

The Polish Review



Gen. Sikorski Answers Five Vital Questions

London, Feb.—A sensational interview with General Sikorski by George Slocombe, a distinguished British journalist, appears in the "Sunday Express."

Mr. Slocombe's five questions are appended together with General Sikorski's replies:

Q. "Do you believe that the Germans, under the shattering blows of the Russians can succeed in stabilizing their front in preparation for a new offensive this year?"

A. "The German retreat has not yet reached the line of fortified position that was built up as a jumping off place for the great German offensive of 1942. Rostov, one of the German strong points, is threatened and may soon be recaptured, but other points remain to be successively overcome by frontal attack or outflanked, surrounded and forced to surrender, one after another, but it can already be stated that not only have all or practically all of Hitler's gains in his 1942 offensives been annihilated, he has also lost the possibility of making a fresh offensive on a major scale in 1943."

Q. "How seriously is German morale affected by Russian victories?"

A. "The most significant things that have happened or are happening in Germany in my mind, are Hitler's complete abrogation of all system of law;

and the suspension of legal procedure by Thieracks, the German Minister of Justice; the decrees calling up for war service all males between 16 and 65, and all females between 17 and 45; finally the new powers given to individual members of the Nazi Party to take the law into their own hands and punish, even by death, any offenses against the security or prosperity of the Reich. These powers have already been granted to Nazis and are being ruthlessly used by them in the occupied countries of Europe. Now, for the first time they are to be applied to the German people themselves. When civilian and army morale crack in the nation and imponderables begin to operate, anything may happen in Germany when that stage is reached."

Q. "Do you expect that Hitler will attempt to create a new front in the Middle East?"

A. "Hitler may dream of protecting his European fortress by seizing a bridgehead in Asia Minor. An attack on Turkey is possible with the aid of the Bulgarian Divisions that, alone of all Hitler's Balkan satellites have not been thrown into the battle against Russia. The German High Command may try to seize the Dardanelles, thus opening the Mediterranean entrance to the Black Sea to the Axis powers. Turkey would become a land bridge to Syria, Palestine, the Suez Canal. But at my sug-

gestion and by agreement with Mr. Churchill, a powerful Polish Army, including veterans of the nine months' siege of Tobruk and the Battles at El Gazala, stands ready in Mosul Region not only to defend the oilfields from aggression, but also to man the Eastern shores of the Mediterranean if Hitler should attempt to march southward from the Balkan Peninsula."

Q. "Alternatively, would you expect Hitler to attempt to invade Spain and Portugal, in the hope of neutralizing Gibraltar and sealing the Western Gate of the Mediterranean?"

A. "In my opinion it is possible but hardly practicable. My information is that the German High Command, transferred every possible division from Western Europe to the Eastern front. When trained troops, planes, guns, and tanks are left to Hitler in France, are vital to the defense of the Atlantic and Mediterranean seaboard, now dangerously exposed not only to the Royal Air Force bombing of U-boat bases, such as Brest and Lorient, but also by the extension of allied airfields and Naval Bases on the North African coast. To invade the Iberian Peninsula with divisions drawn from France and the low countries would be to weaken the most vital parts of German occupied Europe, just at a time when the German High Command is not only filled with

alarm at the situation on its Eastern front, but is also speculating as to the possibilities and even probabilities of Allied operations against the European continent this year."

Q. "What are the prospects of insurrection in occupied Europe?"

A. "The factor of resistance in occupied countries is one which may play a part as incalculable at this stage of the war, as the factor of Germany's internal morale. A premature insurrection against the armies of occupation is to be condemned. I have received many appeals from secret foreign radio stations in occupied territory, urging me to order a general rising of the Polish people against the German invaders. I replied I could not give such an order for I did not wish to see the already tragically martyred Polish Nation drowned completely in a sea of blood. When the time comes for the Poles and other heroically resisting nations to act in accordance with the military commands of allied nations, the requisite orders will be given. This consideration also applies to the French and it is a factor of French resistance that makes me think it unlikely that the German high command will take the risk of military adventure in Spain. If Hitler overrides his military advisers, as he has done before, it will be the act of a desperate, perhaps insane man."

POLISH ARMY IN FOOTBALL SWEEP

Bagdad, Feb.—A football match between British and Polish Army teams drew the largest crowds ever seen here at a sporting event.

Official guests present included the Regent of Iraq, the Commander of the IXth British Army, General Wilson, the British Ambassador, General Anders, etc.

The Polish army team played extremely well, keeping the advantage throughout the match and winning by 6 to 0, scoring 4 on the first half and 2 in the second.

The ball was very seldom on the Polish side, writes the sports editor of the "Iraq Times" and it seemed that the only player who was likely to score a goal for the British team was Stan White of Liverpool, who made the most of the few opportunities offered.

The Polish team was well balanced and its style reminiscent of some famous Scottish teams.

Three days later the victorious Polish team played an Irakian team, winning again by 9 to 2. For Poland, Harowski shot three goals. After the match General Wilson shook hands with all members of the winning team.

"IT IS AN HONOR FOR GERMANS TO ANNIHILATE POLES"—BRACHT

Gauleiter Bracht of Upper Silesia addressed a meeting in Sosnowiec, saying that the Poles should be treated like Jews! Bracht continued:

"Every Pole, however, can individually decide by his work whether his fate will be a better one." He divided Polish workers—Ostarbeiter—into three categories: First category, Poles performing 80% of the work done by a German worker of the same class; second category, Poles performing 60%. The first two categories will receive increased food rations.

Gauleiter Bracht then violently attacked the Poles who "Do not seem to understand that their position as "Schutzangehoerige" of the Reich, does not give them an equal but an inferior position to the Germans."

Bracht attacked the Poles because of their alleged laziness and blamed them for their early marriages, entered into only to avoid labor. He also announced a decree to prohibit Polish marriages of men under twenty-five and of women under twenty-two, as well as an obligation to present an "Ar-

beitsamt" certificate that the intended marriage will not interfere with work.

Such a decree would be tantamount almost to a total marriage prohibition for Poles.

Bracht concluded by saying the Poles had definitely criminal tendencies that would be fought without mercy, and that "it was an honor for Germans" to annihilate scoundrelly Poles as soon as possible. "For such elements there is only one punishment: the death penalty."

Bracht finished by saying, "and we shall apply the death penalty often in order to warn those who are still alive."

WHERE IS MY SON?

Almost every issue of Polish papers published under German control contains advertisements from parents seeking information about their sons, aged from twelve to seventeen. People are afraid their boys have been deported to the Reich for forced labor or are being used as blood donors for wounded German soldiers.

POLAND HAILS CASABLANCA

London, Feb.—All the British papers gave prominence to the following statement by Polish Foreign Minister Raczynski:

"The Polish Government has received with the greatest satisfaction news of the meeting between President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill on the liberated soil of French Africa. Poland greets with joy this new manifestation of collaboration between the two great democracies, an indispensable condition of victory and of world reconstruction. The Polish Nation, subject to a cruel regime of German occupation, will see in this meeting fresh incentive for hope and continued resistance against the foe. The announcement of a new offensive in 1943 and of war without mercy on totalitarian states until their unconditional surrender will be received by the Polish people as a message of encouragement at a time when hundreds of thousands of Poles are giving their lives for the cause of freedom"

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BIOLOGICAL WARFARE

By LUDWIK ZIELINSKI

IN THEIR biological war against Poland the Germans make no secret of their motives. Having analyzed for many years the biological strength of both nations, they realized that their own weakness and the tremendous vigor of Poland were slowly but surely raising the spectre of increasing demographic Polish pressure on Germany. German scientific literature had conceded that Polish vitality—the Germans call it biopolitical force—was of first-rate political importance. Its destruction would remove the greatest obstacle in the path of German “grossraum” politics.

German science made no mistake in evaluating the mutual ratio of population strength; it knew that a comparison of bare statistics does not give a true picture. Two nations, having the same population figures, may differ radically in the level of their biological vitality and show a different outlook for future growth. Thus, the true biological ratio between two nations is contained not in the ratio of respective numbers, but in the size of the various age groups. The nations of Central and Southeastern Europe, and of Russia have outstanding biological reserves in the 0-14 years age group. While in their case this group forms about 35% of the total population, in Germany it does not represent more than 24%, in France more than 23%, and in England more than 22% of the total population. Such countries are said to possess a large “biological capital” while countries having slender biological reserves are said to be in the process of “aging.” The Germans themselves admit the disquieting fact that in the Reich in forty years the youngest age group fell from 35% to 24% of the total population.

German estimates of the future population increase offer a picture of significant changes in the demographic constitution of Poland and Germany in the near future. Let us take the population figures of both countries computed for the year 1960. If in the years between 1910 and 1920 there were, on the average, for every 100 Polish children in the 0-14 years age group 237 in Germany, in 1960 this ratio would have changed in Poland's favor and would have been 100 to 149. The same ratio would obtain for the 0-44 years age group: whereas in the years 1910 to 1920 there were 258 inhabitants of the Reich for every 100 inhabitants of Poland of this age category, in 1960 there would be only 159 Germans to every 100 Poles in this age group.

Already on the eve of this war it became clear that this process represented a threat to Germany's biological strength: an early manifestation was the striking fall in the figures for future potential mothers. Interesting is the percentage ratio of female children to the total female population in Germany and in Poland.

	REICH July 31, 1937	POLAND December 31, 1938
0 - 4 years	7.9%	10.3%
5 - 9 years	7.2%	10.9%
10 - 14 years	8.0%	11.4%

This aging of the German population was not limited to the youngest age groups. Having been going on for four decades, it wrought havoc with biologic substance itself. Basing ourselves on the estimates of demographic composition, made by “*Population Index*” (April 1942) as of January 1, 1940, it can be seen how very much the biological youth of Poland outstrips the demographic constitution of Germany: in all the younger age groups the Polish percentage is higher than the German, namely,

- in the 0 - 4 years age group by 21%
- in the 5 - 14 years age group by 44%
- in the 15 - 19 years age group by 15%
- in the 20 - 34 years age group by 7%

On the other hand, the middle aged and older age groups form a lower percentage of the Polish population than similar age groups in Germany do of the German population by

- 13% in the 35 - 44 years age group
- 32% in the 45 - 64 years age group
- 35% in the 65 years and over age group.

The world, not too well informed of these biological factors, is apt to think that biological warfare is merely another phase of German brutality. The truth of the matter is that it is a scientifically thought-out means of salvaging the German biopolitical future, without which the organization of a German “Grossraum” is unthinkable. German science has for many years been paving the way for the Hitler policy of biological extermination and is entirely responsible for it. Care should be taken that German scholars are called to account for it even when they discard their swastika arm-bands and with equal “scientific” aplomb proclaim the glory of a new era of “reconciliation and international cooperation.”

(Courtesy of *Tygodnik Polski*, New York, N. Y.)

"FOR HE'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW!"



PILOT OFFICER PIETRZAK borne in triumph by his comrades. He shot down the 500th and 501st German planes credited to Polish pilots by the Royal Air Force. He was decorated with the Cross of Valour for the third time at a special ceremony in the Polish Embassy. Later a number of British correspondents interviewed Pilot Officer Pietrzak.

Pilot Officer Pietrzak said: "After a short flight near the

French coast, one of our comrades reported 'Fokke Wulfs to our right!' They were about 3,000 feet below us and we were flying right into the sun. There were twelve of them in a line. We had to go out of the sun and attack them before they spotted us and tried to escape. I was one of the first. I opened fire on one of the Germans who tried to get away but too late. Black smoke came from his fuselage and down he went. When we returned to our base, I learned with joy that we had shot down the Polish Air Force's 500th enemy plane."

To celebrate the destruction of the 500th German plane, General Sikorski, the Polish Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief issued the following Order of the day:

"Airmen, today your fighter pilots have shot down their 500th German plane since the Polish Air Force has been operating in Great Britain. In addition to this, our brave fighter pilots have probably destroyed a further 260 enemy planes. Up to the present our bomber squadrons have dropped more than 9,000 tons of bombs on enemy territory. Truly soldierly, this is the Poles' best answer to Hermann Goering's boastful assertion in 1939 that the Polish Air Force had ceased to exist and would never rise again.

"It is proof of the vitality and vigor of the Polish nation, which follows your deeds with love and pride. All the more so, as your wings are constantly increasing in strength, to bring freedom to your fellow countrymen, to avenge their wrongs, and to restore to Poland her greatness. In the name of all who serve the Polish nation, I thank you for all you have achieved up to now, and for what you will achieve in the future."

"DRANG NACH OSTEN" IN THEORY AND PRACTICE

PLANS for Germany's policy in Poland were no secret:—
Hellmut Sommer, a German journalist, wrote in his book *Voelkerwanderung im 20. Jahrhundert* (1941):

"On October 6th, 1939, the Fuehrer announced to a bewildered world that he intended to bring all German Nationals home to the Reich. At the same time he announced the victorious conclusion of the German campaign against Poland. As soon as the military action was over, a momentous and decisive step towards a durable exploitation of the victory was taken. For the eastern provinces of the Reich this step means their complete Germanization."

Hitler's gauleiters on Polish territories illegally "incorporated" in the Reich made many declarations on this subject. In a speech at Kalisz on October 6th, 1939, Arthur Greiser, the Gauleiter of so-called "Wartheland" said:

"In ten years' time there will be here no patch of land which will not be German; every homestead will belong to German colonists. They are already on their way from all the provinces of the Reich, from the Baltic States, from Lithuania, Rumania, Russia and the Tyrol to settle down in this region. They come down here one and all to wage a merciless struggle against the Polish peasantry."

Albert Forster, the Gauleiter of Danzig-Westpreussen, said in a speech in Bydgoszcz on November 27th, 1939:

"I have been appointed by the Fuehrer his trusted lieutenant for this area, and it is my duty to assure the final triumph of the German cause in these lands. I have received a clear order to Germanize this part of the country as quickly as possible."

The German press and numerous German publications are constantly discussing not only the task of the Germans in the Polish territories incorporated in the Reich, but also the right of Germany to these lands. The above-mentioned Greiser wrote in "Das Reich" of October 20th, 1940:

"German claims to this land are based not only on the fact that the German people have long been colonizing and cultivating this eastern area, but also on the fact that German tribes—Goths, Vandals and Burgundians—were the first inhabitants of the Wartheland. The Fuehrer is convinced that the East can remain a purely German territory only if this land is colonized and tilled by a German population, if German children grow up here—and that is why he has entrusted us with the task of making out of the Wartheland a true peasant region of Greater Germany. The fulfillment of this task will be the decisive factor not only for the economic future of the Wartheland, but for its national and political future as well."

Anton Reinthaller, Under-Secretary of State in the German Ministry of Food and Agriculture, one of those who are to keep close watch on the progress of the Germanization of the territories torn from Poland, has published in *Das Reich* of August 4th, 1940, an article entitled "Deutscher Lebensraum, Voraussetzungen National-sozialistischer Grosswirtschaft." He writes:

"Our Nationalist-Socialist idea of territory differs from that of plutocrats and their political systems. . . . It

stretches further than the area in which our own nation lives from time immemorial—it comprises also areas which by nature are complementary to ours and seem to have been made for it; it becomes synonymous with the living space of the German nation and of the small nations under our protection. . . . For this great German Reich, the frontiers of which are yet to be fixed by the Fuehrer, conquests are really valuable only when the conquered land can be colonized by German peasants and tilled, with limited exceptions, exclusively by Germans. Wherever Germans conquered a land but failed to settle their own peasantry—as, for instance, in the Baltic States where the German barons used alien labor—German rule did not last and the conquered land was lost again. Our past teaches us that the plough must follow the sword."

In the *Ostdeutscher Beobachter* of November 24th, 1940, we find an article from which we quote the following:

"One thing is certain: In future this land, to the last thatched cottage, must be settled by Germans only; they must be ready to fulfill all the tasks which the possession of this land and the blood spilt in its conquest entail."

In an article "Unbrauchbar und abzulehnen" dated January 9th, 1941, *Himmler's* organ "Das Schwarze Korps" stated:

"For centuries we sinned against the German east. In some few periods only did Germany's political will draw frontiers in the east for the German living and colonizing space. Everything that was desired and won by King Henry or some of the princes of the eastern Marches, or Frederick the Great, or Maria Theresa or Joseph II, was invariably forgotten and lost by their successors. The victory of 1939 gave us the political power necessary to correct the mistakes and sins of our fathers. National Socialism has given us the political philosophy necessary for the fulfillment of our tasks in the east. Now these tasks are so deeply engraved in our conscience that we could not relegate them to the background. The great tasks, the great opportunity given by fate to us—modern Germans and contemporaries of Adolf Hitler—is to make the east German and ensure that it shall remain German, not only politically, but as part and parcel of our country and people."

These statements are characteristic and noteworthy. They clearly demonstrate one truth, namely that the Germans, who have annexed important Polish territories, do not in the least claim that these territories are inhabited by Germans. They only want to Germanize them. Greiser says that in ten years' time not one Pole will be left there. Forster says that he has been ordered to Germanize, that is to say to Germanize something which is not German. Reinthaller warns his readers that only the settlement of an adequate number of German peasants in these territories can strengthen German rule there.

Since their conquest the territories incorporated in the Reich are constantly visited by German newspapermen who describe their impressions. Let us examine some of these reports, many of which were written several months after

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(Continued from page 5)

the conquest of Polish territories by the Germans, at a time when the process of Germanization was already in full swing. In the weekly “*Das Reich*” of April 6th, 1941, we find a description of the neighborhood of *Poznan*, entitled “*Ob man da leben kann.*” The situation in a small provincial township is described as follows:

“In the little crowded shops salesmen are still mostly Polish, while the management is already German. The role played in country districts by Germans transferred from Eastern Poland is played in the towns by Germans brought from the Baltic States. These form the greater part of the merchant community, of the physicians, lawyers, engineers, chemists, drugstore owners. . . . ‘Here, Germans are still in a minority. This means they have to unite. It is said that there are several thousand Poles still living here,’ we were told by a corporal who for the first time in his life was playing for us the role of Pausanias to this town. How many Germans lived there apart from the soldiery, he could not say. He only knew that their number was increasing every day, and he also knew that there were 13 German girls there. . . .”

“We do not need to leave the train; we don’t even need to name this town. What we saw and found there we also find in all small townships of this district.”

The *Ostdeutscher Beobachter* of January 22nd, 1941, described two small Poznanian townships, *Miedzychod* and *Sierakow*. About the first of these townships it writes:

“Until its occupation by the Germans in September 1939, 87 per cent of the population was Polish.”

and about the second:

“Until its occupation the township had a purely Polish character.”

The *Ostdeutscher Beobachter* of January 25th, 1941, devoted its attention to the district of *Grodzisk*:

“The district of *Grodzisk* was almost purely Polish.”

The same paper published on December 28th, 1940, an interview with the German commissioner of the town of *Zerkow*, in the district of *Jarocin*, on the subject of his tasks at the time when administration was taken over by the Nazis:

“Will anyone who is not in close touch with these problems ever realize the difficulties which had to be overcome? Will anyone ever realize what it meant to start, as the only German in the district, work of reconstruction in a purely Polish town, such as *Zerkow*?”

“The most important task of the German commissioner was the total Germanization of the district. I set upon this work with the Landrat of *Jarocin* . . . by some ‘evacuations.’ The criminal Polish elements—both the criminals and the intellectuals—have been destroyed.”

This is the position in *Poznania*. The position in Pomerania is described in an article “*Der Osten im Umbau*” in the

Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung of October 24th, 1940, which states that in the town of *Pelplin*, for example, there were before September 1st, 1939, only 70 Germans out of a population of 5,000, the rest being Poles. In the same paper of August 26th, 1940, the author of an article “*Land in Erwartung der Bauern*” described the position in the district of *Tuchola*:

“The district needs German peasants who would be willing to work, so as to own farms. The moment when the Germanization of the district will start is impatiently awaited here.”

The weekly “*Das Reich*” of October 20th, 1940, describes the country around *Ciechanow*, *Plock* and *Pultusk*, which has been detached from the central area of Poland and annexed to East Prussia as district of *Zichenau*. The author of the article entitled “*Masovienjunges Grenzland*” is obviously perplexed on what to base the German claims to these territories, but still he writes:

“And so this land has slept for a thousand years: it is settled and inhabited by a people which, it is true, is deeply permeated from a racial point of view by Germanic blood, but which is culturally purely Polish. The population is hopelessly Slavonized.”

The *Frankfurter Zeitung* of August 20th, 1940, published an article “*Zichenau—alt und neu*” which says:

“The streets are swarming with Polish children . . . only when the war is ended can Germans be settled here who will bring the work of the first pioneers to its conclusion.”

The *Warschauer Zeitung* of August 18th-19th, tries in turn to explain that Silesia is a German province, and it bitterly complains that:

“The Silesian boys and girls of 20 years of age were often unable to greet the invading German forces in German or to understand what they said.”

An article in the same paper of November 14th, 1940, deals with the position in the *Sosnowiec-Dabrowa Gornicza* regions of *Silesia* and describes it as inhabited by a purely Polish population, but hastens to add:

“... this land will also become purely German, like every other German Gau.”

Such is, even in the light of Nazi propaganda, the “German character” of that part of Poland which has been incorporated in the Reich. No wonder one of the trusted lieutenants of *Himmler*, one *Dr. Coulon*, whose task it is to Germanize Polish territories, committed the following indiscretion in the Christmas 1940 issue of the *Ostdeutscher Beobachter*:

“During the last 1,000 years the eastern territories, though continuously flooded by new waves of German blood, never became a native German soil.”

POLISH SCULPTRESS IN U. S.

POLISH ART is winning more and more recognition in the United States, and American critics have commented favorably on the statue of St. Bernard by Maryla Lednicka recently unveiled in the Chapel of St. Bernard's School in Gladstone, N. J. Mme. Lednicka studied under Bourdelle and is well known here and abroad, having exhibited in Warsaw, Poznan, Paris, Brussels, Venice, Padua and New York, where her work has won favorable comment at the New York World's Fair, various group exhibitions and private showings at the Wildenstein Galleries and the Julien Levy Galleries.

Work by Maryla Lednicka also forms an important feature of a United Nations Exhibition in New York. At a "Sculpture of Freedom" exhibition arranged by the Sculptors' Guild in Rockefeller Center last September and October, a "Young Man" in bronze by this outstanding Polish sculptress was on view. In his art column, Mr. Edward Jewell of the "New York Times" referred to it along with works by Jacob Epstein of Great Britain and Ivan Mestrovic of Yugoslavia.

The present exhibition of "United Nations Artists in America" comprises paintings, engraving and sculpture. Maryla Lednicka exhibits two bronzes, "Head of Angel" and "Eve." Mr. Carlyle Burrows of the "Herald Tribune" has this to say: "Joep Nicolas, Jacob Epstein, Maryla Lednicka and a few other notables claim attention out of all proportion to the appeal of others."



SAINT BERNARD BY M. LEDNICKA

Three Old Polonica in New York Public Library

By DR. ALBERT L. BERLSTEIN

THE systematic extermination of cultural life in Poland makes it desirable to preserve and improve Polish book collections in this country. American libraries offer Polish scholars one of the rare opportunities still left in the world for free scientific research.

The New York Public Library has built up a fairly representative collection of books in Polish and on Polish subjects, both in the Slavonic Division and in various groups of the Reference Department. Since it is now impossible to obtain books from Europe, virtually the only source of Polish books are American and British dealers. Sometimes an exceptional purchase is made. Recently the New York Public Library was able to acquire three interesting items, fine specimens of Polish culture of the 15th and 17th centuries.

The first chronologically is the last known work of Jan Długosz, the great historian of the 15th century, the "*Lites ac Res gestae inter Polonos Ordinemque Cruciferorum*"—(History of Litigations between the Poles and the Order of Teutonic Knights). Długosz was the son of a Polish chief who took part in the battle of Grunwald (1410) against the Teutonic Knights. Educated in Cracow University, he devoted his life to the Church and the State. Thanks to his twelve books on Polish history, written in Latin, he became the father of Polish Historiography.

The *Lites* are a collection of legal documents concerning two major conflicts between Poland and the Order, one in 1339 under King Casimir the Great, and the other in 1422

under King Władysław Jagiello, both settled by Papal arbitration; Długosz collected the material for his work in the course of many years service in the State Chancery; it never appeared in his lifetime. The collection was first published in Poznań by Count Tytus Działyński in 1855-1856. Of the third volume (see picture of the title page) only 140 copies were printed and only 100 have been in circulation. The *Lites* constitute a complete record of both lawsuits and of several minor disputes. To establish their claims to parts of Poland, Lithuania and Prussia, the Knights displayed the typical German genius for falsehood and scientific forgery. The Teutonic Knights, Frederick the Great, Hitler—all played the same old game: to find a legal basis for robbery and aggression.

Among the Polish gentry of the 17th century the most popular books were probably the "*herbarze*" (handbooks of her-

his orthodox views (he is said to have included in his work only families whose nobility was beyond question), others accused him of having accepted bribery from persons whose hospitality he had enjoyed. . . . Even court action was set in

motion to stop the circulation of his work. The author's friends, among them the greatest authority Niesiecki, defended him warmly. The title of the book is "*Orbis Poloniae*" (Polish World); it is written in Latin and beautifully illustrated with drawings of coats of arms. Picture No. 2 shows Tadeusz Kosciuszko's coat of arms "*Roch*." The Latin text refers to the Kosciuszko family as an ancient one and states that one of his ancestors was given the estate of Siechnowice by King Casimir III in the 15th century

"*Reformacya Obyczaiow*" (Reformation of Morality), the third work recently acquired by the library, is an exhortation by one of the most learned men of the 17th century. Its author, Szymon Starowolski was historian, poet, critic, military expert*, musician, moralist and preacher, theologian, lawyer, educator, a many sided personality of venerable integrity. "The cause of his country was always nearest to his heart"—said one of his contemporaries. Writing in Latin he acquainted foreigners with Poland's history and geography**, with her institutions and her leading men, and he defended his country against attacks by German scholars. Starowolski was one of the earliest of Polish propagandists. When the Swedish

king invaded Poland and visited the tombs of the Polish kings in Cracow, Starowolski, then Canon of the Wawel Cathedral, was his guide. The Swedish monarch expressed the hope that the Polish king would never come back, but Starowolski

* A work about military art, *Simonis Starowolsci, Institutorium Rei Militaris Libri VIII*, Florence, 1646, can be found in N. Y. Pub. Lib.

** The library possesses a work of this kind, *Simonis Starowolsci, "Polonia,"* Cologne, 1632.

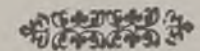
REFORMACYA OBYCZAIOW Polskich.

Wszystkim Stanom Oyczyzny nāszey,
teraźnieyszych czāsow zepsowanych
bārzo potrzebna.

Tym zwałższā:

V ktorych iest Białe, czarnym; Dobro, złym; Potęgā,
sprāwiedliwoścīa; Wola, prāwem; Vpor, słusnoścīa
Krzywdā, Odpuslem; Niewstyd, śwīasobliwoścīa,
Vtrātā, pochwałā; Obzārstwo, grzecznoścīa;
ā iednym słowem: Quorum Deus
venter est.

Przez S. S.



"REFORMATION OF MORALITY" BY SZYMON STAROWOLSKI
(17th Century)

remarked calmly: "*Fortuna variabilis, Deus immutabilis!*" (Fortune may vary, God does not change.) Addressing his countrymen in his native tongue he is above all a moralist. In the "*Reformacya Obyczaiow*" he is outspoken on the unbridled license of the gentry, the insolence of the aristocracy, chaos in finance and in the army, lack of faith and oppression of the peasantry. But he scourges also the gluttony and drunkenness of his countrymen, their bad habits, their corruption and selfishness. The New York Public Library has acquired the first edition of this rare work. The date of publication is uncertain, but from its context it must have appeared after 1649 and before 1653.

The New York Public Library is proud to act as repository of works like the three we have described. It is to be hoped that Polish and American bibliophiles who have rare books or valuable manuscripts pertaining to Poland and her culture will be persuaded to add their treasures to the New York Public Library's store of Polonica.

ROCH Tertio.



iure etiam hāreditario contulit in Palatinatu quoque Brestensi Lithu. vti Priuilegium datum testatur, Rythenico idiomate vtrumque scriptum.

"ROCH"—KOSCIUSZKO'S COAT-OF-ARMS

HOC Stemmata vtitur antiqua Domus Kosciuszkonum in Palatinatu Brestensi, cuius Atrio Casimirus III. (nam diu erat in Aula Regis) bona sua Regalia Siechnowice cum duabus villis in Palatinatu Brestensi, iure hāreditario dedit. Qui postea à bonis Siechnowicze Kosciuszko Siechnowicki vocatus, quod nomen eius posteris nunc retinet. Alexander quoque Rex Casimiri filius eidem Kosciuszconi, memor meritorum quae Patri egregie in Aula praestiterat bona Leniewicze & Stupiczow

aldry) of Paprocki, Okolski, Niesiecki. Nothing was more exciting than problems of genealogy. . . . No wonder that Szymon Okolski's book about Polish and Lithuanian heraldry—the second work on our list—first published in Cracow in 1641 in 3 volumes, aroused a storm of mingled indignation and admiration. Okolski's enemies resented

Lites gestae Polonos Que Cruciferorum.



tius.

Libri Res: Antiqua Domus of Casimirus III. monumenta
nura, articulos et gestas Magistr. Prussie in se continens.

"HISTORY OF LITIGATION BETWEEN THE POLES AND
THE ORDER OF THE CRUCIFERORS"

POLISH GENERALS OF THE CIVIL WAR

By MIECISLAU HAIMAN*

FOR centuries, men of Poland have been answering Freedom's call wherever sounded. Theirs was not to fight as mercenaries, but to make the selfless sacrifice as patriots of liberty. So, today, oldest veteran of democracy, Poland ranks fifth in fighting strength among the United Nations. Her sons fly wing to wing with the aces of the R.A.F., rub shoulders with the sailors of His Majesty's Navy and the kilted highlanders of Scottish regiments.

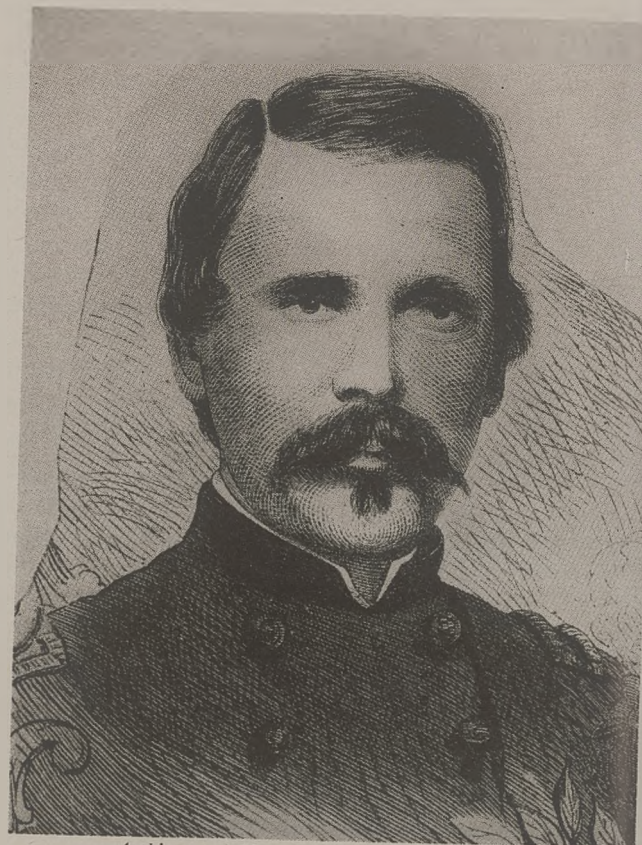
Across the Atlantic, a sizable group of Polish citizens is serving in the armed forces of one of the great leaders of the United Nations—the United States of America. This tradition of American-Polish friendship is rooted in Revolutionary War days when two of Poland's greatest heroes, Tadeusz Kosciuszko and Kazimierz Pulaski along with a score of other Polish sympathizers, braved the stormy ocean to offer their services to the insurgent colonists. The tradition was further cemented during the Civil War years when five thousand men of Polish ancestry joined the colors. Among them three, Poles by birth, attained the rank of General in the Union Army, and are a source of special pride to the people of Poland.

We reprint from Miecislau Haiman's authoritative contribution to Polish-Americana, the biographies of these outstanding figures.

GEN. WLADIMIR KRZYZANOWSKI

Wladimir Krzyzanowski was born at Roznow, that part of Poland then occupied by Prussia. His father was a noble landholder, and a veteran of the Napoleonic wars. His aunt was the mother of Frederic Chopin. The short-lived Polish Insurrection of 1846 interrupted the college studies of young Krzyzanowski. As one of its participants he was obliged to flee from Poland; he sailed for New York.

His first years in America were a hard struggle for existence. He managed, however, to complete his education and became a civil engineer. He made extensive surveys in Virginia, and was active in railroad building in the midwestern states. In 1854, he married a niece of Gen. Burnett, settled in Washington, D. C., and became a merchant. As an active member of the Republican party, he was elected chairman of a local Republican club.



Archives and Museum of the Polish R.C. Union, Chicago

GEN. WLADIMIR KRZYZANOWSKI

After an illustration in "Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper," New York, March 12, 1864.

Two days after Lincoln's first proclamation on the Civil War, General Krzyzanowski volunteered as a private, but quickly advanced to the rank of captain of his own company, made up for the greater part of Germans from Washington. In the fall of 1861, he took over the command of the Fifty-Eighth New York Infantry, with the rank of Colonel. His regiment was attached to Blenker's division, then encamped at Hunter's Chapel, Va. He took part in Fremont's "hunt" after "Stonewall" Jackson in the Shenandoah Valley in the spring of 1862, and distinguished himself at Cross Keys on June 8th, when he personally, bayonet in hand, led a successful charge on Ewell's Confederates.

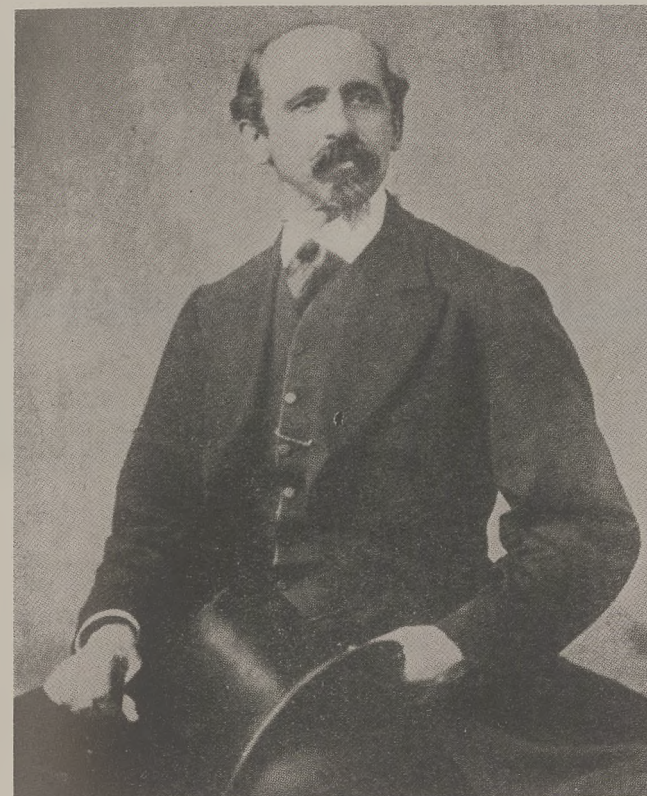
Through subsequent changes in the high command in the Army of Virginia, he became commander of the Second Brigade, Third (Schurz's) Division, and took part in the second battle of Bull Run. Official reports speak with "the highest praise" of his gallantry on the first day of the battle, August 29th, when he "repelled frequent and fierce assaults of the enemy"; on the following day he fought with equal bravery and "while showing his men how to face the enemy, had his horse shot under him." Krzyzanowski's valor in this battle was so outstanding that President Lincoln nominated him brigadier-general, but, according to Schurz's relation, the Senate failed to confirm the nomination because none of the Senators could pronounce his name.

"Kriz," as Krzyzanowski was popularly called in the army, did not take this injustice to heart. "A son of foreign and far-off land," he wrote in his memoir, "I fought for ideals, for freedom and liberty."

In the disastrous battle of Chancellorsville, May 2-4th, and at Gettysburg, July 1-3rd, 1863, Krzyzanowski again distin-

guished himself. Schurz attests that "the only real fighting at Chancellorsville which for about an hour delayed Jackson's progress, was done by 'foreign brigadiers,' Schimmelfennig and Krzyzanowski of Schurz's division, and Buschbeck of Steinwehr's division." At Gettysburg he was active during the entire three days of the battle. It was his corps that opened the battle. On the second and third day he occupied the pivotal position at the Cemetery Ridge and took part in the bloodiest struggle; he saved a battery from being captured by the enemy. Gen. Howard, commanding the Eleventh Corps, singled him out "for bravery, faithfulness and efficiency in the discharge of duty."

... Krzyzanowski spent part of 1864 defending the Nash-



Archives and Museum of the Polish R.C. Union, Chicago

GEN. JOSEPH KARGE

Contemporary photograph.

ville and Chattanooga railroad, the "cracker line" of the army. It was a hard task, demanding constant vigilance against guerrilla bands and usually accompanied by hunger and privation. For weeks his troops had to use powder for want of salt; horses died of starvation. On March 2, 1865, after other important military missions in the South, he was breveted Brigadier General "for gallant and meritorious services." He left the army on October 1, 1865, with his health impaired.

Upon his return to civil life he occupied various offices in the Treasury Department. Settling in California, he helped Helena Modjeska, the famous Shakespearean actress, in her early American career. There he also met Henry Sienkiewicz, the author of *Quo Vadis*, and exerted some influence on his writings. In 1879, he was customs inspector at Panama and in 1883, received an appointment in the customs office at New York, at which post he died on January 30, 1887. Carl Schurz, who remained his warm friend until his death, delivered the funeral oration at his grave.

GEN. JOSEPH KARGE

Recognized by many authorities as one of the best Union cavalry leaders, General Joseph Karge was born at Olendry Terespolskie, a village in Prussian occupied Poland, on July 4th, 1823. He studied at the universities of Breslau, Paris and Berlin and served in the Prussian army. He took a very enthusiastic part in preparations for the Polish Revolution of 1848, was severely wounded in an engagement and imprisoned, but saved himself by making his escape. He lived in France for a while, and in 1851, came to New York, where, after arduous beginnings, he established a private classical school and directed it with success until the Civil War broke out.

He immediately volunteered his services and was commissioned Lieutenant-Colonel of the First New Jersey Cavalry. Early in 1862, he became attached to the Army of Virginia and repeatedly distinguished himself by his energy and dashing bravery. "He surprised and captured large bodies of the enemy's troops, extricating his own from the midst of superior forces, by means of quick decisions and gallant leadership and desperate hand-to-hand conflicts. . . . He was constantly in command . . . of larger bodies of troops than his rank would imply, sometimes of a brigade; he was assigned to the most dangerous and responsible positions." At Strassburg, Va., a shrapnel tore his horse to pieces, but Karge himself came out unscathed. At Brandy Station his bravery saved his regiment from annihilation by Stuart's cavalry; twice, with only a handful of men, he attacked the Confederates and was seriously wounded in the leg. Not waiting for complete recovery, he returned to the field and captured Warrenton with many prisoners and a large booty.

(Please turn to page 14)

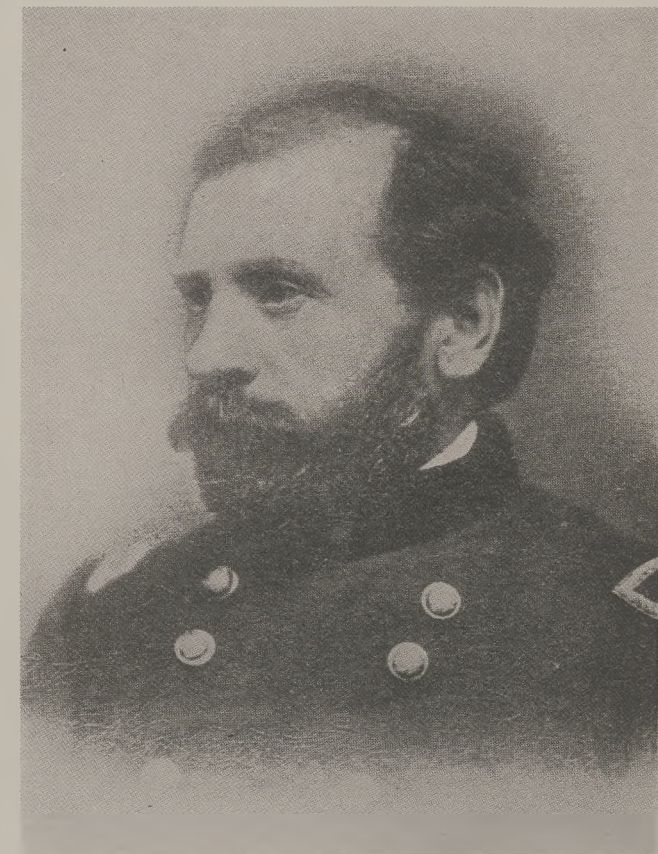
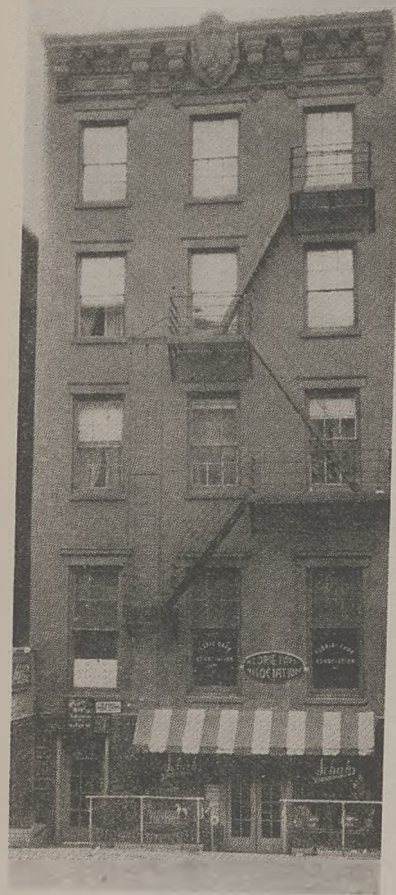


Photo by Signal Corps, U.S. Army

GEN. ALBIN F. SCHOEPF



Courtesy of the General Krzyzanowski Memorial Committee, New York, N. Y.

In this house (130 St. Mark's Place, New York), Gen. Krzyzanowski spent the last years of his life.

* Miecislau Haiman, *Polish Past in America 1608-1865*. Polish R. C. Union Archives and Museum, 1939. 178 pages.

THE AMERICANS ARE LANDING!

With the success of American and British forces in North Africa, many hundreds of Polish soldiers were released from war camps. Half starved, dirty and clothed in remnants of Arab, French and Moroccan uniforms, a large number of them were taken to Scotland and are again serving in the Polish army.

One of them, thin and sunburnt, spoke of his life since the Polish campaign in 1939. He did not want his name revealed. His voice, though low and soft, gave each word a force that reflected the spirit of the man.



RELEASED FROM SAHARA PRISON CAMP BY THE AMERICANS

I FOUGHT in France until the end of the French campaign as a member of a Polish unit. At first we couldn't believe that France had ceased fighting. But after the first shock we squared our shoulders and turned our faces to Great Britain. A large number succeeded in reaching England, the others could get out of France only through Spain or Marseilles. I was among the latter.

I stowed away in a ship sailing for French Africa and, as I thought, for freedom. But how bitterly I was deceived. French Africa was full of German and Italian agents, whose chief occupation was to hunt escaped soldiers. I was tracked down within a few days and sent to a French prisoner of war camp in Tunisia. Prison conditions were frightful—starvation rations, no soap—no water. Together with ten others, I escaped one night. But we didn't get far. A Boche searching party spotted us immediately. And no wonder! We looked like a bunch of beachcombers—unshaven, filthy and haggard. This time we were treated even less humanely. The youngest of our group, a 19 year old boy, was beaten and kicked so viciously that he could not walk. They separated us, and I was sent deep into Algeria where, though an officer in the Polish army, I was locked up with the lowest criminals. Even hell couldn't be worse.

Soon after, I and other healthier Polish soldiers were organized into a road gang. We were sent about 96 miles south to hard labor on a Trans-Sahara road. Our guards

were selected with cunning premeditation, mostly from the Foreign Legion, and all of them Germans. The camp was surrounded by half-civilized Arab soldiers from the desert. They were under the order to shoot, and they never hesitated.

In filth and feverish thirst, we lived in dirty Arab tents under the hardest discipline. Polish soldiers were sent down to special penal prisons for the slightest disobedience. Very few returned from those hell holes. The guards did not spare us the details of their existence. They took grim pleasure in describing the sand races and useless labor of these poor devils who could hardly carry their own weight around. True, our work was not much easier. The day started at 4 a.m. and we worked with a short midday rest until 6 p.m. Our starvation rations consisted of lentil soup and a little more than two pounds of bread for ten men. But it was lack of water that caused the greatest suffering. Heat and work under the scorching African sun made our normal thirst greater, and we got only 2 quarts of water daily for drinking and washing.

Days and months passed, as like as two drops of water. Cut off from the world, without a newspaper or radio, we heard nothing, saw nothing.

After several months of this, I was transferred to an officers camp in Mecheria. I thought for sure that conditions would improve, but my joy was shortlived, for I found myself among the worst murderers and bandits who were sent

here for a "rest" from "Devil's Island." We soldiers, not so recently the honored Polish allies of the French, were treated like the lowest criminals.

The commander of the prison, or rather prison supervisor, was Major Jean Couvier. He hated us Poles with a mania bordering on insanity. He vented his anger at the slightest occasion. Once I fell into his hands. During the morning roll call I did not answer promptly enough to please him. He sprang at me and beat my head with a club and his bare fist. I fell to the ground. I felt a few more kicks, and then I don't remember. When I came to, I was chained in a dark cell so that I could not move. My ration, a cup of water and bread hard as rock, was placed on a shelf which I could not reach without cutting my flesh with the chain. I was released from this death cell after what to me seemed ages. Weak and blind from my confinement I staggered to my tent. But I escaped another worse fate, tuberculosis and insanity caused by complete inactivity, bad living conditions and the climate. Existence in this spot, somewhere at the end of the world, was hopeless. The only consolation was that we were not suffering alone. English soldiers and "de Gaullist" sympathizers were treated as badly as were the Poles.

Suddenly, everything changed overnight. It was unbelievable. The guards and officers became friendly and began to talk of "our common cause" and "victory over the Germans." Then we found out. *The Americans had landed in Africa!* This news raced through our camp like lightning. A new spirit filled us. Dull eyes brightened, sagging bodies regained their elasticity, our brains began to work again. I slipped through the relaxed guard on the second night. Others followed—we have already compared stories. But even then life was not simple. Alone in an unknown country, I wandered about not knowing what to do, not daring to trust anyone. Somehow I scraped enough to get along. Instinctively I headed for the sea—guiding myself by the stars and the sun. When I was almost at the end of my physical strength, I stumbled on a group of Americans who were driving a transport truck. They couldn't tell by my clothes who I was, for I wore an Arab turban to protect me from the sun, a Foreign Legion shirt and a pair of nondescript trousers reaching in tatters to my knees. They shouted something at me and pointed a gun. I don't understand English so I shouted what came to my mind

"Ami, ami!" One of the soldiers said in a nasal twang: "Français." Evidently they took me for a Frenchman, so I shouted back: "Non, Polonais!" They jumped out of the truck and in their enthusiasm virtually swept me off the ground. One of them was a Polish American, so it was easy from then on. They fed me chocolate and gave me cigarettes. For the first time since the war I felt like a human being and like a free man.

They took me to their camp where I met more of their "pick-ups" who turned out to be soldiers escaped from French prisons of war. After a sponge bath and my first square meal, I was ready to help my new comrades in arms. I helped them mostly in capturing German agents. I, as a Pole, had a nose for them.

Then came the news that Polish prisoners of war were being released and transported to Scotland. I took leave of my American friends. They made no objections but even gave me a lift a great part of the way and recommended me to the care of their friends. In this way I got to one of the French African ports handed over to the Allies. A transport was waiting at the docks, and men were swarming on the quay. We were packed into the vessel and, after many narrow escapes from U-boats and enemy air raids we finally reached the shores of Scotland. Here we have been warmly received, and already many of us are on active duty while some are being repaired in a hospital. Again I have been fortunate—for I am among those fit for active duty. But all of us, regardless of our physical condition, are anxious for the day when under the Polish banner we shall again tread Polish soil, freed from the iron heel of the enemy.



IT'S GREAT TO MEET OLD PALS AFTER LONG HARDSHIPS IN THE SAHARA!

(Continued from page 11)

At Aldie he was within reach of victory over the hitherto invincible Stuart, but an officer sent with a detachment against Stuart's rear miscarried his orders. Gen. Bayard in his reports praised him very highly "as always ready and valiant." Governor Olden of New Jersey thanked him in a special letter in which he assured him that "your services . . . will ever be remembered by the people of this State and of the country."

After Fredericksburg his unhealed wound forced him to resign his commission, but before long he organized the Second New Jersey Cavalry (Thirty Second New Jersey) and became its Colonel. When in June, 1863, it seemed that Lee would overrun New Jersey, he was nominated commander of all the cavalry forces in the state. In October he was with the Army of the Potomac, but on the following month he was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee.

Here again "he at once attracted the attention of his commanding officers, and was almost invariably put in command of a brigade. . . . At one time he commanded an entire division of cavalry. . . . He was constantly in the field until November, 1865, rendering able and gallant services" on many occasions.

During his stay with the Army of the Tennessee Karge took part in seven large expeditions against the Confederates, not counting many of minor importance; fought scores of battles and skirmishes, from which he nearly always emerged victorious; traversed the width and length of Mississippi, Tennessee and Kentucky, and partly Arkansas and Louisiana; sailed down the Mississippi from St. Louis to New Orleans; marched thousands of miles over roads and in circumstances which taxed the strength of both horse and soldier. In the first Sturgis' expedition against Forrest, Karge's victory at Bolivar, May 2, 1864, over a much stronger enemy was the only successful incident of the undertaking. In his report Gen. Sturgis says:—"I cannot refrain from expressing my high appreciation of the valuable services rendered by the excellent and dashing officer, Col. Joseph Karge, of the Second New Jersey Volunteers, in his reconnaissance to Corinth and his subsequent management of the rear guard, during the part of retreat, fighting and defending the rear during one whole afternoon and throughout the entire night following." Gen. Grierson, commanding the cavalry division, lauded Karge highly "for the gallant manner in which he conducted the expedition to Rienzi." In July 1864, Karge led a successful expedition from Vicksburg, but in September, during an excursion into Missouri against Price he again fell sick in consequence of the strenuous hardships of the campaign. Returning in December, he took part in Grierson's raid through the heart of Mississippi, and at Verona Station and Okolona he dispersed the Confederates and captured large supplies of war materials. He contributed greatly to the success of this important expedition, as well as to Grierson's last seven-hundred-mile raid on New Orleans.

In recognition of his valuable services Karge was nominated Brigadier General by President Lincoln on March 13, 1865, which nomination the Senate confirmed at the end of the war.

His biographer says of him that "he was always a man wholly without art and policy in his personal interests, and he was one of many who served their country with a merit beyond the official recognition received. To every successive command and service he had been called by those who selected him as the man specially qualified for the emergency to be met, he brought the qualities of promptness, energy, and gallantry, of military skill and ability they knew him to possess in so marked a degree."

In 1867, he received a commission in the regular army and for three years commanded two important military reservations in Nevada.

In 1870, he accepted the chair of continental languages and literature at Princeton College which position he filled with greatest credit to the institution and to himself, until his sudden death on December 27th, 1892.

GEN. ALBIN FRANCIS SCHOEPF

Another Pole who won the rank of Brigadier General in the Union Army during the Civil War was Albin Francis Schoepf, born in Podgorze, near Cracow, on March 1st, 1822. Upon graduating from military school he became a Lieutenant of Artillery in the Austrian army.

In 1848, the Hungarians revolted against Austria. For the Poles it was another occasion to strike against the common foe. Polish officers of the November Insurrection took command of Hungarian armies. Polish patriots hurried in great numbers to join their own legions organized on Hungarian soil.

Deserting the Austrian army, Schoepf enlisted with one of the Polish legions. By his bravery he rose during the struggle to the rank of Major. After the unsuccessful end of the insurrection he crossed over into Turkey where he was interned with other Polish and Hungarian officers. According to some sources, he served for some time in the Turkish army under the famous Polish General Joseph Bem. In 1851, the Ottoman government released the Poles, a group of whom came to America. Among them was Schoepf.

He lived through the usual hardships of a new immigrant, but in time found employment with the United States Coast Survey and, after 1858, with the United States Patent Office in Washington, D. C. On the outbreak of the Civil War he volunteered his services, was commissioned Brigadier General and detailed to the army of Gen. Thomas, then occupied in defending Kentucky. At the head of several infantry regiments and a battery of artillery Schoepf defeated the Confederates under Gen. Zollicoffer at Rock Castle Hills, October 21st, 1861. This was the first successful effort of the Union arms in Kentucky. With his small force he kept Zollicoffer at bay in Somerset for a whole month and distinguished himself again at Mill Springs, on January 19th, 1862, where Thomas defeated the combined forces of Zollicoffer and Crittenden. When Gen. Buell organized the Army of Ohio, Schoepf was appointed commander of the First Brigade, First Division. In this capacity he took part in the Tennessee campaign, in the occupation of Nashville and in Buell's march to the support of Grant at Pittsburg Landing.

In the summer and fall of 1862, Schoepf participated in Buell's campaign against Braxton Bragg and in August became commander of the First Division in place of Gen. Thomas. He fought in the battle of Perryville, October 8th, 1862. Partly because of a wound which caused his deafness Schoepf resigned his command soon after the battle.

Immediately thereafter he was transferred to the Army of the Cumberland, but due to his physical disability he was recalled a month later and made commandant of Fort Delaware, Md., where thousands of Confederates were imprisoned. He kept this post till the end of the war and "by his human, dignified and just behavior gained the good will and friendship of the southern prisoners." After the war Schoepf returned to his position in the Patent Office and became one of its Chief Examiners. He died at Hyattsville, Md., on May 10th, 1886.

The cover shows the facade of the beautiful Church of the Bernardine Monks in Lwow. Constructed early in the 17th century, the Church once served as a fortification, and is one of the best preserved examples of Polish art in Lwow. According to legend, one of the Bernardine Monks, John of Dukla, saved the city from destruction in 1648 during one of the numerous attacks to which Lwow was subjected throughout its history.

"POLES ALWAYS WERE GERMAN" SAYS HITLER

London, Feb.—On February the 3rd, Hitler issued a proclamation to the Polish people in the Government General appealing to all Poles to have themselves registered on the Deutsche Volksliste. This list is to be completed by March 15th.

The proclamation states that, as German science has proved that the whole population of Central Poland is of German origin and only accepted Polish names, Polish customs, and the Polish language in the course of centuries, this population should show their German character by registering on the German Volksliste.

As a reward, the German proclamation promises the Poles that Hitler will take the population of the Government General under his personal protection, and further that Germany is prepared to give the Poles certain political liberties. Neither the character nor the extent of these liberties is indicated.

Obviously this proclamation has been issued under the impression of recent German defeats in Russia, and is on one hand an attempt to win over the Polish population now that terror has failed to give results.

On the other hand, the purpose of this proclamation is to win man power for the German forces. It is certain that all Poles who register on the German Volksliste will become liable for military service. It is feared that the Germans will fake many registrations so as to enroll as many Poles as possible into the German Army by force.

It is reported from Istanbul that for the past ten days all Germans in Turkey, from 18 to 38 years, have been called up for military service, even those holding official positions. So far more than two hundred men have left for the Reich.

SABOTAGE INCREASES IN WILNO DISTRICT

Anti-German sabotage by the peasantry in the Wilno district is seriously increasing. Von Rentelen recently threatened wholesale confiscation of all cows because "milk deliveries of late have been absolutely insufficient, even for town populations and no milk is available for children." Polish children, of course, never were allowed to buy milk.

POLISH NATIONAL COUNCIL TOLD OF ENORMOUS EFFORT NECESSARY TO CRUSH ENEMY

London, Feb.—General Sikorski, Polish Prime Minister and Commander in Chief made an extensive report to the Polish National Council, in which he stated that the war had entered a new phase. The initiative in operations was passing slowly but surely to the Allies. There should be no delusion, however, that the road to victory would be easy and short.

Germany's strength in this war had brought us as many surprises as the Soviet's military might had brought to the Germans. In any case, Hitler's European fortress was strong and Germany's defensive possibilities had not yet been touched. Therefore an enormous effort would still be necessary, and unending sacrifices called for in order to crush the enemy.

General Sikorski emphasized the necessity of maintaining complete allied unity, on which he had also insisted during his Washington talks, for Hitler's only hope of saving himself is to break up the great coalition.

General Sikorski then gave figures illustrating the enormous production of the United States. Discussing his Washington conferences, General Sikorski declared that he had acted not only as Polish Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief of Poland's armed forces but also as the initiator of cooperation between the Governments of occupied European countries, and above all of the idea of federation in Central and Eastern Europe.

He called attention to the fact that he had put forward this idea publicly as far back as November 16th, 1939. Of course, he had not presented his memorandum in Washington in any name but that of the Polish Government, and his own. Any endeavors to create confusion on that score would be inappropriate and unimportant. The parties interested must know best what is the real state of affairs.

In the military sphere General Sikorski presented to President

Roosevelt, General Marshall and Field-Marshal Dill, Poland's suggestions bearing on the further conduct of the war.

General Sikorski gave a detailed account of the action of Polish forces up to now in Poland and abroad. The Polish Army in the Middle East, amounting to nearly 100,000 men and including the Carpathian division that won fame in Tobruk and in the desert, is to play an important role in the eastern Mediterranean. It is being armed and prepared in record-time and can be proud of its state of preparedness for war.

Poland's magnificent Air Force in Great Britain is constantly taking a most active part in battles with the enemy. The heroic Polish navy is helping to fight the Battle of the Atlantic and distinguishing itself in convoying ships and carrying material to Soviet Russia. It has suffered painful losses while so doing.

Poland's merchant fleet continues to vie with our navy. Polish merchant ships have often got through to Archangelsk and Murmansk and will do so again.

At home Poland is undergoing a hell of suffering, and Polish blood continues to flow in broad streams. The resistance of the whole Polish population is most stubborn and does not weaken for a moment. That resistance is directed in such a way as to give the best results.

The Poles do not allow themselves to be drawn into provoking the Germans, they do not heed the foreign radio stations calling upon them to rise in immediate revolt, which would only plunge the Polish Nation into a sea of blood.

General Sikorski said that he had informed President Roosevelt of the magnitude of the irreparable losses, not only human and economic but also moral, that have been suffered by the countries occupied by the enemy, as a result of his extermination plans.

On this account the longer the

JEWS MADE TO FEED SOLDIERS WHO SLAY 3000

London, Feb.—The rapid extermination of Jews in Poland is being methodically accelerated by the Germans who now shoot Jews marked for "evacuation" in the streets, in courtyards, in their own homes, but more often in market places and cemeteries. In Tarnow, 6,000 were thus slaughtered. As an instance of the utter callousness of the Germans, in Stanislawow the Jewish Council of Elders was ordered to erect kiosks and prepare snack-bars in the market place for German troops passing through. When these arrived, they were seen to belong to the dreaded "Ver-nichtungskolonnen" who, after partaking of the food provided, proceeded to set up their machine guns and mow down some three thousand Jews as they were driven past them.

Before the corpses are even cold German dentists are engaged in depriving them of any gold teeth or fillings they may have. Then their clothes are removed.

In camps and prisons especially when electrocution is the method of extermination, the prisoners are told they are going to have a bath and are made to strip before being huddled into the death chambers with metal floors through which the fatal current is passed.

war goes on, the more extensive will be the structural changes; so that full reconstruction will be immeasurably more difficult and complicated. That extermination must be stopped as quickly and as energetically as possible. President Roosevelt showed complete understanding of this point of view and of Poland's needs.

After discussing the matter of cooperation between Governments of German occupied countries, General Sikorski informed the Polish National Council of his conference on war aims. He had presented the question of Poland's frontier in the light of the unanimous public opinion of Poland. He had indicated the necessity of Poland having a broad and really secure access to the sea, was the basis of Poland's closer cooperation with the maritime democracies. In the matter of Poland's eastern frontiers General Sikorski had stood firmly on the principles of the Atlantic Charter. He emphasized the necessity of maintaining the ideals for which the United Nations are fighting, adding that to deviate from those ideals would be fatal to the Allied cause. Poland's eastern frontiers had been laid down in the Treaty of Riga, which was the result of a compromise whereby Poland gave up 55% of the territories that formerly belonged to her.

"SERVE IN BAUDIENST OR DIE"—GOV. FRANK

The Gonic Krakowski, a German controlled paper in Cracow, publishes Governor General Frank's decree imposing the death penalty upon anybody seeking to avoid the "Baudienst"—which is compulsory for all Poles. Persons hiding those liable for the "Baudienst" or persons influencing people against entering the "Baudienst" are also threatened with the death penalty.

FRENCH FREE POLES IN NORTH AFRICA

The French authorities in North Africa have released four hundred Polish citizens interned by the Vichy regime. These Poles were arrested in France in 1940 on Marshal Petain's orders and sent to North Africa—they were all ex-soldiers of the International Brigade that fought in Spain.



The Halifax Chronicle

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KODEKS POLAKA

Of all the remarkable publications put out by members of the oppressed peoples of Europe, none is more amazing than *The Polish Review*. It is only a tabloid of twelve pages, printed in New York, but its contents tell on every page of a folk which simply refuses to be beaten, in spite of the most appalling atrocities the Nazis can invent.

Turning the pages of an issue of last month, one is struck with amazement. It begins with a measured and coldly calculated speech on the present war situation, delivered by General Sikorski before the Overseas Press Club of New York. An article follows, by Stanislaw Strzetelski on the deficiencies of the old League of Nations and the means whereby such an organization should be strengthened in the future. Then come heart-rending articles from escaped Poles, telling of their wretched life in German prison camps. Sadism, torture and mass murder are calmly described as daily happenings, and the minds of their perpetrators are analyzed with philosophical detachment.

But the thing which comes to the Canadian reader as a positive shock is to turn the pages and to find the editor, in two succeeding articles, quietly discussing Old Polish Rugs and Polish Glass and Cement Industries, as though war was as far from his mind as Arcturus.

Another issue—the one for Christmas Eve, prints the *Kodeks Polaka*—the “Code of Behaviour for Poles” still under the Nazi heel in Poland. Its slogan is taken from the writings of Stanislaw Staszyc, an eighteenth century patriot—“A great nation may fall, only a base nation may be destroyed.” This code has been broadcast throughout Poland in the pages of “*Szaniec*,” an underground publication which Germans cannot suppress. Its terms forbid co-operation cannot suppress. Its terms forbid It is a rule of life for men who know they will die, but that they can only die once.

There is nothing fanatical about the Poles who write in this little paper. One of them, a professional psychologist and formerly a prisoner of the Gestapo, coldly reviews the question as to whether the Gestapo men are a special type of degenerate. His conclusions are worthy of attention. “I have experienced,” he writes, “the school of a German prison in my own person. I came out cured of the belief that the German jailers and executioners are a specially chosen body of degenerates and sadists. They are simply Germans, the same Germans whom I had known when, as a young man, I had studied in Germany. Normal Germans, obedient to the sound of an order, which transforms them into automata, soullessly carrying out the most monstrous crimes.”

Such a judgment simply has to be taken into account by those peoples who, like ourselves, have never quivered under the lash or faced the firing squad, but who, nevertheless, still try to believe that we are fighting merely a group of Nazis who, for the moment, dominate a German people which is actually by nature kind and peaceful.

These Poles are very quiet, but very categorical in their condemnation of German atrocities. They probably believe there is a good deal to be said for the ancient jingle:

“I hate every German, except only Hermann,

And—Hermann's a German!”

Certainly, when the day of judgment comes, we who live afar off will not be permitted to proceed to a settlement without these persecuted peoples having a word in respect to the form it will take.