

MUMME LOOHSHEN

AN ANATOMY OF YIDDISH

By Joseph Witriol (1912 – 2002)



Contents

A (LONG, BUT NECESSARY) NOTE ON TRANSCRIPTION	7
PREFACE	12
I ORIGINS	15
II THE HEBREW ELEMENTS: GENERAL	21
1. Hebrew-in-Yiddish compared with Latin-in-English	21
2. I. H. Taviov's Views on the Hebrew Elements	23
3. The Contribution of the Merchant Class	29
4. The Euphemistic Role of Hebrew	31
5. The Hebrew Elements in Yiddish Verbs	41
III THE HEBREW ELEMENTS: EVOLUTION	44
1. Introductory and Phonology	44
2. Morphology	48
3. Semasiology	52
IV THE GERMAN ELEMENTS	57
1. Introductory	57
2. Phonology: 1	59
3. Phonology: 2	67
4. Morphology and Syntax: 1	71
5. Morphology and Syntax: 2	74

6. Semasiology	79
V THE SLAV ELEMENTS	87
VI PROVERBS AND SAYINGS	102
VII WORDS AND IDIOMS	121
VIII FRIM-FROOM-FROMM	137
IX THE TRAGEDY OF YIDDISH	142
X BIBLIOGRAPHY	148
INDEX.....	156