

**SOJKA** Abram (1877-1942 or 1943), merchant, local government, education and communal activist. He was born on 20<sup>th</sup> August 1877 in Żarki near Częstochowa, the son of Lewek and Gitla née Lewi.

Before 1914, as the representative of many mines, Sojka ran a wholesale coal and coke [business] at II Aleja 32, where he lived. In the 1920s, he owned the A.L. Sojka Office Wholesale Sales of Coal and Coke, as well as a department store.

In 1917, in the elections to the City Council, he stood in District II and was elected as a deputy councillor. Soon thereafter, he was appointed as a councillor, replacing → Józef Markusfeld, who had taken the position of city juror. Sojka served on the Council's finance-budget committee.

In 1917, Sojka was one of the founders of the Jewish Gimnazjum in Częstochowa and, in 1921, of the Association of Częstochowa Secondary Schools. He was active charitably, belonging to the "Dobroczytność" Charitable Society for Jews (TDdŻ). As the "Express Częstochowski" wrote in 1928 (No. 263),

*"With his generous hand, he supported a number of local institutions. If this active, deliberate philanthropy was not available, there would be a gap in the budget of many communal institutions."*

In 1913, together with other members of the Jewish community, he contributed to the budget of the newly-created TDdŻ hospital. In 1936-1938, he also financially supported the construction of the Jewish Gimnazjum building. (In 1938, one of the school's rooms was named in his honour.) In 1920, during the war with the Bolsheviks, he donated large sums to the Committee to Aid the Polish Soldier. (The committee operated through the Częstochowa Jewish Community Council.)

In November 1928, he moved to Warsaw, being where his department store was located and where the Industry and Commerce Association found its new headquarters. In Warsaw, he lived on Aleja Ujazdowska, on the corner of ul. Piusa. Following the establishment of the ghetto, he lived on ul. Leszno. In 1942 or 1943, the Germans deported him to the extermination camp in Treblinka.

In 1898, in Łódź, he married Rachela née Strykowska (6<sup>th</sup> May 1875 Łódź - 1943 Warsaw). They had a daughter, Karolina Krajndla (14<sup>th</sup> May 1903 Myszków-), who married → Mieczysław Markus Lerner.

Paszkowski, *Cmentarz żydowski*, vol. I, p. 278 (re: son). – Paszkowski, *Budynek Żydowskiego Gimnazjum*, p. 167. – “Częstochower Cajtung” 1928, No. 46, p. 1; “Express Częstochowski” 1928, No. 263, p. 3, 1929, No. 20, p. 4; “Goniec Częstochowski” 1917, No. 150, p. 2, 1920, No. 204, p. 3. – *Handlowiec. Kalendarz 1914*, p. 233, p. 7 (ogłoszenia); *Kalendarz Handlowo-Przemysłowy 1927*; *Spis abonentów sieci telefonicznej 1923*, p. 135; *Sprawozdanie Towarzystwa Dobroczynności dla Żydów 1913*, p. 21. – APCz, MagCz 4998, k. 2, 502, 5011, k. 6, 9; JW 1696664 and 1951218. – Materials from (extracts from civil registries) in ODDC collections ODDC.

**Juliusz Sętowski, Wiesław Paszkowski**