

OUR FIRST EDITION

Our publication is seriously concerned with the future of America. Because of this intense regard for the future of our country, we are vitally interested in the future of Poland as a democracy. We bring an outlook upon American problems, as well as factual developments concerning the New Democratic Poland. We trust this publication will help clarify the much discussed Polish issue, which is now a dangerous smokescreen behind which the foes of democracy have rallied to the detriment of our country. The bloody lesson now concluding in Europe teaches us that democracy is indivisible. America, and the world needs a democratic Poland. New Poland will help safeguard democracy universally. Unity of the three major nations around the attainable ideals of a durable peace, security and democracy, can only be preserved successfully by the sincere cooperation of all nations. We Americans of Polish descent want the unity of all the United Nations, led by the American-Anglo-Soviet coalition. This will guarantee Victory, Peace and Security. United Nations cooperation, now and after the war, calls for continued unity of all citizens in America around our democratic principles in a way that will set an example for the world.

The small noisy opposition to progress (temporarily controlling the Polish press, and usurping the leadership of our fraternal organizations) falsifies the Polish question and does not speak for the vast majority of American Poles. Because of this small group, America is beginning to mistrust us citizens of Polish extraction. We are loyal workers, the soldiers in overalls in the arsenal of democracy. Three hundred and fifty thousand of our brave kin in the army, also good union members of the C.I.O., A. F. of L. and Railroad Brotherhoods, are defending America against its greatest danger.

Poland, the third largest nation in Europe, is now a powerful force for peace, democracy and economic security, by virtue of following a Good Neighbor policy similar to America's. The recent pact that Poland signed with her neighbor, the Soviet Union, is of historical importance and augurs well for the future peace of Poland and the world. Poland, freed from the chains of the past, will draw strength from America's democracy, as well as from the progressive forces in Europe now liberated by the defeat of Nazism.

THE OUTLOOK

OF THE AMERICAN POLISH LABOR COUNCIL

144 BLEECKER ST., NEW YORK 12, N. Y.

LEO KRZYCKI — EDITOR

E. JASINSKI — BUSINESS MNG'R

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AMERICAN POLISH COMMUNITY MOURNS PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

America still mourns the greatest statesman of the world, our late President Franklin D. Roosevelt. His was a living credo of deeds,— of action. He was not one to forget that America, our government, was really We the People. President Roosevelt enjoyed the unbounded faith and confidence of the people because of his belief and trust in the people. Because of him, America is the better in terms of human values, socially and economically. And more than that, the world is better for having had him in its severest crisis. Presi-



dent Roosevelt was truly a Citizen of the World. By unifying the world in a Commonwealth of Brotherhood against the evil forces of the Axis, he will live forever in the history of man. We must rededicate ourselves to his ideals of "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness," and to the prevention of future wars.

President Roosevelt's passing make his objectives stand out clearer, rousing the nation to a closer unity and determina-

tion to achieve his noble ideals. This should be our tribute to his greatness. Our loss is the world's loss. But he would not have us mourn and despair. He did his work well, our work now begins. President Roosevelt would have us unite, more than ever before, all the forces of America, and every section of the world to attain the humanitarian goals to which he dedicated and sacrificed his life.

He would have us unite around President Truman to keep America on the path of world brotherhood that he charted—the path that leads to victory, freedom and security for America and all nations. Let us give full and united support to President Truman to fulfill President Roosevelt's wish. This will be a fitting memorial to the Commander-in-Chief, who gave the fullest measure of devotion to make all the people of the world free, from every form of servitude, and oppression, and who fell in the battle for the rights of the common man.

SECOND NATIONAL CONFERENCE MAPS 1945 PLAN OF ACTION

Delegates Representing Unions in Nation's War Industries Hear Noted Speakers, Receive Greetings from Poland and America

Saddened by the death of a great friend of labor and of Poland, delegates to the Second National Conference of the American Polish Labor Council, meeting at the Hamilton Hotel in Washington, D. C., on April 12 and 13, dedicated themselves anew to the objectives of peace, security and justice which the departed Chief had helped to formulate at Yalta and which he had hoped to champion in person at San Francisco.

Accredited by the leading trade unions with a large membership of Polish extraction, the delegates spoke for hundreds of thousands of workers in America's greatest war plants, where the tools for the destruction of fascism are fashioned.

The Conference tackled the problems before it vigorously, drafted a plan of action for 1945 and began at once to put it into effect. The program was drafted by the Organizational Committee, of which Brother Zygmunt Chmielewski of the United Auto Workers, Detroit, was chairman, and was adopted unanimously.

PROGRAM DRAFTED ■ ■ ■

The action program will center on combating the well-financed propaganda of those who are trying to draw Americans of Polish descent into an alliance with American reaction and into opposition to the Roosevelt-Truman war and peace aims.

National headquarters will serve as a center, providing materials and speakers and organizing additional trade union bodies. Mass meetings, local conferences and radio programs are to be held. Neighborhoods and shops will be canvassed. Each local Council will establish a speakers' bureau. Local delegations will present the feelings of American Polish labor to Congressmen and Senators. And the cooperation of other American Polish organizations will be sought in carrying out this program.

Local Councils, moreover, will cooperate with local trade union committees on matters of broader concern to labor, and they will act as a liaison group between local unions and the International Labor Council in relation to Polish problems.

The action program for 1945 then defines the procedure by which local Councils are chartered and the financial relations between local groups and national headquarters. Full information about or-

ganizing a local Council may be obtained from the American Polish Labor Council, 144 Bleecker St., New York, N. Y.

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Brother Albert Krzywonos gave a comprehensive report on the activities of the American Polish Labor Council for the past year. A highlight of the report concerned the active part the Council played in rallying the workers of Polish extraction around the late President Roosevelt's program. Despite a huge barrage of divisionist propaganda, 86 per cent of the Polish vote was cast in favor of the President. The text of the report will be mailed to delegates.

Another outstanding report was that of Brother William Gebert on the Bretton Woods Conference. Because of the excellent explanatory material it contains, the report is to be sent to each delegate so that discussions may be held in local Councils on the Bretton Woods proposals, which hold real importance to the future Councils on the Bretton Woods proposals, of America.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS ■ ■ ■

The keynote address of Brother Leo Krzycki, President of the National Executive Board, is summarized elsewhere in this issue.

Senator George D. Aiken of Vermont was the guest speaker at the luncheon meeting of the Conference. He welcomed the Conference, representative as it was of the labor movement, as a contribution toward the clarification of the Polish issue on the basis of facts and reason. The best interests of Poland, declared the Senator, can be served by striving to serve the democratic needs of America. The Yalta agreement, he continued, will secure for Poland those guarantees that labor wishes for Poland. Senator Aiken went on to say that he and his senatorial colleagues are interested in preserving American democracy by insuring the development of democracy in all liberated nations. Narrow partisan pressure on the Senate, he pointed out, hamper the efforts of this body to arrive at legislative decisions in the interests of America and of the world.

Professor Ignace Zlotowski of Ohio State University gave a brilliant presentation of the problems confronting Poland in the past and of the opportunities for happiness and prosperity that now lie before the Polish people.

"International cooperation and understanding are possible only among nations free from fear and free from want," said Professor Zlotowski. "Thus, a durable peace depends primarily on economic and military factors providing security against misery at home and against aggression from abroad. . . . The people of Poland are determined to carry through a political, economic and social program that will assure the establishment of a truly democratic Polish state."

Professor Zlotowski was enthusiastic in his report on the agrarian reform. Then he showed how the German army, even in defeat, destroyed each city and production center in Poland as it retreated, so as to weaken the nation. The Red Army, by contrast, followed the strategy of encirclement as it advanced, so as to spare the wealth of Poland.

"That is why the destruction of Warsaw," he continued, "as a result of a premature uprising directed from London and not coordinated with the Red Army meant not only to sacrifice over two hundred thousand Polish patriots but to play into Hitler's hands by depriving liberated Poland of one of the most important cities in the rebuilding of Poland's economic and political life."

The people of Poland, said Professor Zlotowski, are fully aware of their strength and of their responsibilities. They know there cannot be a truly democratic regime in Poland without cooperation with all the world democracies, and especially with Poland's Slav neighbors, Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union. And they realize also that there cannot be lasting peace in Europe unless there is a truly democratic regime in Poland. The Poland of the future will be "neither an empire nor a satellite of any other country, but an equal member of the great family of free European nations."

■ ■ ■

In a message to the Conference, Professor J. Neyman of the University of California summarized his views as follows:

■ Whatever the political labels of the particular individuals, all the partisans of the Polish Government-in-Exile in London act, knowingly or not, as proponents of a minute but powerful group with feudal traditions.

■ This group has a deplorable record and its return to power in Po-

land is most undesirable to the common Polish people and might cause serious local and even international trouble.

■ In the circumstances, all efforts should be made for the Warsaw Provisional Government obtaining both the recognition of this country and generous help.

■ The present record of the Warsaw Provisional Government, especially as regards to agrarian reform, is excellent.

A summary of speeches delivered by Professor Oscar Lange and Professor W. Szymanowski will be included in the next issue of *The Outlook*.

GREETINGS FROM OSUBKA-MORAWSKI

Greetings to the Conference flowed in from near and far. From Prime Minister Osubka-Morawski of the Warsaw Provisional Government came these spirited words:

"I send you most ardent greetings on behalf of my country, which, thanks to the victories of the anti-Hitlerite coalition over fascism, and above all, thanks to the courage of the heroic Red Army, is now liberated from the German invaders.

"In that battle for freedom an important part was played by the Polish soldier who shared in the sacrifice of the Allied struggle, fighting arm to arm with the Red Army men against the common foe.

"We are building a democratic Poland which will be a mother to all men of toil, which will assure the flowering of our best Polish cultural traditions. We are building a Poland which will remain faithful to all democratic states, an implacable enemy of Fascism and German aggression. A Poland forever linked by ties of friendship with other Slav nations will keep guard over peace and freedom in Europe."

FRATERNAL UNION GREETINGS

From the Provisional Central Committee of Polish Trade Unionists came this message, signed by Chairman Witaszewski and Secretary Dolinski:

"On behalf of half million trade union members in Poland, organized in central trade union commissions, we send our fraternal greetings to the Polish American trade union conference. We express our hope that your decisions will exert influence on matter of consolidating all democratic forces around the sole legal power in Poland—the Polish Provisional Government."

* * *

Other greetings were read from friends of the League of Kosciuszko in Rochester, from the Milwaukee American Polish Labor Council and others. The noted artist, Arthur Szyk, voiced his confidence

that "Poland shall be governed, not by a President 'responsible before God and history,' but by the legal Polish Government on Polish soil, responsible before the people of Poland," and he plead for immediate help to "ruined and bleeding Poland."

The Conference authorized a letter to Congressmen and Senators, pledging the support of American trade unionists of Polish extraction to the objectives of Yalta and San Francisco and exposing the propaganda devices of reactionaries pretending to speak in the name of Poland.

SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions were adopted on vital issues confronting American Polish trade unionists. These may be summarized as follows:

● Supporting the late President Roosevelt's achievement at the Crimea Conference as guaranteeing the freedom and independence of the Polish nation, and pledging fullest support to the American delegation at San Francisco.

● Expressing to the Department of State the hope that a delegation representing the new democratic Poland will be seated at San Francisco.

● Condemning the divisionist and harmful activities of Charles Rozmarek and other leaders of the Polish American Congress; Ignacy Matuszewski, leader of the KNAPP; anti-administration Congressmen, especially Representative O'Konski of Wisconsin; and the anti-administration Polish press, such as *Nowy Swiat*, *Dziennik Polski* and *Dziennik Zwiazkowy*.

● Welcoming the aid given to Poland by UNRRA, the American Red Cross, the Federation of Polish Jews and by private agencies using the facilities provided by Russian War Relief, expressing concern over the hesitation of Polish War Relief, Inc., to give fullest aid to the suffering Polish people, and expressing satisfaction over the steps taken by UNRRA to assure greater and more immediate aid.

● Commending the sound labor leadership of Philip Murray and Sidney Hillman.

● Condemning racial, national or religious discrimination and supporting the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

● Supporting the World Trade Union Federation initiated in London and urging its support by all American trade unions. Welcoming and supporting the Administrative Committee in conference at Washington.

● Supporting the Full Employment Act of 1945 (S. 380).

● Welcoming the Act of Chapultepec as creating the foundation for good neighbor relations between all American republics.

COMMITTEES AT SECOND NATIONAL CONFERENCE

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Vincent Klein, Chairman; United Auto Workers international representative.
Steve Lesniewski, United Steel Workers.
Stanley Grabbe, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers.
Sigmund Bednarski, New Jersey Chairman, American Polish Labor Council.
Edward Cook, Cleveland Industrial Council, CIO.
Anthony Curylo, Bakery & Confectionery Workers Local, 3, AFL.
E. Jasinski, Secretary, United Office and Professional Workers Local 24.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Joseph Pyzik, Chairman; Amalgamated Clothing Workers.
Victor Bloswick, Transport Workers Union.
James Cichoeki, United Auto Workers.
Harry Kujtkowski, Western District, Polonia Society.
Joseph Janusz, Secretary; Cooks, Counter-men & Cafe Employees, AFL.

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Frank Sitek, Chairman; United Packinghouse Workers.
Clara Wasilewska, United Auto Workers.
Mathew Vaniel, Secretary; Polish-American Civic League.

ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE

Sigmund Chmielewski, Chairman; United Auto Workers.
Zigmund Wlodarczyk, United Packinghouse Workers.
Joseph Zawol, United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers.
John Zarembo, United Auto Workers.
Anthony Napierkowski, Polish-American Civic League.
Stanley Wisniewski, Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

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THE OUTLOOK

of the

American Polish Labor Council

144 BLEECKER STREET

NEW YORK 12, N. Y.

AMERICAN POLISH LABOR FACES HISTORIC FACTS

Summary of Keynote Address by President of American Polish Labor Council at Second National Conference

"Standing behind our President, exposing reactionary forces and their propaganda, organizing masses of our fellow-citizens of Polish descent, giving whole-hearted help to New Poland—we are fighting a great battle for America, for her future, for the welfare of her people." — In these inspiring words, President Leo Krzycki summarized the program of the American-Polish Labor Council, representing 600,000 American workers of Polish descent.

The fight against Nazi Germany is reaching its final stage. The end of the war in Europe is in sight. American labor as well as the labor of all Allied countries brought its splendid contribution to the victorious conclusion of this war. With pride, in high spirit, we can say that this victory is ours, that it is a result of our efforts, our sweat and our hardships.

But the destruction of Nazi Germany does not mean the end of our task. We are only in the middle of a long and difficult road which leads our generation and generations to come to a durable and just peace, to that universal security which will create an unshaken foundation for the future progress of all nations, of all humanity. How to build this peace — this question still remains open.

One thing is certain: durable and just peace cannot be built without the participation of labor.

If we neglect our part in the shaping of the peace and of the new order born from it, other forces will impose upon us *their* selfish peace which will be a prelude to a new war, to new destruction and destitution, to a new fascism.

The Yalta conference was the most important milestone along the difficult road which leads us to victory and peace.

The solidarity of the main Allied powers has been confirmed and — what is more essential — has been strengthened.

We, American-Polish organized labor, stand behind this great vision and this great opportunity for mankind created by the THREE GREAT STATESMEN OF YALTA. We see in it the beginning of a new period in the history of our own country and of all humanity.

A number of other important milestones have preceded the Crimea conference. The paving of the path was begun



in Moscow and in Teheran.

The next milestones were meetings in Bretton Woods and Dumbarton Oaks.

All those international meetings paved the way for the forthcoming San Francisco conference. We hope — the representatives of *all* the United Nations will assist at this historic conference. It would be a terrible blow against the cause of the peace if Poland — heroic Poland, Poland who for more than five years of unspeakable agony resisted the cruel rule of Nazi invaders — if that new, Democratic Poland were not represented in San Francisco.

The Crimea conference has proved once again that there is no really essential issue that divides the members of the Anglo-Soviet-American coalition.

The San Francisco conference will lay the foundations for the post-war unity of the United Nations, it will establish a broad scheme for the fruitful functioning of the world security system. In this country the majority of the nation is behind it. We, American-Polish labor, are giving our full support to this important meeting.

But there is a minority consolidated against it. We know who those people are who do not accept the Yalta conference and who are making every effort to jeopardize the San Francisco meeting.

They are the same reactionary forces which persistently work against our President, which persistently oppose the policy based on the idea of international collaboration, which advocate isolationism, which undermine all progressive measures in American life, which sabotage Henry Wallace's great plan of 60 million post-war jobs for Americans, which are willing to find "nice people" among German industrialists. One of the instruments used by these forces is that of encouraging reactionary and fascist elements within the nationality groups. The Polish question is specifically significant in this respect.

Our reactionary cliques made an alliance with a gang of Polish reactionary politicians who found refuge in this country. We must call attention to the fact that there is here, in the United States, an element enjoying all the benefits of democracy but attempting to destroy this democracy, these ideals for which our boys are shedding their blood in Europe and in Asia. This element — a group of former dignitaries of the Pilsudski regime — became good friends and associates of the worst native haters of Roosevelt and of his policy. The aims of both are the same: to undermine that solidarity of the United Nations upon which victory and peace are resting.

Polish reactionaries share with their American friends the belief in a war between Russia and her Western Allies and they are very busy preparing people's minds to accept the thought of the imminence of such a war and thus speeding its outbreak.

This reactionary coalition in its unbridled drive to scuttle the establishment of a world organization at San Francisco is setting the stage for economic chaos and insecurity in America.

Failure to create a world organization will affect the lives of all Americans — industry, business, farmers, workers would pay a bitter price for many years to come if these reactionary forces succeeded in their nefarious scheme to wreck international cooperation and understanding.

As Americans who owe allegiance first and above all to the United States of America we must neither ignore nor neglect the menace which originates from this action. It is a great plot, a great con-

spiracy directed against inter-Allied solidarity, against this new Poland that is in the making, against the Crimea declaration, against San Francisco and — first of all — against America.

The reactionary Poles know that their position in Poland becomes weaker and weaker, more and more hopeless. In spite of all difficulties and obstacles the position of the Polish Provisional Government is growing stronger daily. The agrarian reform — the cornerstone for the New Poland — is successfully being carried out, the army, the state apparatus, the administration are being organized, the ruined economy restored, the cultural life rebuilt. There is no civil war in Poland. There will be no civil war in Poland, and there will be no place in Poland for the Ciechanowskis and Matuszewskis.

Polish reaction defeated in Poland, found that its last resources rested in American reaction. The coalition of reactionary Poles and reactionary Americans would be happy to have Polish-Americans belong to the same category. Polish reaction defeated at home hopes to take its revenge by winning the souls of Polish Americans.

Now the question is — what do these Polish-Americans stand for? Do they blindly follow the line laid down by the Rozmareks, O'Konskis and Matuszewskis? Was Rozmarek right when he said that "the Hearst press has earned the plaudits of 6,000,000 Americans of Polish descent?"

I do not think so, and you do not think so, and we all have very strong reasons not to believe so. The Rozmareks are merely trying to terrorize American public opinion with these enormous figures of 6,000,000 Polish-Americans unanimously applauding William Randolph Hearst. These 6,000,000 Polish-Americans are a fiction, a legend, a fairy tale. I am not going to discuss statistics but, as we all know, there are no 6,000,000 people of Polish descent in the United States. But let's not speak about statistics. Of much greater importance is the fact that a relatively small group of Polish Americans can be considered as blindly and without any hesitation following Mr. Rozmarek and colonel Matuszewski. The best proof has been given in November 1944. 80 to 90% of Polish-Americans voted for Roosevelt testifying again that they owe allegiance first and above all to the United States of America. And now, in spite of the rabid anti-Roosevelt propaganda in "Nowy Swiat" and "Dziennik Polski," an average American of Polish extraction stands behind our President and his policy.

But this average American of Polish extraction remains under a constant fire of reactionary propaganda. Naturally, this Polish American does not want a

war. But gradually, step by step, he becomes involved in the action which advocates this war as imminent, redeeming wrongs and morally justified. Thus he becomes a tool in the hands of a powerful coalition of reactionary forces in America.

Our conference is the best proof that a very large part of Polish-American workers organized in trade-unions is opposing these reactionary attempts. We must strengthen our organization by creating out of it a powerful nucleus rallying all who see the common danger confronting us. The cooperation of certain groups of intellectuals seems to me of great value for our work.

We will defeat this menace by standing firmly behind our President, by supporting the policy of Yalta and San Francisco, by increasing our efforts in war industry, by producing more machines, more tools, more weapons, by buying more War Bonds. We must make it clear that the unity of the United Nations in war and in peace has to be maintained and will be maintained in spite of all disruptive efforts abroad and at home. We must expose and smash all opposition causing disunity and encouraging the activities of the friends of Hitler disguised as alleged defenders of Poland.

We must smash the enemies of peace by giving our support to this New Poland restored to her freedom and independence. Our great objective must be to organize relief for Poland. We must do our utmost to help the people of Poland to stay on their feet. We desire that they have what we have.

We must fight back the danger of reaction, of disunity, the treacherous conspiracy. And we are calling again and again upon all Americans to join us in this sacred fight. We are struggling for America, for her democratic institutions, for peace and security throughout the world.



LETTER from FRISCO

Our observer at the San Francisco Conference, Brother Leo Krzycki, sent the following message:

"A serious effort is being made by most of the international delegates to create an organization that will maintain peace and security for *all nations*. Man's dream of universal peace, and the brotherhood of man, is brought to a closer realization by this conference. An effective world security organization will be established for the first time in man's history.

"Great interest is shown by the delegates, and the press, alike about the Polish situation. I told those who sought my opinions, that from present information from Poland we can judge objectively.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM KRZYCKI'S TALK :

● If we neglect our part in the shaping of the peace and the new order born from it, other forces will impose upon us *their* selfish peace which will be a prelude to a new war, to new destruction and destitution, to a new fascism.

● The Yalta Conference was the most important milestone along the difficult road which leads us to victory and peace.

● Reactionary coalition in its unbridled drive to scuttle the establishment of a world organization at San Francisco is setting the stage for economic chaos and insecurity in America.

● Failure to create a world organization will effect the lives of all Americans.

● Reactionary Poles know that their position in Poland becomes weaker . . . and more hopeless. There will be no civil war in Poland.

● We must fight back the danger of reaction, of disunity. We are calling upon all Americans to join in this sacred fight.

Poland today has developed a fully functioning democratic government. It has made remarkable strides in the cultural, economic, and social rehabilitation of Poland. It has the support of the Polish population. There will be no civil war. The fact that outstanding Polish priests, such as Arch-Bishop Sapięha, Monsignor Kruszynski, Bishop Jasinski, and others, identify themselves with the Warsaw Government is further proof that the Government is a representative one. The Polish people reach out their hand in friendship to the United Nations by asking to be represented by a Warsaw delegation at San Francisco. We welcome this gesture from our Polish kinsmen, and believe they ought to be permitted to have representation, since the broadened Provisional Government is not formed yet. A democratic Poland is the key to a democratic post-war Europe. The presence of a delegation from Poland is proper, and indispensable, for the complete success of the conference.

"The London group tried to render the new world organization ineffective by its memorandum, but they won't succeed. Everyone here believes that *the London group is living on borrowed time*.

"San Francisco has seen the sunset of Nazism. The world faces the future with confidence."

THE REBIRTH OF TRADE UNIONS IN POLAND

How Provisional Committee Has Organized Half Million Workers in Liberated Nation

On November 20, 1944, a conference of the representatives of trade unions from liberated territories of Poland was held in Lublin. The conference revealed that regenerated trade unions have united in their ranks over one hundred thousand workers in the part of Poland which at that time had been liberated from the Nazi yoke. The conference also took into consideration the desires expressed by district and local unions to create a national organization aiming to centralize the new trade union movement of the Polish workers. Consequently, the Lublin conference adopted a resolution creating the Central Provisional Polish Trade Union Committee.

In its declaration, the Central Provisional Trade Union Committee proclaimed that it will continue the tradition of a free, independent union movement of Polish labor on the platform of struggle for democracy, social justice, and improvement of living conditions for labor. The Central Provisional Committee also called upon all Polish workers to unite in free and independent trade unions.

Thus on November 20, 1944, a tremendous step was taken toward the rebirth and unity of the Polish labor movement. We must bear in mind that the German occupation completely destroyed all forms of organized activity by Polish labor. Many labor leaders were executed, many others perished in concentration camps and in prisons. Relatively little of the old leadership survived. But the Nazi rulers of Poland were unable to destroy the spirit which animated Polish labor during five years of incredible hardships. The

Polish workers, immediately after their liberation, realized the necessity of building a strong trade union organization.

At the Lublin conference, more than one hundred thousand workers were represented. This figure may not seem impressive, but at that time only the less industrialized provinces of Poland had been liberated. After the liberation of the highly industrialized districts, the number of workers organized increased considerably. On February 18, 1945, a report from the great textile center of Lodz says that the "trade unions in the Lodz district and in Lodz are now registering about 100,000 members." That was almost immediately after the liberation of Lodz.

According to recent reports, the membership organized in the Central Provisional Trade Union Committee now surpasses 500,000. This mark has been achieved in the face of the industrial under-development of Poland and the shortness of time since liberation, and in spite of tremendous losses suffered by Polish labor during the occupation and as a result of the deportation by terror of large numbers of workers, skilled and otherwise, to work in German factories. Under these circumstances, we must admit that the figure of half a million organized Polish workers is very inspiring and indicates the magnitude of the job which already has been done in Poland.

The regenerated Polish trade unions represent various branches of the economy. Miners and railroad, steel and textile workers constitute the core of Poland's organized labor movement. Almost immediately after the liberation of the

Silesia and Dombrowa coal regions, a powerful mine workers' union was organized. This union, as well as its sister organizations, play a very important part in the job of the economic reconstruction and rehabilitation of Poland. Union representatives are very active in the management of mines and plants. Many reports from Poland emphasize, as well the trend toward organization among "white collar" workers.

The resolution adopted by the Lublin conference calls upon all workers to unite in free and independent trade unions. The lack of unity was one of the main causes of the weakness of Polish labor before the war. Very often it was a direct result of the provocative policy undertaken by the government. The former rulers of Poland tried to weaken the solidarity of the Polish workers by spreading the seeds of disunity among them. In spite of these police methods by the pre-war government, the Polish workers were always aware that splits in their ranks were the main obstacle on the way to progress.

But unity of the labor movement had been achieved only after liberation from Nazi rule. At present, the Central Provisional Trade Union Committee embraces all labor unions, unified, as they are, in their common aims and common organization. The situation formerly existing, when the same branch of industry was represented by six or seven different unions, now belongs to history.

The Polish unions, led by the reborn Central Trade Union Committee, cement the working masses of liberated Poland. They testify that Polish labor is building a new, a democratic and a progressive Poland.

May 2, 1945

Cordell Hull, Secretary of State Emeritus
Naval Hospital, Bethesda, Md.

We, the executive board of the American Polish Labor Council, sincerely appreciate your attitude and position regarding the unfortunate seating of the Argentina delegates at the San Francisco Security Conference.

Your position and statement will help retain the confidence of our South American Brothers. Organized labor here in America, and throughout the world, find encouragement and hope in your forthright stand upholding the international policy of our late President Roosevelt.

AMERICAN POLISH LABOR COUNCIL
E. Jasinski, Executive Director.

NEW POLAND CEMENTS FRIENDSHIP WITH SOVIET UNION

BY PROF. IGNACE ZLOTOWSKI

Mutual Assistance Treaty Points Way to Security, Prosperity and Independence of Nation

The battle for the liberation of Europe is over. The heroic soldiers of the Red Army, supported by Polish Army units, have battled their way through the ruins of the once great capital of the Third Reich. Germany, the nest of fascist tyranny in Europe, has been deprived of the strongholds of its military power to the Russians and the Poles in the East and to the British and the Americans in the West. As a result of the common effort of all the United Nations, big as well as small, and at the price of millions of human lives in the peace-loving countries in the world, the Nazi pest is about to be erased forever from the surface of the earth.

Yet the history of the last 25 years tells us that it is not enough to disarm the German soldiers and to liquidate the German military machine to assure lasting peace in Europe. To achieve this sacred goal it is imperative to prevent the Germans from exploiting the eventual political or economic differences between their neighbors. For it is safe to say that the revival of German power after the last war was deliberately promoted by the makers of foreign policy in other European countries in a vain hope of seeing that power fight the Soviet Union at an appropriate moment.

Thus, knowing that Germany was actually the only possible aggressor Poland had to consider, the masters of Polish foreign policy nevertheless turned upon Poland's natural friendly neighbors: Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union. For twenty long years all Polish governments played this blundering game, paving the way toward the bloodiest conflict in Europe's history.

"It would be inconceivable, it would indeed be sacrilegious," wrote President Roosevelt in one of his last messages to Congress, "if . . . the world did not attain some real lasting good out of all these efforts and sufferings and bloodshed and death." The historic junction between the Anglo-American and the Soviet forces in the very heart of Nazidom did actually seal the fate of Nazi Germany. But what is even more important, the link-up at Torgau has also sealed the friendship between the Allied armies by destroying once and for all the artificial barrier built up between the West and the East of Europe. The handshake on a

broken bridge over the Elbe river made it sure that both the soldier from Stalin-grad and the doughboy from the Middle West meant real business when they started their long trips from two points separated by 2,500 miles of land and over 3,000 miles of sea. April 25, 1945, will remain for many generations to come to a shining symbol of the beginning of a new era of international co-operation in Europe. The cherished dreams of Polish reactionaries of using Poland as a watertight barrier separating the Soviet Union from the rest of Europe have been ended.

SIKORSKI'S FORESIGHT

It was a happy coincidence that on the very eve of that historic event, far away in Moscow a diplomatic act of even greater historic significance has been signed to serve the best interests of Europe: the treaty of friendship, mutual assistance and postwar co-operation between Poland and the Soviet Union. The Soviet Government signed a similar treaty in 1941 with the late General Sikorski. It seemed then that the anti-Soviet policy of the Sanacja leaders following the pro-Nazi trend of Colonel Beck's diplomacy had been put to an end.

"I wish to share with you, Mr. Premier, my deep conviction," wrote General Sikorski to Premier Stalin on the day of the first anniversary of the 1941 agreement, "that our treaty constitutes a solid foundation of friendly Polish-Soviet relations and that it will contribute to the victory of the principles of international justice over the forces of oppression and lawlessness."

But the pro-fascist elements within the Government-in-Exile in London immediately started a concentrated attack aimed at destroying General Sikorski's patriotic and realistic policy. The untimely death of that great Polish statesman was a signal for all Polish pro-fascists, both in occupied Poland and abroad, to restore the disastrous policy that resulted in Poland's enslavement in 1939 after 26 days of heroic fighting. The climax of that reckless conduct of our reactionaries was marked by the rupture on the part of the Soviet Union of all diplomatic relations with the émigré government in London.

NEW POLISH POLICY

But as soon as Poland had regained her freedom, the Provisional Government in

Warsaw, representing the chief Polish democratic political parties, started a new trend in Polish foreign policy. In the clearly defined national interest, the Provisional Government broke with the old anti-Soviet attitude of all prewar Polish Governments and established instead a friendly basis for close military as well as economic co-operation with the Soviet Union. In order to assure a prosperous future to millions of Poles and to prevent future bloodshed in Europe, it is indeed imperative to cement friendship and unity between the Soviet Union, the chief military power on the continent, and Poland, the natural springboard for the traditional "Drang nach Osten" of German imperialism.

"After the termination of the present war with Germany," reads Article 3 of the treaty, "[both parties will use] . . . all measures at their disposal in order to eliminate every threat of a repetition of aggression on the part of Germany or any other state which would unite with Germany directly or in any other form."

Moreover, "in the event that one of the [countries] in the postwar period finds itself involved in hostilities with a Germany which should resume her aggressive policy, or with some other state which should unite with Germany directly or in any other form in such war, the other [country] will immediately render . . . military or other assistance and support by every means at its disposal."

Finally the provisions of the treaty bind the governments not to conclude without mutual consent a peace treaty or even an armistice with any German Government which "would encroach on the independence, territorial integrity and security" of either Poland or the Soviet Union.

Thus after a long period of insecurity and political subjection to Germany, which led to a military disaster followed by the barbaric extermination of millions of Polish citizens and the enslavement of the entire nation, the people of Poland are at long last in a position to build a strong, secure and politically independent Polish state.

Through the signing of the treaty the
(Continued on next page)

NEW POLAND

(Continued from Page 7)

Polish people have also strengthened the foundation of a truly democratic Poland and therefore contributed to the common cause of all the United Nations: world security. Because only a Poland co-operating with all great democracies, and particularly one friendly toward her Slav neighbors, can carry out a broad program of democratic measures and assure full democratic freedom for all of her citizens. On the other hand, it is a demonstrated fact that without a truly democratic Poland, a lasting peace in Europe cannot be established.

Article 2 of the Soviet-Polish treaty completely refutes the assertions of reactionary elements that by pursuing a policy of friendly co-operation with the Soviet Republics, the New Poland is destined inexorably to become a satellite state on the border of Russia.

"The high contracting parties," reads the provision of the aforesaid article, ". . . will strengthen friendly collaboration between the two countries in conformity with the principles of mutual respect for their independence and sovereignty as well as non-intervention in the internal affairs of the other state."

However, we know only too well that sovereignty and independence have no real meaning unless they are supported by a solid economic basis within the country and a healthy trade policy toward other countries. For many years Polish governments sought to extend Poland's economic relations with Germany at the expense of entirely neglecting trade with the Soviet Union, the natural outlet for Polish industrial production. Today the people of Poland, "striving to support by every means the cause of peace and security of nations after the war," are more than anxious to cement sound economic relations with their great Slav neighbor.

In fact, according to Article 7 of the treaty, after the termination of the war both contracting parties "will . . . collaborate in a spirit of friendship with a view to the further development and consolidation of economic and cultural ties between the two countries and assist each other in the economic rehabilitation of both countries."

Thus the Provisional Government in Warsaw has achieved a great economic victory by assuring material support of the Soviet Union in the difficult task of rebuilding the devastated Polish cities, towns and villages.

RADIOGRAM from the WARSAW TRADE UNION COUNCIL to Trade Unionists in the United States

Warsaw is the most tragic city in the world—rather, not a city but a heap of rubble, bricks and fantastically shaped iron. Such was the work of the barbarian invader.

The dead city, however, is beginning to revive. It is coming to life, thanks to the superhuman will and energy of its faithful inhabitants. Yes, we Warsaw people decided to rebuild our capital. We live in ruins, in basements, in remnants of houses, in primitively knocked-together wooden barracks. So far, we are deprived of water, electric light and means of communication, and we walk great distances to our places of work.

Despite lack of food, medicines and tools, we work with enthusiasm to raise our beloved Warsaw from the ruins and make her more beautiful than she was before. That is why we appeal to you

After five years of unbelievable sufferings, Poland, New Poland, Poland of the people and for the people, rising as a free country out of the ruins of thousands of Polish cities and of a sea of blood of millions of the best sons and daughters of Poland, is today on the road to prosperity and happiness for all men, and women living on Polish soil. For it goes without saying, of course, that a prosperous Poland can exist only under the conditions of strong economic links with the Soviet Union.

"This sound political idea [of Polish-Soviet collaboration] will constantly guide our foreign policy," said the Premier of the Provisional Government, Mr. Osobka-Morawski, on the signing of the treaty, "because it has been dictated by our statesmanship, because it is an expression of the common ardent wishes and desires of our peoples and follows from the constant community of our interests."

The Polish-Soviet treaty of friendship will go down in history not only as a demonstration of the united efforts of all Slav countries to form an invincible front against their common enemy, Germany, but also as one of the most important factors in the resurgence of a peaceful and prosperous Europe.

far away in America and in that part of the world which has not been crushed by the Nazi boot to help us in reconstructing Warsaw, to help us live through this difficult period.

Send all that is necessary for life to the working people of Poland. Poles in the Soviet Union have extended a helping hand to us. The U.S.S.R. and fraternal Slav nations have rendered us extensive assistance. Five hundred wooden houses for people working on reconstruction have already arrived in Warsaw, as well as many automobiles, several carloads of foodstuffs, and a shipment of clothing and medicines. Even telephones were not forgotten. We received 3,000 telephone instruments and parts. Recently, the First Byelorussian Front Commandant of the heroic Red Army, presented us with cows and pigs.

Workers of other Polish cities, who labor under most severe conditions, show examples of remarkable self-sacrifice. For instance, the personnel of the "Battery" plant, state functionaries and others pledged one day's pay each month for an entire year for the reconstruction of Warsaw.

Let our fellow-countrymen, organized in trade unions in America and all over the world, lend a helping hand to working people in Warsaw in the task of raising our capitol from the ruins.

Please organize relief committees, call mass meetings, inform all Poles about the necessity of extensive and speedy help. Let Polish newspapers abroad repeat our appeal so that it may reach the heart of every one of our fellow-countrymen. Initiate campaigns to collect food, medicines and clothing. We do not doubt, for a moment, that our appeal will not go unanswered and that your contribution to the reconstruction of Warsaw will be worthy and extensive.

WARSAW

TRADE UNION COUNCIL.

