

29 February 1990

Dear David,

I've just come back from a Gordon Teasler's recital of Goldolish songs and it made me feel very nostalgic about even Cork.

She's an actress from the Warsaw Goldolish Theatre.

Chris left for Canada three weeks ago which means that Martin and I feel like half-orphans. I find all partings so hard. We are going to join him in August.

How is everything with you?
Are you making ^{the family} the trip to Israel as you planned?

My biggest news is that I have finally signed a contract to translate Der Sohn im Govey from the Goldolish. I'm happy and nervous. Will I manage? Do I know what I'm decided to do?

Fortunately, I was lucky to find someone who helps me a lot.

He's Mr. Adem Brelecki from the Jewish Historical Institute, a refined librarian and translator himself. He was kind to read my (of the first two chapters) translation extremely carefully and he made all sorts of helpful comments & suggestions. I was surprised that I'd made so few errors. He offered me his help in the future.

I have some questions to you, though. The most important thing is: Should I take the 1935 or the 1943 version for my translation. What's your opinion? The texts don't differ radically, but there are some differences.

I have also three minor problems and I'd be very happy if you could help me solve them. (I've received different answers from different people)

① p. 15 (of the 1943 version you sent me), l. 6-7 bottom:
פַּרְסָס וְבַּסְמָךְ ? Does פַּרְסָס mean Polish gentry? Is it contemptible in Yiddish like לַאֲכֵי in Ukrainian?

② p. 17, l. 10 (bottom) about Rabbi Berish:

בָּזֶה וְבָּזֶה סְכִינָה וְבָּזֶה סְכִינָה

Does בָּזֶה mean "the most brilliant intelligent", "sharp" in the sense of "bright" or "smart". I would vote for the 1st answer.

③ p. 18, l. 10 top about E. Balad's wife:

גְּזִנָּה, גְּזִנָּה, גְּזִנָּה, גְּזִנָּה

Does גְּזִנָּה mean "plague, epidemic" or "dread, plague"? It may mean both as far as I know.

Anyway, I'm looking forward to my summer with Satan

(as much as Martin will permit).

Your Yidishly

Chava

P.S. I hope to send you Res Publica soon.

Last week Tygodnik Powszechny finally published an article by Zdzislaw Bialek (his impressions from a visit to Poland + the problem of Polish-Jewish mutual recriminity) which I translated in the fall.

One more thing that

I've just recalled. Does

"¹⁸⁰cp" on p. 19, l. 2, top mean "dill" or "a copper coin." Mr. Bielicki says it's "dill" but what sense does it make? Why should he get dill of all things?

29 Elley 1990

Dear David,

I've just come back from a Gordie Tensev's recital of Yiddish songs and it made me very nostalgic about even Cork.

She's an actress from the Warsaw Yiddish Theatre.

Chris left for Canada three weeks ago which means Shvat elashtim and I feel like half-orphans. I find all partings so hard. We are going to join him in August.

How is everything with you?
Are you making ^{the Jewish} trip to Israel as you planned?

My biggest news is that I have finally signed a contract to translate Der Soton in Gony from the Yiddish. I'm happy and terrified. Will manage? Do I know what I decided to do?