

The RYS Daily 8/24/06 Torah Scholars Brought to Trial

From The Mussar Movement, Volume 1, Part 1, page 193, footnote 24.

24. A shocking incident occurred in Vilna. It was the custom of the affluent to celebrate weddings in their families in one of the town squares and with great pomp and ceremony. A shoemaker had become wealthy, and he, too, arranged to hold his daughter's wedding with the same fanfare as the wealthy. They resented his effrontery, and when the shoemaker, accompanied by his relatives and guests, was on his way home, a rich man stepped up, removed his shoe and asked the shoemaker how much it would cost to repair the sole. The incident was brought to R. Israel's notice. He was shaken. "I am certain," he said, "that the great Torah scholars of the past, now dwelling in Gan Eden, will be brought to trial because they did not teach the people knowledge and good manners, and did not educate them sufficiently to make such morally depraved incidents impossible." Told by his (RYS's older disciples.)