

Bocian, Kac and Wajsberg

There was a local, Yiddish, weekly press in Częstochowa, which reflected Jewish life in all its nuances. Every engagement, wedding, *bris*, gathering or - God preserve us - funeral appeared in countless congratulations, announcements and obituaries. The editors were the owners of printing presses and they had journalists as contributors.

Berl Bocian had a large printshop at First Aleja 6. [He was] a respected Jew, the president of *Bais Lechem* and *gabbai* of the *Ohel Jankew* [Tent of Jacob] *shul* at Aleja 4. He published the *Częstochower Zeitung* [Częstochowa Newspaper], occupying first place in the Częstochowa weekly press.

Kac had his printing press at Aleja 3. His enterprise was a small one. As a result, due to technical reasons, his success was small.

Third place was held by Wajsberg, who had a small printshop at Senatorska 7. He “wrangled” to get the paper out and, in order to make a living, also traded in fish. Consequently, the nickname of “*Fischer*” was bestowed upon him.

Despite the fact that the papers were local and were published by the owners of printing presses, the editors nevertheless played a significant role in Częstochowa’s Jewish communal life.