

On another occasion Rav Chaim Ozer was approached by a Rabbinic delegation from Kovno which was anxious concerning his welfare. The Lithuanian government had annexed Vilna and many necessities were in great scarcity. Rav Chaim Ozer was asked if there was anything he needed from Kovno, and he answered, 'I have two requests, one important, the other trifling. The trifling one is that I need some medicine which it is impossible to obtain in Vilna. The important one is that our maid needs new shoes which cannot be bought here. I also need shoes, but her need is much greater than mine, for I remain mostly at home, but she must walk in the street each day, and, G-d forbid, at this time of year she might possibly catch cold.'

Rav Chaim Ozer had a special place in his heart for children. Whenever he met them, his kind face would light up with a warm, friendly smile. For many years, it was his custom, after having spent five or six hours deeply engrossed in Limud, writing chidushei Torah, welcoming important guests, to eat a short simple breakfast and slip quietly for a walk in the nearby park. There he would sit for a while, looking lovingly on at the small children playing and occasionally a low soft sigh would escape him as he remembered his only child, a daughter, and her early passing.

Tzedokoh and Gemilas Chasodim found their greatest fulfillment through Rav Chaim Ozer and his multifarious charities. For twenty years, he headed the Vaad on behalf of the Rabbonim and Talmidei Chachomin who were trapped in Russia. The cruel Soviet government seized all their rights and permits and thus removed them from all avenues of financial support. Under the direction of Rav Chaim Ozer, substantial sums were raised throughout the world and distributed through his hands. Thousands were rescued from a horrible death by