

Jakób Rozenberg



He was the last to hold the important position of President of the *Kehilla* until the outbreak of the Second World War. He was born in Łódź and came to Częstochowa from Warsaw - as a worker for the "Wulkan" ironworks, which employed many Jews.

He was affiliated to the "*Bund*" at the time and was an activist for this party. He then left the "*Bund*" and, together with a few other members of the intelligentsia - of Yiddishist¹ views, - he created a local party named "*Demokratische Partei*" ["Democratic Party"] and was able to broaden the scope of its activities, until it became a popular party. Thanks to Rozenberg's organisational skills, it was able to compete during the elections for the *Kehilla* with the other large parties and win a decisive victory, which brought him to the position of President of the Częstochowa Jewish community.

In Rozenberg's praise, it should be said that he did not achieve this prominent position without action. He invested the best of his strength and time to public matters and, although in the meantime he also did well in his private business, he did not skimp on his energy and time and dedicated them to the public good.

Rozenberg was popular and respected by all our townspeople, for he made a great impression with his gentle appearance - crowned with a fine head of white hair, his courtesy (even towards his rivals), his restraint and his kindness.

(He had the "luck" to die a natural death, just as the Nazis entered Częstochowa, and was thus spared from seeing its disgrace and destruction!)

¹ [TN: Yiddishism is a cultural and linguistic movement which began among Jews in Eastern Europe during the latter part of the 19th century.]