# MINUTES OF THE 5th INTERNATIONAL HEBREW CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE

OF THE INTERNATIONAL HEBREW CHRISTIAN ALLIANCE HELD AT BUDAPEST, HUNGARY,

from 5th to 10th July, 1937

### Monday, 5th July

The Conference convened at 8 p.m., the President, The Rev. I.E.Davidson, in the Chair.

- 1. A hymn was sung and Dr. Moser offered prayer.
- 2. Addresses of welcome were given by Dr. Foldes and the Rev. G.A.F.Knight and a message from Bishop Ravasz was read. The Rev. I.E.Dåvidson replied.
- 3. A hymn was sung and the Chairman closed the Session with the Benediction.

#### Tuesday, 6th July

The Conference convened at 10 a.m., the Rev. I.E. Davidson presiding.

- 1. Pastor B. Lipschutz offered prayer.
- Delegates from Great Britain, America, Austria, Danzig, Germany, Holland, Hungary, Latvia, Palestine, Poland, Roumania, Switzerland and Yugo-Slavia presented their credentials.
- 3. The Minutes of the proceedings on Monday, 5th July, were read and adopted.
- 4. Tributes to the memory of Sir Leon Levison were paid by the Rev. I.E.Davidson, Dr. Arnold Frank, Rev. Harcourt Samuel and Rev. Jacob Peltz.

  Members of the Conference stood for a while in silence and the Chairman, Dr. Macdonald Webster and Rev. H.C.Carpenter offered prayer.
- 5. The Recording Secretary gave notice that the Nominations Committee would consist of the Presidents

- of affiliated Alliances and the Secretaries, Revs. Harcourt Samual and Jacob Peltz.
- 6. The Recording Secretary gave notice that an appeal had been made by Mr. Hugh Schonfield against a decision of the Business Committee, that in view of his inability to accept the statement of belief
- in Bye-Law No. 9, relative to belief in the Deity of Christ, he could not remain a member of that Committee. The Rev. Harcourt Samuel moved and the Rev. Jacob Peltz seconded that it was resolved that the matter be remitted to a special Judicial Committee to consist of the Presidents of affiliated Alliances and three others to be nominated by Mr. Schonfield and that their decision should be final.
- 7. The Session then adjourned.
- 8. Upon resumption prayer was offered by the Rev. I.E.Davidson.
- 9. The Rev. Jacob Peltz read the General Secretary's Report: its adoption was moved by Mr. Kagan, seconded by the Rev. H. Spitzer, and carried unanimously.
- 10. The Rev. Harcourt Samuel presented the audited accounts for the three years ended 30th September 1936; their adoption was moved by Rev. Jacob Peltz, seconded by Mr. Alton and carried unanimously.
- 11. It was proposed by Dr. Frank, seconded by Mr.Kagan and resolved that in future the annual accounts be published as soon as audited, without waiting for adoption by the Conference.
  - 12. Mrs. Schonfield submitted the Report of the Women's Auxiliary. Its adoption was moved by Mrs. Shore, seconded by Mr. van Gelderen and carried unanimously.
- 13. The President closed the Session with the Benediction.

### Wednesday, 7th July

The Conference convened at 10 a.m., the Rev. I.E.Davidson presiding.

- Dr. Moser offered prayer.
- 2. A roll call showed that representatives of all the Alliances were present.
- 3. The minutes of proceedings on Tuesday, 6th July, were read and adopted.
- 4. The suspension of Standing Orders was moved, seconded and carried.
- 5. The President called for the Report of the Judicial Committee set up to consider Mr. Schonfields appeal. This was handed in by Dr. Frank and stated that the Committee were of opinion that Mr. Schonfield's views were not really in conflict with Article 9 of the Bye-Laws.
- 6. The President called for the Report of the Nominations Committee.reThe Committee recommended the election of Dr. Frank as President. proposed by Rev. Harcourt Samuel, seconded by Rev. Jacob Peltz and carried unanimously. Dr. Frank was received with acclamation. The Committee recommended the election of the Rev. Nahum Levison as Vice-President. Mr. Nahum Levison declined to allow his name to go forward because of his dissatisfaction with the Judicial Committee's report: he complained that the Committee had not fully understood the position and wondered if possibly there were not others who did not believe in the full Deity of Jesus. The Revs. Harcourt Samuel and I.E. Davidson, Dr. Leslie Samual and Mr. Mark Kagan, intimated that for the same reason they also could not allow their names to go forward After some discussion the Rev. for re-election. Jacob Peltz moved and the Rev. Nahum Levison seconded a resolution in the following terms:-"In view of the fact that the credal faith of some members of the I.H.C.A. has been questioned, this Conference reaffirms its loyalty to the Constitution.

It requires from every delegate an affirmation of

faith as a condition of membership in the Alliance, such affirmation to be made in terms including Article 9 of the Bye-Laws, viz:-

Persons eligible for membership must be Hebrew Christians who -

- (a) have made public confession of their faith;
- (b) have accepted Jesus as their personal Saviour;
- (c) believe in the Atonement and vicarious suffering which He hath wrought on the Cross on Calvary;
- (d) believe in His Deity and Resurrection;
- (e) declare their adherence to the Scriptiures of the Old and New Testament as the supreme rule of faith nd life."

The resolution was carried, Mr. Zeidman dissenting and one by one the delegates affirmed their faith. All did so with the exception of Mr. & Mrs. Schonfield and they were declared to be excluded from membership.

It was moved, seconded and resolved to continue 6. consideration of the Nominations Committee report. The Committee recommended the election of Rev. Nahum Levison as first Vice-President. moved, seconded and carried with two dissentients the Rev. Erwin Schloss and Mrs. Shore. Committee recommended the election of Rev. H. C. Carpenter as second Vice-President. This was moved, seconded and carried unanimously. Committee recommended the election of the Rev. Harcourt Samuel as Recording Secretary and Treasurer. This was moved, seconded and carried unanimously. The Committee recommended the election of an Executive Committee as follows: The President, Vice-Presidents, Recording Secretary & Treasurer and General Secretary, Lady Levison, the Rev. I. E. Davidson, Dr. Leslie Samuel, Messrs. Taffen, Baruch, Kagan and Segall and the Presidents of affiliated Alliances. This was proposed and seconded; an amendment was moved, seconded and carried adding the name of the Secretary of the American Alliance. A further

amendment was moved, seconded and carried adding the name of Mrs. Shore. The motion as amended was carried.

- 7. The Session then adjourned.
- 8. Upon resumption Dr. Frank took the Chair and read a passage of Scripture; Mr. Segall offered prayer.
- 9. Dr. Frank expressed the thanks of the Conference to the Rev. I.E. Davidson for his invaluable services as President since the death of Sir Leon Levison and asked for the prayers of the members for himself.
- 10. Brief reports of the work of the affiliated Alliances in Yugo-Slavia, America, Great Britain, Austria, Germany, Danzig, Holland, Hungary, Latvia, Poland, Palestine, Roumania and Switzerland, were given by chosen representatives.
- 11. The President pronounced the Benediction and the Session concluded.

### Thursday, 8th July

The Conference convened at 10 a.m., Dr. Frank presiding.

- 1. The President read a portion of Scripture and Dr. Leslie Samuel offered prayer.
- 2. A roll call showed that representatives of all the Alliances were present.
- 3. The minutes of proceedings on Wednesday, 7th July were read, amended and adopted.
- 4. The Rev. Jacob Peltz gave an address on the Future Development of the I.H.C.A. Discussion followed in which the Revs. Nahum Levison, H. Spitzer, H.L.Ellison, P. Rad, Mr. L. Newton, Miss Weinmann, Rev. M. Zeidman, Pastor B.Lipschutz and Pastor F.T.Forell, took part.
- 5. The Rev. Erwin Schloss and the Rev. H.C.Carpenter offered prayer and the Session adjourned.

- 6. Upon resumption the President read a portion of Scripture and Mr. Segall offered prayer.
- 7. Miss Weinmann gave an address on the Relationship between the Alliance and the Jewish Community.
- 8. The Rev. M. Zeidman gave an address on the Problem of Hebrew Christian Unity.9. Discussion was resumed on the Future Development
- 9. Discussion was resumed on the Future Development of the I.H.C.A. Messrs. H. Poms, J.C. vsn Geldere M. Lowy, Rev. Erwin Schloss, Rev. M. Sigel and Mr. Zachan, took part.
- 10. The Rev. Nahum Levison offered prayer and the Session again adjourned.
- 11. Upon resumption the President read a portion of Scripture and Mr. Kagan offered prayer.
- 12. The President called for the Report of the Trustees of Abraham's Vineyard. This was handed in by the Rev. Harcourt Samuel. Dr. Leslie Samuel proposed, Mr. Spitzer seconded, and it was resolved that the Conference receive the Report. The Rev. M.Sigel moved and Pastor F.T.Forell seconded a resolution that if circumstances should entirely prevent the establishment of a colony in Pahestine, then the Conference would welcome the establishment of a colony in Lebanon. The resolution was carried unanimously.
- The Rev. M.H.Gitlin made an earnest appeal for a vigorous endeavour to raise the necessary funds for the establishment of a Colony in Poland. Discussion followed. It was moved, seconded and resolved that the discussion be continued on the following day.
  - 14. The Session was closed with prayer and the Benediction.

### FRIDAY, 9th July

love and esteem.

The Conference convened at 10 a.m., Dr. Frank presiding.

- 1. Scripture was read by Dr. Frank and the Rev. Jacob Peltz, Dr. Neuman and the Rev. M. Zeidman offered prayer.
- 2. A roll call showed that all the Alliances were represented.
- were read and adopted.

  4. A presentation of a travelling clock was made to the Rev. I.E.Davidson as an expression of gratitude for his services as President and as a token of

The Minutes of proceedings on Thursday, 8th July.

- 5. Discussion was resumed on Mr. Gitlin's appeal in connection with the Polish Colony Fund. The Rev. M. Zeidman proposed and the Rev. M. Sigel seconded that the Business Committee be instructed immediately to use the funds now in hand for the purchase of a small property in a locality where additional land can be purchases as more funds come in. After discussion the motion was by leave withdrawn. The Rev. Jacob Peltz moved and the Rev. Nahum Levison seconded and it was resolved that the Business Committee be instructed to confer with the Polish Committee with a view to speedily taking such action as may be possible.
- 6. The Rev. Nahum Levison made a statement on the position with regard to the Hebrew Christian Church and the 1934 Conference's request to the Committee to further the matter. The Rev. H.L.Ellison gave an address and moved the following resolution:

  "That this Conference requests its Executive to take no further steps for the founding of a

Hebrew Christian Church, but that it extend its full and wholehearted sympathy and encouragement to all Hebrew Christian Churches now in existence or that shall later be formed in which the Gospel of Jesus Christ is preached in a manner consistent

- with the doctrinal basis of the Alliance and where all things are done decently and in order to the glory of God."
- Mr. Kagan seconded. In the discussion that followed the Rev. I.E.Davidson, Mr. M. Kagan, Dr. Deszo Foldes, Mr. Deutsch, Rev. Harcourt Samuel, Pastor Moser and the Rev. M. Zeidman, took part.
- Pastor Moser and the Rew. M. Zeidman, took part. The resolution was carried with five dissentients.

  7. The Session adjourned with prayer.
- 8. Upon resumption the Rev. Nahum Levison took the Chair and the Rev. H.C.Carpenter offered prayer.
- 9. Pastor F.T.Forell and the Rev. P. Smoljar gave addresses on the Condition of the Jews in the World today. Discussion followed in which the Rev. M. Zeidman, M. Lowy, Rev. H. Spitzer, Mr. Deutsch,

Rev. Erwin Schloss, Mr. B. Degall and Dr. Deszo

10. The Rev. Harcourt Samuel moved, the Rev. Jacob Peltz seconded and it was resolved that the most grateful thanks of this Conference be accorded to the Scottish Mission and the Methodist Church

Foldes took part.

- in Budapest for their gracious hospitality in freely placing their buildings at the disposal of the delegates, to the Rev. G.A.F.Knight for his unfailing kindness and helpfulness in many directions, to the Rev. H.L.Ellison for his invaluable services as interpreter and to Dr.Foldes and the Hungarian Alliance for the warm welcome
  - accorded their brethren from all parts of the world.

    11. The Minutes of the day's proceedings were read and adopted.
- 12. Prayer was offered by the Revs. M.H.Gitlin and H.L.Ellison and the Chairman closed the Conference with the Benediction.

## MINUTES OF THE 6th INTERNATIONAL

#### HEBREW CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE

### OF THE INTERNATIONAL HEBREW CHRISTIAN

ALLIANCE HELD AT LONDON,

on 4th & 5th July, 1939

### Tuesday, 4th July

The Confedence convened at 10 a.m., the President, the Rev. Arnold Frank, D.D., in the Chair.

- 1. Scripture was read by the Rev. H.C.Carpenter and the Rev. N. Levison offered prayer.
- 2. The President delivered an address of welcome and an exposition of the Master's words, "That they all may be one, as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee."
- J. Delegates from Great Britain, Holland, Roumania, Hungary, Palestine, Danzig and Yugo-Slavia presented their credentials.
- 4. The draft revised Constitution was submitted on behalf of the Executive Committee by the Recording Secretary. A proposal by Dr. Foldes that a general discussion now take place found no seconder. The draft was then examined clause by clause, amended in places, and adopted in substitution for the existing Constitution.
- 5. Following the adoption of the Constitution it was moved, seconded and resolved to instruct the Executive Committee that in the event of settlements of Hebrew Christians being established, representatives of the Alliances in France, Switzerland and Holland, and others qualified to advise, should be
- 6. It was moved, seconded and resolves that having regard to the existing situation in Europe and the consequent impossibility of establishing a colony for Hebrew Christians in Poland, the Polish Colony

called into consultation.

Fund be closed and the balance transferred to Land Settlement Fund with the consent of the d

The Recording Secretary reported in connection

the subjects at Laurel Bank, Newmilns, Ayrshire Scotland, which have been bequeathed to the Alliance by the late Miss Mary Morton, who resister, in her testamentary writings dated 24th 1924, and June 1937, and registed in the Books Council and Session on 30th October, 1937, and which subjects have been sold at the request of Alliance at the price of £550, that at a meeting the Executive Committee held on 7th September, a resolution was passed authorising the Presidents Vice-President, Secretaries and Treasurer the Executive Committee to sign on behalf of the Alliance the Conveyance of the said subjects in favour of the Purchases, such conveyance to be

resolution of the Executive Committee.

8. The President pronounced the Benediction and the session concluded.

granted by the Trustees of the late Miss Mary Morton with the consent of the Alliance and to contain a disposition by the Alliance of its who right and interest in the said subjects, and it was accordingly resolved that this Conference do approve and ratify the immediately foregoing

### Wednesday, 5th July

7.

The Conference convened at 10 a.m., the Presiden the Rev. Arnold Frank, D.D., in the Chair.

- 1. A hymn was sung, the Rev. Harcourt Samuel offere prayer, and Pastor Forell read a portion of Scripture with expository comments.
- 2. The minutes of the proceedings on Tuesday, 4th 3 were read and adopted.
- 3. The Report of the Executive Committee on the German Relief work was submitted by the General Secretary. Discussion followed and the report was adopted.

- 4. It was moved, seconded and resolved that in future reports should be circulated in English and in German.
- 5. Brief reports of the work of the Affiliated Alliances in Great Britain, Danzig, France, Switzerland, Holland, Hungary, Rumania, Palestine and Poland were given by their delegates.
- 6. It was resolved to invite Pastor Hedenquist of Vienna, to address the Conference on his work amongst Hebrew Christians. Pastor Hedenquist responded.
- 7. It was resolved to send messages of greeting and of appreciation of their labours to Pastor Deutsch and Messrs. Lowenstein and Feinstein.
- 8. IIt was moved, seconded and resolved that the Executive Committee consider the case of members of Committees who habitually fail to attend meetings and make a recommendation to the next Conference.
- 9. The Rev. N. Levison submitted the report of the Executive Committee on colonisation. It was moved, seconded and resolved that this special Conference having heard the report of the Executive Committee, authorises the Executive Committee to endeavour to colonise as many selected families as possible, wherever it may be found practicable, and to do so in co-operation with any organisation that it may think fit. It was further resolved that the Executive Committee be instructed to form a Committee to watch over the problem in all its phases.
- 10. It was resolved to invite the Rev. J. Hoffman Cohn, of Brooklyn, to address the Conference upon his work for refugees. Mr. Cohn responded.
- 11. It was resolved to send a letter to the Bishop of Chichester expressing appreciation of his labours on behalf of refugees.
- 12. The minutes of the day's proceedings were read and adopted.
- 13. The President closed the Conference with the Benediction.