

***Królowa* [Queen] Jadwiga**

The seamstress “*Królowa* Jadwiga” belongs amongst the mental lunatics that the city of Częstochowa possessed. She was under the delusion that she was the representative of Vladimir Zhabotinsky and needed to raise funds to establish a Jewish military formation.

Jadwiga came to the *prezes* [president] of the *Kehilla*, Szmul Goldsztajn, and demanded from him a cheque for 1,000 (one thousand) pounds sterling¹. The *prezes*, knowing her well enough, gave her, as a joke, a cheque for the requested sum to be cashed in at the bank in Nowy Rynek.

Jadwiga went to the bank to withdraw the money, where a whole story began with the cashier. Not wishing Jadwiga to become disillusioned with the cheque, the cashier told her that everything was in order, but that only *Prezes* Rozenberg’s signature was missing. Jadwiga ran about from one *prezes* to another in all the banking houses, but she did not receive the money - obviously.

It was her habit to travel on the train without a ticket and, when the conductor asked to see the tickets to check them, she would present her pass showing that she was a *królowa* (queen) and was not required to buy a ticket. On one occasion, a clippie, who did not know her, made no fun of it and had her arrested. The result was that it was necessary to intervene for her and, after sitting for three days in jail, she was released.

“*Królowa* Jadwiga” had herself photographed as a true queen, with a crown on her head, by the photographer Zimol [sic Zajnwel?] Biber at I Aleja 6. She ordered that her picture be put on display in the shop window.

¹ [TN: As of 2022, the time of this translation, this sum would have the purchasing power of about £47,600.]