the sale, possession and distribution of the ingredients for bombs and other weapons of terror; (3) urges the adoption of stricter controls governing the sale, possession and distribution of firearms; and (4) calls on all Americans to stand steadfast against the use of violence to obtain political or social change and to stand equally steadfast against calls for repressive measures that would undermine civil liberty and constitutional safeguards, since all are a threat to our form of government.

The Resolution on Violence and Jewish Security was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

ACTION IN AREAS OF SOCIAL CONCERN. The Report of the *Committee on Action in Areas of Social Concern* was presented by SOLOMON ROSENBAUM of Fitchburg, Mass., (District 1), chairman of the Committee.

The Committee noted with gratitude the presence and participation of the following distinguished specialists whose assistance was of significant importance in the Committee's deliberations: Dr. LESLIE NICHOLAS, chief of venereal disease control for the City of Philadelphia; WILLIAM COLE, senior public health advisor for the City of Philadelphia; Dr. F. BASSILI, chief of the Family Planning Unit in Kuwait; Dr. DUNCAN CATTERALL, consultant venereologist to Middlesex Hospital, London, England; Dr. LENNART JUHLIN, head of the department of dermatology and venereology at University Hospital, Upsala, Sweden; and Dr. (Mrs.) KALAYA SUTHISOMBOON, director of venereal division, Health Department, Bangkok, Thailand.

The Committee also reported that it was privileged to hear an address by Joseph Chiappi, public health advisor, Department of Health, City of Philadelphia, on the pandemic nature of venereal diseases, particularly among youth.

On the basis of Mr. Chiappi's report and other information made available, the Committee recommended affirmative Convention action on the following resolution:

Venereal Diseases. *Resolved*, that B'nai B'rith, as a public-spirited organization, strive in every possible way to focus attention upon the full dimensions of the spread of venereal diseases, to do whatever lies within its power to change public attitudes, and to induce public understanding of the existence and deadly seriousness of these diseases; and to encourage cooperation with every effort to effect their control and cure, as was done in the past, through education and patience, in connection with such former public taboos as tuberculosis and cancer.

The Committee further reported that it was privileged to hear an address by James Kennedy, administrative assistant to the Chief of Staff of the Veterans Administration Hospital in Philadelphia, on the urgent need for continued volunteer work in VA installations by B'nai B'rith men, women and youth.

The committee recommended affirmative Convention action on the following resolution:

Veterans Services. *Resolved*, that B'nai B'rith continue to do all within its power to bridge any gap that may exist between the man in uniform or the hospitalized veteran, on the one hand, and the every-day civilian, on the other. We shall do this by not only continuing our traditional program of service to all, but also by being prepared to adapt our programs to the changing needs of changing times.

The Committee recommended for affirmative Convention action the following resolutions on the matters indicated:

Drug Abuse. *Resolved*, that B'nai B'rith can and should make a contribution to the ever continuing battle against Drug Abuse.

We endorse the efforts of our government and the World Health Organization to control the growing and cultivation of and traffic in narcotics.

We recommend, with priority, to all B'nai B'rith lodges and chapters that wherever there are community agencies which help addicts in a recovery program, these lodges and chapters should explore means of working with these community agencies and lend their efforts to the success of such community agency programs.

We further recommend that this most important problem of drug addiction be given every consideration by all of B'nai B'rith to the extent that we do everything possible to eliminate it at the earliest possible moment.

Pollution. *Resolved*, that B'nai B'rith initiate a broad program to lend its support to all governmental and private agencies involved in curtailing environmental destruction.

We further urge that B'nai B'rith undertake an educational program designed to make its lodges, chapters and youth groups aware of this concern.

We further urge that a permanent committee of experts be established to provide specific programs to implement this resolution.

"Inner City." *Whereas*, many citizens of our faith and other faiths remain within the inner cities; and

Whereas, the cities in this period of revolutionary upheaval in American society have undergone a profound change; and

Whereas, our fellow Americans still living in such inner cities are often both poverty stricken and the innocent victims of violence;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that B'nai B'rith, through each of its agencies, do everything in its power to help the plight of these unfortunate individuals by providing "people-to-people" programs, "group-to-group" programs, and concrete programs for use by our constituent lodges and chapters and, in this way spearhead all other programs designed to help our fellow citizens to help themselves and revitalize their respective neighborhoods.

'72 Elections. Because 1972 is both a Presidential election year and virtually for the first time presents all citizens from the age of 18 up the opportunity to vote in a national election, we urge those agencies within B'nai B'rith—such as CVS, ADL, BBYO and Hillel—that are especially involved in promoting good citizenship, to give every possible assistance to all units of the community in helping to "get-out-the-vote," and to provide practical assistance in registering new voters.

We further urge that B'nai B'rith, through its lodges and chapters, help publicize local, regional, state and national registration and voting procedures, and, as necessary, to cooperate with all community groups in helping to simplify burdensome and repressive registration and voting legislation and regulations.

The Report and Recommendations of the Committee on Action in Areas of Social Concern were adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Dr. WEXLER presided.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS. The following were nominated by their respective District delegations and elected by voice vote of the Convention to the office designated:

Vice-President of B'nai B'rith. MOSES L. KOVE of New York, (*District 1*); MARTIN M. GLUCHOW of East Liverpool, O., (*District 2*); I. BUDD ROCKOWER of Elkins Park, Pa., (*District 3*); DAVID GOLDMAN of Pasadena, Calif., (*District 4*); Dr. LEON H. FELDMAN of Asheville, N.C., (*District 5*); SAM J. STONE of Peoria, Ill., (*District 6*); BILLY B. GOLDBERG of Houston, (*District 7*); Dr. BEN ZION KAUDERS of Haifa (*District 14*); FRED SIMON WORMS of London (*District 15*); PAUL JACOB of Mulhouse, France, (*District 19*); SIDNEY MULLER of Maroubra, New South Wales, (*District 21*) and HENRY BLATT of Montreal, (*District 22*).

The Convention approved by voice vote election of nominees for Vice-President to be nominated at the forthcoming conventions of District 20, District 23 and District 25:

District Representatives to the Board of Governors. BEN D. HAIBLUM of Brooklyn, N.Y., LAWRENCE PEIREZ of Woodside, N.Y., SOLOMON ROSENBAUM of Fitchburg, Mass., and HERBERT D. SETLOW of Orange, Conn., (*District 1*); JACK N. BOHM of Kansas City, Mo., and BERNARD R. FRIEDMAN of Miami Beach, Fla.,

(District 2); Dr. LEON W. ROBBINS of Lancaster, Pa., HENRY J. SATSKY of Short Hills, N.J., and MURRAY H. SHUSTERMAN of Philadelphia, (District 3); JEROME M. BRISTOL of Encino, Calif., and JEFFERSON E. PEYSER of San Francisco, (District 4); MAURICE STEINBERG of Augusta, Ga., (District 5); MORRIS DIRENFELD of Detroit, Dr. ELMER M. IMBER of Lincolnwood, Ill., and MENDLE M. MELTZER of Winnipeg, Canada, (District 6); STANLEY M. HART of Jackson, Miss., (District 7); Judge SHALOM KASSAN of Haifa, (District 14); JOHN SIMON of Manchester, England, (District 15); HERMANN MOLVIDSON of Stockholm, (District 19); KURT E. LIPPMANN of South Caulfield, Victoria, (District 21); ABEL D. SELICK of Montreal, (District 22), and CARLOS ZELENKA of Panama City, (District 23).

The Convention approved by voice vote election of nominees for District Representative to the Board of Governors to be nominated at the forthcoming conventions of District 20 and District 25.

International Council. HARRY J. GREENBLATT of Boston, (District 1); DANIEL L. BRENNER of Kansas City, Mo., (District 2); Judge MAX ROSENN of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., (District 3); Dr. H.M. GINSBURG of Fresno, Calif., (District 4); MAURICE A. WEINSTEIN of Charlotte, N.C., (District 5); BERNARD ROMAN of Chicago, (District 6); IRVING I. GERSON of New Orleans, (District 7); Dr. YEHOShUA MAZUR of Tel Aviv, (District 14); Dr. ROBERT HALLE of London, (District 15); HANS KAUFMANN of Basle, Switzerland, (District 19); SIDNEY MULLER of Maroubra, New South Wales, (District 21), and MURRAY EHRICK of Toronto, (District 22).

The Convention approved by voice vote election of nominees to be members of the International Council, to be nominated at the forthcoming conventions of District 20, District 23 and District 25.

Adult Jewish Education Commission. IRVING B. MATROSS of Newton Centre, Mass., and HERBERT REIMAN of New York, (District 1); Dr. ALEXANDER S. FISHER of East Liverpool, O., and GENE SKLORMAN of Wooster, O., (District 2); WILLIAM NATHAN of Farrell, Pa., and MAX MESHON of Philadelphia, (District 3); HARRY BIKSON of Los Angeles and ALEC JACKSON of Vancouver, B.C., (District 4); ALBERT A. SPIKLOSER of Baltimore and DAVID WEIL of Goldsboro, N.C., (District 5); OSCAR NUDELMAN of Chicago and BERNARD PANUSH of Detroit, (District 6); MILTON T. SMITH of Austin, Tex., and D. AARON TOPEK of Houston, (District 7), and HARVEY FREEDMAN of Toronto and J. BARNEY GROSSER of Montreal, (District 22).

Anti-Defamation Commission. JOSEPH G. BARKAN of Forest Hills, N.Y., WARREN FREEDMAN of New Rochelle, N.Y., and HERBERT SKALSKY of Chestnut Hill, Mass., (District 1); JOSEPH COHEN of Kansas City, Kan., STANLEY R. FISHMAN of St. Joseph, Mo., and THEODORE B. MARKS of Akron (District 2); Judge DONALD MYERS of Elizabeth, N.J., LEONARD FASS of Merchantville, N.J., and BENJAMIN FEIERMAN of Harrisburg, Pa., (District 3); Judge ROBERT FEINERMAN of Pacific Palisades, Calif., MORRIE KRAUS of San Diego and SIGMUND O. MEYER of Butte, Mont., (District 4); JOSEPH BRECHNER of Orlando, Fla., MEYER EISENBERG of Potomac, Md., and HARRIS JACOBS of Atlanta (District 5); HARRY EPSTEIN of Madison, Wis., ARTHUR SCHOTT of Livonia, Mich., and PAUL WELTMAN of Chicago, (District 6); JULIUS M. ISRAEL of Houston, MILTON POPKIN of Houston and MORRIS L. STRAUCH of Memphis (District 7), and HARVEY CRESTOHL of Montreal, PHILIP LEON of Hamilton, Ont., and LOUIS RONSON of Willowdale, Ont., (District 22).

Commission on Community and Veterans Services. MILTON ADELMAN of Roslyn, N.Y., and SAMUEL M. SHLEVIN of Pawtucket, R.I., (District 1); MAX KOHNOP of Dayton and Judge ROBERT S. KRAFT of Cincinnati, (District 2); ROBERT GRIES of New Providence, N.J., and SAMUEL HOFFMAN of Wilmington, Del., (District 3); GORDON LEVOY of Beverly Hills, Calif., and LEON A. ROSENFELD, JR., of Los

Angeles, (*District 4*); LEON S. BRAUNSTEIN of Arlington, Va., and BERNARD POTTS of Baltimore (*District 5*); SAMUEL BEREK of Fremont, Neb., and ABE GINSBURG of Grand Rapids, Mich., (*District 6*); AL C. SCHLOSSER of Houston and RONALD WILK of Memphis, (*District 7*), and IRVING CHAPLEY of Toronto and HAROLD SMITH of Dolard des Ormeaux, Que., (*District 22*).

Hillel Commission. DR. EUGENE ARDEN of East Norwich, N.Y., and SIDNEY L. RABINOWITZ of Providence, R.I., (*District 1*); MAX R. EINSTANDIG of Terre Haute, Ind., and EMANUEL SPACK of Shawnee Mission, Kan., (*District 2*); IRVING CHVAT of Elizabeth, N.J., and HARRY B. ACKERSON of Fair Lawn, N.J., (*District 3*); RAYMOND SARLOT of Tarzana, Calif., and ALFRED PERPER of San Diego, (*District 4*); NATHAN JAY of Athens, Ga., and MORRIS H. PRICE of Baltimore, (*District 5*); ALVIN ABRAMSON of Omaha and H. BURTON SCHATZ of Chicago, (*District 6*); IRWIN CAPLAN of Houston and DR. MORRIS POLSKY of Austin, Tex., (*District 7*), and CYRIL HOUSER of Toronto and MAURICE KATZ of Montreal, (*District 22*).

Youth Commission. NATHAN GUZOVSKY of Boston and ARNOLD S. HENOCHESTEIN of Jamaica, N.Y., (*District 1*); AARON GROSSMAN of Youngstown, O., and MORRIS H. KROSS of Merriam, Kan., (*District 2*); MORRIS ROHRBERG of Newark, N.J., and JOSEPH E. WEINER of Philadelphia, (*District 3*); JULIUS SAMSON of Los Angeles and ROY LILIENFELD of North Hollywood, Calif., (*District 4*); FRANK BRUCK of Columbia, S.C., and BERNARD SPECTOR of Atlanta, (*District 5*); LOUIS WEBER of Southfield, Mich., and OTTO F. WEINER of Chicago, (*District 6*); RALPH FINN of Memphis and OTTO SCHLAMME of Houston, (*District 7*), and MORRIS FLICHT of Downsview, Ont., and TEDDY GREENFIELD of St. Laurent, Que., (*District 22*).

Commission on Career and Counseling Services. MILTON KADISH of Waterbury, Conn., and IRVING RUBINSTEIN, SR., of New York, (*District 1*); LEONARD KIRSCHNER of Cincinnati and CHARLES WALLACH of Cleveland, (*District 2*); DR. SAMUEL E. BINSTOCK of Pittsburgh and SIDNEY RUDOLPH of Passaic, N.J., (*District 3*); ROBERT LEFF of Beverly Hills, Calif., and E. KENNETH MILLER of San Francisco, (*District 4*); DR. SAMUEL FRIEDMAN of Baltimore and DR. REUBEN S. HORLICK of Arlington, Va., (*District 5*); HARRY N. KATZ of Detroit and STANLEY KRONICK of St. Louis Park., Minn., (*District 6*); STANLEY KAUFMAN of Dallas and DR. MILTON MINTZ of Nashville, (*District 7*), and MEL GUNN of Hamilton, Ont., and NAP KAPINSKY of Ottawa, (*District 22*).

Court of Appeals. JOHN J. DANNIN of Newport, R.I., (*District 1*); Judge SAUL PINCHICK of Denver, (*District 2*); Judge MAURICE W. SPORKIN of Philadelphia, (*District 3*); SAMUEL L. FENDEL of San Francisco, (*District 4*); Judge MILTON A. FRIEDMAN of Miami, (*District 5*); ALFRED H. BOUNIN of Detroit, (*District 6*); WILLIAM NATHAN of Houston, (*District 7*); Judge HAIM EHRlich of Tel Aviv, (*District 14*); IGNAZ HERZFELD of Basle, Switzerland, (*District 19*); JACIE C. HOROWITZ of Toronto, (*District 22*), and MINO COVO of Mexico City, (*District 23*).

The Convention approved by voice vote election of nominees to the Court of Appeals, to be nominated at the forthcoming conventions of District 15, District 20, District 21 and District 25.

Election of Treasurer. PHILIP LAX of Claremont, N.J., (*District 3*), was placed in nomination by MURRAY H. SHUSTERMAN of Philadelphia, (*District 3*), for the office of Treasurer of B'nai B'rith.

The nomination of Brother LAX was seconded by HENRY BLATT of Montreal, (*District 22*), and MARTIN M. GLUCHOW of East Liverpool, Ohio, (*District 2*).

MOE KUDLER of Los Angeles, (*District 4*), was placed in nomination by JACK J. SPITZER of Los Angeles, (*District 4*), for the office of Treasurer of B'nai B'rith.

The nomination of Brother KUDLER was seconded by Judge DAVID A. ROSE of

Boston, (*District 1*), and Bernard Roman of Chicago, (*District 6*).

The Convention voted by closed ballot.

Brother KUDLER was elected Treasurer of B'nai B'rith.

On motion by Brother LAX, the Convention voted the election of Brother KUDLER to be unanimous.

Election of President. DAVID M. BLUMBERG of Knoxville, Tenn., (*District 7*), was placed in nomination by BILLY B. GOLDBERG of Houston, (*District 7*), for the office of President of B'nai B'rith.

The nomination of Brother BLUMBERG was seconded by HARRY STRAUSS of Memphis and JAMES BLUMBERG of Memphis (son of the nominee).

On motion by LABEL A. KATZ of New Orleans, (*Honorary President of B'nai B'rith*), Brother BLUMBERG was elected President of B'nai B'rith by acclamation.

Election of Honorary President. DR. WILLIAM A. WEXLER of Savannah, Ga., (*retiring President of B'nai B'rith*) was placed in nomination by JACK J. JENKINS of Washington, D. C., (*District 5*), for the office of Honorary President of B'nai B'rith.

On motion by Brother JENKINS, Brother WEXLER was elected an Honorary President of B'nai B'rith by acclamation.

Election of Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals. SAMUEL MOSKOVITCH of Montreal, (*District 22*), was placed in nomination by HARRY J. PACHTER of Toronto, (*District 22*), for the office of Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals.

The nomination of Brother MOSKOVITCH was seconded by SYDNEY A. HELLENBRAND of Cedarhurst, N.Y., (*District 1*).

Judge MILTON A. FRIEDMAN of Miami Beach, Fla., (*District 5*), was placed in nomination by E. ALBERT PALLOT of Miami Beach, Fla., (*District 5*), for the office of Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals.

The nomination of Brother FRIEDMAN was seconded by LOUIS BARG of Forrest City, Ark., (*District 7*).

The Convention voted by closed ballot.

Brother MOSKOVITCH was elected Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals.

Oneg Shabbat

DR. MARVER H. BERNSTEIN of Princeton, N.J., national chairman of B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations, presided.

Sabbath melodies were chanted by the Jewish Community Chorus of Philadelphia, conducted by SHALOM ALTMAN.

PHILIP M. KLUTZNICK of Chicago, honorary president of B'nai B'rith, delivered an address on "*Jewish Priorities in a Changing World*," in which he emphasized a need for the American Jewish community and its institutions to engage in long-range planning – rather than limit themselves to reacting to "crisis issues" – as a necessary means of strengthening both the American Jewish community and its relationships with the state and people of Israel.

MICHAEL DOCKTERMAN, grand aleph godol of Aleph Zadik Aleph, and DANIEL FREELANDER, president of the Hillel Foundation at Trinity College in Connecticut, responded to Brother KLUTZNICK's views.

Note: Transcript of the Oneg Shabbat is available on request.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1971

Sabbath Services

Sabbath morning worship services were conducted, followed by five concurrent Sabbath study groups on the theme *Torah for Our Time*.

Dr. JACK J. COHEN of Jerusalem, director of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation at The Hebrew University, led the study group discussion on *The Meaning of B'rith in B'nai B'rith: A Look at the Central Idea of Jewish Life*.

Dr. IRA EISENSTEIN of New York, president of The Jewish Reconstructionist Foundation, led the study group discussion on *How to Read the Bible in Our Time: Introduction to the Torah Portion of the Week*.

Rabbi OSCAR GRONER of Washington, D. C., assistant national director of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations, led the study group discussion on *The Language of Faith: Introduction to Some Fundamental Ideas in Our Prayerbook*.

Rabbi BENJAMIN M. KAHN of Washington, D. C., national director of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations, led the study group discussion on *Some Crucial Issues in the Torah Portion: Who Wrote the Bible? Is There a Conflict Between Science and Religion?*

Dr. LOUIS L. KAPLAN of Baltimore, former president of the Baltimore Hebrew Teachers College, led the study group discussion on *The Torah Portion of the Week: Introduction to a Jewish World View*.

Oneg Shabbat

LABEL A. KATZ of New Orleans, honorary president of B'nai B'rith, presided.

Dr. LOUIS L. KAPLAN and Rabbi IRA EISENSTEIN, in brief remarks, paid tribute to Dr. MORDECAI M. KAPLAN, founder of the Jewish Reconstructionist movement.

PHILIP M. KLUTZNICK of Chicago, honorary president of B'nai B'rith, presented Dr. MORDECAI M. KAPLAN with the first B'nai B'rith Harold Weisberg Memorial Award in Jewish Thought, a \$1,500 prize established by the B'nai B'rith Commission on Adult Jewish Education in memory of the founding director and subsequent national chairman of B'nai B'rith's adult Jewish study program. Brother KLUTZNICK, in citing Dr. KAPLAN, said: "In this one man many of us can find hope for a greater future. We can find a way of life as Jews, and we can find a hope for ethical nationhood in a world at peace."

Dr. MORDECAI M. KAPLAN, in his acceptance address, discussed the problems of Jewish survival:

"The three goals of Torah, or Jewish education, are themselves an integral part of the Jewish tradition which began as supernaturalist religion, and functioned as such until the end of the eighteenth century. We live in an age when that tradition itself has to be reinterpreted neither in supernaturalist nor in naturalist nor secularist terms, but in transnaturalist terms. So long as that is not done, we cannot expect Jewish life to be normalized. The present chaotic condition of Jewish life is bound to continue, and the danger of disappearance is likely to persist.

The only possible solution of the Jewish problem of identity and creativity is the right kind of lifelong Jewish education, which must begin with the home in which a Jew is born and continue in the home which the Jew establishes. Such a Jewish education must be in keeping with the latest developments in the understanding of human nature, so as to counteract the forces in the environment that corrupt it."

Note: Full text of Dr. Mordecai Kaplan's address is published separately and available on request.

Convention Banquet

Dr. WEXLER presided.

Mrs. NATHAN HOLSTEIN of Pittsburgh (president of *B'nai B'rith Women*), conveyed the greetings of *B'nai B'rith Women*.

BILLY B. GOLDBERG of Houston (*District 7*), chairman of the *B'nai B'rith Million-Dollar Fund for Jewish Youth*, a special fund campaign in honor of Brother WEXLER, paid tribute to the thirty charter contributors of \$5,000 each, presenting an engraved bronze menorah, designed by artist Ludwig Wolpert, to those in attendance. Purpose of the fund, Brother GOLDBERG said, was "to help sustain the expansions in *B'nai B'rith* youth programs that took place during the Wexler administration."

MAURICE A. WEINSTEIN of Charlotte, N.C., (*District 5*), chairman of the *B'nai B'rith International Council*, expressed to Brother WEXLER the appreciation of the Supreme Lodge for Brother WEXLER's leadership as president of *B'nai B'rith* for two consecutive terms. Brother WEINSTEIN, on behalf of the Supreme Lodge, presented Brother WEXLER with an engraved silver megillah.

HENRY BLATT of Montreal (*District 22*), a vice-president of *B'nai B'rith*, introduced ABBA EBAN, Minister of Foreign Affairs for the State of Israel.

The Foreign Minister, in his address, reviewed the status of Middle East affairs since the Six-Day War, noting that "the flow of events has not been backward" and that Israel had progressed in its search for peace and security.

"A cease-fire has a certain dynamism. With every passing month the chance of annulling the cease-fire becomes diminished. There is also a new awakening to the necessity of bringing the Middle East into conformity with the current international thought of our time. The words "peace agreement with Israel" – words never heard before from Arab lips – have been issued on behalf of the leading Arab governments. We therefore need not be frightened by the question: For whom is time working? Time does not work at all; it is what people do with time that counts. And if it is inevitable that further time should elapse until peace is achieved, it is not inexorable that the passing months should witness a decline either in Israel's strength or in the ultimate prospects of peace."

Note: Full text of Foreign Minister EBAN's address is published separately and is available on request.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1971

(Delegates who were contributors of \$500 or more to the B'nai B'rith Youth Services Appeal attended, by invitation, a President's Club Breakfast. MYRON E. HERZOG of Chicago (District 6), chairman of the President's Club campaign, presided. Dr. WILLIAM HABER of Ann Arbor, Mich., Dean Emeritus of the University of Michigan and honorary chairman of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations, in an address, discussed the need for greater resources to expand B'nai B'rith's youth programming. Brother HABER said that the American Jewish community "is doing a woefully inadequate job" in fulfilling this responsibility. He said that "B'nai B'rith has a sacred trust in BBYO and Hillel. We must take the lead and arouse the community - beginning with our own members - to the vital needs of our youth and to our need for survival.")

Eighth Plenary Session

Dr. WEXLER presided.

ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE. The Report of the *Committee on Organization and Structure* was presented by BERNARD ROMAN of Chicago (*District 6*), chairman of the Committee.

Vocational Service. The Committee considered collectively a number of resolutions submitted by various Districts and by the national commission of B'nai B'rith Vocational Service, a recommendation of the Planning and Research Committee and a recommendation of the President, all relative to the future of B'nai B'rith Vocational Service.

A resolution submitted by District 1 was as follows:

Whereas, District 1 of B'nai B'rith has been apprised of the possibility that B'nai B'rith Vocational Service may be curtailed, diminished, or abolished in its entirety; and

Whereas, District 1 firmly believes that B'nai B'rith Vocational Service renders a needed and necessary service to Jewish youth at a time when such youth require more, rather than less, guidance as the result of aimless career wandering, rebellion, opposition to the "establishment," drug addiction and flight from our heritage; and

Whereas, Vocational Service is a highly technical service with psychological, vocational and aptitude testing procedures administered by specialists, and any action which would substantially weaken the ability of the program to render the specialized services that are necessary to Jewish youth should be avoided; and

Whereas, Vocational Service has afforded the B'nai B'rith member, through his or her lodge or chapter, the opportunity to render a service to our Jewish youth by the formation of guidance panels, career conferences at local schools, synagogues, community centers, caravans for Jewish youth visiting colleges and instituting participation by our members in the work and purposes of B'nai B'rith, providing a stimulus to membership accretion and retention; and

Whereas, District No. 1, through its support of Vocational Service for 33 years and its participation in advisory boards of B'nai B'rith Vocational Service, sponsored and helped

develop this agency into one of the finest educational and vocational counseling services in the nation, highly accredited professionally by the American Board of Counseling Services, Inc., of the American Personnel & Guidance Association; and

Whereas, Vocational Service is the only national or local agency providing educational and vocational guidance, career, college and personal counseling for Jewish youth exclusively in certain areas within District No. 1; and

Whereas, District 1 of B'nai B'rith believes that the continuation of Vocational Service fulfills a distinctive Jewish purpose in that it tends to keep our youth within the fold of his Jewish heritage and counsels them in these turbulent times when such guidance is essential to their mental and physical wellbeing, thus benefiting the Jewish community and serving the purposes of our Order;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that District Grand Lodge 1 of B'nai B'rith, in convention assembled, reaffirming its support of B'nai B'rith Vocational Service, memorializes the Supreme Lodge that it opposes diminution, curtailment or abolition of Vocational Service, and urges the continuation and strengthening of this service to our Jewish youth.

A resolution submitted by District 3 was as follows:

Whereas, District 3 has been apprised of the possibility that B'nai B'rith Vocational Service may be reduced, consolidated or abolished, and

Whereas, District 3 firmly believes that B'nai B'rith Vocational Service renders a needed and necessary service to Jewish youth and views with considerable concern the movement to discontinue B'nai B'rith Vocational Service, and

Whereas, it is a matter of record that District 3 has for more than 20 years actively supported B'nai B'rith Vocational Service, and

Whereas, District 3 through its participation in local BBVS advisory boards, has helped develop this agency into one of the finest educational and vocational counseling services in the entire nation, highly accredited professionally by the American Board on Counseling Services, Inc., of the American Personnel and Guidance Association, and

Whereas, this service, endorsed by B'nai B'rith District 3 and by schools, colleges and government agencies, continues to demonstrate what can be accomplished for Jewish youth and Jewish life through B'nai B'rith Vocational Service, and

Whereas, District 3 believes that continuation of B'nai B'rith Vocational Service is essential to holding on to Jewish youth, and that expansion of this service will benefit B'nai B'rith, Jewish youth and the Jewish community,

Be it therefore resolved, that District 3 memorialize the Supreme Lodge of B'nai B'rith for the purpose of voicing its opposition to any diminution, consolidation or abolition of Vocational Service and urges the continued support and strengthening of this service to Jewish youth.

A resolution submitted by District 6 was as follows:

Whereas, District 6 of B'nai B'rith believes that the work and program of B'nai B'rith Vocational Service fulfills a distinctive Jewish purpose in that it tends to keep our youth within the fold of their Jewish heritage and counsels them in these turbulent times when such guidance is essential to their mental and physical well being, thus benefiting the Jewish community and serving the purposes of the Order,

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that District 6, in convention assembled, inform the Supreme Lodge that it opposes diminution, consolidation or abolition of vocational service, that it will continue to support B'nai B'rith Vocational Service, and urges the continuation and strengthening of this service to our Jewish youth.

A resolution submitted by the national commission of B'nai B'rith Vocational Service was as follows:

1. The national commission of B'nai B'rith Vocational Service unanimously recommends that its composition be structured so that 10 per cent of its membership is composed of Jewish youth.

2. The commission recommends that the name of B'nai B'rith Vocational Service be changed to B'nai B'rith Career and Counseling Services.

3. Recognizing the financial plight of our Order and of B'nai B'rith B'rith's youth services, the commission requests that each agency be given the responsibility for carrying its fair share of the load to bring B'nai B'rith to a sound financial condition, with across-the-board economics where necessary affected within each agency equally, with no agency singled out

for a greater share of the burden, in order to conserve the identity of each agency, the nature of the program, and the service it renders.

4. The commission unanimously records its opposition to any consolidation of the B'nai B'rith youth agencies.

The Committee referred paragraph 3 of the above resolution to the *Convention Committee on Fiscal Matters*.

A resolution submitted by District 5 was as follows:

Whereas, B'nai B'rith Vocational Service has been in existence for 33 years, and

Whereas, it has performed needed and vital services to the youth of our community, our District and the youth of other B'nai B'rith districts by providing Jewish youth with career and college counseling through appraisal of individual aptitudes, interests and abilities, by guiding these people to plan wisely for their futures by instituting educational programs for their self-fulfillment and the betterment of the community, and by developing educational and vocational libraries as an additional community resource, and

Whereas, the staff of BBVS has devoted unselfish time, energy, and skill to the furtherance of this essential work, engendering respect and admiration from the Jewish community and the community at large, as well as receiving high official recognition from professional, national, educational and guidance organizations, and

Whereas, the continuing need for BBVS is proven by the day-to-day unsolicited requests for services from youth and parents and community agencies,

Therefore be it resolved by District Grand Lodge 5 that B'nai B'rith Vocational Service, subject to an appropriate reassessment of priorities and allocation of funds by the Supreme Lodge, be retained as an integral part of the B'nai B'rith youth programs, thus insuring the continued growth and stability of this needed service, so that the vital educational and career guidance needs of Jewish youth be met.

A resolution submitted by District 4 was as follows:

B'nai B'rith District 4, reaffirming a policy resolution previously adopted in 1967, again memorializes the Supreme Lodge to proceed, with all deliberate speed, to withdraw support and sponsorship of the existing national Vocational Service program in such a manner that if elements of the program are deemed worthy of continuance, that continuance be sponsored and financed by the local communities they respectively serve.

The recommendation submitted by the Committee on Planning and Research was as follows:

The Committee on Planning and Research recommends the continuation of B'nai B'rith Vocational Service but strongly urges a revised policy to reflect local conditions. It is our sense that contraction and merger do not reach the basic issue of the BBVS dilemma; that is, a need for a closer relationship to existing vocational service needs in local Jewish communities.

Therefore, we further recommend that:

1. BBVS be brought into a closer organic relationship with other B'nai B'rith youth serving agencies, *i.e.*, Hillel and BBYO.
2. BBVS reexamine, with support of national B'nai B'rith staff, its relationship to local Jewish communities. Direct involvement in local planning and priority-setting processes will become a primary source of action in shaping future BBVS functions.

The recommendation of the President, incorporated in the *President's Message*, proposed affirmative action by the convention for the absorption of B'nai B'rith Vocational Service by the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization.

Note: Full text of the proposal is published in this *Summary* under the *Proceedings of Wednesday, October 13, 1971, First Plenary Session*, Subtitle: *Recommendations of the President*.

In its deliberations on this matter, the Committee heard the views of President WILLIAM A. WEXLER in favor of a merging of the national commissions of the Hillel Foundations, Youth Organization and Vocational Service. Brother WEXLER maintained that such a merger would effect financial savings, better control, closer inter-program relationships, a streamlining in administration and a continuity in youth membership from BBYO to Hillel.

The Planning and Research Committee reported that, in its consideration of the proposal, "sufficient time was not available to study the question in its totality.

Questions of identity, finances, program, philosophy of the agencies and many more were not investigated to their fullest possible extent." The Planning and Research Committee had therefore recommended against the merger.

The Committee recommended that the merger of the three B'nai B'rith youth agencies be approved.

On motion from the floor by LAWRENCE PEIREZ (*District 1*), the recommendation of the Committee was amended to read:

1. *This Convention accepts the recommendation of the Planning and Research Committee with respect to the absorption of B'nai B'rith Vocational Service by the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, and further recommends that the possible merger of the national commissions of the three B'nai B'rith youth agencies be referred to the Planning and Research Committee for further study and report.*

2. *This Convention directs the professional staffs of the agencies and commissions to develop intensive means of cooperation under the supervision and guidance of the President and Executive Vice President, the intention being to bring about greater efficiency and cooperation within the framework of the family of B'nai B'rith.*

The Recommendation, as amended, was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

The Committee submitted to the Convention, as a separate action, the resolution submitted by District 4, noted above, and recommended, in view of the Convention's preceding action, disapproval of the resolution's proposal.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Delegates to Supreme Lodge Conventions. The Committee considered a resolution submitted by District 6 proposing a Constitutional amendment to change the present ratio of delegates to a Supreme Lodge Convention from "*one delegate for every six hundred members*" to "*one delegate for every four hundred members.*"

The Committee noted that the Planning and Research Committee had considered and recommended disapproval of the proposal.

The Committee recommended that the proposal be disapproved.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

District Executive Director as Delegate-at-Large. The Committee considered a resolution submitted by District 4 proposing that "*the executive directors of the North American Districts be delegates-at-large to the Supreme Lodge Convention, without affecting the number of delegates to which each District is entitled.*"

The Committee noted that the Planning and Research Committee had considered and recommended disapproval of the proposal.

The Committee recommended that the proposal be disapproved.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Selection of District Representatives to Supreme Lodge. The Committee considered a proposal submitted by the Planning and Research Committee that a District elect its representatives to the Supreme Lodge (*i.e.*, Vice President and members of the Board of Governors), and to the commissions, at the District convention immediately prior to the Supreme Lodge Convention. The Planning and Research Committee considered this method of selection "*more democratic than selection by District caucuses at a Supreme Lodge Convention.*"

The Committee noted that the proposal is current practice in three Districts.

The Committee amended the proposal to recommend that "*all North American Districts shall be required, at their respective District convention immediately prior to the Supreme Lodge Convention, to elect those members of*

the District who are to serve as representatives of the District in the office of Vice President of the Order, as members of the Board of Governors, as national commissioners, as members of the International Council and as justice of the Court of Appeals; the members so selected to be constituted as nominees for election at the subsequent Supreme Lodge Convention."

The Recommendation of the Committee was disapproved by voice vote of the Convention.

Constituency of Hillel Commission. The Committee considered a resolution from the B'nai B'rith Hillel Commission proposing that *"in addition to the present constituency of the Hillel commission, up to eight (8) students shall be entitled to membership on the commission, the method of selection to be determined by the executive committee of the commission."*

The Committee recommended that the first paragraph of Section 63 of the Constitution be amended by removing the period at the end thereof and adding a semi-colon to be followed by the words *"and not more than eight (8) student members of Hillel, to be designated by the Commission with the advice of the President of the Order."*

The Recommendation of the Committee was approved, two-thirds or more concurring, by voice vote of the Convention.

AZA Membership on Lodge Executive Committee. The Committee considered a resolution submitted by District 1 that the Supreme Lodge *"require that each lodge sponsoring a chapter of Aleph Zadik Aleph (AZA) of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization include as voting members of the lodge's executive committee the aleph godol (president) of the AZA chapter and two other alephs (members of the AZA chapter) selected by the AZA chapter; provided, however, that if a lodge sponsors more than one AZA chapter it may restrict the number of alephs to be included as voting members of the lodge's executive committee to the greater of the following two numbers: (a) two; or (b) one aleph (who shall be the aleph godol) from each AZA chapter sponsored by the lodge."*

The Committee noted that the proposal had the endorsement of the B'nai B'rith Youth Commission.

The Committee recommended that the proposal be approved.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Constituency of B'nai B'rith Youth Commission. The Committee considered a proposal submitted by the B'nai B'rith Youth Commission that Section 65 of the Constitution relating to membership on the commission be amended to read . . . *"the Presidents of Aleph Zadik Aleph and B'nai B'rith Girls, while serving in such offices; two (2) additional members of Aleph Zadik Aleph to be elected by the international convention of Aleph Zadik Aleph, and two (2) additional members of B'nai B'rith Girls to be elected by the international convention of B'nai B'rith Girls . . ."*

The Committee recommended that the proposal be approved.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted, two-thirds or more concurring, by voice vote of the Convention.

The Committee considered a proposal submitted by the B'nai B'rith Youth Commission that Section 65 of the Constitution be amended to delete the words:

"... two (2) members from each North American District to be nominated by the representatives to the Supreme Lodge from such District, and to be elected at each regular Convention of the Supreme Lodge . . ."

and to substitute the following words:

"... one (1) member from each North American District to be nominated by the repre-

representatives to the Supreme Lodge from such District, and to be elected at each regular Convention of the Supreme Lodge; and one (1) member from each North American District to be nominated by the representatives to the Supreme Lodge from such District, and to be elected at each regular Convention of the Supreme Lodge; and one (1) member from each North American District who shall be the District BBYO board or committee chairman; one (1) member from each overseas District which has a full-time professional worker for the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization in that District, to be nominated by the representatives to the Supreme Lodge from such District and to be elected at each regular Convention of the Supreme Lodge, provided, however, that the cost of such overseas representation shall not be a charge against the North American budget of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization . . .”

The Committee, noting that these are among matters under study and consideration by the Supreme Lodge Committee on Planning and Research, recommended that the proposals be referred to that committee.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

The Committee considered a resolution submitted by the B'nai B'rith Youth Commission to amend Section 65 of the Constitution by deleting the words “*without vote*” from the provision “. . . and not more than three (3) Honorary Life Members without vote to be chosen by the Commission.”

The Committee recommended that the proposal be approved.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted, two-thirds concurring, by voice vote of the Convention.

The Committee considered a resolution submitted by District 2 proposing that the Constitution be amended to provide that chairmen of District BBYO boards and/or councils of the North American Districts “*shall automatically be members of the B'nai B'rith Youth Commission.*”

The Committee, noting that such matters are under study and consideration by the Supreme Lodge Committee on Planning and Research, recommended that the proposals be referred to that committee.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

AZA Representation at District Conventions and on District Boards. The Committee considered a resolution submitted by the B'nai B'rith Youth Commission to amend Part III, Article III of the Constitution by including an additional Section “*to provide for Aleph Zadik Aleph representation at District Grand Lodge conventions and at meetings of the governing boards of District Grand Lodges.*”

The Committee endorsed the proposal and recommended that the Convention refer it to the respective Districts for implementation.

The Committee further recommended that the *Convention Committee on Constitutional Drafting* take such appropriate action as may be required in the matter of Constitutional changes necessary to implement the proposal.

The Recommendations of the Committee were adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

[Note: The Committee on Constitutional Drafting found no need for a Constitutional revision.]

BBYO Delegates to Supreme Lodge. The Committee considered a proposal of the executive committee of the Supreme Lodge Committee on Planning and Research, endorsed by resolution of the B'nai B'rith Youth Commission, and submitted by both, to amend the constitution and provide for the following:

“At future triennial conventions of the Supreme Lodge the delegates will include the Grand Aleph Godol of AZA, the N'siah of BBG, one AZA youth leader from each North American District, and one BBG leader from each North American District. This will mean a total of 16 youth delegates (at present Districts 1 and 22 are administered in BBYO as a single district). The purpose of this recommendation is to bring to the triennial conventions the

aspirations of North American Jewish youth, and also to give the young people sponsored by B'nai B'rith a deeper sense of involvement in the parent organization."

The Committee, endorsing the proposal, recommended that the third paragraph of Section 6 of the Constitution be amended by inserting in the third line after the word "... thereof ..." the following: "... and the Presidents of Aleph Zadik Aleph and B'nai B'rith Girls, one (1) additional member of Aleph Zadik Aleph and one (1) additional member of B'nai B'rith Girls from each of the seven North American Districts (Districts 1 and 22 being administered as a single District by BBYO at the time of this enactment), to be elected by their respective Districts ..."

The Recommendation, by motion from the floor, was amended to add further the words "... and one (1) youth member from each overseas District, to be elected by their respective Districts ..."

The Recommendation of the Committee, as amended from the floor, was adopted, two-thirds or more concurring, by voice vote of the Convention.

Commissioners and Cabinet Members. The Committee considered a resolution submitted by District 4 calling on the Supreme Lodge "to direct its commissions, councils and cabinets to formulate job descriptions for commissioners and cabinet members."

The Committee, noting that the matter was under study and consideration by the Supreme Lodge Committee on Planning and Research, recommended that the proposal be referred to that committee.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Coordination Between Agencies and B'nai B'rith Membership. The Committee considered two resolutions submitted by District 1. One resolution, concerned with improving liaison between elements of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and individual B'nai B'rith lodges, was as follows:

Whereas, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, by virtue of the importance of its purposes, functions and activities, has earned an enviable reputation as a fearless fighter for many of the principles upon which our Order is founded, and has attained a unique position in the family of B'nai B'rith agencies; and

Whereas, the members of B'nai B'rith have long pointed with pride to the many and varied accomplishments of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith; and

Whereas, the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, by its activities, has in the past enhanced the strength and growth of B'nai B'rith lodges; and

Whereas, it is essential to the continued strength and growth of B'nai B'rith lodges that the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith maintain a meaningful liaison and demonstrate a full measure of cooperation with all B'nai B'rith lodges; and

Whereas, in recent years, the degree of cooperation extended by the staff of the Anti-Defamation League to lodges within the greater New York area has apparently diminished to such a degree as to lead to numerous complaints from lodges that they have not been afforded cooperation, assistance and information by members of the staff of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that District 1 memorialize the Supreme Lodge to take such action as may be appropriate to assure more effective liaison between the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the individual lodges within our Order so as to improve the effectiveness of ADL in dealing with the legitimate needs of the individual lodges and meeting their reasonable requests for advice, information and cooperation.

The other resolution, concerned with improving the consultative process between B'nai B'rith commissions and agencies and the leadership of B'nai B'rith Districts, councils and lodges, was as follows:

Whereas, national commissions, B'nai B'rith agencies and their staffs frequently do not

consult or communicate with B'nai B'rith lodges, councils and Districts on mutual problems; and

Whereas, the activity of national commissions, B'nai B'rith agencies and their staffs frequently improperly compete with the activities of the councils and the Districts, thereby diluting their effectiveness;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that District 1 memorialize the Supreme Lodge to firmly impress on B'nai B'rith agencies, and other committees, and their respective staffs, that their primary obligation and responsibility is to B'nai B'rith and its duly elected officers and leaders on the Supreme Lodge and District levels; and

That District 1 further memorialize the Supreme Lodge to take all necessary steps, with all deliberate speed, to compel the elimination of the aforesaid conditions and problems.

The Committee endorsed both proposals.

The Committee noted that similar resolutions had been presented to and adopted by Supreme Lodge conventions in the past. The Committee declared itself as constrained to question whether there had been effective implementation of such Convention actions.

The Committee recommended that responsibility be imposed upon the President of B'nai B'rith to take all steps immediately to implement this directive; further, for the purpose of study and review, that the President of B'nai B'rith be required to make and deliver a report of progress to the Supreme Lodge Board of Governors periodically, but not less than twelve months from the date of this Convention.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Ritual. The Committee considered a proposal submitted by District 4 for establishment of a National Ritual Committee with responsibility to evaluate and, where necessary, reconstruct official rituals of the Order, and to prepare and advise on whatever new rituals it deems essential.

The Committee, endorsing the intent of the proposal, recommended that responsibility for evaluation and possible revision of rituals be made the responsibility of the Program Committee.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Social Action Advisory Committee. The Committee considered a proposal submitted by the Supreme Lodge Committee on Planning and Research to establish a Social Action Advisory Committee that would enable B'nai B'rith units to involve themselves in social action issues, but with proper and controlled safeguards so as not to be in conflict with existing B'nai B'rith policy. The proposal provided for the following:

1. Individual units be permitted to act on a social issue when that action is not in violation of existing policy; upon consultation with local leadership and their respective national bodies (in the case of lodges, their respective Districts); and when such action or statement is identified as emanating from the specific unit.

2. The establishment of a special committee with delegated powers to determine social action policies when the Board of Governors is not in session. This committee would have the power to act between meetings of the Board of Governors only (a) when there is not a present policy on a given issue; (b) when there is a policy but a constituent unit desires a change; (c) when there is a related policy but that policy needs clarification or is in doubt.

3. The Social Action Advisory Committee would be composed of the President of B'nai B'rith, the Executive Vice President of B'nai B'rith, a chairman of the committee to be appointed by the President, one (1) lay representative of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, one (1) lay representative of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization, one (1) lay representative of the B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundations, one (1) lay representative of the Supreme Lodge and one (1) lay representative of B'nai B'rith Women.

It shall be understood that once policy has been formulated by the Supreme Lodge Board of Governors, that policy shall be adhered to by all units of B'nai B'rith.

The Committee recommended approval of the proposal with the additional provision that the President of B'nai B'rith Women and the Executive Director of B'nai B'rith Women be included in the composition of the advisory committee.

Motion from the floor, in disapproval of the Committee's recommendation, proposed that the matter be returned to the Supreme Lodge Committee on Planning and Research for further study and consideration.

The motion from the floor was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Naming of Lodges. The Committee considered a proposal to amend Section 28 of the Constitution and thereby provide for authority to change the name of a lodge. The present Constitutional provisions provides only for "... approve names for new lodges ..."

The Committee recommended that the proposal be approved by deleting the word "... new ..." in line 4 of Section 28 of the Constitution.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted, two-thirds or more concurring, by voice vote of the Convention.

Change of Name for Vocational Service. The Committee considered a proposal submitted by the B'nai B'rith Vocational Service Commission to amend Part II, Article XII of the Constitution, and such other sections of the Constitution as may be necessary for identification purposes, to effect a change of name from "... B'nai B'rith Vocational Service Commission ..." to "... B'nai B'rith Career and Counseling Services Commission ..."

The Committee recommended that the proposal be approved.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted, two-thirds or more concurring, by voice vote of the Convention.

Appointment of Comptroller by Board of Governors. The Committee considered, in the interest of orderly administration of the internal operations of the Supreme Lodge, a proposal providing for appointment of the Comptroller by the Supreme Lodge Board of Governors.

The Committee recommended that Section 18 of the Constitution be amended to include the following additional paragraph:

"The Comptroller, who is also Budget Officer of the Order, shall be appointed by the Board of Governors and shall hold office at the pleasure of the Board which shall fix his compensation. He shall be directly responsible to the President and the Board of Governors for implementation of fiscal and budgetary policies. The Comptroller shall report annually or more frequently as required to the Board of Governors."

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted, two-thirds or more concurring, by voice vote of the Convention.

Attendance and Voting Rights at Meetings of Supreme Lodge Board of Governors. The Committee considered a proposal submitted by President-elect DAVID M. BLUMBERG to provide authority for the chairmen of the respective Supreme Lodge commissions, councils, cabinets and committees to attend, with full voting rights, meetings of the Supreme Lodge Board of Governors.

The Committee recommended that Section 20 of the Constitution be amended to delete the present phraseology and substitute the following:

"The Chairmen of all National Commissions of the Supreme Lodge, the Chairman of the B'nai B'rith International Council, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the B'nai B'rith Foundation of the United States, the Chairman of the Membership Cabinet, the Chairman of the Fund Raising Cabinet and the Chairman of the Members' Insurance Committee shall, by virtue of their respective offices while holding the same, be entitled to attend meetings of the Board of Governors with the right to vote. Their expenses shall be paid out of the budgets of their respective bodies."

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted, two-thirds or more concurring, by voice vote of the Convention.

Study of Commissions. The Committee considered a proposal submitted by the Supreme Lodge Committee on Planning and Research as follows:

It is our recommendation that the Planning and Research Committee in the next triennial period study the totality of Commissions. We strongly urge that any proposals for change be finalized and reported to the Districts prior to the District Conventions immediately preceding the next Supreme Lodge Convention.

The Committee, endorsing the proposal, further recommended that the study be expanded to incorporate Supreme Lodge councils and cabinets.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Constituency of Committee on Planning and Research. The Committee considered a proposal submitted by the Supreme Lodge Committee on Planning and Research to provide for the constituency of said committee to include 24 members as follows: two (2) representatives from each North American District, to be appointed by the President of B'nai B'rith (16 members); two (2) representatives of B'nai B'rith Women; the chairman of the committee, to be appointed by the President of B'nai B'rith; the President of B'nai B'rith; the Executive Vice President of B'nai B'rith; the Treasurer of B'nai B'rith; the President of B'nai B'rith Women; and the Executive Director of B'nai B'rith Women.

The Committee, endorsing the proposal, further recommended that the composition of the Supreme Lodge Committee on Planning and Research be expanded to 25 members, the additional member to be a representative of all Districts outside of North America.

The Committee's recommendation, by motion from the floor, was amended to expand the composition of the Supreme Lodge Committee on Planning and Research to 30 members, the five additional members to be members-at-large appointed by the President of B'nai B'rith.

The Recommendation of the Committee, as amended by the motion from the floor, was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

"Department of Education, Programming and Community Services." The Committee considered a recommendation of the President of B'nai B'rith, as detailed in *The President's Message on the State of the Order*, for the amalgamation into a single department of Supreme Lodge departments which engage in programmatic services to the lodge and its members.

The Committee noted the following conclusion in *The President's Message*:

"I therefore recommend for affirmative action by this Convention the amalgamation of our adult Jewish educational activities, our community and veterans services, our experimental efforts with leadership development, the still undefined program department, and such ancillary operations as those of the Senior Citizens Housing Committee and B'nai B'rith Historical Committee (which administers the Klutznick Exhibit Hall.)

"In short: all programming for lodges and chapters shall be unified into a single program department.

"I propose that it be designated the B'nai B'rith Department of Education, Programming and Community Services."

The Committee dissented from the President's recommendation with regard to the Department of Leadership Training and Development, taking the firm position that this activity "is just beginning to show results" and should be retained as an independent operation.

The Committee further proposed that instead of specific citation of the B'nai B'rith Historical Committee and the B'nai B'rith Senior Citizens Housing Committee, the proposal be reworded to incorporate other activities not specifically

named, which could be designated as programmatic in nature, so far as lodge and chapter involvement activities are concerned.

The Committee recommended, with the above modifications, that the proposal be approved.

A motion from the floor, in disapproval of the Committee's recommendation, proposed that (1) the matter be referred to the Supreme Lodge Committee on Planning and Research and (2) it be further understood that the intent to achieve greater interdepartmental coordination implicit in the proposal be conducted on an administrative level as a responsibility of the President and the Executive Vice President of B'nai B'rith.

The motion from the floor was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Note: During the above session, the Report of the *Convention Committee on Organization and Structure* was suspended briefly for the following actions :

Mrs. Fannie McLaughlin. EMILE L. GROSSBART of Memphis, Tenn., (*District 7*), president of the Leo N. Levi Memorial Hospital in Hot Springs, Ark., escorted Mrs. FANNIE McLAUGHLIN, retiring administrator of the hospital, to the podium.

President-elect DAVID M. BLUMBERG of Knoxville, Tenn., (*District 7*), a past president of the hospital, presented Mrs. McLAUGHLIN with an engraved menorah and conveyed the appreciation of the Convention for her 27 years of service to the Leo N. Levi Memorial Hospital, first as a nurse, subsequently as head of the nursing staff and for 19 years as hospital administrator. Brother BLUMBERG, in his words of tribute, said:

"Many people walk straighter, walk with less pain and certainly with a fuller heart because of the humanitarian care that came to them because they had walked through the halls of the Leo N. Levi Hospital . . ."

Mrs. McLAUGHLIN, in brief acceptance remarks, expressed her gratitude to B'nai B'rith and to the Convention.

Address by Governor Shapp. MURRAY H. SHUSTERMAN of Philadelphia (*District 3*) presented Governor MILTON J. SHAPP of Pennsylvania to the Convention.

Governor SHAPP, in his address, cited his own political career as evidence that "anti-Semitism is dying in American politics" and urged that leaders in Jewish communal affairs "get involved in politics." He described the changing complexion of the election process evolving from extension of the franchise to 18-year-olds and stressed the view that a candidate's stand on issues and programs, rather than his ethnic origins, "has become the decisive factor among voters."

Note: Full transcript of Governor Shapp's address is available on request.

Installation Luncheon

Dr. WEXLER presided.

STEPHEN D. RUDMAN of Philadelphia (*District 3*), president of the B'nai B'rith Council of Greater Philadelphia, presented Brother WEXLER with an engraved statue by sculptor Nathan Rapaport titled "One World" and depicting the family of man, as a gift of appreciation from the Council.

Congressman JOHN DUNCAN of Tennessee, in brief remarks, cited President-elect DAVID M. BLUMBERG as an "illustrious citizen" of Knoxville and lauded B'nai B'rith on its selection of Brother BLUMBERG as president.

Brother WEXLER discharged from office, with expressions of appreciation for their respective service, the treasurer, vice presidents, District representatives of the Board of Governors, B'nai B'rith Women representatives to the Board of Governors and other members of the Board of Governors whose term had expired, and installed to office the District representatives to the Board of Governors, representatives of B'nai B'rith Women to the Board of Governors, the vice presidents of the Supreme Lodge and the treasurer of the Supreme Lodge, elected by the Convention.

PHILIP M. KLUTZNICK of Chicago, honorary president of B'nai B'rith, discharged President WILLIAM A. WEXLER from office, expressing the plaudits of "your brothers and sisters in B'nai B'rith for a task well done," and installed Brother WEXLER as an honorary president of B'nai B'rith with life tenure.

Brother KLUTZNICK installed President-elect DAVID M. BLUMBERG to office, citing Brother BLUMBERG's "courage, conviction and equanimity of spirit."

Brother WEXLER presented Brother BLUMBERG with an engraved mezuzah, a gift "with all our love and blessings" from members of the Blumberg family.

IRWIN JAFFE of St. Louis, brother-in-law of Brother BLUMBERG, announced establishment by his wife and himself of a David M. Blumberg Scholarship Fund to enable a "deserving young person" to attend the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization leadership training program at Camp B'nai B'rith during each year of Brother BLUMBERG's term in office.

LOUIS BLUMBERG of St. Louis, 87-year-old father of Brother BLUMBERG, paid tribute to MIRIAM REICH BLUMBERG, wife of Brother BLUMBERG, expressed his sense of *nachas* on the installation of his son as President of B'nai B'rith, and recited the *shehecheyanu*.

ALAN GREENBERG of Knoxville, Tenn., on behalf of Temple Beth-El in Knoxville, of which Brother BLUMBERG is a congregant, presented Brother BLUMBERG with an engraved shofar.

Brother BLUMBERG, in his acceptance remarks, expressed his personal appreciation to Honorary Presidents PHILIP M. KLUTZNICK, LABEL A. KATZ and WILLIAM A. WEXLER "for the 18 years of service that they have given to B'nai B'rith, and to tell them that they have built a strong, dynamic foundation on which I can now stand, as I begin my administration." Brother BLUMBERG added:

"I promise you, the Lord willing that I have the strength and the courage to carry out the mandates of this Convention, we will come back to a triennial convention three years from now with an Administration . . . you will be proud of. We can take the ideas that my predecessors—from HENRY JONES to BILL WEXLER—have set as the pattern of B'nai B'rith. And more especially, the inspiration that has been given to the modern-day B'nai B'rith by HENRY MONSKY, PHIL KLUTZNICK, LABEL KATZ and BILL WEXLER. I trust that I can build on that foundation. All of us can be proud that we belong to an organization with a heritage of 128 years of dedication. As we begin our 129th year, I pledge to you my entire loyalty, heart and soul . . ."

Ninth Plenary Session

President DAVID M. BLUMBERG presided.

FISCAL MATTERS. The Report and recommendations of the *Committee on Fiscal Matters* was presented by LAWRENCE PEIREZ of Woodside, N.Y., (*District 1*), a co-chairman of the Committee:

Membership Dues. The Committee, in accord with Section 50 of the Constitution, which provides that "*The Supreme Lodge at its regular Convention shall determine the amount of annual dues to the Supreme Lodge to be collected from each member of the Order in the Districts of North America . . .*" recommended that the membership dues to the Supreme Lodge for Districts in North America remain the same for the ensuing triennial period as in the previous triennium, namely \$7.00 per member.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

The Committee, in accord with Section 52 of the Constitution, which provides that "*Every member of the Order in Districts outside of North America shall pay annual dues to the Supreme Lodge in the amount of two dollars [\$2.00] . . .*" recommended that the membership dues for members in Districts outside of North America remain the same for the ensuing triennial period as in the previous triennium, namely \$2.00 per member.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

General Fund "Earmarking." The Committee recommended that all payments into the B'nai B'rith General Fund as membership dues or per capita bear no restrictions or earmarkings, and be subject to the judgment of the Board of Governors with respect to budgeting for the applicable period.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

"Restricted Fund Principal." The Committee, reviewing the operations of the Supreme Lodge for the past triennial period and its financial status as of the date of the Convention, concluded that it would be in the best interest of B'nai B'rith to eliminate those areas of inter-agency accounts receivable and accounts payable which in the Committee's judgment were not financially sound; specifically the B'nai B'rith Youth Services which, as a result of operating deficits in the past several years, had wiped out the fund principal and as of December 31, 1970 had a deficit of approximately \$483,000. The deficit was funded by the General Fund. On the other hand, the Board of Governors during 1969 and 1970 had budgeted \$500,000 for three new departments: leadership development and training, planning and research, and programs. It had not, however, considered it necessary to expend all of these funds and during this period had spent only about \$87,000, leaving an unexpended balance of approximately \$413,000. The Board of Governors had placed this amount in "restricted fund principal."

The Committee recommended that the restriction placed on unexpended balances for the three new departments referred to be set aside and this sum be added to the "unrestricted fund principal."

The Committee further recommended that the sum of \$483,000 be allocated from the General Fund "unrestricted fund principal" to the B'nai B'rith Youth Services in order to wipe out the accumulated deficit as of December 31, 1970, thereby eliminating an unrealistic and uncollectable accounts receivable in the General Fund from a directly related Supreme Lodge activity and, at the same

time, enabling both activities to submit a better financial statement for whatever purposes may be required.

The Recommendation of the Committee, with the additional proviso that any commitments which were incurred by the three departments cited prior to the effective date of the transfer, December 31, 1970, which are unpaid, shall be reserved, before transfer of the restricted fund principal to the unrestricted fund principal, was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Uniform Fiscal Year. The Committee considered a recommendation submitted by the Administrative Committee of the Board of Governors "that all United States Districts and their subordinate units and lodges adopt a uniform fiscal year to coincide with the calendar year, together with a uniform account classification with a view that the report to the Internal Revenue Service for 1972 be on a 'group' basis."

The Committee recommended that the fiscal year of the Order, as set forth in Section 151 of the Constitution, remain the calendar year. The Committee cited the importance of all elements of B'nai B'rith adhering strictly to this provision to enable B'nai B'rith to file a group return with the U. S. Government as recommended, and to permit the preparation of a report which will include all segments of B'nai B'rith.

The Committee further recommended that the Office of the Comptroller prepare a uniform accounting and reporting classification for all divisions and units of B'nai B'rith in order to facilitate the preparation of a consolidated report to be used for filing with the U. S. Treasury Department and for internal operating purposes.

The Committee further recommended that all units of B'nai B'rith be required to report on a calendar year basis for the 1972 calendar year, in accordance with reporting requirements to be prescribed by the Board of Governors.

The Recommendations relating to a uniform fiscal year were adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

Life Membership. The Committee considered in its fiscal aspects a recommendation submitted by the *Convention Committee on Action for Membership Growth* which proposed "the establishment of Life Membership in the form of a minimum contribution of \$1,000 or such other amount as might be determined. The funds would be deposited in the B'nai B'rith Foundation Endowment Fund and annual dues would be distributed to the Supreme Lodge and the respective District and local lodge from interest and dividend earnings. Upon the death of a life member, the principal would be retained by the B'nai B'rith Foundation for its Endowment Fund or for distribution by the trustees of the Foundation."

The Committee endorsed in principle the recommendation for life membership.

However, since there were aspects which required more intensive review and consideration, the Committee recommended that, contingent on Convention approval of its endorsement in principle, the matter be referred to the President for appointment of a special committee to explore the matter in greater detail.

The Recommendation was deferred for further study by voice vote of the Convention.

Use of B'nai B'rith Name on Non-Profit Buildings. The Committee considered the following resolution submitted by District 4:

Whereas, it is generally accepted that B'nai B'rith is in need of a new and tangible image; and

Whereas, B'nai B'rith area buildings in Israel provide meeting places for lodges, chapters, clubs, parlor rooms, assembly auditoriums to stage mass joint programs, public cultural displays; and

Whereas, B'nai B'rith lodges in the United States are constantly in need of such facilities; and

Whereas, the Supreme Lodge rules prohibit any B'nai B'rith' entity from owning real property,

Now, therefore, be it resolved that District Grand Lodge No. 4 memorialize the Supreme Lodge to investigate and consider allowing the use of the B'nai B'rith name on structures and buildings to be owned by a non-profit corporation for B'nai B'rith purposes.

Be it further resolved that it shall be a condition of the use of the B'nai B'rith name that all such structures must meet certain minimum building standards as subject as the appropriate B'nai B'rith Committee.

The Committee recommended that this matter be referred to the incoming Supreme Lodge Board of Governors for consideration and disposition.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

"Fair Share Economics." The Committee considered the following resolution submitted by the national commission of B'nai B'rith Vocational Service:

Recognizing the financial plight of our Order and of B'nai B'rith's youth services, the National B'nai B'rith Vocational Service Commission requests that each agency be given the responsibility for carrying its fair share of the load to bring B'nai B'rith to a sound financial condition, with across-the-board economies where necessary, affected within each agency equally, with no agency singled out for a greater share of the burden, in order to conserve the identity of each agency, the nature of the program, and the service it renders.

The Committee considered this matter to be of concern in the budgeting process and recommended that it be referred to the incoming Supreme Lodge Board of Governors for such consideration as it may deem proper.

The Recommendation of the Committee was adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS. The Report of the *Committee on General Resolutions* was presented by DANIEL BRENNER of Kansas City, Mo., (*District 2*), chairman of the Committee.

The following Resolutions were adopted by voice vote of the Convention.

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. *Whereas, since 1965 a proposal has been on the agenda of the United Nations General Assembly to establish a High Commissioner for Human Rights to promote observance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and facilitate its implementation through special inquiries, consultations with governments and diplomatic conferences.*

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that B'nai B'rith reaffirms its support for a High Commissioner for Human Rights and petitions the United Nations General Assembly to take action during its current session to create this new post.

Boycotts and Protest Demonstrations. *Whereas, many B'nai B'rith members believe that certain boycotts and/or counter-boycotts, protests and demonstrations would benefit B'nai B'rith and the Jewish community;*

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that this Convention directs the Board of Governors to take positive, forceful and affirmative action to support those boycotts and/or counter-boycotts, protests and demonstrations which are in the best interests of B'nai B'rith and the Jewish community.

Genocide Convention. *Whereas, seventy-five nations have ratified the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide; and*

Whereas, the United States has thus far failed to formally approve this most fundamental international human rights treaty;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that this convention of B'nai B'rith calls on members of B'nai B'rith in the United States to urge their respective representatives in the United States Senate to support prompt ratification of the Genocide Convention.

Philadelphia Statue of Religious Liberty. *Whereas*, B'nai B'rith erected the Statue of Religious Liberty in Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, Pa., in 1876; and

Whereas, the bicentennial of the signing of the Declaration of Independence will occur in 1976.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that B'nai B'rith rededicate the Statue of Religious Liberty during the bicentennial of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; and

Be it further resolved, that the Supreme Lodge approve the plans and appoint a committee to formulate arrangements for such a rededication, and for the said committee to cooperate with the general exposition committee in Philadelphia.

Dr. William A. Wexler. With this Triennial Convention, William A. Wexler's six achievement-filled years as international president of B'nai B'rith come to a close. During that time, President Wexler travelled tens of thousands of miles, met with many of the world's leaders, and acquired the well-deserved reputation of a persuasive spokesman for Jewish interests and an inspiring champion of B'nai B'rith's programs.

The charm and quiet dignity he brought to the office, his unswerving dedication to the lofty principles of Benevolence, Brotherly Love and Harmony, and his tireless efforts to fulfill the purposes of our Order and build a better Jewish tomorrow, have earned him the lasting respect and warm admiration of all of us in B'nai B'rith.

We take this opportunity to express our deep gratitude to Bill Wexler for these years of outstanding and energetic leadership, and to wish him much success in future endeavors as well as good health and happiness.

The War in Indochina. *Whereas*, the United States is still engaged in a war in Indochina; and

Whereas, there is a continuation of the slaughter and mutilation of American youth and of the inhabitants of that unhappy country, as well as the destruction of the land itself; and

Whereas, American cities, schools and social needs are greatly affected as billions of dollars are poured into the bottomless pit of Indochina; and

Whereas, this undeclared war has produced an unbalanced economy in the United States, with unemployment and recession affecting other countries as well;

Whereas, we believe that it would best serve the interests of all mankind to end further human suffering and withdraw U. S. troops from Indochina without further delay;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that B'nai B'rith, in Convention assembled, calls upon the United States administration and the Congress to disengage and cease hostilities in Indochina now, and to use every means to bring all American servicemen home at once.

The following Resolution, presented by motion from the floor, was adopted by voice vote of the Convention:

The National Jewish Monthly. *Resolved*, that this Convention of the Supreme Lodge of B'nai B'rith, here assembled, compliment the editor of *The National Jewish Monthly*, BERNARD SIMON, on the October 1971 issue of the magazine, and urge him to remain as editor to carry forward with the format and the fine editorial contents of the magazine.

On motion of BEN Z. GLASS (District 6) the Convention was adjourned *sine die*.