

The RYS Daily 3/4/07 Expands IX

From The Mussar Movement, Volume 1, Part 1, page 268.

R. Israel, R. Isaac Elchanan, R. Alexander Mosheh and other great rabbis of the region met together in Kovno and undertook to expand the scope of these activities. They founded a society known as the "Kovno Kolel for the support of Married Perushim," with the aim of establishing similar groups of young men in other cities of the country. For such purposes, the income of the Lachmann foundation was obviously insufficient. It was decided, accordingly, to dispatch emissaries to all cities to raise funds. Among the first of these functionaries, the following deserve to have their names recorded: R. Baruch Zeev Mott and the previously mentioned R. Eliezer Jacob. Together with the others they gave the Kolel wide publicity. In their proclamation to the community, R. Israel and R. Isaac Elchanan appealed to all to give generous support. The response was gratifying, and in a short time the society became securely grounded. The rabbis were able to organize similar groups in other cities in the provinces of Kovno, Minsk, Vilna, etc., all under the aegis of the local rabbis. The Kovno Kolel, too, increased in size and the number of students totalled sixty. Each was provided with a liberal stipend, from three to thirteen roubles per month, which enabled him to support his family comfortably and allowed him to devote himself to his studies with complete peace of mind.

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