

## The Daily RYS 4/11/07 Public Problems IV

From The Mussar Movement, Volume 1, Part 1, pages 297 - 298.

The two incidents are sufficient to reveal how greatly R. Israel loved Eretz Israel and how greatly he valued settling there, and those already living on the land. After dwelling on R. Fishel Lefin's good fortune in having had the merit of seeing the Holy Land, the delight of all the world and the fullness thereof, even in its ruin, may it speedily be rebuilt, R. Israel warned him against uttering any derogatory remarks about Eretz Israel or its inhabitants. He further commanded R. Fischel, that in "whatever concerns the land or its inhabitants., to conduct yourself as if you were unaware of anything, either praiseworthy or derogatory, G-d forbid, so that you become, on your return in peace to your home, as one who had never been in Eretz Israel, insofar as life there is concerned, for otherwise, by talking a great deal (even in praise) one cannot stop... and one should not trust that he is able to guard his lips. So you should endeavor with all your power not to know anything to tell, except insofar as the treasurers of the Eretz Israel charities might require you to report..." Fifteen years later, after R. Fischel had taken up residence in Eretz Israel, R. Israel addressed a letter to him, dated Tevet 8, 5639 (June 29, 1879): "Your words are pleasant to me, since you love the sufferings of [living in] Eretz Israel... Gold and pearls cannot be compared in value to your dwelling in Eretz Israel" ... and the like.

Earlier issues of The RYS Daily are at <http://www.stevens.edu/golem/llevine/salanter/>