

Dr Benjamin Orenstein

Lajbke Jakubowicz **President of the Czenstochover Landsmanshaft of Montreal**

Lajbke Jakubowicz, who holds the office of President of the Czenstochover Landsmanshaft of Montreal, is one of the unique figures amongst the remnant of Częstochowa. Normally, the President represents the Society and occupies the foremost position at all functions. With Lajbke Jakubowicz, it is exactly the opposite.

At all the functions and in day-to-day activities, he performs the types of jobs in which he always engages. He is the first to arrive and the last to leave. For instance, one of the Society's main sources of income is the annual money shower, held by the Ladies Auxiliary. Lajbke Jakubowicz is the one who procures the largest number of items for the money shower bazaar and gathers everything in one place, puts them down in lists, sets the prices, writes labels and hangs them up. At the money shower, he hangs up and sets out all the items and, along with his assistants, he stands selling all evening. He is the champion of selling the items.

After the evening is over, he hands over the money to the Treasurer and does not leave until all the sums have been calculated - the expenses, what the proceeds were and how much the net profit was from the function. His work for the money shower bazaar does not end with that. Together with the Executive, he allocates some of the leftover items to be shipped to certain *landsleit* in Israel, for whom they may be of good use. Every day, he takes other items with him to the shop to be sold and has great success in this field – he brings money from the objects sold to every Executive meeting.

Invariably, it is his custom to take the letters, which arrive from *landsleit* overseas, requesting clothes parcels and to send off the packages with the items. He first gives his own personal clothing and that of his daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren. He obtains additional items from other *landsleit*. He packs the items himself, personally takes the parcels to the post office and ships them. Obviously, the Executive receives thank-you letters for the items sent - but none of the recipients know that the exclusive thanks go to Lajbke Jakubowicz, the President of the Society.

Lajbke Jakubowicz is one of the treasurers at the annual balls and he takes care that everything should proceed in the best [possible] order.

At the annual memorial services, Lajbke Jakubowicz is the one who arrives two hours early to participate in decorating the hall with fitting texts and pictures. At every memorial service there is a small exhibition of photos of the Nazi murders and also on the activities of the *Częstochower landsmannschaften* in different countries, obviously including those of Montreal.

Lajbke Jakubowicz is the one who supports the Society generously and always serves as the example in this area. The case is the same with the raffle booklets. Whether he sells the booklets or not is unknown - but what is a fact is that he pays for them. He is imbued through

with the spirit of the Society's activities and devotes an immeasurable amount of time and work. He is also the author of the Society's constitution, which was unanimously accepted by the Executive.

Both his activities and being the writer of the constitution, which reflects the character of the Society, are the best examples [to show] that Lajbke Jakubowicz is the one who is most apt and suited to hold the prominent office of President of the Czenstochover Landsmanshaft of Montreal.

Congratulations

We heartily congratulate the Czenstochover Landsmanshaft of Montreal and the Book Committee upon the publication of this book.

This book is a pride for all the *landsleit* throughout the globe.

May your hands be strengthened in your important activities.

Mr & Mrs David Forbert [sic Forberg], Toronto

Mr & Mrs Mojsze Altman, Toronto
