

EHRI Online Course in Holocaust Studies

Żydowski Instytut Historyczny im. Emanuela Ringelbluma 403

I/1031

Ghettos under Nazi Rule – Daily Life

Translation: C05 A report on conflicts due to refugees being sent to well-to do flats in the ghetto

A Little Portrait

16th May. I occupied the home of Mr. Braminger and Mr. Bazioko on Gęsia 49/49. With 10 plus 1, the entrance was crowded. Mrs. Bazioko is a midwife by profession. Hearing what was going on, she wanted to jump out of the third floor. I immediately grabbed hold of her and did not let go and she calmed down. I divided the group into two, eight people with the chief tenant and three people with the subtenant. I sent for food for the people and received for each one a kilo of bread and 10 decagrams of marmalade and 150 for lunch and coffee with saccharine. In the meantime Mr. Bazioko arrived with a very angry look and stated, "You can stay an entire month, I won't give them even 5 złotych". One hour later I was certain that there had already been negotiations and he would give 500 złotych.

During the time that I was there, I took a good look at the lives of these people. At 6 o'clock in the morning they already fried meat in the kitchen. At a time when thousands of people would be grateful for a bit of soup. After lunch they had cakes and coffee. Understandably, I reported all this. We settled there for six days, and when they came to an end, I dispersed the group. And the gentlemen were glad. My tactic is only to explain, I dispersed the group. My tactic is only to explain to everyone.

Abraham.

A Little Portrait

21 May

I settled the home of Mr. Feierman, **Nalewki 38/2**, with the Goldwasser family, which numbers seven people. The residence has seven rooms. I occupied the entire house, which the family did not like. Mrs. Feierman declared to me, "You will not be there," and I answered, "Not only be but also to sleep". One hour later her husband arrived with his son and called me aside and offered me a certain sum. I rejected it. And so began the battle. The son told me that blood would flow if I wouldn't go away from there. Understandably, I laughed at that. We sat down to eat the evening meal and the people of the house had a bit of beets and I took a good look at how they prepared their food. They today still eat cooked hens, in the morning sweet tea with milk during such a difficult time. I had a conversation with Mr. Feierman about how

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in the present day it is not a crime for the rich to give money to support the poorer layers [of society]. And this Mr. Feierman explained that he will not sell off anything hard or anything soft and no diamonds. Not because of the money, but rather because on Tłomackie [Street] there is a group of swindlers who go every night to bars and spend around 1000 złotych. Of course, I applied all of my energy. I explained over the course of 2 hours that these are people who expend all their energy on behalf of society. And that [stories] concerning wasting money are pure lies.

The son Chayim Feierman explained to me that he will give over the entire matter to the Germans. I commented for such a [??] man how can 2000 złotych play a role, does he not care that thousands of people die every month and the money supports the kitchens? The answer was that he would look into the matter thoroughly over time. A child became ill with the measles and I sent for a doctor and Mr. Feierman paid him. We made ourselves at home and on the fifth day he went to negotiate and when he came back he came to me very satisfied and thanked me for the information which I gave to him and we left the lodgings.

Abraham

translated by Rebecca Wolpe