

The Book Committee

Icek Rotholc ("*Forfer*")

Reb Icze Rotholc was only known by his nickname "*Forfer*". What the meaning of this nickname was, and what its origins were, no one knew. But the city's elders remember that he worked as a clerk at "*Dobroczytność*" and that he was Henryk Markusfeld's right-hand-man in his deeds of charity.

He was distinguished for his kindness and for his fierce desire to aid anyone in any possible way - and not just Jews.

In the midst of the First World War, when there was great distress in the city, Rotholc "*Forfer*" made the rounds with the "*Dobroczytność*" wagon, laden with bread to distribute among the poor, and he did not withhold his aid from poor Christians also, who turned to him. For this, he was presented with a letter of gratitude and esteem from the leader of the Catholic Church in Częstochowa.

In addition to his official work as employee of "*Dobroczytność*", he also donated his time and energy and worked, voluntarily, for the soup kitchen and the orphanage.

(Although Rotholc passed away immediately following the First World War, his name was blessed and praised until the annihilation of Jewish Częstochowa, and it is fitting that his name, too, be mentioned in the Memorial Book to our destroyed community!)