

## The Book Committee

### Reb Icyk Menachem [Mendel] Epsztajn *hy''d*

He was born in Wolbrom to Leibisz Józef and Sura Ettel (*née* Roterman). He married Frajdla Hinda, the daughter of Abram Zilbersztajn, a diamond dealer, and opened a wine-shop on Old Market Square 14.

Despite his many business preoccupations, he also devoted himself to public affairs. He contributed significant amounts of money to the establishment of the Jewish high school and was chosen as a member of the "Parents' Committee". Being a religious Jew, he acted extensively for the "*Hachnoses Orchim*" Society on ulica Garncarska and the *mikvah* for purification [of utensils] on ulica Garibaldiiego. On its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the institution presented him with an award, he having been its president for many years. He was also among the founders of "*Beis Lechem*" and its president, and was also active for "*Linas Ha'Tzedek*" and "*Dobroczytność*".

(On *Simchas Torah* (4<sup>th</sup> October 1942), the Nazis took him from the "*Hachnoses Orchim*" premises to a "selection" on ulica Nadrzeczna and, together with his wife, he was sent to Treblinka. Of their six children, Gustaw died of natural causes and three sons were killed: Jakób and Majer Dawid in Częstochowa, and Nachum at the Dora [-Mittelbau] Concentration Camp. The daughters remained alive: Ester Epsztajn, a lawyer, and Tamara.)