

## CHANGES NEEDED IN SPENDING COMMUNAL FUNDS FOR JEWISH NEEDS

CLEVELAND -- A Boston Jewish Activist youth leader and editor told 500 delegates to the American Jewish Congress' national biennial convention that American Jews must make "fundamental changes" in the spending of communal funds for Jewish needs.

Bill Novak, a leader of the Boston Havura and editor of the magazine "Response," spoke on the second day of a five day policy setting meeting in the Sheraton-Cleveland Hotel, attended by delegates representing AJ Congress units throughout the country.

"It has been demonstrated that were Jewish hospitals given less Jewish funding, support could be found from other sources. It is fine and well that we have places where people can die Jewishly, but isn't it time we poured money into places where people can live Jewishly -- Jewish schools, Jewish summer camps, Jewish day schools?"

"Everybody is for Jewish education, but are they still for it when it implies sacrifices in other areas. I think we must take that risk."

In addressing the Convention session -- chaired by Theodore Bikel, co-chairman of Congress' National Governing Council -- Mr.

Novak listed seven "new priorities for a new Jewish era" in addition to a re-ordering of "how we spend our money at home." He declared:

1) "We must have different understanding of Israel and the Diaspora." American Jewish commitment to Israel, he said, should "not cajole us into stifling dissent, or viewing our life here as any less important than life in Israel."

2) "We must cease regarding Jewish life in terms of the organizations that allege to speak for it and to serve it." Mr. Novak continued: "We cannot see beyond our own organizations. Yet with few exceptions the exciting things going on in American Jewish life are small, intimate and experiential, rather than institutionalized, stiff and formal."

3) "Jewish leadership must shift from the professionals, the wealthy and the politicians to the scholars, the thinkers and the activists." American rabbis have become "priests, not teachers," Mr. Novak said adding: "Is it any wonder their choices and priorities seem problematic to us now?"

4) "We must tolerate even encourage dissent challenge and diversity." Calls for unity

Mr. Novak said, must be carefully measured as against the "paucity of creativity they usually bring with them. Jewish history and tradition are by and large a product of diversity and dissent, not of uniformity and unity."

5) "We must respond appropriately to cultural pluralism." He continued: "We must demand our fair position in the larger culture but we should not allow the pendulum to swing back from secular liberalism all the way to conservatism and chauvinism ... American Jews should continue to support liberal and humanistic improvements and ideals."

6) "We must be prepared to build a new kind of religious Judaism for those who do not choose orthodoxy." He cited the "freer, more flexible form" such as is being attempted at the Boston and New York Havurot and called for "a Judaism that is com-

munal and physical, as well as private and theoretical."

7) "Finally, we must be prepared to be more individually involved." He added: "All the youth programs in the world won't be in the way, you will be more honest with them and with yourselves."

WASHINGTON -- Experimental projects in vocational counseling, including psychological testing of pre-high school youth and older persons seeking "a second career," were adopted by B'nai B'rith Career and Counseling Services at its annual meeting.

LAWRENCE, N.Y., Rubin R. Dobin, a noted Jewish and civic leader has been chosen to serve as Executive Vice-President of the Waldemar Mordecai Haffkine International Memorial Committee, bringing recognition to the work of Haffkine and to create world-wide interest in continuing the scientific projects of this famous Jewish research scientist.

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