

ז [Samech]

Samsonowicz, Kalman

Son of Chaskiel and Sura-Itta; born in Działoszyn (Poland) on 12th April 1887. Came to America on 15th August 1913. He is a member of the Zaloshiner Chevra Anshei Bnei Achim in New York.

Sobol, Rae



Daughter of Ajzyk and Chana. She married William Sobol, who was one of the founders and an active figure of the Czenstochauer Young Men's Society in New York.

Rae Sobol was one of the founders of the Ladies Auxiliary and lately held the office of treasurer of the organisation. She died aged sixty-five on 2nd August 1943.

Sobol, William



Born in Sheps [Sierpc] (Poland). Was an active member of the Czenstochauer Young Men's and a member of its executive, and also a member and one of the founders of the Czenstochover Relief Committee. He died at the age of sixty-seven.

Solomon (Wasiliewicz), Perec

Son of Lajbel [Louis] and Laja [Lena née Wajsfelner¹]. He was born in Derby, Connecticut, on 6th February 1913. He died in Chicago on 4th July 1922. He was his parents' only son.

Staszewski, Ruda [sic Dwojra-Rojza²]



Daughter of Rubin and Miriam Kokociński; born in Pajęczno (Poland).

Sigman, Izydor (Izrael-Jojne)

Son of Izrael³ and Hinda; born in Kunów (Poland) in 1868. Arrived in America in May 1915. He was a member of B'nai Brith. In Częstochowa, he was the founder and president of the Gnaszyn Manufacture Joint-Stock Company.

Sigman, Abe (Abram)

Son of Izydor and Regina; born in Częstochowa. He came to America twice - the first time was in 1915, and the second in 1938. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge, of the management committee of the Jewish *gimnazja*⁴ in Częstochowa, of the management committee of the Częstochowa Manufacturers Union, of the management committee of the Makabi sports union and of the management committee of the Gnaszyn Manufacture Joint-Stock Company in Częstochowa.

He died on 19th July 1940 in Buffalo, NY.

Sigman, Stanley (Stanisław)

Son of Izydor and Regina (née Herc); born on 3rd August 1898 in Piotrków. Arrived in America for the first time in 1915, travelled back, and came once again in 1940. He belongs to various organisations, such as the Masonic Lodge and the American Legion, and is a member of the Częstochowa Industrialists Union and of different charitable and cultural Częstochowa organisations. He currently lives on [West] St. James Place 248, Chicago, 14, Illinois.

Stanley Sigman, both at home in Częstochowa and here in America, is a communal activist. He has contributed extensively to the book *Czenstochover Yidn* with the numerous materials and photographs which he has provided.

Sigman [Zygmant], Edmund

Born in Częstochowa in January 1888. At the age of ten, he started attending Lamparski's school, while also studying to play the violin with Balsam.

In 1905, he began studying at the Conservatorium [of Music] in Leipzig, and, that same year, together with Wanda Najfeld, he gave a chamber music concert in Częstochowa, in which the noted cantor [Abram-Ber] Birenbaum also took part. The receipts from this concert were donated to a workers' bakery.

After one [more] year of study in [St.] Petersburg, he moved to Warsaw where, for two years, he played with the Philharmonic as a violinist under the direction of [Grzegorz] Fitelberg and [Zdzisław] Birenbaum, whilst continuing to perfect himself at Borcewicz's Conservatory and privately with the renowned violinist, Izydor Lotto.

In 1911-12, he served as violin teacher at the music seminary in Połtawa.

Following the outbreak of the First World War, he [again] gave several concerts with Wanda Najfeld-Kopecka in Częstochowa. The proceeds were donated to various charitable goals.

¹ [TN: Both were born in Częstochowa.]

² [TN: Wife of Jakub-Chemia Staszewski; married 1909 in Pajęczno.]

³ [TN: Unless this a misprint, the father must have died before his son's birth because Jewish tradition prohibits giving a new-born the name of a living close relative.]

⁴ [TN: In plural form in the original.]



Edmund Sigman directs the Philharmonic Orchestra in Tel-Aviv

In 1915, he moved to America with his father and brother. At first, he settled in Chicago as a pedagogue, and at the same time organised a cooperative symphonic orchestra, with which he gave a series of concerts.

In 1926, he moved to Philadelphia, gave lessons at the Settlement Music School, always appeared as a soloist on the radio, and also organised a chamber orchestra with which he appeared at the Labour Institute.

In 1930, he travelled to Paris and also appeared as a guest director of the Warsaw Philharmonic on the radio and with the Łódź Philharmonic.

In 1934, he directed a Chopin concert in Karlsbad. Later, he appeared in a series of concerts in Leningrad, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem.

In 1938, he returned to America and settled in New York, where he appeared as a guest conductor of the Federal Symphonic Orchestra.

Lately, he gives private lessons and composes pieces which are frequently played on the radio.

Staszewski, Josef



Son of Mojsze and Laja; born in Piotrków. Died at the age of sixty in Działoszyn, in 1932.

Sigman, Tamara (Chicago)



Daughter of Robert [Szolom-Rubin] and Jadwiga (Jetta) [née Markowicz⁵] Switgal; born on 3rd October 1906 in Łódź. Came to America in 1937. She is a member of all the charitable and communal institutions in Częstochowa and of the American ORT.

Silver [Zilber], Herszl



Known by the name "Herszl Nomerower⁶"; father of Szaja-Lajzer Silver and grandfather of Jakow-Ber Silver. Died at the age of eighty-eight.

Silver [née Szer], Ruchla



Mother of Szaja-Lajzer and grandmother of Jakow[-Ber] Silver. Died at the age of ninety.

Silver [Zilber], Szaja-Lajzer



Son of Herszl and Ruchla; born in Dźwińsk [Daugavpils, Latvia] in December 1859. As a child aged five, he came to Częstochowa. In 1880, he married Chana Birman from Nowo Radomsko.

He came to America for the first time in 1889 and was here for a year and a half – and for a second time in 1906, and has remained to this day.

He is a member of the B'nei Yisroel [Sons of Israel] Society [?], the Zaloshiner Chevra Anshei Bnei Achim and the Czenstochover Relief, and also one of the founders and the trustee of the Czenstochover Aid Society.

⁵ [TN: Daughter of Mordka Markowicz; born in Częstochowa in 1884.]

⁶ [TN: According to archival records, when Herszlik Zilber married Ruchla Szer in Częstochowa in 1860, he was living in Wieluń and she in Kłobuck. Their son Szaja-Lajzer, who is mentioned subsequently and raised a family in Częstochowa, appears as having been born in 1859 in Dyneburg (Daugavpils, Latvia). We have not been able to establish from which locality the nickname "Nomerower" is derived.]

Silver [née Birman], Chana



Wife of Szaja-Lajzer and mother of Jakow-Ber, Cyrla, Rela, Sura-Szprynca, Lajbisz and Taube'.

Silver, Jakow-Ber



Born in 1882. His father, Szaja-Lajzer, was a cap-maker. His mother Chana (née Birman) comes from a little village near Radomsko. Jakow-Ber is the eldest son of a family with eight children - two boys and six girls.

The story of his lame leg has influenced his life in a great measure. It happened on the Ninth of Av⁸, when the older Jews go to the tombs of their ancestors and the young ones wreak havoc on the cemetery⁹. The cemetery custodian locked the gates before this young crowd. But the little "mazik" [Heb., mischievous fellow/devil] Jakow-Ber, in a bid to show the gang that they could work their way around this, leapt over the fence – thus breaking his knee. He lay in hospital and could attend neither *cheder* nor school. His father taught him a little *Ivri* at home. He was given the nickname "Der Lamer" [The Lame] *Staluch*, because, in Częstochowa, there was a Gentile whom people called "Der Lamer Stelmach"¹⁰.

Starting from childhood until 1901, he worked in Częstochowa's little factories, where his "earnings" were twenty kopeks per week. They lived in Bajer's building, which was called "Bajer's Hotel", on ul. Nadrzeczna.

In those days, he already organised a troupe of Purim performers, which was the first children's appearance of Yiddish theatre in Częstochowa.

He went off to London, became a presser and returned to Częstochowa in 1904. Here, he opened a "chaynaya" [tearoom] in Jankel *Kohlenhändler's* [Coal-Dealer's¹¹] building (the entrance was through the backstreet), which became the Bundist organisation's headquarters. He became the scapegoat for everything that happened at the time. When the SS [Party] set the house of Icyk "Shlize" [The Slippery] on fire – Jakow-Ber was blamed for it; if a bomb was thrown somewhere – the police looked for Jakow-Ber. But between one arrest and another, Jakow-Ber did his thing – organising, agitating and making worlds turn round.

As it turns out, the Bund was too small for Jakow-Ber's temperament. When he found out about the anarchist group led by Jankel *Kamaszn-Macher* [Gaiter-Maker], he rushed over to Warsaw to meet with him. However, Jankel *Kamaszn-Macher* was already arrested for a bombing attempt. Under the surveillance of spies, who followed Jakow-Ber to Częstochowa, he was arrested immediately afterwards on charges of anarchist activity in connection with the bombing attempt. He sat for one year in prison, from which he fled to Berlin. After a while, he returned, joined a group of wandering actors, later a professional troupe and performed theatre in the Częstochowa region.

During a performance of *Uriel Acosta* in Radomsko, the manager of the theatre began to wonder why there were so many "uninvited guests" at the theatre. Jakow-Ber, who was playing the leading role, wanted to do a "ve'yivrach"¹² after the first act - but all the exits were besieged by spies and gendarmes. He was arrested in the middle of a scene, and Dawid Zytman took over his role. The show did not

stop. A large parade of Nowo Radomsker Jews accompanied Jakow-Ber. He sat for six months in prison and was [then] sentenced only for spreading anarchist literature to one year in prison - the time he had already sat for up to the trial [?]. He later continued acting in the theatre until, in 1909, he went away to London and, after three months, came to New York.

Here, he joined the *Częstochower* Arbeiter-Ring Branch 261. While working all the time in the workshop, he participated in various amateur and professional theatre groups, until he assumed the leadership of the *Czenstochover Relief* in New York. He remained chairman of the Relief for several years.

Since 1930, he has been a member of the *Częstochower* Branch 11 of the Jewish People's [Fraternal] Order (International Workers Order). He was one of the founders and most active members of the *Częstochower* Patronage, Chairman of the executive of the United *Czenstochover Relief* and Chairman of the committee and its representative in the editorial board of the book *Czenstochover Yidn*.

Slawina, Katie (Detroit)

Daughter of Judl and Gitla; born in Słomniki (Poland) on 25th May 1887. Came from Argentina to America in 1912. She is a member of the Western Ladies Aid Society in Detroit.

Slowik, Ida

Born in 1884 and died on 13th September 1933.



⁷ [TN: Whilst the latter does not appear in the Częstochowa records, another son does - Icek, b. 19th June 1903.]

⁸ [TN: Day of fasting and mourning for the destruction of both Jerusalem Temples.]

⁹ [TN: This is not a tradition, but the statement of a fact. As the children did not have *cheder* on that day and they accompanied their parents to the cemetery, this obviously resulted in their "wreaking havoc" there while their parents were engaged in prayer and lamentations.]

¹⁰ [TN: Yid., Pol. "cartwright" (from the Ger. "Stellmacher"); "Staluch" was apparently a mutated form of "stelmach."]

¹¹ [TN: His surname was Dawidowicz, as mentioned above in the article "From My Life" (p. 379).]

¹² [TN: Biblical Heb., lit. "and he fled"; this word appears several times in Scripture, and the expression "to do a ve'yivrach", both in Yiddish and modern Hebrew, is akin to the English "make a run for it".]

Slowik, Morris

Born in 1882 and died on 5th August 1945. In memoriam.

Their children:

Tyla Rubin
Dora Łopaty [Łopata?]
Maks Slowik
Aba Slowik
Anna Slowik

Selcer, Karl

Son of Ajzyk and Chana; born in Częstochowa on 10th April 1894. Came to America on 4th October 1912. He is a member of the Zionist organisation, B'nai Brith and the Jewish National Workers Alliance. He lives in Houston, Texas. His two sons, Irving and Arthur, served in the American army.

Słowik, H.



Majer Goldberg

Daughter of Majer Goldberg (Majer "Zabiok" [?]), who was well-known in Częstochowa and was everyone's friend.

During the First World War, he took a great part in aiding the sick and feeding the poor.

His children in America and also in Canada always mention his name with great reverential awe.

Senzer (Cincinatus), Nuchim



Son of Herszl and Chaja-Sura; born in Krzepice (Poland) in December 1867.

He married Dwojra-Estera Kremski. Arrived in America on 10th June 1914. He was active in the Erste Zaloshiner Chevra Anshei Bnei Achim in New York and was also treasurer of the loans fund there.

Nuchim Senzer died on 5th February 1944 and was interred in the cemetery of the Zaloshiner Chevra Anshei Bnei Achim. He left behind eight children (three daughters and five sons), fifteen grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

The sons are Abram-Jakow and his wife Sadye [Szprynca], Irving [Isser], Harry [Aron] and his wife Fela [Fajga], Sidney [Zysser] and his wife Rose, and Sol and his wife Rose.

The daughters are Lili and her husband Rubin Becker, Ida [Aida] and her husband Louis Meislin (they live in New York), and Minnie and her husband Paske [sic Chaskel] Dauman (they live in France).

Senzer (Cincinatus), Dwojra-Estera



Mordka and Pessa Kremski

Daughter of Mordka and Pessa Kremski [née Fajertag]; born in 1872 in Częstochowa. The wife of Nuchim Senzer. Came to America on 12th October 1920. She died on 20th March 1945 in New York. She was interred in the cemetery of the Zaloshiner Chevra Anshei Bnei Achim.

Senzer (Cincinatus), Abram J.



Son of Nuchim and Dwojra-Estera; born in Częstochowa on 30th January 1894. In his youth, in the old home, as a commercial employee, he showed his

activity in the founding of the SS organisation's illegal commercial employees' union. He came to America on 7th July 1913.

He occupies a respected position in New York's Jewish communal life. He has been one of the most active members of the Erste Zaloshiner Chevra Anshei Bnei Achim over the past twenty-five years. During this time, he has held the offices of President, Vice-President and Finance Secretary. He is currently Chairman of their cemetery [plot].

Following the First World War, for a decade, he was the President of the Zaloshiner Relief Committee in New York. For a long-time, he was a member of the Częstochower Arbeiter-Ring Branch 261 and one of the founders of the Arbeiter-Ring Branch 324, as well as of the Czenstochover Aid Society in New York.

He was also one of the founders and first President of the United Czenstochover Relief Committee in New York. He has now been the President of the United Czenstochover Relief Committee for nine years.

He is an active member of the *Czenstochover Yidn* Book Committee.

Thanks to his activity, for the last ten years, he has been a representative on the administrative board of the American Federation for Polish Jews.

For the last six years, [he has served] on the administrative board of the Joint Distribution Committee; for the last eight years in that of the ORT association; executive member of the Manhattan branch of the American Jewish Congress.

He has been an executive committee member of the Jewish World Congress, and in the administrative committee of the Jewish Council of the Russian War Relief in New York from its first founding on.

He was married on 5th August 1917 in New York with Sadye [Szprynca] Jakubowicz (Jacobs).

They have three children: the son Israel [Irving], who served in the American army, and the daughters Chaja-Sura [Helen] and Malka [Minerva].



The Kremski family

Sitting (R-L): A.J. Senzer (President of the Relief)

[TN: This caption appears incomplete. As the Kremski family were Abram-Jakow Senzer's grandparents, we may assume that he is the first child sitting from r. to l.]

Senzer (Cincinatus), Sadye

Daughter of Izrael and Perla Jakubowicz [née Pelc] (Jacobs); born in Częstochowa on 28th March 1896. Came to America on 20th December 1912. She is the wife of Abram-Jakow Senzer.

Sadye Senzer is one of the most active women in New York's Jewish communal life. She is one of the founders of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Erste Zaloshiner Chevra Anshei Bnei Achim, where she was chairlady and vice-president for a long time, and is currently an executive member.

She is one of the founders of the Czenstochover Aid Society and the Czenstochover Ladies Auxiliary, where she was chairlady and is now long-standing secretary; one of the most active members of David Maye's [?] *Malbish Arumim* [clothing for the poor] - former vice-president and current executive member, and one of the founders of the Star Charity Sisters - where she was president and is now treasurer and executive member.

She is active in the *Czenstochover Yidn* Book Committee.

Senzer, Irving (Cincinatus, Isser)



Son of Nuchim and Dwojra; born on 17th January 1901 in Częstochowa. He married Gitla Senzer [née Turkewicz]. Came from Germany to America on 23rd January 1923. He is a member of the Zaloshiner Chevra Anshei Bnei Achim and of the *Częstochower* Branch 11 of the Jewish People's Fraternal Order in New York.

Senzer, Gussie (Cincinatus, Gitla)

Daughter of Abram [Turkewicz] and [Sura-]Itta [née Pik]; born on 27th March 1901 in Częstochowa. Arrived in America in June 1913. She was the wife

of Irving Senzer. She was a member of the Zaloshiner Ladies Auxiliary and of

the Jewish People's Fraternal Order. Gitla Senzer died on 2nd June 1943 in New York.

Skowronek, Herszl [Gersz-Zajwel]



Died in Częstochowa in 1918 at the age of fifty-five.

Skowronek, Rajzla



Daughter of Berl and Chana Mass; died in New York at the age of sixty-one in April 1931.

Skowronek, Raphael

Son of Herszl and Rajzla; died on 12th November 1936 in New York at the age of forty-four.

Skowronek, Isidore [Chaim-Icek]



Son of Herszl and Rajzla; died on 2nd March 1943 in New York at the age of forty-eight.

Skovron (Skowronek), Chil

Son of Herszl and Rajzla; born on 10th June 1898 in Kłobuck. Came to America on 23rd December 1921. Married Ester Cymerman. He is a member of the Czenstochauer Young Men's Society in New York.

Skovron (Skowronek), Alex [Eliasz-Abram]

Son of Herszl and Rajzla; born on 23rd December 1899 in Kłobuck. Came to America on 5th August 1920. He married Gittel [Gertrude] Drillings. He is a member of the Czenstochauer Young Men's Society in New York.

Skovron (Skowronek), Jack [Jakow-Berek]

Son of Herszl and Rajzla; born in Kłobuck in 1902. He married Laja [Lillian] Klajn. Came to America on 10th December 1920. His son Harry served in the American army.

Litman, Joe (Josl)



Son of Majer-Jojne and Bajla; born in Częstochowa on 18th April 1898. Came to America in 1912. He was married in London (England) in 1925. He is the president of the Łódźer organisation in London.

Nidzinski, Josef

Son of Abram and Sura; father of Szymon. Born in Radoszyce (Poland). Died at the age of ninety-two in Przedbórz (Poland) in 1915.
