

BRAM Arnold Aron (1887–1942), radiologist, city councillor, political and social activist. Born on 21st April 1887 in Częstochowa, he was the son of Michał (-1928), merchant and owner of brickworks (at ul. Barbara 76b), active in the “Dobroczyńność” Charitable Society for Jews, and Helena Hena née Horowicz (-29th August 1922 Częstochowa), brother of Szmul (1889 Częstochowa-) and Hana (25th December 1890 Częstochowa-), married to Szlama Horowicz.

Bram graduated from the Russian Boys’ Gimnazjum in Częstochowa. From at least 1909, he studied medicine at the University of Bern (Switzerland) and, later, at the Kazan University (Russia). He received his medical diploma in 1914 and then returned to the Kingdom of Poland.

Following the outbreak of war, in August 1914, he was conscripted into the Russian army, with the rank of Medical Captain. In 1919, he joined the Polish Army and confirmed with the rank of Medical Captain (with seniority from 1st June 1919). From March 1919, he treated the wounded in the garrison hospital in Częstochowa. In August 1921, he was assigned to the 7th Field Artillery and then to the 27th Infantry Regiment. He served as the doctor of the District Front-line Command, as well as the Headquarters Command. He was demobilised at the beginning of the 1920s. (As a reservist officer, he was assigned to the 4th Medical Battalion in Łódź. From 1937, he was assigned to the 10th District Hospital).

He conducted a private medical practice in Częstochowa. He also owned a diagnostic and treatment centre (at al. Kościuszki 1, later at al. Wolności 10). Until 1939, he was the first and only doctor to have an X-ray machine. In the second half of the 1920s, he was a doctor for the District Health Insurance Fund. He also managed a private Medical Clinic (at al. Wolności 10, which is where he lived until 1939). In the 1930s, he was head of the Medical Centre run by the Society for the Protection of the Health of the Jewish Population in Poland TOZ (at ul. Berka Joselewicza). He belonged to the Częstochowa branch of the Polish Red Cross. In 1926, he took part in the preparations to celebrate that society’s 25th anniversary.

Bram was active in local government. Nominated by Jewish electoral committees, he was elected four times to the Częstochowa City Council - in 1925, 1927, 1934 and 1939. In 1925-27, he led the caucus of Jewish councillors. (In 1927, during a split within the caucus of Jewish councillors, with → Szymon Pohorille, he left it altogether.) He worked on various Council committees – the Economic and Audit Committee (1919-25), the Sewage and Water Systems Committee (1927-30) – a committee to monitor the sewage and water supply

works conducted by the American "Ulen" organisation), the Schools Council, the Finance & Budget Committee (1930, replacing → Maury Neufeld) and the Regulatory, Budget and Administrative Committee (1935).

He was active in the Zionist movement. From 1928, he headed the local branch of the Zionist Organisation. He was also involved in sporting and cultural activities. In February 1929, he chaired a meeting regarding the establishment of a Jewish theatre in Częstochowa. In the second half of the 1920s, he was a member of the Jewish Gymnastics-Sports Association and was also a member of the Municipal Committee for Military Training and Physical Education.

He participated in the life of the Jewish Community. In the first half of the 1930s, he served as a member of the Jewish Community Council. In 1936, he chaired the committee during the elections to that council. According to his contemporaries, "He enjoyed great popularity amongst workers for his devotion towards them".

In August 1939, with the rank of Medical Captain, he was mobilised into the Polish Army. In September, probably during the course of fighting with the Germans, he found himself in Kowel. In 1942, he was still there (with his wife). In that same year, (according to → Bernard Torbeczki), together with his wife, he was murdered by the Germans.

His wife was Paulina Sura Perel née Rajchman (1886-1942), with whom he had a son Jerzy (3rd September 1909 Bern, Switzerland-), a graduate of the R. Traugutt II State Gimnazjum in Częstochowa. He later studied medicine in Milan.

Gliński, *Słownik lekarzy i farmaceutów*, vol. III, pp. 22–23. - Szwed, *Radni m. Częstochowy*, pp. 48, 49; Szwed, *Żydzi w samorządzie*, p. 166; "Traugutt", p. 230 (regarding his son); Wyględowski, *Chirurgia i chirurdzy*, pp. 56, 59, 203; *Żydzi częstochowianie* (no page numbers). - Nowak, *Z moich wspomnień III*, pp. 191, 220. – "Częstochower Cajtung" 1928, No. 14, p. 5, 1932, No. 36, p. 1; "Dziennik Rozkazów Wojskowych" 1919, No. 77, p. 1746; "Dziennik Zarządu m. Częstochowy" 1926, No. 10, p. 4; "Express Częstochowski" 1928, No. 284, p. 5 (regarding his father), 1929, No. 51, p. 3, 1930, No. 138, p. 2, No. 196, p. 2; "Goniec Częstochowski" 1920, No. 163, p. 3, 1922, No. 197, p. 3, 1932, No. 260, pp. 3, 4; "Nasz Głos Powszechny" 1936, No. 3, p. 4; "Nowy Express Częstochowski" 1926, No. 258, p. 3, 1927, No. 8, p. 3, No. 126, p. 3. - *Handlowiec. Kalendarz 1914*, p. 235 (regarding his father); *Informator m. Częstochowy 1925*, p. 24; *Pamiętnik Jubileuszu 25-lecia Tow. Lekarskiego Częstochowskiego 1901–1926*, Częstochowa [b.r.w.], p. 59; *PCK. Sprawozdanie 1933*, pp. 14, 71; *Rocznik adresowy 1901*, p. 545 (regarding his father); *Rocznik lekarski 1933/34*, columns 100, 101; *Rocznik oficerski rezerw 1934*, pp. 215, 756; *Urzędowy spis lekarzy 1939*, p. 20. - APCz, records of the City of Częstochowa 27/21, vol. V, No. 1958, MagCz 5316, 5503, 5573, Starostwo Powiatowe

Częstochowskie 33/IV/803 (listing of doctors in the Częstochowa District). – Order of the Kielce DOG No. 100, dated 23rd August 1921, No. 97, dated 16th August 1923.

Juliusz Sętowski