יְדֵי לִבּוּן מֵהַשַּׁלְהֶבֶת שֶׁמַּסִּיקִין לַאֲפִיַּת הַמַּצוֹת, וּמִנְהָג יָפֶה הוּא, וּבְלְבַד שָׁיָּטוּחוּ אוֹתוֹ בְּקַרְקַע עָבָה כָּעֲבִי אֶצְבַּע אוֹ יוֹתֵר עַל פְּנֵי כֻלּוֹ. אֲבָל טִיחַ מוּעַט, אֵינוֹ מוֹעִיל כְּלוּם.

- ג) אֵין לָשִׁין וְאֵין עוֹשִׁין אֶת הַמַּצוֹת אֶלָּא בְּבַיִת מְקֹרָה, וְלֹא כְּנֶגֶד חַלּוֹן פָּתוּחַ, אֲפִלּוּ אִם אֵין הַחַמָּה זוֹרַחַת שָׁמָּה. אֲבָל אִם הַחַלּוֹנוֹת נְעוּלִים וְיֵשׁ בָּהֶן זְכוּכִית, מֻתָּר אִם אֵין הַחַמָּה זוֹרַחַת שָׁמָה. אֲבָל אִם הַחַמָּה זוֹרַחַת שָׁמָּה, לָא מַהֲנֵי חַלּוֹן זְכוּכִית, אֶלָּא צָרִיךְּ לִפְרוֹס וִילוֹן בִּמְקוֹם זְרִיחַת הַחַמָּה. וְכֵן צְרִיכִין לִזָּהֵר שָׁלֹא יְהֵא הַבַּיִת מֻסָּק וָחָם.
- ד) אֵין לָשִׁין עִפָּה גְדוֹלָה יוֹתֵר מִשְׁעוּר חַלָּה. וְטוֹב לְמַעֵט, כִּי שִׁעְרוּ רַבּוֹתֵינוּ זְכְרוֹנָם לִבְרָכָה. שָׁאִם הָעִפָּה גְדוֹלָה יוֹתֵר מִשְׁעוּר חַלָּה, אִי אֶפְשָׁר לַעֲסוֹק בָּהּ בְּפַעַם אַחַת, וְחֵלֶק מִמֶּנָּה מֻנָח בְּלֹא עֵסֶק. וְיֵשׁ לָחוּשׁ בֶּן יִתְחַמֵּץ. אָם לָשׁ עִפָּה רַכָּה, לֹא יוֹסִיף בָּהּ קֶמַח לְעַבּוֹתָהּ.
- ה) לא יִדְחוֹק אֶת הַקֶּמַח לְתוֹךְ הַמִּדָּה, כִּי יֵשׁ לָחוּשׁ שֶׁלֹּא יְהֵא נִלּוּשׁ יָפֶה וְיִשְּׁאֵר בְּתוֹךְ הַמַּצָה מַשֶּׁהוּ קֶמַח. וּכְשֶׁיָּבוֹא אַחַר כָּךְ בַּתַּבְשִׁיל, יִתְחַמֵּץ. גַּם יִזְּהֲרוּ שֻׁלֹּא לְהַנִּיחַ אֶת הַקֶּמַח סָמוּךְ לַמַיִם, שֶׁלֹא יִפּוֹל מֵאֲבַק הַקָּמַח לְתוֹךְ הַמִּיִם. וְכֵן הַמּוֹדֵד אֶת הַקֶּמַח, לֹא יִתְקָרֵב אֶל הָעִסָּה אוֹ אֶל הַמִּיִם. וְטוֹב לִזָּהֵר שֶׁלֹּא לְהַנִּיחַ אֶת הַיָּד עַל הַקָּמַח שֶׁלֹּא לְצֹרֶךְ, אוֹ אֶל הַמָּמִח שֶׁלֹא לְצֹרֶךְ, כִּי הַיָּד מְחַמֶּמֶת קְצָת.
- כר׳ אדר ו) הַפְּלִי שֶׁלָשִׁין בּוֹ, צְרִיכִין לְהַשְׁגִּיחַ שֻׁלֹּא יְהֵא בּוֹ שׁוּם נֶקֶב אוֹ סֶדֶק שֵׁיוּכַל לְהִשָּׁאֵר שָׁם מַשֶּׁהוּ עִסָּה וְתִּתְחַמֵּץ. וְלֹא יַנִּיחַ הַפְּלִי בִּשְׁעַת לִישָׁה עַל כָּרִים וּכְסָתוֹת, בֶּן יִתְחַמֵּם. וְיִזָּהֵר שֶׁלְאַחַר כָּל שְׁמוֹנֶה־עֶשְׁרֵה דָקָה, יְנַקָּה אֶת הַבְּלִי הֵיטֵב, וְגַם יִרְחַץ יָדִיו הֵיטֵב. וְכֵן הַדַּפִּין וְהָעֵצִים שֵׁמְגַלְגְּלִין בָּהֶם, יַשְׁגִּיחוּ עֲלֵיהֶם שֵׁלֹּא יְהֵא בָּהֶם שׁוּם נֶקֶב אוֹ סֶדֶק. וּלְכָל־הַפְּחוֹת, לְאַחַר כָּל שְׁמוֹנֶה־עֶשְׂרֵה דַקָּה, יְנַקּוּ אוֹתָם הֵיטֵב. וְכֵן הַבְּלִים שֵׁמְנַקְבִים בָּהֶם, שֵׁלֹּא יְהֵא עֲלֵיהֶם אֲפְלּוּ מַשְּׁהוּ עִסְּה. וְכֵן הַמַּרְדֶּה שָׁמְּלִים שָׁמְנַקְבִים בָּהֶם, שֵׁלֹּא יְהֵא עֲלֵיהֶם אֲפְלּוּ מַשְּׁהוּ עִסְּה. וְכֵן הַמַּרְדֶּה שָׁמְנִיִיסִין בּוֹ אֶת הַמַּצוֹת לְתוֹךְ הַתְּנִוּר, צְרִיכִין לְהַשְׁגִּיחַ שֵׁלֹּא יְהֵא בוֹ שִׁנִּם סְדֵק, שֵׁלֹּא תִכָּנֵס בּוֹ קצֶת עִפָּה וְתִתְחַמֵּץ.
- ז) אָם נָפַל לְתוֹךְ הָעִסָּה אֵיזֶה דָבָר חָרִיף, כְּגוֹן מֶלַח אוֹ תַבְלִין אוֹ

^{1.} A quantity of flour that equals forty-three and one-fifth eggs is subject to the law of challah. (see Chapter 35:2)

walls of the oven is emitted by the heat of the flame that is lit for the purpose of baking the matzos. It is a good custom, provided the oven is plastered with a coating of clay, the thickness of a finger or more, over its entire area. But a thin coating is of no use.

- 3) Matzos should be kneaded and prepared only in a house that has a roof, and not before an open window, even if the sun does not shine through it. But if the windows are closed and have panes, it is permitted to knead the matzos, if the sun does not shine through them. But if the sun shines through them, the glass panes are of no use, but a curtain must be spread over the windows on the sunny side of the room. Care must be taken that the house should not be heated and warm.
- 4) No dough should be kneaded that is larger than the quantity of dough that is subject to the separation of *challah*. It is better to make it smaller, for our Rabbis of blessed memory estimated, that if the dough is larger than the quantity of dough that is subject to *challah*, it cannot be worked at one and the same time; thus part of it will be left unworked, and there is reason to fear that it may become *chametz*. If the dough you are kneading is loose, flour should not be added to thicken it.
- 5) When the flour is measured, it should not be stuffed into the measuring vessel because there is reason to fear that the dough might not be kneaded well, and particles of flour will be found in the matzah, and when put into the soup, it will become *chametz*. Care should be taken not to put the flour near the water, so that flour dust should not fall into the water. Similarly, the person who measures the flour should not go near the dough or the water. It is good to be careful not to handle the flour needlessly, because the hands will warm it slightly.
- April 6 6) It should be watched that the vessel used for kneading should not have any holes or cracks where particles of dough might remain and become *chametz*. While kneading, the vessel should not be placed on pillows or pads, lest it become warm. Care must be taken that every eighteen minutes the vessel is thoroughly cleaned, and the hands thoroughly washed. The boards and rolling pins must be carefully inspected to make sure that they have no holes or cracks. They should be thoroughly cleaned at least every eighteen minutes. The tools that make the perforations must also be cleaned of even the smallest particle of dough. The peel (a shovel-like tool), with which the matzos are put into the oven, must be carefully inspected for any cracks³ where a particle of dough might be caught and become *chametz*.
 - 7) If anything with a sharp flavor fell into the dough, such as salt, spices or even

^{2.} There are some *Poskim* that are lenient and permit even larger quantities, since in our times there are large ovens and many people are involved in production which makes it unlikely that it will become *chametz*. *Mishnah Berurah* says, however, that it is best to be stringent, even in these times and to follow the opinions of the *Shulchan Aruch*. (*Mishnah Berurah* 456:7, *Shaarei Tzion* 10)

^{3.} The proper custom is to appoint a supervisor (Mashgiach) in the matzah bakery to oversee the entire process. (Ibid. 459:33)

סִיד חַי, אֲפָלוּ מַשֶּׁהוּ, וְנִלּוֹשׁ בְּתוֹכָהּ, כָּל הָעִסָּה אֲסוּרָה, מִשּוּם דְּמִתְחַמֶּמֶת שָׁם. וְאִם נִמְצָא בְּתוֹךְ הָעִסָּה גַּרְעִין הְבוּאָה, יִטוֹל מִן הָעִסָּה בָּרְעִין הְבוּאָה, יִטוֹל מִן הָעִסָּה כָּעֵבִי אֶצְבַּע סְבִיב הַגַּרְעִין וְיַשְׁלִיךְ, וְהַשְּאָר מֻתָּר.

- ח) יִזָּהַרוּ שֶׁלֹּא לְהָנִיחַ אֶת הָעִפָּה אֲפִלּוּ רֶגֵע אֶחָד בְּלִי עֵסֶק. וּמִיָּד כְּשֶׁנִּגְמְרָה הָעִפָּה, יְחַלְּקָהּ כַּלָּהּ לַמְגַלְגְּלִים. וְעַל בֵּן יֵשׁ לְהַשְׁגִּיחַ שֶׁלֹא לַעֲשׂוֹת עִפָּה גְדוֹלָה רַק כְּפִי עֵרֶךּ הַמְגַלְגְּלִים. וְאִם נִשְׁאַר מִן הָעִפָּה בִּיִדי הַמְחַלֵּק, יְלוּשֶׁנָּה וְיַעֲסוֹק בָּהּ, שֶׁלֹּא תָנוּחַ אֲפִלּוּ רֶגַע בְּלִי עֵסֶק.
- ט) הַמְגַלְגְּלִים יְגַלְגְּלוּ בָּזְרִיזוּת, וְאַל יִשְׁהוּ לֵעֲשׁוֹת אֶת הַמַּצָּה בִּדְמוּת אֵיזוֹ צוּרָה. וְיַשְׁגִּיחוּ שֶׁלֹא יִהְיוּ פֵּרוּרִין מִן הָעִפָּה עֵל הַדָּף. וְגַם שֶׁלֹא תְהֵא מֻדְבָּקֶת בִּידִיהֶם שׁוּם עִפָּה. וּמִיָּד כְּשֶׁרוֹאִין שֶׁנִּדְבְּקָה בָּהֶן קְצָת עִפָּה, יִרְחֲצוּ יְדֵיהֶם הֵיטֵב.
- י) מִיָּד לְאַחַר שָׁנְּגְמְרָה הַמַּצָּה, יְנַקְבוּהָ בִּזְרִיזוּת. וְלֹא יַצְשׂוּ אֵיזֶה צִיּוּר בְּמַה שֶׁמְנַקְבִים, אֶלָּא יְמַהֲרוּ בְּכָל מַה דְאָפְשִׁר, וּמִיָּד יִתְּנוּהָ לְתוֹךְ הַתַּנוּר. וְיִזָּהֵר מְאֹד שֶׁלֹא יַשְׁהֶה אוֹתָהּ אֲפִלּוּ מְעַט נָגֶד פִּי הַתַּנוּר, כִּי שָׁם תְּמַהֵר לְהַחְמִיץ. וְעַל כֵּן צְרִיכִין לְהַדֵּר שֶׁיָּה שֶׁהוּא מוֹשִׁיט אֶת הַמַצוֹת לָאוֹפֶה, יִהְיֶה בַּעַל תּוֹרָה וִירֵא שָׁמִים, שֶׁיְּדַקְדֵּק בָּזֶה.
- יא) הַיָּרֵא אֶת דְּבַר ה', יִזָּהֵר שֶׁקֹּדֶם אֲפִיַּת הַמַּצוֹת שֶׁלוֹ, יַפִּיקוּ הֵיטֵב מֵחָדָשׁ אֶת הַתַּנוּר וִיפַזְרוּ אֶת הַנֶּחָלִים עַל פְּנֵי כֻלוֹ, כִּי מִי יוֹדֵעַ אִם זֶה אֲשֵׁר אָפָה קֹדֶם לוֹ הָיָה נִזְהָר בְּכָל הַזְּהִירוּת.
- יב) הָאוֹפֶּה יִזָּהֵר מְאֹד לְהַשְׁגִּיחַ שֶׁלֹּא תִתְכַּפֵּל אֵיזוֹ מַצָּה, וְגַם שֶׁלֹּא תִתְכַּפֵּל אֵיזוֹ מַצָּה, וְגַם שֶׁלֹּא תִתְכַּפֵּל אֵחַת בַּחֲבֶּרְתָּהּ, כִּי בְּמָקוֹם הַנְּגִיעָה, וְבֵן בְּמָקוֹם שֶׁמִּתְכַּפֶּלֶת, אֵינָהּ נֶאֱפֵית מַהֵר וּמִתְחַמֶּצֶת. וְאִם אֵרֵע שֶׁנִּתְכַּפְּלָה אוֹ שֶׁנִּתְנַפְּחָה אֵיזוֹ מַצָּה, צְרִיכִין לִשְׁבּוֹר [וּלְהַשְׁלִידְ] אֶת הַמָּקוֹם הַהוּא וְהוּא חָמֵץ, וְהַשְּאָר מֻתָּר. אֲבָל אִם נָגְעוּ זוֹ בָּזוֹ בַּתַּנוּר כְּשֶׁהֵן עֲדַיִן לַחוֹת, יֵשׁ לְהַתִּיר בְּדִיעֲבַד. מַצָּה נְפִוּחָה, הַיְנוּ שֻׁנִּכָּר שֻׁנִּתְחַלְּקָה הַמַּצָּה בְּעָבְיָה, וְהֶחָלָל הוּא כְּמוֹ רֹחַב אֵגוּדַל.
- כז׳ אדר יג) צְרִיכִין לָזָהֵר שֶׁלֹּא לְהוֹצִיא מַצָּה מִן הַתּנוּר כָּל זְמַן שֶׁלֹא נֶאָפְתָה קָבְּי מְנֵין חוּטִין נִמְשָׁכִין. כִּי קֶדֶם קְצָת עֵד שֶׁאִם הָיוּ פּוֹרְסִין אוֹתָהּ לֹא הָיוּ כְּעֵין חוּטִין נִמְשָׁכִין. כִּי קֶדֶם שְׁעוּר זֶה, הְהֵי הִיא עֲדַיִן כְּמוֹ עִפָּה. וּכְשֶׁהִיא חוּץ לַתַּנוּר, תְּמֵהֵר לְהַחְמִיץ. וְגַם הַמַּרְדֶּה שֶׁהוֹצִיאוּהָ עָלָיו, גַּם כֵּן אָסוּר עוֹד לַמַצּוֹת. וְאִם לְהַחְמִיץ. וְגַם הַמַּרְדֶּה שֶׁהוֹצִיאוּהָ עָלָיו, גַּם כֵּן אָסוּר עוֹד לַמַצּוֹת. וְאִם

if the smallest quantity fresh lime and was kneaded into it, the use of the entire dough is forbidden, because it has become heated by it. If a grain of wheat is found in the dough, you should remove from it a quantity of dough as thick as your finger, all around that grain, and throw it away; and the rest of the dough may be used.

- 8) Care must be taken not to leave the dough, even for a moment without working it. As soon as the dough is completed, it should be divided into portions and handed to the rollers. Care should be taken, therefore, to make the dough only as large as can be handled by the rollers. If some of the dough is left with the person who hands out the portions, he should keep kneading it so that it should not lie idle even for a moment.
- 9) The rollers should do their work at full speed and not waste time on giving the matzos a specific shape. They should pay close attention that no particles of the dough are left on the board, and also that no dough clings to their hands. As soon as they notice any dough sticking to their hands, they must wash them thoroughly.⁴
- 10) As soon as the matzah is ready, it should be perforated quickly. They should not make any design with the perforations, but they should rush at top speed, and put it into the oven immediately. Great care should be taken not to hold it even for a moment in front of the opening of the oven, for it will become *chametz* quickly. It is necessary, therefore, to make sure that the person handing the matzos to the baker should be a Torah scholar, a God-fearing man, who will be meticulously vigilant.
- 11) A God-fearing person should take care, before baking his matzos, to have the oven well heated again, and the coals spread over the entire oven, for who knows if the person who baked matzos before him was scrupulously careful about it.
- 12) The baker should be very careful to see to it that none of the matzos are folded over, and that one matzah does not touch the other, for in the place where one matzah touches another or where it is folded over it does not bake quickly and it becomes *chametz*. In the event that a matzah is folded over or becomes blown up, it is necessary to break off and throw away that piece; that piece is *chametz*, but the rest may be eaten. However, if the matzos touched each other in the oven while still moist, they may be eaten, since it is already done. A blown up matzah is one in which it is evident that the matzah has separated in its thickness, and the bubble is as wide as a thumb.
- April 713) Care should be taken not to take a matzah out of the oven before it is slightly baked; that is, if you would break it, there should be no threads of dough [between the pieces.] Before this stage it is still like dough, which when taken out of the oven will become *chametz* very quickly. The peel with which this matzah was taken out of the oven is forbidden to be used for baking matzos. If it is impossible

^{4.} They should also wash their hands every eighteen minutes. (Ibid. 459:33)