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ליובאוויטש

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ברוקלין, נ. י.

By the Grace of G-d
20th of Kislev, 5736
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Rabbi Eliyahu Jung
c/o The Jewish Center
131-135 W. 86th St.
New York, N. Y. 10024

Greeting and Blessing:

I have been hesitating for some time whether or not to make a response to the letter of [redacted] which has been forwarded to me. The reason for my hesitation has been that a response would not be devoid of some criticism toward a person whom I do not know personally, and whose intentions are apparently good. Moreover, I am not compelled to respond to a letter which was not addressed to me.

However, I decided that I ought to make a response, since it concerns Torah Chinuch - a subject which cannot be overemphasized; especially, as I am aware of your devotion to Chinuch in general, and to Lubavitch Chinuch in particular, ever since my father-in-law of saintly memory came to the U.S.A.

Having carefully read the copy of [redacted]'s letter, I can sum up my response, as already mentioned, that his intentions are apparently good, but he does not see the inconsistency between his statement at the end of page one, where he states, "I endeavor to remove the 'kneeling mat' " on the one hand, and the various suggestions to the Lubavitcher representatives on the other, for although the suggestions are intended to be helpful, they are very much in the form of a "kneeling mat."

Needless to say, I have taken into consideration what he writes about the limitation of funds and the necessity to spend them in the most productive way, etc. But this is quite irrelevant in this case, for the Lubavitch administration in London - and I know them personally - can fully be relied upon, not only in the area of duties to G-d, but also in that of duties to man, and they know how to utilize every penny in the most productive way.

A further point concerns an area with which you are familiar from personal experience. As you will recall, when the question arose regarding Lubavitch establishing vocational schools in Eretz Yisroel, there was considerable opposition to the idea from various circles. Nevertheless, Lubavitch went ahead and organized them, disregarding the opposition and criticism. Thus, in principle, Lubavitch is certainly not opposed to the idea of vocational schools, to teach a trade and to take economic necessities into

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consideration - even in Eretz Yisroel. However, the situation in London and in England is such that vocational training does not come within the province of Lubavitch activities there, as is also the case in the U. S. A. There is surely no need to go into this at greater length.

I hope and trust that your nephew will realize that "removing the kneeling mat" should be applied also to the Lubavitch institutions, and he, as well as all those following his lead, will have a great Zechus to have a share in the Lubavitch work in England.

I am pleased to receive regards from you through mutual friends, and I wish you many many productive years, in good health.

At this time before Chanukah, I send you prayerful wishes for a bright Chanukah, and may all things get ever brighter with you and yours in every respect, in accordance with the message of the Chanukah lights which are kindled in growing numbers from day to day.

With warm personal regards, and *with love and*

With blessing, *M. Schneerson*

P. S. Needless to say, I have no objections to your conveying the contents of this letter, or a copy of it, to .