

## THE QUESTIONS

**1** The program of the February, 1956, conference of the Rabbinical Council of America lists Rav Moshe Feinstein, z"l, and Rav Mordechai Gifter among the speakers. Rav Aharon Kotler, z"l, also addressed the RCA in those days. It is fair to say that today such invitations to luminaries of the Yeshiva world would neither be issued nor accepted. What has happened to effect this sea change in relationships?

**2** a) What were the epochal events that shaped Jewry in the last sixty years, and how would you evaluate the response of Orthodoxy to these events? b) Related to this, what have been the greatest successes of Orthodoxy, and its greatest failures?

**3** Which presents the more serious challenge to Orthodoxy: the deviationist religious movements, or secularism? Have our past strategies in relating to either of them been effective? If not, how should the strategies be changed?

**4** Which of the various groupings within Orthodoxy—Centrist, Rightist, Hasidic, Yeshiva, Haredi or others—do you consider the most vital in the long term, and which the weakest? Why? Do you see further splits between them, or greater cooperation?

**5** As a believing Jew, what facets of Torah life give you the most personal strength to thrive spiritually as an Orthodox Jew in a hedonistic environment that is not conducive to Torah values?