Preserving American Jewish History

MS-603: Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum Collection, 1945-1992.

Series G: Speaking Engagements. 1975-1992

Box 108, Folder 53, United Synagogue Convention [New York].

19 November 1981.

peptember 11, 1981 The Jewish Post and Opinion Page NY

United Synagogue To Hold Biennial Convention

NEW YORK — "Survival or Fulfillment: A Strategy for American Jewry," will be the main topic for the 2500 delegates from throughout North America when they gather for the Biennial Convention of the United Synagogue of America — the congregational organization of Conservative Judaism.

The delegates who will meet at the Concord Hotel, Keamesha Lake, New York, November 15 - 19, will be representing about 1.5 million men, women and children who aremembers of the United Synagogue of America which has 840 affiliated congregations in the United States and Canada.

Simon Schwartz, president of the United Synagogue and Rabbi Benjamin Z. Kreitman, executive vice president, announced that the biblical theme of the convention from Psalm 24:6 is: "This is the Generation that Seeks Him." This points up the growing quest for religious meaning on the part of the new generation of American Jewry. As part of the major topic, there will be discussion on "The Jew in Search of Himself," "The State and Status of the Jew in Our Often Hostile World," and "What is the Future of the Synagogue?"

The United Synagogue leaders also noted that the synagogue today must cope with change — coming from within and from without. "How to go through the process of change and keep

Judaism viable, is a major problem today," they added.

An innovation this year will be the holding of 15 problem solving clinics "in furtherance of our determination that delegates will return home with concrete solutions to the problems that are confronting our congregations," said the leaders of the United Synagogue. They cited the following topics: "How to safeguard the synagogue and its religious artifacts against vandalism and theft; how to reach out and provide for single parent families. vidows and unmarrieds; how o reduce the high cost and requent unavailability of cosher food; and how to establish a positive working elationship between synagogues and federations in the local community."

The centrality of Israel, which has characterized the Conservative Movement from its inception, will be demonstrated at the 1981 Biennial Convention. An evening session will be devoted to the adoption of the Jerusalem Platform and its implication for the individual Conser-

vative Jew.

As in previous years, there will be presented at this convention the Solomon Schechter Awards dedicated to the memory of the founder of the United Synagogue. The awards are given to congregations which have distinguished themselves during the preceding two years in special areas of congregational activity and programming.

Kreitman +> USA Fldy February 11, 1982 Rabbi Benjamin Kreitman Executive Vice-President United Synagogue of America 155 Fifth Avenue New York, New York 10020 Dear Ben. It was good being with you -- albeit too briefly -- at the United Synagogue convention. The enclosed bill was charged erroneously to me by the Concord Hotel when I came to the USA convention. Could you have your office take care of it? Many thanks! Wordially, Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum National Director Interreligious Affairs MHT: RPR Enclosure

THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF AMERICA

155 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK, N.Y. 10010 (212) 533-7800



Biennial Convention

NOVEMBER 15-19, 1981 CONCORD HOTEL KIAMESHA LAKE, N.Y.

"This is the generation that seeks Him"

(psalm 24:6).

NOVEMBER 13-15, 1981

August 3, 1981

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum American Jewish Committee 165 East 56 Street New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Marc:

I am pleased to invite you on behalf of the Convention Committee and myself to address the concluding session of the Biennial Convention of the United Synagogue on Thursday evening, November 19, 1981, at the Concord Hotel, Kiamesha Lake, N.Y.

The Convention Committee as well as I recognize your undisputed leadership in the American Jewish Community and are most anxious that you accept this invitation.

The format of this concluding session is a panel discussion of the State of the Jew on the North American Continent. We hope that you will be joined by prominent leaders of the United States and Canadian Jewish communities.

I personally would be delighted if you, a member of the Rabbinical Assembly, could join with us at this convention and describe your own perceptions of how we need to formulate new strategies for the future.

With all best wishes,

/vm

Sincerely yours,

Benjamin Z. Kreitman

April 23, 1981

Rabbi Lloyd R. Goldman Mizpah Congregation McCallie and Fort Wood Place Chattanooga, Tennessee 37,403

Dear Rabbi Goldman,

Thank you very much for your warm and thoughtful letter.

I shall be happy to accept your kind invitation to deliver the Memorial Lecture in honor of your late wife.

I am almost completely booked for October but could find some time in November. If you would suggest dates that are good for you I will try to arrange my schedule accordingly.

With warmest good wishes, I am,

Cordially yours,

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum National Director Interreligious Affairs

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MHT:RPR

Enclosures 810, ?I, DN

Mizpah Congregation

AcCallie and Fort Wood Place Chattanooga, Tennessee 37403

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LLOYD R. GOLDMAN, RABBI ABRAHAM FEINSTEIN, D. D. D. HUM., RABBI EMERITUS

April 8, 1981

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum American Jewish Committee 165 E. 56th Street New York, New York 10022

Dear Rabbi Tenenbaum;

Several years ago, I had the privilege of hearing you speak in Chattanooga. My congregation established a Memorial Lecture series, in memory of my wife, in 1971. Through the years, we have had outstanding speakers such as: Jacob Marcus, Alexander Schindler and Max Lerner make presentations.

Would you be willing and able to present this year's lecture sometime in October or November? An honorarium of \$500, air coach roundtrip fare and coverage of all other expenses would be available. If your answer is in the affirmative, further plans can be made.

I look forward to your early reply.

Cordially yours,

Lloyd R. Goldman, Rabbi

Slayd P. Foldman

LRG/mc