

МЕЖДУНАРОДНОЕ



Куда David Roskies

375 Riverside Dr. #4d

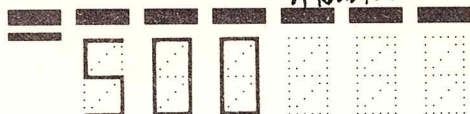
New York, N.Y. 10025

USA

Кому _____

Answered Feb. 9 89

included Hrsifrut 23 (1976) on
Axmtov/2



Индекс предприятия связи места назначения

Индекс предприятия связи
и адрес отправителя

СССР, Москва, 109542

Рязанский пр. 70-2-38

Кругиков М.

0123456789

Внимание!
Образцы написания цифр указаны:

1916 / 122211-5
1920 3115
1929 22111

© Министерство связи СССР, 1983
20. 06. 83. Цена 21 к. Художник Г. Комлев

Изготовлено на Пермской ф-ке Гознака

Moscow, 12.12.88

Dear David!

Only after returning home did I realize how much I have learned from you and your colleagues in the U.S. Now I understand that I have missed many opportunities to discuss with you some subjects which are important to me. Unfortunately, I have not read your book before my visit in the U.S., so I could not have a full use of the happy chance to meet you (I feel it's a bad English, but I hope you understand me).

I'll describe you my impression of your book later, because I did not finish it yet, but I guess it will influence on me very strong.

While reading your book I understand more clear my own subject, though there is no direct connection between them. I want to consider the 1000 years long history of Russian-Jewish literary relations as one continuous ~~and~~ process (of course, there were different stages of it, but I hope to find some common traits in these relations during all their history).

I think, we may distinct three levels of the connections:
1) direct translations; 2) borrowings and allusions, and
3) common themes, moods, attitudes towards historical phenomena.

In the Middle Ages - and till Haskalg - the main direction of the influence was from Jewish (Hebrew) literature and language on Russian, and in the modern time from Russian to Jewish (Hebrew & Yiddish).

The most interesting for me is, of course, the 3rd level, and it is the most complicated and delicate one.

The research on it may be done only after proper investigation on the first two levels, and I can only mention

here some interesting examples of those connections. There were ^{and indirect} direct translation of canonical biblical books and pseudo-epigraphs as well, and some of them exist now only in slavic versions. We have also translations of Tfillot and magic Hebrew books. There are also known some midrashic stories in the medieval Russian literature: about "Shamir" and about a man with two heads.

In the modern times, especially at the ~~end~~ second half of XIX - first half of XX century, Jewish literary culture in Russia was strongly influenced by Russian on all these three levels. I understand, that ~~this~~ influence was by no means ~~was~~ decisive neither for Jewish nor for Russian literature; but sometimes it was important for the further development of them, and I think it's worth to spend some time to work on this theme.

It would be very helpful for me to ~~to~~ discuss with you some ideas and to get advices from you. Please, write me, what do you think about that, and, also write me, who is the author of the article: "Russian and Hebrew. The Case of a Dependent Polycsystem", which you gave me to copy.

Maybe you can recommend me or, if possible, to send other articles on this subject. I'll be very thankful.

Greetings to all your family

yours sincerely

Misha Krutikov