



DR. JACOB S. GOLUB,
Bureau director,
1928 - 1935

Through the trying depression years, the Bureau, under Dr. Golub's leadership, had managed not only to hold its own, but also to expand its services and to make the community cognizant of its responsibility for preserving its educational institutions.

In 1930, the Jewish Welfare Fund of Cincinnati was established. The Bureau became one of its beneficiaries, and was thus able to overcome to a major extent its financial difficulties.

FURTHER PROGRESS MADE

When, in 1935, Dr. Golub was called to Harrisburg and Dr. Azriel L. Eisenberg took over, the Bureau, although still mainly identified with the Talmud Torahs, continued to move rapidly and determinedly in the direction of community service. This was the heyday of Jewish Avondale, and it thus became possible to concentrate a great variety of Jewish educational and cultural activities there. The West End gradually became depleted of its Jewish residents, and its Talmud Torah was finally obliged to close doors.

All activities of the Bureau were intensified. The Adult School, the Art Club, the Bureau Players and the Choral Society became popular organizations.

In 1940, Dr. Eisenberg became the head of the Bureau of Jewish Education of Cleveland, and Mordecai Halevi was chosen to replace him.

Despite the crippling war situation, Mr. Halevi had succeeded in making the influence of the Bureau felt in the community.

The curriculum of the affiliated schools was intensified, and new Bureau services were introduced. Particularly inspiring were the "Zmiros Shabbos" programs which were conducted on Friday evenings at the Bureau and which drew large audiences.

BUREAU REORGANIZED

In June 1944, a significant change took place in the organizational structure of the Bureau. The close association between the Bureau and the Talmud Torah had created the impression in the community that the two organizations were synonymous, and the Bureau was therefore identified with the Talmud Torah group which believed in a given type of Jewish education. Whereas it was felt that the Bureau should rather be identified in the public mind with the total community, the Board of Trustees decided to separate the Bureau from the Talmud Torah and thus definitely to establish the character of the Bureau as an overall community agency for Jewish education. The Talmud Torah was made an autonomous affiliate of the Bureau. It was incorporated as the Talmud Torah Association, and the membership of the Bureau was turned over to this new organization. The Bureau became a body consisting of representatives selected by all major Jewish organizations and congregations in the community.

In the autumn of 1945, Mr. Halevi was called to New York to head the Histadruth Ivrit, the national organization for promotion of Hebrew Culture. Dr. Moses Zalesky, the present director, who was invited from Chicago to replace Mr. Halevi, assumed office on January 1, 1946.

SERVICES IMPROVED, NEW PROJECTS INITIATED

The Bureau proceeded to expand its services to the community. Early in March of 1946, it presented, jointly with the Jewish Center, the First Community-Wide Annual Jewish Musical Festival in observance of Jewish Music Month. This was the beginning of a program of active cooperation between the Bureau of Jewish Education and the Jewish Center, a program which has proved to be successful and productive, and which has gradually been extended to the areas of informal Jewish adult education and youth leadership training. The Jewish community of Cincinnati has been one of the pioneers in the development of cooperative relationships between the central agency for Jewish education and the Jewish community Center, now practiced widely throughout the country.