

GINSBERG Karol (1896-), a chemical mechanical engineer. He was born on 15th May 1896 in Częstochowa, the son of → Herman and Leonia Laja née Ginsberg.

After graduating from the Staszica Real School in Warsaw, he studied in the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering of the Zurich University of Technology. In 1918, he gained the title of Mechanical Engineer. During his school days, he was a member of the National Youth Organisation (OMN) which, in 1909, separated from the “Zarzew” OMN. At university, he was treasurer of the Polish Self-Help Committee which was headed by Gabriel Narutowicz¹. In 1919-21, he served as a volunteer in the Polish Army (in the air force).

In 1921, he began working at the glue and casein factory of the “Strem” Chemical Works Company in Łódź-Chojny. In 1922, he worked at the company’s head office in Warsaw (at ul. Warecka 9), which was headed by Józef Landau (1877-1944). It specialised in the production of bone-adhesive and superphosphates. In 1924, he became a director and member of the board of “Strem”. From 1924, he was also a director of the “Kość” company in Warsaw.

From 1926, he was a board member of the “Kabel” Industrial Company and the “Grodzisk” Chemical Plant in Grodzisk Mazowiecki (later known as “Polfa”). In 1932, he became a board member of the “Warta” Jute Weaving Company in Częstochowa. (His father, Herman Ginsberg, was the company’s chairman.) He served as honorary president of the “Warta” Factory Cultural-Educational Society. He was active in the Chemical Industry Union. He was vice-president of the exhibition section during the General National Exhibition held in Poznań in 1929. He worked together with the chemical department of the Museum of Industry and Technology in Warsaw. Until the outbreak of war in 1939, he lived in Warsaw, working with the “Strem” company at ul. Mazowiecka 7.

He was awarded the Golden Cross of Merit and a commemorative medal for the 1918-1921 war.

Łoza, *Czy wiesz kto to jest?*, vol. II, p. 84. – “Monitor Polski” 1931, No. 77, p. 1.

Andrzej Kuśnierczyk

¹ [TN: Gabriel Narutowicz was the first President of the Republic of Poland after the country regained its independence at the end of World War I.]