

# Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting

## National Conference of Jewish Communal Service

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

May 29, 1973

Presiding CHARLES MILLER, *President*

### Report of the Nominating Committee

Irving Greenberg, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the report of the mail ballot and moved that the report be accepted. Motion seconded and carried.

The following slate for 1973-4 was elected:

*President*—Charles Miller

*Vice-Presidents*—Morris Levin, Morris Grumer, Samuel Katz

*Secretary*—Sara Feinstein

*Treasurer*—Charles Zibbell

*Membership for the Executive Committee—Membership at Large*—Emanuel Weiner, Henry B. Stern

*From Associate Groups: Association of Jewish Center Workers*—Arthur Rotman, *National Council for Jewish Education*—Henry Margolis

### President's Report

It is customary for your president to give an account of his stewardship. I am happy to say that it has been a most fruitful year. Our individual membership has grown from 1,800 to 2,200, and our organizational membership is almost 275 and increasing. We have added a new associate group, the National Association of Synagogue Administrators. We have strengthened the relationship of the central organization and its constituent groups. Local and regional chapters have had a healthy development. An employment service for retirees has been established in the Federation Employment and Guidance Service of New York. Insurance plans have been strengthened and are being evaluated. Changes in our by-

laws have made us more flexible and responsive. We have improved our planning for the National Conference. We have stimulated a process of examination of the policies and practices of schools of social work, with special reference to the negative implications for Jewish social work of some of these policies and practices.

Much remains to be done. We must continue to add to our membership, and to insure that we truly are the broadest possible spectrum of Jewish communal service. Our financial situation has improved, but there is much to be done to make us fiscally viable. Our chapter and regional development has made progress, but is still limited. We are engaged in a constant process of self-examination to make ourselves increasingly responsive to the needs of our membership. We are involved in a series of studies, including our Commission on Structure, Functions, and Priorities of the Organized Jewish Community, the quality of the *Journal*, changes in by-laws, and others.

All of these activities and processes are directed toward strengthening our basic functions, which are to be the Jewish professional service "think tank"; to provide an interdisciplinary meeting ground, and to enable us to project significant aspects of professional leadership to the Jewish communities of America\*

### Progress Report of the NCJCS Commission on the Structure, Function and Priorities of the Organized Jewish Community

Samuel Sorin, chairman, reviewed his report. In his oral supplementation to the written report, he announced his intention to request the Executive Committee of the Conference to authorize a budget which would make possible some needed

\* See also p. 3.

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additional research, as well as to make possible field visitation to several communities whose ideas and thinking should be probed in more detail. He shared with the delegates a tentative opinion which several members of the commission had agreed upon in that they were startled by what they felt was the vast ignorance by professionals in the Jewish field in reference to elementary knowledge of the nature of the Jewish community in the United States.

### Committee on Public Issue

Saul Schwarz presented the series of resolutions which had been approved by the Committee on Public Issues and, after some modifications, approved by the Executive Committee in accordance with the by-laws procedures. He read each of the resolutions, noting that the by-laws in their present form stipulated that the membership could only accept or reject the resolutions as they could not be amended from the floor.

- a. Resolution in support of Jewish education
- b. Resolution on the situation of the Jews in Iraq and Syria
- c. Resolution on peace in the Middle East
- d. Resolution on Soviet Jewry

Following this decision Joseph Robison, as the newly elected president of the Association of Jewish Community Relations Workers, urged a maximum turnout of all delegates to June 17 demonstration in Washington, D. C. in connection with the forthcoming arrival in Washington of Mr. Brezhnev.

- e. Resolution on the Diaspora and Israel
- f. Resolution on day care for children
- g. Resolution on welfare reform

h. Resolution on housing and low-income families

i. Resolution on comprehensive health care

j. Resolution on drug abuse and crime

k. Resolution on civil liberties and the integrity of the political process

l. Resolution urging that a cable be sent to the president of Israel on the 25th anniversary of the founding of the State

All the resolutions were passed.

Mr. Schwarz then reported that the Committee on Public Issues had recommended to the Executive Committee that the by-laws should be modified so that at the 1974 meeting, if there was a minority position on any of the resolutions submitted by a majority of the Committee on Public Issues, a minority report could also be submitted giving the delegates the opportunity of voting for one over the other, or accepting neither.

### Chapter Development

Samuel Lerner reported that there was a plan to step up activities in organizing further chapters of the National Conference, with the main thrust towards the concept of regional chapters.

### Committee on Time and Place

Toby Weiner reported that the 1974 meeting would be held at the Hyatt Regency in San Francisco, June 2-5, 1974. The Committee has been able to secure a round-trip charter rate of \$139. The Annual Meeting will be held at Grosinger's June 2-11, 1975 and the 1976 and 77 Annual Meetings will be held on the East Coast, with specific sites to be determined in the near future.

### Committee on Retirees

A brief report was given on the action taken as a result of the work of the Committee on Retirees. With the collaboration of the Federation Employment and Guidance Service of New York, a registration procedure for retirees had been established. Up to the time of the report, six retirees had registered, and all of them had been offered jobs. Although each of the jobs seemed appropriate for the backgrounds of the six registrants, none of them accepted the offer. This report was submitted by Irving Barshop.

### Membership Report

John Karpeles reported that the National Association of Synagogue Adminis-

trators had affiliated with the Conference as an associate body. As of now, 275 Jewish Communal agencies throughout the country have paid dues to help finance the NCJCS. In the past year, almost 60 of these agencies have upgraded their dues payments to NCJCS.

In closing the meeting, Mr. Miller expressed his thanks to Burton Lazarow, Chairman of the Personnel Committee; to Eleanor Katz, chairman of the Retirees Committee; and to Yehuda Rosenman, whom he described as having done such a superlative job as the program chairman of the Conference. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

SAMUEL KATZ,  
Secretary

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