

BERGMAN Bronisław Bernard (1861-1929), banker, social activist. He was born on 20th July 1861 in Częstochowa, the son of Szymon Symcha Ari (1829 Częstochowa - 1891 Częstochowa) and Szarlotta Szprynca née Wolberg (1832 Częstochowa - 1916 Częstochowa), who was a member of the “Dobroczytność” Charitable Society for Jews (TDdŻ). He was the brother of → Adam.

Bergman was a banker by profession and also an outstanding expert in commercial law. He served as a member of the discount committee of the Częstochowa branch of the Russian State Bank. In 1899, he co-founded the Credit Society of the City of Częstochowa and sat on its committee of management. Prior to 1914, he served as president of the Stow. Właściciele Nieruchomości [Association of Real Estate Owners]. Following the outbreak of World War I, he and his wife paid a monthly tax (determined by the City Council) towards the Emergency Aid Committee. (From January 1915, his tax amount was increased to 20 rubles.) During the war with the Bolsheviks, in August 1920, he gave a donation (600 marks) to the Komitet Niesienia Pomocy Żołnierzowi Polskiemu [Polish Soldier Aid Committee]. The Committee was active within the Jewish community structure in Częstochowa. He belonged to the TDdŻ and supported the building of the TDdŻ Hospital. (In 1913, to mark the occasion of the opening of the hospital, he donated 30 rubles.) At the beginning of the second half of the 1920s, Bergman lost his eyesight. Despite that, as the “Express Częstochowski” wrote, “He was very often asked for advice in various complex cases”.

He died on 2nd December 1929 in Częstochowa and was buried in the local Jewish cemetery (grave 2340 I).

He was married to Tekla née Herc (Hertz) (1861 Warsaw - 1934 Częstochowa), with whom he had three children: a daughter Franciszka (17th February 1896 Częstochowa), in 1929, was a secretary in Widzewska Manufaktura and → Marta, as well as a son → Stefan.

Paszkowski, *Cmentarz żydowski* vol. I, p. 24. - Gąsiorowski, *Bank Handlowy*, pp. 59, 60. - Sobalski, *Przemysł częstochowski*, p. 63. - “Express Częstochowski” 1929, No. 278, p. 2, No. 279, p. 2 (mention); “Goniec Częstochowski” 1915, No. 23, p. 2, No. 128, ps. 2, 1916, No. 50, p. 2 (regarding his mother, obituary), 1920, No. 204, p. 3. - *Rocznik częstochowski. Kalendarz 1903*, p. 102; *Sprawozdanie Tow. Dobroczytności dla Żydów 1913*, pp. 3 (regarding his mother), 21.

Juliusz Sętowski