

The RYS Daily 11/12/06 His Son Yom Tov (Lipmann) Lipkin

Someone asked me recently about the family of RYS. I have not been able to find out very much. I believe he had a couple of daughters and a couple of sons. One of his sons, Yom Tov (Lipmann), achieved some fame as an applied mathematician. Below is some information about him from the Internet.

Later this week I plan to distribute the text of RYS's advertisement in which he wrote that he had no nachas from this son's pursuit of secular knowledge.

From http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yisrael_Lipkin_Salanter

Rabbi Lipkin had a son who became a noted mathematics professor at the [University of St. Petersburg](#) in the nineteenth century and no longer followed an [Orthodox](#) way of life. In response to this appointment, some of the leading [maskilim](#) placed a congratulatory advertisement in one of the Hebrew newspapers of the time. It blessed Rabbi Yisrael for the *nachat* (derived satisfaction) that his son's appointment to the college faculty must have brought to him.

Rabbi Lipkin then placed his own counter-advertisement in the next issue of that paper and stated that he had no nachat whatsoever from his son because of the latter's forsaking Jewish life and practice. And he further stated that he would be grateful in this world and in the next world to anyone who could induce his son to return to a life of Jewish tradition and observance.^[1]

From <http://rabbiwein.com/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=1020>

The son of Rabbi Yisrael Lipkin of Salant became a noted mathematics professor at the University of St. Petersburg in the nineteenth century and no longer followed a Jewishly observant way of life. In response to this appointment, some of the leading maskilim - so-called "enlightened" ones - placed a congratulatory advertisement in one of the Hebrew newspapers of the time. It blessed Rabbi Yisrael for the nachat that his son's appointment to the college faculty must have brought to him. Rabbi Yisrael then placed his own advertisement in the next issue of that paper and stated that he had no nachat whatsoever from his son because of the latter's forsaking Jewish life and practice. And he further stated that he would be grateful in this world and in the next world as well to anyone who could help bring his son to return to a life of Jewish tradition and observance.

From <http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/view.jsp?artid=440&letter=L>

Lipmann Lipkin:

Pedigree of the Lipkin Family.
(see image)

Russian mathematician; born at Salaty, government of Kovno, 1846; died at St. Petersburg Feb. 9 (21), 1876; son of Israel Salanter. Lipkin's early training consisted in

the study of the Bible, the Talmud, and other religious books. At an early age he began to show a decided inclination for scientific subjects, particularly mathematics. Not knowing any European language, he had to derive his information from Hebrew books alone. Notwithstanding the incomplete nature of such sources, and without other aid, Lipkin not only succeeded in mastering the elementary sciences, but also acquired a knowledge of the higher mathematics. He also began the study of modern languages, especially German and French. Subsequently he went to Königsberg, where through the influence of Professor Rischelo he was admitted to the lectures. Somewhat later Lipkin entered the Berlin Gewerbe-Academie, and then Jena University, where he received the degree of Ph.D., his dissertation being "Ueber die Räumlichen Strophoiden." From Jena Lipkin went to St. Petersburg, and because of his great ability was permitted to take the examination for master of mathematics in spite of the fact that he possessed only the degree of "candidate," had not studied in any Russian school, and was not even thoroughly conversant with the Russian language. In 1873 he passed his examination brilliantly. His dissertation was almost completed when he was attacked by smallpox, of which he died.

Lipkin's name first became known in the mathematical world through his mechanical device for the change of linear into circular motion, this mechanism having been invented by him while he was still a pupil at the technical high school. He described his invention in the journal of the Russian Academy ("Mélanges Mathématiques de l'Académie Impériale à St. Petersburg," 1870), under the title "Ueber eine Gelenkgeradeführung von L. Lipkin." The Russian mathematician Chebyshev had tried to show that an exact solution was impossible; and his views were accepted until Lipkin's discovery proved the contrary. This invention has been described in numerous text-books, such as Collignon's "Traité de Mécanique, Cinématique" (Paris, 1873), where it is called "Lipkin's Parallelogram."

A model of Lipkin's invention was exhibited at the exposition at Vienna in 1873, and was later secured from the inventor by the Museum of the Institute of Engineers of Ways of Communication, St. Petersburg.

Lipkin never lost his deep interest in purely Jewish affairs, as is shown by his contributions to "Ha-efirah."

For a Brief Description of the Mathematics Behind the Peaucellier-Lipkin Linkage as well as a demonstration of what it is see <http://kmoddl.library.cornell.edu/tutorials/05/>