

LIPMAN COMBER

*translated from the Yiddish by Carole
Turkeltaub-Borowitz*

Lipman Comber was born in Kutno and was the eldest among the members of the group*. A pupil of Prof. Handelsman, he completed his studies for doctor of philosophy at the age of more than 40 years. He was a member of the "Bund" party, and was active in the "Culture League", the organization for the cultural activities of the party. He was employed as a teacher in the school of the central Jewish school organization, used in the summer vacations as an area rest house for the Warsaw region. He was already involved in the first collection [of literary articles] of the league with an article about the *Burial society in Kutno at the beginning of the 19th century*** , which was the start of the documentation that he found. His doctoral dissertation was about the Jews in Poland in the area under Prussian rule in the years 1795-1805, two chapters of which the culture league published in two and three volumes. In the Warsaw ghetto he set up and managed a shelter in connection with the "Centos" – the Central Organization for Orphan Care, an asylum for children from the streets. He was deported to Treblinka during the first "aktion" in the summer of 1942 in especially tragic circumstances: while he was there his daughter was carried away to the "Umschlagplatz" – the special train station in Warsaw used for deporting Jews to the death camps. He ran to the "Centos" to get money to bribe the Jewish police but he himself was caught by them. His daughter had already been taken away.

Ringelblum wrote a very warm eulogy, which appears in "Writings from the Ghetto", volume 2, chapter 9, pages 175-176.

Prof. Raphael MAHLER
(taken from his book *"Historians and Guides"*,
Israel Buch Press, Tel Aviv 1967).

* "Young Historian Group", in Warsaw, Poland, before the war.
[note by the editor]

** See page 54 of the work by Lipman Comber.