## Dorka (née Gabel) Lerner

Dorka was born to Rafał and Frajdla (née Gabel) in Częstochowa, where she lived at I Aleja 100. After she completed the school on ul. Wilsona, the Second World War broke out.

She was in the "Big Ghetto", the "Small Ghetto" and, afterwards, was barracked, along with her sisters Sala and Blima, in HASAG.

Dorka Lerner's parents and two brothers were deported, by the Nazi murderers, from the "Big Ghetto" to Treblinka, where they perished in sanctification of the Name [of God] and the People [of Israel].



She was liberated on 16<sup>th</sup> January 1945 in Częstochowa.

She married Simon Lerner and they have a charming little daughter, Frances. Dorka Lerner is active in the Ladies Auxiliary and takes part in all the activities in benefit of the Society.

## **Simon Lerner**



He was born in 1914 in Częstochowa to Szlojme and Sura (née Berkensztadt). He studied at Josl Gryn's *cheder* and, later, at the general Polish school on ul. Krakowska. Aged fifteen, he began working for his father.

At twenty, he served in the Polish army with the rank of corporal. He took part in the Polish-Nazi War. Following great battles, he was taken into Nazi captivity, where he spent six months and then returned to Częstochowa.

Until the resettlement from the "Big Ghetto", he employed by a [German] trustee. Following the liquidation of the "Big Ghetto", together with his father Szlojme and brother Daniel, he was barracked in HASAG-Pelcery, where all three worked under the foreman who was known as "Achashverosh".

He is a member of the Executive and takes part in all the Society's activities.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> [TN: Hebrew name of the biblical king Ahasuerus; according to Dr Benjamin Orenstein in his book "Churban Czenstochow", p. 269, this individual, whose real name was Steinputzer, was given this nickname due to the fact that he was not overly bright, just as King Ahasuerus did not seem to have much of a mind of his own, and was easily swayed by what others told him – first Haman and then his wife Esther.]