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# **KASHRUT BULLETIN # 13**

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

## **EXCERPTS FROM THE ESSAY UNTIL WHEN? A PAINFUL CRY BY THE GAON AND TZADDIK RABBI SHRAGA FEIVEL MENDELOWITZ, O.B.M.**

**(FOUNDER OF TORAH VADAAT YESHIVAH)**

**9 Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in my heart like a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with restraining myself, and I could not. 10 For I heard the calumny of many, fear on every side. Denounce him, we will denounce him, say my close friends as they watch for my stumbling. Perhaps he will be persuaded, and we shall prevail against him, and we shall take our revenge on him. 11 But the Lord is with me like a mighty awesome one; therefore my persecutors shall stumble, and they shall not prevail; they shall be greatly ashamed; for they shall not succeed; their everlasting confusion shall never be forgotten. 12 But, O Lord of hosts, who tests the righteous, and sees the inwards and the heart, let me see your vengeance on them; for to you have I opened my cause. (Jeremiah 20:9-12).**

### **THE PRESS HAS BEEN SILENT ABOUT THOSE WHO SLAUGHTER NONKOSHER MEAT UNDER RABBINICAL SUPERVISION**

**I use the above prophetic words as a preface to my article concerning Kashrut, because this article will not bring honor to me. On the contrary, I will be attacked with ridicule from all sides. But, what can I do? A fire is burning within me, and within a thousand Jews like me ... a fire which cannot be extinguished. The Kashrut question has recently been discussed in the yiddish press, but only one side of the question, viz. concerning the unscrupulous butchers who sell Trefot without a hechsher or with a false one. The press has remained silent, however, concerning the second side of the question, about the Trefot being sold under rabbinical supervision and under rabbinical signs**

in butcher shops. The press is silent about this problem, perhaps because of the honor of the rabbis, or, perhaps, because of other reasons. The honor of the rabbis is dear to me, too. But, the honor of the Torah which is lying in the garbage, and the honor of the truth, which is trodden under foot, are dearer to me. Where there is chillul Hashem we do not impart any honor to a rabbi. I, therefore, come forward with an accusation.

## **I ACCUSE THE RABBIS WHO GRANT HECHSHERIM AND PERMIT NON KOSHER MEAT TO BE SOLD**

**I Accuse.**

I accuse many rabbis, that grant hechsherim, who knowingly or otherwise, or out of neglect, permit non kosher meat to be sold under their stamp of approval both wholesale and retail; the seller is an unscrupulous person with Torah sanction.

I accuse many rabbis who grant hechsherim, to whose attention many Jews have brought this problem, that Trefot are being sold under their hashgachah, yet they have kept this matter quiet and permitted the butchers to continue to sell Trefot to their hearts' content.

## **I ACCUSE THE RABBIS WHO ARE NOT INVOLVED YET DO NOT SAY ANYTHING**

I accuse many rabbis, who, although they themselves have no part in the hechsherim, nevertheless, know about them and still remain silent. There is a sort of mutual reciprocal agreement to keep quiet about each other's false hescherim. Perhaps it is because they wish to avoid a chilul Hashem. They forget, however, that where there is a chilul Hashem, we do not impart any honor to a rabbi. I accuse the very great rabbis, the leaders of our people, because of the internal strife. These disputes are not for the sake of Heaven; if one says that something is prohibited, the other one must say it is permissible, if one says that something is contaminated, the other must say that it is pure. It is impossible to bring order into the chaotic Kashrut situation, especially in the meat and chicken markets. I accuse the rabbis who have also neglected Kashrut in other fields. They have, for instance, disregarded Kashrut in pastries, when most bakeries use egg powder in baking Rolls and challos, even

though it is known, almost without a doubt, that this is made from eggs of non-kosher birds. Some Jewish bakeries even use lard, as simple as that...



## **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**