

Jechaskiel Konarski



Jechaskiel was born in Częstochowa, where he lived at ul. Senatorska 16.

A printer by trade, he contributed to the *Częstochower Cajtung* for many years. He was one of the founders of the Printers' Union, which had its premises at ul. Piłsudskiego 17.

During the period of the Nazi occupation, he lived through all the tribulations and pain in the "Big Ghetto" and "Small Ghetto" and was finally barracked in HASAG-Pelcery. In the "Big Ghetto", Jechaskiel Konarski was a member of the *Arbeiterrat* [Workers Council] and took part in a whole series of clandestine meetings.

He was liberated from HASAG-Pelcery on the night from 16th to 17th January 1945.

At first, he was in Częstochowa, but could not adapt to the new reality. [Then,] Polish generational, antisemitic hatred towards Jews exploded in the form of a pogrom against the remnant of surviving Jews in Kielce. A day after the Kielce pogrom, Jechaskiel Konarski leaves Poland and sets out on a wanderer's path to the *Surviving Remnant* in Germany. He arrives first in Berlin, in the Soviet Zone, and then in the American Zone, until he arrives in Munich, where, once more, he takes to his profession and becomes a contributor to *Unser Weg* [Our Way], as well as to the Hebrew weekly paper *Nitzotz* [Spark].

In 1946, Jechaskiel Konarski travelled to Antwerp, Belgium, where he met his sole surviving brother, Kopl Konarski. In Antwerp, Jechaskiel Konarski married the lady from Częstochowa, Miriam Klajner, and, in November 1947, they arrived in Montreal, Canada.

Immediately, the Konarski couple made in contact with the Czenstochover Landsmanschaft, and a meeting of the old-established [residents] and the newcomers was held at their house on Avenue de l'Esplanade.

The Konarski couple are active in the Society. Jechaskiel Konarski is a member of the Executive and holds the office of Minutes Secretary, while Miriam Konarski is active in the Ladies Auxiliary.
