

I was born in the most anti-semitic city in Poland - Czestochowa. The population of Czestochowa was 135,000 among them 35,000 Jews.

I am a daughter of Icek <sup>Ma</sup>endel and Frajdla Hinda (born Silberstein) Epstein.

My father was a very religious man - he was a " Mizrahi".

He was in the liquor business, He brought up eight children.

He was a member of the " Gehile" in Czestochowa and a member of many charitable organizations in my hometown for many, many years. He was known as a patriarch.

I graduated State Gymnasium in Czestochowa and law at the University in Warsaw.

After practicing two years in the courts in Czestochowa I passed the State examination as a judge and public prosecutor.

Then I practice in Jan Glikson -lawyer's ( very famous) office in Czestochowa for three years and passed the Bar - Rada Adwokacka in Warsaw.

After that I opened immediately my own office in my hometown.

We were in Czestochowa 36 lawyers ( Jews and nonJews), including two women, among them I was.

Because Czestochowa was 30 kilometer from the German border ( Herby) and the Germans hated lawyers and we were expecting that the German army in a very short time will invade Czestochowa, together with my sister Tamara on September 1, 1939, 4:00p.m. I left by bus Czestochowa for Warsaw.

During the bombardment of Warsaw I served in the Civil Defense.

After the Polish army surrendered the capitol I returned with my sister to Czestochowa where I went through the big ghetto, small ghetto and work with my sister about 2½ years as a laborer in the ammunition factory " Hassag- Pecery" in Czestochowa.

We lost our parents in the gas chambers in Treblinka, two brothers, our sister - in-law and a nephew 4½ and a niece 2½ years old - were killed at the cemetery in Czestochowa. One brother was a life burned in a barn during the evacuation from Buchenwald ( Dora).

During three weeks ( from September 22, 1942) 50,000 Jews were killed. ( During the war the population of Jews in Czestochowa was 55,000).

On January 16, 1945 I was taken with my sister together with 300 others in cattle cars to the concentration camp Ravensbruck and after six weeks we were transported together with 1,000 Jewish women to the concentration camp Dachau ( Kaufering V - Burgau, Turkheim).

Finally during the evacuation from Turkheim I escaped with my sister and we were liberated by American army.

After the liberation ( April 29, 1945) I work for five years in the U.S. Zone in Germany in some cases as judge, in some as public prosecutor and in some as a defender.

Christmas 1949 I arrived by ship with my sister in New York, where I became a secretary in the Club of Jews from Poland for 2½ year.

During that time I studied the English language and finally I graduated at the Columbia University a course for foreign students.

In that Club, in November 1951 I met my unforgettable Husband - Andrew ( Andrzej) Przeworski Pratt and on July 8, 1952 we got married.

On June 25 1953 I arrived with my husband in Los Angeles and we joined immediately The " 1939" Club.

After a short time I was elected by the general Meeting of the Women's Division as chairman of the Women's Division and I served in that capacity for three years.

Together with my husband we were active in various committees .

In the year 1958 during only six months as chairman of the Membership Committee I enlisted 74 members.

In the Year 1959 and 1960 I served as President of The " 1939" Club.

I was five years Chairman of the Tribute Fund. After that I was appointed as Tribute Fund Coordinator- so I supervise the Tribute Fund and I am in charge of arranging plaques in honor or in memory in the Synagogue of the New Boys' Home in Yad Eliyahu, Tel Aviv or a plaque of a bed.

As an active past President I am a member of the Advisory Board and I am also a member of the Holocaust Education Committee.

For eighteen years I was together with my husband Andrew Life Time Editor of The " 1939" Club's Newsletter.

After His passing I edited three issues of the Newsletter, following the footsteps of my husband.

I am also an active member of Martyrs Memorial and Museum of The Holocaust Committee for 18 years.

Mrs. Andrew Przewozski Pratt