



Conference at the Waldorf. From left, Balaban, the Prime Minister, Novins, Steinbrink and Epstein

## BEN-GURION MEETS ADL

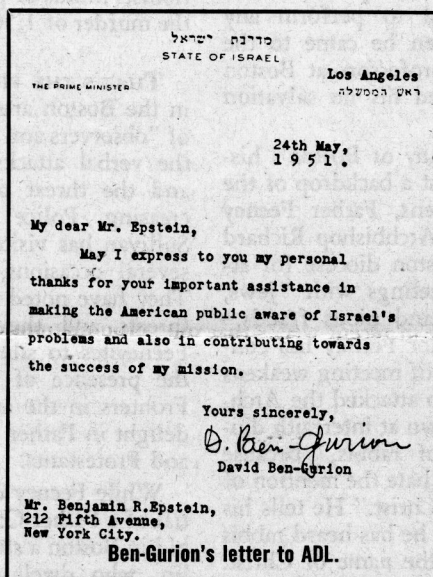
*A press conference waits while the Prime Minister says thanks for services to Israel*

PRIME MINISTER David Ben-Gurion of Israel was leaving for home that day. His suite at the Waldorf in New York had that "checking out" look, boxes and trunks piled high in the ante-rooms for the long journey. Behind the closed doors leading from the foyer, however, everything was businesslike right up to the last minute. The Prime Minister still had a great deal to do in those final hours of his historic visit to American shores.

In one of the parlors sat a group of four men — Judge Meier Steinbrink, ADL national chairman, Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures, Benjamin R. Epstein, ADL national director, and Louis Novins, a member of ADL's Eastern board. Within a few minutes Mr. Ben-Gurion entered the room. He came in beaming. These were friends he wanted to see and to thank for services rendered without fanfare — services beneficial both to the Jews of the United States and to those of Israel.

AND THOUGH A ballroom full of newspapermen were waiting 10 floors below for a final press conference, the Prime Minister held his callers in a discussion of

mutual interests. He revealed a clear understanding of the work of ADL and a deep appreciation of the League's services "in making the American public aware of Israel's problems." Then he said it formally in a letter to Ben Epstein.



Judge Steinbrink told the Prime Minister: "We believe your visit has done much to give the American people a better understanding of Israel as a citadel of the democratic world in the Middle East. In your person you have symbolized for America the heroic struggle that has brought the new state into being. America as a whole, we believe, will continue to show its sympathy for Israel not only in spirit but in concrete form.

"IN TURN, WE hope that your visit to our shores has given you renewed understanding of the aspirations of American Jewry—its sympathy for Israel, its devotion to Judaism and its loyalty to America. It is to this task of mutual understanding that ADL has dedicated a considerable part of its activities."

There were good-byes all around and the Prime Minister went down to his final press conference.