

HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL

Państwowe Liceum Żeńskie na Łazarzu (**State Girls' High School in Łazarz**) – that is the first name of the School, which was founded in 1919, and initially located in the building at 56, Matejki Street and later at the present location 8, Matejki Street. There were five classes in which 60 students were learning at that time.

As early as during the 1920/21 school year there were 400 students in the classes of modern, humanistic and neohumanistic secondary school.

In the period from 1919 to 1929, Zofia Rzepecka was the first principal (so called "supervisor"). During her term in office, on 6th of March, 1929, the school was named: Państwowe Gimnazjum i Liceum im. Generałowej Zamoyskiej (**Generalowa Zamojska State High and Junior High School**), and functioned under that name till 1950.

The school was forced to suspend its activity on 1st September 1939.

The building was initially seized by the police, later German schools were located there, and in the end the military conducted a great devastation of all the equipment and study materials which had been safeguarded for so long by the school janitor **Wincenty Szeszuła**.

After the dark war years, the school resumed its activity as early as in March of 1945 in the retrieved old building.

The new school year was inaugurated on 12th of March by **I. Hoppówna Ph.D.**, with the pre-war School's flag officially reclaimed from W. Szeszuła who hid and protected it during the war time.

The great efforts were made to enable the students of other high schools to resume their secondary education and catch up on the lost school years. The final exams were held twice in the years 1946-1947 for this reason.

The youth worked with enthusiasm, engaged in different activities, and belonged to different organizations and groups.

Those days, there were plenty of organizations working in the school: The Union of Democratic Youth (*Związek Młodzieży Demokratycznej*), The Union for Youth's Combat

(Związek Walki Młodych), The Service for Poland (*Shuzba Polsce*), The Airmen's League (*Liga Lotnicza*).

Since 1950, not only the School's name has changed to Państwowa Szkoła Ogólnokształcąca Stopnia Licealnego Numer 2 (**State High School No. 2**), but also its principals: **Maria Frąckowiak, Bronisława Szczurkiewicz, Dionizy Przykucki, Ludwika Wilczyńska**.

All of them, during those difficult times, managed to preserve the youth from different forms of indoctrination.

A new phase of the school's history began in 1956, when **Józefa Poćwiardowska** became a principal. The change was seen in an expanded building, with a new, third floor added. Consequently, the number of classes grew to 32, and there was a total of 1138 students during that school year. Also, the school gained a hall, which was adapted from a former gym, as well as a new gym and a school backyard.

In 1961, a university for parents was established, which concentrated on the issues related to upbringing. The school had an authority and guaranteed a reliable preparation for further study at university.

That esteem was not only cemented, but also developed by the principal **Artur Ciemnoczołowski**. In the years 1964-1976 he created a school that was modern, open to wise innovation, treating the youth seriously and rich in varied kinds of activities.

In 1966, **Helena Modrzejewska** became a patron of the school. Artur Ciemnoczołowski grounded that decision in the following words: "It wasn't the international recognition of her aptitude and talent that was a reason for the choice, but rather the role model that she was for the passionate admiration of art, patriotism, bravery and hard work". Those characteristics of the School's patron became the cornerstone of the School's progress and development.

On April 2nd, 1993, the School was given its present name II Liceum Ogólnokształcące im. Generałowej Zamoyskiej i Heleny Modrzejewskiej (**Generalowa Zamojska and Helena Modrzejewska Second High School**)

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