

Free Tramway Pass Of Mendel Garfinkiel

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This is the free tramway pass of my father's brother, Mendel (Mieczyslaw) Garfinkiel. It was issued in Warsaw in 1922. Mendel, the brother of my father, called also Mieczyslaw, was born in 1899. He was the greatest intellectual in the family. A lawyer, he started his legal studies at Kiev University during World War I, but graduated from Warsaw University. He was an attorney before the war. He had a practice in Zamosc, Tomaszow Lubelski, and for some time also in Warsaw. During the war he was the chairman of the Jewish community council in Zamosc, the so-called Judenrat. As far as I know, he was the only Judenrat chair to survive the war. He survived in hiding on the 'Aryan side' in Warsaw. He had no children, even though he was married four times. I only met his third and fourth wives. His third wife, Estera, or Tusia, was killed on the 'Aryan side' in Warsaw; Irena, the fourth one, he married after the war, she died in London. After the war he lived in Zamosc, then in Warsaw for some time, and then he remarried and immigrated to London in 1949.