

SIEMIATYCKI Ido Izaak (1892-1942), press publisher, journalist, editor. He was born on 28th July 1892 in Łódź.

He received a secular education, later graduating from the journalism school in Wrocław. He worked as an accountant at the Landau and Bergman factory in Częstochowa. Later (from circa 1914), he ran a correspondent's office (at II Aleja 35, then at I Aleja 16 and, from 1919, at ul. Ogrodowa 2).

From 1925, he was a publisher and editor of Polish-language, Jewish press in Częstochowa. From that same year, he managed the "Express Częstochowski" and, in 1926-1928, he published the "Nowy Express Częstochowski" (the editorial office being located at II Aleja 23). In 1927-1928, he was publisher of the "Prąd" monthly. He published the "Echo Poranne", in 1932-1936 the "Ostatnie Wiadomości Częstochowskie" and "Nasz Głos" (a magazine published briefly for several months in 1934).

Siemiatycki endeavoured to establish contact with a wide circle of readers. He organised competitions, printed puzzles and tasks. He encouraged and published the writings of young, adolescent authors. During the period of intensified, antisemitic attitudes, in 1933, he published the "Polacy i Żydzi" weekly. It was devoted to the harmonious co-existence of Poles and Jews and to the fight against racial hatred. The magazine had many Polish and Jewish readers, its editor conducting polemics with "Gazeta Narodowa" ["National Newspaper"], which was published in Częstochowa.

The Częstochowa *Starost* described Siemiatycki's newspapers thus, "These magazines are of a sensational nature, calculated only for profit. They die as soon as they are created."

Siemiatycki was a chess player. One of the best amongst the Jewish intelligentsia, who gathered at the chess club (on al. Wolności, later at I Aleja 14).

From the beginning of the German occupation Siemiatycki, who was fluent in German (both spoken and written), ran an office, at I Aleja 10 (?), providing German-language applications, being able to convince the Germans of the nonsense of accusations against Jews, leading to their release. He also managed the distribution of newspapers in the Częstochowa ghetto.

During the liquidation of the ghetto (September-October 1942), he was deported, together with his wife and son, to the extermination camp in Treblinka.

His wife, from Częstochowa, was Felicja Fajgla née Wolfowicz (1st September 1892 Częstochowa-1942 Treblinka), the daughter of Jonas, a trader and Chaja née Rozenblat. They had one son, Januari.

Czenstochower Jidn, p. 110; Mielczarek, *Dzieje prasy częstochowskiej*, pp. 62, 93–94, 111; Orenstein, *Churban Czenstochow*, pp. 29, 30, 44, 379, 380; Pawlina-Meducka, *Kultura Żydów*, pp. 107, 117, 187. – “Częstochower Cajtung” 1934, No. 51, p. 4; *Goniec Częstochowski* 1914, No. 311, p. 2, 1915, No. 312, p. 2, 1919, No. 71, p. 4.

Wiesław Paszkowski