

WERDE Leopold Lipman (1838-1912), merchant, industrialist, charity activist and philanthropist. He was the son of Abram (1800-1896 Częstochowa), a merchant, baker and Ruchla née Land (circa. 1810-21st May 1860 Częstochowa).

Initially, Werde was a trader. At the end of the 1860s and start of 1870s, he was employed in a match factory. In 1884, together with partners, he built a needle factory in Częstochowa under the name "Leopold Werde & Co. Needle Factory". A partner in his factory was → Markus Henig.

As a well-known charity activist, he was a board member of the "Dobroczynność" Charitable Society for Jews (TDdŻ). He was also a board member (vice-president) of the Horticultural Farm for Jews, established in 1910 at the initiative of → Henryk Markusfeld, together with → Stanisław Grosman, who managed the Farm.

In 1909, thanks to funds which he collected, an orphanage was opened on ul. Fabryczna (Mielczarskiego). He belonged to the school committee which, in 1896, led to the opening of a *Talmud Torah* school. From 1897, together with H. Markusfeld, he headed the Welfare Council of the Crafts School at the *Talmud Torah* (ul. Garncarska 8/10). At his initiative, a committee was established for the construction of the TDdŻ Hospital - in 1902, Werde collected 1,500 rubles towards building the hospital. Together with his wife, in Ostatni Grosz (now a suburb of Częstochowa), he built the Mina Werde Home for the Aged and Orphans. He was an honorary member of the TDdŻ and honorary curator of Jewish orphanages. He was one of the organisers of the Popular Bakery.

He lived at ul. Fabryczna 6.

He died on 20th March 1912 in Częstochowa and was buried in the Jewish cemetery.

In 1886, he married Balbina Bajla née Likiernik (1843 Łódź - 24th November 1927 Częstochowa), a charity activist, chairwoman of the Mina Werde Home for the Aged and Orphans, an honorary member of the TDdŻ in Częstochowa. Together with her husband, and later alone, she financially supported the Aged Care Home and the TDdŻ Hospital.

They had a daughter, Mina Mindla (16th November 1867 Częstochowa – 30th March 1887 Częstochowa). In her memory, they built the Mina Werde Home for the Aged and Orphans.

Rędziński, *Szkolnictwo żydowskie*, p. 36; *Stulecie Częstochowskiej Fabryki Igieł*, pp. 10, 11. – “Express Częstochowski” 1928, No. 265, p. 3 (re: wife); “Goniec Częstochowski” 1912, No. 80, p. 3 (obituary), 1927, No. 271, p. 3 (re: wife); “Gazeta Częstochowska” 1909, No. 82, p. 3, No. 136, p. 8; *Handlowiec. Kalendarz 1914*, pp. 95, 288, 290, 291; *Pamjatnaja kniżka petrokovskoj guberni na god 1904*, p. 293; *Rocznik częstochowski. Kalendarz 1903*, pp. 91, 95, 96; *Sprawozdanie Towarzystwa Dobroczynności dla Żydów 1913*, p. 21 (re: wife). – APCz, City of Częstochowa records 27/6, t. II, k. 654; USC Częstochowa, death record No. 223/1927 (of Balbina Werde). – Genealogical materials (regarding the family) in the ODDC archives.

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