

The Polish Review

VOL. IV. No. 8

Bibl. 348-

FEBRUARY 29, 1944



POLISH SHIPS SERVE AGAINST THE JAPANESE

It is now revealed that since almost the first days of war in the Pacific, the Polish Merchant Marine has been active in this fight against the Japanese. Details of the movements of Polish ships must remain secret for the time being, but it may be said that they carried allied troops, arms, ammunition and provisions to various fronts in India, the Malayan Peninsula, Singapore, Dutch East-Indies, etc., and later evacuated those troops and civilians. They sailed all over the Indian Ocean, Southwest Pacific, in waters previously unknown to the Polish Merchant Marine. In many parts in that part of the world, the Polish Merchant flag was seen for the first time.

Polish ships first began to sail those distant oceans in the opening phase of the war when they were engaged in transporting troops from various parts of the British Empire to different fronts. The voyage which received relatively most publicity was that of "Batory" from Great Britain to New Zealand and Australia, shortly after the fall of France in 1940. On that occasion "Batory" carried 500 British children who were evacuated from Great Britain. It must have seemed strange to the average Briton that such a priceless cargo should have been entrusted to the Polish flag, whose feats at that time were but little known.

It was also revealed not long ago that besides the Polish Navy units, ships of the Polish merchant marine took also part in the invasion of Sicily and Italy. Two of them distinguished themselves particularly in the famous Salerno action. While discharging troops and war material, those two ships were several days in the direct range of enemy guns. Although at times the situation was very tense, the Polish crews did not interrupt their work for one moment.

It is no wonder then, that the officers and men of the Polish Merchant Marine fighting so gallantly on all the sea fronts should have been awarded many decorations both British and Polish. In fact up to the end of 1943, they had already received 72 Polish awards and 23 British. Among the Polish medals were one Virtuti Militari—posthumously—64 Gallantry Crosses, four of which were awarded to non-Polish sailors serving on Polish ships, one Gold Cross of Merit with swords, one Gold Cross of Merit without swords—posthumously—two Silver Crosses of Merit with swords, three Bronze Crosses of Merit with swords. Among the British medals awarded, the DSCs won by masters of the Polish Merchant

POLISH CORPS NOW IN ITALY UNDER ANDERS

Polish General Headquarters communicates:

"Under General Anders' command the Second Polish Corps is now in action in Italy. It includes the Carpathian and the Kresowa Divisions. The personnel forming these divisions consist of men who after the German invasion escaped from Poland.

"One Brigade of the Carpathian Division distinguished itself at Narvik and in the defense of Tobruk. The corps went through rigorous training in Persia and Iraq.

"Forerunners of the arrival of the Second Polish Corps in Italy were a group of Polish Commandos who distinguished themselves in the Battle of the Sangro River.

The commander of the Polish Corps in Italy, Gen. Anders, is 52 years old. He has a distinguished military career. Most troops under his command were organized by him in Russia and afterwards trained in the Middle East."

GERMAN REFUGEES

The first contingent of German colonists from the Ukraine is expected soon in Lodz. They number 140,000 Germans and have walked 1,600 kilometers from the southern Ukraine to northwestern Poland.

Marine deserve special mention, because until recently even a captain of the British Merchant Marine could not be awarded that decoration which was for armed forces only.

A DSC was awarded to two Polish captains and another received a DSC with bar. Further British decorations awarded to the crew were eleven OBEs, three MBEs, three certificates of commendation, three mentions in dispatches.

Another point should be mentioned while we talk about the part played by our merchant and naval ships on practically all sea fronts and thus also in the struggle against the Japanese in the Indian and Pacific Oceans. Poland entered the war because she was attacked by Germans. Consequently the Germans are her chief enemy. However, when need arose, Poland, true to her alliance, fought and will continue to fight against the enemies of her Allies. Thus she fought as long as it was necessary against the Italians and when Japan treacherously attacked the U.S.A. and Great Britain, she put her ships at her Allies' disposal in the Indian and Pacific Oceans. Poland believes that alliances must be faithfully respected.

SWIT REPORTS NEW WAVE OF GERMAN CRIME

SWIT reports that the Germans arrested in Warsaw all the priests and missionaries belonging to the Salesian order.

V.V.V.

SWIT reveals that on the night of October 17-18, 150 Poles were killed in gas chambers in Warsaw. This was the first time that murder by gas was applied in the Polish capital.

V.V.V.

SWIT tells of a group of Polish students belonging to the Peoples' University who studied secretly and were caught by the Germans. Five students and their teacher professor of sociology, Opinski, were shot.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports that posters have been put up by the Germans in Warsaw stating that on February 12th twenty-seven Poles were publicly shot in Leszno Street as reprisal for the shooting of the Warsaw Gestapo Chief, Kutschera.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports that the Germans, after pillaging Poland's forests are now carrying out mass-slaughter of livestock and sending the meat to Germany. This is probably done to render livestock breeding in Poland impossible after the war. Underground authorities will soon deal with slaughterhouses in the same way they dealt with sawmills.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports that on February 1st Lubberg, Director of the Investigation department of the War-Warsaw Arbeitsamt, was executed by order of the Directorate of the Underground. Lubberg was shot on the corner of Mazowiecka and Traugutt Streets in Warsaw on the same day as General Kutschera was executed. Lubberg distinguished himself by persecuting Poles who tried to escape deportation to forced labor in the Reich, or escaped from there again to Poland.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports that the Gestapo Chief of the Cracow district, Krieger (not to be confused with Krueger who was executed by the underground), issued a secret order to his subordinates ordering them to draw up lists of all "former officers of the Polish army" living in the Cracow district. Names of former war prisoners now liberated must be reported to the Gestapo. Officers who are engaged in "insurrectional bandit action" must be secretly liquidated "at a proper time." Others, not excluding "former Polish officers of German nationality," must be under constant observation.

IZYCKI TELLS OF POLISH ACES' WORK IN AFRICA

Air Vice-Marshal Izycki gave the following account of his experiences in Africa where he commanded first a group of Polish ferry pilots and later the whole Polish Air Force in the Middle East.

"We acted on the assumption that the best way we could help Great Britain was in the air. Thus we went straight into action in the Battle of Britain at the same time striking fast in Africa. Prime Minister Churchill considering the necessity of defending the British Empire at that most serious juncture discussed with General Sikorski the possibility of acquiring the largest possible number of pilots trained for flying all types of planes. It was imperative that the fighter planes should be ferried to Egypt without delay, for at that time Egypt was insufficiently armed and was expecting an attack by enemy armies marching towards Egypt. In a very short time nearly hundred Polish airmen had been sent to Africa as ferry pilots.

"Their job was not easy. Planes on which Egypt's fate depended had to be ferried there at once across a stretch 4,500 miles over jungle, mountains and desert, in difficult atmospheric conditions through the tropical storm zone without radio location and with poor meteorological service. Eighteen Polish pilots lost their lives in Africa but it was never their own fault. In three years of ferrying we never had one accident which was due to faulty piloting. In addition to the ferrying an operational flight was formed which, after a short training, was incorporated into the famous Shark Squadron which took a leading part in the Libyan campaign. Later the squadron was transformed into a fighter-bomber squadron for dive bombing. Our pilots took part in number of raids during which two of them lost their lives.

"Malta, where a group of Polish fighter pilots was operating, represents an especially fine page in our annals. Africa was an excellent school in every respect. There the intruder patrols were originated in which the Poles were first to participate. The crowning effect of Polish operational work in Africa was that Poles have been entrusted with covering bomber raids, a most vital task. The finest recognition of the work done by Poles was the report sent by Air Commander-in-Chief in Africa to Marshal Smuts stressing the meritorious operational work done by the Poles in covering British squadrons during fights with the Luftwaffe bombers and transport planes. After those actions several Poles were offered leadership of some British squadrons.

"Though dire want and this the grimmest of trades spill our blood on foreign stones, sands and soils; though we perish in unknown ditches and fall by alien roads, yet shall we reach Poland!"

—Stefan Zeromski (1864-1925)
"Sulkowski," a dramatic play

RELIGION UNDER GERMAN OCCUPATION

IN consequence of Germany's unprovoked aggression in September, 1939, the territory of Poland was partitioned by Germany and Soviet Union.

On September 28th, 1939, a German-Soviet agreement divided the territory of Poland between these two States in accordance with the Ribbentrop-Molotov line. This continued down to June, 1941, when the German-Soviet war broke out and all of Poland came under German occupation.

The German authorities divided Poland into several administrative areas. The Western Provinces illegally "incorporated" in the German Reich, included areas almost as far east as Warsaw. In Central Poland a "Government General" was organized with headquarters at Cracow. Soon after the outbreak of the German-Soviet war, southeastern Poland was attached to the Government General. The northeastern areas and a part of southeastern areas were divided up between the various Reich commissariats for the Ukraine, White Ruthenia and Lithuania.

This administrative division, introduced varying political conditions and systems into the different parts of occupied Poland and the hitherto homogeneous structures of the various religious bodies were broken up. In addition, their organization was shattered, their internal church rights and also their constitutional rights abolished.

Before the Germans occupied the whole of the Polish State, the eastern areas had been for almost two years under Soviet occupation, hence the complexity of the changes which overtook the life of the various religious bodies. These changes were partly the result of violations of the rights and established forms of religious life of the various Churches and their members. This was itself in violation of international law, which forbids an occupying Power to carry out any legal and *de facto* changes in existing organizations on the occupied territory of another State. The occupying authorities did not confine themselves to setting up an occupying administration, but, in violation of international law, made both legal and administrative changes.

Under German occupation, two religious bodies have been severely persecuted: the Roman Catholics and the Jews.

The Roman Catholic Church suffered the most intense persecution in the Polish provinces illegally "incorporated" in the German Reich. The Primate of Poland, Cardinal A. Hlond, and Father Kaczynski, now Minister for Religious



Germans ridicule Polish religious feelings. A German dons priest's clothing and goes through a mock service, to the delight of his companions.

Denominations and Public Education in the Polish Government, have made extensive reports on the subject of Catholic persecutions in Poland, but especially in the "Warthegau." These have been published under the title "The Persecutions of the Catholic Church in German-Occupied Poland," Burns Oates, 1941.

The Germans closed a number of churches, and converted others to military and even amusement purposes. A number of bishops and priests were arrested and put in concentration camps, where many of them died. Many priests were publicly executed after being mocked and tortured. The Germans forbade church services and sermons in Polish. German vandalism revealed itself in the removal of a number of religious memorials, such as the statue of Christ the King in Poznan, and the barbarous destruction of wayside shrines, crosses, and pictures of the Madonna. The German authorities also forbade marriages among Polish Catholics, and church christenings. The number of priests still alive has so greatly diminished that the people of the "Warthegau" have been almost completely deprived of the comforts of religion.

Despite the stipulations of the Polish Concordat with the Holy See, the western provinces of Poland have been subjected to the authority of alien bishops such as Cardinal Bertram of Breslau and the Bishop of Danzig, Splet. In

(Please turn to page 15)

POLISH ARMY IN THE MIDDLE EAST

THE Polish Army in the Middle East is about 100,000 strong. It is composed of the Carpathian Division, formed from the brigade that fought so heroically at Narvik and Tobruk, and from men released from Russia. For the past two years these men have been trained in modern mechanized warfare, and are now at a keen fighting edge. Some Polish Commandos are already fighting with the British 8th army in Italy, and the Polish air force and navy are participating in operations in the Mediterranean.

The Second Polish Corps, under the command of General Wladyslaw Anders, now is in action in Italy.

In November, 1943, the Commander in Chief of the Polish Armed Forces, General Sosnkowski, paid a visit to the Polish Army in the Middle East. He attended field exercises to demonstrate quick reinforcement of conquered territory, new methods of attack, the clearing of mine-fields and enemy booby traps, technical efficiency, speed in handling heavy equipment, etc. General Sosnkowski saw motor vehicles scattering over the landscape and camouflaging themselves. Later the General visited various headquarters, observation points, artillery batteries, which he inspected. Later he stood at a vantage point whence he reviewed the final phase of the exercises, and a march past of the troops.

After the artillery review, General Anders said to the soldiers:

"I have watched the exercises of the Polish Army in the Middle East with real pleasure and satisfaction. From what I have seen, I think you are fully prepared to take up the fighting that awaits you. I wish to state before the whole world that the Polish Army in the Middle East is inspired with the highest military spirit and their one ardent desire is to go into action as soon as possible."

The Commander in Chief also inspected the Junak Schools of the Polish Army. He was present at liaison exercises and visited a military hospital. At the Junak Schools, General Sosnkowski inspected the boys drawn up in a square, then



"He who saw, as I did, the Polish children here, beautiful in body and soul, courageous, and so very much ours, must have deep faith in the future of a Nation that has such children."—Gen. Kazimierz Sosnkowski, Cairo, December 11, 1943.

he visited school rooms and the library. The Commander-in-Chief talked with many Junaks asking about their families and their experiences. Visiting school rooms, General Sosnkowski showed great interest in the textbooks, teaching staff and the curriculum. After inspecting the Junak school, the Commander-in-chief went to a local cinema where the Junaks and girl guides assembled. He was greeted by the school Commandant, a Junak and a girl volunteer. This was followed by a performance of "Halka" given by a company of Junaks.

During his stay General Sosnkowski visited other units of the Polish Armed Forces in the Middle East. On his return to London he said:

"My inspections in the Middle East included the army, air force and the navy. I spent most of the time with the army to which I devoted four weeks, visiting all units. I saw the Carpathian, the Kresowa and the Panzerna Sapper Divisions as well as the artillery and signal corps. I was able to gain a clear

impression of the high standard of their training and excellence of their equipment. Their high morale and soldierly spirit impressed me immensely. They are a highly valuable unit which will fight its way back to Poland. I am certain that the Polish Army in the East, under the command of General Anders, will gloriously fulfill its duties in action. Good fortune enabled me to contact some of our naval ships in a Mediterranean port. They are carrying Poland's emblem nobly over distant seas and oceans. I spoke with the crews of the submarines *Sokol* and *Dzik* and told those brave sailors that their deeds deserve the gratitude of the country they serve so well. When decorating the members of the crews of *Slazak* and *Krokowiak* I told them of the admiration the Polish nation has for their incessant fighting since 1939. My inspection also included the air force. I visited the youngest section of the Polish Air Force which undoubtedly will keep up the tradition of the Polish Wings. In the aeromechanic school for boys, where I decorated Polish ferry pilots, boys formed the guard of honor. Polish ferry pilots daily render great service to the Allies by ferrying fighter aircraft across deserts, oceans and jungles."

In a special message to the Army in the Middle East, General Sosnkowski said:

"The Polish soldier in the homeland and abroad has become, for the entire world, a symbol of Polish steadfastness. Although our nation sincerely desired peace it threw all it



Generals Sosnkowski and Anders watching Polish Army maneuvers in the Middle East.

had and was into the fight against German lust for conquest and world dominion. In Poland the invader has violated all laws, human and divine. He is determined to grind the Polish Nation down to the role of slaves. The Prussian plunderer has illegally incorporated in the Reich, age-old Piast lands, the cradle of our nation and of our ancient culture, learning and science. All the most valuable achievements of our nation are undergoing constant, systematic extermination. The barbarous oppression never ceases. Concentration camps are filled with tens of thousands of Poles and every day brings reports of new executions. Yet the Polish spirit is unbroken. Our comrades in arms in the homeland fight on.

"The present war has scattered the Poles all over the world from the Arctic Ocean to India, from East and West Africa to Canada and Mexico. We are everywhere and on every continent.

"The Polish Army in the Middle East is our heart. It is especially dear and close to us. It was formed two years ago in Buzuluk under exceptionally difficult circumstances. It was joined by throngs of exiles, Poles from far Siberian tundras and from the cold of the Arctic night. Homeless exiles saw in the army not only liberation for themselves but also a symbol of Poland, a sign of its existence, remembrance and courage. It is unnecessary to explain that the formation of Polish armed forces on the snowy plains across the Volga, was yet further proof that we

(Please turn to page 15)



Polish Commander-in-Chief chatting with newly decorated Polish airmen.



Junak inspection.

AN AMERICAN VISITS THE WELICZKA SALT MINES IN 1862

In 1862 J. Ross Browne, a native of California, went on a tour of Europe to study the life and customs of the nations of the continent. From each country he visited, he sent a colorful, if somewhat naïve, description to HARPER'S NEW MONTHLY MAGAZINE in New York. In the course of his travels, he visited the famous Polish salt-mines of Wieliczka near Cracow, Southern Poland, then under the yoke of Austria. Browne's description of the mines, which appeared in HARPER'S in December, 1862, is amusing and gives a vivid picture of the mysterious underground life of Wieliczka. The drawings reproduced here are also by J. Ross Browne and illustrated the original article.

* * *

I WAS ready for a peep at the Under-Ground world of the famous salt-mines of Wieliczka. The preliminaries for the journey had all been arranged. The supply of fire-works, by the aid of which I was to see what I should see, had been ordered on a scale of such magnificence as to warrant the stern Herr Inspector of Workmen in vouchsafing to me expressions of his most distinguished consideration. I was the first Californian who had visited the mines; and I trust that the dignity of the Golden State did not suffer from my representation of it.

When all is ready the lamp-bearers take their seats and are lowered down below the level. The trap-door is then closed over them, and the main party arrange themselves for the descent. The doors are again opened, and at a given signal the whole party disappear from the surface of the earth. Once more the trap-doors are closed, and now the descent commences.

Down, lower and lower, we floated with an appalling steadiness. The sides of the shaft presented nothing but an obscure wall of massive timbers. Above, all was darkness; below, the dim rays of the lamps cast a strange and ghastly light upon every object.

In a few minutes we touched bottom; or rather, by something like instinct, the machine stopped just as we reached the base of the shaft, and allowed us to glide off gently on the firm earth. We were now at the first stage of our journey, having descended something over two hundred feet. The ramifications of the various tunnels are so intricate and extensive that they may be said to resemble more the streets of a large city than a series of excavations made in the bowels of the earth. These subterranean passages are named after various kings and emperors, and diverge in every direction, opening at intervals into spacious caverns and apartments, and undermining the country for a distance of several miles. Some of them pass entirely under the town of Wieliczka. In general they are supported by massive beams of wood, and where the overhanging masses of salt require a still stronger support they are sustained by immense columns of the original stratum. In former times almost all the passages were upheld by pillars of salt, but wherever it has been practicable these have been removed and beams of timber substituted. The first stratum consists of an amalgam of salt and dark-colored clay. Deeper down come alternate strata of marl, pebbles, sand, and blocks of crystal salt. The inferior or green salt is nearest to the surface; the crystal, called *schilika*, lies in the deeper parts.



Drawing in Harper's New Monthly Magazine (1862)

An underground salt lake in the Wieliczka salt mine.

From the subordinate officer sent by the Inspector-General to accompany us I learned many interesting particulars in reference to the manner of procuring the salt. He also told some amusing legends of the prominent places, and furnished me with some statistics which, if true, are certainly wonderful. For instance, to traverse the various passages and chambers embraced within the four distinct stories of which the mines consist, and see every object of interest, would require three weeks. The aggregate length of the whole is four hundred English miles; the greatest depth yet reached is two thousand three hundred feet. The number of workmen employed in the various operations under-ground, exclusive of those above, is upward of a thousand. The amount of salt annually dug out is two hundred millions of pounds, which, at the average market value, would be worth ten millions of gulden. Immense as this yield is, it is inconsiderable, taking into view the unlimited capacity of the mines. With proper machinery and a judicious investment of labor the quantity of salt that might be excavated is almost beyond conjecture.

It is natural to suppose that the air in these subterranean passages must be impure, and consequently deleterious to health. Such, however, does not appear to be the case. It is both dry and pure, and, so far as I could judge by breathing it, not in the least oppressive. The miners are said to be remarkable for longevity. Several of them, according to the guide, have worked in the mines for forty

years and have never been sick a day. The equanimity of the temperature is probably conducive to health. Only a few degrees of variation are shown by the thermometers between summer and winter. It is true that in some of the deepest recesses, which are not sufficiently ventilated, hydrogen gas occasionally collects. In one instance it caught fire and caused the loss of many lives; but precautions have since been taken to prevent similar accidents.

I was greatly impressed by the profound silence of these vast caverns. When we stood still, the utter absence of sound was appalling. The falling of a pin would have been a relief. Not even the faintest vibration in the air was perceptible. No desert could be more silent—no solitude more awful. I stood apart from the guides and lamp-bearers in a separate vault, at the distance of a few hundred feet, in order that I might fully appreciate this profound inertia, and it really seemed as if the world were no more.

From some of these tunnels we emerged into open caverns, where a few workmen were employed at their dreary labors. I was surprised that there were not more to be seen, but was informed that they are scattered in small parties through miles of earth, so that the number is not apparent to the casual visitor. As we approached the places where they were at work the dull clicking of the picks and hammers produced a singular effect through the vast solitudes; as if the gnomes, supposed to inhabit gloomy pits,



Drawing in Harper's New Monthly Magazine (1862)

Fête in the Grand Hall of the Wieliczka salt mine.

were busily engaged at their diabolical arts.

The salt is gotten out in various forms, according to the depth of the stratum. Where it is mixed with an amalgam of hard earth it is cut into cylindrical blocks, and exported in that form to Russia. The finer qualities are crushed and packed in barrels for exportation to various parts of Russia and Austria.

After a long and interesting journey through various subterranean streets and caverns we emerged into the chamber of Michelawic, which is of such vast proportions that it is difficult for the eye to penetrate its mysterious gloom. A magnificent chandelier, cut out of the crystal salt, hangs from the ceiling. On grand occasions this is brilliantly lighted, and rich strains of music reverberate through the chamber. Nothing can equal the stupendous effects of a full band of brass instruments performing in this vast cavern.

Soon after leaving the Chamber of Michelawic we passed over a series of wooden foot-ways and corridors, extending a distance of fifteen hundred feet, through a great variety of apartments and rugged passages, named after the royal families of Poland and Austria. There were courts, and imperial rooms, and obelisks; chapels, shrines, saints, and martyrs; long rows of niches, containing statues of the old Kings of Poland—all cut out of the solid salt. The design and execution of some of these were admirable, and the effect was gratifying as well from the artistic skill displayed as the peculiarity of the material.

Descending to a second stage by means of a rough wooden stairway which winds around the walls of an immense cavern of irregular shape, we wandered through a series of tunnels, opening occasionally into chambers of prodigious height and dimensions, till our guide announced that we were approaching the Infernal Lake. The lamp-bearers in front held up their lamps, and, peering through the fitful gloom, I could

(Please turn to page 14)



Drawing in Harper's New Monthly Magazine (1862)

Sculptures in salt.

FANCIFUL WOOD ENGRAVINGS OF STEFAN MROZEWSKI



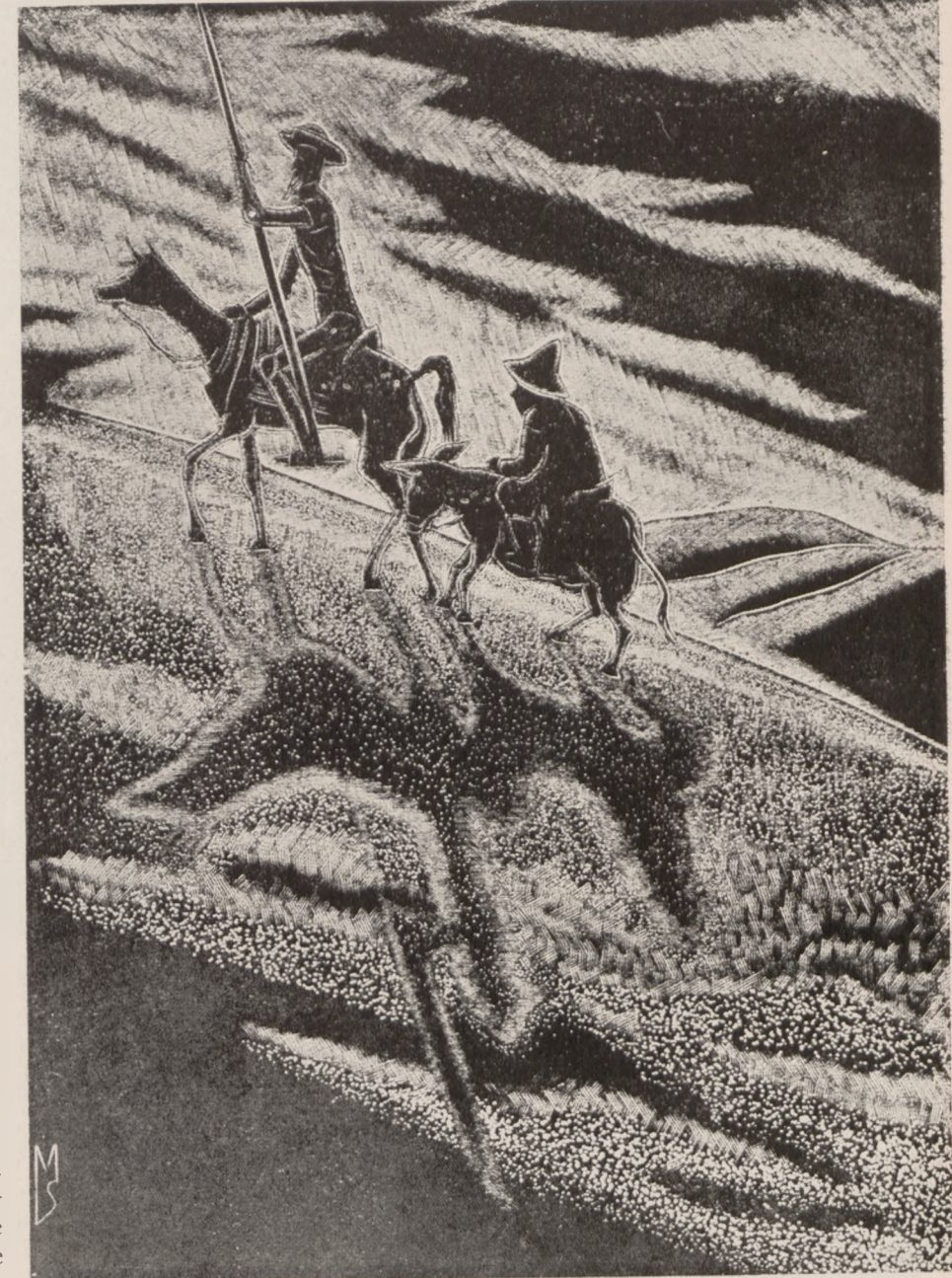
Wood engraving for Villon's *Testament*

By Stefan Mrozewski



Sunday Service

By Stefan Mrozewski



Don Quixote and Sancho Panza

By Stefan Mrozewski

wood, for he always carried a burin or chisel in his pocket, and, as one colleague put it, probably slept with them.

In 1925 Mrozewski went to Paris, where he lived and worked among the masterpieces of the great artists of the ages. He absorbed the best Paris could offer, but his individual and original talent saved him from becoming a superficial imitator. Instead, his creative expression became crystallized and sure of itself. Even as a pupil of the world-famous Skoczylas in Warsaw, he had always gone beyond any imposed form, fled from standardization, and insisted on freedom of action, refusing to worry about the defects of his design or the complicated problems of composition.

As an artist, Mrozewski developed rapidly. He drew Polish attention to himself in Warsaw and at the Universal State Fair in Poznan in 1929 by his series of illustrations for the *Little and Great Testaments* of François Villon and for the works of Marcel Schwob. These were remarkable by the richness of their composition and their striking technique. The figures seem to be woven from rays of light that criss-crossed and interlaced to form a fairy tale in black and white lace. His woodcuts are the direct antithesis of Dürer or Holbein and are more

suggestive of medieval woodcuts, where every inch of space is filled. The world of Mrozewski's wood engravings is that of vision. The Villon illustrations are a kind of nocturnal hallucination, a far cry from the epic calm of a Skoczylas and from the bitter drama of a Kulisiewicz. Mrozewski achieves his effect by purely graphic means, by generous use of a dazzling white—symbol of light and radiance—produced by razor-sharp tools that cut deeply into the wood-block. He attacks the block with a mass of "vibrations," consisting of swirls, round forms and thin tapering lines. He cuts vertical parallel lines with long or short movements of a burin having several sharp edges, then introduces crossing diagonals or right angles, notches them together, and slashes the whole until sometimes all that is left of this tempestuous cutting are dots. There is no direction in which his graver does not go, and when it does not seem expressive enough, he selects another and pecks at the surface until he is satisfied with the result.



The Entombment

By Stefan Mrozewski

With all his buoyancy Mrozewski was able to escape the sterile dilettantism of technique for the sake of technique. He felt that engraving on wood for the sake of engraving alone was unworthy of the true artist. Elisabeth Luther Cary says of Mrozewski's elaborate wood engraving "*The Apocalypse*":

"Everything possible to do with that defiant subject seems to have been done. It is white line on a solid black ground almost completely covered by the elaborate design, divided—informally and with infinite skill—into three parts. This artist has achieved an amazing composition in which every part is admirably related to the rest, as closely and workably fitted as the parts of a modern machine to its whole, yet keeping a look of mystery and merged splendor throughout. What particularly enlisted my admiration was the adroit way in which a subtly modified triangle filled with animated forms was developed from the upper right corner of the design to the lower left, interrupted, overlaid, flexibly twisting, descending from light to dark, from large to small, until in the lowest fragment of the design we see a minute nude figure sketching on a block that bears two initials—the artist."

In 1932 Mrozewski left Paris for Amsterdam, which be-
(Please turn to page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

came his new home. Europe knew him well and sponsored close on fifty different exhibitions of his work, besides Poland's traveling art exhibits to which he always contributed. America, too, came to know him. Eight years ago, the Kosciuszko Foundation sent a one man exhibition of Mrozewski's work to all the leading art centers of the United States.

Adelyn D. Breeskin, writing about Stefan Mrozewski in the "American Magazine of Art" for April, 1936, said: "Mrozewski is a spirited, intelligent, imaginative designer, splendidly equipped as an illustrator, who should meet with an increasing number of friends and admirers as his work becomes better known. For he has something really original to contribute to the field of wood engraving and should win recognition for doing his share in bringing the medium so much nearer to glory."

This art critic's comments on Mrozewski's series of illustrations for *Don Quixote* and for *Parsifal* are also of interest: "The *Parsifal* series is comprised of twelve wood engravings, all of which show decided power and originality. Compared to most of the contemporary English and American work they seem much more far-reaching in interest, richer in technical detail, and more comprehensive as pictures. His sense of intricate texture and pattern is especially noteworthy. There is a touch of oriental splendor in the variety of his detail. This is combined with a ponderousness of forms which seems more Nordic or Celtic—an especially appropriate note to introduce into the *Parsifal* legend.

"Mrozewski favors a type of satiny white Japan paper for printing his proofs, which heightens his high-lights and is so receptive to ink that it permits the use of the finest kind



Don Quixote and Sancho Panza

By Stefan Mrozewski



Wood engraving for Marcel Schwob's "King in the Golden Mask"
By Stefan Mrozewski

of scorper and velo-tool work, each line and dot of which prints clearly and well. The work in the *Don Quixote* series, which is a more extensive group, comprising twenty-four illustrations, is equally delicate in workmanship, and has an equal amount of velo- or tint-tool work. The style of the series is tempered to suit the subject. There is a subtle, nervous tenuousness about these illustrations which is completely absent from the *Parsifal* series. Humor also plays much more of a role in these fantastic and wholly delightful scenes. From a technical standpoint the *Parsifal* illustrations especially are like a sample page of possible tool marks, there is such rich variety of strokes and dots. In all probability, Mrozewski makes his own tools, for such patterns would certainly not be available in the usual stock in trade."

1936 found Mrozewski back in Poland. Two years later appeared the results of his collaboration with the outstanding Polish novelist, Ewa Szemberg-Zarembina, *Legends of Warsaw*, an album of the Association of Booklovers. The text of such medieval folk legends as the Golden Goose, the Warsaw Mermaid, Death and the Burgomaster, the Miracle at St. Anne's, the Devil's Mistress, were written down by Mme. Zarembina and a series of ten wood-cuts, expressing the semi-religious medieval spirit of these legends to perfection, was executed by Stanislaw Mrozewski, who also carved many fine initials and was responsible for the graphic composition of the entire work.

Mrozewski was known among his colleagues for his optimism, courage and prodigious energy. These qualities may have stood him in good stead these four and a half years, for the author of the *Villon*, *Don Quixote*, and *Parsifal* wood engraving series is somewhere in German-occupied Europe.

GERMAN LEGALIZED TERROR IN POLAND*

THE record of German occupation in Poland is the most shocking in history. For the Germans have forged a new weapon—legalized terror. In addition to the endless list of atrocities committed by Germans in Poland, there is a new, open form of terror, carried out coldly, deliberately and systematically with the full cooperation of German courts. The Germans boast that their law perpetuates and perfects Roman law. And yet they have passed laws that apply to everyone save Germans.

Since 1939 Poles are being murdered in the spirit of the finest justice in the world, German justice.

In the name of this justice German laws are invoked that were not in force at the time of the alleged criminal act. The death penalty is meted out without the slightest legal excuse. The German press daily reports court verdicts pronounced by special courts, "Sondergericht."

The alleged "crimes" were generally committed in the early days of the war, even September 1, 2 or 3, 1939, when there could be no question of German sovereignty in Poland. The death sentence is usually passed for disturbing public peace. These are the notorious "September trials" for the alleged murder of Germans, staged by the Nazis to sanction German terror and crime.

In the name of German justice, people are convicted for possession of weapons under a decree of the President of the Reich of February 28, 1935, "in the interest of the security of the nation and state," although this decree was never made applicable to the incorporated territories. All trials are secret. In the first months of occupation a score of accused were given one defense attorney, their defense being no more than a farce. The Chairman of the Bar Association dissuaded German lawyers from taking Polish cases, and from 1940 on Poles have been denied the assistance of counsel.

In the name of German justice, and in defiance of all law, Polish officers and soldiers are taken from prisoner of war camps and placed on trial for their life. The "crime" charged is that as members of Polish court martials they had sentenced to death German spies and fifth columnists caught sniping at Polish soldiers during the September campaign on Polish territory. They were placed on trial before civilian courts and executed. Hundreds of officers and soldiers have been thus put to death.

In the name of German justice, fancied or real crimes of Poles against Germans committed between 1914 and 1939 are unearthed.

In the name of German justice policemen who escorted interned Germans in September, 1939, are blamed for the disappearance of their charges, even though the Germans may have died in an air raid by their own bombers or been lost in the confusion of war operations.

Another page of German justice is constituted by sentences imposed on Poles for minor infractions of the law. For illegal trading in food, for illegal slaughter, for smuggling, etc., the usual penalty is death. And these "crimes" are not as a rule committed by professional wrong-doers, but by people driven by sheer despair, trying to save their children and themselves from death by starvation.

With especial thoroughness the Germans persecute all signs of friendship of the Polish people for the English nation. The slightest sympathy, the slightest help shown by Poles to English prisoners is punished by death.

And it is interesting to note: every sentence condemning a Pole to death is published on red posters in two languages: German and Polish. This is the one and only "relic" of things Polish in Poland . . .

* Excerpt from the book, *From the First Front Line*, published by the Polish Underground in Warsaw in March, 1943.

Bekanntmachung.

1) Für die Beschliessung einer kleineren Pötzzelgruppe durch Banditen aus dem Hinterhalt, wobei ein Pötzzeloffizier schwer verletzt wurde,

2) für den Überfall auf eine Pötzzelstelle im Kreise Wolkowysk, wobei ein deutscher Gendarm und ein einheimischer Schutzmann von den Banditen ermordet wurden,

wurde zur Befriedung des Bezirks
Bialystok am 23. 7. 1943

1) das bandenverseuchte Dorf Kniacowdce, Kreis Grodno, abgebrannt und die Dorfbewohner erschossen,

2) 100 als Anhänger oder Angehörige der polnischen Widerstandsbewegung festgestellte und festgenommene Personen mit ihren Familien aus dem Bezirk Bialystok erschossen und ihr Vermögen eingezogen.

Die Bevölkerung von Kniacowdce hat laufend Verbindung mit Bandengruppen unterhalten und Banditen immer unterstützt.

Nicht erschossen worden sind die Familien von Kniacowdce, die sich einwandfrei verhalten und bei den deutschen Behörden um Schutz gegen die Banditen nachgesucht haben.

Wer Banditen unterstützt, den trifft die härteste Strafe! Er bringt sich und seine Familie ins Unglück.

Wer das Auftreten und den Aufenthaltsort von Banditen meldet, hat meinen Schutz und den Schutz aller deutschen Stellen.

Bialystok, den 23. Juli 1943.

Der Kommandeur
der Sicherheitspolizei und des SD
für den Bezirk Bialystok

Proclamation by Commandant of the Safety Police and the SD for the County of Bialystok, July 23, 1943, that "a hundred persons proved to be adherents or members of the Polish resistance movement in the county of Bialystok were arrested and shot with their families and their property was confiscated."

To illustrate: here are a few verdicts reported by German newspapers against Poles:

Ostdeutscher Beobachter, 3-7-41.

"A most serious warning to Poles—Violent acts of Polish women punished by death. On August 13, some 30 Polish women crowded into a milk store and by their behavior interfered with normal distribution. When the manager of the milk shop, a German woman from the Reich, called them to peace and order, they laughed insolently. When they knocked down the display from the counter for the fifth time, the manager tried to move the Polish women from the table by threatening to call the police. Then a Pole, Katarzyna Kalembrzykowa of Wloclawek seized a pitcher full of milk, poured it over the saleslady's face and struck her with an empty container. Simultaneously, numerous other Polish women—especially Helena Sobczynska of Wloclawek—threw themselves upon the German women, punching and scratching them. At the cry "There is still another German woman there," they attacked a third German woman from the Reich who was standing in the store with her three-

(Please turn to page 13)

JAN DZIERZON OF UPPER SILESIA—PIONEER IN MODERN BEE CULTURE



By Ksawery Dunikowski
Head symbolizing Upper Silesia in a cof-
fered ceiling of Wawel Castle, Cracow.

THE first mention of Slavs in history describes them as peacefully cultivating their soil. An occupation characteristic of Slavs in general and of Poles in particular was the keeping of bees. Tacitus, dwelling on the difference between the Germans and their neighbors, the Slavs, said that the Germans were a race of warriors, and the Slavs were peaceful tribes living in wooden houses surrounded by orchards and fields. A characteristic feature of each settlement were the straw "skeps" in which the

Slavs kept bees.

The Poles used honey instead of sugar and for medicinal purposes. They also made mead and used honey to make bread. This bread has come down to modern times as the delicate and delicious "Piernik," or Polish gingerbread.

Wherever the Poles settled they carried with them their culture, trades and occupations, and their bees. In this respect the Poles living in Silesia were no different from those living near the Pripet marshes. Unfortunately for them, however, the Western Germanic tribes were aggressive and avaricious. The rich fields of their Polish neighbors stirred the German lust of conquest. The "Drang Nach Osten" was born. Bands of German warriors attacked and pillaged the peaceful Polish homesteads.

Four centuries ago the Germans began to filter into Silesia. As Germany grew in power she reached out for more of these lands until finally in the late 18th century, when Poland was partitioned, she took not only all of Silesia, but also other northern districts of Poland.

Under the German occupation the Poles who were the original settlers of Silesia, were systematically Germanized. Polish schools were closed. Polish newspapers, books and other publications were prohibited, and the use of the Polish language forbidden. But the Silesian Pole was stubborn. He would not give in either to German threats or to German promises. Through four long centuries, up to the end of the last war, Poles living in Silesia never changed their names, nor relinquished their claim to the Polish heritage. However oppressed by the Germans, they carried on the traditions, customs and culture of their forebears. The Poles who lived in the Opole district of Silesia, a predominantly agricultural region, were mostly farmers. They cultivated

their soil, raised stock and, like the Slavs of Tacitus, kept bees.

Up to the 19th century the keeping of bees had not made much progress either in Silesia or in the rest of the world. Then it was that a descendant of the ancient Slav bee keepers from the Opole District of Upper Silesia revolutionized the honey industry. He was Jan Dzierzon, a Polish pastor of Katowice, near Brzeg.

Jan Dzierzon came from an old Polish family which had remained Polish in spite of all German efforts. He was born near the little town of Kluczbork, on January 16, 1811. As a little boy he spoke and read only Polish. At the age of ten before entering the German Gymnasium in which the German language was used exclusively, Jan Dzierzon had to be especially tutored in German. Polish however remained his mother tongue, and at each opportunity Jan Dzierzon emphasized the fact that he was a Pole. His formal education was German, simply because there were no Polish schools under the German rule. Yet as a pastor in Katowice, Jan Dzierzon spoke and preached in Polish. His letters to his wide circle of friends were also written in Polish.

Bee-keeping was at first a hobby with Jan Dzierzon. As a young pastor he set up a few straw "skeps" in his orchard. Gradually, his hobby absorbed him more and more, until finally he decided to give up preaching entirely. The Bishop granted his wish. Dr. Dzierzon took up the study of apiology. Since Polish books were banned in Silesia, he had to fall back on German literature. Soon Dr. Dzierzon was making his own contributions to the scientific knowledge of bees and toward the improvement of the honey industry. His greatest achievement was the theory of parthenogenesis. Dr. Dzierzon also separated the role of the queen, the workers and drones, and pointed out the beauty of swarming, or the wedding flight into the sun. This idea Maeterlinck translated later

into a poetic idyll about mankind, in "La Vie des Abeilles." Another contribution which revolutionized the honey trade was his improvement of the movable Huber hive. The Huber invention permitted the honey comb to be removed from the hive and a new frame inserted, thus increasing the production of honey. These Huber hives were defective in many respects, but they remained the only movable comb hives until 1838 when Dr. Dzierzon devised a box-hive with a loose top bar on which the bees built their combs and a movable side or door by means of which the combs could be lifted out for inspection. This improvement was at once appreciated and widely adopted.

His first work on apiculture appeared in 1848 in Brzeg. It was followed by many other valuable works which were translated into many languages.

When he attained fame Dr. Dzierzon was of course claimed by Germany as a German scientist. The German Bee-Keepers' Association even proposed that a street in Berlin be named after Dr. Dzierzon. Their proposal was rejected by the Berlin civic authorities on the ground that Dr. Dzierzon's name was Polish. Dzierzon categorically refused to

change his name saying that he was born a Pole with a Polish name and he would die a Pole. Distinguished titles and bribes offered by the German Government could not move him from his determination.

Throughout his life Dr. Dzierzon remained in touch with his Polish friends and with Polish cultural and political movements. He contributed to the Polish Museum organized in Rapperswyl, Switzerland. The purpose of this institution, the only one of its kind outside of Poland, was to preserve the heritage of Polish culture and to work towards the revival of a free Poland. Dr. Dzierzon sent rare specimens, first editions of his works and subscribed money to the Polish Museum. His works were catalogued as those of a Polish scientist at the express request of Dr. Dzierzon.

This Polish apiarist received many decorations from foreign governments for his scientific experiments. Even the German and Austrian governments, ever hostile toward the Poles under their rule, distinguished him. The University of Munich granted him a Doctor's degree, *honoris causa*, and the Vienna Academy of Science elected him a member.

Jan Dzierzon died on November 26, 1906, at the age of ninety-five. To the very end he remained quietly working at his hives. He never changed his nationality. He was a Pole all his life.—

Dr. Jan Dzierzon's life proves the futility of attempts at Germanization. It must be remembered that the Germans followed this policy in Silesia for centuries. They used bribery, legal pressure, threats and cajolery. Nothing worked with these Silesian Poles. When Poland regained her freedom and independence, the Conference of Ambassadors on October 20, 1921, decided that part of Silesia with the Opole district of about 3,750 square miles be left to Germany. According to the census taken in 1925 the population of this region was 1.2 million people, 528,000 of which were Poles, while the census taken in 1933 showed only 357,000 Poles out of the total of about 1.5 million people. Considering the fact, however, that these censuses, and especially the last one, taken after the Nazi rise to power, were compiled under the most brutal political and economic pressure, the figures for the Polish population are misleading. Reliable estimates put the number of Poles in the Opole district during the last twenty years at about 700,000.

The Germans have now illegally incorporated all of Silesia together with other territories of Poland. Again they are systematically germanizing the lands they have stolen. From previous experience the Germans know that Poles can-



One of the last photographs (1906) of Jan Dzierzon.

not be bribed nor intimidated by force, so, bloody persecution, deportation, forced labor, the concentration camp and mass murder is the lot of Poles in this war.

GERMAN LEGALIZED TERROR IN POLAND

(Continued from page 11)

year-old daughter to buy some milk. Milk was poured over the child and the mother was beaten and thrown out of the store. Before the police could come, the culprits fled. But the State police caught Sobczynska the same day and Kalembrzykowa the next day. Both were brought to trial before the Special Court in Wloclawek, which sentenced them—at the prosecuting attorney's motion and in accordance with paragraph II of the penal code of June 6, 1940—to death. This verdict is a most serious warning to the Polish people. Poles who resist the German new order and do not refrain from violence toward Germans will always be confronted with immediate and severe justice."

Ostdeutscher Beobachter, 5-5-42.

"Death sentences for two Polish saboteurs—The Special Court in Poznan is known for the fact that it protects the interests of the German nation against Polish criminals with equitable severity and without weak sympathy. The Pole, Aleksander Bednarz, accused of economic sabotage, was in the employ of a German farmer in Rosental, near Poznan. He performed his work unwillingly and carelessly. At the end of January, 1942, he was to cart stones. This work was not to his liking. So he broke both new shafts of his wagon. When he was given a new wagon, he damaged this too, destroying the hoop of a wheel. The prosecutor demanded the death penalty for the saboteur who was unwilling to work. The Court heeded his recommendation and sentenced the accused to death."



Bust of Jan Dzierzon in the headquarters of the
Association of Bee-Keepers in Cracow.



Bee hives representing a priest, a monk and a nun
in a village of Silesia.

AN AMERICAN VISITS THE WIELICZKA SALT MINES IN 1862

(Continued from page 7)

discern, some distance in advance, a sheet of water the surface of which glistened with a supernatural light. Arrived at the edge of this mysterious lake, which might well pass for the river Styx, a boat approached from the opposite shore drawn by means of a rope. Numerous dark-looking imps were at work dragging it through the water. The sides rippled in the sluggish pool, and a hollow reverberation sounded from the dark walls of the cavern.

A gateway was thrown open and we descended some steps and entered the boat. It was a square flat-bottomed craft, decorated with fancy colors, containing seats on each side, and capable of accommodating a large party. We took our places, and at a signal from the guide the boat moved slowly and silently over the dark depths, which seemed almost of inky blackness in the gloom.

As we thus floated on the infernal pool the solitude was awful. I could not but shudder at the thought that we were nearly five hundred feet beneath the surface of the earth. The dismal black walls, roughly hewn from the solid stratum of salt and marl; the tremendous heights overhead, and the apparent great depth underneath; the fitful glare of the torches, the rough grimy faces of the attendants, and their wild costumes, gave a peculiarly infernal aspect to the scene. It was weird and sombre beyond conception.

Continuing our voyage, after some minutes we approached a point beyond which all was an unfathomable wilderness of jagged walls and yawning caverns. Suddenly a blaze of blue fire burst from the gloom, throwing a ghastly hue over the crystal pinnacles, then faded slowly away. The guides now covered their lights, and we were left in utter darkness. Groans and cries were heard in the air, and splashing sounds echoed from the shores of the infernal lake. As these ceased, a terrific report broke upon the stillness, and out of the gloom arose a blaze of red fire, gradually assuming shape till it stood before us in the form of a magnificent triumphal arch. Under this arch we passed slowly into an immense chamber, of such vast proportions and rugged outline that the eye failed to penetrate its profound depths.

At a signal from our guide shooting fires broke out from the toppling heights, and the whole grand chamber, in all its majesty, was illuminated with showers of colored stars. The inverted arches of fire in the water—the reflected images of rocks, corridors, and precipices—the sudden contrasts of light and gloom—the scintillations of the crystal saltpoints—formed a scene of miraculous and indescribable grandeur.

Guided by the torches, we at length reached the end of the lake, where a numerous retinue of attendants awaited our landing. We next visited the stables in which the horses are kept for hauling the salt on the subterranean railways. Many of these horses, it is said, never see daylight from the time they enter the mines. In the course of a few weeks they lose their sight. A film gradually grows over the eyes—from what cause I could not ascertain. It may be the effects of the salt or long-continued darkness—though it does not appear that the miners suffer any inconvenience in this respect.

After visiting many chapels and shrines cut out of the solid salt we emerged into the Chamber of Letow, the magnificent Saloon of Entertainment, where, on grand occasions, such as the visit of the Emperor or any member of the Imperial family, the whole of this vast chamber is brilliantly illuminated. Six splendid chandeliers, carved from the crystal salt, hang from the ceiling. An alcove at the upper end, approached by a series of steps, contains a throne of

green and ruby-colored salt upon which the Emperor sits. Transparent pictures and devices are arranged in the background to give additional splendor to the Imperial boudoir, and the crystallizations with which the walls glitter reflect the many-colored lights with a dazzling effect. The doorways, statues, and columns are decorated with flowers and evergreens; the floors are sprinkled with salts of various hues; the galleries are festooned with flags; and the whole chamber is aglow with transparencies and brilliant lights.

Although I was not favored with a similar display in honor of my sovereignty as a citizen of the United States, yet, by the aid of the rockets and other fire-works furnished by the Herr Inspector-General of Workmen, and the natural grandeur of the Chamber, hewn as it is out of the solid rock of salt, I was enabled to form a vivid idea of the magnificence of the display on royal occasions.

Mingled with these festivities, however, is the depressing element of military despotism. Guards are stationed at every point; sabres and bayonets flash in the glowing lights; the clatter of swords resounds from the floors; and every motion of the dancers is watched with a jealous vigilance. None know better than the Austrians in Poland how hateful their presence is to the people.

Although the mass of the stratum of which this grand chamber is composed is of a darkish color, yet the very darkness of the ground-work serves all the better to show by contrast the glittering points of salt. The effect is inconceivably rich. The arched roof; the high rugged walls, hewn out of the solid rock; the marks of the pick and chisel visible in furrows all over, all sparkling with saline gems, give the whole cavern the appearance of being studded with diamonds. It reminds one of the grottoes under the sea described by Gulnare in the "Arabian Nights." When it is considered, too, that all this splendor and these festivities—the illuminated galleries and alcoves, the chandeliers and decorations, the vast concourse of guests, the music, the dancing, the wild and fanciful costumes—are 500 feet below the surface of the earth, it is no exaggeration to say that the spectacle is unparalleled. Nothing to equal it in a similar way can be seen in any other part of the world.

We next descended by a series of stairways to the third story. This differs but little from those already described, except that the deeper one goes the wilder and more rugged become the ramifications of the mines. At one point in our journey we entered a spacious chamber some 80 or 100 feet high. Here the guide paused, and in an impressive manner struck his stick against the floor. When the reverberation had ceased he announced the important circumstance that we now stood directly under the Infernal Lake!

The deepest point yet reached is 620 feet below the level of the sea. We did not descend into this shaft; but our guide, in order to convince us of its great depth, caused the attendants to throw some boards into it. If I were to judge by the sound I should say the boards must be going down yet.

The salt-mines of Wieliczka are interesting not only in themselves but in a historical point of view. They have been worked for more than seven hundred years. In the tenth century salt was dug out of them; and in the year 1240, under the government of Boleslaus, they became an important source of revenue. For several centuries they were held and worked by the Polish kings. In 1815 they were assigned to the Emperor of Austria by the treaty of Vienna, and since that period have contributed largely to keep the Poles in subjection.

(Continued from page 3)

these provinces, despite canon law and the Polish Concordat, the Germans introduced a new law, providing for the organization of separate religious associations for Germans and for Poles. These associations, based on national and racial principles, are repugnant to the spirit and conduct of the Catholic Church. Moreover, each association has to be accepted by the German authorities before it can be organized, and in principle those authorities are not prepared to accept the organization of Polish Catholic associations.

This brief survey of the effects of German occupation on Catholic life in Poland gives some idea of the martyrdom to which that Church and its members are being subjected. For the time being German and Nazi neo-paganism is celebrating its triumph.

A tragic episode in the story of Jewish persecutions at the hands of the Germans in Poland was the establishment of numerous ghettos, chief among them being that of Warsaw. In the case of the Jews it is no longer a question of religion but simply of saving the lives of those Jews who have not yet been murdered by the Germans. The very fact of being a Jew is sufficient reason in German eyes for the extermination of the unhappy victim, and religious persecution of the Jews, vile as it has been, is completely overshadowed by the extermination of the Jews as a people.

At first the German attitude to the Orthodox Church was expressed in acts of violence, such as the arrest of Dionysius, the Metropolitan of Warsaw, to prevent his fulfilling his functions as head of the Church, and his replacement by the German agent, Seraphion Ladde, Orthodox Archbishop of Berlin. This archbishop completely changed the trend of the Orthodox Church, and consecrated a number of new bishops. In 1940 the Patriarch of Constantinople announced the decision of the Ecumenical Council not to recognize the changes made by the German authorities in Poland, and to continue to recognize the autocephalic nature of the Polish Orthodox Church, whose head remained the Metropolitan of Warsaw, Dionysius.

With an eye to their planned aggression against the Soviet Union the German authorities at once began to Ukrainize the Orthodox Church in Poland, in order to influence the Ukrainians living under the Soviets. This activity was accompanied by a forced stimulation of the national Ukrainian movement, with the same object. The Germans caused a schism in the life of the Orthodox Church in Poland, by bringing into being two autonomous Orthodox Churches, one of which extended over part of Poland and part of the Soviet Union. This is a violation not only of State legal principles but also of eastern canon law, which lays down that church organizations shall confine their scope to the territory of a single State, and that no church operating over the territory of two States may be established.

The German tactics in regard to the various evangelical churches varied in accordance with the national relationship of the members of each church. They showed favor to those Protestant churches which have Germans as members, and which have always tended to maintain close organizational connections with the main body in Berlin. On the other hand, they bitterly persecuted the evangelical churches which had a Polish membership. The position of the Polish evangelists is tragically exemplified by the death of Bishop Julius Bursche, head of the Polish Evangelical-Augusburg Church, and his brother Edmund, dean of the faculty of evangelical theology at Warsaw University, who was tortured to death in Oranienberg concentration camp.

The activities of the German occupying authorities in the sphere of Polish religious life can be summarized as the destruction of all the religious cultural and educational achievements of the various religious bodies and the creation by force and stratagem of forced collaboration. Yet only a few denominational groups, or rather a few of their representatives, have succumbed to the temptation of co-operating with the Germans. As a whole the various religious bodies have refused to cooperate and have repudiated individual members who do so.

P O L I S H A R M Y I N T H E M I D D L E E A S T

(Continued from page 5)

cherish no feelings of ill will towards Russia, as some uninformed people suspect.

"In the summer of 1941, the readiness of all Poles to establish relations with Soviet Russia was a proof of Allied loyalty and an expression of our desire to do nothing that could jeopardize in any way the unity of the front against Germany. It was an expression of understanding, a decision to forget the wrongs of past centuries and of recent years.

"... We have hard times before us and vast, almost super-human tasks stand before our nation. We must raise the Polish State anew from the chaos of a war much more terrible than the preceding one. We must heal the countless wounds inflicted by the brutal enemy on our fatherland, its achievements and culture.

"We must seek to obtain for our State, stronger foundations, that it be recognized as essential to any lasting system

in Europe; that restored Poland maintain her age-old role of a defensive barrier against the eastward trend of Germanic rapacity and against the Prussian spirit, that Poland become the indispensable focus of cooperation in that part of Europe which, despite incredible German pressure, has maintained in full its own aspect and its separate character. We desire to contribute to the bringing together of nations, to add our brick to the edifice of international collaboration in the field of security, economy and culture, and we expect for ourselves complete political independence which alone can enable us to beget for the Polish Nation a way of life, based on Christian traditions and on the right to our own outlook on the values of existence.

"... The end of the march is one and common for all true Poles, the honor, integrity, independence and security of the Republic!"

Cover: Lt. Gen. George W. Patton, Jr., Commander of the U.S. 7th Army, pins the 7th Army insignia on Gen. Wladyslaw Anders, Commander of a Polish Army, somewhere in Egypt. The Polish eagle on Gen. Patton's lapel and the coat of arms of the Warsaw Division on his arm were received from Gen. Anders. (Associated Press Photo)

The Polish Review

Vol. IV. No. 8

February 29, 1944

Weekly Magazine Published by

THE POLISH REVIEW PUBLISHING CO.
with the assistance of the Polish Information Center
Stanislaw L. Centkiewicz, Editor

745 Fifth Avenue, New York 22, N. Y.

Annual Subscription Four Dollars

Single Copy Ten Cents

He Who Would Enslave Poland Prepares War

Broadcast by Hon. William C. Bullitt in commemoration of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln and Tadeusz Kosciuszko

"Today, February twelfth, is the birthday of two great leaders of mankind's struggle for liberty—Lincoln and Kosciuszko. They were unlike in origin and personality; but they were one in their devotion to freedom for all men. And it is fitting that here in Washington stands not only the Lincoln Memorial but also the statue of Kosciuszko which faces the White House.

"Thomas Jefferson, who was Kosciuszko's close friend, once wrote to General Gates: 'I see Kosciuszko often. He is the purest son of liberty among you all that I have ever known, the kind of liberty which extends to all, not only to the rich.'

"This was true. More than sixty years before Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, Kosciuszko signed his will leaving all his property in America—which included five hundred acres at the site of the City of Columbus, Ohio—to Thomas Jefferson to be used to purchase liberty for negroes who were in slavery.

"Lincoln once said that the principle expressed in the words of the Declaration of Independence 'all men are created equal' had given liberty not alone to the people of this country but hope to all the world for all future time that some day the weights would be lifted from the shoulders of all men and that all should have an equal chance. Then Lincoln said that he would rather be assassinated than surrender that principle.

"He did not surrender it. He was assassinated.

"Kosciuszko fell, covered with wounds, fighting for exactly the same principle.

"Shortly after our Declaration of Independence, Kosciuszko came from Poland to America and was commissioned Colonel of Engineers in the American Army.

"It was he who chose Bemis' Heights, near Saratoga, New York, as the battlefield where the retreating American Army should stand and fight against the British Army under General Burgoyne.

"Kosciuszko fortified the heights so well that they were an impregnable barrier to the British advance.

"After the surrender of Burgoyne and his entire army, General Gates, Commander of the American forces, speaking of Kosciuszko's part in the victory said, 'The great tacticians of the campaign were the hills and forests, which a young Polish engineer was skillful enough to select for my encampment.'

"Kosciuszko then became 'Chief Engineer of the American Army in the Middle Department' and the fortification of a hill on the Hudson was entrusted to him. That hill still has its place in history. It was, and still is, known as West Point.

"Seven years of uninterrupted service Kosciuszko gave to the American Army, then returned to his native land to win as lasting a fame as is granted to any man—by leading the Poles in their fight for freedom and independence against the attacks of Russia, Prussia and Austria.

"He became the leader of the Polish people as Washington had become the leader of the American people. And for all the world he became such a symbol of man's struggle for freedom that, when his army was crushed by the overwhelming forces of Russia, Prussia and Austria, and he fell, covered with wounds, and was captured by the Russians, the feelings of the world were expressed by an English poet in the lines:

"Hope, for a season, bade the world farewell,
and Freedom shriek'd as Kosciuszko fell."

"He was in a cell in a Russian prison when Russia, Prussia, and Austria in 1795 partitioned all Poland between them and announced to the world that Poland had ceased to exist.

"Poland had indeed ceased to exist as an independent state but Poland had not ceased to exist either in the hearts of the Poles or in the minds of decent men throughout the world. Every Pole, wherever he might be, carried in his heart the words of the Polish National Hymn, 'Poland is not dead so long as we live.'

"In 1918, the defeat of Russia, then of Austria, then of Germany, gave to Poland the freedom for which Kosciuszko had fought. Poland arose free and independent—though devastated by battle and desperately poor.

"The Poles—a nation of more than 30,000,000—took up the burden of reconstructing their country with the strong, patient labor of men who deeply love their soil and their God. A large portion of their national income had to be spent on preparations for defense, because they knew that some day the

Germans and the Russians might try again to partition them and extinguish their independence. But in spite of this drain on their resources the Poles worked so devotedly for their country that their progress was repaid—until 1939.

"Nations have short memories. But the year 1939 is so recent that no nation can have forgotten that Poland then, first, before all other nations, dared to fight against the forces of Hitler. And no nation can have forgotten that the Poles made their decision to fight Hitler, rather than 'appease' him, with full knowledge that France and Great Britain were unprepared to attack Germany and that Poland would have to fight virtually alone.

"The policies of nations are influenced rarely by gratitude. But all the governments of the western world can at least recall the gratitude they felt in 1939 to the Poles for daring to fight instead of 'appeasing' Hitler: Gratitude, because, if the Poles had not fought, all Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe would have fallen into Hitler's hands without a fight.

"Why did the Poles fight Hitler knowing that they would have to fight virtually alone? Because the spirit which burned in Kosciuszko still burns in the hearts of the Poles: Because they learned through terrible years of dismemberment and oppression that wounds to the body of a nation are less terrible than wounds to a nation's soul: Because they know that a nation lives when its sons choose death rather than slavery. The Poles die but Poland lives.

"In September, 1939, while the Poles were fighting desperately against the Germans, they were attacked in the rear by the Russians. Again, as in the days of Kosciuszko, the Polish armies were defeated by overwhelming forces—Poland was again partitioned—totally partitioned. And the Germans and the Russians again announced to the world that Poland had ceased to exist.

"But, as in the days of Kosciuszko, Poland has not ceased to exist. In spite of the murders and deportations of millions of Poles, there is on the soil of Poland today the Polish people struggling in every possible way against the Germans. There is in Poland the largest and strongest underground movement of resistance that exists in any country in Europe. The Polish aviators in Great Britain, who rendered such superb service in the defense of England against Goering's bombers, and the Polish Army, both in Great Britain and the Mediterranean area, are ready to fight their way back to their native land. The Polish Government in London, headed by a peasant leader and composed in large measure of leaders of the peasants and the city workmen, is in the closest touch with the underground in Poland and represents truly the Polish people.

"The Moscow agreements signed last October aroused and justified the hope that, in the interest of lasting peace at the end of the present war, all major problems which might affect the peace of the world would be taken up by the United Nations acting together and not decided by any one of the United Nations acting alone and by force. There will be no peace in the world if that hope is disappointed.

"All Americans are determined that it shall not be disappointed. We hope that our present cooperation with all the United Nations will continue throughout this war and after the war. We know that friendship is not a one-way street and that cooperation means mutual consultation and give and take. We know also that—as in the year 1939—the case of Poland is the test case which will determine the fate of the smaller nations of Eastern, Southeastern and Central Europe. We know, therefore, that if there is to be peace after this war, the case of Poland must be decided not on the basis of force but on the basis of justice and fair play—the principles of the Atlantic Charter.

"We do not want this war to be the preface to World War Number Three. Therefore, we are vitally interested in the resurrection of Poland as a genuinely free and independent power, neither engulfed by any other nation nor dominated by a Quisling Government imposed by any other power.

"Poland cannot be wiped out of the hearts of the Poles. Poland cannot be wiped out of the mind of the world. He who attempts to enslave Poland prepares only war.

"On this day, the birthday of Lincoln and Kosciuszko, it is fitting to remember that the enslavement of men and nations is evil, and that no peace is to be found in the appeasement of those who strive by force or guile to enslave others."