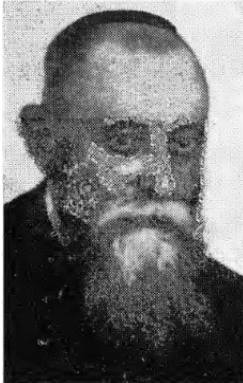


Reb Icchok Majer Krel *hy*"d



People used to call him "Reb Icche-Majer Krel". He was one of Częstochowa's worthies. He was involved in public affairs, in religious educational institutions and in charitable institutions. He was also Chairman of the *cheders* [?] and one of those active in the maintenance of the "*Machzikei Hadas*" school.

Reb Icche-Majer Krel - in whom honesty, wisdom and kindness were combined - was popular not only among the Jewish residents, but also amongst the Gentiles. As head of the municipal Credit Association ("*Towarzystwo Kredytowe*"), he succoured the needy and saw to it that their possessions not be auctioned off due to arrears in payments.

He was a Torah scholar, the pride of the *Gerer Chassidim*. He dedicated time to Torah study in public and also gave lessons in these institutions. Reb Icche-Majer Krel served as Vice-Chairman of "*Agudas Yisroel*" and always knew how to find solutions to its complicated problems. He represented "*Agudas Yisroel*" both in the *Kehilla* Council and on the City Council. He carried his duties out in a committed manner and was generally well-liked by the public.

He was also known for supporting the Land of Israel and, on behalf of "*Agudas Yisroel*", was a member of the delegation which travelled there in 1925. He was a central figure at "*Aguda's*" large conferences and participated in the delegation that welcomed the President of Poland, Mościcki, when he visited Częstochowa.

(On his way to the death-train, he took his shoes off and asked those marching with him to say "*Sh'ma Israel*" together with him, as they were marching to be martyred.)