

# The Polish Review





# Gen. Sikorski on Poland's "Navy Day" Looks for an Early Return to Danzig

London, Feb.—Poland's Navy Day was celebrated here with a speech by General Sikorski, Polish Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief, a broadcast to Poland by Admiral Swirski, the C. in C. of the Polish Navy, and a special issue of *Dzennik Polski* wish a tribute to the Polish Navy from Mr. W. Turnstall, the British Naval historian.

In his speech, General Sikorski said:

"Perhaps this will be our last Navy Day before we return with joy to Gdynia, Oksywie, Hel, and Danzig. For three and a half years Poland has been crushed under the foot of cruel invaders who have tried to destroy everything. The Polish Republic is exposed to danger such as has never before

been equalled in history. Nevertheless, the Polish Nation is enduring it, for when it comes to historic tasks that Nation stands firmly united and finds within itself an inexhaustible strength of spirit.

"Our people at home, at times assailed by doubt, find new strength in the deeds of their fighting men abroad, among whom you take one of the foremost places. Nor will the Polish Nation yield to the recent and significant pleas of Hitler, who seeks to draw it to his side in his ever more difficult struggle with Soviet Russia, hoping thus to break the great coalition.

"Before the war our access to the Baltic was weak and insignificant. It is true that in the famous battles for Westerplatte, Oksywie and Hel in 1939, there were many instances of courage and heroism, but it was a fight without any hope of victory.

"Under then existing conditions we could not defend our coast effectively against the German aggressors. Therefore, after this second world war, we shall stand firmly and strongly on the sea, so as to guarantee to Poland her indispensable and direct communica-

tions with the whole world. Not long ago a most responsible statesman said to me,

"I hope that in the future the Polish Ensign will sail proudly over the seas and oceans and that your Navy will be greatly enlarged."

"I know this will be so, and it will be due first foremost to your service and that of the whole nation. Your fight with the 'Bismarck,' your raids on Lofoten and Dieppe, your battles in the Atlantic, the British Channel, the Mediterranean and when escorting convoys with war material to Soviet ports, your constant patrolling of routes leading to Russia, and the praiseworthy participation of the Polish Merchant Navy in all important maritime operations, are not only of military importance, but are most eloquent politically.

"They are irrefutable confirmation of your right to the sea. This right is assured by Poland's geographical position and the Polish Nation's deep love for the sea, of which you are giving the best proof by your exemplary service during this war. Your losses, particularly in the North, have been heavy and painful, yet the Polish Navy is 25% stronger than it was at the outbreak of the war.

"It is sweet to die for Poland." Those words were written in his blood, a few minutes before he died, by an heroic Polish sailor on the bomb-riddled deck of the 'Garland.' Those moving words have become the watchword of all who fight for Poland! I know that you know how to die for Poland, but I also know that you know how to live for her. Your self-sacrifice, your iron discipline, your true military bearing in these critical and complicated times are an example to all of us.

"I thank you for it on behalf of that hard national service which is sacred to us. The Polish flag has never ceased for a moment to be the symbol of Polish State Sovereignty, for you have been fighting under it unceasingly since September 1st, 1939. Your fine soldierly hearts have been and are unceasingly serving your homeland, without thought of the blood you shed for her. Poland will not forget your service, Poland will count on you and on your comrades of the Merchant Navy when the time comes to build the foundations of a strong maritime power and the future of the Republic. You who are fighting for collective freedom and for that of the ordinary man, who are building the way to victory in this war of nations, of races, of systems of Government.

"You in Poland who are preserving such great dignity in slavery or in internment, may believe steadfastly in what guides our Navy in all its hard fighting and difficult journeys—belief in Poland, whose liberation is already being outlined to us so clearly today."

## POLISH REPORT ON RELIEF IN RUSSIA PASSED

London, Feb.—A very satisfactory report on Polish relief in Russia was approved by the Polish National Committee at one of its recent meetings.

Up to December 1942, the Polish Red Cross had received from private Polish sources \$293,000. Among the contributions in the past nine months the British public contributed \$24,000, Poles in England \$36,000, of which two-thirds came out of the pockets of Polish government officials. Polish sailors gave \$4,000.

All this money is being used for additional help over and above relief furnished by the Polish Government for Poles in the Soviet Union, and Polish children evacuated from Russia.

As far as the latter are concerned these funds were partly used for the purchase of South African fruit juices, chocolate, vitaminized lozenges and sweets.

After a discussion the Polish National Council passed a resolution expressing its satisfaction that funds collected by the American, British and Polish public for Poles in the Soviet Union had been used so appropriately, and are serving the purpose for which they were intended.

The Polish National Council appeals to the Polish public to make a further effort on behalf of their countrymen who are in great need of aid.

## ADMIRAL SWIRSKI TELLS OF FINE RECORD OF POLISH NAVY

London, Feb.—On the occasion of Poland's "Navy Day" the Commander of the Polish Navy, Admiral Swirski, broadcast to Poland saying, in part:

"Poland and her coast are now under occupation, but already complete certainty exists that Germany will be smashed. Contributing to achieve this is the Polish Navy, her destroyers *Blyskawica*, *Burza*, *Orkan*, *Piorun*, *Garland*, *Krakowiak*, *Slonzak*, her submarines *Wilk*, *Sokol*, *Dzik*, her torpedo-boats, S.1, S.2, S.3. Recently a cruiser has been commissioned with the Polish Navy.

"During our active service of the past twenty-four months, Polish warships took part in 203 patrols, 363 convoys and went through seventeen fights with surface raiders, sixty-four engagements with U-boats, ninety-one fights with airplanes and nineteen

engagements with enemy coastal artillery.

"Our Merchant Navy is heroically and steadily contributing to the war effort. Its flag is flying on all the seas of the world."

## HIGH PRAISE FOR POLISH NAVY FROM BRITISH AUTHORITY

London, Feb.—In connection with Polish "Navy Day," *Dziennik Polski* quotes the opinion of a famous British historian, W. Turnstall, about the Polish Navy:

"Among all the fleets of the United Nations, the Polish Navy has fought best especially when considering her immensely difficult operational conditions.

"Poland built the modern port of Gdynia which arose on sandy dunes but, nevertheless, the Polish Navy, born in this narrow strip on the Baltic, was first among all the

fleets of the United Nations to take up the fight against the German aggressor. The Polish Navy not only performed its task with great bravery, but succeeded in rescuing many ships that have been reunited on Great Britain's shores as a large operational unit.

"The Polish Navy has been in action on all the seas and oceans of the world from new bases, in spite of having been organized and trained for service during her first nineteen years of existence only on the Baltic Sea."

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## KOSCIUSZKO AND LINCOLN

by LUDWIK KRZYZANOWSKI\*



*WELCOME you to the land whose liberties you had been so instrumental in establishing. No one has a higher respect and veneration for your character than I have.* With these words George Washington greeted Thaddeus Kosciuszko upon the latter's arrival for his second visit to the United States in August 1797.

This general of the American Revolution and Polish national hero had served human liberty all his life. *"I have never fought except in the cause of human freedom in America and Poland, and I can never serve in any other cause,"* he once said of himself. He understood freedom in an integral, complete sense, not as the liberty of one nation or of one group alone. Such a comprehension of freedom prompted him to fight for the cause of American independence, and lead the struggle of liberation in Poland. But he also had a sense of kinship with all his fellow men. On September 2, 1782, he wrote to General Greene, regarding the disposal of clothing that had belonged to the late Colonel Laurence: *"I recommend to you two negroes belonging to L. C. Laurence. They are naked, they want shirts, jackets, breeches and their skin can bear good things as well as ours."*

Imbued in America with the idea of the Declaration of Independence that *"all men are created equal"* and *"that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights,"* Kosciuszko when called upon to defend the independence of Poland in 1794 immediately put his idea of equality of man into effect, realizing that only they who enjoy the rights of citizenship would fight for their country. The Constitution of May 3, 1791 had declared that *"guided by justice, humanity and Christian duties as well as by our own well understood interest we take the peasants from under whose hands flows the most abundant source of the national wealth, who constitute the most numerous population in the nation, and therefore the country's greatest strength, under the protection of the law."*

Kosciuszko went further and having called all the inhabitants of the country to arms, proclaimed in the Polaniec Manifesto of May 7, 1794 that *"every peasant is free and that he may move freely from place to place."*

Both as champion of the integrity of his country and as emancipator of the peasants, Kosciuszko is comparable to the great President Emancipator whose birthday we shall commemorate in a few days. Significantly, Kosciuszko's birthday coincides with that of the Great Emancipator, February

12, though obviously separated by the span of threescore and three years.

Like Lincoln, Kosciuszko fought that there be *"a new birth of freedom"* in his land, politically as well as socially. And while the great American President fought *"that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth,"* the Polish hero, more than threescore years earlier, had striven to introduce that type of government in his country.

How Kosciuszko understood the duties and characteristics of citizenship is best proved by the following utterance made towards the end of his life: *"A citizen who wants to pride himself upon being a good Pole should sacrifice everything for his country and always be humane and just."* This humaneness and sense of justice towards all the members of the human race, irrespective of the color of their skin, is a feature that these two great men have in common. Of course, while Lincoln became the real emancipator of the Negroes, Kosciuszko could be only potentially so. But nevertheless, within the scope of his possibilities, he did the most he could under the circumstances. The grateful American people had presented Kosciuszko with a gift of money in recognition of his services to the United States. It is worth noting what use Kosciuszko made of his property. Let his testament drawn up on May 5, 1798 speak for itself:

*"I, Thaddeus Kosciuszko, being just on my departure from America, do hereby declare and direct, that should I make no other testamentary disposition of my property in the United States, I hereby authorize my friend, Thomas Jefferson, to employ the whole thereof in purchasing negroes from among his own, or any other estate, and giving them liberty in my name, in giving them education in trade or otherwise, and in having them instructed for their new conditions, in the duties of morality which may make them good neighbors, good fathers or good mothers, husbands or wives, in their duties as citizens, teaching them to be defenders of their liberty and country, of the good order of society, and in whatsoever may make them happy and useful, and I make the said Thomas Jefferson, executor of this."*

Can we be surprised that such an ardent patriot, but at the same time a universalist, a soldier and philanthropist, has passed into history, poetry and song?

Thomas Jefferson said about him: *"He is as pure a son of Liberty as I have ever known and of that Liberty which is to go to all, and not to the few and rich alone."*

He became the embodiment of liberty everywhere and was celebrated even in countries against which he fought. The

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\*Address delivered on Poland Day in New York at Town Hall's Wartime Program.



# SIX MEETINGS WITH THE POLISH ARMY

EVE CURIE



EVE CURIE

WHILE in the Soviet Union last winter, I spent as much time as I could at the Polish Embassy in Kuybyshev, a little house on Czapayevska street, where Ambassador Stanislaw Kot welcomed me as a member of the family and where I could speak Polish instead of my appalling Russian. Each time I crossed the threshold of this house, I entered an extraordinarily tragic world. Except for the Embassy staff, almost all the Poles in uniform whom

I met there had for endless months been Russia's prisoners before joining the new Polish Army in the Soviet Union and becoming Russia's allies. Their captivity had lasted from the time of the invasion of Eastern Poland by the Red Army in 1939, up to some weeks after Germany's attack on Russia in July 1941. One day, in remote prisoner camps, these men had heard a rumor that a Polish legion was being formed in the Soviet Union. Some of them had trudged for months on Russian roads to get to the training centers and enlist. They had scorned to ask the Russians apologies for the recent past. They had simply said to the Soviet leaders: "Give us guns—so that we can fight the Germans, so that we can help liberate Poland."

This was the sixth time I had met the Polish Army since the beginning of this war. Strangely enough, Poland was the only place where I had not been able to see it. I had not seen, in 1939, the desperate struggle of the Poles on their



IN FRANCE

own soil, their unforgettable defense of Warsaw—where several members of my Mother's family were still living. I had not seen the leaderless Polish armies being annihilated and becoming a thing of the past. But, only a few weeks after Poland's defeat, the first miracle happened before my eyes: One by one, thousands of Polish officers and soldiers arrived in France, after overcoming incredible difficulties in fighting their way across a hostile Europe, toward the country in which they put their trust. A cousin of mine, Wladyslaw Sklodowski, who had first escaped to Hungary, suddenly showed up in Paris. He had soon joined the new Polish force—two divisions strong, then four divisions strong—already in training at Coetquidan, in Brittany. A few months later, a Polish Brigade in French uniforms sailed on French ships to fight in Norway.

The radiant month of June brought disaster to France—a disaster that left the Poles even more dumbfounded than the French—for they still remembered the Mickiewicz verse: "In war, I would trust

the French as if I had a hand of four aces . . ." and they were still humming at times one of their popular mazurkas which said: "Bonaparte taught us how to win a battle." But the bewilderment of the Poles did not last. The Poles simply asked: "Where do we fight next?"—and they made their way to England. Many of them were able to give a hand to Frenchmen who, disregarding the Compiègne armistice, wanted to go on with the war. In the midst of the debacle, a Polish officer lent his leather coat to Captain Jean Becourt-Foch, the grandson of Marechal Foch, and helped him to board one of the British ships taking the Poles to England. Becourt-Foch hid his French uniform under the leather coat, escaped the meshes of the French police, sailed to Great Britain from Saint Jean de Luz and joined General Charles de Gaulle in London.

In August 1940, I made a trip to Scotland to visit the Polish army, for a second time reborn. That very day General Wladyslaw Sikorski was reviewing his first battalions. Some of the soldiers were still wearing their French uniforms. Others had already been given English "battledresses." Sure enough, the first man I came across in a Highland camp as he emerged from beneath a tent, was my Polish cousin who had also managed to leave France. A few weeks later, while London was being bombed, I visited the Royal Air Force stations from where Polish fighter squadrons were taking off, with their British comrades, to defend the skies above us with amazing success. (Before I left England in January 1941, these Poles had already brought down their 400th enemy aircraft.) Everywhere, in 1941 and 1942, my trips to many battlefields brought me face to face with Polish men who had decided that there was no place in the world where they could not fight for their country, men whom Dr. Goebbels contemptuously nicknamed: "The Tourists of General Sikorski." I came across Polish flyers who ferried war planes from the Gold Coast to Khartoum; I saw Poles in Nigeria, in Egypt, in Lybia; I met some of the valiant Polish defenders of Tobruk. And now, in Russia, here were



IN SCOTLAND

the Poles again, resuscitating from nothingness—from the monotonous silence of Soviet prison camps.

In Kuybyshev, I made friends with many Poles belonging to the Army. What struck me most, in my talks with them, was the unanimity of their determination, the identity of their thoughts. To speak to one of them was to speak to all of them. In peace time, these half compatriots of mine were capable of committing the most formidable political blunders. But as soon as danger, war and invasion came, the infallible compass of patriotism guided them in the right direction: toward greatness. War made them simple and heroic, just like it did the Russians. In the U.S.S.R., as in Lybia and in Scotland, I could measure what a small army, magnificently brave and strictly disciplined, could do for the glory of an enslaved country, erased from the map. I could see the Poles conquering gradually an important place for their motherland in the circle of the Allies, al-

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IN LIBYA



IN RUSSIA



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though there is not now one single inch of free Polish territory.

Also in Russia, amid resuscitated Poles, I was learning an unusual kind of restraint. Men who had suffered such extremes of hardship, who had surmounted them and of their own free will had chosen to join their former captors in the struggle against Germany, did not expect an occasional visitor to comment loudly on their recent misfortunes. I suppose they would have found it rather indiscreet. They felt that they were the best judges of what the present attitude of the Poles toward Russia should be. They had decided to be silent. They had decided to fight side by side with the Red Army, if it proved at all feasible, and to show themselves entirely loyal to this new partnership. They expected those of their friends and fellow-countrymen who had gone through no hardships at all to show—at far less cost—the same dignity, the same fortitude.

One day, at the Polish Embassy, I met a young Polish officer, by the name of Grzybowski, clad in British battle-dress. He had been in the Polish Army since September 1939. His unit had been pushed back by the Germans, and had finally been captured by the advancing Russians. He had been sent to Vologda, in northern Russia, then he had been shifted successively to four other prison camps. In the one where he stayed the longest, there were 400 Polish officers with him. He did not think they had been badly treated. He and his comrades had organized concerts and shows during the endless idle months, and they had not suffered too much.

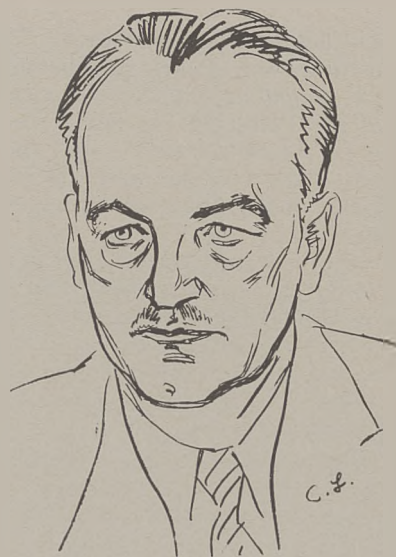
The day had come when Hitler attacked the Soviet Union. The captive Polish officers went almost mad with joy and all kissed each other—not in the hope that Russia would be punished for what she had done to them, but in the hope that Hitler was lost. Grzybowski said to me, "Almost at once, our relations with the Russians improved, for the daily news gave the same thrill to them and to us—prisoners as we were."

The young man had soon been liberated and had enlisted in the 6th Polish division, in training near Buzuluk before being moved to the South. He told me of the conditions in which the Poles were building their new army. The 2,000 men and officers in his group lived under tents, in the frightful cold of the winter. They had dug down into the snow and the soil, sometimes as much as six feet to install their tents as low as possible and to shelter themselves from the wind. Grzybowski knew everything about operating a stove without setting fire to the tent, and how to wash and shave quickly in the open, before the water froze in the basin and became as hard as stone. He told me about the rigid discipline and the hard drilling accepted enthusiastically by the Polish ex-prisoners. The only dream of both officers and men was to go to the front, in Russia or anywhere else—"to any front leading to Poland." The Polish soil, the motherland, was as a magnet to these patriotic Poles.

I asked: "And how did you happen to come to Kuybyshev today?"

"Oh, it's a long story," answered Grzybowski, who suddenly looked very excited. "I am going to give a concert. Yes . . . you see, in peacetime, I was a pianist. I was awarded the Chopin prize in Warsaw, a few years ago. We thought it would be a good idea to organize the first public concert given by the Polish troops in Russia. I have had a terrible time finding a decent piano in this town, and I am practising like mad to limber up my fingers. My life in five prison camps and now under a tent, in this cold, has somewhat spoiled my hands. I do hope, however, to give a good performance."

For once, I discovered a common ground between those



During his recent visit to the United States, many pictures of General Wladyslaw Sikorski were published in the American press. The one he liked best appeared in "PM" and "The Polish Review" is grateful to Field Publications, Inc. for permission to reproduce it.

traditional enemies, the Russians and the Poles. That a man should fight a war, should spend almost two dreary years in prison camps, should emerge for a rough period of training in the snow, and finally, should show the greatest concern about the way he was going to play a Chopin *Scherzo* for an interallied audience of Russians and Poles, was just the kind of things the Russians could understand—for they too knew how to fight, how to endure hardships, how to forget hardships—and in whatever tragic circumstances, how to put all their heart into music.

Everything concerning the Poles in Russia was fantastic. It was fantastic to be invited by the Polish Ambassador to attend a Mass celebrated by a Polish Priest just liberated from a prison camp—a Mass for which the necessary ritual vessels had been lent by the local Orthodox Church, by Bishop Pitirim of Kuybyshev whom I well knew and with whom I had lengthy talks.

It was fantastic that the army of one of the most Catholic countries in Europe—the only wholly Catholic country on the side of the United Nations in this war—should be reborn in the land of Communism and Atheism, and that an explosion of faith, of passionate piety, should accompany the formation of the new Polish regiments in the Soviet Union. Several officers described to me the first masses celebrated in the military training camps—and how the men, still lean and exhausted from their life in prison camps, had wept like children—had endlessly sobbed because God, once again, had been merciful to them.

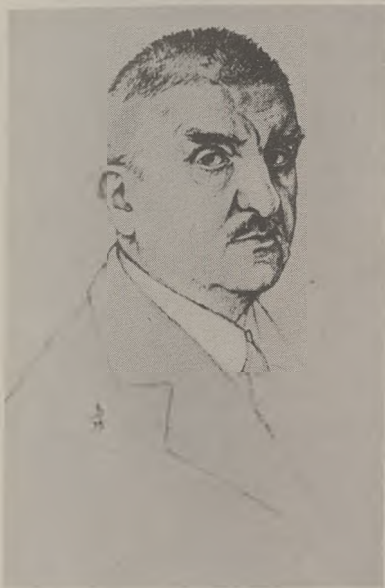
When in Russia, I always read the weekly newspaper "Polska" published officially by our Embassy for Polish civilians and soldiers. For anybody who could read the lines, and between the lines, there, in those eight tabloid pages, was the whole tragedy of Poland with its epic quality and its incredible hardships. Column upon column, in smallest type, was given up to advertisements for lost Poles in Russia. Under the title "Enquiries About Relatives" one could read:

"The following list gives the names of persons that are

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# NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY HONORS MARTYRED SCHOLARS



PROF. STANISLAW ESTREICHER

FOR three ghastly years, the pall of German occupation has lain over the once fair land of Poland. Subjected to unparalleled terror as has been the Polish nation, no group has suffered more concentrated, merciless persecution than the intellectuals. These research workers in laboratories, these men who spent most of their lives in libraries, in professorial chairs and in their book-littered studies — Poles whose sole aim was to make the world a better place for all mankind, fell the first victims of the “culture” bringing hordes from Naziland.

The Germans have already murdered thou-

sands of Poland’s intellectual leaders. They have striven by every means their diseased minds could contrive to break the Poles in body and spirit. And yet, from the depths of the concentration camp called Poland, from every unheated Polish home, from every decimated family rises the flame of cold anger and the strains of the Polish anthem “Poland will not die so long as we are living.” The Germans have broken the bodies of millions of Polish men, women and children, but they have failed to break their spirit. For the spirit of the people of Poland is rooted in the tradition of Poland. And respect for scholarship and learning has ever been a dominant trait of the average Pole. So, in their periods of trial the Polish people turn for comfort and inspiration to their great men—to their poets, their scientists, their artists.

Forbidden to play Polish music under penalty of death, deprived of the joy of reading Polish books, the Poles can turn to their great men only in thought or in the catacombs of the Polish underground. But here, in the free country of America, there are no such restrictions. Here Polish culture may continue to bloom.

The *Slavonic Division* of the *New York Public Library* has arranged an exhibition of Polish and Czech books to honor the memory of Polish and Czech writers, scholars, and scientists who were killed by the Nazis or died in German concentration camps from 1939 to 1941. In the three showcases devoted to Polish books are works by fourteen martyred Poles.

Truly a tragic collection, this. On display is volume 32 of the *Polish Bibliography* by *Stanislaw Estreicher*, who had set as his life work the completion of the monumental bibliography begun by his father in 1875, and who for many years devoted to it all his free time when President and Professor of the History of Law at the University of Cracow. This dean of Polish letters spurned a German offer to head a puppet

Polish government. His death in the concentration camp at Oranienburg insures him immortality in Polish history. His son, *Karol Estreicher*, now in the United States on a lecture tour, hopes to complete the bibliography. Other victims of Oranienburg represented by their works are *Ignacy Chrzanowski* and *Stefan Kolaczowski*, Professors of Polish Literature; *Jerzy Smolenski*, Professor of Geography; *Jan Nowak*, Professor of Geology; *Leon Sternbach*, Professor of Classical Philology—all of the University of Cracow.

The martyrs of dreaded Dachau are represented by *Wiktor Ornicki*, Lecturer in Economic Geography at the University of Cracow and *Tadeusz Boy-Zelenski*, eminent poet, critic and translator who, by his renderings of nearly a hundred masterpieces popularized French literature in Poland and won a seat in the Polish Academy of Letters.

One might assume that a Professor of Theology at the University of Warsaw, especially one who edited 16th century Protestant works of Apologetics, might escape the attention of the Germans. But *Edmund Bursche's* death in the concentration camp of Mauthausen proves otherwise.

Oswiecim is another grim name that strikes terror in Polish hearts. Here it is that *Jozef Siemieniski\**, Professor of Polish Law at the University of Cracow and *Roman Rybarski*, Professor of Finance at the University of Warsaw, met their untimely death, but the works of these experts on exhibit at the *New York Public Library* give them a new life.

Works of Polish scholars who died in German concentration camps do not end the list. There is the “*Monograph on Wendic Literature*” by *Jozef Golabek*, Lecturer in Slavonic Literatures at the University of Warsaw, who was killed by the Germans in September 1939. And there is the “*Autonomy of Greek Cities under Roman Rule*” by *Kazimierz Zakrzewski*, Professor of Byzantine History at the University of Warsaw, executed by a German firing squad.

*Kazimierz Bartel* was an outstanding man by any standard. Professor of Geometry at the Polytechnic Institute of Lwow and former Prime Minister of Poland, he too refused a German offer of “collaboration.” His

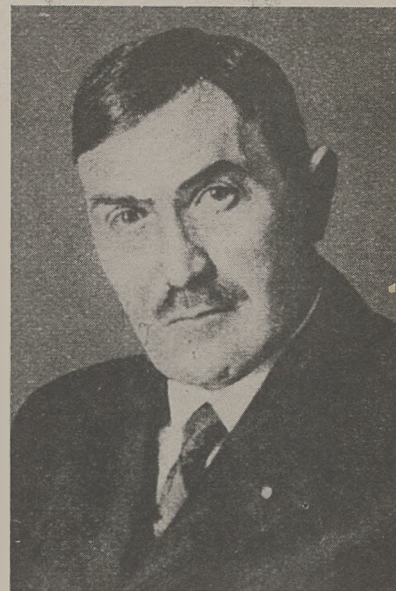


PROF. IGNACY CHRZANOWSKI

refusal cost him his life in 1941, but the Germans could not kill his “*Diagrams of the Economic Life of Poland 1924-1927*” on display in New York in 1943.

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\* The Museum of the P. R. C. Union in Chicago has on display copies of Polish historical documents compiled by Prof. Siemieniski for the Polish Pavilion at the New York World’s Fair.



TADEUSZ BOY-ZELENKI



# NOAKOWSKI: POET OF ARCHITECTURE

STANISLAW NOAKOWSKI (1863-1928) was one of those rare artists who are original enough to create their own, unique mode of self-expression. A painter of fantastic architecture, he was able by a few lines and brush-marks in Chinese ink, sepia or water-color to reproduce old castles, palaces, interiors and walls from a contemporary viewpoint.

In Noakowski's case, the child was truly father of the man. Born in the beautiful Kujawy country, in a quiet and peaceful town on the Vistula, he was steeped in the legends of his picturesque surroundings since infancy. The old Gothic church of Nieszawa, he wrote later "was my first museum of plastic art, my first theatre, my first opera, my first sensed rather than experienced page of history." Inheriting his father's literary and drawing abilities, he early turned to drawing. Polish architecture was his first love and he remained true to it until his death. The Polish village inspired him with its manor-houses, its cottages and farmsteads; the cities of Wloclawek and Lowicz, where he spent his school years, stirred his imagination by their ancient cathedrals, monuments, altars, and tombstones. With the singleness of purpose characteristic of the gifted, he studied the different Polish art styles and mastered the difficult problems of perspective and architectural profiles.

Much of this early preparation was independent, the result of personal observations and hard work. It explained in part the mature artist's self-reliance and his

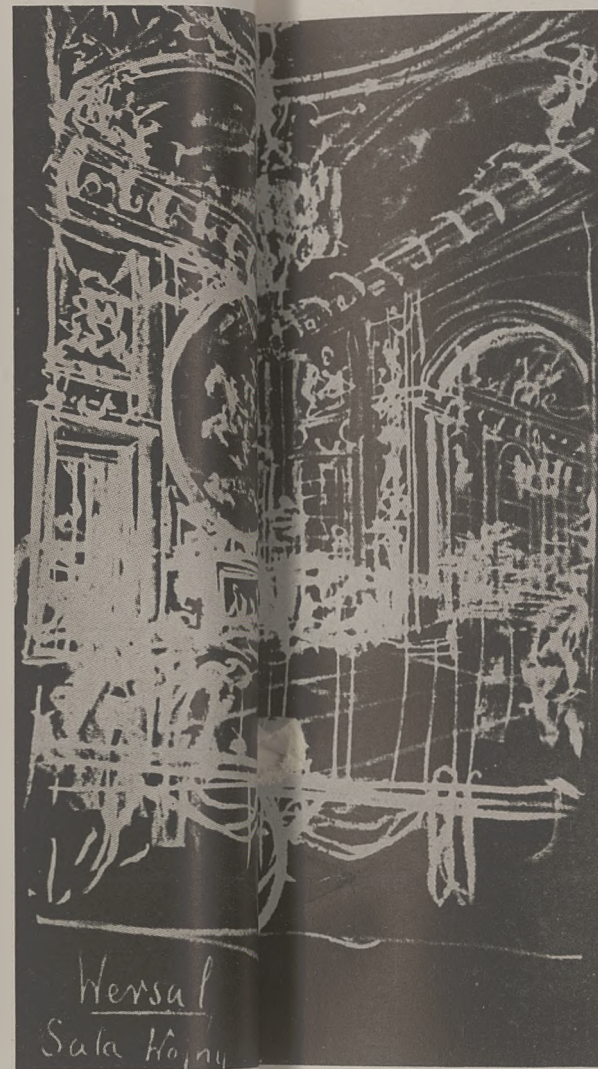
ability to give an original, individual twist to his work.

In 1886 Noakowski went to St. Petersburg to study architecture at the Academy. He remained in Russia until 1917, returning to Poland only for vacations. It was while illustrating on a blackboard his lectures on the history of art in the Strogonoff School of Applied Art in Moscow that he discovered his true bent. During this period came into being the mighty cycles of Polish architecture. Wholeheartedly attached to his native land, filled with deep longing for the scenes of his youth, he sought to recreate them in his mind. So, in 1906 appeared his first architectural visions—his conceptions of Polish churches, palaces, cottages and manor-houses. Each drawing or painting was to him a deep emotional experience. One can appreciate the feeling that must have been put into his design for the shrine holding the heart of Tadeusz Kosciuszko in the Polish National Museum at Rapperswil, Switzerland.

The outbreak of the last war cut him off from Poland, even for brief visits. It was then that his love for Poland impelled him to produce the magnificent folio of paintings embracing the entire architectural history of his homeland. All types, all periods and all regions are represented in this monumental work, which the artist published in Poland in 1920, three years after his return to his liberated country, under the title of "Polish Architecture." The folio was greeted with enthusiasm by art critics and art lovers. A young but well-known writer, Emil Zegadlowicz, referred to them as "cities, villages, castles, manor houses, churches and chapels built in the kingdom of the fourth dimension."

Noakowski's return to Poland inaugurated a new phase in his career. To the artist's black and white sketches were added symphonies of color—gold and red.

In 1917 he was made Professor of the History of Architecture at the Warsaw Polytechnic and the Warsaw School



VERSAILLES, THE HALL OF by Noakowski on a blackboard while lecturing to his students at the Warsaw School of Architecture

of Fine Arts. His colorful, many-sided personality made life-long friends of his pupils in Poland as it had in the days of intellectual exile in Czarist Russia. To his spell-bound listeners his lectures opened up wide horizons of all architectural epochs. He created his own tales of the architecture of France, Italy and Belgium, painting their beauty in verbal sketches and by inspired chalk drawings on the blackboard. His Russian cycles reached into the very depth of the Russian soul, expressed in disorderly but picturesque towns, modest Orthodox churches and in palaces.

In 1928 was published his second folio "Polish Castles and Palaces," prefaced by a poetic interpretation of architectural forms. Here from ruins he once again evoked the by-gone ages, groping for the unbroken thread that connects the Slavonic pagan temple with the life of modern Poland.

Noakowski's death on the very opening of the academic year in 1928 came as a profound shock to

his students and colleagues who would no longer meet the burly figure of their beloved professor in the gay noisy corridors. The following tribute paid to his ashes expressed the feelings of all who knew him: "Polish soil will rest lightly upon you, for its burden will be eased by the love of our hearts handed down from generation to generation."

More than a decade has elapsed since Noakowski died. The years have not dimmed the lustre of his work or of his person, for his magic personality left an imprint on the entire generation of architects who grew up under his influence. His



"OLD POLISH TOWN" by S. NOAKOWSKI

superb lectures, presenting a scintillating synthesis of architecture against a background of drama, music and general culture from some given period, were so remarkable in delivery and content that it is not surprising they

could not be duplicated by his successors. Noakowski was more than a genius. He was a meteor who flashed against the sky of Polish art illuminating it with a brief but bright glow.

In 1924 the young soldier architects in the Polish armed forces staged a much admired exhibition of their work in Scotland. When the end of the war permits them to lay down their arms and return to their normal pursuits in a desolated but free Poland, these young builders of the future will no doubt turn for inspiration to the beauty of the Poland that was, as it appeared in the magnificent imagination of Stanislaw Noakowski.

(Please turn to next page for additional drawings)

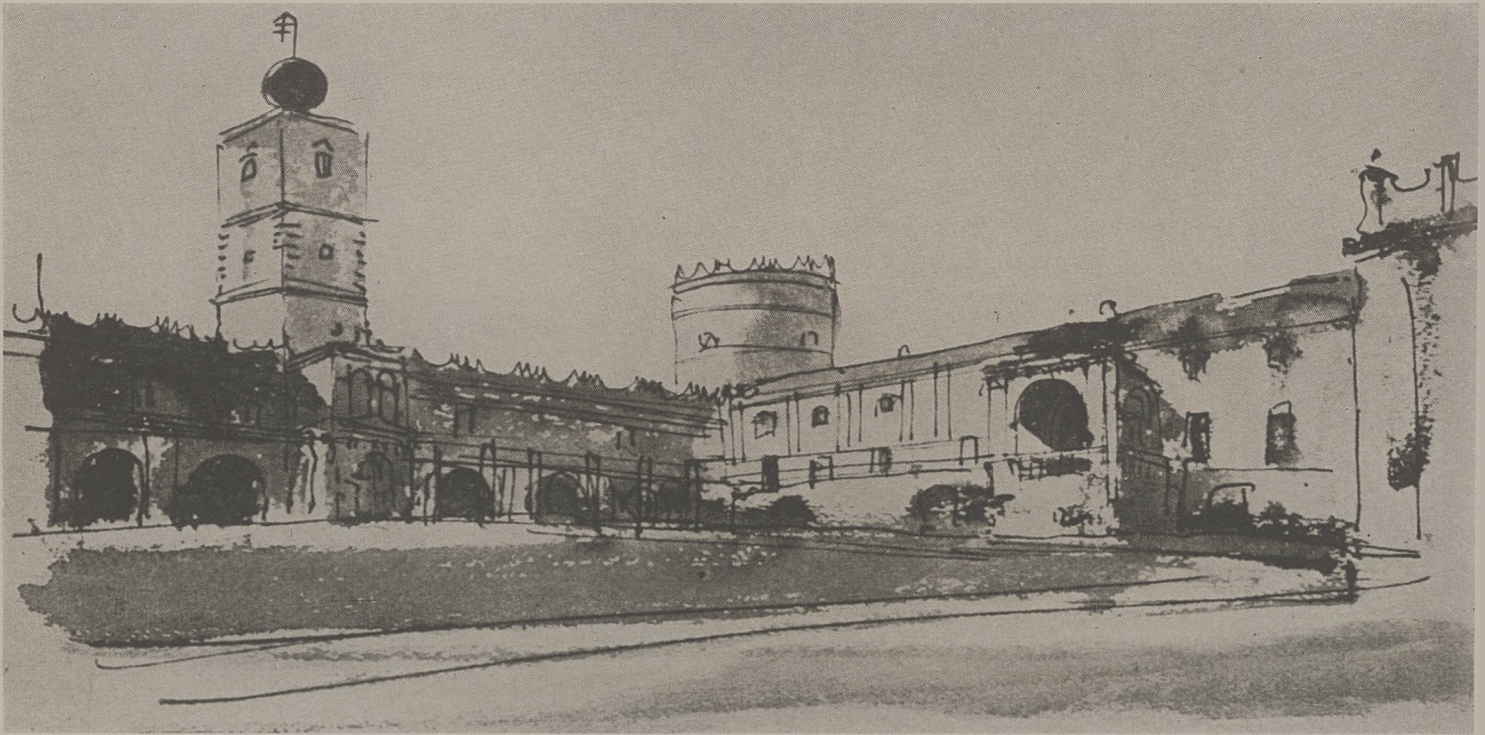


"POLISH CASTLE" by S. NOAKOWSKI

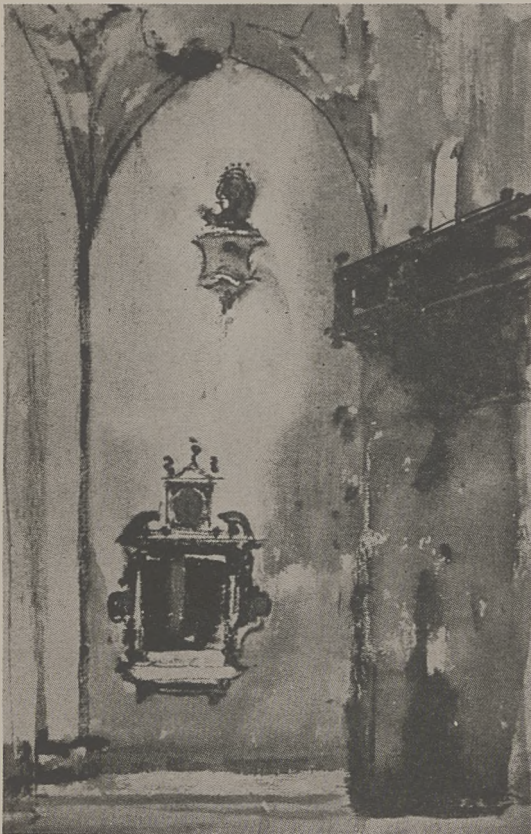


"AN OLD CITY WALL" by S. NOAKOWSKI





"KRASICZYN" by S. NOAKOWSKI



"POMERANIAN MOTIF" by S. NOAKOWSKI

## KOSCIUSZKO AND LINCOLN

(Continued from page 3)

great English poet John Keats wrote a beautiful sonnet in tribute to him starting with the lines:

*"Good Kosciuszko, thy great name alone  
Is a full harvest whence to reap high feeling;  
It comes upon us like the glorious pealing  
Of the wide spheres—an everlasting tone."*

Lincoln's and Kosciuszko's names are truly everlasting tones that—to continue Keats's poem—

*"Gently commingling, give tremendous birth  
To a loud hymn that sounds far, far away  
To where the great God lives for evermore."*

In different periods of history and in various climes they served the same cause of brotherhood, equality and progress. Surrounded by a halo of immortal fame they shine forth as beacon lights for us, Poles and Americans, and all the other United Nations who are today engaged in a life and death struggle for the preservation of the values and ideals that were so dear to these two great men and for which they fought all their lives.

The task is hard and strenuous and its completion is still not in sight. This seems a fitting occasion *"for us the living . . . to be dedicated . . . to the unfinished work which they . . . have . . . so nobly advanced"* and *"to the great task remaining before us . . ."*



# A GERMAN WRITES OF POLISH PILOTS

by TADEUSZ STRZETELSKI

"DUTCH TULIP FIELDS ARE ALMOST UNTOUCHED."

Gottfried Leske, the author, aged 29, was a flight sergeant in the Luftwaffe. Son of an optician, he comes from a small German town near Frankfort. As a young boy he was already a sworn Hitlerite, believing in Hitler as in God. He had blind faith in Hitler's genius and messianic mission. From the "Hitlerjugend" he was graduated into a glider training school on the famous Wasserkuppe. Thus started his career as a military pilot.

Today, Leske, shot down over England, is in a war-prisoners' camp somewhere in Canada. The diary he kept on the French front reveals the thoughts, convictions and feelings of a typical German pilot at the time when the German army was at the peak of its success—Dunkirk—when everything was crumbling for the allies.

The diary of Gottfried Leske ("I Was A Nazi Flier," *The Dial Press, New York, 1941. 351 pp.*), shows how devastating "the brown plague" is to German youth. The stifling of all decent human feelings; deception; servility; brutality toward the weak, defenceless and vanquished; decay even of the most primitive principles of chivalry, are the outstanding characteristics of the German air corps. These are the principles of the German military elite, who consider it an offense to be suspected of being Gestapo agents.

Leske did not fly in the Polish campaign. He could only write what his friends told him. But he writes with great satisfaction and sadism about the bombing of open cities like Brussels and Antwerp. The sight of the civilian population, fleeing helpless and defenseless, gave him intense pleasure.

"We can swoop down low enough to watch them running. Some of them have bicycles. Some are pushing baby carriages. When we get low enough we strafe them. Then they all throw themselves into the ditch on the side of the road. It doesn't help them though. Sometimes we hit a sheep or a cow too!"

These are Leske's impressions of the air raids on Belgium. And further is an opinion of his friend with whom Leske agrees. "They are our enemies, aren't they? One must kill his enemies too!" I said, "Who are we to decide what to do or what not to do? The Fuehrer decides." A telling revelation on the lips of a pilot whom Hitler ordered not to conduct war on women and children.

He neither refrains nor protests when it comes to shooting civilians, but he bursts out in anger at the Dutch for shooting at German parachutists. By some peculiar mental gymnastics he can say with pride that "The Dutch tulip fields are almost untouched." This to him is proof of German "Kultur."

"TO THE DEVIL WITH CHIVALRY!"

Leske devotes part of his diary to the discussion of a book written by General Udet, a German ace of the last war, later a stunt flier and until his death in 1942 one of Goering's ablest lieutenants. In this book Udet wrote of an exciting meeting with Guynemer, the great French flier. When Udet caught his enemy where he wanted him, his machine gun



"... THE POLES ARE EXCELLENT FLIERS"

jammed. Guynemer of course immediately realized the difficulty and helplessness of his opponent. Desperately Udet struck his guns with his fist—without any result. All Guynemer had to do then was to press the button. Instead he waved his hand and disappeared to the west. Udet writes he is convinced that his foe did not want to shoot down a defenceless opponent, and praises the Frenchman's chivalry. But the modern German knight of the air in discussing the incident says "To hell with chivalry!"

The most interesting part of the diary for Poles is Leske's opinion of Polish pilots. Leske naturally thinks the Luftwaffe is the best air force in the world, and that Goering—"our Hermann" he calls him—is an excellent organizer, even though he goes to the front with a doctor, a masseur and an electric horse.

Here is what he has to say about Polish fliers.

"Moeller says the Poles are excellent fliers. He isn't the first to say that. Lots of our men have noticed it. They're unbelievably reckless. I mean, they just plow in against tremendous odds and fight their way through. It's really damned good. Moeller says you can just feel the way they hate us. I don't know why they hate us like that. After all, we didn't start the war. And if they had been sensible, they would have just cleared up all our differences and they could be flying against England at our side now."

This is how Gottfried Leske, Luftwaffe pilot, shot down over England and now in Canada ends his diary.

German pilots imprisoned in Canada have composed a song which reveals their respect for Polish pilots. It goes as follows:

"To the devil with guards and work  
We have well recognized our enemy.  
But we shall save our strength  
For our Fatherland, Germany.  
"Have courage, be happy, comrades,  
The day is drawing near.  
The Poles are buried already  
And for the others, we have no fear."

(Courtesy "Tygodnik Polski," New York, N. Y.)



# MOVING PICTURE INDUSTRY IN POLAND

OF Poland's many industries, moving pictures was the youngest. Polish production dates from 1912, when the first silent film concern, *Sphinx*, came into being. When talkies came to stay in 1930, Polish producers had to their credit a total of 151 full length silent movies.

By 1939 there were 17 film producing companies in Poland. In January 1939 "Kohorta Studios" were organized. Their finely equipped laboratories, studios, and own chain of moving picture theatres were capitalized at fifteen million zlotys. A temporary studio built on the Circus Grounds in Warsaw was completed by September 1, 1939, only to be destroyed by a German bomb a few days later. Fortunately, the costly sound equipment that this company had purchased from R.C.A. and that was on its way to Poland, was diverted to England, arriving there on the very day Germany attacked Poland.

Polish film production was faced with numerous obstacles. For instance, before Poland regained her independence, the partitioning powers had forbidden the construction of large halls for fear that Polish patriots might touch off demonstrations against the oppressors. Hence, reborn Poland had no buildings that could be remodelled into moving picture theatres. The seven hundred cinemas in existence in 1939, could not show a profit on expensive productions. Consequently producers were obliged to limit their outlays for each film. The average Polish film cost from 30,000 to 100,000 dollars to produce. To improve the film situation, the interest of the general public and of the government was enlisted, and 1938 saw the formation of the *Association of Friends of the Polish Cinema*, whose membership included representatives from every walk of life.

Richard Ordynski, the well-known Polish director, now in Hollywood, organized the film industry into the *National Council of Film Industry in Poland*, which in turn was made up of the *Polish Union of Film Producers*, *Polish Union of Film Industrialists*, *Union of Producers of Shorts*, *Union of Polish Moving Picture House Associations*, *Union of Moving Picture Theatre Owners in Warsaw*.

Struggling with inadequate equipment and limited budgets, the Polish film industry sought to compensate for its lack of resources by sheer artistry of acting, by fine musical backgrounds and originality of direction.

When the introduction of sound wrought a revolution in film production, the players were recruited mainly from the theatre. Soon, however, producers began to turn to young talent and graduates of the *State Institute of Theatrical Art* in Warsaw had no difficulty in finding employment in film studios.

Subjects of Polish made films are of especial interest. Producers liked to go back to the Polish struggle for independence for inspiration. The unsurpassed patriotism and daring of the Poles furnished many incidents remarkably suited to screen treatment. Thus some of the greatest masterpieces of the Polish screen are presentations such as the panoramic *Kosciuszko at Raclawice* and *The Young Forest* (the producer of which, Marek Libkov, is now in New York), *Ten Escape from Pawiak Prison*, etc. Polish history of remoter



KING SIGISMUNDUS AUGUSTUS CONSULTING HIS ASTROLOGER ("BARBARA RADZIWILOWNA")

epochs also appealed to the Poles. *Barbara Radziwillowna* gives an exact and fascinating picture of 16th century Poland, while the movie version of Moniuszko's opera, the *Haunted Castle* retains the flavor of by-gone gentry life. Film interpretations of literary masterpieces were also favorites of the moving picture industry. *The Rose*, *Heather*, the *Faithful River*, deserve special mention. Many also were the films, both serious and comic, based on Polish army life such as *Flaming Hearts*. Another important category was that of regional folklore. The national opera *Halka*, filmed in the beautiful Tatra Mountains, gave an unforgettable picture of mountaineer heartaches and joys. Polish peasant life was a particularly gracious subject for the camera. The beautiful village types and rainbow colors of Polish fields were ideally suited to color photography. In 1938 Poland purchased the English Dufay-Color System, which, having color in the negatives and requiring no special lamps, yielded natural and relatively inexpensive film. Only shorts had been made in color up to the outbreak of the war, although extensive plans had been drawn up for full-length color films for 1939.

Ever eager to experiment, the Poles looked for new subject matter. *Genius of the Stage*, which presented the great Polish actor, Ludwik Solski, in the story of his own life, was filmed in 1938. In the course of the picture, Solski recreated scenes from plays (Shakespeare, Moliere, etc.) he had made famous during his long and eventful career. The film received the coveted Biennale Prize in Venice. It was directed by Romuald Gantkowski, now in New York.

Much pioneer work was done by the Polish film industry in shorts and medium length features. Abstract films won approval at the Biennale on numerous occasions. One particularly notable achievement was a safety film showing the hazards of short circuits. Folk dancing and ballet shorts were especially well done. Frequently, marionettes replaced actors, creating a novel effect.

Educational shorts were made in large numbers. The Po-

lish government early recognized the importance of this medium for the instruction of the young. As a first step in the "cinematization" of the country, more than five thousand 16 mm projectors of American, English and French make were sold to schools by the Polish Telegraphic Agency. The various Ministries commissioned specialists to make shorts and medium length documentaries on a multitude of topics. A short on plant life done by the Marczaks won an award at the Biennale. Shorts on the mechanics of a machine gun, aviation, etc., were an important item in the annual budget of the Army.

Polish film production was not organized into the making of Grade A, B, and C films. Every picture was made with the same care, each aspired to be Grade A. With limited means of production, Poland could not make more than 25 full-length pictures a year. The total number of talkies made since 1930 was some 200. Of these virtually all were purchased by Palestine and more than 60 were exported to the United States and Canada. A leading American importer of Polish films was Jerzy Starzewski in New York. Smaller though promising markets for Polish films also existed in Brazil, France, and England.

Of the many film stars whose faces became familiar to the Polish theatre-going public, some grew to be famous abroad: Pola Negri, Halina Brucowna, Lya Mara. Jadwiga Smorsarska, one of the most outstanding Polish film artists, is at present in the United States.

A general picture of the film situation in Poland may be gleaned from the following figures for 1935, 1936, and 1937:

Year	Foreign Films		Domestic Films		Percentage of Footage domestic to foreign
	No.	Footage	No.	Footage	
1935	586	2,198,000	113	209,000	9.7%
1936	514	2,007,000	124	269,000	13.4%
1937	481	2,299,000	123	308,000	13.4%

Full length features formed part of the above as follows:

Year	No.	Footage	No.	Footage	Percentage
1935	239	1,827,000	15	118,000	6.6%
1936	215	1,702,000	23	187,000	11.0%
1937	261	2,043,000	25	209,000	10.3%



THE DEVIL AND TWARDOWSKI ("PAN TWARDOWSKI")



CASTLE SCENE ("BARBARA RADZIWILOWNA")

Thus we see that the overwhelming majority of films shown in Poland were imported. However, from 1931 to 1937 the share of Polish production in filling the needs of the home market increased by 30%. Although the general footage of Polish films decreased somewhat, the percentage of Polish full-length features grew from 4.5% to 10.3% as did their production, which increased by 78% in the last two years for which statistics are available. Polish films enjoyed longer runs in Polish cinemas and were edging out foreign films. Helpful also to the growth of domestic film production was the compulsory 10% showing of Polish films, as well as tax reductions for movie houses showing Polish films.

It may be of interest to see which countries provided most films in Poland. The figures for 1937, including full-length features as well as shorts, were:

Total		United States		England	
No.	Footage	No.	Footage	No.	Footage
481	2,299,000	321	1,443,000	15	104,000
Austria		France		Germany	
No.	Footage	No.	Footage	No.	Footage
14	104,000	32	236,000	35	246,000

As befits the largest film producing country in the world, American films represented 63% of the total imports.

(Please turn to page 14)



(Continued from Page 13)

In 1936, to prevent flooding of the Polish market by foreign products, the Council of Ministers limited the import of foreign films. A quota was set for each country based on the average film footage shown in Poland in the years 1933 to 1935. Thus the quota for 1937-1938 was set at 300 full-length features. Broken up into countries the quotas were:

	No.	Percentage
U. S. A. ....	190	63.3
France ....	25	8.3
Austria ....	20	6.7
England ....	13	4.3

Poland was also party to the Film Convention signed in Geneva in 1933 which gave favored treatment to films having

an international educational character.

Today, Polish cameras are silent. Polish exhibitors who had shown the American made *Confessions of a Nazi Spy* were thrown into concentration camps. In Poznan, the owner of a movie house where the film had been run shortly before the German invasion, was summarily executed. The only films available to Polish moving picture houses are German propaganda pictures and pornographic films calculated to warp the minds of Polish children. Needless to say, the only customers are Volksdeutsche, German "colonists," and thousands of German military and Gestapo men. The Poles prefer to remain at home and wait for the departure of their unwelcome guests before they venture to visit a cinema.

## SIX MEETINGS WITH THE POLISH ARMY

(Continued from page 6)

searched for, on the territory of the U.S.S.R. The names between parentheses indicate the names of the people who are looking for them." Then came the hundreds and hundreds of names of the lost people. . . . At the bottom of one of the lists, I found an advertisement: "INDIA IS WILLING TO TAKE 500 POLISH CHILDREN, ORPHANS. Please give information to the Embassy about Polish orphans, with the place of their present residence and all details about them."

The next page would bring news from the Mother Country: atrocious stories of German persecutions and heartbreaking pictures smuggled out of the invaded villages and towns, showing Poles being hanged, being shot, being tortured by the enemy—as well as the diabolical treatment inflicted on the Polish Jews. Then came news from Polish soldiers all over the world, under such captions as "OUR FLYERS BOMB GERMANY," "OUR FIGHTERS IN TOBRUK" or "FROM OUR HEADQUARTERS IN LONDON." In the mad disorder of this war, it looked as if the Poles had been spilled all over the Earth.

I saw a double page entitled "SOLDIERS DAYS" which told of the recent visit of General Sikorski to Russia and showed him reviewing his troops. The picture of a marching battalion on the left of the page bore the caption: "Those who already have arms, but still wear old uniforms." The picture opposite to that one showed "those who already have new uniforms but have not yet received arms." The uniforms, said the article, consisted of "British overcoats with buttons bearing the British arms, a strange contrast to the enormous round fur caps—a gift from our other Ally." General Sikorski could be seen inspecting guns, delivering speeches, and talking informally to new recruits and to women volunteers. The Soviet writer, Ilya Ehrenburg, one of the best and most famous journalists in Russia, had a long article in that issue of the Polish paper. This was how he described his days spent with the Polish army:

"I have been for a week amidst the Poles. I have seen them parade in the snow before General Sikorski. The men who marched past us had stood profound sufferings. A great human drama was reflected in their eyes: They had lost everything. But with pride, they held their rifles. I saw grey haired soldiers, with long moustaches, and also very young boys, kissing the rifle that they had just received. They were holding tight the weapon in their hands, with a radiant happiness—as one holds a beloved woman."

I remember General Sikorski saying to me in Teheran, where I had talked with him, on his return from Moscow: "Only one thing matters: the victory that will liberate Poland. We must bury our griefs, our sorrows and whatever bitterness we may feel, to concentrate solely on winning this war." I remember General Anders—the Commander of the Polish forces in Russia, a tough, audacious officer, eight times

wounded by the Germans, and an ex-captive of the Soviets—saying to me, on another occasion:

"We shall get to Poland. Not all of us, of course. But Poland will live."

Such heartfelt words awakened a thousand echoes in my mind—they were the logical and noble prolongation of Poland's story. In decades, in centuries, the soul of Poland has changed but little. Time and again, the imperishable, the immortal country—my Mother's country—has vanished from the map, then has emerged, again to disappear, like a strong swimmer alternately on the waves and under them. But every time a Pole has caught a breath of freedom, has spoken from the heart, he has always—with sublime stubbornness—said the same thing . . .

Thus—Adam Mickiewicz exclaiming, in 1834, in the first verses of "Pan Tadeusz":

*"My country—thou art like Health  
How much thou shouldst be treasured  
Only he knows who has lost thee. . . ."*

Thus—the Polish hero, Louis Narbutt, who during the 1863 insurrection smiled a last smile as he fell on the battlefield and whispered:

*"How happy I am . . . I am dying for my country."*

Thus—today, a Polish General, wounded by one of his country's neighbors and held prisoner by the other—a General who, as soon as he was liberated, prepared to fight on and reaffirmed his faith in five simple words:

"WE SHALL GET TO POLAND."

(Courtesy "Tygodnik Polski," New York, N. Y.)

## NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY HONORS MARTYRED SCHOLARS

(Continued from page 7)

The three show-cases with books by Polish writers and the two show-cases with books by Czech scholars indicate but a fragment of the destruction wrought by German barbarism. Yet the wide range of topics covered by the volumes show how all-pervading and determined is the German attempt to exterminate the Reich's Slavonic neighbors. One does not hate what one does not fear. Despite her boastful ranting of "superior" culture, Germany is well aware that the Slavs have not remained behind in contributing to the progress of mankind.

*The cover shows Polish army engineers launching a portable pre-fabricated steel bridge at army manoeuvres in Scotland.*



## WAS IT NECESSARY?

**B**ROADCASTING to Poland, Mr. Stronski, Polish Minister of Information asked his listeners to compare the questions they asked themselves two or three years ago with those they ask now.

In June 1940, after the lightning defeat of France, the question uppermost in the minds of the Poles was whether the war was really over and had ended in a German victory. Alone, Great Britain remained in the war; neither Russia nor America had yet been drawn in.

Continuing, Mr. Stronski said: "Now you don't even ask whether the war will finally be decided in favor of the Allies, because there is no doubt about that. You only ask when the war will end.

"Eighteen months ago when the Germans reached Moscow, Rostov and the Caucasus in their non-stop offensive against Russia, you asked whether Hitler would not join forces with the Japs in India on the ruins of the British Empire. Now that Germany has lost the last whiff of oil in the Caucasus, now that Rommel has been driven out of Egypt and is hopelessly besieged in Tunisia, now that the Japs are losing ships and islands and are on the defensive, you ask yourselves whether you ever had this dream about India.

"A year ago you asked yourselves whether help from America would ever come in time. Germany jeered at America then,

today the United States has gathered strength beyond human understanding, American forces are in North Africa, American planes fly over Germany.

"More than three years ago when you were stunned, you asked what was the appalling thing that had happened to Poland, what Poland's fate would be? Her disappearance from the map of the world and the stage of history was loudly proclaimed.

"Today, Poland, indomitable at home, fights gloriously in the ranks of the Allies who acclaim our nation, the first to resist the march of the German aggressor.

"What is Germany asking herself today? I have before me a copy of the Muenchner Neueste Nachrichten of January 29th and the caption of the leader reads "*Was this war really necessary?*"

"Their answer does not matter. What does matter is that today the Germans are asking this question and this one question only. Every German wherever he may be, everyone of the many millions of Germans in and out of the Reich, is asking this question, when going to bed, when awakened by sirens, when getting up in the morning and everyone answers it with a curse of despair."

## POLAND INSISTS ON PUNISHMENT OF WAR CRIMES

London, Feb.—The Polish National Council has passed a decree concerning the post-war punishment of war criminals, making German and Axis citizens and all persons acting on behalf of the Axis powers responsible for all crimes committed by them after August 31, 1939, regardless of where such crimes were committed.

This decree specifies that Polish courts will deal not only with persons who gave orders for crimes against persons or property, but also with all those who took part in carrying out such orders. The decree provides that the guilty will be subject to the death penalty, imprisonment for life, shorter terms, or confiscation of property.

In this connection it may be mentioned that German authorities recently ordered the wholesale arrest of all beggars and hawkers in the Government General. Those arrested were sent to Oswiecim where they were immediately put to death by poison gas. As is known, the Germans have installed in Oswiecim one of their notorious gas chambers where "undesirable elements" are put to death.

## GERMANY SHORT OF MEN FORCES POLES TO SERVE

Istanbul, Feb.—In a recent editorial, "La Turquie" the well-known Ottoman daily, referring to the forced incorporation of Poles into the German Army, says that by threatening to send their families to concentration camps, the Germans succeeded in mobilizing 70,000 Poles from Pomorze and nearly 100,000 from Silesia. Now the turn of the Government General is coming.

La Turquie expresses the conviction that the German proclamation appealing to Poles to register on the Volksliste, will not meet with any better response than other German moves in the past. The editorial recalls the murder of Prof. Bartel for his refusal to form a Quisling Government, and the unanimous rejections by the Polish people of German proposals in the spring of 1942 for collaboration on the basis of a recognized status for Poland.

La Turquie concludes that when the Germans, in spite of having been rebuffed by Poles in every attempt at collaboration, try by such means to press Poles into the Wehrmacht, it is obvious that a serious manpower crisis exists in the German Army.

## HITLER'S NEW ORDER SPREADS TERROR IN POLAND

A Pole, Bronislaw Janusz, was sentenced to death in Poznan for hitting his employer, a German woman.

### V.V.V.

It is reported from Berlin that the general mobilization of the German civilian population applies to all German citizens living in the Government General and in the Ostland protectorate.

### V.V.V.

According to information from Poland, German authorities have constructed two large new concentration camps near Wloclawek and Chelm, each capable of holding some ten thousand prisoners.

### V.V.V.

A Polish worker, Stanislaw Blaszczyński, was sentenced to five months Straflager camp, and an Ukrainian, Michael Karanca, to five months in prison for having given a loaf of bread to a British prisoner of war.

### V.V.V.

Two Poles from Lagisz near Bendzin, Leon Giszowski and Wladyslaw Hetmanczyk, both aged twenty-one, were sentenced to death in Katowice for leaving Brunswick, their place of employment in the Reich.

### V.V.V.

German-controlled papers in Poland complain that Poles, although starving themselves, constantly try to give prisoners of war food or tobacco, and warn them that they will be arrested and imprisoned immediately for expressing their sympathy for Germany's enemies in this form.

### V.V.V.

In Wloclawek two Poles, Walenty Zacholski and Konrad Skowronski were sentenced to death for economic sabotage, it being alleged they had bought food intended for Germans. Charged with them was Zacholski's fiancée who was sentenced to five years Straflager Camp.

In Lodz, the following Poles, Jozef Garstka, Franciszek Fol, Marjan Gladysiak and Franciszek Matusiak have been sentenced to death for economic sabotage, their offense being the theft of fuel. Accused with them were Walentyna Szalczyńska, Jozef Fol, Regina and Bronisława Matusiak, each of whom were sentenced to 8 years severest Straflager camp.

### V.V.V.

Recent reports reveal that there are now 34 large concentration camps, where Poles are being held, as well as scores of smaller ones—one indeed in every district to which mainly peasants are sent. During the first days of February many families received by mail printed forms informing them of the death of relatives in concentration camps. The death rate has heavily increased as a result of cold winter and terrible conditions in camps.

## FORFAR HONORS POLISH BRIGADE TABLET SET UP

London, Feb.—In the Scottish town of Forfar, where Polish units have been stationed for a long time, a commemorative tablet was unveiled on the wall of a building in front of which on March 7, 1941 the Polish Motorized Cavalry Brigade—the so-called Black Brigade—passed in review before King George and Queen Elizabeth in the presence of Gen. Sikorski.

The Earl of Airlie who accepted this gift on behalf of the Earldom of Angus said that the local population would never forget the Polish soldiers for their kindness, good behaviour and chivalry.

The Commander of the Polish Pancer Division unveiled the plate and expressed his heartiest thanks for the tribute paid to the Polish soldiers and said he hoped that this plate would forever remain a visible symbol of eternal Polish-Scottish friendship.

The same evening the Polish-Scottish Society in Forfar held a reception for the delegation of the Tenth Cavalry Brigade, after which Polish music was played.



# LEST WE FORGET

## FROM DAWN OF HISTORY GERMANS ATTACKED POLES

1. The word "Pole" means a field, so it may be assumed that the earliest Poles cultivated the soil and were peaceful husbandmen. They trace their ancestry to the tribe of Lech.
2. They dwelt mostly on lands watered by the Elbe and the Oder, and along the southern coast of the Baltic. Their settlements stretched from the Vistula to near the sites on which Berlin and Vienna were later built.
3. The Early Poles were pagans. Their gods were peaceful spirits—guardians of the fire, guardians of their flocks and homes. Many of the old rituals and legends are preserved in Polish folklore.
4. Prehistoric tradition describes the barbaric German tribes as the enemies of the Poles. Prince Krakus's daughter, Wanda of Cracow, jumped into the Vistula rather than marry a German prince.
5. In the early part of the 10th Century the Germanic tribes began to harry the peaceful Poles, robbing their lands and flocks, and ousting them from the Elbe region and their Baltic lands.
6. Thus pushed eastward by their warlike neighbors a number of Poles, led by Prince Ziemovit, spread over the province of Chrobacja from the Carpathians to the Bug.
7. The first capital of Poland was Gniezno, founded by Piast and named after an eagle's nest he found among some rocks. Here the earliest Polish "Roki" meetings were held.
8. The eagle startled from its nest flew blindly into the glow of the setting sun, thence the emblem of the Polish nation: a white eagle on a red field.
9. In 962, a great King, Mieszko or Mieczyslaw I, was chosen to rule over the Poles. He founded the dynasty of the Piasts.
10. Under pretext of converting the Slavs to Christianity, the Germans constantly attacked the Poles.
11. The first large German aggression upon Poland was launched against Mieszko I, from the lands of Margrave Gero, in 963, nearly a thousand years ago.
12. Mieszko I accepted Christianity for himself and his people in 966 to stave off any further attacks by the Germans.
13. Two years later Mieszko I was recognized by the Holy See and by permission of the Pope founded the first Polish bishopric in Poznan but had to accept the suzerainty of the Holy Roman Empire over some of his provinces.
14. From the days of Mieszko I, the ruling prince had his own permanent army, "druzyna," garrisoned in castles throughout the land, an organized force capable of dealing with the Germans.
15. The fortified castles were centers of resistance where the population took shelter. Peasant and lord fought side by side to protect their possessions and families from the savage attacks of the Germans.
16. Boleslaw Chrobry (the Brave), son of Mieszko I, established Poland as the greatest power in Central and Eastern Europe.
17. Boleslaw at the end of the tenth century tried to convert the pagan Prussians, and St. Adalbert, the first Polish Martyr, was killed by them in 997. The king bought the martyr's body back for its weight in gold.
18. In 1000 Boleslaw entertained in his capital Gniezno the Emperor Otto III, who came to Poland to pay homage to the martyr St. Adalbert.
19. Boleslaw the Brave reconquered from the Germans Pomerania and the shores of the Baltic in the north, Moravia and Slovakia in the south, and the Grand Duchy of Kiev in the east. Poland became the center of the great trade routes from the Black Sea to the Baltic.
20. Boleslaw the Brave was crowned first King of Poland at Gniezno in 1024. He died the following year.