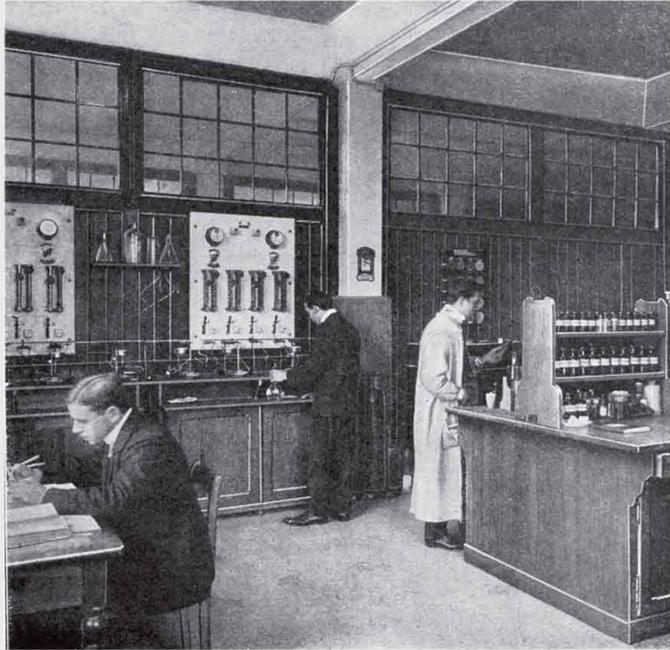


Berlin and Frankfurt am Main



Jan Czochralski in the chemical room of the Metal Laboratory Kabelwerk Oberspree in 1911

Jan Czochralski decided to stay in Berlin as he wanted to gain experience as chemist, pharmacist, materials specialist and scientist. He lived most probably with his family, the Mockis or the Siemiradzki.

The first job he took was a volunteer in a pharmacy belonging to Dr. August Herbrand. He learnt chemical practice and carried out analyses of ores, oils, lubricants and metals. When he left the position, Herbrand issued for him an opinion in which he stressed Jan's large potential and ease in changing the subjects of his study. Another job Czochralski took was an analyst in a laboratory of the chemical factory "Kanne" belonging to the company Kunheim u. Co. in Niederschoneweide. The factory was started by Heinrich Kunheim, trader in textiles and spices. In 1884, another chemical factory was built, which in time became the largest German producer of ammonia, cyanogen and components for the production of Berlin blue and other dyes. Blue was the main colour of uniforms of Prussian soldiers and officials.

Between 1st August 1907 and 31st September 1917 Czochralski worked in a factory of the Allgemeine Elektrizitäts-Gesellschaft (AEG). The concern was an innovative company. It promoted basic and applied research and quick implementation of knowledge in the technological practice. Czochralski received the position in a research laboratory as an assistant of Wichard von Moellendorff. His task was to develop a method for the application of aluminium in electrical engineering.

Czochralski convinced the management of Metallbank und Metallurgische Gesellschaft AG in Frankfurt am Main to start a large metal laboratory combining research with practical tests. He moved to Frankfurt with his family to create and lead one of the best-equipped laboratories in Germany.

In 1918, an additional laboratory of metal sciences and mechanics was created and included in the existing laboratory. It was called the Metal Laboratory, and Jan Czochralski became its head. As a boss he was strict and demanding, it was said people feared him, but also respected him for being just and understanding.



Kabelwerk Oberschonweide, where Jan Czochralski also worked



Jan Czochralski with the model of aluminium structure, 1927