

The Polish Review



General Sikorski's Reception in New York

GENERAL SIKORSKI was given an official reception by the City of New York at noon on Saturday, January 9th. Replying to Mayor La Guardia's address of welcome, the Polish Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief said:—

"Your Honor Mr. Mayor, please accept my sincere thanks for the handsome words of welcome and encouragement you have just addressed to me and through me to the Polish Nation. May I not also, through its Mayor, thank the City of New York for the heartening reception and splendid welcome extended to me.

"Few things can be more inspiring to a man of action, to one who fights for freedom, than to be privileged to speak from the same platform as Mayor LaGuardia. He personifies America; he is a fearless champion of freedom and of the rights of man. As the Representative of the Polish People who not only now but throughout their history have always fought for their own independence and for that of other people—no matter what the odds—I salute the spirit of America, in the person of Mayor LaGuardia.

"Since it began on September 1st, 1939, the war has spread over the entire world. Today it can be said that the complete destruction of German, Italian and Japanese totalitarianism is absolutely certain.

"Poland fights on and refuses to accept any compromise, notwithstanding the most ruthless and barbarous oppression. Her armed forces, formed and fighting abroad, rank her fifth in strength among the United Nations. Polish fighter squadrons, active since August 1940 side by side with the British Royal Air Force, have brought down 500 enemy planes for certain and probably 258 more. That is Poland's answer to German terror and to the ruthless attempts to exterminate the Polish nation.

"This is my farewell to the United States, whither I came as the guest of President Roosevelt. I am glad of this opportunity of saying good-bye to America in this great City, above whose historic City Hall the Polish flag is today flying. New York is the Eastern Gateway to the United States, the gateway that in the last century, so hospitably welcomed scores of thou-

sands of my fellow countrymen who sought freedom in America. Today they and their children are patriotic and loyal American citizens, faithfully serving in great numbers as soldiers and workmen, enthusiastically contributing to the final triumph of right over might. In taking leave of this great country I wish to express my admiration for the way it has thrown the irresistible weight of its moral and material resources into the present struggle for human freedom.

"As this new year opens, Hitler has at last lost some of his main advantages, in his clash with the Russian armies which, under the leadership of Stalin, are showing such magnificent determination. He can no longer treacherously attack and separately destroy one carefully chosen opponent after another. He has likewise lost a second and no less important advantage—air superiority.

"The character of the war is now changing completely both in Africa and in Europe. The possibility of Allied initiative is becoming clearly outlined and the time is getting near when we shall repay the Germans by Blitzkrieg methods which they will no longer be able to counter.

"At the same time the possibility of an early transfer of operations into the very heart of the European fortress defended by Hitler is becoming evident. Allied air power will shortly be in a position to attack from new bases and on an ever increasing scale the most vital centers of German and Italian military power. The massed hatred of the oppressed peoples, released at the right moment through the invasion of Europe, will give to the final blow dealt by the United Nations an impetus so great, that it will bring about the inevitable and final defeat of Adolf Hitler. After breaking the resistance of Germany, the backbone of the Axis Powers, the time will come for Japan, against the imperialism of which China has been fighting so courageously for over five years under Generalissimo Chiang-Kai-shek.

"The absolute solidarity of the United Nations in this crucial moment of the war and in its final stage is the most important element of victory.

"After victory, we shall be faced by the vast problem of having to regenerate a Germany poisoned to the core, and other nations that have submitted to the influence of the insane Nazi doctrine. The time will then have come to extend the iron hand of justice over the guilty.

"We shall be faced with the problem, of organizing a just, democratic peace, a peace more lasting than that of 1919. Military victory will be but a prelude

to peace, and now is the time to prepare the foundations of peace. I believe that a Central European federation will constitute the firmest guarantee of such a lasting peace.

"Today we have the opportunity of carrying out this great work. It is an opportunity unique in history. Should it be missed, the enormous effort and all the sacrifices on the part of the great Democracies, the hell of suffering of the nations now enslaved, will all have been in vain.

"I leave America convinced that this opportunity will not be wasted. I am certain that your leaders are fully conscious of the responsibility placed upon them by history.

"Under the guidance of President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill, the American and the British people have understood the meaning of these last two world wars. The first started in Belgrade in 1914; the present launched by an attack of German bombers on Warsaw in 1939. These two world conflicts have proved that there is no such thing as isolation from common dangers and suffering; that real peace is one and indivisible the world over.

"For centuries the American and Polish Nations have had the same ideals. These ideals are so splendidly symbolized in our history by George Washington, by Woodrow Wilson, by President Roosevelt, by Kosciuszko, Pulaski and Paderewski. I am proud that today these ideals are being defended in the name of the maxim written in Polish blood 150 years ago: 'For Our Freedom and for Yours.'

"God Bless America!"

THE MAYOR'S SPEECH:

Mayor La Guardia, in his speech of welcome, said:—

"General Sikorski, a few days ago, I had the honor and privilege of greeting you here at City Hall and of extending to you in the name of the seven and a half million people of New York City our sincere welcome. Today, on behalf of the people of the City of New York, we are gathered to bid you farewell and to ask you to take a message from the people of this City to the people of your country. Rich as is your language, General, we cannot express in ours the great admiration that we have for the people, the liberty-loving, fighting people of Poland.

"Tell them that we cannot find words to express our stunned admiration for their courage and the resistance that they put up in defending their home land against a mighty, powerful, cruel, brutal nation. And the people of

Poland did not submit, never have submitted, and never will submit to aggression.

"Their history is a hard one but they have demonstrated their indomitable character and nature and their refusal to surrender at any time. They have lived through centuries of oppression. The people of Poland know what war is. Their country was first invaded by the brutal forces of the Nazis and fifteen days later they were confronted with another invasion from the east.

"At this time, wherever possible, wherever there are Poles, there you will find an armed force joining with the United Nations. And, part of this message, General, is that the people of our country are not unmindful of the resistance of Poland and will speak up at the proper time for the complete restoration of the rights and territory that belong to Poland.

"It may be difficult for some to understand the situation in parts of Europe. There may be some who are not familiar with the terrible conditions under which the people of Poland lived when they were divided—part under Germany, part under the Hapsburgs and part under the Romanoffs—but that day is gone. An American President had the vision and the courage at the last peace conference to speak out on behalf of the rights of the people of Poland. Then, after nearly twenty-five years, that Poland demonstrated her right to be independent—demonstrated the success of her independence when she was again ruthlessly, brutally, cowardly and unlawfully attacked. You can assure the people of your country, General, that another American President will speak out at the proper time for the protection, the freedom and the liberty of the people of Poland. We feel assured that at no time in the future will any minority rights be ignored by the new Poland that soon will be established. We feel assured, General, that there will be no persecution or prosecution on account of religion or for any other reason under the new Poland.

"Ordinarily, leave-taking and expressions of farewell are intermingled with sorrow. Ordinarily, we say we are so sorry that you must leave us so soon. On this occasion, we say we are glad that you are going, General Sikorski, because we know that you will resume the important duties of your office and that you will add more inspiration and courage to the people of your country. And, in bidding you farewell, we say, of course, 'auf Wiedersehen', not in New York, not in England, but in your own country—free and independent."

The Polish Review

VOL. III, No. 3

JANUARY 18, 1943

Weekly Magazine Published by

THE POLISH INFORMATION CENTER

151 East 67th Street, New York, N. Y.

Annual Subscription Four Dollars

Single Copy Ten Cents

SHORTCOMINGS OF GERMANIZATION

THE policy of Germanization of Polish territories illegally "incorporated" in the Reich has many economic, cultural and social consequences.

The mass deportation of Poles combined with an inadequate influx of Germans and the unpromising outlook for German colonization has lowered the density of population. The Germans expect this to be lasting.

According to the last Polish census (1931) the density of population in the rural areas of the "incorporated" provinces was as high as 318 persons per square mile. According to German plans this is to be reduced to no more than 209 persons, and in the district of Ciechanow to 150 persons per square mile. In view of this population decrease, the area of peasant farms is to be increased to between 50 and 95 acres. Furthermore, the decreased population—resulting from the expulsion of the Poles—is to be counteracted by an increase in the acreage of timber. According to *Das Reich* of December 15th, 1940, the percentage of forest area is to be raised from 16% to 30% of the total area.

The *Ost-Steuerhilfe-Verordnung* of December 9th, 1940, confers special and far-reaching privileges on German business, trade, crafts and capital investments of all kinds in the "incorporated" area to induce business men from the Reich to settle in Polish lands. Tax reductions are granted to attract capital to the east, while the influx of German workers from other parts of the Reich is encouraged by higher wages and opportunities of buying houses on easy terms. The Empire officials lured to the east by special bonuses (*Ostmarkenzulagen*); today similar inducements are offered to officials in annexed territories. The *Ost-Steuerhilfe-Verordnung* lowered the cost of production in the "incorporated" territories to such an extent that German businessmen in the Reich protested loudly. To silence them these tax rebates and grants were extended, as from the end of February, 1941, to all territories east of the river Oder.

The *Ost-Steuerhilfe-Verordnung* was not the only decree for the Germanization of the East which provoked grumbling. Poland's economic structure—firmly coherent before Germany's unprovoked aggression—was divided in two by the creation of a customs and currency frontier between the illegally "incorporated" territories and the Government General.

The industrial establishments in the "incorporated area," expropriated and given to German owners, lost their natural
(Please turn to page 4)



SHORTCOMINGS OF GERMANIZATION

(Continued from page 3)

markets. The eastern section of the Committee for the Frontier Trade of the "Reichswirtschaftskammer," at its meeting of November 1940 in Olsztyn demanded in the strongest terms the economic reunion, at least in part, of the Government General with the "incorporated" part of Poland. The temporary customs and currency facilities for trading between the two parts of Poland were at once restored when they expired in November 1940. At the end of 1940 a special committee of the Reich Ministry of Economics reviewed the whole problem of railway tariffs and of rebates to dispose of the long-haul problem. This problem, according to many authorities, was at the root of the low industrial development of eastern Germany.

Even Danzig was affected by this unnatural economic policy of Germanization of the "incorporated" Polish territories. There is nothing a Pole could add to the conclusions of the article: "Zwischen Danzig und Thorn—Wandlungen und Aufbau an der Unterweichsel," which appeared in *Das Reich* of December 29th, 1940. We read there:

"The main part of the economic area that used Danzig as its port is now in Russian hands. This applies primarily to the great forest areas that supplied the timber exported from the Danzig docks. Danzig was specially equipped for this trade. Trade with the Baltic countries has also been cut off. From the point of view of transport the Warta is now linked with the River Oder. The same is true of Upper Silesia: now linked with the Oder by the Adolf Hitler Canal; its future connection with the Danube, now planned, will further affect its trade. In the Government General the large trading firms from Hamburg and Bremen compete with Danzig firms, and the competition of Königsberg is also being felt. In this connection it may be recalled that before 1914 the turnover of the port of Danzig amounted to some two and a half million tons a year, while in recent years, when economically part of Poland, it handled some 6 or 7 million tons of goods a year."

It is of little comfort to Danzig people that they were not better off before 1914. The weekly *Das Reich* of April 13th, 1941, in its article "Begegnung mit Danzigern"* had the following remark:

". . . The inhabitants of Danzig are of independent character and are unwilling to think that we, the natives of the old Reich, are in all respects such excellent teachers and guides. The people of Danzig are conscious of their own history, though often they do not realize this themselves."

The *Frankfurter Zeitung* of January 4th, 1941, said plainly that the favorable position of Danzig in recent years was due to its links with its Polish hinterland. So "*Eindeutschung*" reacts unfavorably on the economic structure of the "incorporated" territories and time does not improve matters. In the summer of 1942 at a meeting at Zoppot—in the presence of the Minister of Economy of the Reich, Funk, the official representatives of Danzig business circles publicly raised the question of the separation of their city from the Polish economic area.

The same applies to cultural matters. The "*Eindeutschung*" affects especially the peasantry of western Poland whose cultural level was very high. This was clearly shown by their struggle against German oppression in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries—a struggle that ended in 1918 with the restoration of the Polish State. In his great anti-Polish crusade, Bismarck, Hitler's predecessor, speaking on

the attitude of the German people towards the Poles in those Polish lands, then a part of Germany, said:

"The curious fact in this struggle is that—contrary to what people abroad think and what our optimists believe—the German people are not victorious and that Germanization is not making any progress. The curious fact is that it is the Polish people who make progress. We should, therefore, ask the question: how is this possible at a time when the German element is receiving such large aid from the Government?"

In a book entitled *Das polnische Gemeinwesen im preussischen Staate* (1907), Professor L. Bernhard emphasized that the Polish peasantry in these territories was culturally superior to the colonists, already settled by German authorities, although the latter used every means of pressure at their disposal. Between 1896 and 1904, Poles bought from Germans 8,378 holdings, with a total area of 290,000 acres in Poznan and Pomerania. By parcellation they bought from Germans 35,486 holdings with a total area of 375,000 acres. Altogether in those nine years Polish farmers acquired as much as 655,000 acres of land.

While anti-Polish laws were being enacted, Polish resistance was acknowledged at the sitting of the Prussian Diet of May 10th, 1904, by Herr Hammerstein, Prussian Minister of the Interior, who said:

". . . In our eastern provinces we must stretch out a strong hand to the Germans engaged in the struggle against the Poles. The German element, which we wish to maintain in our eastern provinces, is being weakened in favor of the Poles. This is a danger for our fatherland."

In independent Poland the cultural level of the western Polish peasantry rose higher still. Today this peasantry is groaning under the blows of deportation and confiscation of their ancestral holdings. Their place is being taken by German colonists brought from distant lands and settled by the German authorities in the villages of western Poland. These same German settlers are called in the German emigre press "uncouth and verminous."* Upon their arrival in Germany they—especially those from Bessarabia—are immediately "deloused." Secondly, they are taught how to use western European methods of tilling the land. Such is the level of the majority of the new settlers. Only the Germans from the Baltic States approach the cultural level of these Poles who are being deported wholesale.

The low cultural level of the transferred Germans is the cause of frequent conflict between them and the Germans who come from the interior of the Reich or who lived in the "incorporated" territories before the war. This latter section of the German population is ambitious and experienced in social work, and does not even speak the same language as the new settlers. Germans from the west avoid their racial brethren from the east to such an extent that it was found necessary to launch a special propaganda campaign in the Wartheland to persuade Germans from the west to have social contacts with the settlers from the east. The transferred Germans prefer to keep to themselves, not only because of differences in culture, but even of differences in speech. The Germans from the east speak a dialect, and often do not understand literary German. In some cases they have lost

* Cf. *Die Zeitung*, London, June 5th, 1941, in the article "Die Amok-Läufer."

* "Encounter with Danzigers."

(Please turn to page 5)

“NUR FUER DEUTSCHE!”

THE Poles not only show no fear of the Germans, but on the contrary, provoke them at every step and “pull their leg” in cold blood. The Germans cannot cope with the inscriptions chalked up on the walls of Warsaw and other Polish cities.

In the autumn of 1939, 11 people were shot in Zielonka near Warsaw for writing on the walls: “Long live Poland, long live her Allies, France and Great Britain.” New inscriptions appear every night. On Polish National Day the words “Poland lives, Poland will win” appeared in almost every part of Warsaw. Polish flags were hoisted on many lamp posts. On the anniversaries of German mass-executions of Poles there appear reminders to the Germans: “Remember Wawer 27, XII, 1942.” “Remember Palmiry.”

When last year the Germans put up posters showing the territorial gains of the German army in Russia— at night some young hands painted on these posters in red ink: “Remember 1812.”

When notices marked “Nur fuer Deutsche” were placed on shops, cafes and in the parks, unknown hands transferred them by night to cemeteries and lampposts.

These practical jokes prove that in spite of everything, the young people of Poland have retained a sense of humor in the grimest conditions. But the reactions of Polish youth were not always of this harmless nature. The signs “Nur fuer



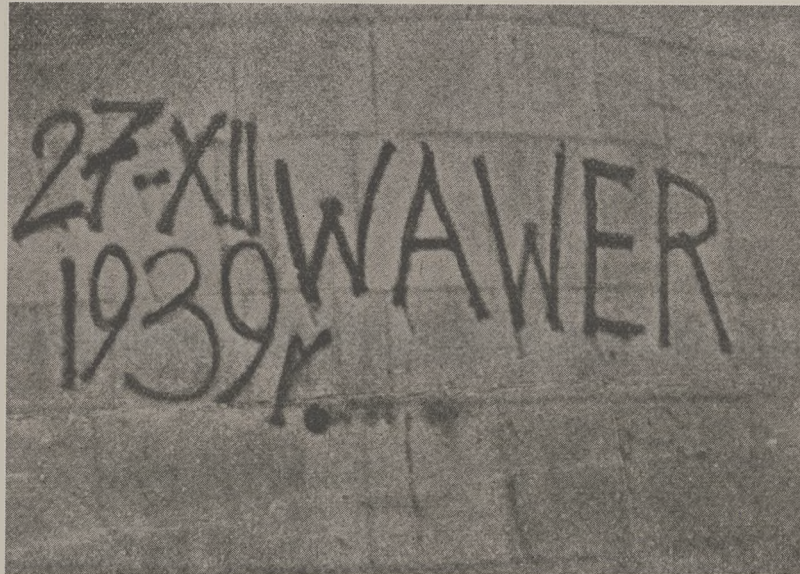
“GERMANY IS LOST!” UNDERGROUND LABELS STUCK ON POLISH BUILDINGS

Deutsche” bring their own revenge on the Germans.

On October 24th, bombs exploded simultaneously in a number of Warsaw cafes bearing these very signs. There were many victims: “Nur Deutsche.”

On the other hand, it is difficult to understand the scorn and contempt which every pole now has for the Germans. One would suppose terrible atrocities and repressions would awaken in Poland rather a fear of the invader’s overpowering cruelty. The opposite is, however, true.

“Mister temporary citizen” shouts the Warsaw newsboy, selling a German yellow paper in the streets, after a German passer-by—“Do buy this paper, for if you don’t, who will?”



REMINDER OF THE WAWER MASSACRE AT CHRISTMAS TIME IN 1939

“It is enough to observe how the Poles pass the Germans in the streets. In Warsaw they do not see the Germans; they treat them like trees which one sees everyday but at which one does not look, like a log over which one must be careful not to stumble.”

—Jan Zart (Polish News, No. 121.)

The young people of Poland participate in the active struggle against the enemy by working in the underground press, and in passive resistance all over Poland. Thousands perish in this struggle but they are replaced by others, full of unshakable faith, faith in the coming liberation and in the terrible punishment that awaits the criminals. “Nur fuer Deutsche.”



“POLAND WILL WIN!” UNDERGROUND LABELS STUCK ON POLISH BUILDINGS

SHORTCOMINGS OF GERMANIZATION

(Continued from page 4)

all consciousness of their German descent. Those from Bessarabia, for instance, have become Russianized.

Felix Lutzendorf calls the policy of transfer of population and Germanization “*Voelkerwanderung*.” Professor Loesch calls it “*Flurbereinigung*”—the cleaning up of areas inhabited by various nationalities. Both these terms are mis-

leading. Himmler’s policy of population transfers and Germanization simply produces chaos. It creates nothing. It lays bare the gulf existing between people of the same race, breeds hatred and destroys European culture in Polish territories. These are the results achieved everywhere by the German “New Order.”

SUFFERING

by ARKADY FIEDLER*

JOE, as his British friends call him, has always been rather a mystery. It is easy to mistake him for quite a different kind of man from what he actually is. Once a sailor made that mistake and tried to borrow his girl from the frail pilot, deceived by Joe's mild smile and shy look. But Joe promptly knocked him down, for he can pull a hefty punch, for all his light build, and there is plenty of fight behind his quiet and diffident appearance.

Joe's pleasant smile and his blue, untroubled eyes conceal another unexpected fact—that he has gone through the agonies of hell.

He had brought down a German bomber on the September day of the slaughter of Dorniers. Afterwards, amid the general confusion, he chased the Germans beyond Dover, but there his luck ended. Surrounded by Messerschmitts, he got a cannon shell right in his cockpit. The explosion tore out pieces of flesh from his thigh, his side and his shoulder. Half his body was paralyzed with pain, while hot glycol from the radiator, splashing all over him, scalded his face. The cabin filled with acrid smoke.

In spite of the shock and his wounds, Joe's mind remained clear. He had no desire whatever to perish. But how to escape? The machine was as badly damaged as Joe himself; the control cables broken, with the stick wagging limply.

His Hurricane went into a spin. Every turn mixed more blood with the oil and glycol, and clutched at the pilot's brain with a horrible grip of pain. Yet he must do something. Only a few seconds were left. The spinning machine was heading straight for the ground.



AFTER A HOT RAID



ALL SET TO GO!

There was only one thing to be done: he must bale out. Joe opened the cockpit and tried to jump, but found he was too weak to get out. The pressure of the air pushed him back and closed the door. He struggled desperately. At last he managed by a superhuman effort to pull himself to the edge of the cockpit with his one sound hand, but then the oxygen and radio leads connected to the flying suit tied him to the doomed machine. Straining all the muscles of his lacerated body, like a beast on a chain, he succeeded in breaking the leads and jumped into the void.

Then two sensations, of surprise and fear, took possession of him. He was surprised not to have been hit by the tail of the spinning machine. And he was afraid of the Messerschmitts above. The Germans like to shoot helpless pilots as they parachute to the ground. There were many enemy planes about. So Joe preferred not to open his parachute too early.

He was dropping in a strange position: lying on his back, face upwards. He could not see the ground at all and his body was still spinning round and round. Sometimes he would see a strip of land, at the edge of the swaying sky. But that was only the horizon, and he could not tell how far he had fallen. Suddenly panic seized him. Maybe the ground was already getting near? He had lost all sense of time and altitude. Had he been falling minutes, or only fractions of a second? He tried in vain to twist his neck to see the ground. He began to count: one, two, three, but soon gave it up; his thoughts scattered like smoke—and why count, anyway? His panic grew worse; the Messerschmitts no longer existed, only the pit into which he was falling, with its bottom approaching so near! Enough! Pull the ripcord!

But the parachute must be opened with the right hand. Joe's right hand was wounded and useless. He tried with his left, but the handle seemed out of reach. Death was near, damnably near. Joe wanted to fight and to live. His left hand convulsively sought for the ripcord. Anything to live!

The sudden drop from 20,000 feet and the change of pressure were bursting his lungs. He felt his head splitting. Suddenly his hand gripped something cold. The metal handle! He tugged at it. He heard a swish behind him. The parachute was opening. He knew he was saved.

When the parachute opened it pulled him up sharply and brought him into a normal position, head upwards. The jerk racked him with new pain, so piercingly that he thought he would go mad. The parachute harness was pressing on his wounded thigh. The terrible agony grew in intensity, but there was nothing he could do to relieve it. He did not lose consciousness; on the contrary, the wind refreshed him. It was beyond endurance. He tried to loosen the straps, though that would have been suicide. Fortunately, he was too weak to succeed. So he just dropped and suffered.

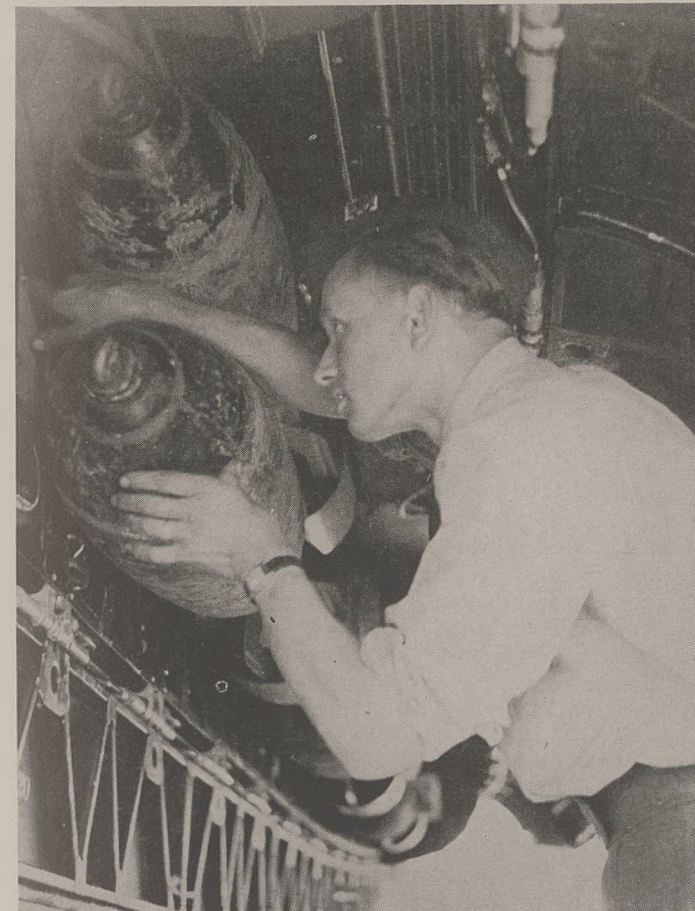
The parachute had opened at about 6000 feet. Ages seemed to have passed, and the earth still seemed as far away as ever. The wind began to drive him over the sea, and there was a moment when he was actually hanging over water, but this new danger meant little to him. Later, much later, the wind shifted, and he was carried back over the land.

Finally he landed near a village. The parachute dragged him over the hard clods of ploughed earth, but by now Joe was indifferent to all pain.

He heard human voices. Men were running after him. They caught him by the legs and checked his drag. That was more torture, for the parachute pulled him in one direction and the men pulled by his wounded leg in the other. Seeing his strange uniform, brought from France, and his Polish badges, they mistook him for a German, and treated him roughly.

"Not German! Polish!" protested Joe in a feeble voice, and tried to smile.

When his nationality was at last settled and the parachute mastered, there was a further difficulty in setting him free. Nobody knew how to unfasten the harness, and he could not



MANY HAPPY RETURNS FOR GERMANY!

AIR MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE

*"From all of these operations
Only one of our aircraft was missing..."
So speaks the calm and cultured voice
Of the dispassionate radio announcer.
But to me
It means the loss of all the beauty in the world;
Of the joy of living,
Of the peace of sleeping,
Of the days of hoping;
For in that plane was Jan
The sum of all my hopes and joys.
"Only one aircraft,"
And in it Jan;
His youth and gaiety,
His radiant vitality,
His ripe young manhood,
His love for me,
And all crashed down.*

*"Only one of our aircraft missing..."
But missing to me for ever
Will be love
And a life lit by Jan's companionship,
Missing—the marriage where two are one,
Missing—the children we might have had
Exciting combinations
Of Jan and me,
Missing—the quiet depths
Of years enriched by shared experiences,
And the slow descent together to the grave.*

*"From all of those operations
Only one of our aircraft was missing,"
But I have lost Jan
And my whole future
In that one plane.
God help the other poor souls
Who loved the five men
Who crashed with Jan
In that one aircraft missing.*

—EDNA THOMPSON

show them. They fumbled, pulled and manipulated. Joe, quite helpless, suffered, while they struggled, until at last someone cut the ropes with a knife.

Before the ambulance arrived they bandaged his leg. All were eager and friendly, some holding him still while others tied the bandages.

A stalwart Home Guard held his right arm in an iron grip, just where it was injured. Joe begged him to take his hand off, moaned and prayed. But he had forgotten his English and kept on whispering in Polish:

"Let my arm go, friend! Let go, you devil! My arm! Oh, God!"

But all to no effect. It was not until the hefty Home Guard saw blood on his own hand, after it had soaked the sleeve, that he realized his error and loosened his grip, saying good-naturedly:

"Oh, I am so sorry!"

When Joe was put on the ambulance he fell asleep, or rather, he fainted. . . .

He left the hospital after three and a half months. He had grown thinner, but his wounds had healed. His old strength

(Please turn to page 14)

* FROM "SQUADRON 303", BY ARKADY FIEDLER, LONDON.

THE ART OF POLISH POSTER

by DR. IRJOTROWSKA



"PROTECT CHILDREN FROM TUBERCULOSIS!"
By TADEUSZ GRONOWSKI

in a clear, vivid language, it has to deliver its message in a fast, almost telegraphic manner. The posters on the street vie among themselves, each trying to speak louder and quicker, each trying to deliver its message first.

Thus the modern poster evolved in the direction of quick, clear and forceful delivering of a given message, until the limits of speed and clarity were reached. But there still remained a factor the limits of which will never be reached as long as there are creative artists in the world: the esthetic factor. Each truly talented artist, designing a poster, may develop his own methods of presenting the announcement to the public not only in a quick and forceful, but also in an irresistible form.

In Poland more than in any other country, art was not a luxury of the privileged classes, it was something that belonged to the masses as well. During the long years of political oppression, before the resurrection of Poland in 1918, art was one of the very rare means of national expression, unhampered by the oppressors in its evolution. Of all the arts, applied art enjoyed the greatest liberty, being considered by the foreign rulers politically harmless. So it is no wonder that Poland made her most rapid progresses in the field of applied art.

It is characteristic of the high level of Poland's artistic culture, despite her tragic political situation, that already in 1898 there appeared in Cracow a monograph on the "Art of the Poster" ("Sztuka w plakatach"), written by J. Wdowiszewski, at that time director of the City Museum of Industrial Arts in Cracow. In this monograph, which is now a bibliographical rarity, we read these words: "The public should demand that the poster be a work of art, because a work of art is not necessarily a large and magnificent building, a large painting in a heavy gilt frame, or a granite monument to some great man. The poster may and should be a work of art."

But what is most interesting is the fact that in this early monograph on the art poster, we find views concerning the form and style of posters that are completely modern and could be read with benefit by the most advanced artists of today. Already the writer realized that a good poster should not imitate the style of contemporary naturalistic paintings and should avoid representation of space, but instead should represent few but large figures, remain decorative in character and abstain from encumbering details.

However, all these prescriptions were not immediately understood by contemporary Polish artists. As in other countries, for the first 25 years of its development the modern art poster remained in Poland merely a part of painting. Besides, during the first decades of our century, posters were not produced on a large scale as today, and this was especially true of oppressed Poland.

However, when Poland regained her political freedom, and her trade and industry began to thrive, when advertising rose to great importance, manufacturers of goods found that the public demanded an artistic poster and was responsive only to messages delivered in an esthetic form.

So it is not surprising that commercial lithographers sought



"HUNDRETH ANNIVERSARY POLISH INSURRECTION IN POZNAŃ" BY EDMUND BARTŁOMIEJCZYK

the collaboration of the best-known artists in the country. At the outset of Poland's twenty years of independence we find among poster designers the names of outstanding Polish painters, Zofia Stryjenska, Jan Hrynkowski, and Felicjan Kowarski, and the names of a famous wood-engraver, Edmund Bartłomiejczyk. Also well-known decorators were actively engaged in designing art posters, Wojciech Jastrzebowski, Professor of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw, among them. But soon Poland produced a poster-artist par excellence, an unrivalled specialist in this field, Tadeusz Gronowski, whose poster designs had a compelling influence on Polish posters in general.

As time went on, poster artists were more and more recruited from among professional artists-decorators, and during the second decade of Poland's independence many outstanding decorators became popular as poster designers, among them: Edward Manteuffel, Antoni Wajwod, M. Nowicki and S. Sandecka, Kazimierz Mann.

Curiously enough, during these same years Polish poster-art was enriched by the creations of many young and gifted architects like Jerzy Skolimowski who, in modern Poland, tried their talent in the field of decorative art. The collaboration of progressive architects in the development of poster-art in Poland was not without a certain influence on the evolution of its style. The architects, more

than any other artists, stressed the feeling of monumentality, which finally displaced the picturesque element, that was favored by the designers of earlier Polish posters.

All in all, during the years of Poland's independence, the art of the Polish poster reached a high degree of perfection and played an important part in poster art in Europe.

The development of the Polish poster also owes much to the fact that it was fostered by many Polish governmental, humanitarian and different educational institutions.

Most of these institutions, when ordering a poster to deliver an educational message to the public, had in mind not only to convey a particular idea to the public, but also to give an opportunity to the artist, and by showing his work to the public to raise the general esthetic standard of the people.

Some of these posters for instance: "Fight Tuberculosis" by T. Gronowski, or "Build Your Own House" by E. Bartłomiejczyk, attained great beauty as regards form, and became an inseparable part of Polish art. To this group also belong many tourist posters presenting the scenic beauties of Poland.



"GIVE FOR CHRISTMAS FOR POOR SCHOOL CHILDREN"
By TADEUSZ GRONOWSKI



"ART DEPARTMENT AT THE NATIONAL EXHIBITION IN POZNAŃ, 1929" BY EDMUND BARTŁOMIEJCZYK

Some of them may be seen at the "Poland at War" exhibitions at the New York Museum of Science and Industry, Rockefeller Center. Among the most interesting artistically were posters announcing openings of art exhibitions and balls arranged by art students. The best known among these are the posters advocating the "Polish National Exhibition in Poznan, 1929" by W. Jastrzebowski, the "Art Department at the Poznan National Exhibition" by E. Bartłomiejczyk, the "Young Architects Ball" by M. Nowicki and S. Sandecka, or the "Warsaw Polytechnic Ball" by J. Knothe and T. Niedbalski. All these posters showed great simplicity of design, excellent composition, harmonious yet vivid colors, force of appeal. In all, the letters form an integral part of the whole composition, and are simple and easily readable; quite different from those used at the end of the last century, which being too ornamental encumbered the picture and were difficult to decipher from a dis-

(Please turn to page 10)



"MOUNTAIN FESTIVAL" by KAZIMIERZ MANN

(Continued from page 9)

tance. Human figures represented are conventionalized, flat and without unnecessary detail.

In spite of all these simplifications, Polish artists knew how to endow their posters with attractive charm. Especially Gronowski was unsurpassable in combining the simplified lines of modern poster style with a lyrical mood, as for instance in his "Protect Children from Tuberculosis" or "Give for Christmas of Poor School Children." When the subject required, the Polish poster artists just as skillfully expressed pathos. This is best shown by a series of posters produced in 1930 in commemoration of the "Hundredth Anniversary of the Polish Insurrection in 1830." Perhaps the most expressive was that created jointly by Bolesław Suralo and Tadeusz Krysiak.

Due to the innate tendency of the poster to simplify outlines and omit details, it was only natural that its style should succumb to the influence of cubism and other more or less abstract tendencies of modern European art. These influences persisted in the Polish poster a good deal longer than in Polish painting or sculpture; the more so as the monumental geometric forms of cubism were also very much favored by the young Polish architects then turning their

talents to poster art. Nonetheless, Polish posters, even those most strongly under the influence of cubism, always remained easily understandable, thus remaining true to the poster's most important function, indeed, its very reason of existence. This is best shown in the strongly simplified yet easily readable compositions by Osiecki and Skolimowski in their "World Championship of Hockey on Ice at Krynica, 1931" or by Nowicki and Sandecka in their "Jamboree."

However, the more naturalistic trends that began to pervade Polish painting during the second decade of Poland's political freedom, would not remain without influence on Polish poster art. The colorful and decorative poster with simplified outlines finally found a competitor in the poster using photography as its medium of expression. Here the poster artist tried to combine a photograph or photomontage with the text into a harmonious whole, supplemented by his own colorful compositions.

This was the latest stage of evolution in Polish poster art, abruptly stopped by the invasion of the Germans.

In speaking of the art of the Polish poster it would be difficult not to mention the beautiful art magazines published in independent Poland, and which devoted so much space to the technical and esthetic possibilities of the art-poster. Chief among these and deserving most credit for creating interest in the art of the poster was the magazine "Grafika", conceived in the most progressive style that appeared for a number of years after 1930. It was especially devoted to advertising and Tadeusz Gronowski already mentioned as an outstanding Polish poster-artist was its co-publisher and co-editor.



"JAMBOREE" By M. NOWICKI and S. SANDECKA

POLISH COAL INDUSTRY

THE Polish coal center was at the junction of the Polish, German and Czechoslovak frontiers. Although not uniform geologically, the area fell into three distinct districts, Silesia, Dombrowa and Cracow. Of the total coal output, Silesia supplied 75%, Dombrowa 18% and Cracow 7%.

Poland ranked sixth in world coal production. She was making steady progress in this field. Having mined 28,500,000 million tons in 1935, she raised the figure to 38,100,000 million tons in 1938.

Approximately 40% of the coal deposits in the West were in strata from 6½ to 26 feet thick—a thickness best suitable for exploitation. In this respect, the Polish coal beds are the finest in Europe, as in other countries the thickness of coal seams generally does not exceed 6½ feet.

After Great Britain and Germany Poland holds third place in Europe as regards coal reserves. Her accessible coal beds, up to 3,900 feet deep and with strata exceeding a foot in thickness, amount to 96 billion tons.

Polish coal is predominantly bituminous. Its volatile components frequently reaching 40%. In the Eastern part of the coal region cannel coal occurs, in the central part gaseous coal, in the West semi-anthracite coal and some coking coal. The calorific value of Polish coal varies on the average from 6,200 to 7,400 calories.

Polish coal mines had nearly 100,000 workers on their payrolls. In 1936, 57 underground coal mines and 11 open mines were in operation.

The Polish government was greatly interested in the nation's coal industry. It owned extensive coal areas and a number of mines, of which one, the "Brzeszcze" State Coal Mine was operated by the Government. Its output in 1937 was 580,972 tons.

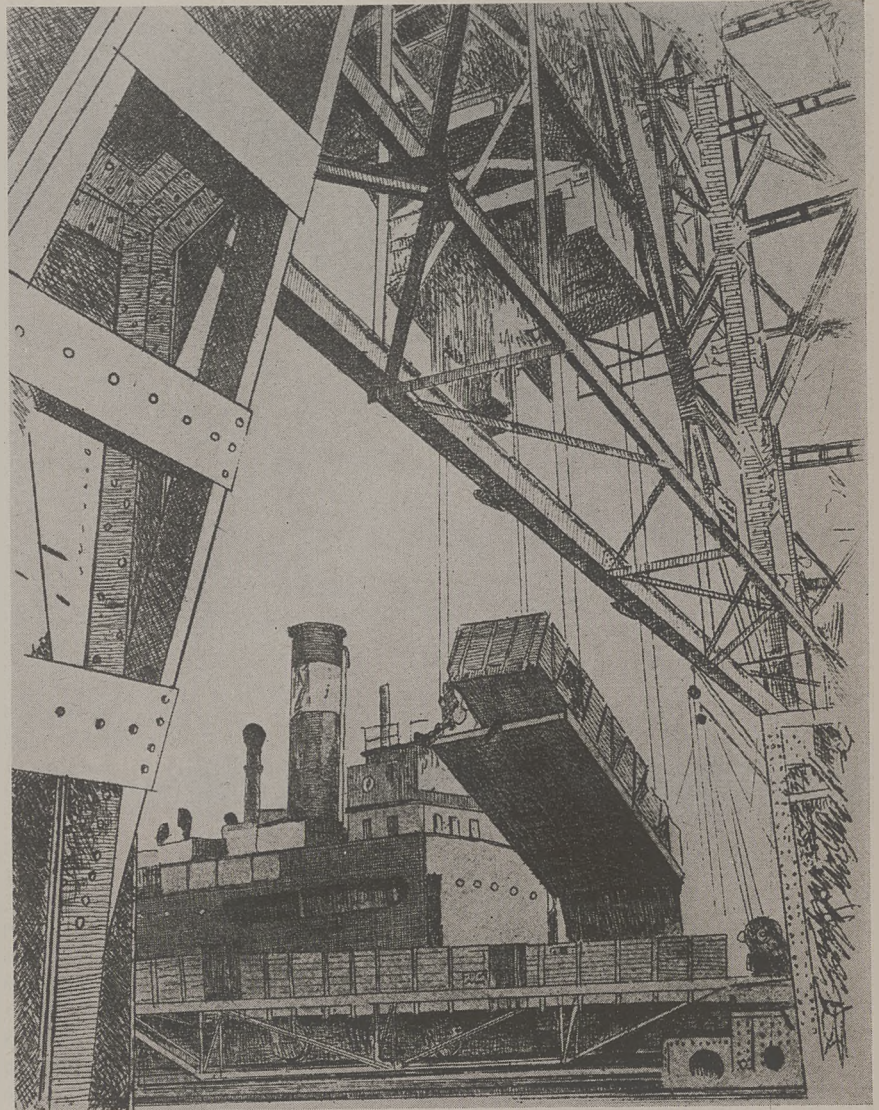
State owned mines and coal areas in Upper Silesia were leased to a joint Polish-French corporation "Skarboferm."

Coal consumption in Poland was divided between the industries (50% to 60%), the railways (about 15%) and private consumption. The average per capita consumption was 1,366 pounds.

Much Polish coal was marketed abroad. Poland stood fourth among the coal exporting nations of Europe. In 1937 she exported 11,308,193 tons, or 31% of her production. Her chief foreign markets were Scandinavia, Holland, Switzerland, Italy, the Balkans, Spain and Portugal. 5½% of Polish coal reached non-European markets. In spite of severe competition, the Polish coal industry was able to maintain and increase its exports from 10,223,000 tons in 1932 to 11,669,000 tons in 1938.

In 1937 nine coking plants were in operation in Poland. 2,125,519 tons of coke were produced in that year. Of this 1,740,906 tons were sold on the home market and 417,860 tons exported abroad.

The Polish coal industry was supervised by the "Polish Coal Convention," that regulated the price and sale of coal in Poland as well as in various other countries (Great Britain, Germany, Hungary, Austria and Czechoslovakia). The "Coal Convention," first formed in 1925, and renewed periodically, was composed of 32 coal concerns, including those representing foreign capital.



COAL LOADING EQUIPMENT AT GDYNIA

The whole Polish coal industry, with the exception of small mines, belonged to the heavy industry organization, "The Union of Polish Mining and Smelting Industry," organized in 1932 with State aid. The Union represented the combined coal interests of Poland.

Wages and hours in the Silesian coal industry were regulated by the "Employers' Union of Upper Silesian Mining and Smelting Industry" at Katowice. A similar organization for the Dombrowa and Cracow coal regions was the "Convention Council of Mining Industrialists."

The largest concern in all Poland was the "Community of Mining and Smelting Interests" in Katowice. This corporation owned five coal mines, four coking plants, six iron foundries, six metallurgical plants, in addition to iron mines, prospecting areas, brick-kilns, quarries, saw-mills, etc.

Despite her own huge coal reserves, Germany extended a greedy hand towards Poland's coal. The Reich's mammoth war-machine consumes inordinate quantities of coal. But all the coal in the world cannot stay the defeat pressing upon the Germans from all sides. And when the Polish flag again flies from Polish flagposts, the Germans will be presented with a bill for all the coal they have stolen from Polish mines.



ON BOARD THE "DAR POMORZA" TRAINING SHIP

seven seas. In 1926 the Polish Government founded the *Zegluga Polska* in Gdynia. This state-owned company, transformed in 1932 into a corporation admitting private capital, began its activity in 1927 by purchasing tramp steamers to carry Polish coal to Scandinavia and the Baltic countries. *Zegluga Polska* also set up a system of coastal communications, contributing in this way to the economic development of the Polish sea-coast and the growth of cruiser trade in Poland. This young line also helped to organize the first Polish Shipping brokerage, the *Polska Agencja Morska*.

In 1930 *Zegluga Polska* began to run regular passenger and freight services. By 1939 it owned sixteen sea-going vessels over nine different routes (total tonnage: 36,046 tons), as well as four steamships in coastal service and six tugboats. Ships of *Zegluga Polska* regularly visited Eastern and Western Baltic ports, Scandinavia, the Near East and Mediterranean shipping centers.

The *Polskarob* or Polish Scandinavian Transport Co., Ltd. was organized by private capital in Gdynia in 1927, as a subsidiary of *Robur*, the Upper Silesian coal undertaking. Its six steamships, aggregating 16,350 tons, were used only to carry the firm's coal, and were supplemented by an auxiliary fleet of tugboats, barges and motor boats.

Polbryt or Polsko-Brytyjskie Tow. Okretowe, in which English capital represented 9 percent, was organized in 1929. Its 5 ships, with a total tonnage of 11,506 tons, ran on regular lines, carrying passengers and freight between Gdynia and London, Hull and Le Havre.

Most recent and most important of Poland's shipping firms was *GAL*, or the *Gdynia America Line*. Founded in 1930 as the Polish Transatlantic Shipping Co., it took over from the Danish East Asia Co. the organization and ships of the Baltic American Line in existence since 1921. As the value of the Danish ships decreased, and as Poland acquired new ships with her own funds, the foreign capital in *GAL* fell. In 1938 it was down to 9 percent of the total.

At the outbreak of war, *GAL* had seven ocean liners, four of them ultra modern motorships built expressly for the North and South American service, of such excellence that they ranked among the best passenger ships.

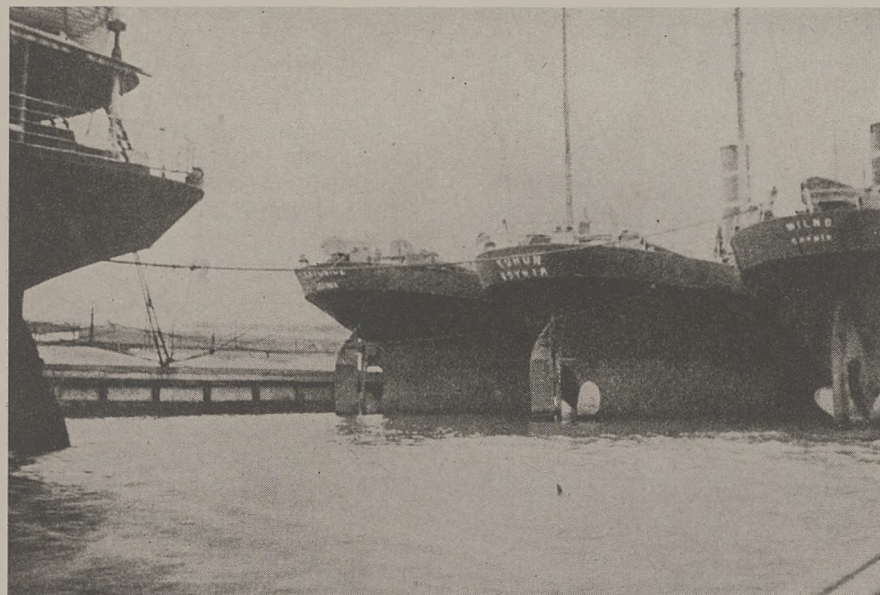
The entire Polish nation felt deep pride in the *MS Pilsudski* (launched in 1935) and its sister ship, the *MS Batory* (1936), whose speed enabled them to cut the trip from Gdynia to New York via Copenhagen and Halifax from 12½

to 8½ days. From tramp steamers to modern ocean liners, in eight years of depression and world economic maladjustment! The Polish people were beginning to consider themselves ancient mariners. Contrary to custom, both ships had only two classes, tourist and second. They carried 780 passengers and had storage space for 2,500 tons of freight and mail. They were not luxury liners which kept the shipping company in the red, but money making ships testifying to the practical wisdom of those responsible for their construction.

WHEN in 1919 re-born Poland regained a narrow strip of her sea coast, she had no navy and no merchant tonnage. Her freighters had last plied the waters of the Baltic in the 16th century, so she was obliged to rebuild a merchant marine.

Poland accomplished much in this field during the twenty years of her independent existence. Before she could organize her overseas trade, she had to lay the foundation by hard and unremitting labor. It was not until 1926 that these early efforts began to bear fruit. The State Maritime School, created in 1920 to train officers for merchant ships, had already produced a class of competent and enthusiastic officers, and special legislation had been enacted to facilitate the expansion of the merchant navy.

The years between 1926 and 1930 saw the building of Poland's wonder-port Gdynia, and the advent of several important shipping lines. After 400 years, a Polish merchant fleet again appeared on the



TRAMP STEAMERS DOCKED AT GDYNIA

Their salons and dining rooms were tastefully furnished and their swimming pools were a welcome attraction to passengers of both classes. Every detail of the two ships was executed by leading Polish artists, according to a general scheme of decoration, and they were floating museums of Polish national art.

The *MS Pilsudski* enjoyed especial popularity in the United States for its regular winter Southern cruises. Its fine cuisine, old-world hospitality and informal Polish atmosphere satisfied American tourists, the best advertisement for any enterprise.

Commissioned early in 1939, the *MS Sobieski* and *MS Chrobry* were large, fast passenger ships constructed to replace the *Pulaski* and *Kosciuszko* on the South American route. Ports of call were Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, Santos, Victoria and Montevideo. These latest additions to Poland's merchant fleet were built to accommodate 870 passengers and in case of need could easily be converted into fast cargo ships for clean products like coffee and cotton.

GAL also chartered foreign freighters to carry goods from Gdynia to Gulf ports (New Orleans, Houston, Galveston). At the outbreak of war, Poland had under construction in her own shipyards two large motor freighters, for service on this line.

Gdynia-Palestine passenger traffic flourished up to 1938, when the closing of immigration to Palestine caused a suspension of the service.

The success of the Polish merchant marine was largely due to the high standard of its deck officers and engineers, products of the State Maritime School in Gdynia. The prospective officer entered one of its three departments: navigation, engineering or administration. Upon graduation four years later, he could enter the service of the state or find employment with a shipping line or brokerage firm.

Students of the School received 22 months experience afloat on a training ship. The "Dar Pomorza" (Gift of Pomorze) presented to the School by the people of Pomorze in 1930, visited the United States, Brazil, Central and West South Africa and the West Indies in the course of its training cruise. In 1934-1935 it made the first Polish trip around the world. The trip lasted 352 days and 23 ports in six continents were visited. In the 17 years of the School's existence the "Dar Pomorza" and the "Lwow" before it, covered a distance of 193,475 nautical miles.

Germany's unprovoked aggression on Poland failed to destroy her merchant marine. Few ships were in their home ports at the time, and so losses were small. Poland at once offered her merchant fleet to the Allied cause. Today the tonnage of Poland's merchant navy is greater than it was



M/S "PILSUDSKI" IN NEW YORK HARBOR

before the war, for despite losses many new ships have been added. They are manned by Polish crews who have now been doing their share on the ocean fronts of the world for four years carrying troops and supplies to hard-pressed areas.

There have been casualties to be sure. The *MS Pilsudski* and the *MS Chrobry* are no more. Poles all over the world mourned their loss, as one mourns the loss of a close friend, but they knew the cause for which the ships went down was a worthy one. Many a seaman has gone to his death after being rescued twice. These civilian soldiers of the sea have forged a link in Polish maritime tradi-

tion, just as the defense of Warsaw by the plain people wrote a glorious page in the military annals of Poland.



"GIRL WITH JUMP ROPE" By A. KARNY, M/S "PILSUDSKI"

POLISH SONGS OF THE SEA

The Song of the Baltic

Slow marching tempo

The Sun of Freedom in azure gleaming. Our boat the far hor- is - on braves, From
tall mast-heads our co-lours stream-ing. Smile proudly to the gold - en waves. And
while one drop re - mains, the Bal - tic Will be Po - lish through the years. Be -
cause to guard its green-ish waters Flow Polish blood and Po - lish tears. Be -
cause to guard its green - ish wa - ters Flow Polish blood and Po - lish tears

Sailing Song

Very slowly

All our days from dawn'till even - ing — sail we just on and on But our
sad hearts we are leav - ing — On fading banks at home With
love, remembrance, care. We far - ther, farther fare. But each
heart will be re - turn - ing — To his own dearest dear

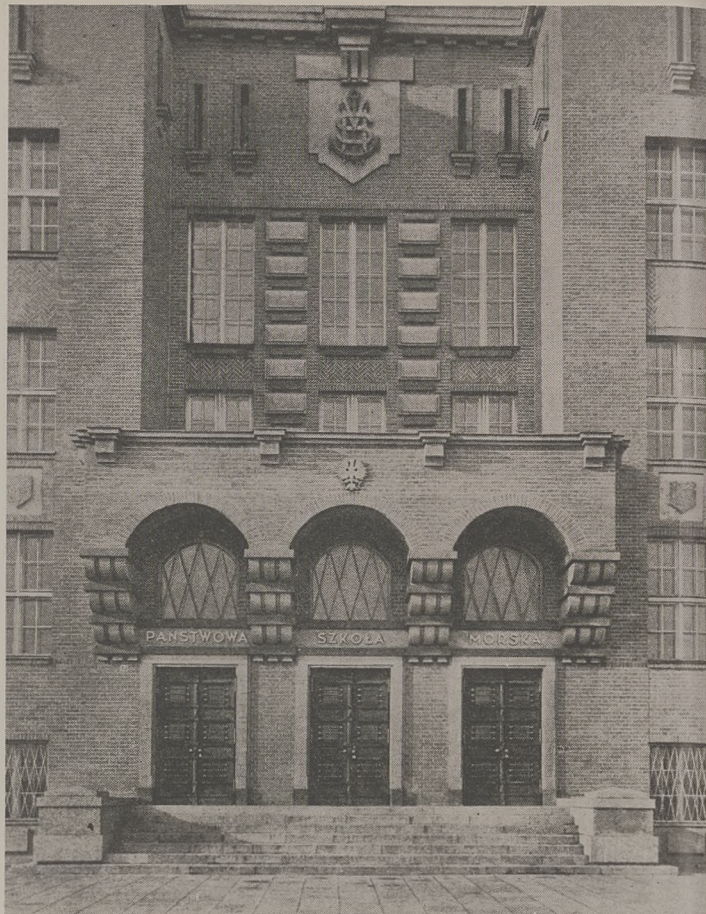
The blue waves of Vistula.

Tempo di mazurka.

Quiet-ly the riv-er glid-ing, Ripples-o'er the Polish strand
Freedom gone and fate de-rid-ing, Eden van-ished from our land
Yet past me-mo-ries we che-rish By our Vi-slu-la's blue waves
Our dear land will nev-er pe-rish While its fruit-ful shores she laves

Polish soldiers have always composed songs in wartime. They sang prayers before going into battle, they told in song of their war adventures and their love for their Motherland, and in peace time their humor was the theme of many light, gay and cheerful tunes. Gradually, soldiers' songs became the peoples' songs. By the same token, nothing warms the heart of a Polish soldier or sailor quite so much as the nostalgic folksongs of his beloved Poland.

Above are three beautiful Polish songs of the sea that have been written down from memory and translated for their English friends by Polish sailors.



STATE MARITIME SCHOOL IN GDYNIA

SUFFERING

(Continued from page 7)

and his old fighting spirit had returned. Now Joe is chasing Dorniers and Messerschmitts again.

But the strangest and most striking thing about him are his eyes and his smile. Joe still has the sunlight in his eyes and a childlike joy in his smile. His sufferings and weeks of fever did not break him, left no evil traces on him. He retained his fundamental cheerfulness.

His invincible vitality is deeply moving, and at times, as you look at this indomitable young giant you get the impression that he is more than a brilliant fighter pilot. He is the symbol of an immortal race. For his pain and wounds, and his sunlit eyes and smile, are truly symbolic of a victorious though wounded nation.

Today the Polish Navy is larger than it was in September 1939. The cover shows the hoisting of the flag on the recently launched Polish destroyer "ORKAN." General SIKORSKI, Polish Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief, sent the following telegram to Navy Chief SWIRSKI: "Please express to the commander and crew of the "ORKAN" my deep faith that the flag raised today may lead them victoriously to Gdynia. I have full confidence in their courage and endurance."

VICTORY OVER TERROR

BY THE new wave of terror in Lubelskie Province, just west of the Bug river, where Polish peasants are being murdered by the thousands and driven from their homes, the Germans have entered upon a further stage of their avowed policy: the complete extermination of the Polish nation. This policy of utter destruction of a whole people, for the first time in the history of mankind, and in this twentieth century of Christian civilization, progress and enlightenment is something so abominable that for a long time the civilized world could not be brought to believe it. Today no one doubts any longer.

What the world has not yet fully realized is that this German policy of extermination is based on the hope that it will make it possible for them to win the peace after they have lost the war. So they are redoubling their terror in the belief that what has been done can never be undone.

German financiers and industrial magnates are never tired of proclaiming that changes in Europe's economic structure will inevitably bring Europe under German dominion after the war, irrespective of the outcome of the war itself. The same holds good in political and social questions according to the German view.

These German calculations make it necessary to state the problem facing the Allies quite clearly. Germans who govern by terrorism and fear are afraid of one thing, and of one thing only: punishment for their crimes. What they do depends on whether they have to fear punishment and quick punishment at that. So long as the Germans are divided into good Germans and bad Germans, they will continue to murder and loot, taking for granted that most of them will escape scotfree at the hands of the Allies.

Every individual German knows what is being done and as they tolerate everything the Germans are doing in Poland and other occupied countries, they are fully responsible for these acts. The Germans must be made to realize that sooner or later a corresponding number of Germans will have to suffer and leave their homes, just as the Italian population that did not protest against Mussolini's policy now have to bear the consequences of their attitude. No one doubts that the many warnings our allies have given of merciless raids on Germany will be fulfilled, or that the punishment that awaits the Germans will be on a scale commensurate with the heinousness of their crimes.

This is the only argument that the Germans can understand. Germans from Rumania and other countries, who have been brought to Poland, know already that there is no room for them in Poland and never will be.

We are well aware that our words of protest against what is happening, that our appeals to the world, will not stop the German crimes. Only an Allied victory can put an end to German atrocity, and recent events foreshadow more and more clearly the coming of complete and final German defeat.

KING GEORGE VI TO GEN. SIKORSKI

In reply to the New Year Greetings from General Sikorski and the Polish Army, King George VI sent the following cable:

"We received with great joy the New Year wishes from Your Excellency in the name of the Polish armed forces. I trust that the New Year will bring closer freedom to the Polish Nation suffering such bitter experiences, for whose liberty from the tyranny of oppressors Polish soldiers, sailors and pilots are fighting so nobly side by side with their Allies.

GEORGE R.I.

POLISH CONSULS IN NORTH AFRICA

Algiers, Jan.—Polish consuls in North Africa have already resumed their political status as before the collapse of France and are cooperating with the French authorities under General Giraud.

After the Franco-German armistice in June 1940, consuls of all nations at war with Germany were deprived of their consular status, but were allowed to remain in residence, so that when the American and British forces occupied North Africa, the Polish consular representatives were all at their posts and have now resumed their duties.

WIFE GREET'S POLISH ACE'S 100TH FLIGHT

London, Jan.—When Wing Commander Stefan Lopek D.F.C., of the Polish Air Force returned from his hundredth sweep over France, he telephoned headquarters and was asked to wait a moment. Then a woman's voice said, "Is that you Stefan, darling?"

The Wing Commander thought there was some mistake, and asked to be put through to the Commanding Officer at once. The woman at the other end of the wire was the Wing Commander's wife, just arrived in England. She escaped from Poland into France in 1940 only to find that her husband had flown with his wing to North Africa.

From France, Madame Lopek made her way to Algeria where she was held by the French as her husband had gone to Great Britain. But the Allied landing in Algiers set her free and she was allowed to proceed to England.

Wing Commander Lopek was the Commander of the Polish Fighter Wing which shot down the 500th enemy plane over Great Britain and had just returned from his hundredth sweep over France when he found his wife waiting for him.

PILOT TELLS HOW HE GOT 500TH PLANE

London, Jan. — Pilot Officer Pietrzak who shot down the 500th plane said: "After a short flight as we neared the French coast, Fokke-Wulfs were reported on our right. Twelve of them were in a long line some 3,000 feet below us and we were flying right in the sun. To attack we had to go out of the sun, turn sharply to the right and catch them from behind. I was one of the first and opened fire on a German who was trying to escape, but he was too late. Black smoke poured from his fuselage and down he went. When we rejoined our base, I learned with joy that we had shot down the Polish Air Force's 500th enemy plane over Great Britain. More than 120 other enemy planes are credited as 'probables' to the Polish fliers and the above score does not include victories in Lybia or over the continent."

POLES WIN AT FOOTBALL IN ENGLAND

London, Jan.—Football used to be one of the most popular games in Poland before the war, and the Polish Air Force ground crews at Bomber Stations in England play it whenever they get a chance. They are so keen, that three out of the Bomber Stations' nine football teams are Polish, and one is at the top of the station's league.

Apart from regular fixtures a number of scratch games are arranged. One was especially popular—between a Polish team and an eleven of the military police. The Poles won easily. Each season there is an international match between Polish and British teams. The Poles have their own instructors and when they march out on the field before a match it is to the strains of Polish national songs.

POLISH NAVY IN HOT FIGHT

London, Jan.—Quite recently the Polish Destroyer Krakowiak took part near the French Coast in an attack upon a German convoy. The Captain of the Krakowiak was in command of the small Allied force that sighted the German convoy, composed of two big transport vessels and four heavily armed escort vessels. He immediately engaged the enemy, one of whose transports was torpedoed, the others receiving many hits. The Polish destroyer was very slightly damaged.

QUISLINGS IN POLAND

In Sweden it is reported that the Germans have allotted vast regions of Poland and of the Ukraine to be colonized by Norwegian Quisling youth. Some hundreds of these young people are already training in *Germanischer Landesdienst* centres in Poznan Province. Quisling Minister of Education Strang, who returned recently from Poland, said that about 1,000 Quisling youths will go to Poland for training, after which they will start colonization.

DEATH BEFORE DISHONOR

Ninety-three Jewish girls and Young Jewish women, the pupils and the teacher of a Beth Jacob School of Warsaw, Poland, chose mass suicide to escape being prostituted to German soldiers, according to a letter from the teacher, made public in New York by Rabbi Leo Jung.

POLAND FIGHTS!



ON LAND, AT SEA AND IN THE AIR

*FIFTH in fighting strength among the
United Nations.*

*THIRD largest in casualties among the Allies.
SECOND to none in sacrifices for Victory.*

POLAND was the first country to resist Hitler by force of arms in September 1939. Poland knew that she faced certain defeat but believed that the world would rally to the cause of Freedom. The Polish Army fought magnificently against overwhelming odds.

THE German-Polish war of 1939 lasted only five weeks but it took six months for Germany to repair her losses and prepare for an attack on Western Europe, thus giving the Allies time to mobilize and arm.

DURING forty months of German occupation, 250,000 people have been executed in Poland by German firing squads; 100,000 have been tortured to death in concentration camps, 1,000,000 Jews are believed to have been murdered, 3,000,000 people have been driven from their homes.

POLAND'S Armed Forces, fighting side by side with the Allies, number more than 200,000 men, and rank fifth in fighting strength among the United Nations.

THE Polish Navy is stronger than before the war.

THE Polish submarine "Orzel" was the first to discover the German invasion of Norway, torpedoing the large German transport "Rio de Janeiro." The Polish destroyer "Piorun" was the first to contact the German 50,000-ton battleship, "Bismarck", and actually engaged it, contributing to its final destruction.

THE Polish Air Force in England is twice as large as before the war and has destroyed more than 500 German planes. In the Battle of Britain, Polish flyers accounted for 17% of the German bombers and fighters shot down. The motto of the Polish Air Force is "We do not beg for Freedom, we fight for it!"