

Olswanger, Immanuel, collector and editor; L'chayim! Jewish Wit and Humor Gathered and Edited by Immanuel Olswanger; Schocken Books Inc., N.Y.; copyright 1949

Description of Volume: This is a regular sized, hard cover book. It contains 186 pages, of which 151 are tales, 3 notes, 19 glossary, 9 epilogue, 1 pronunciation guide, and 3 index.

Contents: In the body of the text there are footnotes which give translations of words and idioms, and occasionally explain references, customs, etc.. The epilogue is the same letter which serves as a preface to Röyte Pomerantzen, but it contains several sentences which apparently were edited out of it for the earlier volume. The glossary is a small Yiddish-English dictionary, the pronunciation guide is a statement of the system of transliteration used in the book, and the index is a detailed table of contents.

Nature of Materials: (see evaluation of Röyte Pomerantzen)

Documentation: none

Supplementary Aids: The annotation consists of a few cross-references to Jewish and non-Jewish sources, and occasional comments on such things as the etymology of a word, or linguistic parallels.

Composition of Collection: The collection consists mainly of vityn, with a few retenishn also.

Arrangement of Collection: Vityn and retenishn are kept separate, but within the sections, the order appears to be random.

Analysis: none

Röyte Pomerantzen (cont.)

Documentation: none

Supplementary Aids: Occasionally in a footnote there is a cross-reference to a non-Jewish source.

Composition of Collection: The collection consists mainly of *vityn* and *vitylekh* (defined respectively as "philosophical witticisms" and "little jokes or puns" by Harry Golden in his introduction to the 1965 edition), with a smaller number of *vertlekh* and *glaykhvertlekh* also.

Arrangement of Collection: The *vityn* and *vitylekh* are kept separate from the *vertlekh* and *glaykhvertlekh*, but within the sections, the order appears to be random.

Analysis: none