

Der Bay

The International Anglo-Yiddish Newsletter

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The January Issue of Der Bay Will be a Special One. It Will Begin the 20th Year of Publication – January 1991-January 2010

For us, 2010 will be a special year. Not only will it be number 20 for *Der Bay*, but Fishl is chairing IAYC's 13th conference. It is our coming of age.

IAYC was incorporated as a non-profit. It has increased its board size to 18 from all areas of the United States and from Toronto and Winnipeg, Canada. They include authors, editors, teachers, translators, and club leaders.

Through the generosity of the Mike Baker estate, we have been able to give scholarships to young people interested in Yiddish to attend and be in the program as lecturers and performers.

Our latest outreach is to the Yiddish teaching community, in the hope that they will follow in our footsteps and form their own independent organization.

Our member clubs receive three mailings annually that are great for programming. For those who live far from a club, we have associate membership. Outreach and cooperation have been our hallmarks and will continue to be in the future as we grow and act as a showcase to the other Yiddish groups.

As for *Der Bay*, it has grown from a single 8.5 x 11 sheet distributed locally to an international Anglo-Yiddish newsletter that has contacts in 35 countries and in every state in the U.S.

The longest running column has been, *Oystsugn fun briv in der redaktsye*, letters to the editor. Many series have run on history, language, skits, and Kitty Katz's magnificent photographs and history of New York.

Der Bay is about the Yiddish world and is not a Scholarly journal. It is where everyone finds out what and where the Yiddish activities are happening. It is where Mama's stories have been published.

Der Bay's website is a rich resource that has the only international calendar of Yiddish events. You can sign up to get a list of matched *briv fraynd*, list your events, klezmer group, or that you are a Yiddish translator.

The fastest growing area is the free, abbreviated online version of *Der Bay*. This is especially important for overseas readers. While *Der Bay* will never suggest an increase from *chai*, the burden of postage overseas has been very heavy.

Your articles and greetings especially will be welcome. They both mark a special milestone. Our regret is that two of the Yiddish giants, Walter Artzt and Zelig Bach, who encouraged us from the very beginning to the many who are no longer around, cannot enjoy the success of their labors.

When I go through the IAYC conference journals from the first at the University of Maryland in College Park to the last one at the beautiful Marriott Hotel in La Jolla, California, it is like going through a Who's Who of the Yiddish world.

My own *Der Bay* and Kutner family ads bring both joy and a little sadness at the pleasures and losses, but I would never miss a journal issue. Think how wonderful it will be to look back and see the result of your honoring a family member, teacher, or friend. Every attendee and person inserting an ad will receive a copy.

We again shall have our very attractive and information-filled conference journal, with full-page ads only \$250, half-page \$150, and quarter-page \$100. Contact Fishl if you have a question.

See the conference registration form on page 15. *Der Bay* website: www.derbay.org/millbrae/ e-mail: fishl@derbay.org or call 650-349-6946

Documents of Secular Yiddish Shuln in Los Angeles – Part III

by Hersh Hartman, Vegvayzer, Educational Director

The Sholem Community, L.A., CA English translation and notes © (Revised, 2008)

Kalifornyer Shriftn (Californian Writings)
December, 1961, pp. 111-112

“The Progressive Kindershuln In Our City,” by Sam Abramson

On Sunday afternoon, May 7, 1961, the annual kindershul concert took place at the Wilshire-Ebell Theatre, featuring an outstanding program dedicated to the memory of the beloved classicist, Y. L. Perets. The ovations of the audience of 1,200 brought joy to the hearts of the parents and teachers who have spent years building the shule movement in Los Angeles.

The hundreds of children who were the singers, dancers, and actors on the large stage demonstrated quite clearly that Perets’s words apply to all times, in all generations: “The future of our people lies at the threshold of our Yiddish kindershul.”

It is not news that spiritual Jewish life has developed in many different directions. With the growth of the Jewish population in L.A. in recent years, there have appeared many beautiful temples and synagogues where children receive religious education. We should have had a large number of secular Jewish kindershuln with thousands of children in all parts of our tremendously-outspread city, but that unfortunately is not the case.

The shule of the Farband has only 70-80 children, despite the significant number of (Zionist) branches, reading circles, Hadassah, and Pioneer Women’s groups in the city. Too, the Arbeter Ring, which is affiliated with the Jewish Community Council and has few financial worries, has only two kindershuln with about 65 children.

When we turn to our own cultural fortune, to our Jewish-progressive kindershuln in Los Angeles, the picture is quite different. We can declare with pride that we have a pulsating kindershul movement in all the newly-developing parts of the city.

As early as 10-15 years ago, we noted the changes taking place in American-Jewish life and constantly followed the new development of suburbia, contacting Secular Jewish intellectuals, drawing them into the kindershul movement. We were able to reach significant numbers of young parents and to activate them around the newly-created shuln in their own neighborhoods.

Our veterans, now bobes and zeydes (grandmothers and grandfathers), do their share of work in various respects, and take constant pride in the achievements of the new generation of shule activists. It is thanks to this wonderful partnership that our shule movement continues to grow and expand.

We have 11 kindershuln with a staff of 15 who teach 450 children. Most of them are two-day (afternoons) and some only Sunday schools. The curriculum was developed by the teachers and a group of parents in close consultation with the young scholar Dr. Sanford Goldner, and is followed in all the schools.

The subjects are: speaking, writing and reading Yiddish, Jewish history; Yiddish literature; and the Secular celebration of Jewish holidays. Our staff also includes two talented singing teachers. Labor and folksongs in Yiddish, Hebrew, and English enrich all our celebrations.

We also celebrate the independence of the State of Israel with a rich, appropriate program, and we commemorate the heroes of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. Our shuln also participate appropriately in observing the annual Jewish Music and Book Months, as well as in Brotherhood Week.

We also have a mitlshul with 34 students. This group of young people has won much love and recognition among all our cultural organizations. Their recent graduation ceremony was attended by some 200 people, who filled the hall.

I wish to say that our progressive kindershuln make an honorable contribution to the (Yiddish) cultural life of our town, and that is why they are the beloved, treasured child on our “street.” It is true that we encounter many difficulties in our work. We struggle constantly in trying to balance bilingualism in our shuln.

We also suffer from a shortage of experienced teachers. We cannot depend on New York. We must draw upon our own local resources. Were our financial resources greater, we might have opened some new shuln this year.

The progressive Jewish kindershuln are truly the cultural treasure of all of us. We are certain that renewed energy will allow us to proceed with secure steps to new achievements in the field of progressive Jewish children’s education in our city.

Shayles un Tshuves in "Hilkhes Libe"

Fun der khaznte Khane Slek

"Forverts" – 8/28-9/3/2009

[transliterated, edited and annotated by Goldie Adler Gold]

Tayere khaznte,

Mit 4 khadoshim tsurik bin ikh gevorn a feter [uncle]. Zint mayn plimenik [nephew] iz geboyrn gevorn red ikh nor yidish tsu im. Dos iz nisht keyn problem ven ikh un mayn mame hitn [babysit] im un mayn shvester un shvoger [sister...brother-in-law] zenen nishto. Geveyntlekh [usually], ze ikh mayn plimenik in mayn shvesters heym. Mayn shvoger, mir dakht [I think], hot faynt, ven ikh red oyf yidish mitn kind, afile ven mir zenen nisht inem zelibikn tsimer [same room], ober er zogt mir gornisht. Er geyt tsu tsu mayn shvester (velkhe hot nisht keyn problem ven ikh red yidish) un zogt ir, az ikh zol oyfhern [stop] tsu redn.

Ikh veys nisht far vos mayn shvoger hot a shlekhte meynung [opinion] vegn yidish, un ikh veys nisht vos ikh zol ton. Farshteyt zikh [of course], az ikh vel nisht redn yidish mitn plimenik ven er vert elter un mir zenen in a tsimer vu ale redn english. Ober itst darf ikh redn yidish mit im ale mol vayl er iz nokh kleyn un ikh ze im nor eyn mol a vokh (oder veyniker). Ikh meyn, az mayn shvoger volt beser gevolt, az zayn zun zol gikher kenen shpanish oder khinezish eyder yidish. Ikh bin der eyntsiker vos ken an ander shprakh [language], to vos zol ikh ton? Onshraybn a briv? Ikh vil keynem nisht baleydikn [insult], ober yidish iz dokh vikhtik [important].

Feter [uncle]

Tayerer feter,

Mazltov tsum vern a feter. Di role fun a feter tsi mume [aunt] iz an interesante. Fun eyn zayt, hot men lib dem plimenik, tsi di plimenitse [niece] vi er oder zi volt geven an eygn kind [as if one's own...], un me bahandlt [treat] dos kind azoy. Fun der andere zayt, iz er oder zi fort [after all] nisht keyn eygn kind, un lesot [ultimately], darf men derkherets [respect] hobn farn viln fun tate-mame.

In itstikn moment zenen ayer shvester un shvoger ersht gevorn tate-mame. Efsheer virkt [affects] es ayer shvoger oyf di nervn der gedank, az zayn zindl vet redn a shprakh vos er ken nisht farshteyn. Efsheer halt er, az ir zent mer farinteresirt tsu hobn a "yidish-produkt" vi a plimenik, oder efsheer, hot er poshet [simply] nisht lib dem klang fun yidish. Alnfals [at any rate], iz er fort der tate, un oyb er bet aykh oyftsuhern tsu redn yidish mit zayn zun, volt ir gedarft im folgn [do as he says].

Tsulib dem halt ikh [I believe], kont ir redn yidish mitn

plimenik nor ven der shvoger iz nishto. Tsi [whether] fun dem vet er oyfvaksn a kind vos ken gut yidish? Mistame [probably] nisht, ober oyb ayer plimenik vet lib hobn zayn yidish-redndikn feter, iz gants meglekh [likely], az er vet lib bakumen di shprakh un zikh lernen yidish fun aykh a gants lebn. Zol zayn mit glik un ir zolt aleyn hobn a sakh yidish-redndike kinder.

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Tayere khaznte,

Ikh bin a studentke in yurisprudents-shul [law school] dos ershte yor [freshman]. Ikh voyn mit a studentke funem ershtn lern-yor. Ven ikh bin mit ir, fil ikh zikh shlekht, ober nisht tsulib di geveyntlekhe sibes [usual reasons]. Ikh arbet shver, ober Basye arbet nokh shverer. Zi geyt nisht aroys, un fun destvegn [nevertheless] bakumen mir di zelbe tseykhns [the same marks]. Ikh bin tomid geven shlank [slender], un Basye iz gants diklekh [stout]. Ikh hob a sakh fraynd un kh'bin gezelshaftlekh [socially] aktiv, un khotsh ikh farbet [invite] Basye tsu farbrengen mit undz, hot zi nisht keyn eygene fraynd. Di problem? Ikh fil zikh shuldik [guilty], vos ikh bin – ikh! Ratevet [help]!

Shuldik

Tayere shuldik,

Iz aykh ayngfaln [did it occur to you], az efsheer iz Basye tsufridn vi zi shteyt un geyt [as is]? Mir dakht, az ayer shuld-gefil iz fun ineveynik [within]. Halt di gefiln dortn un hot hanoe [enjoy] funem fakt, az ir hot a sheyne, liblekhe mitvoynerin [roommate] vos halt aykh nisht vakh [awake] mit vilde simkhes. Ikh bin tsufridn, vos ir zent zikher bay zikh [self-assured], ober ayer shuld-gefil iz iberik [excessive]. Farbrengt gut!

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Tayere khaznte,

Mayn 15-yorike tokhter vil undzer derloybenish [permission] tsu forn oyf a vakatsye mit ir khaver [boyfriend]. Ikh halt, az es past in gantsn nisht [completely unsuitable] far a meydil in ir elter tsu farbrengen di nakht in eynem [together in a shloftsimer. Tsi bin ikh nisht gerekht?

Alt-modishe mame

Tayere a...m...m...,

Ir zent di mame un ir zent gerekht. A mol darf men poshet [simply] zogn – neyn.

Der Yidish Klub fun Temple Beth Israel - Eugene, Oregon; Part I

Unter Der Firershaft fun Dorothy Anker
A Hemshekh Mayse (A Continuation Story)

Undzer Yidish Klub iz kleyn, nor tsen oder tsvelf mentshn. Ober, Eugene iz a kleyne shtetl un yunge layt hobn a sakh gelegenhaytn onteyltsunemen in farsheydene tetikaytn.

Eyner fun undzere mitglieder (members) iz a shrayber, un er hot forgeshlogn az mir zoln ale shraybn a mayse tsuzamen. Hot er ongeshribn an onheybung un mir hobn farbrakht a por zitsungen vu yeder mitglied hot tsugeshtelt a por verter, oder zatzn, oder gantse gedanken. Eyner hot afile geshribn a gantsn kapitl!

Der shrayber vos hot undz gegeben dem ershtn impet un hot undz gegeben a sakh ideyes iz Bill Samoff, un di mitglieder (in alphabetical order) zaynen: Martin Acker, Dorothy Anker, Trude Ash, Miriam Braverman, Bess Hankin, Phyllis Master, Saul Toobert, un Don Zadoff.

Mir hobn NIT geendikt di mayse. Mir lozn tsu andere klubn, az zey zoln antviklen di mayse vi azoy zey viln. Mir hofn az ir vet zikh gut farbrengen!

p.s. Undzer kavone (intention) iz geven tsu shraybn a "kudlater hunt mayse"--a "shaggy dog story".

A Kolektiv Mayse (A Team Story)

Albert iz ale mol geven an umruik (restless) kind un ven er hot geendikt high school, hot er bashlosn (decided) tsu geyn tsu a groyser shtot vu er hot gehoft tsu gefinen gute arbet un a lange kariere (career). Er hot zikh dermont az zayn tate, an esenvarg meyv (food expert) hot ale mol bamerkt (noticed) az zey voln nit gekukt oyf vos es vet pasirn mit der economie un der gezelschaft (society), veln mentshn darfn esn.

Ven Albert iz avekgeform fun zayn geburts-shtot Hibbing, Minnesota, iz nisht geven kayn khidish (surprise) az er hot oysgeklitn Seattle tsu arbetn in di frukht un grins opteylung (department) in a Safeway krom (store).

Albert hot hanoye (pleasure) gehat tsu arbetn mit alerley (various) frukhtn un grinsen. Oyf zayn dritn tog in der arbet, iz an alter, krumer (deformed) man tsugegangen tsu im un hot gefregt: "yunger man, ikh voyn eyner aleyn un ken nisht nutsn a gantsn salat (lettuce). Ikh vil nor koyfn halb a salat."

"Ikh veys nit", hot Albert geentfert. "Ikh hob nor vos ongehoybn arbetn do. Ikh muz fregn bay mayn gesheft-firer (manager). Un Albert iz avek im zukhn. Ven er hot im gefunen, hot Albert gezogt: "Mayn herr, in dem krom iz do an alter, tshedreyter, farkakter, mishgener man vos vil koyfn halb a salat un... un..."

Eyder er hot geendikt zayn frage hot Albert gekukt iber zayn pleytse (shoulder) un gezen az der alter hot gehert vos Albert hot gezogt. Farshteyendik zayn toyes (understanding his error), iz Albert gikh gekumen tsu zikh (recovered) un hot gezogt: "Un der sheyner bekovediker (distinguished) man vil koyfn di andere helft!"

Der alter man hot take untergehert dos vos Albert hot gezogt vegn im ober er hot gemakht zikh nit visndik (pretended not to notice). Vos Albert hot nit gevust un vos mir darfn visn iz az DER alter man hot amol gearbet far di Hibbing politzey, un nokh vayter, az zayn vayb iz geven a zoyne (prostitute)!

Shpeter in dem zelbn tog, iz der gesheft-firer (manager) gekumen tsu Albert un hot gezogt: "Dayn entfere haynt in der fri git mir tsu farshteyn az du bist a kluger yunger man un az du vest hobn hatslokhe in undzer gesheft (business). Zog mir yetst, fun vanen kumstu?"

"Ikh kum fun Hibbing, Minnesota, mayn herr."

"Farvos bistu fun dortn avekgeform?"

"Vayl s'iz dortn gornit nito...bloyz alte hockey shpilers un zoynes."

Der gesheft-firer hot zikh geshoklt mit kas un hot geshrign: "yunger man, mayn froy iz fun Hibbing!"

"Emes?" entfere Albert. "Un mit velkhn kolektiv (referring to hockey team) hot zi geshpilt?"

Ir kent shoyen avade (certainly) farshteyn az di batsiung (relationship) tsvishn di beyde mentshn iz gevorn zeyer shlekht. Der gesheft-firer iz gegangen tsum balebos un hot getaynet (complained) oyf Albert, az er tut nit genug arbet, az er iz a grober yung (crude youth), un az er koketirt (flirts) mit ale sheyne meyd lakh.

Der balebos hot gezogt: "Ikh bin tsemisht (I am confused). Albert gefelt mir zeyer. Ikh meyn az er iz a voyler bokher (good young man) un a shverer arbeter (hard worker). Ikh hof az er vet zayn mit undz a lange tsayt."

Dos hot oyfgeregt (aroused) der gesheft-firer ober er hot zikh kontrolirt un hot nor gezogt: "Nu, oyb azoy, vart un zay vakhik (watchful). Mir veln zen vos vet zayn."

Der Yidish Klub fun Temple Beth Israel - Eugene, Oregon; Part II

Unter Der Firershaft fun Dorothy Anker
A Hemshekh Mayse (A Continuation Story)

Undzer Yiddish Klub iz kleyn, nor tsen oder tself mentshn. Ober, Eugene iz a kleyne shtetl un yunge layt hobn a sakh gelegenhaytn zikh tsu antviklen in farsheydene tetikaytn.

Eyner fun undzer mitglieder (members) iz a shrayber un er hot forgedstelt az mir zoln ale shraybn a mayse tsuzamen. Hot er ongeschribn an onheybung un mir hobn farbrakht a por zitsungen vu yeder mitglied hot tsugeshtelt a por verter, oder zatzn, oder gantse gedanken. Eyner hot afile geshribn a gantse kapitl!

KAPITL 2

Albert hot gehat a sakh fargenign fun zayn arbet, un er hot a sakh oysgelernt vegn di dozike gesheft. Er hot gearbet shver un zayn gesheft-firer hot nit gekent varfn keyn shuld oyf Albertn.

Albert's eltern hobn gebenkt nokh im ober zey hobn geshvign. Zey hobn ale mol gevolt az er zol geyn in koledzh un efsher vern a dokter (vos den vil a yidishe mame?). Ober zey zaynen geven kluge eltern un hobn gevust az oyb zey veln im "nudgen" vet es zey helfn vi a farayoredikn frost.

Nu, zumer iz gekumen un Albert's fraynd fun der heym zaynen tsurik gekumen fun koledzh oyf vakatsye. Albert hot bashlosn oykh nemen a vakatsye un geyn aheym.

Az er iz zikh tsunoyfgekumen (gathered) mit zayne fraynt hot er in gikhn gezen az zayn lebn iz zeyer andersh. Zayne fraynt hobn in gantsn nit geredt vegn nakete meyd lakh un zoynes. Anshdot (instead) hobn zey geredt vegn literatur un politik. In amolike tsaytn hot er zikh gefilt glaykh mit zayne fraynt un yetst iz er geven a droysndiker (outsider).

Nokh der vakatsye, iz Albert geforn tsurik tsu zayn arbet in Seattle, ober er iz geven zeyer umruik (restless). Etlekhe mol hot er gemakht toyesn (mistakes) opvegndik frukhtn, un a sakh mol iz er geven umderkheretsdik (disrespectful) tsu di koynim (customers). Der gesheft-firer (der vos hot gevolt gefinen khesroynim (faults) mit Albert) hot dos alts bamerkt (noticed) un iz gelofn dertseyln dem balebos.

Ir muzt a por zakhn farshteyn: Ir gedenkt dem altn man vos hot gevolt koyfn nor a halb salat (lettuce) un vos hot unterergehert dos vos Albert hot vegn im gezogt? Dem zelbn altn man, vos mir veysn az er hot gearbet far der Hibbing politzey un hot a vayb vos iz geven a zoyne? Der zelber alter man flegt

araynkumen in krom yedn mitvokh un donershtik un flegt fodern (demanding) alerley (various) mishugene zakhn nor fun Albert. Eyn mol hot er afile gebetn bay im a halbe tsibele! Albert, mir kenen farshteyn, iz gevorn, iber der tsayt, mer un mer in kas vegn dem vos der alter tshepet zikh (bothers) tsu im.

Nokh a zakh hot pasirt (happened): Mit por vokhn tsurik, hot Albert gefunen a kleyne kvitl (note) tsvishn di pomerantsn un dort iz geven ongeschribn di por zatsn: "An alter man fun finf-un-akhtsik yor hot gekukt in shpigl un hot zikh gefregt: 'Vos vil ikh ton in di yorn vos iz mir geblibn? Vos vel ikh dergreykhn (accomplish) in di tsayt vos iz mir bashert?'"

Albert hot ibergekhazert (repeated) di por zatzn a sakh mol un bislekhvayz (little by little) iz er gevorn mer un mer trakndik vegn dem, tsetumult: "Az an alter man trakht vegn dem, vos meynt dos far a yungn man? Vos vet zayn fun mir? Vos vil ikh ton mit MAYN GANTSN LEBN?"

Nu, lomir kumen tsurik tsu der mayse. Der balebos un der gesheft-firer zaynen gekumen tsu der frukht-opteylungin dem zelbn minut vi Albert, shrayendik oyfn kol (loudly), hot geshlept dem altn man tsu der tir im aroys tsuvarfn.

Vos vet yetst zayn?

Der gesheft-firer hot zikh gevorn oyf Albert. Der alter man, shrayendik "gevald, gevald," hot zikh aroysgerisn fun Alberts hent un iz avekgelofn. Der balebos iz gegangen foroys (ahead) tsu zayn byuro (office), hot ongevizen dem gesheft-firer vu tsu zetsn Albert, un hot im geheysn aroysgeyn fun tsimer.

Der balebos hot baruikt (quieted) Albert, im gegebn a glezl vaser, un hot im gezogt shtilerhey: "Albert, du bist a voyler bokher un ikh veys az du bist klug un az di itstike yorn zaynen shver far a yungn man. Du gefelst mir un ikh vil dir helfn. Zog mir—vos pasirt in dayn lebn?"

Albert hot gegebn a groysn zifts (sigh) un hot dertseylt dem balebos di gantse geshikhte, vi fl er hot oysgelernt vegn di arbet do, zayn vakatsye mit ale zayne fraynd fun koledzh, vi fl dos kvitl vos er hot gefunen hot oyf im gevirkht (affected him), dos kvitl vos fregt vos a mentsh vil dergreykhn (achieve) in zayn lebn, un azoy vayter un vayter. Albert hot zikh moyde geven (admitted) az er iz zeyer tsemisht.

Der Yidish Klub fun Temple Beth Israel - Eugene, Oregon; Part III

Unter Der Firershaft fun Dorothy Anker
A Hemshekh Mayse (A Continuation Story)

KAPITL 3: ALBERT VERT GEHEKHERT (PROMOTED)

Balebos: "Ikh ze az du bist tsemisht, iz lomir zikh beyde batrakhtn". Der balebos hot getrakht: der batsiung (relationship) tsvishn Albert un der gesheft-firer iz ummeplekh (impossible), ober ikh vil nit farlirn Albert vayl er iz a voyler yungerman; er iz klug, a shverer arbeter, hot a sakh talant, un, mit glik, vet er blaybn do mit undz a sakh, a sakh yorn.

Albert trakht: Vos iz mit mir? Vos vil ikh? Hmmm, ikh vil NIT aheym geyn mit mayn veydl (tail) tsvishn di fis. Ikh vil az mentshn zoln hobn derkherets (respect) far mir. Ikh vil az mayne eltern zoln shepn nakhes (get pleasure) fun mir, ikh vil....

Plutslung (suddenly) khapt zikh der balebos oyf un zogt: "Albert, ikh hob zikh yetst dermont az s'iz do an efenung (opening) in der fleysh opteylung fun krom, un du host ale mayles (good characteristics) un talantn far der doziker arbet. Oyb du bist bakvem (comfortable) mit dem plan volt ikh gevolt dikh hekhern tsu der fleysh opteylung (department). Du vest oykh krign mer batsolt".

Der balebos redt vayter: "In der opteylung muz a mentsh hobn spetsyele genitshaftn (skills) fun shnaydn, tsemoln (trimming) filet makhn, un farputsn alerley fleyshn. Arbetn mit fleysh iz zeyer andersh (different) fun arbetn mit grinsen un frukhtn. Vos zogstu?"

Albert hot nit lang ibergetrakht un hot geentfert: "Dos volt mir geven zeyer tsum hartsn," un der balebos hot geentfert: "zeyer gut, zeyer gut. Nu, kum nor un lomikh dir tsaygn di opteylung fun eyn ek tsum tsveytn." Zey zaynen arayngegangen in dem fleysh arbettsimer mit dem zegshtoyb dek (sawdust floor), vu zey hobn tsugegreyt alerley fleyshn.

Alts iz Albertn gefeln: di reynkeyt, di vayse kleyder, di likhtkeyt in der tsimer. Di shtarke arbeter vos greyt tsu mit sharfe mesern, groyse halbe-beheymes hot dermont (reminded) Albert vegn kindershe mayses fun piratn (pirates), soldatn, un ganovim (thieves) mit shverdn un biksn.

Albert hot a sakh hanoye gehat fun aynotemen dem reyekh fun sosnover zegshtoyb (pine sawdust), coriander, tsemolenem (ground) fefer, tatsn (trays) ongelodn mit gebrotene lemten (roasy lamb). Albert is geven afn zibetn himl un hot nit gekent vartn biz er vet onheybn arbetn in der fleysh-opteylung.

KAPITL 4: ALBERT ZUKHT HATSLOKHE (SUCCESS)

Albert hot zikh arayngevorfn (threw himself) in der arbet gantse teg un gantse nekht. Dos iz alts vos iz geven oyf zayn zinen (on his mind)—nit meyd lakh, nit zoynes, nit shpiln—gornit! Nor vern dem grestn meyvun fun fleysh iz alts vos er hot gevolt. Er iz geven bakisheft (fascinated) fun ale aspektn (aspects) fun shnaydn fleysh, forshteln (presenting) skhoyre (goods) oyf a sheynem oyfn, vi azoy tsu kokhn bilike fleysh, un vos fara fleysh past (suits) far raykhe mentshn, un afile retseptn (recipes) far farsheydene (various) fleyshn. Nokh der arbet iz er gegangen tsu klasn vegn kokhn un dernerung (nutrition).

Un azoy hot Albert gelebt fun tog tsu tog. Nor vern dem grestn meyvun fun fleysh iz alts vos er hot gevolt. In a yor tsayt hot er zikh aroyfgearbet (worked himself up) in krom (store) un iz gevorn a gesheft-firer in a nayer opteylung (department) vos men hot gerufn "livern" (catering). Un mit der tsayt iz Albert gevorn bavust (well known) alts der vos hot der grester gevust (knowledge) vegn fleysh in gants Seattle. Albert is geven barimt (famous), ober epes hot im gefelt.

Albert hot gevolt mer koved (respect). Hot im ayngefaln az er muz vern a mitglied in a bekovedike (respectable) organizatsie, efsher dem Chamber of Commerce hot zikh arumgekukt un hot gezen az di mentshn vos zaynen mitglieder fun der grupe zaynen ale Republikaner hot er bashlosn tsu vern a Republikaner. (Nu, mir vos leyenen di mayse darfn vundern: vos iz dos far a mishugas? An eynikl fun a shtetl in Rusland, a Republikaner?)

Oyf tselokhes (just for spite) iz bald gekumen a valtog (election day) un a Democrat iz oysgeklibn gevorn (selected) president. Nu, zayn mazl - veren a Republican hot im geholfn vi a toytbn bankes (like cupping helps a corpse).

A bisl tsayt geyt avek un di fleysh-arbet farlirt (loses) a bisl interes far im. Albert vert vider umruik (once again uneasy). Emes hot er gehat a sakh nakhes (pleasure, satisfaction) fun zayn hatslokhe (success), ober er hot farshtanen az zayn lebn iz pust un leydik (both pust and leydik mean 'empty'). Er hot nit keyne fraynd - di mener mit velkhe er arbet zaynen ale elter fun im un hobn mishpokhes; er geyt nit aroys mit meydlekh, er geyt afile nit (not even) far a shpatsir (stroll), nit tsu a film, gornit.

Der Yidish Klub fun Temple Beth Israel - Eugene, Oregon; Part IV

Unter Der Firershaft fun Dorothy Anker
A Hemshekh Mayse (A Continuation Story)

KAPITL 5: ALBERTS ELTERN KUMEN TSU GEYN

Albert redt tsu zayne eltern fun tsayt tsu tsayt, un vi yeder gute Yidishe mame, hot Alberts mame gefilt in hartsn az epes is der mer. Hobn zey bashlosn im geyn zen. Ober zey hobn gevust az nor geyn spetsyel (especially) tsu zen Albert vet im nit gefeln. Hobn zey gemakht a plan—zey veln nemen a nesie (trip) tsu Vancouver, Seattle, un Portland.

Hobn zey opgerufn Albert un im dos gezogt un im gefregt tsi zey kenen zikh opshteln in Seattle un im bazukhn. Dos iz Albert zeyer gefeln. Er hot gevolt vayzn zey vos er hot bashafn (created) in zayn arbet.

Az Alberts tate un mame zaynen arayn in zayn dire (apartment), iz zey finster gevorn in di oygn. A kleyner tsimer, on mebl (furniture), finster, a bisl shmutsik - in gantsn nit bakvem! Ober zey hobn geshvign. Er hot zey gevizn vu er arbert un zey hobn gezen vi zayn balebos un di ale arbeter gebn Albert op koved un zey hobn geshept nakhes.

Ober zey hobn oykh gezen az epes iz dermer, az epes art (bothers) Albert, az er iz umgliklekh. Di eltern hobn prubirt fregn im a por frages ober Albert hot zey gornit gezogt. Nu, vi azoy misht men arayn in a tsvey un tsvansik yorikn kinds lebn? Vos tut men?

Alberts foter hot im gezogt: "Albert, az du bist geven a kind hobn mir bislekhvayz opgeshport (saved) gelt yedn monat far ven du vest elter vern. Mir hobn a por toyznt daler. S'iz shoynt sayt az mir zoln dir dos gebn, un du kenst es nutsn farvos du vilst. Kenst nemen a nesie (trip), koyfn a hoyz, geyn in koledzh - ton vos du vilst, abi du zolst zayn tsufridn."

Albert, mit trenn in di oygn, hot gekusht zayne eltern, zey badankt, un azoy iz dos geven bashlosn.

Vos vet Albert ton mit di gelt? Albert hot zikh batrakht. Er hot gevust az epes is dermer. Er hot derkent az er iz zeyer troyerik ober er hot nit gevust vos zayn troyer badayt (means). Er hot bashlosn az dos ergernish iz in zayn kop. Geyt Albert tsu Google un gefint oys az oyb men hot kop tsoris geyt men tsu a kop dokter. Un take (for sure), dortn iz er gegangen.

Albert is gegangen tsum kop dokter. Der dokter hot im gefregt: "Nu, vos felt dir?" Hot Albert geentfert: "Du bist der dokter, iz farvos fregstu mir?"

Un der docter hot gezogt: "Oykh mir a khokhem! Ikh meyn az du bist take a grober yung."

Ir farshteyt az aza entfer hot baleydikt (insulted) Albert. Vayzt oys az der kop dokter hot bashlosn az Albert darf oysvaksn un nemen zayn eygenem lebn in di hent. Dos iz geven der sof fun doktoyrim.

Iz vos zol Albert ton? Koyfn a hoyz hot er nit gevolt, un geyn in koledzh hot im nit interesirt. Iz vos iz geblibn? Aha, a nesie (trip)! Ober vuhin fort men?

KAPITL 6: ALBERT FORT OYF A NESIE

Albert hot getrakht un getrakht, un plutslung iz im ayngefaln az er muz forn keyn Yisroel!

Albert hot zikh ingikhn ayngoordnt (integrated himself) in Yisroel. Er hot gearbet tsvey khadoshim oyf a kibutz, iz gegangen oyf a por turn, un hot shpatsirt iber di gasn fun Tel Aviv, Yerusholaim, un andere shtet. Eyn mol iz er geven lebn grenets (border) mitn Palestinish land un plutslung hot er derzen tsvey Palestinishn politsey. Er hot zikh gevorfnt unter an oysshtel (display) fun marantsn in a frukht krom, un fun dortn observirt di politsey. Plutslung zet er vi a por fis bomblen (dangling) in der luftn vayl di politsey hobn gehaltn an alter man unter di akslen (shoulders).

Albert hot gegeben a shokl mitn kop vayl epes vegn der man iz im geven bakant. Albert iz aroys- geshprungen fun unter di frukhtn un hot geshrign: "Tate. Tate. Vos tut ir tsu mayn tatn?" Di politsey hobn oppgelozt dem altn man un er iz gelofn tsu Albert shrayendik "Zunele, zunele". Di politsey hobn zikh gekratst in kop in tsemishenish (bewilderment).

Albert un der alter man, eyner mitn dem andern arumgenumen, zaynen shnel avek. Der alter hot Albert gezogt az er iz geven oyf dem zelbn EL AL eroplan, ober Albert hot dos nit gevust. Zeyendik dos, hot der alter man gezogt: "Efsher ken ikh koyfn halb a salat?" Nu, ir kent farshtayn az Albert un der alter man hobn gehot a gutn gelekhter.

Di soldatn fun beyde zaytn zenen gebliben ingantsn tsemisht zendik vi Albert un der fremder man shpatsirn tsuzamen un lakhn azoy fil. Zey kukn eyner dem andern in ponim, gibn a kleyne shrneykhl, un oyf dem shtikl grenets iz mer nit geven kayn milkhome - efsher nor far a bisl tsayt. Un efsher ken dos zayn an onhoyb fun sholem.

Azoy hobn mir geendikt undzer mayse. Ir kent bashlosn vos vet vayter zayn mit Albert, oder ir kent shraybn ayer eygene mayse. Farbrengt zikh!

אינטערנאַציאָנאַלער פֿאַרבאַנד פֿון ייִדיש קלובן

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Mama, s'iz shoyt tsayt

by Philip Fishl Kutner

Mama's stories started appearing in the October 2006 issue of *Der Bay*. There have been 93 published since then and it is time to compile them into a book.

There have been many letters and e-mails from readers sharing personal stories of their Mamas.

It is a subject that needs to be told of the first generation of immigrants that went through hardships, but never lost their love of family. They sent their children to college, watched the movement out to the suburbs and saw their grandchildren become professionals.

These stories are often humorous as we recall the era of the greenhorns and their battles to learn the new language and its difficult spelling.

Der Bay is a wonderful vehicle for these stories and I am thankful for having been able to publish them.

Much thanks is due to Lily Poritz Miller whose idea, it was as well as being indispensable in the editing and help all along the way. We hope to have it available at the IAYC Conference in April.

Der Bay

Editor: Philip "Fishl" Kutner,

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