

IN TRIBUTE TO RABBI BINYAMIN WALFISH

The Rabbinical Council of America and Rabbi Binyamin Walfish have been synonymous for fifteen years. During this time, Yummie, as he is affectionately called, was a household word among the RCA *haverim* and the many organizations to which he was a delegate. He has demonstrated a zealous commitment for the wellbeing of the organization and the individual *rav*. He also represented the causes of the RCA and *Torah yehadut* in general with insight, vigor and pride.

Upon entering his office, one could not help but be impressed by the sight of Yummie literally snowed under by his many involvements. While seated at his desk behind a pile of communications, newspapers and faxes and reading the day's mail, he would look up, always with a smile, and invite you to sit down for a "*shmooz*." Conversations, however, would be interrupted by the frequent ringing of his phone. These calls would come from different sections of the country and from other countries, especially Israel. Even while seated he was in a state of perpetual motion. And then, suddenly, he is on the go as he remembers that a committee is waiting for him in the conference room or that he must attend a community meeting. His life's concentration was the RCA in all its facets. He served as director, guide and advisor with indefatigability and intensity.

It is with a sense of respect and appreciation that we honor him in this issue of TRADITION upon his retirement. This gesture is appropriate for two reasons. First, Yummie's commitment to the totality of *Torah yehadut* is profound and his devotion to Torah learning and *hashkafic* discourse is admirable. TRADITION, the RCA-sponsored journal for discussing the interface of *yehadut* and contemporary cultural thought, has virtually no peer among intellectual Jewish journals. As Yummie Walfish guided the RCA, including TRADITION, for many years, it is fitting to honor him in our journal.

Yummie and his dear wife, Hindy, are making their future home in Israel. May their aliyah to Israel be a spiritual fulfillment for them as he continues to work on behalf of our tradition with dignity and dedication.

We also wish to thank Rabbis Pesach Z. Levovitz and Joseph S. Ozarowski, Presentation Chairman and Co-Chairman, respectively, of the tribute dinner held in honor of Rabbi Walfish. The tributes presented to Rabbi Walfish at that time are reproduced here.

RABBI MOSHE GORELIK
PRESIDENT
RABBINICAL COUNCIL OF AMERICA

IN TRIBUTE TO RABBI BINYAMIN WALFISH

We are deeply grateful to all of the *haverim* who joined in this expression of recognition and appreciation of our retiring Executive Vice President, Rabbi Binyamin Walfish, *shalita*.

We salute him for the selfless commitment he manifested to all of us and to *Klal Yisroel* these past eighteen years. It was indeed a privilege and honor to be chosen for this role.

Your enthusiastic and gracious response provided our assignment with a measure of unusual success. *Yasher kochachem!*

RABBI PESACH Z. LEVOVITZ
PRESENTATION CHAIRMAN

RABBI JOSEPH S. OZAROWSKI
CO-CHAIRMAN

7 Shvat, 5754

January 18, 1994

Congratulations and felicitations to our distinguished Executive Vice President upon his retirement.

His dedication and sacrifice in behalf of every one of our *haverim* is legendary in the annals of the RCA. The concern and empathy he refelcted for us all will never be forgotten. His leadership brought distinction and honor to the role of the RCA in the councils of Jewish life, nationally and internationally. May he and his wife continue with the gifts of life, *b'ezrat Hashem*, good health and the realization of their aspirations in *Eretz Yisrael*.

RABBI DAVID ALGAZE

RABBI SIMCHA KRAUSS

RABBI YEHUDA ASSAF

RABBI JOEL LEHRFIELD

RABBI SHALOM CARMY

RABBI JOSEPH S. OZAROWSKI

RABBI ALAN CINER

RABBINICAL COUNCIL OF

RABBI SHMUEL GOLDIN

SULLIVAN COUNTY

RABBI YITZCHAK GREENBERG

RABBI ALLEN SCHWARTZ

RABBI JOSEPH A. GRUNBLATT

RABBI MORDEKAI SHAPIRO

RABBI MAYNARD C. HYMAN

RABBI MOSHE J. YERES

IN TRIBUTE TO RABBI BINYAMIN WALFISH

*H*earfelt greetings upon your retirement as our beloved Executive Vice President. Best wishes, ב"ה, for good health, שמחות, and success in your endeavors.

RABBI YOSEF ADLER	RABBI JACOB J. GREENBERG	RABBI ISRAEL MILLER
RABBI MORRIS APPLEMAN	RABBI DAVID S. HALPERN	RABBI SIDNEY NISSENBAUM
RABBI KENNETH AYUMAN	RABBI RAYMOND HARARI	RABBI JOSEPH R. RADINSKY
RABBI ISAAC C. AVIGDOR	RABBI BARRY D. HARTMAN	RABBI BERNARD REICHMAN
RABBI MORRIS BEKRITSKY	RABBI JOSHUA HERTZBERG	RABBI JACOB REINER
RABBI NEHEMIAH I. BEN-ZEV	RABBI JEROME M. HERZOG	RABBI AARON M. RINE
RABBI LOUIS BERNSTEIN	RABBI MAX HOCH	RABBI SOLOMON ROODMAN
RABBI JEFFREY D. BIENEFELD	RABBI EMANUEL HOLZER	RABBI MAYER ROSENBAUM
RABBI YOSEF BLAU	RABBI IRWIN ISAACSON	RABBI HERSHEL SCHACTER
RABBI AAARON BOROW	RABBI SOLOMON KAHANE	RABBI FABIAN SCHONFELD
RABBI KENNETH BRANDER	RABBI ARTHUR D. KAHN	RABBI GEDALIA D. SCHWARTZ
RABBI REUVEN P. BULKA	RABBI JOSEPH KAMINETSKY	RABBI RONALD L. SCHWARTZBERG
RABBI JACOB CHANES	RABBI HAYYIM J. KASSORLA	RABBI RONALD Z. SCHWARTZ
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RABBI JOSHUA J. EPSTEIN	RABBI DONIEL Z. KRAMER	RABBI JOSEPH SHURIN
RABBI MOSHE A. FASKOWITZ	RABBI MEYER KRAMER	RABBI H. NORMAN STRICKMAN
RABBI JEFFREY L. FEINSTEIN	RABBI MOSHE KWALBRUN	RABBI MOSHE D. TENDLER
RABBI ALBERT FELDMAN	RABBI EUGENE I. KWALWASSER	RABBI REUVEN M. TRADBURKS
RABBI EMAMNUEL FELDMAN	RABBI EZRA LABATON	RABBI LOUIS M. TUCHMAN
RABBI LEON A. FELDMAN	RABBI ELIEZER LANGER	RABBI ISRAEL TURNER
RABBI SAMUEL FOX	RABBI BERTRAM A. LEFF	RABBI MARK S. WEINER
RABBI HYMAN R. FRIEDMAN	RABBI ABRAHAM LEIBTAG	RABBI WALTER S. WURZBURGER
RABBI EDWARD H. GARSEK	RABBI YACOV LERNER	RABBI BENJAMIN S. YASGUR
RABBI IRVING P. GLICKMAN	RABBI A. MARK LEVIN	RABBI ALAN J. YUTER
RABBI JAY H. GOLDBERG	RABBI JOSEPH LEVINSON	RABBI HOWARD A. ZACK
RABBI DANIEL GOLDBERGER	RABBI PESACH Z. LEVOVITZ	RABBI MORDECAI E. ZETZ
RABBI NORMAN GOLDKLANG	RABBI SHMUEL LIEBERMAN	RABBI LAWRENCE S. ZIERLER
RABBI MORDECAI N. GOLDZWEIG	RABBI NORMAN J. LISTOKIN	RABBI ABRAHAM ZIGELMAN
RABBI MORTON L. GORDON	RABBI ALVIN M. MARCUS	
	RABBI EUGENE MARKOVITZ	

IN TRIBUTE TO RABBI BINYAMIN WALFISH

Words can never convey deepfelt sentiments of affection and admiration. I am proud to have been associated with you in your commitment to *Klal Yisrael*.

RABBI HERMAN ZWILLENBERG

With deep gratitude and much respect for your many years of leadership to the RCA and *Klal Yisrael* and fondest best wishes.

RABBI & MRS. RAFAEL G. GROSSMAN

In tribute to our esteemed member, Rabbi Binyamin Walfish, we have benefited from your Torah *shiurim* and vast wisdom.

CONGREGATION BNAI YESHURUN
TEANECK, NEW JERSEY

Best wishes upon retirement to a revered colleague, friend and mentor, Rabbi Binyamin Walfish. May you and Hindy see *berakhah* in Israel.

RABBI ARYEH & SARA WEIL

Congratulations to a dear friend who has written an important chapter in R.C.A. history, making a great impact on the Torah community here and in Israel.

RABBI & MRS. MAX N. SCHREIER

In gratitude to Rabbi Binyamin Walfish for years of distinguished leadership, devoted service and outstanding advocacy to the Rabbinate and the Jewish community.

RABBI JACOB S. RUBENSTEIN
YOUNG ISRAEL OF SCARSDALE

To Hindy and Yumi – Thanks for your personal friendship and professional leadership.

MILTON & SHAINEE POLIN

Warmest wishes for a wonderful retirement and good health for you and Hindy. Your dedicated leadership, your warmth and caring for our chaverim will never be forgotten.

BERYL & GRETA ROTHMAN

Warmest greetings to a colleague, guide and leader. Go from strength to strengths....Our Pension Board salutes your efforts.

SARAH & MYRON RAKOWITZ

May Hashem bless your future in *Eretz Yisrael* and may you go from *aliyah* to *aliyah*.

MOSHE AND SARA GORELIK

We extend to Yumi our deeply felt love, appreciation and gratitude for his friendship, for his dedication to the well-being of colleagues and for his selfless service to *Klal Yisrael*.

RABBI JOSEPH B. GLASER
CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

RABBI JOEL H. MEYERS
RABBINICAL ASSEMBLY

Gilda & I extend our best wishes to Rabbi & Mrs. Walfish on this special occasion. May the Almighty fulfill their wishes for the good. We look forward to our continued friendship for many years to come.

RABBI MARC D. ANGEL

Best wishes for a fulfilling new career in your retirement.

RABBI HASKEL LOOKSTEIN
CONGREGATION KEHILATH YESHURUN

The officers and staff of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America are proud to join in the salute to Rabbi Binyamin Walfish in recognition of many years of devoted, idealistic, effective and distinguished service.

SHELDON RUDOFF
PRESIDENT

PROF. SHIMON KWESTEL
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RABBI PINCHAS STOLPER
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

RABBI RAPHAEL BUTLER
NATIONAL DIRECTOR