

BSD

# **KASHRUT BULLETIN # 12**

**WHOEVER GUARD HIS MOUTH AND HIS TONGUE, GUARDS  
AS WELL HIS SOUL FROM SUFFERING (Mishle 21:23)**

## **PROBLEMS WITH THE WHITE MEAT OF YOUNG CALVES (AGALOT LEVENIM)**

**CONGREGATION MACHZIKEI HADAS D'CHASIDEI BELZ  
IN THE UNITED STATES**

**IN RESPONSE TO INQUIRIES**

**With the help of G-d, who purifies us and sanctifies us through the sanctification of food, we have been asked by G-d-fearing people for more than two years whether our ritual slaughter department could also provide white veal.**

**We referred the matter to the rabbis of our community, and after examining the issue in depth and in detail, they have determined that:**

**There are many questions about the way the white calves are fattened and raised, and many questions about the possibility that the animals are rendered unfit for kosher ritual slaughter because of problems in the lungs and other internal organs.**

**Therefore,**

**We are refraining from accepting White Veal in the ritual slaughter department of Congregation Machzikei Hadas D'Chasidei Belz.**

### **THE WARNING OF THE AUTHOR OF THE SHNE LUCHOT HABRIT**

**We would like to refer to the writings of the eminent rabbi, Avraham Halevi Horowitz, (author of Shnei Luchos Habris – 1560-1630) in Section 100, where he deemed praiseworthy the stringency of prohibiting foods that carry a possible reason for prohibition. He writes as follows:**

**“The Torah warned about both prohibited and permitted foods in the verses regarding sanctification of the Jewish People and regarding not defiling one’s soul. The holy book, The Zohar, comments on this issue, stating that non-kosher food prohibited by the Torah carries impure spiritual forces, and therefore anyone eating such food defiles his soul, and acts as if he has no connection to things holy or to G-d himself. This is because the impure food becomes part of the person’s body and soul when he eats it, and it dwells in him, etc. A person should not eat anything about which there is controversy per the verse that states that a person should not follow the masses, because this involves an issue of Jewish law.”**

## **FOR THE SAKE OF THE HONOR OF THE TORAH**

**We have adopted this ruling for the sake of the honor of the Torah and the sanctity of food and retaining the purity of kosher food.**

**The Ritual Slaughter Department**

**Congregation Machzikei Hadas of the United States**

## **A SERIOUS AND SOLEMN WARNING**

**Whereas all Orthodox butchers sell meat known as white veal (black and white), we would like to inform the public that many years ago the esteemed Rabbi Moshe Feinstein of New York prohibited veal meat because of the following extremely serious problems:**

- 1. These animals are grazed with non-kosher animals.**
- 2. There are serious problems regarding the Jewish legal status of their lungs.**
- 3. There are serious questions regarding their internal organs.**
- 4. Only 10-15% of such animals slaughtered are deemed kosher by virtue of the status of their lungs.**

**It is difficult to understand why all organizations involved in kashruth, even the finest among them, have not considered it important to inform the public about the dangerous choice facing Orthodox families on a daily basis.**

**N.B. We would like to make known that for the last ten years, ever since he learned of the problem, Rabbi Avraham Kleinman, the head of the rabbinical court of the Margareten community, has prohibited the slaughter of veal in his ritual slaughter department.**

**There are many questions about the way the white calves are fattened and raised, and many questions about the possibility that the animals are rendered unfit for kosher ritual slaughter because of problems in the lungs and other internal organs.**

**Note: The meat of these animals is sold in all kosher butcher stores in Boro Park, Williamsburg and Monsey, and everyone eats the veal.**

## **RABBINICAL OPINION PERTAINING TO JEWISH LAW**

### **REGARDING WHITE VEAL FROM RABBI MOSHE FEINSTEIN**

**....With regard to calf slaughter that has recommenced recently, the animals are fattened with very rich liquids that are not intended for animals, which is in opposition to what is stated in the Talmud, tractate Bechoros, p. 39. In addition, this makes the animals ill, causing them to need all types of medication. Highly-skilled ritual slaughterers have themselves only deemed some 16% of the animals as kosher. In general, most are thus not kosher. Although it appears that this is because of problems in the lungs of the animals examined by slaughterers according to laws pertaining to the lungs, it is also possible that animals are considered unkosher by virtue of their internal organs, which must also be checked because this is a very serious issue. Therefore, it is appropriate that this should be forbidden, and G-d-fearing persons should not eat this type of veal even if their internal organs are checked. Without examining the internal organs, these animals may not be**

deemed kosher at all. An examination of the imperforated internal organs, and of blisters that are perforated, and only a cursory examination of the internal organs and the blisters caused by weak organs, without an examination of the internal organs, may not be deemed kosher.

**signed**  
**RABBI MOSHE FEINSTEIN**

\*\*\*\*\*

### **WE DO NOT RESPOND TO THE INCREASING REPORTS OF PROBLEMS WITH THE KASHRUT OF MEAT**

Yet no one thinks that perhaps we have not paid enough attention to the growing reports that increase daily, that the butcher shops are full of Chelev that is punishable by Karet! They turn their backs to these reports as though they do not pertain to them in any way. They do not give the matter any thought at all. In the manner they ignore the reports about Chelev, so are they ignored by G-d in their time of need and distress. This is similar to what the Rabbis stated on the verse: "And I separated you from the peoples to be Mine." If you are separated from prohibited foods, you are Mine, and if not, you belong to Nebuchadnezzar and his like.

### **THE MOST UPRIGHT BUTCHER IS A PARTNER OF AMALEK**

See further the last chapter of Kiddushin (82a): "The most upright butcher is a partner of Amalek." Rashi explains that many cases of questionable kashrut come to his hand, and in trying to save money, declares them kosher, and - sell them as such. We can see to what extent the Rabbis evaluate the pitfalls resulting from the butchers, that they did not hesitate to use the sharpest epithet when referring to them. The expression, "partner of Amalek," is, by far, the sharpest epithet used in the Talmud. One's hair can stand on end when one thinks about how far this matter extends. For a question of doubtful kashrut the Rabbis called him such a name, and not only a usual butcher, but "the most upright butcher " so that no one can be confident in himself and say that since he appointed a reliable butcher, no pitfalls can result from him, and it is accepted that a Torah scholar does not allow any pitfall to result from his doings, especially if the butcher is really learned, since the Rabbis say that a Torah scholar will commit a minor infraction in order to prevent an ignorant person from committing a major infraction.

## WHO CAN CONTRADICT THE WORDS OF THE PELE YOETZ?

*It is extremely difficult to find meat that is kosher according to all views. I, therefore, derive much pleasure from the pious that are careful not to eat meat. (Pele Yoetz, taref).*

*Whoever wishes to avoid all risks, should be smart to eat only fowl (poultry) and not bovine meats - because the pitfalls are all too common and numerous with them. [And for eating the forbidden fat of bovine meat we become liable to the punishment of karet and this punishment does not apply to the consumption of poultry] (Shulchan Hatahor, Rabbi Aaron Roth o.b.m. (author of Shomer Emunim, Tohoras HaKodesh, etc)*

**ARE YOU REALLY WILLING TO RISK YOUR LIFE BY CONSUMING FOODS THAT ARE NOT KOSHER ACCORDING TO ALL OPINIONS, AND ARE BASED ON ALL POSSIBLE LENIENCIES IN KASHRUT LAWS USED BY THOSE WHO MANUFACTURE THEM? DID YOU KNOW THAT THE RABBIS OF THE EREV RAV ARE IMMERSSED IN THE BUSINESS OF ISSUING KASHRUT CERTIFICATES TO ALL KINDS OF FOODS? DO YOU KNOW THAT A LOT OF MONEY AND CORRUPTION EXISTS IN THE FIELD OF KASHRUT? PURE AND SIMPLE JEWS HAVE FALLEN PREY TOO MANY TIMES TO THE WRONGDOINGS OF THE EREV RAV! SAVE YOUR SOULS AND WATCH WHAT YOU EAT SO THAT YOUR EMUNA IN HASHEM WILL BE LEFT PURE AND NOT BE CONFUSED BY FOOLISH NOTIONS THAT ARE TOO PREVALENT IN OUR TIMES. MAY HASHEM GIVE US THE STRENGTH TO AVOID ALL THE DAMAGE THAT THE RABBANIM OF THE EREV RAV TRY TO INFLICT ON THE JEWISH PEOPLE, AMEN**