

# Warsaw Rabbinic School in the Public Education Board minutes dated between 1845 – 1850

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**Abstract:** The Public Education Board functioned between 1833 – 1867 as the main educational institution of the Kingdom of Poland. Significant part of the protocols was devoted to: occupational decisions related to employment in schools, transfers, teachers' further education and training, granting leaves, remunerations and retributions of education workers. Such decisions on the issues mentioned concerned the Rabbinic School as well. It was operating in Warsaw in the years 1826 – 1863. It was public and its program included general subjects in addition to the Judaic teachings. The institution was subordinated to the curator of the Warsaw Academic Committee and founded from the Jewish taxes. Polish was the teaching language in there.

**Keywords:** Kingdom of Poland, Public Education Board, secondary schools, Warsaw Rabbinic School, education management.

## 1 Introduction

The Public Education Board functioned between 1833 – 1867 as the main educational institution of the Kingdom of Poland. The competences of said institution were initially broad, yet subsequently were gradually reduced [porov. T. Demidowicz 1992, s. 67–79; T. Manteuffel 1929, K. Poznański, c. 1, 2001, s. 81–87]. Nonetheless, the minutes from 1845 – 1850 of the board meetings dealt, in great detail, with number of issues regarding elementary, secondary, state and private schools, as well as the higher education institutions. The main subject of the proceedings were matters brought by the authorities of the Kingdom of Poland, school directors, as well as private individuals: teachers or parents of students. Significant part of the protocols was devoted to: occupational decisions related to employment in schools, transfers, teachers' further education and training, granting leaves, remunerations and retributions of education workers. The papers noted a plethora of names, as well as other personal data, of secondary and high school students. Said pupils were mentioned in the context of decisions about transfers or expulsions from schools, granting discounts on tuition fees paid by their parents or fellowships paid from the state coffers. Furthermore, the Board would often decide on the fitting out of schools and science labs. Due to the expanded system of central decision making typical of the tsarist

Russia, the minutes contained rich information regarding not only the key decisions on the development of schools infrastructure, such as the construction of new facilities or the rebuilding of schools premises, but also detailed notes on purchasing books and periodicals for schools' libraries, as well as funding academic props and small-scale maintenance works [Rada Wychowania, 2014].

Such decisions on the issues mentioned concerned the Rabbinic School as well. It was operating in Warsaw in the years 1826 – 1863. The school was initially headed by Antoni Eisenbaum<sup>1</sup>, and subsequently by Jakub Tugendhold<sup>2</sup>. It was public and its program included general subjects in addition to the Judaic teachings. The institution was subordinated to the curator of the Warsaw Academic Committee and founded from the Jewish taxes. Polish was the teaching language in there. The purpose of this establishment was to prepare candidates for positions of rabbis and teachers for Jewish schools. Instead, it became a regular secondary school, the graduates of which would often take on higher studies or devote themselves to other professions. Thus, it played a huge role in the modernization processes of the Jews in the Kingdom of Poland [Z dziejów gminy, 1907, s. 41–140; A. Sawicki, 1933, s. 244–274; Z. Borzymińska, 1994; A. Jagodzińska, 2014, s. 142–161]. Graduates of the Rabbinic School were among a fairly large group of associates of the weekly “Israelite” (published between 1866 – 1915), thus, significantly influencing the liberal part of the Jewish community in Warsaw<sup>3</sup>.

## 2 School premises

Initially, the school had been experiencing financially troubles as it was being funded from so-called “ticket fee”, the majority of which was devoted to the Jewish Committee and Jewish elementary schools. However, in 1830 this fee was abolished by a decision of the provisional government, and, henceforth, the institution was financed from the education tax<sup>4</sup>. Since 1837, tuition fees of 25 Polish zlotys have been levied. This, however, failed to alleviate the schools' finances due to poverty of most of its pupils. All the decisions on how

<sup>1</sup> Antoni Eisenbaum (1791 – 1852), b. In Warsaw, Jew, educated in Warsaw Secondary School and by self-education (briefly attended the Warsaw High School). Since 1826, a teacher of history and geography in the Rabbinic School, since 1829 – the host, from 1835 until the death, the director of this school. He was the editor of the Polish-Jewish periodical “The Vistula Observer” and a member of the Elementary School Supervision for Jewish Youth. [Schiller, 1998, pp. 268–269; Eisenbach, 1988, p. 282; *Polski Słownik*, 2003, p. 372].

<sup>2</sup> Jakub Tugendhold ([1791] 1794 Działoszyce – 1871 Warsaw). Graduated from the Holy Elisabeth High School in Wrocław. In 1817, he settled in Warsaw. Two years later he founded a private Jewish school. In 1821, he became a secretary of Elementary School Supervision. He repeatedly addressed issues related to the reform of Jewish education. In 1852, after the death of A. Eisenbaum, he was appointed director of the Rabbinic School in Warsaw. This function continued until the School was liquidated. He was the author of over a dozen original books and translations. [*Polski Słownik*, 2003, pp. 744–745].

<sup>3</sup> The “Israelite” collaborators included, among others. Adolf Jakub Cohn, Izaak Cylkow PhD, Leon Goldman, Jakub Graf, Hilary Glattstern, Dawid Halpern, Karol Hertz PhD, Zygmunt Justman, Józef Kirsztrot, Izaak Kramsztyk, Szymon Metal, Nahum Nirnstein, Hilary Nussbaum, Jakub Rotwand, Samuel Szoenhak and Saul Sorgenstein. [*Izraelita*”. 2015, p. 34].

<sup>4</sup> The State Commission for Religious Denominations and Public Enlightenment allocated a total of 32,280 zlotys to the Rabbinic School for the year 1831, plus 1800 zlotys for grants. [*Z dziejów Gminy*, 1907, p. 65, 121].

to allocate these funds to the various needs of the school in question were made centrally by the State Commission for Religious Denominations and Public Enlightenment and the money was paid from the Warsaw Municipal Office treasury (renamed to the town hall in 1842) [Z dziejów gminy, 1907, p. 67]. Interestingly, the Rabbinic School was often gifted various items necessary for the proper functioning. Among the benefactors were: Mathias Rosen<sup>5</sup>, Józef Janasch<sup>6</sup> and Henryk Natanson<sup>7</sup>.

From 1826, the school was located in Antonina Karolla's house, a building rented by Antoni Eisenbaum, at Gwardiacka 1972 Street. In 1828, the Rabbinic School was moved to the house of Józef Janasch at Krochmalna 959 Street, where it functioned until 1838. It was then relocated to Nalewki 2257 Street, from where, in 1846, it was transferred to a state owned property at Gęsia Street, where it remained until liquidation in 1863 [porov. Sawicki, 1933, pp. 244–274; Borzymińska, 1994, p. 78]. The last relocation was necessary as the owner of the house at Nalewki Street stated in court that she did not intend to rent a place to Rabbis' anymore. Considering the school case, the Board of Education at the meeting number 2/14 in July 1845 stated that the rent exceeded the amount planned for the purpose as well. It was also emphasized that transferring to yet another private home could potentially damage the school's aids and laboratory equipment. Therefore, in order to avoid the aforementioned inconvenience and detriment to the state property, the Board decided to transfer the Rabbis School to the government building at Gęsia Street No. 2247d, previously occupied by the 1st district school in Warsaw. The 1st district school was transferred to Długa Street. [Schiller, 1998, p. 93]. It was subsequently decided that the equipment located in the building at Gęsia Street, such as chairs, wardrobes, bell and cathedrals, would remain there for the needs of the Rabbis, while the furnitures previously owned by the Rabbinic School will be handed over to the 1st district school, which was transferred to a property formerly owned by the Paulines Order [Rada Wychowania, 2014, p. 155]. The rent fee was set at the exact amount of the school budget for this purpose, this is at 540 rbs a year. Furthermore, the Education Board recommended the authorities of Warsaw to, consulting the director of the Second Gymnasium in Warsaw — Jan Nepomucen Karwowski<sup>8</sup>, take any actions necessary to equip the Rabbinic School near

<sup>5</sup> Mathias Rosen (1807 – 1865), a banker, an economic and social activist. The President of the Synagogue Supervision (1841 – 1842), then head of the Supervision of Judaic Elementary Schools (1842 – 1865). In 1862, he became a member of the State Council. Author of many publications and encyclopedia entries, among others. In the Great Encyclopedia S. Orgelbrand. [*Polski Słownik*, 2003, pp. 432–433].

<sup>6</sup> Józef Janasz (Josca Janasch; 1784 – 1868) a polish merchant and entrepreneur of Jewish origin. He became a trader and an owner of properties in Warsaw, famous for running many public investments. In recognition of his merit, he received in 1844 the honorable hereditary citizenship. Since 1842 he was a member of the Elementary School Supervision for Jewish Youth. [Reychman, 1936, p. 99; Borzymińska, 1994, pp. 61–62].

<sup>7</sup> Henryk Natanson (1820 – 1895), a financier, a bookkeeper and a publisher of Jewish origin. He studied at the Rabbinic School and in the gymnasium in Warsaw. A social activist, a co-author (with M. Rosen) of memorandum on the reform of Jewish education entitled "Presentation on the upbringing of natives of the Judaic religion". A commercial adviser of the Bank of Poland, member of the Warsaw Stock Exchange Committee. In his bookshop in Warsaw it was possible to buy, among others. Judaic books in many languages. [*Polski Słownik*, 2003, pp. 215–216].

<sup>8</sup> Jan Nepomucen Karwowski (1797 – 1855), a graduate of Warsaw University. A teacher at the Warsaw High School, then at the regional schools in Łomża, Lublin, Kalisz and back in Łomża. Since 1833, the

the synagogue. The capitol of Warsaw was ordered to transfer the funds for the rent in February 1846 to the Kingdom Main Office Coffers [Rada Wychowania, 2014, pp. 213, 356–357]. At the request of the authorities of the Warsaw Academic Committee, the school paid the rent semiannually in the amount of 270 rbs each.

At the meeting 16/28 in August 1845, the Board considered the proposal of the director of the Second Gymnasium in Warsaw to carry out the renovation of the building to which the school was transferred. It was decided, however, then that there was no need for such investment because, as argued at the meeting, said building had been recently built (в недавнее время) and was in proper condition [Rada Wychowania, 2014, p. 250]. Nevertheless, the building was refurbished using the money collected from tuition fees from pupils. As decided by the Board in May 1846, Antoni Jabłczynski was to be paid the sum of 111 rbs 72 and  $\frac{1}{2}$  kop. for repairs and painting works in the building [Rada Wychowania, 2014, p. 405]. From the following Board minutes of July 1846, we learn that two more people, Szrejer Hein and I. Skwarcensztejn, were paid 92 rbs 85 kopecks for transporting the furniture to the school premises at Gęsia Street, but also for painting the building [Rada Wychowania, 2014, p. 429]. Further renovations of the building were carried out no sooner than in 1848. The Board approved the appropriations for this purpose in the amount of 40 rbs 42 kop [Rada Wychowania, 2015, p. 141]. In 1849, a craftsman [?] by the name of Baumberg did a paint job costing 111 rbs, which sum the Board recommended to pay from the reserve of the school [Rada Wychowania, 2015, p. 180]. In June 1849, the Public Education Board approved paying the craftsman [?] Izborov 15 rbs for roofing the building entrance [Rada Wychowania, 2015, p. 237]. Meanwhile, 9 furnaces were renovated and one was rebuilt. For this work the Public Education Board agreed to pay 15 rbs 15 kopecks. The repairs were commissioned to Edward Szyling [Rada Wychowania, 2015, p. 237, 308]. Considering the urgent nature of the works, the Board decided to allow the renovation of the plasters, cornices and drainage gutters. For this purpose, in the summer of 1850 a sum of 76 rbs 86 kop was allocated. Equally, vital were the repairs: of the well, of the road surface on the driveway and of the gate, which all were assigned 144 rbs 80 kopecks. These works were recommended to be implemented by the economic system, that is, without a tender [Rada Wychowania, 2015, p. 385]. The last intervention in 1850 was the repair of the well boarding in the school building, for which purpose the Board, according to the cost estimate presented by an architect of the Warsaw Academic Committee, allowed a total of 29 rbs 2  $\frac{1}{2}$  kopecks. Yet another, extremely important task was recorded in the minutes from the Public Education Board's meetings; it was about the extension of the contract with Paweł Strzelecki for the cleaning of the outhouses or latrines (отхожих мест) for the next 3 years with a contractual fee of 87 rbs 15 kop [Rada Wychowania, 2015, p. 63]. According to the decision of the Administrative Board of the Kingdom of Poland, recorded in the book of meetings of that administrative body, the contract was to be concluded for the period since 20 March 1848 to 20 March /

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inspector of the peripheral school in Muranów, since 1834, the director of the Secondary Gymnasium in Warsaw at Leszno Street. Since 1837, he supervised municipal Jewish elementary school. [Borzymińska, 1994, p. 61; Massalski, 2007, p. 194].

1 April 1851 without a tender. The Warsaw Gubernatorial Government was assigned with the implementation of the aforementioned decision [Rada Wychowania, 2015, pp. 96–97]. The bureaucratic procedures proved to have been, apparently, immensely slow as the contract was approved by the Board a year later, at the meeting 10/22 in October 1849 meeting [Rada Wychowania, 2015, pp. 284 – 285].

### **3 Decisions concerning students**

On the other hand, in the minutes from the meetings of the Public Education Board there were also decisions concerning the students. It was the Board's competence to make decisions about admitting pupils to schools or to exempt from tuition fees these students who could prove their poverty. The Board accepted such requests from Wolf Landstein, Mojżesz Hejs and Jakub Hejs, a son of a Jewish elementary school teacher in Warsaw, Dawid Waldenberg as well as Izrael Fruchtman and Maurycy Sandzer [!] There was no such pupil in the Rabbinic School. Assumed that the person was Maurycy Salberg. [Rada Wychowania, 2014, pp. 169, 182, 246, 347, 438, 483]. Such exemption requests were addressed to the Board only between 1845 – 1846. In subsequent years, the applications concerned granting scholarships to the pupils of the Rabbinic School. What is noteworthy, by 1838 half of the alumni (the residents living in the school) were admitted free of charge. Moreover, many day-boarders would study for free as well [Kirsztrot, 1917, p. 216]. Since 1838/39, the school would no longer board its students, saved money, in the amount of 200 zlotys yearly, was spent on scholarships for the talented pupils [Z dziejów, 1907, p. 67]. What is more, the Board was answering requests for the allocation of scholarships in the event of student leaving the school or in case of death of a student who had received such assistance from the school authorities. In 1845, a scholarship for Jeruchim Asterblum was approved, as the student who had been paid it before, Józef Nelken, had left the school [Rada Wychowania, 2014, p. 132]. This decision was fully justified as it can be proved by information from other sources. The student J. Asterblum was mentioned in the report of the then deputy curator of the Warsaw Academic Committee, Paweł Muchanow, as one of the top two students of his class in 1844/45 priding himself with excellent grades and impeccable behavior [Sprawozdanie, 1993, p. 155; Kurier, 1845, p. 1]. There were several such decisions made in 1848. Among the others, due to untimely death of a student named Mojżesz Bry, a scholarship of 30 rbs was awarded to Berk (Bernard) Unszlicht. Two vacant scholarships of 30 rbs were entrusted to Dawid Kantor and Aron Nasseberg at the request of the director of the Second Gymnasium in Warsaw. Further scholarships, with compensation since October 1, 1847, were given, by the decision of the Board, to Henryk Hendler, First [!] Leman [!] (There was no such pupil in the Rabbinic School. Assumed, it was someone by the name Lesman). Juda Lukseberg, Maurycy Kassius, Szaja Sterling. In 1849, scholarships of the same height of 30 rbs were admitted to Lew Planer and Lew Centnerszwer, Jozef Gordon, Wolf Mutermilch, Abraham Hirszfeld, Wolf Tanenbaum, Gustav Grossman, Leon Mande and Szymek Szajdel [Rada Wychowania, 2015, pp. 10, 76, 116, 238, 299]. Amongst the aforementioned individuals, three students were identified in the report of the then-curator of the WAC, P. Muchanow,

for their academic achievements and performance in class in the year 1849 – 1850; they were: J. Gordon, W. Tanenbaum and L. Planer [Sprawozdanie, 1993, p. 208]. In 1850 the Board granted scholarships to Abraham Klejner and Jakub Żurkowski [Rada Wychowania, 2015, p. 335]. Undoubtedly, scholarship requests presented to the Board must have been sound and taking into consideration achievements of the students. At times, however, the students themselves were the weakest links in the system and would disappoint after receiving their scholarships. For example, in 1850, by the decision of the Public Education Board, Isaac Guttentag and Salomon Mejerwasser had their grants revoked for gross negligence of their studies and abandoning the school. What is more, they were denied yet another chance to educate themselves at the Rabbinic School [Rada Wychowania, 2015, p. 423].

As a rule, students were required to sign up for each consecutive school year before a deadline decided by the school. Should a pupil have failed to do so, the decision whether to admit such individual to the School of Rabbis would be taken by the Public Education Board. Such was the case, among others, of Mendel Wolberg, whom the board, at the meeting in March 1845, decided to accept to the school despite the fact that the student reported in significantly late [Rada Wychowania, 2014, p. 108]. School year at the Rabbinic School was well adjusted to Jewish holidays and would begin on 1 October and end on 31st August. The schedule was dictated by the fact of September being the month of the greatest number of holiday days for the Jewish community. This issue was regulated by Art. 50 of the General Governing Plan for the Rabbinic School from 1826. In the school year 1844/45 the classes ended on 2/14 September, and the next school year 1845/46 began on 30 October / 11 November 1845 [Z dziejów, 1907; Sprawozdanie, 1993, p. 153]. The Rabbinic School would enroll new disciples twice a year. The candidate students were informed about the deadlines, among other things, in the press. For example, for the second half of the year, 1845/46 admissions took place since 12/24 April to 2/14 May 1845. The announcement also included information that after the deadline no pupil will be accepted without the decision of the curator of the Warsaw Academic Committee. [Kurier, 1846, pp. 494–495]. The institution would also conduct examinations giving the students who passed the right to perform rabbinic functions. Among other, the Board agreed in June 1845 to allow Mortka Grunbaum to take the rabbinic exam [Rada Wychowania, 2014, p. 169]. The former student of the school, aforementioned Józef Nelkien, was hired to replace Samuel Karlsbad as a school's janitor and a scribe with a salary of 90 rbs a year after the death of the latter. The Board approved this amendment at its meeting of 26 February / 10 March 1845 [Rada Wychowania, 2014, p. 91]. Money for book prizes for excelling students and for any stationery necessary were granted by the Board in 1845 from the Extraordinary School Funds in the sum of 119 rbs 95 kop [Rada Wychowania, 2014, p. 311]. In 1847, an amount of 119 rbs 90 kopecks was approved for the same purpose using the funds as before.

#### 4 Decisions concerning teachers

What is more, the Public Education Board would issue annual payroll decisions regarding teachers. At a meeting on 15/27 January 1845, a teacher of singing, Jerzy Gukel was awarded 90 rbs<sup>9</sup>, while a history and geography teacher Abraham Paprocki<sup>10</sup> was assigned a salary of 150 rbs yearly. Such decisions, regarding these two teachers were made at the meetings in 1849 and in 1850 [Rada Wychowania 2014, p. 53–54; 2015, p. 180, 327]. J. Gukel taught singing only to a selected group of students from all classes of the Rabbinic School. These pupils were divided into two divisions. Each of these units had 2 hours of singing lessons per week [Sprawozdanie, 1993, p. 154]. In 1850, the Board at its meeting of 19 June / 1 July approved the use of the book by A. Paprocki, entitled Short History of the People of Israel, at the Rabbinic School. Concomitantly, it obliged the author to make certain amendments in the second edition of this work as instructed in the comments it provided the first release with [Rada Wychowania, 2015, p. 383]. The fact that teachers did not always receive remuneration in time was evident in a decision of the Board of March 30 / April 11, 1850. Therein, the Rabbinic School was commanded to pay from its own funds a teacher of German Karol Lange<sup>11</sup>, a salary of Rs 360 with a compensation since 19 December 1849 [Rada Wychowania, 2015, p. 354].

The authority of the Public Education Board was also to approve the requests from the Warsaw Academic Committee officials regarding rewards for the teachers of the Rabbinic School. In 1845, the Board granted a sum of 300 rbs for the director of Second Gymnasium in Warsaw, J. Karwowski. The justification of that decision it was clearly stated that director Karwowski, since 1837, when he joined the Rabbinic School Council, fervently fulfilled his duties and significantly contributed to the improvement of the School's standards [Z dziejów, 1907, p. 130]. In the report dated to 1845 and signed by the Deputy Curator Paweł Muchanow, it was duly noted that Director J. Karwowski "would visit the school every Sunday and every Catholic holiday and during his inspections he always supervised the proper conduct of lectures by the teachers, checked the students' knowledge and surveyed meticulously both teaching and economic matters" [Sprawozdanie, 1993, p. 156]. That year, the school was also visited by the curator of Warsaw Academic Committee

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<sup>9</sup> Jan Jerzy Gukel b. around 1807 in Silesia was a Roman Catholic. He was employed in 1839 as a teacher of singing due to the introduction of singing to the syllabus. His skills in teaching this subject were confirmed by former director of the Warsaw Conservatory, Józef Elsner. [Z dziejów Gminy, 1907, p. 83].

<sup>10</sup> Abraham Paprocki (1813 – 1852), a columnist, a secretary of the Elementary School Supervision for Jewish youth. He graduated from the Rabbinic School in 1831 and continued his self-education for several years. Since 1832, he worked at the Rabbinic School, in 1836 he became a history and geography teacher at this school. The author of the first Polish textbook on the history of the Jews *Krótki rys dziejów ludu izraelskiego od jego początku aż do naszych czasów (dla Izraelitów)*, Warszawa 1850. (A brief sketch of the history of the Israeli people from its beginnings until our times (for the Israelites), Warsaw, 1850). [Polski Słownik, 2003, pp. 289–290].

<sup>11</sup> Karl Heinrich Lange (1802 – after 1855) an evangelical clergyman, came from Prussia, graduated from the University of Königsberg. In the years 1831 – 1849, a pastor in Marijampole. In the place of the demolished prayer hall, he built a brick church. He was a teacher of evangelical religion at Mariampol High School, and since 1850 in the Rabbinic School in Warsaw. [Kneifel, 1964, p. 120; Massalski, 2007, p. 239].

Mikołaj Okuniew<sup>12</sup>, by the secretary of the state of the Kingdom of Poland and a secret associate of [Ignacy] Turkuła<sup>13</sup>, as well as by a number of Public Education Board members. Although, Muchanow report did not entail the results of the visit, however, it so appears that these must have been positive, since the same year in November, several awards were given; including to the director Antoni Eisenbaum and to seven of the teachers of the Rabbinic School. The funds were allotted from the tuition fees paid by the students [Rada Wychowania, 2014, p. 313]. The list of commended persons, apart from the school's director, included the following teachers: Teofil Rybicki<sup>14</sup> – 120 rbs, Feliks Żochowski<sup>15</sup> and Ludwik Marchand<sup>16</sup> – 60 rbs each, Abraham Buchner<sup>17</sup> and Jakub Centnerszwer<sup>18</sup> – 50 rbs each, Jakub Elzenberg<sup>19</sup> – 45 rbs, August Wolf<sup>20</sup> – 70 rbs, the Secretary of Inspection Abraham Paprocki – 75 rbs. Apart from A. Buchner, who taught Hebrew and Old Testament classes on the III and IV year, these subjects were also lectured by

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<sup>12</sup> Mikołaj Okuniew (1788 – 1850), Orthodox. a General Major / a lieutenant of the Russian army, a participant in the Napoleonic campaign and in Polish-Russian war of 1830 – 1831. Since 1837, a member of the State Commission for Internal Affairs, Religious Denominations and Public Enlightenment of the Kingdom of Poland. In 1839 – 1850, the supervisor of the Warsaw Academic Committee. [Manteuffel, 1929, pp. 61, 89].

<sup>13</sup> Ignacy Turkuła coat of arms Ostoja (1798 – 1856), a minister secretary of state of the Kingdom of Poland in 1832 – 1856, a real secret associate of the senator, came from Galicia. [Ihnatowicz, 1971, p. 172; Poznański, 2004, p. 6].

<sup>14</sup> Teofil Rybicki (1805 – 1859), came from Pułtusk, a Roman Catholic. He graduated from Warsaw University, Faculty of Philosophy. He studied in Vienna and Paris. He lectured on chemistry, physics and natural sciences in Warsaw secondary schools and Pedagogic courses. In the Rabbinic School, he taught physics and chemistry in the years 1836 – 1850. He was the author of several works in chemistry and chemical technology. [Massalski, 2007, p. 362–363; Schiller, 1998, p. 380].

<sup>15</sup> Feliks Żochowski (1802 – 1868), came from Węgrych district, a Roman Catholic. He graduated from Warsaw University. He was a teacher of geography, history and Polish in Warsaw secondary schools. At the Rabbinic School, he taught Polish between 1829 – 1830 and 1832 – 1848. Author of a number of works on Polish grammar, among others. Polish Language Speaking (Warsaw 1852). [Massalski, 2007, p. 488].

<sup>16</sup> Ludwik Marchand (1807 – after 1861), came from the Moscow gubernatorial, a Roman Catholic. He completed his private school in Moscow. Since 1830, a private teacher. In the years 1835 – 1848, he was a teacher of Russian language at the Rabbinic School in Warsaw, afterwards, until 1859, he was the inspector of the district school in Wieluń. Retirement was received in 1861. [Schiller, 1998, p. 337; Massalski, 2007, p. 269].

<sup>17</sup> Abraham Buchner (1789 – 1869), came from Kraków, a Jew, home schooled. In the Rabbinic School he taught Hebrew and Judaism between 1826 – 1859. A private teacher of French and German. After the reorganization of the school, he moved to Czestochowa, where he died. Author of many textbooks, including one used in the Rabbinic School "Catechism of Religion and Morality for the Israelites" (Warsaw, 1836), translated from Hebrew to Polish by Jehuda Rosenblum (original title *Doresch Tobb*, published in Warsaw in 1825). [Schiller, 1998, p. 248].

<sup>18</sup> Jakub Centnerszwer (1789 – 1880), born in Warsaw, a Jew. He studied at the University of Berlin. In the Rabbinic School he taught mathematics in 1826 – 1862. Author of works on mathematics. [Schiller, 1998, p. 251].

<sup>19</sup> Jakub Elzenberg (Elsenberg), b. approx. 1820., died. 1886, born in Warsaw, Jewish, bourgeois, graduated from the Rabbinic School. A teacher of Polish language therein. After the closure of the Rabbinic School, a member of the four-member commission for certification of rabbi. Proponent of the assimilation of Jews. Author of numerous works in the field of religion. [Schiller, 1998, p. 269; *Polski Słownik*, 2003, p. 389].

<sup>20</sup> August [Abraham] Wolf, b. Circa 1793 in the Grand Duchy of Poznan, a Roman Catholic, graduated from a high school in Wroclaw. In the years 1828 – 1850 he was a teacher of German in the Rabbinic School and in a private elementary school in Warsaw. [Schiller, 1998, p. 420–421].



Heyman Liebrecht in classes I and II<sup>21</sup>. Aforementioned teacher also taught, alongside with A. Wolf, German language. Polish language was taught by J. Elzenberg and F. Żochowski and they were both awarded. In 1848 Antoni Czajkowski took place of Żochowski<sup>22</sup>. Bernard Lessman was teaching Russian in junior classes<sup>23</sup>, while L. Marchand was in charge of the seniors. In 1849 Andrzej Rydecki<sup>24</sup> replaced L. Marchand. Maths was taught by J. Centnerszw, who worked with classes II – IV, and by Bernard Lessman guiding the youngest classes. Natural sciences, IE zoology, botany, physics, chemistry, mathematical geography and mineralogy were taught by two teachers, T. Rybicki and Szymon Pisulewski<sup>25</sup>. T. Rybicki was in charge of physics and chemistry, the rest of aforementioned subjects were Pisulewski's responsibility. After T. Rybickiego had left, physics was taught by Jan Koncewicz<sup>26</sup>. General geography and history was taught by A. Paprocki. Apparently, all rewarded teachers would teach, so called, general subjects. Teachers of the Judaic religion or singing were not amongst the rewarded ones. Noteworthy is the fact that the prizes were not presented to teachers – graduates of the School of Rabbis. Indeed, both alumni (so called free boarders) and students with scholarships were required, upon finishing the school, to work for three years as rabbis or teachers as to work off the help they received during their schooling. Since many of the graduates of the Rabbinic School felt no vocation for any of these professions, after having worked for mandatory years, they would ask to be dismissed [Z dziejów, 1907, pp. 81–82]. Pedagogues such as Abraham Paprocki were a noble exception to this rule.

<sup>21</sup> Heyman Liebrecht, b. In 1806 in Warsaw, a pupil of the Warsaw Rabbinic School, since 1833, he taught Biblical Studies and Hebrew grammar in this school. As a student, he was recognized for his diligence and academic progress in 1827 and as a teacher he enjoyed a very good reputation. At the same time, he taught Hebrew privately. [Z dziejów Gminy, 1907, p. 57, 82; Borzymińska, 1994, p. 271].

<sup>22</sup> Antoni Czajkowski (1815 – 1869), a Roman Catholic, of noble origin. He graduated from a provincial Piarists school in Warsaw. In 1835 – 1868, a teacher of Polish in secondary schools of the Kingdom of Poland. He taught in the Rabbinic School between 1848 – 1862. The author of textbooks and articles concerning Polish grammar. [Massalski, 2007, p. 109].

<sup>23</sup> Bernard Lessman (Lesman; 1813 [1815] – 1878), born in Łęczycza, a graduate of the Warsaw Rabbinic School. A publisher and a bookkeeper, since 1838, he taught mathematics in the Rabbinic School. He translated and developed, for the needs of Polish youth, a number of textbooks for learning German and French, each had several editions: New tasks in French grammar by Chapsal and Noel (Warsaw 1857, II ed. 1865) New German grammar ... by Ahn and Becker, (Warsaw 1863). He also translated François Fénelon's *Telemaac's Adventure* (Warsaw, 1859). [Polski Słownik, 2003, pp. 30–31].

<sup>24</sup> Andrzej Rydecki (1815 – 1904), was a junior private tutor. In 1849, he was appointed a Russian teacher at the Rabbinic School. The nomination was signed by the governor of the Kingdom, General I. Paskiewicz-Erowski. In 1856, judged by the education authorities of the Kingdom as hardworking and zealous in serving. After the liquidation of the Rabbinic School, he was an interpreter at the State Commission of Justice. [Massalski, 1989, p. 409; Z dziejów Gminy, 1907, pp. 77–78].

<sup>25</sup> Szymon Pisulewski (1808 – 1859), born in Osiek, Sandomierz borough, a Roman Catholic, bourgeois origin. He graduated from Warsaw University. Until 1856, he taught natural sciences in secondary schools in Warsaw. In 1856 – 1859, appointed an assistant professor at the Warsaw Academic Committee. The author of textbooks and dissertations. [Massalski, 2007, pp. 327–328].

<sup>26</sup> Jan Koncewicz (1795 – 1859), Podlaskie Voivodeship, a Roman Catholic, noble origin. He graduated from the Faculty of Philosophy at the Warsaw University, then studied as a scholarship holder in Germany, England and France. A teacher in several high schools in Kielce and Warsaw. At the Rabbinic School, he worked between 1849 – 1852. He edited, among others: "Yearbooks of the National Farming". [Massalski, 2007, p. 207].

In 1845, the Board decided to give its thanks to Mathias Rosen, the Principal of Mosaic Elementary Schools Inspection, for his hard work and diligence in fulfilling his duties. Similar thanks were expressed at the request of the Director of the Second Warsaw Gymnasium in 1848 [Rada Wychowania, 2014, p. 318; 2015, p. 156].

The Public Education Board also considered proposals to initiate the procedures for granting pensions to teachers. During the five-year period discussed herein, two such requests were made. In 1846 a petition from the Warsaw Scientific Committee Board was presented to the PEB. It requested to authorize Abraham Paprocki to make a pension contribution for the period since October 20 / November 1, 1832 to December 19/31, 1834, after receiving a salary of 90 rbs at the Rabbinic School. According to the Board, it was appropriate, in accordance with the existing regulations, to prepare a relevant act on this matter for the Government Revenue and Treasury Committee [Rada Wychowania, 2014, p. 520]. The Board also approved in April 1849 the request of the authorities of the Warsaw Academic Committee to apply to the Retirement Commission for a pension for the teacher of the Rabbinic School – August Wolf, arguing that, during his work he obtained the right to retire and become a pensioner pursuant to the applicable regulations of the Council of State [Rada Wychowania, 2015, p. 209].

During the period in question, there was only one request for a dole. It involved supporting a teacher – Abraham Buchner. His application contained information that by the decision of the ruler of the Kingdom of Poland this former teacher of the Rabbinic School should had been given a 50 rbs of allowance. The Board accepted the request at a session 12/24 in January 1848 [Rada Wychowania, 2015, p. 217]. As documented, it is currently the sole source of information that said teacher was not working at the School of Rabbis in 1847/1848. However, it is well known that in the following school year 1849/1850 he was employed as a teacher of Hebrew and the Old Testament. He had classes in grades II, IV and V, 5 hours a week in each class [Sprawozdanie, 1993, p. 207].

In addition to financial matters such as the deciding on the salaries and rewards for the teachers, the authority of the Public Education Board was required to give consent for taking on an additional work by any of the Rabbi School's teachers. Such a consent was obtained on 10/22 December 1845 by the aforementioned Ludwik Marchand (who began his teaching career in 1830 as a private teacher), who again, being already employed in the Rabbinic School, tried to authorize his teaching in private schools [Rada Wychowania, 2014, p. 324].

## 5 Conclusion

Among the various problems faced by the Rabbinic School, and decided upon by the Public Education Board, these regarding financing teachers' salaries, students' fellowships and renovations in the School building were predominant ones. Usually, the Board recommended drawing the funds for these tasks either from the tuition fees paid by the students or from the Extraordinary Funds of the school, which were managed from the amounts

received from the state. Presented pleas and requests from the Rabbinic School were considered, among others similar applications from various schools of the Kingdom of Poland. The Public Education Board would generally accept the proposals submitted by schools directors and by the Warsaw Academic Committee's authorities. The centralized management of education in the Kingdom of Poland, imposed by the Tsar, prevented managements of schools from making this sort of decisions independently.

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