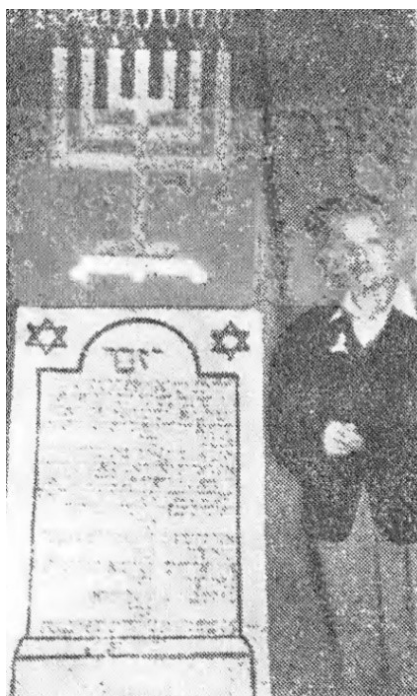


## Cwi Rozenwajn



**Photo № 50**

Member of the Cultural Commission of the Central Administration of the Częstochower Landsmannschaft in the American Zone in Germany. Summary of the speech delivered at the memorial ceremony in Feldafing on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1946:

*Three years have passed since the Częstochowa "Small Ghetto" was liquidated. Diabolical, barbaric hands cast themselves upon our best sons and daughters to destroy them. Difficult thoughts and painful feelings dominate each one of us as we look at this hall and see that [just a small number of] individuals are left from our city, which numbered sixty thousand Jewish inhabitants.*

*The wounds are too fresh and the lapse of time since, the "akcja" of extermination, is too short for us to be able to evaluate what has happened. We are still living in an illusory state of wishing to believe that all that we lived through is only a wild nightmare, which will once again disappear. We think that we shall find ourselves back in the vigorously pulsating Jewish life of the past, to which a strong, inner yearning gnaws at us.*

*It is difficult and painful to speak about fighters and heroes together with whom we suffered, hoped, strove and fought, whose lives have been cut short. It is difficult to speak about comrades, co-workers and fellow combatants with whom we sat for whole nights making plans and projects as to how to conduct the struggle, the wrangle against the downfall of the Jewish life.*

*May the names of the champions, who fell in the heroic battle as courageous sons of our people, be uttered with pride, honour and reverential awe - Mojsze Lubling, Izrael Szyldhaus, Mojsze Lewenhof, Icchok Rozenfeld, Rywka Glanc, Josef Kantor, Daniel Jarzombek, Nuta Slomnicki, Aryje Mandelbaum, Abram Łażniarz and others. From the very start of the War, they dedicated themselves, loyally and devotedly, to the "Arbeiterrat" [Workers' Council], which fought against the "Judenrat" for the interests of the workforce. Those organised in the "Arbeiterrat" were the healthy core of the subsequent underground combat organisation.*

*It is difficult to judge for whom it is better - for the aforementioned heroes, who fell in the battle for a better world of rightness and justice, or for those who fought and survived by chance. The survivors feel disillusioned and sentenced to live cheated out of their hopes and ideals. They live as isolated and disappointed people, feeling the entire tragic complexity of our horrifying past and the disillusion with the present. Our current life is that of an all-around vegetative state, because the world does not understand us or, better said, does not wish to understand us.*

*Our tragic reality consists in that our dreams and aspirations are not being realised.*

*Those, who should have aided us in this sacred historic mission, have a negative attitude. Our freedom fighters sacrificed their lives in the war to liberate the oppressed nations in Europe and the Jewish people from Nazi slavery. They strove to make the nations brothers under the lofty ideals that were preached in the declaration of human rights of the great French Revolution.*

*The words and calls of our slain brothers and sisters ring out like a roaring echo, "Do not forget that our blood has been spilt in the fight for freedom – Revenge! Revenge!" These words have engraved themselves in my memory. All of you also know these words well. We must not rest or remain silent. We must, once again, resume our sacred task of conducting the fight which our dear comrades, who fell in battle, conducted.*

*Today, on the third anniversary of the liquidation of the "Small Ghetto" in Częstochowa, we swear, before these burning candles, to realise the ideals for which our heroic comrades fought. We shall not forget them.*

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Reports, in connection with the functions held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1946 in Feldafing and on 20<sup>th</sup> October 1946 in Landsberg, were printed in the following newspapers: *Unser Wort* [Our Word], Bamberg, № 16, 5<sup>th</sup> July 1946; *Dos Freie Wort* [The Free Word], Feldafing, № 39, 12<sup>th</sup> July 1946; *Unser Wort*, Bamberg, № 29 25<sup>th</sup> October 1946; *Yiddishe Zeitung* [Jewish Newspaper], Landsberg, № 43 (55) 25<sup>th</sup> October 1946; *Fun Letzte Churban* [From the Latest Destruction], Munich, № 3, October-November 1946, p.99 and in an entire array of other periodicals.

Due to the fact that Dr Szmul Gringauz, Adv. Mendel Goldberg and Chaim Sztajer did not send us the speeches which they delivered at the function in Landsberg on 20<sup>th</sup> October 1946, their addresses are reproduced here as they appear in the newspaper report by M. Frydenzon, which was published in the *Yiddishe Zeitung*, Landsberg, № 43 (55) of 25<sup>th</sup> October 1946.