



CHAVRUSA

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**YESHIVA UNIVERSITY
RABBINIC ALUMNI**

Vol. 3, No. 1

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October, 1958

"TORAH UMADAH" CONVENTION

The emblem of Yeshiva University, "Torah Umadah," will be the theme of the fifteenth annual convention of the Rabbinic Alumni which coincides with the fifteenth anniversary of Dr. Belkin's presidency of the institution, it was announced by Rabbi Harry Wohlberg, president of the Alumni. "The issue of what religion has to say about science's new discoveries in space and matter is a crucial one to the world", said President Wohlberg "and as Yeshiva rabbis we must seek what Halacha says of this to guide our thinking and attitudes." Papers on this problem will be read at the three day convention which will take place Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, October 13, 14 and 15 at the Brunswick Hotel in Lakewood, N.J.

The convention program has been prepared by a committee selected by convention chairmen, Rabbi Fabian Schonfeld, Kew Gardens, New York and Rabbi Louis Engelberg, Cleveland, Ohio. In addition to the "Torah Umadah" session the highlights of the convention will include a presentation to Dr. Belkin on the occasion of his fifteenth anniversary as president of Yeshiva, committee reports, a C.S.D. report, and reports on the significant progress of our colleagues in many fields of traditional practice. The last will comprise practical outlines of successful steps taken by our men in Kashruth, Taharas Homishpacha, Synagogue Standards and Education. For the first time, also, a member of the Yeshiva University Synagogue Council laity will bring greetings from the Men's Club Association.

The Brunswick Hotel, site of the convention, was chosen for its convenient location and excellent accommodations which include a swimming pool and steam room. The convention committee chose the date of the convention uniquely late in the season, to eliminate the interference of vacation schedules and conflicting conventions and to provide the rabbi with a refreshing interlude after the strenuous pace of the holidays. A record attendance is expected and Alumni are urged to reserve early. Rates for the convention are \$11 per day.



Dr. Samuel Belkin
Fifteen years President of Y.U.



Rabbi Harry I. Wohlberg
Outgoing President Rabbinic Alumni

ALUMNI FUND FIGURES

One of the notable efforts of our Alumni has been the institution of a tangible gesture of appreciation to our Alma Mater,—the Alumni Fund. Through it our rabbis express their sentiment of "Hakoros Tov" and exhibit their sincere practice of "Chizuk Torah", incidentally setting a fine example for their congregants. Every year the Rabbinic Alumni personally pledge generous sums to Yeshiva and have contributed an impressive annual amount as a group. In 1957, 345 alumni contributed over \$29,000 and in 1958, 377 contributed or pledged over \$32,000.

The Musmachim are the first Alumni group of Yeshiva to initiate the practice of showing gratitude to the institution that educated their minds and set them on their careers. It is a fitting practice and Alumni that have not yet contributed should regard this omission as a deficiency in a common responsibility. Those having outstanding pledges are asked to honor them as soon as possible.

The Alumni Fund was first established in 1953 on the occasion of Dr. Belkin's tenth anniversary as Yeshiva's president. Diligent chairman of the Fund is Rabbi Seymour Turk.

CHAVRUSA

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EDITOR'S PREROGATIVE

After a prolonged period of hibernation, Chavrusa has once again been recalled to life. Previous impediments have been removed and the wherewithal for regular publication has been provided.

The Community Service Bureau is pleased to join with our Rabbinic Alumni in publishing Chavrusa as a service to all alumni and as a means of strengthening the bonds of our musmachim with their alma mater. As presently projected, Chavrusa will alternate in publication with programmatic "Ideas", each appearing every second month.

In forthcoming issues, Chavrusa will reassume its original format of features and departments which had previously evoked the spirited acclaim of our alumni. We earnestly invite your helpful suggestions to help us enhance the calibre of our publication.

Rabbi Abraham R. Besdin

Come to the
CONVENTION

October 13, 14, 15

Hotel Brunswick
Lakewood, N. J.

ALUMNI IN ISRAEL

It might come as a surprise to many that we have at least 100 Y.U. Alumni presently living in Israel. The group includes a member of the Knesseth, senior government officials, university professors, journalists, chaverim of kibbutzim and members of various trades, businesses and professions.

During the summer while conducting the Second Annual Y.U. Summer Institute in Israel for Teenagers, Rabbi Milton Furst of C.S.D. helped organize the first conference of the Association of Y.U. Alumni in Israel. The meeting, which was held on August 20th at Bar Ilan University, was presided over by Rabbi William Drazin and featured a special message from Dr. Belkin which was read by Rabbi Furst. Dr. Belkin noted with pride that without fanfare and screaming publicity many of our Alumni have settled in the Holy Land and have been working shoulder to shoulder with our Israeli brethren. He also spoke of the hundreds of Israeli students and educators studying and teaching at Yeshiva University, and students and educators of Yeshiva University studying and teaching at various Israeli institutions of higher learning and annual seminars in Israel. He cited as examples of our formal academic ties to Israel the Yeshiva University Israel Institute, established jointly with the Jewish Agency and *Sura*, a scholarly annual published jointly by the University and the Sura Institute in Israel, which is headed by President Yitzhak ben Zvi and Prof. Samuel K. Mirsky of the University.

Declaring that Yeshiva University "as a matter of policy is not allied with any political group", Dr. Belkin nevertheless described its vital interest in that country's spiritual, cultural and physical welfare. He pointed to the large number of Yeshiva University faculty members and alumni who have been in the forefront of Zionist efforts in the U.S. and have taken leading roles in Israeli life.

The Conference elected an executive committee to head the new association, including Rabbi Meir Aronowsky, a Jerusalem attorney; Mr. Mordecai Dolinsky, Director of Public Relations, Bar Ilan University; Rabbi William Drazin, manufacturer of Globus Pens; Mr. Shlomo Margolitt of Bank Leumi; Rabbi Pincus Stolper, an active worker of *Peilim*; Rabbi Dr. I.S. Rosenberg, (member of Knesset) former Deputy minister of Social Welfare and Rabbi Elimelech Wohlgeleanter, secretary general of the Chief Rabbinate.

DR. BELKIN WRITES

Those of our colleagues who were privileged during their student years at Yeshiva to have Dr. Belkin as their "rebbe" remember him as a masterful teacher, who not only possessed wonderful powers of "hasbarah" but who, through the warmth of his personality, inspired in his "talmidim" the love of learning.

Dr. Belkin's monumental responsibilities have for years now precluded his giving a regular "shiur". All of the Alumni should rejoice, however, in Dr. Belkin's writings which have begun to flow from his pen with a happy degree of regularity.

The volume, "Essays in Traditional Jewish Thought" published last year met a very positive response among our alumni and their congregation. The first few editions were completely sold out. This volume contains essays by Dr. Belkin intended primarily for the lay reader. Many of our alumni have indicated, however, that they find it a most valuable source book for their own lectures, as well as an excellent textbook for adult education. Limited quantities of this volume are still available, and may be obtained by communicating with CSD.

A more recent essay by Dr. Belkin is leveled primarily at the Rabbi and the Jewish intellectual. "The Philosophy of Purpose" is the first in a new series of special publications on fundamental Jewish concepts called "Studies in Torah Judaism" under the editorship of Dr. Leon Stitskin and issued by CSD. Combining vast scholarship and a lucidity of style, this booklet again reveals Dr. Belkin as the master teacher.. It is suggested that "The Philosophy of Purpose" would make valuable reading fare for your synagogue leaders and for the college students in your congregation. Copies may be obtained through CSD.

PUBLICATIONS

The Program Department of the C.S.D. now has a new series of publications on various aspects of programming. Included in the list are pamphlets on New Member Induction Ceremony, Mortgage Burning, Siyum Hasefer and many others. The Adult Education Department has new and revised works on Jewish History, Customs and Ceremonies and other subjects and the Youth Bureau expects to issue new booklets on various youth topics.

All listings are described in a new Catalogue of Publications that is available upon request.

C. S. DOINGS

Second Annual Israel Summer Institute

Sponsored by our Youth Bureau in conjunction with the Jewish Agency, 23 teenagers, boys and girls, representing 17 congregations had a most inspiring 7 week tour of Israel from July 6th to August 27th, under the guidance and supervision of Rabbi Milton Furst, (capably assisted by his wife). The tour was rich in religious, cultural and emotional values. The program was replete with educational content and the youngsters had a memorable experience in Jewish group living in the Torah manner.

Fourth Annual Torah Leadership Seminar

The fourth annual Torah Leadership Seminar held from August 25th through September 1st, at Camp Monroe, Monroe, N.Y. with one hundred and nineteen young men and women from 53 different communities in the United States and Canada in attendance, was a dynamic Torah program conducted by the Youth Bureau for select congregational teenagers.

As a result of the 1958 event, 62 participants have expressed a definite interest to continue their studies at Yeshiva University or Stern College. This staggering figure, coupled with similar statistics at previous Seminars offers monumental implications. It lends credence to the belief that Seminars and other informal educational media properly planned and implemented can become vital forces for the perpetuation of Yiddishkeit. The Torah Leadership Seminar inspires in a palpable and meaningful manner, unfolding for the teen-ager a heritage, and helping him to embrace, understand, and cherish it.

The Jewish component at the Seminar was transmitted through the medium of a well-balanced and realistic program. Designed according to the participant's level of understanding, four distinct study groups were offered — each presenting a balanced daily schedule of work and play — four hours of Jewish studies, group dynamics and leadership skills in addition to services, meals, committee work, and a full complement of recreational and evening activities.

Sessions were led by young energetic Y.U. Faculty, Rabbinic Alumni and CSD staff, with Yeshiva and Stern College students as advisors. Sessions surveyed essentials of Judaism — Kashruth, Shabbat, Prayer Book, etc. and leadership techniques and skills.

High spirit, with constant spontaneous

Israel singing and dancing was in evidence throughout the Seminar. This "ruach" generated a contagious fervor to participants and onlookers.

With winter and summer sessions now being offered, another opportunity will be presented at our Winter Torah Leadership Seminar, from December 24th to December 30th, to communities and congregations, to expose their teen-agers to this meaningful experience in Jewish living.

Fourteenth Placement Season

'Tis a long season from Tu Bishvat (Rosh Hashanah La-ilanoth) to our own Rosh Hashanah (The Yom Ha-din), from Purim to Yom Hakipurim. Each year during this stretch the miracle of placement is wrought anew.

In March, the problem looms: Where to refer all the men on our lists, — those in need of re-location, the recently ordained Musmachim, those coming out of the Chaplaincy, not to mention our colleagues due for promotion. But G-d comes through in the crisis, and somehow by Slichoth time practically everyone is placed.

This has been the perennial pattern for the past 14 years of this writer's experience. The annual increment to the Alumni of 30 to 40 Musmachim (out of whom 20 to 25 enter the pulpit rabbinate) has been taken in stride. As a matter of fact, CSD is particularly proud of its record in launching the neophyte Musmach in his first Rabbanuth.

We are pleased to report that this past season has been truly phenomenal. Since March alone, 61 Y.U. Musmachim were placed in the following categories: in pulpits — 42; into the Chaplaincy — 7; with Jewish organizations — 2; in "Chinuch" — 10. By the time presently pending referrals crystallize, and with post High Holyday activities yet to come, this will probably turn out to be our biggest placement year to date. C.S.D.'s Rabbinic Placement Committee consists of Rabbis Abraham Avrech and Milton Furst, Mr. Victor B. Geller, Rabbis Solomon J. Spiro and Leon D. Stitskin and yours truly.

It should be noted, however, that Rabbinic Placement is only one aspect of CSD's activities in this field. We are the central placement agency of the University vis-a-vis the Jewish community. Group-work placement (which has been growing by leaps and bounds) handled through Mr. Abraham Stern; educational placement, through Rabbi Abraham Avrech and Mr. Sampson Isseroff; cantorial

AMBASSADORS OF Y.U.

In an effort to raise the standards of giving to Yeshiva University and dignifying the concept of support for the institution, the administration has introduced the Ambassadors of Yeshiva University.

According to Dr. Samuel Belkin, the title Ambassador of Yeshiva University will be bestowed upon worthy lay leaders to secure proper recognition in the community of "individuals whose generosity makes possible the maintenance and growth of America's first University under Jewish auspices."

The honor will go to those select men and women who annually contribute a minimum of \$1000 to the University's support.

The Ambassadors will officially be launched at the University's thirteenth annual Charter Day celebration, October 26, at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, New York City at which time the group will be formally inducted and awarded the special rights and privileges befitting their esteemed role in University affairs including the privilege of being prominently listed in appropriate University publications, of being assigned places of honor at major institutional functions, and of being identified in the community as men of foresight and initiative. Ambassadors, who will receive an exclusive lapel pin, "will be called upon to serve the University in the capacity implied by their title," Dr. Belkin declared.

In a broader sense the formation of the Ambassadors is a pioneering step by Yeshiva to link the lay contributor to the challenge commonly referred to as "the crisis in American higher education", an important point to impress upon laymen.

Alumni are urged to contact Yeshiva concerning prospective Ambassadors in their communities.

Members of the Community Service Staff will be glad to assist Alumni in properly channeling these contacts. As a privilege with attendant honors, the "Ambassadorship" should appeal to laymen of means as an instrument of support for our Alma Mater.

placement by Cantor Macy Nulman, Assistant Director of the Cantorial Training Institute, and miscellaneous student placement by the Student Placement Committee under CSD's supervision, — these round out the placement picture. A comprehensive report on activities in these areas will be rendered at the forthcoming Rabbinic Alumni convention.

L'hitraoth at the convention!

Rabbi Morris H. Finer

PERSONALIA

by Rabbi Solomon J. Spiro

Family Additions

Rabbi Israel Miller, Bronx, New York evened the score with Judith Sharon. He now has two and two . . . Rabbi Bernard Poupko, Pittsburgh, Pa., doubled with twins . . . Other tax deductions include for Rabbis Macy Gordon, Yeshiva University, a daughter Shira . . . Alexander Friedman, Bradley Beach, N. J., a daughter Miriam . . . Joel Rosenshein, a daughter Gila Esther . . . Its the season for girls . . . More felicitations for females to Rabbis Brownie Horowitz, Shamokin, Pa., Norman Bernhard, Wichita, Kan., Maurice Sanders, Atlantic City, N.J. . . . Rabbis Philip Goldman, Memphis, Tenn. and Stanley Wagner, Lexington, Ky. added southern belles to the family.

Weddings

Rabbi Jack Adler, Philadelphia, Pa. is not single any more . . . Neither are Rabbis Moshe Goldberg and Simon Raskin . . . Rabbi Isaac Suna made a partnership with Audette Shoichetman . . . Rabbis Jacob Urivetsky and Henry Isaacs each showed the value of Stern College. They married respectively, Martelle Berenson and Roslyn Hirsh of that institution's first graduating class . . . Rabbis Hersh Galinsky, Providence, R.I., Alan Bobroff and Meyer Weisenberg, Endicott, New York, recent musmachim, acquired better halves . . . Rabbi William Millen followed suit . . . Rabbis Ernest Rothschild, Aaron Feder and Jack Feder were canopied on the same day . . . Rabbi Jerry Turk will honeymoon in the Chaplaincy . . . Rabbi Label Green off with new bride to Truman territory in education.

Engagements

On the road to marital bliss via engagement are Rabbis Marcus Ochs, Toronto, Ont., Hyman Agress, Detroit, Mich.

Civilians Again

Separated from service recently are Rabbis Murray Greenfield, Pittsburgh, Pa., Nissan Shulman, Bridgeport, Conn., Norman Twersky, New York City (education) and Morris Gans, Mt. Vernon, New York . . . Very little processing — out of service and into rabbinate.

Condolences

Alumni sympathy to Rabbis Lenny Rosenfeld, Joseph and Samuel Feder on loss of respective fathers . . . Rabbi Isadore Tenenberg on loss of mother . . .

Rabbi Herman Zwillenberg on loss of mother . . . Rabbi William Orentlicher on loss of brother Paul, himself a Y.U. alumnus, in Israel . . . Hamokom Yenchem Eschem.

Miscellany

New Yodin Yodin program initiated. Five were selected as a pioneer class . . . Asher Finkel, Joseph Lewittes, Aaron Batt, Isaac Sadowsky and Judah Rosenberg . . . Rabbi Irwin Haut scholarship at University of Penn Law School (shades of Levin) . . . *Turkish delight*—Rabbi Sylvan Lent, '58 accepted Turkish Sephardic pulpit recently organized on L.I. . . . *Number is up* — Rabbi Azriel Rosenfeld (PhD) appointed to new Graduate School of Mathematical Sciences at Yeshiva . . . Rabbis Joseph Urivetsky and Eric Zimmer are other appointments to Y.U. Faculty . . . Rabbi Bernard Greenbaum and rebetzen to Israel studying education . . . Rabbi Haskel Lookstein joins his illustrious father as assistant at Kehilath Jeshurun . . . Refuah Shlemah to Rose Pauker . . . Congratulations to Rabbi Emanuel Rackman upon his election to the presidency of the Rabbinical Council of America . . . to Rabbi and Mrs. Yonah Geller upon the Bar Mitzvah of their son. . . .

Pulpit changes are too numerous to mention in this column. A complete record will appear in the C.S.D. report to be distributed at our convention.

Your Cooperation Please! We can't know of your personal items unless you write us. Send all news to Chavrusa at Yeshiva.

"IDEAS" REBORN

It has been said that the one force in the world that is irrepressible is the force of ideas. This seems to be true for the Rabbinic Alumni as well. IDEAS, our handbook for the rabbi, is to be disseminated again. The first issue already reached the Alumni in pulpits as a checklist for the High Holidays. Other issues containing the creative thoughts of our men in the programming field will reach Alumni on a regular basis. Those wishing to share their thoughts and programs with colleagues are invited to send them in to the Program Department for possible publication in IDEAS.

In previous years, the rabbinate consisted primarily of preaching, teaching and answering shaylos. Nowadays, with a changed generation, new approaches to dealing with a congregation have to be developed. The basic purpose of the rabbi, teaching the word of G-d to his flock, remains the same, but the techniques of imparting knowledge and attracting the layman to Judaism must keep pace with the times. For this reason, the concept of programming was introduced. It was capitalized upon by some persuasions of Judaism frequently at the expense of cardinal principles. Recently, however, many minds have produced programming that is formed in the spirit of Halacha. In this vein IDEAS attempts to help our rabbis program their own spiritual goals in practical and attractive terms to their congregations. By reporting on the latest in programming and the best of what colleagues are doing, IDEAS will allow our Alumni constantly to refresh their program efforts and will stimulate novel approaches to old problems.

GENERAL SALUTE

The Alumni's Chaplaincy program has been functioning efficiently under the chairmanship of Rabbi Israel Miller to fill the quota of Orthodox Chaplains for the armed forces.

The following alumni are now serving: Chaplains Emanuel Aronowsky, Ft. Lewish, Washington; Seymour Brickman, Chanute AFB, Rantoul, Ill.; Wallace Chamedes, Fort Bliss, Texas; Albert M. Dimont—en route to France; Jacob J. Greenberg, Lowry AFB, Colo.; Ernest D. Lapp, Ft. Sheridan, Ill.; Isaac Lubin, Ft. Eustis, Va.; Seymour Moskowitz, APO 44, New York; Manfred Rechtschaffen,

APO 254, New York; Sherman Siff, Ft. Bragg, N.C.; Seymour M. Tanin, APO 44, New York; Alfred Thee, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.; Joshua B. Wachfogel, APO 942, Seattle, Washington.

Being processed for service are: Rabbis Herbert Berger, Jack Glickman, Henry Isaacs, Henry Richtman, Marvin Rosen, Robert Weller and Gerald Turk.

After serving full terms the following are due to be separated soon: Chaplains Seymour Tanin and Alfred Thee in November, Seymour Brickman in December.