

CHROBOŁOWSKI (CHRABAŁOWSKI) Elkana (1885 - post 1958), editor, political, educational and sports activist, organiser of political life. He was born in Andrzejewo, in the Łomża province, the son of Josef Icek, a *melamed* (*cheder* teacher) and Chana Rywka née Akselrod (-1910). His parents also made candles and cigarettes.

Chrobołowski, who was educated in a *cheder*, lived with his parents. Agreeing to his father's wishes, he taught in the *cheder*. In the evenings, he taught boys and girls to write in Yiddish and in Russian. He also taught mathematics. In 1897, together with his parents, he moved to Łapy near Białystok. Chrobołowski wanted to learn in a craft school in Białystok, but his father sent him to a relative, Juda Landau, w Sąspów. There, for several years, he taught Jewish children. Later, for a year, he was a salesman in a store in Warsaw.

Circa 1906, after serving in the Russian army for three years, he settled in Częstochowa. Here, in 1912-13, together with Hersz Fajwlowicz, → Mosze Cieszyński and → Jakub Rozenberg, he published the first Jewish periodical – “*Czenstochower Reklamenblat*” [“Czestochowa Advertiser”], in which he wrote the lead articles. Chrobołowski, who was one of the leaders of the Jewish Socialist Party *Farejnikte* (United), together with → Rafał Federman, edited that party's periodical “*Dos Naje Wort*” [“The New Word”].

In 1919, he co-founded the “United” Workers' Cooperative. As an education activist, he organised the *Tow. Kursów Wieczorowych dla Robotników* [The Evening Courses for Workers Society]. The courses included learning to read and write in Yiddish, accounting, Polish, geography and nature.

In 1915, he was one of the organisers of the sports union at the “Lira” Music-Literature Society. In 1922, the authorities closed courses (for anti-state activities). In August 1922, as the result of a split in *Farejnikte*, he joined the Bund. He lived at ul. Spadek 7 (from 1932, the name was changed to ul. Garibaldięgo).

In 1923, Chrobołowski left for the United States. After a year spent in Chicago, he returned to Częstochowa. In 1926, he again left for the United States, this time settling permanently in New York. In the publication *Czenstochower Yidn* (New York 1947), he was the author of articles about Jewish libraries, evening courses, the Jewish sports movement and fraternal cooperatives. He also co-authored articles about trade unions, the workers' orphanage, the I.L. Perc school, the Jewish theatre, the Zionist Socialist Party and about the second pogrom of Jews in Częstochowa. With M. Cieszyński and R. Federman, he was

co-author of the chapter about the Jewish press in Częstochowa. He participated in the work on the book *Czenstochov* (New York 1958), publishing in it valuable memoirs for the Jewish community.

His wife (from 1923) was Chaja née Tempelhof (16th September 1896 Łódź-), the daughter of Symcha and Sura Ita née Rozenfeld.

Czenstochower Jidn, p. 101; Mielczarek, *Organizacje robotnicze partii żydowskich*, p. 45; Pawlina-Meducka, *Kultura Żydów*, pp. 70, 103, 104, 105, 106, 171, 192; Sobalski, *Związki zawodowe, stowarzyszenia*, p. 136. - APCz, unit No. 1, ref. 8820, No. 93 (1885 census of conscripts). - APCz, unit No. 58, marriage record 155/1923. – Materials from the ODDC collection.

Wiesław Paszkowski