

The Book Committee

The “*Malbish Arumim*”^{**} Society

In our city, there also existed an association named “*Malbish Arumim*”, which was founded by Abram Mojsze Szpaltyn and Zytnicki. It set itself the task of providing poor people, who were going around barefoot and naked, due to their tearful, financial situation.

Sadly, we are unable to provide more accurate and thorough details regarding its activity, apart from a very interesting fact, which has remained in the memory of the “*Mizrachi*” public figure and one of the most actively involved with “*Sefer Częstochowa*”, Mr M.Ch. Tiberg, to which he was an eye-witness, in the first years after the First World War.

Passing through the yard of the “*Szkoła Rzemieślnicza*” [Pol.; Crafts School], he saw two small wagons – one with little galoshes and the other with little shoes. The *kinderlech* of that school were receiving galoshes or little shoes absolutely for free.

The distribution was carried out by the founder of “*Malbish Arumim*”, A.M. Szpaltyn, and other activists, whose faces shone with joy, looking at the happy and cheerful little faces of the poor children.

We also know that, in December 1938, a general meeting was held, at which a report of its activity was delivered and the budget for 1939 was approved (which was, sadly, the last year of its activity, due to the great destruction of our city).

A new board of management was then elected, comprising of B. Bocian, Salomon, Szpaltyn, A. Gitler, D. Weksztajn, M.D. Lewkowicz, A. Neumark, J. Szternberg, G. Gliksman, J. Izraelowicz, Zilberfeld and M. Ozynski. The auditing committee elected comprised Zborowski and Sz. Frank.

As directors, the board of management chose B. Bocian – *Prezes*; A. Gitler and S. Szpaltyn – *Vice-Prezesi*; J. Izraelowicz – secretary; and Szternberg – secretary.

^{**} [Translator's note: Pronounced “*Malbish Arimim*” in Poland; Heb.; “he who clothes the naked”, an attribute of God. This phrase is taken from the “Morning Blessings” liturgy.]