

KAMIŃSKI Mordechaj Markus (1897–), worker and Zionist activist. Born 6th September 1897 in Częstochowa, the son of Majer Kałma and Chaja Sura née Frydman, the brother of → Juliusz Juda. His family owned a shop on ul. in Częstochowa.

Kamiński attended a cheder on ul. Warszawska. Later, he worked in the banking house of → Henryk Zorski. He belonged to the Zionist Socialist Party. During World War I, together with → Rafał Federman and other members of the Association of Commercial Workers, he helped to organise a retailers strike in Częstochowa.

In 1916-1918, he was a railway worker. After he was dismissed from that job, he left for Düsseldorf, where he met many friends from Częstochowa who, during the war, were working in German mines and factories. He was active in the union encompassing Polish Jews. He was also active in the Zionist movement. He was a board member of the local organisation and took part in national congresses and conferences. He also participated in the life of the Düsseldorf Jewish community, serving as a member of the Jewish Community Council. In 1924, he was a co-founder of the “Makabi” Gymnastics-Sports Association in Düsseldorf.

In 1936, for a short time, he left for the Land of Israel. In Tel Aviv, he met with his family – his brother Daniel and his wife who, a year earlier, had left Düsseldorf.

After returning to Germany, on 28th October 1938, together with 600 Jews, he was arrested by the German police. He was put onto a train and forced to cross the Polish border in Zbąszyń. There, Kamiński was helped by his cousin Dawid Jelin and, on that same night, he left for Łódź – to his brother, Dr. Juda Kamiński. From Łódź, he went to Warsaw, where he contacted Senator Professor Schorr and then participated in rescue activities for those who had been driven out of Germany.

He left for the United States and, on 10th November 1939, arrived in New York. He settled in Detroit.

Czenstochower Yidn, pp. LXXXIII, LXXXIV.

Wiesław Paszkowski