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**Minutes of the Thirteenth
International Hebrew
Christian Conference of the
International Hebrew
Christian Alliance, held at
Gunten, Switzerland, 21st-
23rd September, 1971.**

TUESDAY, 21st SEPTEMBER

The Conference convened at 9.15 a.m., the President, Mr. E. P. E. Lipson, in the chair.

1. Worship was conducted by the President.
2. Mr. Lipson delivered his Presidential Address.
3. Delegates from Gt. Britain, America, Germany, Holland, Switzerland, Iran, South Africa and Argentine presented their credentials.
4. Visitors from Denmark, France and Israel, where at present there is no affiliated Alliance, were welcomed.
5. The Conference stood as the Executive Secretary read the names of Hebrew Christian leaders who had passed to their rest and reward since the last Conference. After a period of silence he offered prayer.

6. The Executive Secretary conveyed greetings that had been received from the Australian Alliance and a number of members and friends.
7. The Executive Secretary was asked to send prayerful good wishes to the Revds. Jacob Peltz and Peter Schneider, Mr. Herman Newmark and Dr. Citron.
8. The Executive Secretary gave notice that the Nominations Committee would consist of Messrs. During, Grassmann, Herz-Hablützel, Lipson, Lloyd, and Yusefzadeh, Dr. Weiss, the Revd. Victor Sedaca and Mesdames Eberle-Gotlib and Goldman.
9. The President called for the report of the Executive Committee. This was handed in by The Revd. Harcourt Samuel. It was moved, seconded and resolved that the report be adopted.
10. Reports of the work of the affiliated Alliances were given by chosen representatives and each of these was followed by discussion. It was moved, seconded and resolved to send a message of greeting to the Australian Alliance which was unable to send a delegate.
11. The President introduced and greeted Mr. Peter Lotar of Baden. Mr. Lotar briefly addressed the Conference.
12. Worship was conducted by Mr. Herz-Hablützel and the session concluded.

WEDNESDAY, 22nd SEPTEMBER

The Conference convened at 9.15 a.m., the President, Mr. E. P. E. Lipson in the chair.

13. Worship was conducted by the President.
14. A roll call showed that representatives of all the affiliated Alliances were present.
15. The minutes of the proceedings on Tuesday, 21st September, were read and confirmed.
16. The Revd. David Bronstein submitted a report on his work as Secretary in America.
17. A report of work in South America was given by the Executive Secretary and the Revd. Victor Sedaca.
18. The Revd. H. D. Leuner submitted a report on his work as Secretary in Europe.
19. The Revd. Henry Knight submitted a report on his work as Secretary in Israel.
20. The President called for the report of the delegation sent to Israel by the Executive

Committee and the Board of Abraham's Vineyard Ltd. This was handed in by the Revd. Harcourt Samuel. It was moved, seconded and resolved that the report be received and its recommendations adopted.

21. The President offered prayer and the session concluded.

THURSDAY, 23rd SEPTEMBER

The conference convened at 9.15 a.m., the President, Mr. E. P. E. Lipson in the chair.

22. Worship was conducted by the President.
23. A roll call showed that representatives of all the affiliated Alliances were present.
24. The minutes of the proceedings on Wednesday, 22nd September, were read and confirmed.
25. The President called for the Statement on Policy in Israel prepared by a Working Party set up by the Executive Committee. It was handed in by the Revd. Harcourt Samuel as follows:—

“We re-iterate that the International Hebrew Christian Alliance, which is a fellowship of a number of autonomous national Alliances, has no desire to direct the affairs of Jewish believers in Israel, but does hope that they will be drawn together into closer unity, believing that the Holy Spirit will guide them into such association for mutual edification and witness as may please Him. We are convinced that this would not only be a source of strength to them themselves, but would also be a stimulus to Hebrew Christians in other parts of the world.

Whilst this is being achieved, the International Hebrew Christian Alliance should:—

- (a) Seek to foster and co-ordinate various Hebrew Christian activities having different denominational backgrounds but committed to the growth and establishment of a Hebrew Christian community within the Church of Christ in Israel. Such a community will love the Jewish people of which it is a part and under God be loyal to the State of Israel and seek to contribute to its life and welfare.
- (b) Seek ways and means of co-operation with non-Jewish Christians in Israel and enhancing in them the understanding that,

when Hebrew Christians speak of the Church of Christ in Israel, their hearts are open to their Arab brethren in Christ and they welcome the contribution their one Lord wishes them to make.

- (c) Make more widely known to the Churches in Israel the personal difficulties under which Hebrew Christians labour because of their frequent loss of status as Jews in their own land that they may, where appropriate, make suitable representation on their behalf to the Israeli Government.
- (d) Stress the reality of the Hebrew Christian's position as being both in the Church and in Jewry and thereby serving as a bridge between them for fuller understanding.

The International Hebrew Christian Alliance should also:—

- (a) Urge its affiliated national Alliances in the same way to stress the Hebrew Christian's position and so to serve both Jews and Christians.
- (b) Encourage Hebrew Christians in other lands to a greater awareness of the hand of God in and through the event of Israel, and to recognise their own involvement in it; to pray more regularly and intelligently, to give more sacrificially, and to help the Hebrew Christian community in its witness and service to the world.
- (c) Stress the value to suitable younger Hebrew Christians of a period of study in Israel or of participation in its life and work.
- (d) Make it plain that, whilst rejoicing in the establishment and preservation of the State of Israel, it sincerely sympathises with those Arabs who have suffered distress thereby."

It was moved, seconded and resolved that the Statement of Policy be adopted.

26. The President called for the report of the Board of Abraham's Vineyard Ltd. This was handed in by the Revd. Harcourt Samuel. It was moved, seconded and resolved that the report be received.

27. The President called for the report of the Nominations Committee. This was handed in by the Executive Secretary.

28. It was moved, seconded and resolved that Mr. Habib Yusefzadeh be elected President of the Alliance until the next Ordinary Conference.
29. It was moved, seconded and resolved that Mr. E. P. E. Lipson, Mr. Harry Herz-Habützel, the Revd. Victor Sedaca, and Mrs. M. Eberle-Gotlib, be elected Vice-Presidents of the Alliance until the next Ordinary Conference.
30. It was moved, seconded and resolved that the Revd. Harcourt Samuel, O.B.E., be re-elected Executive Secretary and Treasurer until the next Ordinary Conference.
31. It was moved, seconded and resolved that the following be elected members of the Executive Committee until the next Ordinary Conference: the Revds. Ludwig Dewitz, Max Enker, R. H. Lewis, S. B. Levinson, T. H. Bendor Samuel and Peter Schneider, Dr. Arthur Kac, Dr. H. H. Robinson, Dr. Lottie Rosenfeld, Dr. Kurt Weiss, Mr. Alan Sax and Mrs. Rosa Scharnberg.
32. It was moved, seconded and resolved to confer honorary membership of the Alliance upon the Most Revd. George Appleton, Anglican Archbishop in Jerusalem, in grateful recognition of his interest and concern both for the Jewish people as a whole and in Hebrew Christians in particular, and his unflinching efforts to bring about a true reconciliation between Jew and Arab throughout the Middle East.
33. The session then adjourned.
34. Upon resumption Mr. E. P. E. Lipson introduced his successor in the Presidency, offered prayer and vacated the chair in his favour.
35. It was moved, seconded and resolved to amend Article 1 of the Constitution to read as follows:—

The name of this fellowship of Hebrew Christians shall be THE INTERNATIONAL HEBREW CHRISTIAN ALLIANCE. National Alliances of Hebrew Christians shall be affiliated to it.

36. Mr. George Ray voiced the thanks of the Conference to all responsible for the arrangements for its meetings. Mr. Herz-Habützel responded.
37. Mrs. Eberle-Gotlib expressed the thanks of the Conference to the retiring President for all his work during his tenure of office.

38. It was moved, seconded and resolved to send greetings to past Presidents, Mr. J. C. van Gelderen and Dr. Jakob Jozz

39. The President briefly addressed the Conference.

40. The minutes of the day's proceedings were read and confirmed.

41. Worship was conducted by the Revd. David Bronstein and the Conference concluded.