

Reb Abram Wajskop z"l



Reb Abram Wajskop z"l belonged amongst the unique characters of the communal life in Montreal. There was almost no institution with which he was not connected and where he did not occupy a respected position.

He served multiple times as President and Vice-President of the Russian-Polish Hebrew Sick Benefit Society. He was one of the founders of the Federation of Polish Jews, on a national scale, and a founder of the Kol Nidrei Appeal. He was council member in the Va'ad Ha'Ir¹, President of the United Hebrew Cemeteries of Montreal, member of Board of Directors of the Adath Jeshurun-

Hadrath Kodesh Synagogue, a member of Board of Directors of the United Organisations [body] for the Histadrut, a member of various committees of the Russian-Polish Society, such as the Israel Bonds, and [of] an entire array of communal and cultural institutions. He also represented the [Czenstochover] Society in the Canadian Jewish Congress. He never missed a single conference, be it of the Canadian Congress, the Va'ad Ha'Ir, the Bond Drive, the United Organisations of the Histadrut and such.

His shop, on Main Street, was a centre and rendezvous point for communal activities. There was not a single evening on which he did not have several meetings. During the last few years of his life, he gave up his private business altogether and dedicated himself solely to communal work.

In 1945, the late Reb Abram Wajskop was one of the founders of the Czenstochover and Vicinity Aid Society of Montreal. This is shown in a report in the book *Czenstochover Yidn*, which was published by the United Czenstochover Relief Committee and Ladies Auxiliary of New York in 1947. On pp. 353-354 of that book, there is a report, illustrated with a collective photograph of the first administration, in which the late Reb Abram Wajskop is included.

Reb Abram Wajskop z"l was a man of good qualities, always prepared to do a favour, be it in joy or in grief. Let us, here, mention the following instance: when the late Szlojme Dilewski suddenly departed to eternity, and no one in his family or the Executive of the *Landmannschaft* knew regarding the procedure of the cemetery in Montreal, it was none other than Reb Abram Wajskop z"l who tended to the matter.

The late Reb Abram Wajskop contributed extensively to the communal Jewish life in Montreal.

Honoured be his memory.

¹ [TN: Heb. name of the Jewish Community Council of Montreal.]