

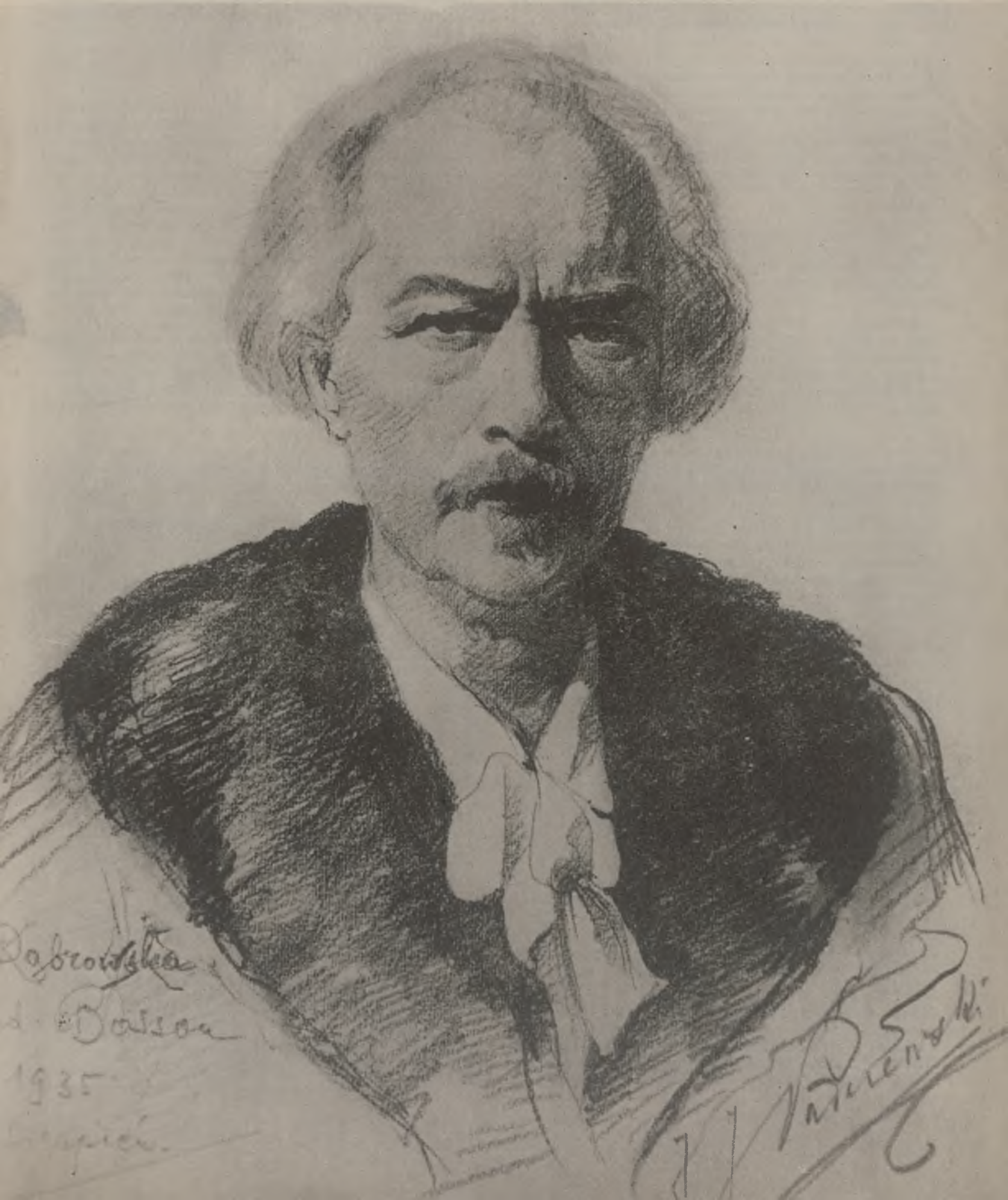
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THE POLISH REVIEW

VOL. VI

JUNE 27, 1946

No. 12



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"NEVER HAVE THE PEOPLE OF POLAND SUFFERED SO MUCH"

Gen. T. Bor-Komorowski's speech at the New York City Hall on May 24, 1946.

IT is a high privilege for me coming from the ancient City of Warsaw which fought and died for freedom, to visit your magnificent metropolis which rose on the firm foundation of democracy and stands as a symbol of freedom to the world.

When visiting America and breathing the air of liberty for which we were longing and fighting through five agonizing years, my heart is more than ever with the people of Warsaw and of the whole of Poland whose faith in the Allied cause has been so cruelly tried.

Many times in their long history have my country and its capital been looted, sacked and burned down by aggressive neighbors. But never have the people of Poland suffered so much as during the last war which ended with the victory of our Allies.

All through the first fury of the German Blitzkrieg and the siege of Warsaw in September 1939, through our incessant underground struggle with the invaders, through the heroic battle of the Ghetto against the Nazi barbarians in April 1943, and finally through the holocaust of the Warsaw Uprising in the fall of 1944, we firmly believed in the justice of the Allied cause.

I owe it to the memory of the millions of my countrymen of all creeds who died for a better world to remind our great powerful Allies that although in 1939 we were first to oppose Hitler's onslaught on western civilization, my country is yet to regain the freedom it has paid for so dearly.

May the free people of this splendid metropolis be spared forever the horrors and agonies of Warsaw. May New York flourish and prosper and stand forever as a monument to religious, racial and political tolerance and to the true brotherhood of man.

Gen. T. Bor-Komorowski's speech at Fordham University on May 27, 1946.

IT is with deep emotion that I accept Fordham University's golden medal from the Very Reverend President, Father Gannon, a true and tried friend of Poland, from an institution of learning which has produced so many outstanding scholars and churchmen, among them His Excellency Cardinal Spellman who enjoys the respect and love of the faithful of this diocese and of all Americans of Polish descent.

I feel all the more honored because Fordham University which is celebrating this year the centenary of its Charter, already conferred an honorary doctorate upon the President of the Republic of Poland, Wladyslaw Raczkiewicz, during the ceremonies of the adoption of Lublin University by Fordham University in 1943.

Poles everywhere are filled with deep gratitude for all the services rendered to Polish learning by Fordham University. The appointment of the distinguished Polish historian, Professor Halecki, to the chair of Eastern European History, the naming of the Reverend Professor Siwek to the chair of History of

Philosophy, the invitation of Professor Jedlicki to join the Department of Political Science, the activity of the Catholic Committee for Cultural Relief for Poland under the chairmanship of your Reverend Father President—these are some of Fordham's contributions in favor of homeless and impoverished Polish science and learning.

I firmly believe that the day will come when the Catholic faith and learning, which are so beautifully symbolized by your magnificent university, will again develop and flourish in Poland with the same force with which they blossomed before the partition or in the 20 years of Polish independence following World War I. The enemies of the Polish nation think that physical force and materialism can prevail in Poland if the ideology of violence is imposed with ruthless brutality. The mistake made by Nazi Germany is being repeated today by Soviet Russia, which is only pretending to support learning and which strives to remove religion from Poland's national and educational life, to sever our traditional ties with the Holy See and completely to destroy the Uniate Church.

Knowing my countrymen, having fought by their side against German might for five long years of enslavement, I strongly believe that the sun of freedom will again dawn over Poland and that then everything Fordham University has done for Polish learning will yield an abundant harvest.

THE POLISH REVIEW

Bi-Weekly Magazine

Published by The Polish Review, Inc.

Prof. Sigismund Stojowski, President

Stanislaw L. Centkiewicz, Editor.

516 Fifth Avenue, New York 18, N. Y.

Vol. VI — No. 12

June 27, 1946

CONTENTS

"Never Have the People of Poland Suffered So Much"

"Patriotism Is Freedom"

Words and Purposes

To Secretary of State James F. Byrnes

The Polish Alma Mater

Paderewski's Political Vision

Paderewski Memorial Hospital Library

Polish Music Under the German Occupation

In Poland's "No Man's Land"

Front Cover: Pencil drawing of Ignacy Jan Paderewski by Krystyna Dabrowska made at Rioud-Bosson, Switzerland, in August, 1935.

Annual Subscription, Five Dollars
Single Copy, Twenty-five Cents

"PATRIOTISM IS FREEDOM"

Address of welcome to General TADEUSZ BOR-KOMOROWSKI delivered by Professor JAN KUCHARZEWSKI, President of the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York, on May 25, 1946.

WE welcome you, dear and distinguished General Bor, to this immense city of the great country in which we can and should sincerely and loudly tell the truth about our cause. Not only because in this country any political or racial opinions may be proclaimed, but also because our cause for which you, General Bor, have waged a heroic struggle, is not only the cause of our nation, but the cause of the weal of peoples as well, and consequently a cause always finding a vivid echo in United States public opinion. We advocate not only the freedom of our nation, but also the freedom and equal rights of peoples. In this period of transition between the great War and universal peace we represent the point of view that the nations called smaller and small should have an equal and decisive voice in determining the peace and future organization of the world. Obviously, these nations should have real independence and be represented by exponents of the true, unfettered will of the nation. If the future destinies of the world were to be decided by a small group of a few powers, where moreover, agreement can be achieved only by endless concessions of the democratic countries in favor of unsatiated lust of conquest, then a peace would be imposed on the vast majority of nations that would be an unjust and non-durable peace.

This view, the only one in harmony with the principles of democracy and justice, undoubtedly constitutes the faith of the vast majority of the citizens of the United States and the faith of the true representatives of the traditions and real interests of the great American democracy. The occupants of Poland endeavored during this war and endeavor today to persuade the Polish nation that is being cut off from the rest of the world, that the soul of the United States is money, while the great ideals of freedom and democracy are peacock feathers with which it adorns itself. The Polish nation will never believe this. The soul of the United States is not the dollar, but freedom. This freedom was brought here in the 17th century by the Pilgrim Fathers, the first founders, the forebears of this nation; in the name of freedom this nation was led into battle by George Washington, who is known as the Father of this nation; in the name of that freedom applied to domestic, social matters it was led during the great Civil War by Abraham Lincoln; Woodrow Wilson tried to put the watchwords of freedom into effect in his planned universal organization of peace. In the infancy of this nation, in the period of its great fight for liberation, is to be found insurrection and struggle against superior force. This baptism lent the American nation a durable, indelible character, freedom became its vital principle, its *raison d'être*, and its mission.

There may be periods when this truth, and particularly its international consequences, may not be clear to all the citizens of a nation. Often in history the diamond of national majesty, to use Ludwik Mierosławski's expression, rests for many years covered with the ashes of the everyday cares of material and personal life; however, the collective soul of a nation does not receive its characteristic and dominant imprint in the long periods of peaceful organic work, but in critical periods when the nation stakes the lives, peace and property of millions of people and when its collective character is forged in

the crucible of events. Even to nations deeply imbued with love of freedom the lines of Poland's great poet can be applied. Our nation is like lava . . . When one wishes to look into the soul of such a nation, one should pierce its external crust, descend into the depth where an inner fire burns that hundreds of years cannot extinguish. For the great nation of the United States as for the Polish nation, freedom is not a slogan proclaimed on solemn days, but a living force, a vital necessity, the instinct of self-preservation. If a part of the nation were to forget that truth for a while, reality would soon painfully remind it of it.

The origin and development of the aggressive empires of all epochs followed a different historical path. They differed in their vital principle, in their tradition and in the subconscious instincts of their people that had been molded and nurtured for centuries. Maurycy Mochnacki, stating more than a century ago that vast Russia owed her existence to the aggressive deeds of her despotic rulers, utters the sentence: In Russia slavery is patriotism. A similar idea of patriotism was spread and inculcated by the growing school of German nationalist ideology which, beginning with Fichte's addresses to the German nation, found in the course of time an embodiment, still moderated by certain considerations in the Second Reich of Bismarck and Wilhelm II, and its full expression in the Third Reich of Hitler.

In the great democracy of the United States, as in our country, patriotism is freedom. These nations regard despotic rule, enslavement of the inhabitants, conquest and annexation by force of foreign territories, not only as a disgrace, but as an earnest of fall and ruin, as a curse upon the nations that have become the victim of such methods, and as a curse upon the nation that practises them. Therefore, in applying the principle of the equality of rights and the freedom of nations, irrespective of the number of battalions they can raise, we follow the traditional ideals of the nation of the United States and its welfare and power. By giving an equal and free voice to the smaller nations in the world Areopagus, one increases the group of the natural Allies of the United States, because the nations striving for liberation and real independence, instinctively aspire to an alliance with the great American democracy.

General Bor, this great country, in the persons of their good and enlightened citizens, understands you. It must feel that you are from the line of those men on whom American democracy may rely, the inheritors of the ideals of Kosciuszko and Pulaski, Lafayette and Rochambeau. Free men are brothers—this was the inscription on the banners of the Polish legions on Italian soil in the Napoleonic era, the legions of Henryk Dąbrowski and Karol Kniaziewicz.

Poland, bound by her past, her civilization, her faith and her soul with the West, is being torn from it by the enemies of the West and of Poland, is being violently forced into the frame of a life foreign and hateful to her. General Bor, you tried with the detachments of your fighters, to make your way to the West through the hordes of invaders and slaves, from the Vistula you stretched out your hand to the nations of Western, Christian civilization and democracy.

(Continued on page 15)

WORDS AND PURPOSES

by A. K. ADAMS

ON June 30th, 1946, the people of Poland will have the privilege of approving the policies of the Provisional Government in regard to land-reform and the nationalization of industry. They will also be able to indicate their preference between a one- and a two-chamber parliament and, finally to bestow their blessing upon Poland's new Western frontiers.

The people of Poland have not been asked, however, whether they approve of the new Eastern frontiers, the continuous presence of Red Army troops, the maintaining of the large and costly security apparatus, the lack of individual freedom, the political murders, arrests, and deportations, the existence in Poland of 40 forced labor camps, the inflation and hunger, tuberculosis and venereal diseases.

The people of Poland have also been denied the election this summer of their own parliament—a constitutional right confirmed even by the international swindles of Yalta and Potsdam.

When the vice-president of the Polish Peasant Party (PSL), Mr. Banczyk, attacked the totalitarian methods of the Provisional Government on April 26th, at the 10th session of the Lublin mock-parliament, the Red Fascists — Bierut, Gomolka and Osobka-Morawski — dropped all pretense of democracy and started an all-out campaign against the only remaining party which refused to submit to the Soviet domination of Poland.

At present, we are witnessing in Poland an open, barbarous extermination of the patriotic elements who were careless enough to reveal their identity. Several universities have been closed, students are being arrested, local PSL cells dissolved, Red Army tanks shoot at defenseless crowds.

In a recent interview for the Tass agency, Osobka-Morawski announced that the PSL would be dissolved in all major towns and cities because it includes fascist elements. We cannot blame Osobka for his attitude—the architects of Yalta graciously granted the right of open political activity to all democratic parties, but left it up to the Lublin gang to decide which are the democratic parties. Consequently citizen Bierut, — described by American journalist William van Narvig in the May 4th issue of Liberty on the basis of personal acquaintance as a regular Soviet NKVD officer acting under various names—, citizen Osobka-Morawski, a hoodlum from the Czestochowa slums, Gomolka and others, can define at will all political groups, which decline to bow to Communist dictatorship, as fascist.

With the PSL already partly dissolved, with a Socialist party dominated by Communist "envoys"—the only independent Socialist Mr. Zulawski having resigned from the Executive Council of this party on March 31st—with the Catholic center and right wing parties denied the right of political existence, the arena is cleared of opponents.

The last vestige of cooperation with the Western Powers disappeared when AP correspondent Larry Allen's report on the afore-mentioned Mr. Banczyk's speech was suppressed by the Warsaw censor, leading to the U. S. State Department's announcement of the suspension of the 90 million dollar loan for Poland.

There is still a lot of talk about the referendum and elections. The Warsaw radio and press continuously indulge in complicated casuistry. There is a purpose in this game of words: speeches, press articles and a deluge of meaningless words are intended to distract the attention of

the Western world from the real intentions of the Soviets.

One need not be a prophet to foresee that the People's referendum will be presented as a full substitute for the elections, and its results as an approval of the existence and methods of the Provisional Government. On the other hand the elections will be held only when all open opposition ceases to exist, because every aspect of political opposition, whether coming from the right, the center or the left, would immediately receive the support of the great majority of the people. As long as the present situation prevails in Poland, nothing can prevent such a course of events.

Why, therefore, all this jabbering of the Moscow and Warsaw propagandists about the entangled problems of Poland's political life? Their purpose is to disguise and hide from the eyes of the world Poland's progressing transformation into a Soviet satellite state, and especially the tie-up of Polish economy with that of the Soviet Union.

The mines and steel-mills of Silesia, the great armament factories of the Central Industrial Region, the textile factories of Lodz, Bielsko and Bialystok, Polish raw materials and food supplies, are destined to play an important part in the new five-year plan, announced by Stalin and designed to create a modern Soviet military machine capable of crushing the decayed capitalist world.

Reports flowing in from responsible European economic circles all point to this principal aim of Soviet policy in Poland.

While this is being done, the last powerful anti-communist barrier in Europe, Great Britain, has entered upon a new period of supreme appeasement. In this hour of danger the imperial wisdom of the British prompts them to dissolve the Anders corps in Italy.

On the other hand, Mr. Byrnes, generally considered as meek and weak, has adopted a much firmer language and has taken over from Bevin the initiative in opposing militant Soviet imperialism.

Such being the situation, the anxious eyes of the free and of the oppressed worlds turn to America for inspiration and guidance. Will this country understand the dangers ahead? Will the wisdom of its leaders penetrate the curtain of uncertainty and draw a clear picture of the things to come?

At the moment the United States is in a turmoil. Grave domestic problems overshadow international issues. The courageous efforts of President Truman to prepare the nation for the emergencies of the future are meeting stubborn opposition based on party considerations and serious misconceptions regarding the relative importance of domestic and foreign problems.

However, there are many signs which bring a ray of hope to the oppressed nations and individuals. The strenuous efforts of the Moscovite agents to mislead, blind and deceive public opinion are failing. The leaders and the people of the United States are getting sick and tired of constant international haggling, of buying elusive Soviet confidence through the sacrifice of friendly peace-loving nations, of doubletalk calculated to conceal the real issues, of preaching about ethics to notorious criminals, of this ugly game of hypocrisy and double-crossing.

A strong and resolute America may yet emerge from the turmoil—the greatest power on earth and the only power which will be able to frighten the potential aggressors into a just and lasting peace.

To Secretary of State James F. Byrnes

Memorandum presented to SECRETARY BYRNES on June 12, 1946 in Washington, D. C., by CHARLES ROZMAREK, President of the Polish American Congress.

The memorandum not only voices the opinion of six million Americans of Polish descent, but also points to the road along which world peace should be sought.

THE Polish American Congress, representing 6,000,000 American citizens, submits to you, prior to your departure for Paris to participate in the Conference of Foreign Ministers, the following declaration:

Unless a complete revision of the Yalta decisions takes place, the forthcoming conference in Paris will have no more chance of success in restoring Europe to its pre-war freedom than the previous conferences of London, Moscow and Paris.

The inability of the Western Democracies to reach an understanding with Totalitarian Russia is traceable directly to Yalta and not to any situation that might have arisen since the termination of hostilities.

Yalta was a great evil and no good can ever come out of evil.

It is difficult to conceive that representatives of an enlightened country, where a Civil War was fought just 80 years ago to end slavery, would be a party to so ignoble a deal. If President Roosevelt were in robust health, it is more than likely that he would have had the physical and moral strength to refuse to sign the death warrants of the free nations of Europe. That it gnawed at his conscience is recalled by this statement made upon his return to our shores:

"I did not agree with all of it by any means."

It is dangerous to maintain that our government is bound by the Yalta decisions. In the light of all legal and moral concepts of justice and international law, they are absolutely illegal. That an aggressor nation was permitted to sit in judgment upon its own acts of aggression, while the victims were even barred from presenting their case, is without precedent in history.

Through clever political manipulations, Stalin has usurped the leadership of the world. Encouraged by concessions from American statesmen, he has dictated as he willed from Moscow through Teheran and Yalta.

The war was just a temporary military success. Our war aims have not been achieved. All the noble work begun by President Wilson was undone at Yalta. Nation after nation set free after the first world war has found itself enslaved after the second world war. The truth is that the security of America is now in the gravest of peril.

One of the terrible errors committed at Yalta is the tragedy of Poland. Bereft not only of the territories which Russia seized during the partition of Poland in 1939 as Germany's collaborator, Poland was also bereft of even any semblance of freedom, in what was left of that country, by the dismissal of a genuinely democratic constitutional Polish government in favor of an illegal Moscow-conceived puppet government.

"AN UNENDING TRAGEDY"

"Let us discard cant and humbug. I believe it is a fact, to put it mildly, that there is as much freedom in Spain under the Franco regime and a good deal more security and happiness for ordinary folk than there is in Poland at this time.

"... Poland is denied all free expression of her national will and at the same time she is held in strict control by her Soviet-dominated Government, which did not dare to hold a free election nor one under observation of the three great powers. The fate of Poland seems to be one of unending tragedy. We who went to war on her behalf watch with sorrow the strange outcome of her endeavors."

Excerpts from a speech delivered in the House of Commons on June 5, 1946 by Winston Churchill.

It is this communist outfit that was formally recognized by the United States, pending the elections, slated for early spring but still not in sight. In fact, the leaders of Poland today are for the most part, not Polish but Russian citizens.

With the connivance of the usurpers, Russia has stripped Poland of the little machinery and other property that escaped the devastation of war. The country, for whose territorial integrity England and France went to war, today lies prostrate, a fourth of her population destroyed, 6,000,000 children facing starvation and others being pushed from pillar to post by the lawless elements in control with the help of Red Army bayonets.

As a result millions of loyal Poles in exile, are afraid to come home to this land of terror.

The Polish soldiers, who fought for the freedom of all nations, including that of America, prefer to go anywhere than to Poland, although that is where their heart is.

Thus, the world is treated to the extraordinary spectacle of having an army that fought and bled for the liberation of its native land denied the precious freedom for which it sacrificed so much.

In view of Poland's tragic plight, the Polish American Congress, respectfully submits to you the following conclusions:

1) Under present circumstances, free and democratic elections are inconceivable in a country which has ceased to be independent. Free elections will only be possible when the last Russian soldier leaves Poland and the Quisling regime is recalled to Russia.

(Continued on page 15)

THE POLISH ALMA MATER

by FRANK STANLEY BARC

AN organization of Polish Americans which celebrates its golden anniversary next year marking fifty years of activity, is the Polish Alma Mater of America. This organization with headquarters in Chicago, Illinois, at 1643-45 Milwaukee Avenue, has both a brilliant past behind it and a most exceptional future before it.

Alma Mater can best be understood by reading the Preamble to the Constitution of the organization:

"With a realization that the perpetuation of the Polish language, during a century of national adversity, together with other traditional characteristics of the Poles resulted in a reunited Poland, we associate ourselves together under the guidance of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Queen of Poland, for the following purposes: to transmit to America the cultural advantages of Ancient Poland; to keep the mother tongue of our mother country alive for the more rapid transmission of the good from the old to the new; to indoctrinate the Poles in the United States with the spirit of America; to teach thrift and self support through fraternalism; to foster the tenets of the Roman Catholic Church; to encourage civic pride and patriotism, so as to build a better United States of America."

Further light is shed on the formation of the Polish Alma Mater (P.A.M.) by Article I of the constitution which reads:

"The objectives for which the P.A.M. is organized shall be

(1) To unite the people of Polish birth, descent or affiliation professing the Roman Catholic Faith in America



(Left to right): John A. Stanek, President of P.A.M.; Rev. Bernard Szudzinski, Chaplain; H. E. Samuel Cardinal Stritch of Chicago; Stanley C. Mazankowski, Gen. Secretary; Joseph T. Lewandowski, Treasurer.

- (2) For the uplifting of moral spirit and the exercise of civic virtues;
- (3) For the mutual imparting of fraternal aid in all cases of need;
- (4) For the payment of death benefits; and any other benefits permitted by the Laws of the State of Illinois;
- (5) To organize clubs of young people, whose aim will be the up-keep of religious spirit, the Polish language, and national tradition;
- (6) To impart financial aid to just and deserving students, who are members of the organization."

Article II of the Constitution, entitled "Government," states:

"The governing bodies of the P.A.M. shall be the Convention, the Governing Board and the Executive Committee," thus setting forth the mode of operation which determines the course of procedure for the P.A.M.

"Each convention," according to Paragraph 7 of Article III of the Constitution, "of the P.A.M. shall be held quadrennially on the Fourth Sunday of September in such place as shall be determined by the Governing Board prior to the election of delegates by the branches."

The Governing Board of the P.A.M., states Par. 21 of the Constitution's Article IV, "consists of the following officers, elected by the Convention from among the delegates or their alternates to the Convention, and who are citizens of the United States of America, and who have been insured members of the P.A.M. for a period of not less than one year, immediately prior to their election, and who are not officers in the Governing Board of any other organization similar to the P.A.M., or are paid employees of any life insurance

organization, and who have a thorough knowledge of both the Polish and English languages:

"President, first vice-president, second vice-president, secretary, treasurer, chaplain, vice-chaplain, seven directors—provided, however, that candidates for the offices of chaplain and vice-chaplain need not be delegates to the Convention in order to be eligible for election."

Authority of the Governing Board is defined in Paragraph 26 of Article IV, which states directly: "The Governing Board shall be vested with all the executive and administrative authority of the P.A.M., and it shall carry into effect all the workings of the P.A.M. under the laws passed by the Convention, and shall have full and general supervision over the affairs of the P.A.M. in its executive capacity, including the issuance of certificates which must first be approved by the Director of Insurance prior to issuance, in addition to those provided for heretofore or herein, on such plans or forms, as may be permitted by the State Laws of the states, wherein the P.A.M. is licensed to transact business, which in the judgment of the Governing Board shall be deemed for the best interests of the P.A.M. Such forms shall be upon adequate legal reserve rates, prepared by a competent actuary." Paragraph 27 adds: "It shall be the duty of the Governing Board to maintain the actuarial solvency of the P.A.M. at not less than 100% at all times."

The Polish Alma Mater in reality is not a single organization but a combination of organizations consisting of a Men's Auxiliary, a Women's Auxiliary, and a Youth group bearing the name of Eaglets. The Eaglets range in age up to 16 years. An adjunct of the Auxiliaries are the Friendly Circles, established units under Auxiliary supervision and created for the purpose of strengthening the inner life and to lend greater direction to efforts of the P.A.M.

The P.A.M. was organized in 1897 at Chicago by the Reverend Francis Gordon, famed publisher of the Polish Daily News of Chicago, who was the organization's Moderator. Since its birth the Polish Alma Mater has had eight presidents commencing with Dr. Boleslaus Klarkowski, father of Superior Judge Stanley II. Klarkowski of Chicago, and terminating with John A. Stanek, Chicago printer and business man, its present chief executive. In between Dr. Klarkowski and the present incumbent, the presidents were Ed Szajkowski, Julian Szczepanski, Vincent Jozwiakowski, John Nering, Julian Nejman, and Albert Soska.

Albert Soska served as president for 27 years, now holds the title of honorary president, and for the past five years has held the office of secretary of the Polish War Relief organization in the United States.

P.A.M.'s present destiny is in the hands of the organizational staff headed by President John A. Stanek, who when elected to his present office at the Milwaukee, Wisconsin national Convention held June 18, 19, 20 and 21, 1944, was accorded the signal honor of being advanced from secretary to the organization's principal officer.

President Stanek, while secretary, organized 14 Alma Mater groups, thus being credited with the organization of 15 per cent of the total strength of 107 branches of the P.A.M. The Stanek regime, based on the president's personal sacrifice of time and money in his previous secretarial role, bids fair to be an outstandingly brilliant period of achievement in P.A.M. annals. President Stanek's personal energy is credited with a great



Members of the Governing Board of the P.A.M. before the Pulaski Monument in Milwaukee, Wisconsin (1944).

part of the membership increase gained between the 21st quadrennial convention held at Michigan City, Ind. in 1940 and the 22nd fourth-year gathering held at Milwaukee, Wis. in 1944, when P.A.M. numerical strength increased by 1,306 in adult members and by 1,034 in juvenile additions.

President Stanek reminds us that he is charged with the responsibility of implementing the resolutions passed at the Milwaukee convocation of P.A.M. These resolutions were:

(a) Help win the war (now accomplished)—buy U. S. bonds—fight disloyalty.

(b) Work for Poland through the Polish-American Congress.

(c) Organize Polish youth in Eaglets "Nests" and propagate Polish culture, song, sports and dances in perfect loyalty to the United States of America.

Stanley Mazankowski, general secretary, is an ideal executive to assist President Stanek in helping build the P.A.M. Though not an attorney, he is equipped with a mentality which lawyers state is a "legal mind." Formerly the circulation manager of the Polish Daily News, his acknowledged organizing ability has proved itself a valuable asset to P.A.M. Prior to his election to his present post he served P.A.M. faithfully, conscientiously and ably as the organization's treasurer for two terms.

The present Treasurer is Joseph Lewandowski who

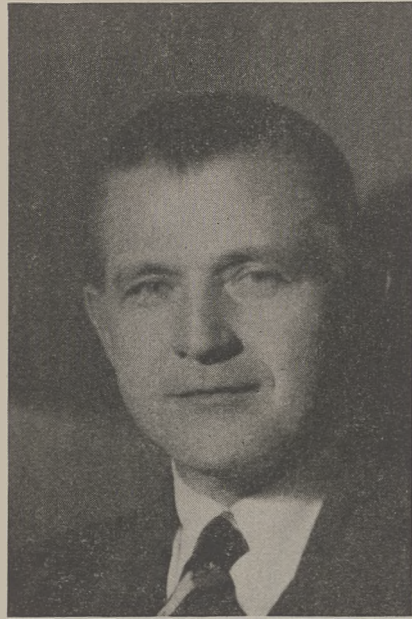
(Continued on page 11)



Exhibition of Polish handicraft by Eaglets, young members of the P.A.M., Chicago, Illinois.

PADEREWSKI'S POLITICAL VISION

by SYLWIN STRAKACZ



Hon. Sylwin Strakacz, closest friend and collaborator of Paderewski.

I AM deeply grateful to my friend Stanislaw Centkiewicz, the distinguished Editor of The Polish Review, for his invitation to write a short sketch of Ignace Jan Paderewski as a statesman endowed with the highest quality of political vision.

It is practically impossible within the framework of a brief article to present a full picture of a man of Paderewski's caliber. A great man, a modern immortal, an artist, a statesman, a leader of his nation, a philosopher, a philanthropist, a man whose name has become a symbol of a

great nation as well as an inspiration to countless millions all over the world. Therefore, the limitation placed on my task by Mr. Centkiewicz was more than welcome.

I admired, loved and served Paderewski for a quarter of a century—since December 1918 until his untimely death on June 29, 1941. Shortly after the conclusion of World War I, I boarded H.M.S. Concord in Copenhagen and there met Paderewski, who was on his way to Poland, having been entrusted by the Allied governments with the responsible mission of restoring unity in Poland and of bringing the reborn Republic back to the community of sovereign nations.

As we all know, this mission was most successfully accomplished by Paderewski and was climaxed by his appointment by the Chief of State, Joseph Pilsudski, as Prime Minister, heading the Government of National Unity.

Not only to students of political science, but even to men of such great experience in this field as George Clemenceau, the "sudden" appearance of a great musician at the head of a government presented a phenomenon hardly to be accepted without a slight shock of surprise. When confronted with the news, Clemenceau gave expression to his feelings by exclaiming: "What a degradation!"

Most of the statesmen gathered for the peace conference in Paris awaited their new colleague with well founded curi-

osity. They expected to find in him if not an inferiority complex at least a realization of his inadequacy to cope with the heavy duties that faced him as Prime Minister and Poland's first delegate.

They were, however, quickly reassured. Paderewski met them on equal terms and in many instances proved to be as well, if not better equipped than some of the career diplomats with whom he sat at the conference table. As a matter of fact, this metamorphosis of Paderewski was no miracle at all.

A dear friend of Paderewski, the great French composer, Saint Saens, once said that Paderewski was a natural genius, regardless in what direction his activities would have developed. As the history of Paderewski's life proved beyond doubt, he was capable of excelling not only in his art, both as composer and performer, but also in other fields of endeavor and especially as a born leader of his nation and its outstanding statesman.

The best explanation for this phenomenon can be found in Paderewski's own conception of a genius. To become what people call a genius required, in his opinion, ten per cent *inspiration* and ninety per cent *perspiration*. During all his life Paderewski faithfully followed that formula.

Only his intimate collaborators knew that each and every triumph of Paderewski both in his artistic career and in public life was scored at a high price of strenuous long-range work.

Paderewski was born in a Poland under foreign domination. Already as a young boy, he dedicated himself to the cause of Poland, to the restoration of its independence. All the time that he could spare from his study of music he devoted to reading and, in the course of years, he acquired an expert knowledge of history, geo-politics, economy and political science.

Endowed with an exceptional absolute memory, Paderewski surprised his colleagues on more than one occasion during the peace conference when he would offer off hand an answer to a technical problem which would normally have been referred to experts.

Paderewski's political vision and national leadership manifested itself as early as 1910, when he donated to the City of Cracow the Grunwald Monument (destroyed in 1939 by the Germans), commemorating the 500th anniversary of the Polish-Lithuanian victory over the Teutonic Knights.

That monument bore a significant inscription: "To the glory of our fore-fathers. To our brethren—that their spirit may not flag." And flag their spirit did not. From all corners of partitioned Poland thronged untold thousands to attend the unveiling. In a prophetic speech delivered on that occasion, Paderewski exhorted his nation to be ready for the great mo-

ment of Poland's liberation which he saw inevitably approaching.

The outbreak of World War I found Paderewski in Switzerland. He immediately saw that this was Poland's greatest opportunity to realize its dreams of liberty. Without the slightest hesitation he cast the lot of Poland with the cause of the Allied and Associated Powers. His political vision, however, was demonstrated by his conviction that the United States could not possibly maintain its neutrality and would eventually be drawn into the conflict, spelling doom for the aggressor Central Powers. Paderewski, therefore stayed in Europe only long enough to organize a committee for the relief of Poland in Paris and in London, and in 1915 sailed for America. His activity in this country is too fresh in our memories to be recounted here.

In brief: he succeeded in uniting an overwhelming majority of Americans of Polish extraction in a Polish Relief Committee; through his dear friend, Col. Edward M. House, he gained access to President Woodrow Wilson, who, eventually, became a leading champion of justice for Poland.

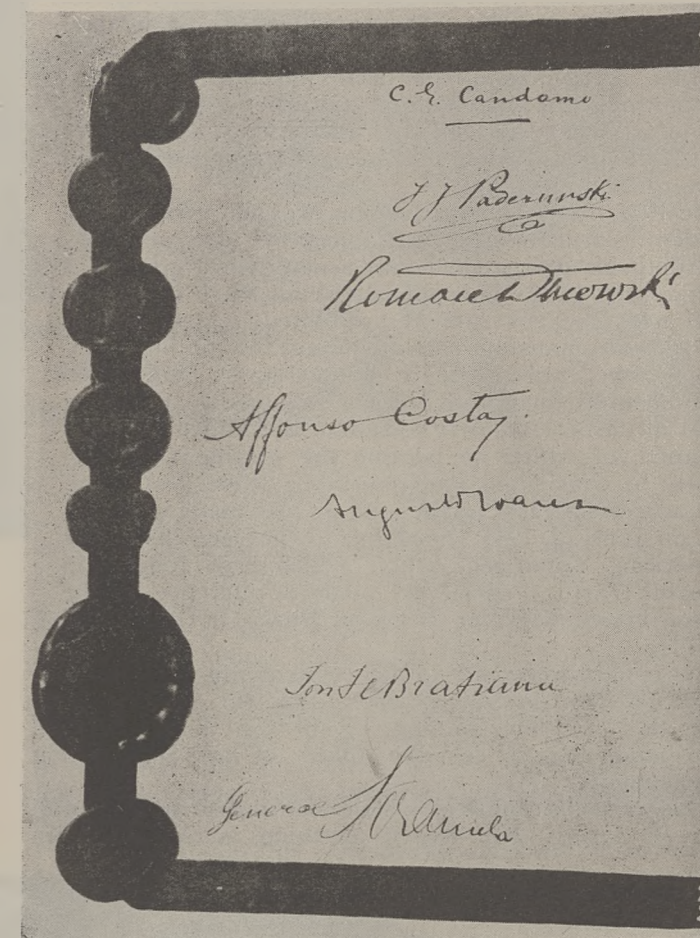
Paderewski knew intimately the national character of the American people, he admired their lofty idealism and firmly believed that no other nation would be so willing to translate into deeds its sympathy toward the just cause of Poland.

Again his political vision served his country well.

Immediately after the armistice, with the blessing of both President Wilson and Col. House, having secured the full support of his friend Robert Lansing, the then Secretary of State, Paderewski left America for England and Poland.



Five years ago: Funeral exercises for Paderewski at Arlington National Cemetery.



Paderewski's signature to the Treaty of Versailles.

After a short conference with Prime Minister Lloyd George, Paderewski sailed for Danzig on board H.M.S. Concord, placed at his disposal by his dear friend Arthur Balfour, first Lord of the Admiralty. He was joined in Copenhagen by the British Military Mission to Poland, headed by Col. A. A. Wade, as well as by myself, my mission to Sweden and Denmark in behalf of the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs having just been successfully completed.

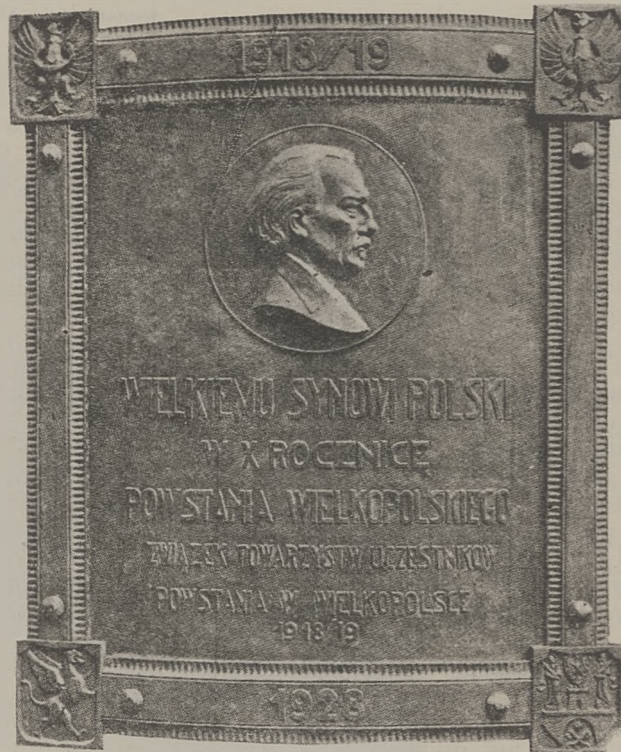
As a spontaneous manifestation of the entire nation, the reception given to Paderewski upon his arrival in Poland will never be surpassed.

Paderewski's political vision found its most striking expression in his speeches before the Polish Constitutional Diet:

"Poland is facing a period of 10 to 15 years of relative peace and security. During that period of time the tremendous task of post-war reconstruction and rehabilitation must be completed. A strong army based on universal conscription, must be organized to defend our country against foreign aggression. Should we fail in these primary tasks, the very existence of our state, the independence and liberty of the Polish nation would hang in the balance."

He urged his nation to remain firmly attached to the principles of democracy:

(Continued on page 10)



"To a Great Son of Poland, on the Tenth Anniversary of the Wielkopolska Insurrection." Tablet erected in Poznan in 1928.

PADEREWSKI'S POLITICAL VISION

(Continued from page 9)

"No man, no matter how important his services to the country may be, is greater than his nation or should claim to be above it. The entire nation is the real sovereign, and all of us, who by the will and the confidence of the people have been chosen as its leaders, are nothing but our country's faithful servants."

Unfortunately not all of Paderewski's wise advice was followed. Paderewski resigned from office and history took its course.

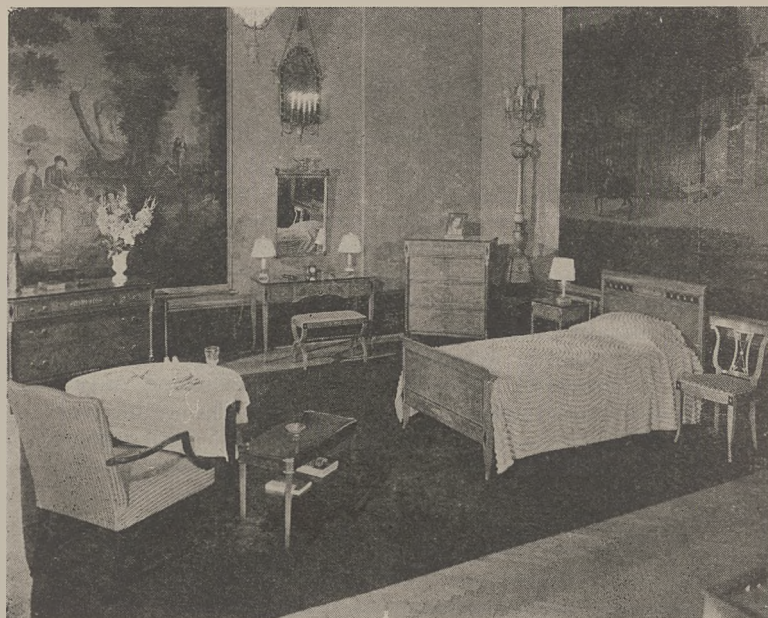
In 1937 from his retirement in Morges, Switzerland, Paderewski made an ardent appeal for national unity, warning his compatriots that a new world crisis was fast approaching. This appeal did not reach the Polish nation as the government prohibited its publication.

His statesmanship, patriotism and the guiding principles of his entire life were summed up by Paderewski himself in his inaugural speech, delivered in February 1941 in Paris at the first session of the Polish National Council, of which he became the president. It can justly be considered Paderewski's political testament.

Paderewski's last public address was made in America on June 22, 1941. Speaking to the veterans of the American Volunteer Army, which had fought in World War I, Paderewski made a reference to the recent attack of Hitler on Soviet Russia in the following words:

"It is hard to foresee to what extent this new development will bear on the outcome of this war. I can tell you only this: I believe in God, I believe in Justice, and in this happening I see the token of an approaching punishment."

Paderewski's political vision was not a supernatural gift of Nature. Nor had it anything in common with



Bedroom in New York in which Paderewski spent his last days and died on June 29, 1941.

guess-work or political gambling. On the contrary, it was a product of long training and of extensive knowledge used as a basis for logical deduction. In this art, unfortunately possessed by so few, Paderewski unquestionably excelled. And that is the reason why five years after his death, in spite of all the changes that have occurred since, Paderewski's wise recommendations have lost for the Poles none of their reality and timeliness.



Five years ago: Paderewski's remains taken to Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

Mr. Sylwin Strakacz was J. J. Paderewski's closest friend and collaborator for almost a quarter of a century. In 1918 he entered the Polish Diplomatic Service, which he quit at the time of Paderewski's resignation from office. He lived with Paderewski in Switzerland and accompanied him on his many trips abroad. In October 1939 Mr. Strakacz was appointed permanent delegate to the League of Nations, with the rank of Minister Plenipotentiary, and in October 1941 he assumed the post of Polish Consul General in New York. He held that office until the withdrawal by the U. S. Government of recognition of the Polish Government in London.

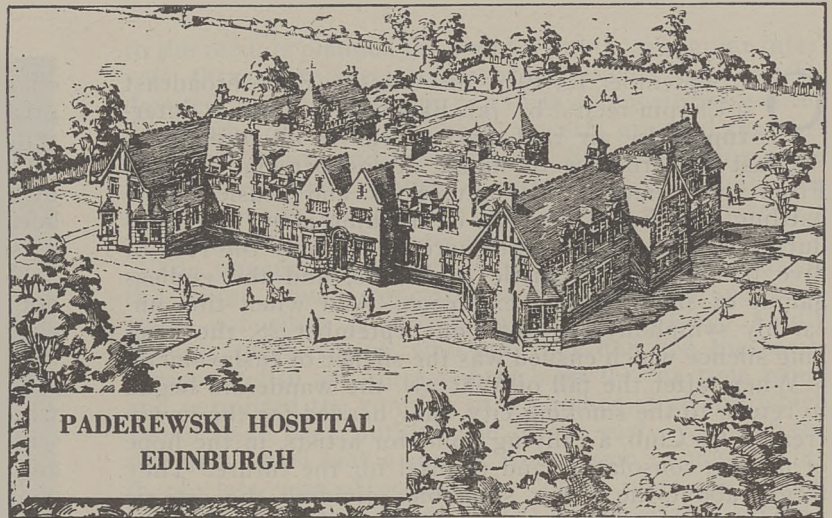
PADEREWSKI MEMORIAL HOSPITAL LIBRARY

It is generally agreed that Poland has suffered more than any other country from the ravages of World War II. This is especially true as it concerns the implements of education and refinement. Planned destruction by the Germans of Polish culture included the burning of schools, scientific museums, observatories and libraries, and the killing of all intellectuals. The notorious mass murder of ten thousand officers, including medical doctors, and the casting of their bodies into one enormous grave was one of the early atrocities of the war.

In 1941, shortly after the invasion of Poland, a group of Polish intellectuals escaped into Scotland. Among these exiles were some of Poland's greatest medical men. These men undertook the establishment of a Medical School Army Hospital for Polish-speaking students who were serving in the Polish Army in Great Britain. This group was headed by Dr. A. T. Jurasz, one of Poland's leading surgeons, author of surgical books, and professor of surgery in the Polish Medical School at Poznan before the war. This medical school and hospital was located at Edinburgh, Scotland, in buildings of the University of Edinburgh, and was named the Paderewski Memorial Hospital, Dr. Jurasz being dean and professor of Surgery. Funds to equip this school and hospital were provided by the Paderewski Testimonial Fund, Inc., of this country.

Mrs. Vernon Kellogg is the chairman of this organization, which included as sponsors Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mrs. Andrew Carnegie, Mrs. David Starr Jordan, Honorable F. H. LaGuardia, Theodore Meltzer, M.D., Honorable Henry Morgenthau, Right Reverend Monsignor Michael J. Ready, and many others of equal distinction. Herbert M. Woollen, M.D., of Indianapolis, is vice-chairman, and Mrs. Herbert M. Woollen is chairman of the Medical Library Committee.

The securing of books and creating of a library for the Polish Hospital Medical School was a work originated by Mrs. Woollen, and to date she has to her credit a



library consisting of 380 new books, 250 books of reference and 200 volumes of periodicals—altogether 830 volumes, given by persons over this and other countries. These books were not gathered promiscuously, but were selected to cover all fields of medicine and surgery by authorities on these subjects. Some of these books were chosen and purchased with the cooperation of the library staff of the Indiana University School of Medicine. In addition to collecting this library by obtaining contributions from many citizens of Indianapolis and other cities, Mrs. Woollen has given substantial financial help. Several hundred individuals have bought from one to ten books each. Eight members of our society have given books.

We believe that this work of international philanthropy by an Indianapolis woman will be of interest to medical men in Indiana.

Reprinted from The Journal of the Indiana State Medical Association, December, 1945, Vol. 38, No. 12, Pp. 510-511.

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THE POLISH ALMA MATER

(Continued from page 7)

served for eight years as Chairman of the Finance Committee. Vice-President Joseph Helminiak is responsible for much of the progress being made by the Eaglets.

Polish Alma Mater of America is a fraternal organization in the million dollar class of fraternal units in the United States. It maintains its headquarters in its own building.

The P.A.M. houses a number of popular halls which are the scenes of numerous meetings from time to time for P.A.M. and other groups of Polish-American derivation.

A P.A.M. recreation program adjunct centers around the Polish Alma Mater Resort, located at North Lake, Wisconsin, which the organization purchased in 1945. Funds which made possible its purchase and official opening on May 1 of last year accrued from various activities of the Auxiliaries. The Resort consists of 17 cottages, some of which are named in honor of such places and personalities as "Warsaw," "Gen. Galica," "Paderewski," "Reverend Gordon," "Gen. Eisenhower," "Krakow," "Gen. Pershing," "Gen. Kosciuszko," "Gen. Pulaski," and "Polonia."

Both the main lodge and the cottages of the P.A.M. Resort are available to members and their families and

friends as a completely modern, fully government approved, ideal summer retreat with excellent fishing, boating, swimming, and summer sport facilities.

Polish Alma Mater's financial status is one of the most substantial in the national insurance field when compared with other fraternal-benefit groups. The P.A.M. assets and resources which have a 113.37 per cent return prepared to meet gross liabilities place it in the forefront of fraternal-benefit organizations.

A recapitulation of P.A.M.'s financial standing as indicated at the start of 1946, discloses that:

- (a) Since its creation as an organization in 1897 Polish Alma Mater has paid out \$1,811,966 in benefits.
- (b) Membership is now approximately 7,000.
- (c) During 1945 a total of 542 certificates of insurance were underwritten.
- (d) Insurance underwritten during 1945 totaled \$274,452.
- (e) Insurance now in force is approximately \$4,000,000.
- (f) Assets—cash, bonds, investments—total \$1,279,833, with current liabilities of \$116,670.

All in all, as is the case of other Polish American organizations, the future of Polish Alma Mater depends upon its Youth—the Eaglets and their "Nests," focal point of future P.A.M. endeavor and progress.

POLISH MUSIC UNDER THE GERMAN OCCUPATION

by PROFESSOR KONSTANTY REGAMEY

ON September 13, 1939, the Warsaw radio broadcast a Chopin recital by Jan Ekier. This concert, interrupted by air raid alarms, was in all probability the last performance of music in independent Poland. From that time on, the musicians and music lovers battling in besieged Warsaw or trekking along the roads during the September nightmare, heard only the roar of dive bombers, the whistle of bombs, and the endless gamut of shooting and explosion. And when this unearthly symphony was over on September 28, the gripping silence which ensued was the silence of enslavement.

When, after the fall of Warsaw, the wanderers began to return to the smoking city, they headed for the newly created *Ips Club*, a rallying point for artists, in the hope of finding consolation and counsel for the future. They forgot about the minor squabbles dividing the artistic world, and rejoiced that so few artists had died during these catastrophic weeks.

Among the musicians only Felicjan Szopski, who died during the siege of Warsaw, and Michał Jaworski, who died on the battlefield, were lost. Many outstanding musicians were caught by the war abroad. On the other hand, the Warsaw world of music was reinforced by musicians from other sections of the country, compelled to leave the cities in which they had been active before the war: from Pomorze came Perkowski, the Wilkomirskis, the Roeslers; from Wielkopolska Wiechowicz, Latoszewski, Lisicki, Raczkowski and the young, hitherto little known violinist and composer, Roman Padlewski, who was destined to shine briefly on the Warsaw firmament and be snuffed out forever in the Warsaw Uprising of 1944. From Katowice came Kulczycki, from Poznan the aged Feliks Nowowiejski. There had perhaps never been so many Polish musicians concentrated in one city and this fact caused the musicians to constitute the most harmonious and united of all the artistic groups.

For the time being, poverty brought everyone together. Music schools, concert halls and theatres did not function; jagged walls were all that remained of the Great Theatre and of the Philharmonic. Only the Conservatory had escaped damage. All music libraries were burnt or—as was the case with the valuable collection of the Musical Society and the Chopin Institute—confiscated by the Germans.

Help came in the shape of an institution which in those difficult years enabled so many Poles to earn a living—the café. Among the musicians the first to hit upon the idea of opening a café was Piotr Perkowski, who rented a tiny room on Szpitalna Street and founded the *Lira* Café. For a while the *Lira* was the meeting place for Warsaw musicians and there the first café concerts were held. The Germans permitted this type of activity, seeing in it an opportunity to lower the dignity of Polish art. But the musicians managed to get around this perfidious intent. They played in cafés because they were not allowed to play elsewhere, but they played serious music and invested their performances with the character of true concerts. The audience understood the situation and listened as attentively as it would have in a concert hall. Even people who never went to concerts before the war regarded it as a point of honor to attend all café recitals regularly. No wonder then that in these conditions new artistic cafés mushroomed. Soon thereafter, Bolesław Woytowicz opened a café in the House of Art on Nowy Swiat Street, where serious solo and

chamber music was played amid beautiful antiques. A great sensation was caused by Dołżycki's organizing of symphony concerts in the largest Warsaw café—Lardelli.

Other important musical cafés were *Arkadia*, founded by Stanisław Piasecki in the saved portion of the Philharmonic and *Gastronomia*, the café specializing in opera music directed by Adam Didur and Zygmunt Latoszewski.

However, this relatively favorable state of events did not last long. As there were very many cafés in which classical music was presented daily, it was difficult to count on the steady attendance of music lovers. Besides, after several months of listening to classical music during which time it was impossible to converse or to stir coffee with a spoon, attendance at the cafés began to fall off, and café owners were gradually obliged to abandon concert music and revert to the lighter type of entertainment so popular before the war.

Because of the dearth of professional cabaret talent, many artists accepted this type of engagement to eke out an existence. A number of outstanding artists, however, refused to stoop to earning a living in this way and unemployment became a pressing issue in the musical field.

The behavior of the Germans made the situation even worse. Realizing that their intention of desecrating Polish art by limiting it to cafés had been thwarted, the occupants began to saddle café productions with all types of restrictions. Every program had to be subjected to a strict censorship and no Polish, French, Anglo-Saxon, Norwegian, and after 1941 Russian music could be played. This created insuperable repertoire hardships. But the Poles took full advantage of the ignorance of the "censors" by smuggling through works of Polish composers with non-Slav-sounding names like Melcer, Gall, Kazuro, Ekier or by giving before 1941 a Russian spelling to Polish names (Noskowskij, Szymanowskij). Only with respect to Chopin was German censorship alert and unyielding. The Germans also invoked a number of painful restrictions, such as regulation of the number of persons permitted to appear in the acting companies, an injunction to perform opera duets, etc.

The most difficult problem to contend with was the Germans' refusal to grant permission to the Poles to play in public unless they took part in German affairs, played at concerts for wounded soldiers, performed at Frank's receptions or in the newly organized German symphony orchestras. The occupants' concern was to show the world that it was the Germans who introduced true musical culture into Poland.

Under these circumstances Polish musicians were faced with a choice between collaboration with enemy propaganda and resignation from practising their profession openly. Very few were weak enough to sully their reputation by collaboration with the Germans. When they did, as in the case of Dołżycki, their concerts were boycotted by the Poles, forcing the café in which they appeared to close.

Confronted with the fiasco of their policy, the Germans began to exert police pressure. The more outstanding Polish musicians received an outright order to perform at German functions. But they managed to resist this pressure too, even though such a resistance not only deprived them of the possibility of performing anywhere, but sometimes even forced them to go into hiding. An example of such determined opposition was set by Eugenia Umińska, Irena Dubiska, Ewa Bandrowska-Turska.



Death mask of Frederic Chopin. Although Chopin's music was forbidden by the Germans, it remained the most popular in occupied Poland.

Under one pretext or another, the Germans gradually liquidated most Polish cafés cultivating serious music. By the end of the occupation only the Woytowicz café had survived the years of persecution.

Because of the increasing difficulties of playing music openly, the emphasis was shifted to secret performances. These private concerts had begun almost in the first months of occupation. They were intended not only to foster the Polish music forbidden by censorship, but also to gain material aid for those musicians who were unable to earn a living in cafés. The artists performed practically for nothing, donating the entire proceeds to more needy colleagues, and intake was often very high thanks to the public's generosity.

The atmosphere at these concerts was quite exceptional. Never in pre-war days had there been such receptive, enthusiastic audiences as in these modest private gatherings. Thus the secret concerts not only "maintained" living Polish music but won for it a wider circle of listeners than it had enjoyed in pre-war days. It was under the occupation that Szymanowski who had previously been regarded as a composer for the initiated, penetrated to the people. But it was Chopin who reigned supreme during the secret programs.

As open café life began to decline, the secret concerts became increasingly numerous and regular. In addition

to the recitals planned for a wider public at regular intervals, there were special anniversary events and concerts devoted to the first playing of Polish compositions written during the occupation. These concerts grouped the elite of Polish artists and never under other conditions could a composer have counted on such a select audience and such intimate contact with his listeners nor on such a rapid execution of his new work.

The unusual expansion of this underground musical life (some private concerts drew hundreds of persons) could not allow it to remain secret for long. Oddly enough, the Germans, who saw they had lost the battle against Polish art, retreated, at least for the time being and permitted the running of a number of affairs which would have been unthinkable in the early years of the war and which lent a special complexion to musical life in the last year of occupation. There were the benefit concerts arranged by the RGO (Chief Welfare Council), the only Polish organization which the Germans tolerated as a charitable agency. At first, these concerts had a clearly benefit character, with accidental programs and uneven choice of performers. Encouraged by the great success of these ventures, the music circles decided to take advantage of them as an instrument of propagating artistic culture. The initially haphazard concerts soon changed into a regularly functioning affair, in which the most outstanding performers took part, giving a carefully thought out and well planned program to audiences rapidly growing in size.

Stressing the philanthropic nature of the affairs, it was possible to get a number of concessions from the German authorities including permission for the symphony orchestra to play under the direction of Polish conductors and to present old and new Polish music in its programs. In this way the pre-war symphony concerts were revived in the Warsaw Conservatory—with this difference that in contrast to the pre-war period, the hall was always filled to overflowing with enthusiastic and insatiable listeners. Not only were these listeners reminded of the greatest masterpieces of world music but were treated to several first renditions of Polish symphonic music written during the war years. The Germans even permitted Chopin to be played. But as a demonstration Chopin continued to be played only in the secret concerts.

In spite of the tremendous difficulties with which Polish music had to contend under the occupation, it gave a fine account of itself even in the creative field. Once Polish artists recovered from the stunned state into which they had been plunged by the calamitous events of 1939, they took up their labors with redoubled energy. Some sought escape from grim reality in their art, others wanted to leave behind as great a legacy as possible in the event they came to an untimely end. All were heartened by their awareness that in view of the occupant's systematic extermination of Polish culture, their work was really another weapon in the unequal struggle with the enemy.

In this period one can note not only the appearance of a number of new outstanding artists, but also the return to active work of artists who had seemed finished before the war. This was particularly apparent in the field of composition. Ludomir Różycki, Piotr Rytel, Jan Maklakiewicz, Piotr Perkowski, Kazimierz Sikorski returned to the creating of music. Among the most active pre-war composers only Bolesław Woytowicz, absorbed by his recitals and by his managing of the musical café,

(Continued on page 14)

IN POLAND'S "NO MAN'S LAND"

RELIABLE observers inside Poland agree that the entire region of Eastern Poland between the Bug and the Vistula Rivers is steadily infiltrated by foreign elements who have been given a "protective coloration" in the shape of instruction and training that enables them to blend into the Polish social and economic landscape.

These imported "Poles" are assigned by the Warsaw regime to various posts, especially in the security apparatus, as foresters, saw-mill operators or workers, agricultural instructors, tractor experts, supervisors over the compulsory contributions or "contingents," functionaries of the civilian administration, etc.

It is all the easier for them to settle in this area as Eastern Poland is still the scene of a never-ending population movement.

The task of placing these newcomers in the "right" jobs is in the hands of the local security offices and of the field offices of the PPR (the Polish Workers Party which is Poland's Communist Party).

Carefully briefed for their assignments, these individuals specialize in all manner of provocations, responsibility for which is officially shifted upon "reactionary elements, armed, equipped and financed by General Anders."

In the eastern provinces, and particularly in the province of Bialystok, the "insecurity police," as the security police is popularly called, has organized a number of so-called "green" detachments operating under the mark of partisan units of the AK (Home Army) or the NSZ (National Armed Forces), provoking the liquidation of those who rashly express criticism of what is going on in Poland today.

This method had already been effectively used by the Soviet NKGB in 1944-1945 in the provinces of Wilno and Nowogrodek.

Furthermore, in these Eastern areas numerous Ukrainian bands, frequently having nothing in common with the Ukraine except their name, lay waste the country, helping to wipe out those few remaining Poles who remain east of the Curzon Line.

The impunity of the real and "initiated" diversionists is intensified by the fact that the Eastern frontier of present-day Poland is deprived of any type of defense. While the Soviet side of the frontier is heavily guarded by special frontier guards of the NKGB, the recently organized Polish "obstacle brigades" modelled after their Soviet counterparts have been moved back from the frontier 30 to 50 km.

Thus, there has been created along the entire stretch from East Prussia to the Tatras a 30-50 km. wide strip of "no man's land,"

harboring only outposts of the Warsaw administration chiefly staffed by the aforementioned foreign elements who not only do not interfere with the diversionist bands but often come to their assistance, thereby deliberately helping to spread anarchy and chaos in this part of Poland.

There is no safety in "No Man's Land"—a fact which is painfully felt by the local Polish population as well as by repatriates from the USSR, who once they cross the Soviet frontier, are robbed of all their worldly possessions.

—P. W.



Young Russian boy, member of an Avenger Battalion. During the war the Battalions were notorious for their ruthless methods behind the front lines.

POLISH MUSIC UNDER THE GERMAN OCCUPATION

(Continued from page 13)

gave up composing. Roman Palester, on the other hand, has to his credit a second symphony, a violin concerto, choral music, a sonata for two violins and piano, a sonatina, and an opera. Others active in the war years were Stanisław Wiechowicz who wrote a string quartet and numerous choral compositions, Adam Wieniawski, Witold Lutosławski (a symphony and piano etudes), Grażyna Bacewicz, Kisielewski (a cycle of preludes and fugues for piano are noteworthy among his numerous war compositions).

Of the youngest generation of composers who attracted special attention were Andrzej Panufnik (an excellent "Tragic Overture," two symphonies), Zbigniew Turcki (a fine string quartet) and the young Poznan musician Roman Padlewski, whose string quartet created a great sensation and augured a fine future that was cancelled by his heroic death in the defense of the Old City during the Warsaw Uprising. There were also many composers who began to create only during the war. Among these were Żuławski and the author of this sketch.

Interestingly enough, all composers turned away from the musical styles in vogue before the war. They rejected radical experiments, in a sense even going back to romanticism. At the same time, they kept aloof from

"timely" themes, preferring not to translate the events of daily life into music.

I shall confine myself to listing only the new names among the performers. It was only natural that café concert conditions should enable singers to rise to the fore. The heroic tenor Finze, sopranos Lachet and Rudzka, the dramatic soprano Calma, the basso-baritone Bułat-Mironowicz, the young coloratura Mickiewicz and the talented Edward Bender, who died in the Warsaw Uprising, are names that will be remembered.

Among pianists who enjoyed the greatest fame were unusually gifted Andrzej Wąsowski and brilliant Jan Ekier. Sztompka, so popular before the war, withdrew from concert activity for the duration of the war, working quietly to better his art. A unique team was formed by pianists Panufnik, who also excelled as a conductor, and Lutosławski, who worked up their own repertoire and achieved their own fine style. Under the occupation also, Eugenia Umińska formed a Quartet of premier Polish artists. When Umińska had to go into hiding, her place was taken by Irena Dubiska. Trzonka, another member of the original Quartet, was shot in a street execution.

(—Condensed translation of an article in *Horyzonty*, a monthly published in Switzerland. January and February 1946.)

"PATRIOTISM IS FREEDOM"

(Continued from page 3)

When you are here among us, the stones and ruins of Warsaw destroyed by the enemies speak to us, the graves of the dead heroes call for justice for Poland. They are the graves of those who have laid down their lives so that the nation might live, as Abraham Lincoln said eighty-two and a half years ago on the famous battlefield of Gettysburg. From the debris and graves our thoughts wander to our brethren who fought in the capital, to the epic of unparalleled heroism and sacrifice, when under your leadership the Home Army, together with the population, women, children and old men, went into combat. It is not my task to paint in your presence, General Bor, a picture of that struggle the course of which we tried to follow from here, from this distant land, feverishly grasping the tragic news and by a painful effort of the imagination creating for ourselves a picture of the events.

I am perhaps restrained from a more detailed, more plastic presentation of those events by the subconscious fear of an overpowering emotion in evoking the picture of the collective holocaust, and by the instinctive dread of bitter pain at the memory of how the Polish Winkeliers who buried the enemy's spears in their breasts to open for Poland a path to freedom, were later, after the defeat of the enemy against whom they fought, calumniated and hunted. But I am most strongly impelled to be reserved in my words by the consciousness that a man who followed the struggle from a distance, from beyond the ocean, should not dwell upon it in the presence of a man who led that struggle and devoted his soul to it. Therefore, I only render to you, General Bor, a

tribute of admiration, gratitude and love, for those immortal fighters who had undertaken the dreadful fight.

In the words of Shakespeare, the rest is silence.

I belong to a generation that, like the generation of our romantic poets, traces its birth to our grave. Children of the grave, we lived to see the dawn of resurrection less than thirty years ago. Now evil powers endeavor to extinguish the light of our morning star. But the enslavement of the Polish nation would be in the present period of history not only a reproach to the world, but a verdict of doom for the international system and organization whose advent was predicted and is constantly proclaimed by the world democracies and whose ruin would constitute a capital, an irreparable defeat of all democracies. When before long the hour of reckoning among nations and of deciding the future of the world for many years will come, the broad ribbon of Polish blood shed in this war will unwind before the nations as a bloody reproach, as a command of conscience and reason and as a grim warning.

General Bor, together with the fighters whom you led into combat, you form a new historical link, still hot from the fire of recent battles, in the thousand year long chain of our nation's struggle for existence and for a role in the world. I see behind you a procession of the shadows of our leaders who for centuries have personified Poland's eternal courage and eternal sacrifice. And before you, in the mist of the future, I see the soldier of tomorrow who will take his position on the ruins of old Warsaw and will pay a soldierly, heartfelt homage to the heroes who died there. In the soul of that soldier of immortal Poland your name will be engraved.

We salute you, General Bor.

TO SECRETARY OF STATE JAMES F. BYRNES

(Continued from page 5)

2) The so-called Warsaw government has not fulfilled the conditions upon which it was recognized. It was this failure to abide by its pledges that prompted the U. S. to withhold credits to Poland. We urge you, therefore, to take into consideration the necessity for the withdrawal of American recognition from the Warsaw puppet government, and the restoration of diplomatic status to the legal Polish government now in exile in London, until the Polish people, through honest and unfettered elections held under strict allied control, can freely express themselves as to their choice of a new constitutional government.

3) We call upon you to prevail upon the English government to suspend the proposed demobilization of the Polish army units until conditions, both in Europe and Poland, will enable them to return to a free and democratic Poland.

4) In the event that England carries out its threat of demobilization, the homeless Polish soldiers are entitled to our help if only in consideration of the services rendered by them to the common cause of freedom. In view of America's responsibility for the debacle at Yalta, which put these Polish heroes in the awkward position they are, our country should either offer them a temporary haven or else permit them to serve as a complete Polish unit in occupied Europe under the flag of the United States.

5) The Yalta decisions, made without the knowledge or consent of Congress or the American people and in direct contradiction to the constitution of the United States, are not binding upon the U. S. government. The American constitution grants no one the right to sell friendly nations into slavery or to give away other peoples' lands.

6) Moreover, the Soviet Union's failure to live up to all the pledges of Yalta frees the U. S. from any legal or moral obligation to abide by them. It is a maxim of law that the failure to perform any part of an agreement automatically vitiates the entire agreement.

7) The repudiation of the Yalta commitments, followed by the institution of remedial measures, would be the first constructive step towards the restoration of Allied Europe to its pre-war status.

8) The moral and political recovery of Europe depends upon the elimination of aggression where it began—in Poland.

9) In the interest of world peace, we urge you to press openly and vigorously for the immediate removal of Soviet troops, puppet governments and secret police from Poland and all Soviet occupied countries.

10) No nation, no matter how big, should be exempt from obedience to moral laws.

—Charles Rozmarek, President,
Polish American Congress

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