

The RYS Daily 9/25/06 Concealing His Greatness X

From the Mussar Movement, Volume 1, Part 2, pages 172 - 173.

One of the tactics he used in order to withdraw from the limelight into the shadows was to have his activities ascribed to other leading personalities. Very few know that R. Israel stood behind endeavors that brought benefit to Russian, German and French and other Jewries. He was the initiator, and he guided and controlled the course of action like an old, experienced ship's captain. In self-effacement he was a consummate artist. He invented a new mode of behavior - concealment and modesty in exposure and publicity. R. Simchah Zisel Ziv summed up his conduct on a certain occasion: "Having decided not to adopt the course of isolation, he remained hidden while revealed, and only a person who had reached the point of indifference in matters of honor was able to accomplish this."