

professor, Dr. Edward Chauncey Baldwin, had noticed the lack of interest by Jewish students in Jewish life, tradition, and learning, and for years had sought some way of improving the situation. The way was found when Benjamin Frankel, freshly ordained as a rabbi at Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati (just across the street from the University of Cincinnati) chose to accept the student community at Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, as his charge, although there was no assurance of financial support. Frankel had had a part-time pulpit in the community as an undergraduate at HUC and had seen for himself the need for leadership and guidance for the college students.

After a year of this pioneer project, B'nai B'rith stepped in with full support which has continued and grown through the years.

The leaders of the first unit at Illinois, seeking a name that would symbolize the best traditions of Jewish life, came up with that of Hillel, the devoted Jewish scholar and teacher of the First Century BCE. The name stuck and is now a part of American university tradition.

HILLEL COMES TO UC

In November of 1946 a number of out-of-town students at the University began to feel the need and desire for some sort of campus-wide Jewish organization. Miss Rosalyn Chudnof, then a senior at UC and a part-time worker for the Jewish Center, informed the Center of the situation, and was assigned by the Center to guide the student group in filling its needs.

"Razzy" expected about 50 students at the first meeting she called. She got over 100! The