

**BRESLER** (BRESSLER) Jerzy Chaskiel (1890-1963), doctor. He was born on 24<sup>th</sup> July 1890 in Płock, the son of Majer and Marianna.

In 1917, Bresler graduated in medicine at the University of Berlin. In 1920, as a Second-Lieutenant Doctor, he took part in the war against the Bolsheviks. Following demobilisation, he worked as a surgeon at the Izaak Fogel Jewish Hospital (at ul. Misjonarska 7) in Płock. Later, he became the doctor of the local Health Fund. In the 1930's, he served on the board the Płock Medical Association. He served as president of the local branch of the Union of Jewish Fighters for Poland's Independence. In 1934, he was a Reserve Lieutenant.

In 1940-41, Bresler headed the Sanitation and Cleanliness Commission in the Płock ghetto. He was known for his selfless help for those in need. In 1941, he was transported from Płock to Częstochowa. There, he worked as a doctor in the hospital outpatient clinic on ul. Garncarska, in the Częstochowa ghetto.

This is how → Jerzy Einhorn recalled him from that period:

*We all like Dr. Bresler. He is polite and has no problem with [providing] sick leaves [...]. He is approaching sixty and does not look good himself.*

Following the liquidation of the "Small Ghetto", from the end of June 1943, he was held within the HASAG Pelcery labour camp in Częstochowa. Together with the other prisoners, he was liberated on 16<sup>th</sup> January 1945 by the Red Army. After the war, he worked in the internal medicine departments of Częstochowa hospitals and in public health care. As a medical internist, he also ran his own private practice. (He lived at al. Wolności 2/6). He belonged to the Częstochowa Medical Association. During the war, he wrote poems, which remained in manuscripts. He died on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 1963 in Częstochowa and was buried in the local Jewish cemetery (grave 2432 I).

His wife (from 1942?) was Anna Chana née Nowak (5<sup>th</sup> November 1897 Częstochowa - 1975 Częstochowa), the daughter of Ludwik Lejbuś and Ruchla née Windhejm, half-sister of → Feliks and → Kopel Nowak. In 1918, she graduated in dentistry in Warsaw and worked as a dentist in Częstochowa, her surgery being at II Aleja 33. From 1941, she was forced to live in the ghetto. On 20<sup>th</sup> March 1943, together with a group of Jewish intellectuals, she was transported for execution by the Germans. However, she jumped from the vehicle. For a certain period, she hid with her patient, the railwayman Bielas. Later, she returned to the "Small Ghetto". After the war, she continued to practice in Częstochowa.

A.J. Papierowski, J. Stefański, *Płocczanie znani i nieznani. Słownik biograficzny*, Płock 2002, p. 70; Paszkowski, *Cmentarz żydowski*, vol. I, p. 39; *Polski almanach medyczny 1956*, pp. 28, 509 (regarding his wife); Wyględowski, *Almanach lekarzy*, p. 58; Wyględowski, *Stomatologia*, p. 60 (regarding his wife). - Pietrzykowski, *Cień swastyki*, p. 176 (regarding his wife). - Einhorn, *Wybrany, aby żyć*, p. 114. – “Gazeta Częstochowska” 1963, No. 20, p. 4 (obituary); “Życie Częstochowy” 1963, No. 110, p. 6 (posthumous memoirs). - *Książka adresowa m. Częstochowy 1947*, p. 41; *Rocznik lekarski 1933/34*, column No. 549; *Rocznik oficerski rezerw 1934*, pp. 220, 732; *Urzędowy spis lekarzy 1939*, pp. 21, 49 (regarding his wife).

**Juliusz Sętowski**