

though we knew him. I even named my son after him. The way he honored Shabbos was exceptional. My father claims he was spiritually so elevated on Shabbos that he actually looked taller! He sang *zemiros* with powerful emotion and depth.

During the war, my father teetered on the verge of death. At one point, downhearted and scared, he felt as if he was losing his *emunah*. The Galanter Rebbe came to him in a dream and assured him that he would survive. He gave my father hope when there seemed to be none.

The Rebbe himself could have escaped from the Nazis, *ym"ns*, but he refused. He wouldn't leave his *chassidim*, and instead went to his *petirah al kiddush Hashem*, singing songs of inspiration and praise.

ESTHER SCHLUSSEL

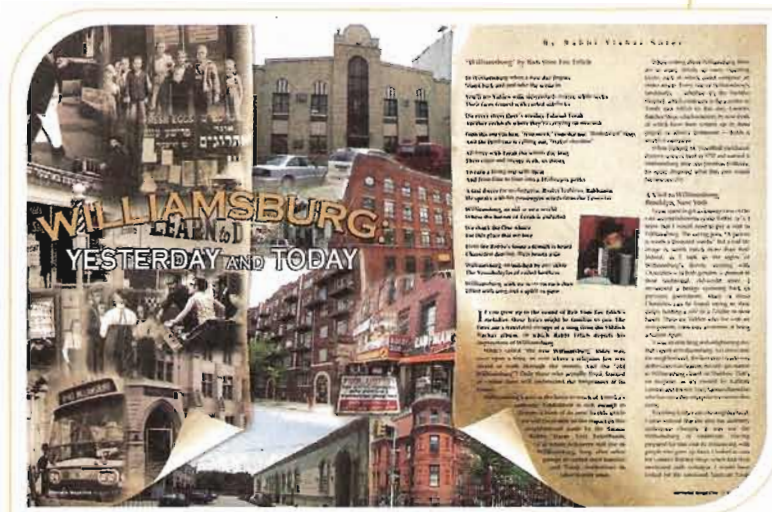
## HARAV ZALMAN LEVINE, ZT"l

### TO THE EDITOR:

In the article "He Was All Torah" about Rav Boruch Ber Leibowitz's visit to America in 1928 (*Parashas Vayeishev*/December 9), you wrote, "When he was in America, Reb Baruch Ber spent ten days in Albany, where he stayed with a *talmid* from Vilna, Reb Rafael Zalman Levine."

*Hamodia* readers will no doubt be interested in learning that Reb Rafael Zalman Levine was not just "a *talmid* from Vilna." He was the only son of the Malach, Harav Chaim Avrohom Dov Ber Levine, who is remembered as an uncompromising paragon of Torah learning of the Eastern European mold. The Malach came to New York in the 1920s and refused to make any concessions to American culture. The Malach's followers became known as the Malachim, and this group still exists today. They were the first to buck the trend of young Orthodox men dressing in the style of the day; they were known for their insistence on wearing Chassidic garb at a time when this practice was virtually unheard of among young men.

Rav Zalman Levine (1900-1992) was a prized student of Rav Boruch Ber, having studied with him from 1919 to 1923. He was awarded *semichah* by Harav Moshe Mordechai Epstein, the Slabodka *Rosh Yeshivah*, among others. Rav Zalman Levine insisted on being called "Reb Zalman,"



discouraging people from calling him "Rav." He also immigrated to America in the 1920s, but only after he received a *brachah* from the Chofetz Chaim, who warned him about the materialism of America.

In 1929 Reb Zalman married the daughter of the Rav of Albany, N.Y. Since his wife wanted to remain close to her family, Reb Zalman lived and worked in Albany for the rest of his life. Throughout his life he maintained a rigorous schedule of Torah learning that began at 4:45 a.m. He worked for the State of New York and oversaw the disbursement of checks issued to state workers. He did not retire until he was 84. From the time of his arrival in America, he gave various *shiurim* and was known as a highly gifted *rebbe*.

PROFESSOR YITZCHOK LEVINE  
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## KEEP ON 'TROPPING'

### TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to thank Rabbi Moshe Hubner for his article based on the *sefer Shevet Halevi*, which gives a comprehensive interpretation of the *passuk* based on the music of the *trop* (*Parashas Miketz*/December 16). I have been a *baal korei* for many years and have taught many students the proper way to *lein*; I always try to explain to people how important the *trop* really is. There is a famous quote from the *Gaon* that if people understood the *trop*, they would have a better understanding of the Torah and all its secrets. Rabbi Hubner's article opens the door to this concept.

SRULY ROSENFELD