

From The Mussar Movement, Volume 1, part 1, pages 333 - 335.

Apart from his previously mentioned son, the brilliant scientist, Dr. Yom Tov Lipman Lipkin who had died during his father's lifetime, R. Israel was survived by three sons and two daughters. Two of the sons were among the greatest Torah scholars and men of piety of their generation, although they had been overshadowed by the towering greatness of their illustrious father. The one was R. Aryeh Leib Hurwitz (son-in-law of Raphael Yom Tov Lipman of Bialistock, author of the classic, *Oneg Yom Tov*). He held rabbinical posts in Choroszcz, Jonewe and Brzeziny. He was the author of *Chayye Aryeh* on the *Shulchan Aruch*, and many of his novellae were incorporated in the *Oneg Yom Tov* itself. He was a man of unusual, saintly piety, and his father would call him, "My son, the tzaddik." He had inherited his father's virtuous character traits and attitudes towards one's fellow human beings. "In following in the ways of G—d, he was extremely modest, and he was unequalled in his clever approach to being G-d fearing. He was totally devoid of anger or pride. Nor would he ever claim any credit for himself, and 'he nullified his will in favor of the will of others.' He would never engage in idle conversation, utterly avoided all gossip, and would never allow himself to gain honor at the expense of others. The Talmudic dictum, 'And you shall love your neighbor as yourself — this is a great rule of the Torah' 30, was constantly on his lips."

The second son, R. Isaac Lipkin, served as rabbi in Kroz, Jonewe and Prossnitz. In his last years, he immigrated to Jerusalem, where he died. Outstanding Torah geniuses lavished unqualified praise on his erudition: "His mastery of Talmud and decisors, Earlier and Later authorities, bears comparison with that of the greatest Torah scholars of the generation. He had complete command of all four divisions of the *Shulchan Aruch*, knowing them by heart." " Him, R. Israel called, "My son, the chacham." Testimony has been adduced to his possessing his father's character traits and he was recognized as having "a truly G—d-fearing nature and being a gracious person in his virtues and character traits. He behaved as if dumb, not opening his mouth to say aught of anyone else. He was modest in the extreme, 'humble and meek, stooping on entering and stooping on leaving.' A gifted preacher, he would travel to the cities of Russia, there to promote the establishment of Talmud study circles, of which he succeeded in organizing some forty. He had knowledge of many languages, a grounding in the sciences, and he left behind many manuscripts of his novellae and essays of a philosophical-homiletical nature. Some of these were published in the *Chut Hameshulash*, a compendium incorporating the novellae of three successive generations : R. Zeev Wolf Lipkin, author of *Hagahot Ben Aryeh*; the son, R. Israel, and the grandson, R. Isaac. The last-named evinced a deep love for the Yishuv (the Jewish community of Eretz Israel), and he inscribed this paragraph on his manuscripts: [The proceeds of] this work and all my writings, novellae and homiletical, belong with G-d's help and are to be devoted to those who dwell in our Land, the holy Eretz Israel, half to those receiving Chalukkah stipends and half to the agricultural workers (The Yishuv Eretz Israel Society) and the rest of the charity institutions in Eretz Israel. Neither I nor — after my lifetime — any of my heirs, close or distant relations — have any rights thereto. These papers are dedicated to those

who dwell in our Holy Land, may it speedily be rebuilt and reestablished, in accordance with the conditions to be explained separately."

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