I. Ezra Staples

(35)

1987-1989

Ezra Staples was Keneseth Israel’s 35th President, serving from 1987 to 1989. Staples was born on January 30, 1920. He held a doctorate in education and enjoyed a long career in the field. He served as Deputy Superintendent for the Philadelphia School District and was an Associate Professor of Education and the Director of Graduate Education at Widener University in Chester. Staples was a member of the William Portner Lodge of B’nai B’rith, and he brought his education expertise to Jewish associational life. During the 1968-1969 school year, he was approached by the B’nai B’rith National Office to help establish an Educators Lodge in Philadelphia, which he did successfully.

Staples was married to Eleanor (nee Simkins) and had two children, Robert and Cathy. He died on July 31, 2006.