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July 20, 1982

Dear Professor Denman,

Many thanks for your letter of June 7. It goes without saying that I liked your study very much. I believe I am able to evaluate it objectively, appreciating its excellence and thinking it remarkable how well you understand the situation even though some of our points of view may differ.

Well, I am happy to have got to know you.

Yours,

S. A. Birnbaum

Yes, your development of a selectric typing element is of the greatest interest to me. I know practically nothing about these things but I imagine that your element is of the modern ball type. I once saw in a museum a typewriter of the earliest typewriter times - it worked from a ball.) I am looking forward to a printed description of your machine.

Here are a few unimportant notes:

Page 2, line 11 from below: Lemberg: The constituency was
Buczacz (not Lemberg).

Where you speak of our move to Czernovitz it might be useful
to mention that we left Vienna where my father was born and
where we had been living until then. The sequence of the moves:
~~P.3, line 2 from below: -vov- (not -von)-~~. I left Czernovitz in 1910
and went to Vienna, the rest of the family left Czernovitz
somewhat later, moving to Berlin in 1911.

P.3, line 2 from below: ± vov (not von).

P.10, line 5: The bullet passed between spine and windpipe.

P. 11, line 16: Sensitivity to form and shape: As you mention
this point I am tempted to add a few further personal details,
which really belong to my previous letter: In former times I
used to draw landscapes etc., design ornamentation, lettering,
title pages, and I continued to design lettering and title pages
until fairly recently. In addition, the 188 alphabetical charts
in my Hebrew Scripts were drawn by me. In this connection I should
perhaps mention that my two younger brothers were both artists:
Menachem was an unusually gifted portraitist, graphic artist and
book designer. His originals got lost as he and his family
perished in Auschwitz. Uriel was a poet, painter, graphic artist
and writer, of a high order; his unpublished works are in the
Oesterreichische Nationalbibliothek in Vienna.

P.14, line 9 from below: Behaghel, (comma).

14 " " seminar: more exactly: vacation course
of the Beys-Yankev Teachers Seminary in Cracow.

P. 15, line 10 from below: צפצפ (not צפצפ).

P.20, end: vaater, cjjstaarn, hjndert.

P. 21, No.6:, ■ line 3: Etymologien.

P. 22, No. 11, line 2: I always thought Crown Poland meant the
same as Congress Poland, i.e., the part in the Russian empire,
to the exclusion of Galicia. I seem to remember minam having
come across the name פולין-קוראט in this sense in Yiddish. But
your use of the term makes me wonder whether I was right.

Appendix

In my description of the EYSE vowel system I give also long vowels. I assume that those descriptions of the dialect which do not mention phonemic vowel quantity refer to parts of its speech territory, although I have not come across this characteristic myself.

I acquired my Yiddish on EYSE territory, in Czernovitz, mainly from my schoolmates (in the German language "Gymnasium" - there were also a Ruthenian [Ukrainian] and a Rumanian Gymnasium). This dialect was spoken in the whole of [the] Bukovina, as well as in the adjoining regions, including the extreme eastern part of Galicia. Never did I hear short vowels instead of the long ones of EYSW. E.g., vaser did not function for both *וואסער* and *וואס*.

I kept up that dialect for 22 years although my contacts after Czernovitz were mostly EYSW speakers. In 1930 I decided, for a very good reason, to change to the western form, i.e., I replaced /ɛi/ by /ai/. That was all.

1 1 1 1
1 1 1 1

1421 - 1608

2 2 2 2

1421

3 3
3 3

1499 -

4 4

1428 - 1596

5 5 5

1344 - 1674

6 6 6 6

1515 -

7 7

8 8 8 8

1532 - 1662

9 9 9 9 9 9

1551 - 1698

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

1421 - 1700

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מטאור ד'יו וועלכע ארט . דר בין זוכהס יום טוב.

ישראל ויהודה. אלו הם שני השבטים אשר נאמרו להם
ללכת אל המלך חמור ואל המלך חמור ואל המלך חמור.

אשר יצאנו ממצרים ויהי ערב ויהי בקר

אשר היה בין ארץ ישראל ואלה הארצות אשר נאמר להם
אל תאמרו כי ארץ חמשה ימים נבראה ואל תאמרו כי
אלה הארצות אשר נאמר להם אל תאמרו כי ארץ חמשה ימים נבראה

[illegible]

צמח אורי דר קורן

ישראל חיה וקיימת

אין יחולט הקדוש ברקו הוון אין די זוכן אין - אונזערע וועלדער זיין

ייער העפט מווארט ון יעדן שטח צו יעדן נאכער. יעדן שטח

היחשבון בין

לוי אברהם ויהי יחיד שטון - ויהי דניאל בן ישראל

על זיין נאמען דער ווייב'ס און אירע קינדער.

בין קבלת אל-עזה ונתן עזה ואל-שמעון ונתן שמעון

[illegible][illegible]

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על ימתי הוב וברדקין פי ישרן. ימתי ליכר דין, ויחזקטו ויחזק ישרן.

אשר היה שם ויהי ערב ויהי בקר ויהי היום הראשון

1922, 1923, 1924, 1925

יִשְׂרָאֵל לֹא יִנָּצֵחַ וְנִסְתָּר שְׂפָרָאק זִיכָר וְרֵי אֲשֵׁיזוּ יוֹ נֶחֱסֵיזוּ זָק בְּלִיטוּמָק

עין מן שוק עין יק . וימרחם ויכיר כי ישמע קופץ :

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