

Aleksandra Lewandowska

Uniwersytet Mikołaja Kopernika, Collegium Medicum im. Ludwika Rydygiera w Bydgoszczy
[Nicolaus Copernicus University, Ludwik Rydygier Collegium Medicum in Bydgoszcz]

**Rozwój farmacji i aptekarstwa w Toruniu na przestrzeni wieków
na przykładzie Apteki Królewskiej**

**The Royal Pharmacy as an example of development of pharmacy
and pharmaceuticals in Toruń**

SUMMARY

Toruń is one of the most beautiful Polish cities. Indeed, its geographical situation created favourable conditions for the development of trade and prosperity of the bourgeoisie, but at the same time it favoured political conflicts. Toruń was painfully affected by each feud with the Order of Teutonic Knights and later by Swedish raids. During the partition, the city was under Prussian rule. Only after the end of the 1st World War and the rebirth of the Polish state Toruń returned to the motherland.

The 2nd World War made tremendous damage in all areas of life. During the occupation, Polish pharmacists suffered terrible losses – financial, as well as personal: chemists, laboratories and pharmaceutical factories were taken over by the Germans, pharmacists were arrested and put in concentration camps.

After the War they set about removing the damage. Toruń pharmacists struggled to rebuild their chemists as quickly as possible. When doing this, they incurred considerable expenses, put a lot of effort and work into it. But when they finally managed to restore their chemists to their former condition, they found themselves deprived of them by new laws on nationalization.

The Royal Pharmacy was not only the oldest one in Toruń but also one of the oldest in this part of Europe: its beginnings go back to 1389. Over the centuries it was in the hands of many owners but always maintaining its position as the biggest and thriving chemist in the city.

There is no Royal Pharmacy today. After 622 years of existence and the death of its last owner, MPharm Sylwia Kant-Siwiec, it was closed and sold in 2011. The sale was made with permission of the City Council and the municipal conservator, but it encountered great disapproval not only of the pharmacy circle but also of the local community.

Analecta – Studia i Materiały z Dziejów Nauki

[Analecta – Studies and Materials on the History of Science]

XXIV, 2015, 1, 165-204