

Our Yiddish Club's Last Full Day in Chelm

Our Yiddish Club from Yenemsville came to Chelm to connect with their ancestor's hometown. We have traveled with all of them, except **Rokhl di Raykhe** and **Perl the Pearl Dealer**. We also learned a little of Chelm today. So let's visit the group at breakfast and hear of their plans for their last full day.

As usual, Nar, the Narrator, led the discussion. Nar cleared his throat and stood up with a glass of orange juice in his hand and said, "I had a dream and I would like to have us all raise our orange juice glasses and drink a toast to the resettlement of Jews in Chelm."

Rokhl raised her orange juice glass, and after the toast, asked, "How are we going to get Jews to resettle Chelm?"

"That will be no problem," said Nar. "After all didn't 20,000 Jews make to the frozen wasteland of Birobidjan?"

"You're right," said Perl.

Nar proceeded to summarize his dream and lay the groundwork for the resettlement of Jews in Chelm. He explained that Birobidjan was a failure because they didn't start from the ground up. "What we need to do is start a kheyder far kleyne kinder. We would have the CCCPTA."

"What is the CCCPTA," asked Beryl.

Nar replied, "That's the Chaim Chelm Cheder PTA. All of the parents with problem children who have been spoiled would come to Chelm instead of being sent to boarding school."

By this time all of the club members were caught up in Nar's dream. The teacher said, "We even could have a gymnasia for the older children."

"That's a great idea," responded Nar. "They would be gymnocologists and take courses in gymnocology."

"This sounds better and better. Maybe we can even make your dream come true," said Berl.

Nar enriched his dream. "We then could have an internationally famous Yeshiva where students from all over the world would come to study. In fact we would give the graduates a Ph.D. degree."

"What's that?" asked Tova.

Nar replied, "That's a Phishl Degree."

They all clapped their hands and stomped their feet, for they knew that Fishl would be very impressed and honored.

But suddenly gloom passed over the club members when Heshy asked, "Where would the money come to build this dream?"

Rokhl had a smile on her face, and in a low voice said, "I shall donate the money in honor of my late husband, **Khayem der Karge**. He would smile up in heaven to learn what I did with his hard-saved money. We would name it Chaim's Chelm Cheder or Khayem's Khelm Kheyder."

Everyone was elated, for that would take care of the finances, for Rokhl was a very, very rich woman, (ongeshtopt mit gelt), and she had no children.

After breakfast they decided that they would go around Chelm with a real estate agent and locate a potential site for the Chaim's Chelm Cheder or Khayem's Khelm Kheyder and would have enough room to build the Gymnasium and a Yeshiva.

After many possible sites were dismissed, they all agreed on the famous caves under the city. It would have excellent climate control and would not require any landscaping.

With mission accomplished the group went back to the Kamena Hotel to celebrate and pack for their return flight to America. They would report the great news to Itzik Gottesman who would write a beautiful story for the Yiddish Forward.

And so, dear readers of *Der Bay*, ends the tales and tribulations of Our Yiddish Club from Yenemsville. However, it is only the beginning of all the happenings in Rokhl's money bringing to reality Nar's dream of making Chelm, once again, the site of a thriving community of naronim.

With your financial support, and urging your children and grandchildren, with problems, to make aliyah to Chelm—we can all help make this a reality.

So, send your letters of support to *Der Bay*, and urge other fools to do likewise. We shall publish the sincerest ones. We urge you to use a pseudonym so that you will be able to show your modesty, and others will not come flocking to your door and then you will truly be one of the *Chelm Naronim*.

So return next month, and learn how Chelm began its journey back to the *good old days*.