

**ROZENBERG** (ROSENBERG) Jakub Bendet (1887–1942), administrator, industrialist, publisher, member of the Jewish Community Council, city councillor, union and social activist. He was born on 30<sup>th</sup> September 1887 in Terespol, the son of Nuchem and Sura Maria née Kon.

Rozenberg did not complete his secondary education. He came to Częstochowa in 1912. He worked as a bookkeeper at the “Wulkan” Iron and Enamel Factory in Częstochowa. He was co-owner and then owner of the “Metalurgia” Częstochowa Casting and Enamel Factory at ul. Krótka 16. The factory produced sanitary and sewage equipment, cookers and stoves, as well as parts for construction and agricultural machinery.

Together with → Elkana Chrobołowski, Hersz Fajwlowicz and → Mosze Cieszyński, in 1912-1913, he published the first Jewish periodical in Częstochowa – the “Czenstochower Reklamenblatt”. It mainly advertised the products of local shops commercial businesses, and raised political, cultural and sports issues. At the beginning of 1914, together with → Moszek Bocian, he published the periodical “Czenstochower Reklamenblatt”. However, he soon left that enterprise.

From November 1914, he was active in the general committee of the Jewish section of Emergency Aid. During World War I, he was one of the leaders of the Bund in Częstochowa. He was involved in cultural and union activities. In 1917, he co-founded and, later, became president of the Bronisław Grosser Workers’ Club (at II Aleja 40). In 1919, representing the Bund Electoral Committee, he stood for the Legislative *Sejm*, but without success.

At the beginning of the 1920s, he headed the Wood Industry Union and the Paper Industry Workers Trade Union. In 1932, he was elected as president of the Jewish Community Council. He served on the board of the Council until the end of the 1930s.

In 1934, he became a city councillor representing the General Jewish Electoral Committee. On the City Council, from June 1936, he served on the committee aimed at streamlining the administration. In 1939, he again stood for election to the City Council, representing the United Jewish Electoral Bloc – he became a deputy councillor.

He belonged to the Association of Commercial and Industrial Workers of Częstochowa. At his initiative, in 1918, the association established a teahouse at ul. Piękna (Kilińskiego) 6. Rozenberg was also active in the city’s financial

institutions. In 1927, he became a deputy member of the board of the Industrialists and Merchants Bank and, in 1934, he served on the board, as Secretary, of the Interest-Free Loan Fund for Jews in Częstochowa.

He was involved in activities benefitting Jewish children and youth. He belonged to the Welfare Committee of Dr Filip Axer's Co-educational Gimnazjum. He established his own garden, at ul. Jasnogórska 20, and made it available for the children's camps organised by the Society for the Protection of the Health of the Jewish Population TOZ.

He was involved in sightseeing, sports and culture. In 1929, he a co-organiser and, later, a board member (2<sup>nd</sup> vice-president) of the Jewish Sightseeing Society. He also belonged, as Secretary, to the Jewish Gymnastics-Sports Association and the "Lira" Musical and Literary Society. In the 1930s, he was an active member of the Polish Red Cross.

In 1935, he lived at II Aleja 29.

During the German occupation, in 1941, he was forced to move into the local ghetto. He was murdered by the Germans in 1942. He is remembered by a symbolic grave in the Częstochowa Jewish Cemetery (grave No. 34 III).

His wife was Gala née Wajnberg (1887 Kozienice-), the daughter of Majer and Pessa née Kiestenberg. Their daughter was Pessa (23<sup>rd</sup> October 1913 Częstochowa-).

Paszkowski, *Cmentarz żydowski*, vol. I, p. 194 (here is an error, stating his wife was Ita nee Frank). – Orenstein, *Churban Czenstochow*, p. 29; *Czenstochower Jidn*, p. 131; Grzędzielski, *Stowarzyszenia i związki*, p. 41; Mizgalska-Osowiecka, *Żydzi w samorządzie*, p. 193 (nota biograficzna); Mizgalski, *Tożsamość polityczna*, p. 186, 259; Pawlina-Meducka, *Kultura Żydów*, pp. 103, 104; Sętowski, *Żydowskie Towarzystwo Krajoznawcze*, p. 59; Szwed, *Żydzi w samorządzie*, p. 160 (here Benedykt Jakub Rozenberg), 166 (tu: Bendet-Rozenberg). – "Express Częstochowski" 1929, No. 16, p. 3, No. 160, p. 3; "Goniec Częstochowski" 1914, No. 311, p. 2, 1916, No. 199, p. 3, 1920, No. 204, p. 3; "Nowy Express Częstochowski" 1927, No. 70, p. 4; "Ostatnie Wiadomości Częstochowskie" 1934, No. 36, p. 6, No. 69, p. 6; "Słowo Częstochowskie" 1934, No. 241, p. 5. – *Handlowiec. Kalendarz 1914*, p. 299; *PCK. Sprawozdanie 1933*, p. 33. – APCz, MagCz 5573. – Materials (extracts from civil registries) in the ODDC collections.

**Juliusz Sętowski**