

From the Desk of Rabbi Gold



UNITED SYNAGOGUE

(Continued from last week)

George Maislen, the outgoing president of the United Synagogue, in his report to the organization called for the strengthening of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations as the spokesman for a united American Jewish community. He severely castigated a national Jewish organization, which he did not name, for remaining outside the Conference and for "going it alone."

Mr. Maislen conducted a tour through the maze of American Jewish organizations, secular, religious and Zionist, rabbinical and congregational, service and defense. He told of the early history of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, then called the "Presidents' Club", which was established mainly to support Israel and was dominated, in the beginning, by Zionists.

In recent years, due in large measure to the suggestions made by him, the President's Conference has broadened its scope to include all problems facing Jewry, at home and abroad, and is no longer dominated by Zionist organizations. Thus, he has been able to hail it as an organization of organizations "that has gained respect and recognition throughout the world."

He deplored the fact that the one unnamed major organization has decided to "go it alone" for fear that a permanent central organization would impair its integrity.

Mr. Maislen did not accept this, declaring that "history has taught us that Jewish destiny is indivisible and that we are, and must continue to be, our brothers' keeper."

TWENTY-NINE RECEIVE SOLOMON SCHECHTER AWARDS

Twenty - nine congregations last night were presented with awards in eight different categories of synagogue activities in which they

have distinguished themselves over the past two years. The awards are dedicated to the memory of the saintly teacher and founder of the United Synagogue, Dr. Solomon Schechter.

The presentation was made by Justice A.H. Lief of Ottawa, Canada and Abe Birenbaum of Philadelphia, chairman and honorary chairman of the Awards Committee, respectively. Paul Freedman was consultant in the committee.

The selection for awards is based on "imaginative and creative utilization of re-

sources; impact on membership of the congregation and total community; and contribution to raising the standards in area of award." Awards are given in three different size categories; congregations under 250 families; congregations between 250-200 families; and congregations of over 500 families.

Award winners for the 1965 Biennium are:

ADULT EDUCATION: B'nai David, Chicago, Ill.; Huntington Jewish Center, Huntington, N.Y.; Queensboro Hill Jewish Center, Flushing, N.Y.; North Suburban Synagogue-Beth El, Highland Park, Ill.; Oheb Shalom, South Orange, N.J.; Honorable Mention: Ramat El, Jewish Community Center, Philadelphia, Pa.; Special Award for Creative Leadership in Adult Education - Emmanuel Synagogue, Hartford, Conn.

(Continued Next Week)

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