

FREE POLAND

A SEMI-MONTHLY

The Truth About Poland and Her People

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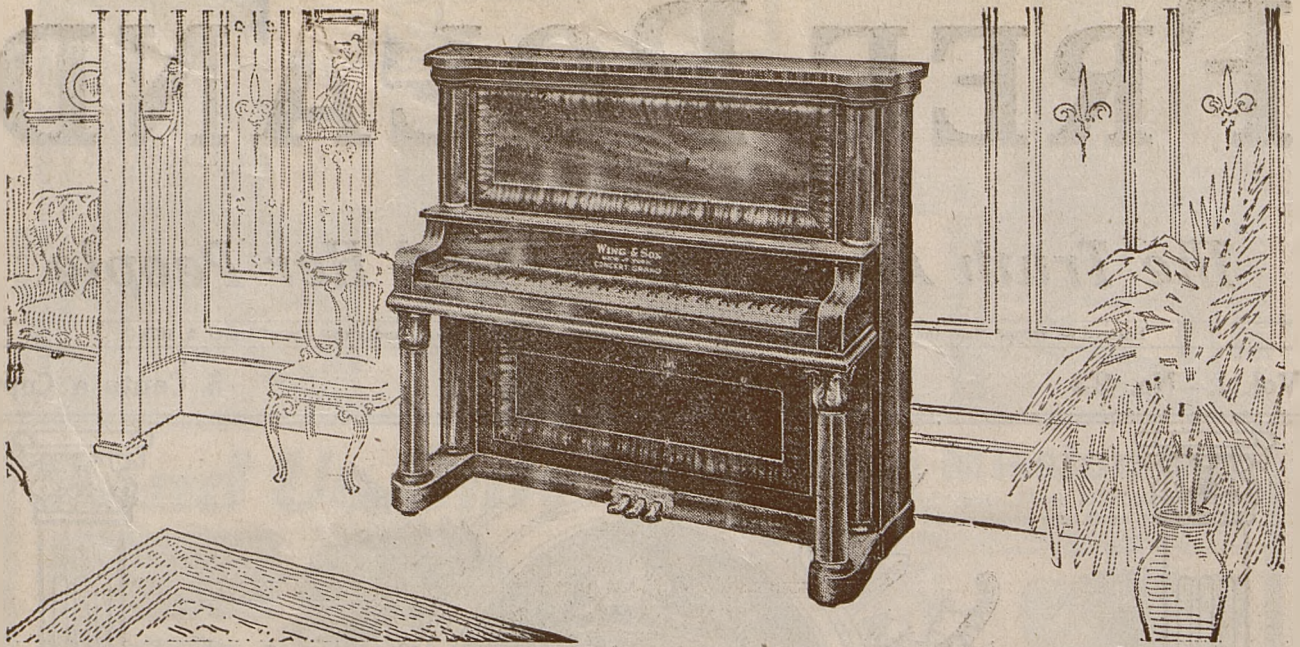
Vol. I.—No. 23

AUGUST 16, 1915

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Gruenwald

By CASIMIR GONSKI

(Written for the MILWAUKEE SENTINEL, July 17, 1910 on occasion of the 500 Anniversary of the Gruenwald Victory.)

UPON A PLAIN, between the villages of Tannenberg and Gruenwald in eastern Prussia, on a Tuesday, the fifteenth day of July, five hundred years ago, there was fought an epoch making battle. The Knights of the Cross with the flower of Germany's knighthood on the one side and the united Polish and Lithuanian armies on the other, were the opposing forces and they numbered about 70,000. Ulrich von Jungingen, grand master of the Knights of the Cross, and Vladyslav Jagiello (pronounced Yagiello), king of Poland, were their respective commanders. The Poles fought for the preservation and integrity of their kingdom and against the aggressive and rapacious policies of the order, as the knights were called, which owed its power and wealth largely to the generosity of Polish princes who some 200 years prior had asked the order to come to Poland to convert to Christianity the pagan Prussians. The order fought for its own aggrandizement, and supported by the knighthood of the "Holy Roman Empire of German Nationality"—for the progress and prevalence of German ideas in a Slavonic country.

And it is the 500th anniversary of the victory of Gruenwald which is being commemorated this week throughout the world wherever there lives a descendant of the victorious nation.

The Order of the Knights of the Cross, or Deutscher Ritterorden, originated in the year 1190, during the third crusade. It was primarily a field hospital organization composed of clerical and lay members and formed for the purpose of bringing succor to wounded and invalided German crusaders. It was founded by the inhabitants of the cities of Luebeck and Bremen. Soon after, Frederic, a Suanian prince, changed the monasterial character of the organization into a military one, patterned after the Knights Templar and the Johanniters. After the siege of the city of Acre (Ptolemais) the young organization built its first church, hospital and monastery in that city. The new order found favor in the eyes of Pope Celestine who granted to it self-government and placed its possessions under papal protectorate. Outwardly the knights were distinguished by a white mantle with a black cross over the left shoulder, from which they derived the appellation, the Knights of the Cross (Kreuzritter). They took the usual vows of chastity, poverty and obedience & their main purpose was the propaganda of Christianity with the sword. Such being the laudable reason d'etre of the new order,

it rapidly acquired power and wealth by liberal grants in southern Germany and northern Italy. Princes and emperors, bishops and popes vied with each other to bestow their substantial favors upon this pious, chivalrous and Christian organization. That its noble vows and pledges later on merely served as a mantle for its evil deeds, and that its sole object later on was the achievement of limitless power and wealth, to be gained by the basest means, if necessary—history has recorded with red letters.

After the crusades had run their course, such results as had been derived from them were in the power of the Knights Templar and Johanniters, and the Knights of the Cross found themselves without a real field of activity as far as concerned the sword propaganda of Christianity. Therefore, it was welcome news to them when Andreas, king of Hungary, invited him into his domain which had been invaded by pagan tribes. The order gained a foothold in southern Transylvania and here began to plant, not so much the seed of Christianity as that of its own future greatness. It colonized its settlements with Germans to the exclusion of Andreas' subjects; it took by conquest surrounding territory and built fortifications and castles therein. In the disputes which arose between the king and the order, to be arbitrated by Rome, the Knights of the Cross availed themselves of land grants of questionable origin under which they claimed the conquered territory. King Andreas abandoned arbitration, gathered his army and drove the knights from his domain (1220).

Conrad of Masovia, a Polish prince, was responsible for the coming of the knights to Poland. For some years past Poland had made an effort to Christianize the pagan Prussians by methods similar to those employed at the present time—peaceful, where possible; forcible when necessary. Frequently the Prussians showed their displeasure at both methods, and made bloody incursions into Poland, devastating with a cruel hand. The Prussian lands, represented to-day by a part of Pomerania, eastern and western Prussia, were fertile, opened the Baltic sea, and, altogether, constituted a most desirable acquisition for Poland. It was, therefore, both a spiritual and a worldly reason which induced Conrad of Masovia to invite the knights into Poland.

It may be said in passing that the Prussians were of Slavonic origin, and not, as is commonly understood, of Teutonic. The Germanic character of Prussia was creat-

ed by the conquests and settlements of the Knights of the Cross and the Germanizing influences of that order. In 1226 the knights settled in Poland in the territory of Chelmno, on the Vistula. They undertook the conversion of the Prussians in a rigorous manner, devastated the country, put thousands of its inhabitants to the sword, established German settlements and claimed the conquered territory as their own. But soon they showed no compunction about annexing Polish territory in large slices, and when disputes arose Rome was appealed to by the knights, who, as a holy order, had a partial judge in the pope. In these disputes the knights employed any means to gain a favorable decision, forged grants and foreclosure of loans being most frequently resorted to. They had now gained a strong foothold in Poland, and, enlarging upon their Transylvania policies, pushed their projects to the utmost. Thousands of Germans were brought into their settlements for colonization, many castles were built and fortifications laid out at strategic points; cities rose and commerce flourished. But the Prussians were a valiant nation, and they did not submit peacefully to the Germanizing process, which was being executed with fearful cruelty. Again and again they rose in desperate resistance, and at times sorely pressed the knights, who then implored and received armed assistance from Polish princes. But within sixty years Prussia had been completely subdued, more than half of her inhabitants exterminated in warfare and her territory laid waste to be upbuilt in accordance with the plans of the order which was now the overlord of all Prussian domain. Magnificent castles and splendidly fortified cities had been erected. Marienburg, Elbing, Thorn, Koenigsberg owed their existence to the knights, and to-day the ruins of their castles picturesquely grace many hill-tops in eastern Prussia.

Prussia had been conquered, and the order began to look for new worlds. In the beginning of the fourteenth century the knights invaded Lithuania, which was to the east of the conquered Prussian territory. The subduing of Lithuania did not progress rapidly; while the knights had acquired some Lithuanian lands and had taken some fortified Lithuanian cities, a rapid conquest of the whole territory and a conversion of the Lithuanians to Christianity would not have been in accordance with the policy of the order, as that would leave it without further fields for sword propaganda. But the position of the knights was now beyond assail; the humble friars who had performed samaritan services for the crusaders had now become (thanks to Poland's tolerance and generosity, and, not infrequently, to her lack of power or foresight and caution) a most powerful order, spiritual in name and in its avowed purposes, but militant in its policies and cruel in its deeds. So strongly had the knights become entrenched and so conscious were they of their power that they now raised their arms against their benefactress—Poland. In 1309, under the reign of the Grand Master Siegfried von Feuchtwangen, the order seized Pomerania, the sur-Baltic territory immediately west of the Vistula and an integral part of Poland. King Vladyslaw, the "Elbowed", was powerless to retake Pomerania, and his claim was submitted to the arbitration of the pope. By this time the land grabbing proclivities of the order had become well known in Rome, and the court of arbitration appointed by Pope John XXII, made an award completely sustaining the Polish king in his claims and ordering the knights to return to Pomerania and to pay an indemnity. The knights utterly ignored the award and ridiculed the ban issued against them by the pope. Actual hostilities soon began; the knights invaded Poland with fire and sword. The holy

order now carried warfare into Christian territory, killed defenseless Christians, women and children, and destroyed Christian temples. In September, 1331, the Polish army under King Vladyslaw administered a crushing defeat to the knights at the battle of Plowce, but Poland could not follow up the advantage thus gained, and the defeat checked the knights but temporarily. They continued to annex Polish territory, to invade her domain and to carry death to her inhabitants. Again, a papal court of arbitration, convened by Pope Benedict XII, ordered the return to Poland of all territory taken from her and the payment of a heavy indemnity, and again the knights disregarded the award.

It would reach beyond the limits of a newspaper article to follow even superficially the history of the order in its relation to Poland, but enough has been told to show the causes which generated a most intense hatred of the Poles toward the Order. The knights had reached the summit of their power under Grand Master Winrich von Kniprode (died 1382). They possessed fertile lands, thriving cities, more than 20,000 villages, a splendid army, hundreds of strongly fortified castles and even a fleet of eighty ships manned by 5,000 mariners. Poland was practically powerless to repel or even check their advance. Ludwig, the Polish king, was a Hungarian and the fate of Poland concerned him little. But after his death Jadwiga (pronounced Yadwiga), his second daughter, became queen of Poland, and her savior, too. Renouncing the love which was in her heart, the beautiful young queen accepted the suit of the Lithuanian prince, Jagiello, on condition of the union of Lithuania with Poland and the conversion of Jagiello and his people to Christianity. Both countries had suffered cruelly from the knights and in the alliance retribution was to come. The order saw the danger and sought to minimize it by frequent incursions into Poland and Lithuania and by creating dissension between Polish and Lithuanian princes, seeking to gain by their internal strife. But it became evident that the hour of reckoning was approaching. War was inevitable. The knights were fully prepared; King Jagiello hastened the mobilization of the Polish and Lithuanian armies. In 1409 the knights sent an embassy to Jagiello, haughtily inquiring whether he would keep neutrality in their war with his brother Witold, regent of Lithuania. The answer may be easily imagined and Grand Master Ulrich von Jungingen promptly declared war on Poland. An armistice suspended hostilities till June, 1410, and the intervening time witnessed thorough preparations for the final struggle.

The armies of Poland and Lithuania reached the vicinity of Gruenwald and Tannenberg in the early morning of July 15, 1410, and went into camp, deploying in the woods which fringed the plain; the Knights of the Cross were supposed to approach in a southerly direction from their capital, Marienburg. Jagiello was attending divine service when the first of the Polish outposts brought the news: "The knights are coming." Jagiello suffered no interruption of the service but the armies fell into battle formation, remaining where possible under the shelter of the woods. Fifty-one Polish standards were ready and eager for the bugle call. (A standard represented a military unit, such as a squadron, gathered under the banner which bore the coat of arms of the commanding knight, who by oath of fealty was bound to furnish the king with a certain number of armed retainers at his own expense.) The standards vied with each other in perfection of armament and magnificence of accoutrement. Costly armours resplendent in the sun, shields with richly wrought es-cutcheons, vivid colors breaking from hundreds of stand-

ards of more than fifty different designs; and all this splendor and physical prowess mounted on magnificent charges, themselves armorclad and proudly bearing. Prior to that morning there never was gathered a more splendid army of courageous knighthood than the Polish army. The Lithuanian army had forty-one standards, somewhat inferior physically and in outward splendor to the Polish army.

And of all this vast military host there was only one who gladly would have seen the sword sheathed and the lances put away, and that, strange to say, was its commander, King Jagiello himself. His tender heart recoiled at the thought of the fearful slaughter about to ensue; again and again his eyes filled with tears when he seemed to see the flood of Christian blood about to be shed.

Not more than an arrow's flight to the west stood the German army in battle array. And a worthy foe. The knightly flower of western Europe was assembled under the black and white banner of Grand Master Ulrich von Jungingen. Spain, Portugal, France, Italy, Belgium, Flanders, England and all parts of Germany and the holy Roman empire had armorclad representatives. There they stood mounted on their powerful armored horse, an animated steel wall. Above them towered a forest of lances from which fluttered multi-colored streamers. Grand Master Ulrich, scanning the vast armies bound on each other's destruction, now also realized the terrible responsibility and the impending fate; for a while he was fully unmanned. But he quickly controlled himself and dispatched two heralds to King Jagiello, sending him two naked swords and the following sarcastic message: "The grand master sends to his majesty and to his brother these swords to inspire them with greater courage than they have so far shown. He also offers to withdraw his army somewhat to give room to yours, which seems to be hiding in the bushes." Jagiello replied modestly, that "while there was an abundance of swords in his camp he would keep these, too. That divine providence would determine both the place of the battle and its result."

As soon as the heralds rejoined their army King Jagiello gave the command for battle. The Lithuanians, composing the right wing, were the first to go to the attack. Mounted on small horses lightly, if at all armored, they were a quickly moving body, but hardly a match for the ponderous knights who now came thundering down the plain with lances leveled. Like chaff before a hurricane, so broke the Lithuanians before this avalanche of iron men and horses. Vainly tried Witold to stem the tide of utter route; the whole Lithuanian army was practically at once eliminated; only the three standards of Sandomir valiantly stood their ground and played an important part in the battle. Meanwhile more standards had advanced toward each other and soon the armies were locked so closely that the struggle became a question of individual bravery and strength. And here the advantage was with the Poles, who fought for the preservation of their native soil and national ideas. The army of the knights, recruited from "aller Herren Laender", was not welded by one thought. Some were adventurers lured by the promise of loot; some had come with the expectation that their swords were to be drawn against barbarians and now they beheld a Christian knighthood which equaled them in splendor and surpassed them in strength. And the Order

fought for what it always contended—aggrandizement and Germanization.

Slowly the German lines began to yield; toward the afternoon their position was nearly a mile westward to that which they occupied at the beginning of the battle. And now they broke into a disorganized flight with the Poles in pursuit. Who did not surrender was put to the sword. About 22,000 of the German army remained on the blood drenched battle field; nearly an equal number was taken prisoner. Eight thousand Poles and Lithuanians were the price of the glorious victory' Grand Master Ulrich and almost every German commander of note was slain. King Jagiello, instead of pressing an obvious advantage to take the enemy's capital, Marienburg, which now lay open, practically undefended, remained on the battle-field for more than three days. The prisoners were listed according to their ranks, the dead were given a Christian burial. Funeral services were held and the body of Grand Master Ulrich, together with the other German notables, were given all due honors and sent to Marienburg under military escort at the command of the king. One wonders whether Ulrich, had he been victorious, would have displayed such Christian virtues and forbearance as were shown by the noble king who but a few years ago had been a pagan. The mantle of Christianity has often covered deeply hued sins in the history of nations.

The power of the Order was broken. True, the Order remained in possession of the greater part of its territory; a state of war existed between Poland and the Order in 1414 and again in 1454, lasting for twelve years. But the knights never gave an open battle to the Polish army; they contended themselves with incursions into Poland, pillage and plunder. As soon as the Polish army gathered, they withdrew to their fortifications and invoked all the known powers to protect them against the wrath of the Poles who, unfortunately, were diverted from taking just retribution now by the pleas of the German emperor, then again by the intervention of the pope. But the conquered territory of Prussia would not tolerate the government of the knights any longer, and in 1454 an embassy sent by the Prussians to King Casimir Jagiello at Cracow implored him for his protectorate over all territories conquered by the Knights of the Cross and offered him the oath of fealty of the Prussians. Thus Prussia came voluntarily under the protective wing of Poland. But the knights were not to surrender so easily; for sixteen years they kept up their resistance to the Polish protectorate until in the year 1466 their Grand Master Ludwig von Erlichshausen appeared before King Casimir in Thorn and in the hoary garb of a common friar knelt before the king and begged for peace. And this was the end of the Knights of the Cross. Their territory, with the exception of a small portion of eastern Prussia with the city of Koenigsberg, was incorporated into Poland. In 1525 the Knights of the Cross embraced Protestantism, their former Grand Master Albrecht took the oath of fealty before the Polish King Zygmunt I, who generously granted the right of succession of the regency to Albrecht and his heirs of the house of Ansbach-Brandenburg.

Three centuries had elapsed from the coming of the Knights of the Cross into Poland, and, at last, had Poland gathered the fruit of the victory at Gruenwald.

Justice for Catholic Poland

From church bell to cannon is the transformation the bell of St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna will soon undergo. A cable dispatch states that the Pope has granted to the Archbishop of Vienna the necessary authorization to have it melted for the purpose of manufacturing munitions of war. The bell, which bears on it the date of 1711, weighs two hundred tons. One hundred and eighty-nine cannon captured from the Turks over two hundred years ago furnished material out of which the great bell was made. The Turks in 1683 had swept everything before them and were encamped under the walls of the capital of Austria. It seemed only a question of time when the Turkish banners would float in triumph over what appeared to be a doomed city.

All Christendom stood aghast, as the capture of Vienna would mean the removal of the main defense that was holding in check the onward rush of the invading Turkish hordes. A Turkish victory would be the prelude to the inundation of the plains of Europe by the followers of Mahomet. Such was the situation when Sobieski with his brave Poles came to the rescue. Polish valor saved Europe from Turkish domination. Europe later on showed its appreciation of this great service to Christianity and civilization by standing by unmoved while the Fatherland of Sobieski was divided up between its enemies who, acting on the principle that might makes right, despoiled the Poles of their country.

It was a witty Frenchman who sarcastically defined gratitude as "a lively sense of favors to come." Poland in the days of her strength, had been Europe's buckler

against the Turk; Poland, in the time of her weakness, could not count on Europe's gratitude for past services because she had no favors to bestow upon those who would come to her rescue, and so she was left to her fate. But though crushed to earth she did not give over her fight for her stolen rights. She has remained ever true to her God and to herself. A Catholic nation, she has been sustained in her long fight by the conviction that her righteous claims, in God's own time, would be vindicated.

"Truth forever on the scaffold,
Wrung forever on the throne;
Yet that scaffold sways the future,
And behind the dim unknown
Standeth God, within the shadow,
Keeping watch above His own."

And now as the great bell of Vienna's Cathedral, the material of which was furnished by the victory of Sobieski and his brave Poles, is about to be reconverted into cannon, the dawn of Poland's freedom is beginning to break. The robber nations that ruthlessly despoiled her are considering the need of conciliating her good will. They are moved to do this, not by any sense of justice, but by purely selfish motives. Catholics of all nationalities should rejoice with their Polish fellow-Catholics on the brighter prospect that is opening up before one of the most Catholic countries in Europe. It will be indeed a signal triumph for justice if the country that once saved Europe from Turkish thralldom, should emerge from the present European conflict with her national rights once more restored to her.



Poles in the Russian, German and Austrian Armies

There is no exact knowledge of the number of Poles serving in the armies of the Three Powers among whom Poland is divided, but in spite of the absence of reliable statistics a fair estimate may be obtained by comparison of and deduction from such figures as are published.

Thus in Prussia (taking the figures of 1912) the Poles represented ten per cent of the population. In 1910 Prussia furnished the German army with 167,780 soldiers, and in 1911 with 170,707 — a total of 338,487, of whom 33,848 (or ten per cent) were Poles; besides those serving in other German states, or in the Navy, which would bring the number of Poles up to 40,000.

These figures are confirmed by the statistics regarding the supply of recruits. The German Empire provided 54.3 per cent of recruits in 1911, 53 per cent in 1910, and 53.6 per cent in 1909; while of the Provinces inhabited mainly by Poles, Eastern Prussia provided 63 per cent, and 61.4 per cent in the same years; and Posnania 53.5 per cent, 52.7 per cent and 53.8; while in Silesia alone were the figures so low as 48.9 per cent, 47.8 per cent and 49.8 per cent. On a peace footing then the Poles furnished 40,000 soldiers out of a total in 1912 of 656,144 or a proportion of 6.01 per cent. In time of war they furnished 111,142 men out of a total of 1,822,000.

In Austria the proportion of Poles is greater still. The Austrian army in time of peace numbers about 590 thousand men all told, and the Polish proportion is at least equal to that of the other nationalities, although the

Poles in Austria (and there are 4,967,987) compose only ten per cent of the population. Thus the army contains 59,000 Poles in peace, and 82,000 (out of 820,000) in time of war.

With regard to Russia, owing to the utter absence of reliable information the exact figures cannot be given. However in 1900, out of a total population of about 125 millions the Poles numbered 12 millions — or little less than ten per cent — according even to the official statistics whose inaccuracy is generally to the detriment of the Poles. But the proportion of Poles in the Russian army is at least ten per cent, and a great number of Poles are serving in the Navy. On a peace footing the Russian army numbers 1,200,000, of whom 120,000 are Poles; while in war-time the number is 4 million, of whom 400,000 are Poles.

The Poles serving in the armies of the Three Powers, then, are as follows:—

	Peace	War
GERMANY	40,000	111,000
AUSTRIAN EMPIRE	59,000	82,000
RUSSIAN "	120,000	400,000
TOTAL	239,000	594,000

Thus the Polish army in time of peace is equal to that of Great Britain, and in time of war to that of France (before the new military laws became effective).

From a Friendly Outsider

"FREE POLAND", issue of July 16, contains the surprising statement: "Perhaps it is to be deplored that we receive so few pro-German articles, which as has been seen, we are only too willing to publish." No pro-German reader, from the matter contained in "Free Poland" so far, would ever suppose a willingness on its part to receive anything based on a German solution of independent Poland or on a chance of a German victory in the present war. Almost the only article of that kind published was one written by myself and purposely based on the supposition that Germany would very likely lose in the war, for fear that the article would be rejected otherwise.

I have considered the very outsided and short-sighted attitude of many educated Poles in regard to the prospects of Germany in this war as very unfortunate for the Polish cause, and doubly unfortunate in a periodical that seeks to promote a Free Poland. As far as regards the final victory of the Teutons in this war, there should have been no doubt long ago, and there is no doubt in nine-tenths of the Germans of the whole world, and especially not in the United States. The reason is first of all the consciousness of their own indomitable spirit, both as to intelligence and as to will-power when once roused, and also on the facts of their past history of two thousand years, but especially on the developments of the war facts of the past year. To discuss a Free Poland without supposing an overwhelming victory of the German race in this war is mere bunk and vain illusion. When American-Poles once begin to figure on establishing the autonomy of Poland in spite of or with the help of a victorious Germany and Austria, then and then only will they leave the vast fields of extravagant castle-building, which, to some extent, has been the cause of both the division of Poland and of their many failures to re-establish their autonomy. They have been fooled by the poets of England, whose statesmen laughed in their sleeves at the discrepancy between sentimental effusions of their poets and the tightfisted commercialism of English world policy. They were fooled by Napoleon and the French republicans, who inveigled 100,000 brave Poles to fight for them and sneeringly resubdivided the conquered Polish territory according to their whim, instead of establishing a Polish kingdom as they had solemnly promised. They trusted over and over again the promise of greater freedom issued by the Russian Czars, only to find that Russian freedom is worse than former Russian slavery, and that autonomy in Russia meant scarcely anything more than the freedom from being governed by men of

their own nationality and freedom to barter their faith and their language. As for America, what has it ever done for Poland outside of accepting Pulaski's services? On the other hand, if they have not in the past been promised any autonomy by Prussia nor been allowed complete freedom of the national language and customs, they have shared in the general education and advance in material welfare, freedom of religion, in education and security of the laws, which have advanced farther in the German empire than in any country of the earth. The German peoples, outside of Prussia, moreover have exhibited just as friendly a feeling as any other, though until now they have not made vain promises, simply because the Germans will not promise except with the intention of complete fulfillment. In Austria, likewise, the Poles fared incomparably better, so that without any vain sentimentalism of poets, blustering sympathy of designing diplomats, or condescending promises of tyrants, they have attained practical autonomy in Galicia for years.

I say, then, why have the Poles now for 150 years based their hopes and aspirations rather upon the illusive and loudmouthed expressions of sympathy of England, France and Russia, than upon the more reticent, but by far more reliable sympathy of the central empire, especially since 1870, when it gradually became evident that Germany would surely take its seat among the world powers? I consider it a great misfortune for the Polish nation that even now, when events crowd one another to show that Germany will be supreme in Europe, the Poles will let their policy be dictated by feelings, and not by the cold and hard facts. Often in heated arguments, I have heard educated Poles exclaim that they will accept of no favors coming from Germany and would refuse autonomy if it can come no other way than through the aid of Germany. Is this Polish patriotism? Then it is of a kind that spells absolute failure. Allied to it is the spirit of the American Poles, of American Polish newspapers, and in a covered way, of even Free Poland, which you know I hailed and subscribed to from the beginning, entirely in sympathy with the object for which it claims to be established. By many discussions, often repeated, I have succeeded in tempering somewhat the feeling of hatred against the German cause in many of my friends — but not at all to the extent that seems right and warranted by facts.

Rev. GEO. J. BLATTER.

Russian Revenues from the Kingdom of Poland

Numerous pacifist theories contend that an organized European Power cannot derive pecuniary benefit from conquered territory, and some go so far as to state that such acquired possessions even cost the conquerors dearly. To prove the opposite it is only necessary to examine the financial relations between Poland and Russia. At the outset it is apparent that the Imperial Treasury received considerable revenue from the kingdom of Poland of which no portion ever returned to that country. This net benefit amounted during the years 1905-1911 to the large sum of 300 millions or rubles (more than \$150,000,000) and for 1911 alone this revenue amounted to 103,583,303 rubles (about \$51,000,000.)

The Polish population in 1911 was 7.5 per cent of that of the whole Russian Empire, and in 1905 only 7.3

per cent. However the Poles were forced to pay no less than 27.9 per cent of the Imperial taxes — a proportion over three times as great as that of their population. To take an example, the Imperial taxes in 1911 realized 69,626,290 rubles, of which the Poles paid 16,169,636 rubles — or 25.7 per cent.

On the other hand the productive expenditure (as distinguished from expenditure on national defence, etc.) is much smaller in Poland than in the rest of the Russian Empire. In 1905 national expenditure in Poland amounted to no more than 4 per cent of the total, or 190 kopecks per inhabitant, when in other provinces the expenditure amounted to 357 kopecks per head. In 1911 this expenditure was 4.7 per cent of the total, and the relative sums per inhabitant were 246 kopecks in Poland and 411 kopecks in other provinces.

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F. J. MEDWECKI, Chairman	FRANK S. BARC
CHARLES WACHTEL,	REV. FELIX LADON
JOHN SKIBINSKI, Editor	MAX DRZYMAŁA
THOMAS T. LASECKI	CASIMIR GONSKI.
STANISŁAW OSADA	

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To Editors and Publishers

The Polish Question is a timely one throughout the world. The contents of this publication will furnish, we hope, adequate material for use at opportune moments.

The Fall of Warsaw

Expression of either joy or regret over the fall of Warsaw is premature. The Polish capital simply passes from the hands of one enemy into those of another.

Dispatches from Europe have caused a dozen representatives of the largest Polish organizations as well as of the Polish press of Chicago to issue the following formal statement:

In view of statements which appeared in the press to the effect that Chicago Poles rejoice over the fall of Warsaw, and in view of unauthorized statements and conflicting reports with regard to the future of Poland, we, the representatives of the largest Polish organizations as well as the Polish press in Chicago, desire to give public utterance to the thoughts and feelings which fill our minds and hearts at a time so momentous and pregnant in events.

An expression of either joy or regret by the Poles of Chicago over the passing of the capital of Poland from the hands of one enemy into those of another would be, to say the least, premature.

We realize that the capital of Poland has for a hundred years been under the rule of a ruthless matter. We realize also that, along with the capital, its surrounding territory has suffered the most terrible ravages of war. We are aware that this capital, in the face of constant repression and persecution, has maintained to a high degree the standard of Polish nationality and culture.

It now has passed from the dominion of one ruler, undoubtedly culturally inferior, under the rule of another who claims superiority of culture, but which the Poles at no time admitted and at this time are loath to admit.

It has been manifest for a century past that Warsaw under the despotic rule of the Muscovite has remained a Polish city. It also is manifest that ancient Polish cities like Breslau and Danzig, under Prussian dominion, though enjoying a high standard of economic welfare, have almost been Prussianized. Furthermore, Posen, the ancient capital of Great Poland, the latest Polish acquisition of Prussia, barely saved half of its Polish population, while the fertile plains of the western part of Posen have through expatriation and special anti-Polish legislative measures, almost entirely passed out of Polish hands. It is obvious that Warsaw, like the rest of Poland, shall suffer immeasurably from the ravages of a war which she neither sought nor countenanced.

Is it to be expected that the horror of destruction and devastation which has laid bare two-thirds of Polish territory shall also be visited upon Warsaw?

We realize that unto the end of this unfortunate conflict Polish towns, villages, cities and farms will be destroyed and the Polish population ruthlessly slaughtered.

Therefore, why rejoice, why anticipate doubtful fulfillment of vague and indefinite promises, unsupported by authoritative enactment?

The fall of Warsaw is another link in the endless chain of misery, persecution and national calamity engulfing the innocent Polish people for the last 150 years.

When those who dismembered Poland, robbed her of her heritage and used every means to exterminate her people shall have made restitution, when wrongs shall have been righted, when Warsaw becomes the capital of a free and independent Poland, when the last footprint of the invaders shall have disappeared, then will come the time for the Chicago Poles to rejoice with their brethren across the sea.

P. ROSTENKOWSKI, Pres. of the Polish R. C. Union.
Mrs. A. NEUMANN, Pres. of the Polish Women's All.
H. SETMAJER, Represent. of the Polish Falcon's All.
S. ORPISZEWSKI, Editor of the Polish Weekly Zgoda.
F. S. BARC, Editor of Narod Polski.
ST. SZWAJKART, Editor of the Polish Daily News.
CAS. ZYCHLINSKI, Pres. of the Polish National All.
P. LIGMAN, President of the Polish National Council.
J. F. SMULSKI, Treas. of the Polish Central Comm.
W. J. ANDRZEJEWSKI, Sec. of the Pol. Military All.
J. J. CHRZANOWSKI, Editor of the Polish Nat. Daily.
J. PRZYPRAWA, Editor of the Polish Daily Zgoda.
J. S. SKIBINSKI, Editor of "Free Poland."

In these Days of Sorrow

In the Rt. Rev. Edward Kozłowski, Bishop Auxiliary of Milwaukee, we lose one of the warmest and staunchest supporters of the Polish National Council and of its publication—FREE POLAND.

Bishop Kozłowski (b. Nov. 21, 1860, d. August 7, 1915) was a deeply religious man and ardent patriot. Of him it can truly be said that he "taught us to behold some glimpse of God where all before was cold."

He worked noiselessly and unobtrusively for the welfare of his countrymen; he worshiped God with a strong, steady masculine piety; he, therefore, worked out his salvation. The good he did will live after him and inspire us to a greater faith in Polish hopes and aspirations. Overcome with grief and disconsolate in our sorrow, we say: May he rest in peace.

The Geographical Center of Europe



WARSAW is the geographical center of Europe. In view of its recent capture, perhaps it will interest the reader to recall Louis E. Van Norman's description of Warsaw.

Of this famous Polish capital he says:

"WARSAWA!"—shouted the guard at half-past nine one evening in August as we steamed into a beautiful white city, splendidly lit by electricity and gridironed closely by tram lines. "Are all large Russian cities as handsome as this?" I asked my seat companion, a gentleman whose French was Parisian,—or Slavonic, for all Slavs speak nearly perfect French. He looked at me in surprise. "This is not Russia", he said; "this is Poland." And there you have the matter, after nearly two centuries of the "benevolent assimilation" of Pan-Slavism. Warsaw is Poland, and Russia is a foreign country, off at a distance. Approaching Warsaw from the Vistula, one may see where the city has built its defenses,—toward the East. Thence came the enemy the Mongol, the Russian. Moscow is Russia, Kiev is Russia. Odessa and St. Petersburg are Europe. But Warsaw is not in Russia; it is in Poland. The government on the Neva may designate "Krolestwo Polskie", the old kingdom of Poland, as the governments of the Vistula, and deny that the Poles exist as a national force, but this same government finds it necessary to keep ready a garrison of 200,000 troops to overawe a city of 900,000 people, and, somehow, the guns of the citadel are turned, not toward the German frontiers, the only point from which a foreign enemy could be expected to come, but toward the streets and shops of the third most populous town of the Empire. Poland does not exist officially, but it is, if dead, certainly a very lively corpse.

If you draw a circle about the entire continent you will find that the former Polish capital is the geographical centre of Europe. It is now one of the busiest, liveliest of European cities, and it is destined in the future to become one of the great world-centres of population. The completion of the Trans-Siberian Railroad bring Asia to the very door of Europe, and Warsaw is that door.

The newly constructed line ends at Moscow, but Warsaw is the real Western terminus. Moscow, more than half Asiatic, belongs to an Eastern, Byzantine civilization. Warsaw is Latin, Occidental, the first really great European city on the steel arteries of trade that throb between Berlin and Vienna, St. Petersburg and Moscow. She is a great manufacturing centre. Her factories supply all of Russia. She is the Birmingham and Sheffield of the Empire. All the articles de Paris, all the "galanterie" and goods "made in Germany" bought in Russia come from Warsaw. Moreover, she is now making a bid for the trade of the Far East. She makes sugar, leather, cotton, wool, iron, gold and silverware, and shoes for the rest of the continent. She sends more than a half million dollars' worth of beet sugar alone every year to America.

The outlying neighbor of Warsaw, Lodz, known as the Polish Manchester, is fast gaining on its English rival. This great manufacturing centre, which stepped from the rank of village to that of city in two decades, has thousands of spindles which turn out cotton for the world. The wool comes on cars from north of Samarkand—what Americans know as Siberia. Almost all of Lodz's half million people help turn it into useful fabrics for the Tsar's empire. The industrial and commercial impulse that has characterized the Russia of the present is, perhaps, nowhere more strikingly evident than in what was the old

kingdom of Poland, and particularly in Warsaw, still the capital, the head of the race, as Cracow is the heart. Warsaw helps distribute the overland trade from the East. In her shops, whose clerks speak Polish, Russian, French and German, and sometimes English, is every variety of product direct from the Orient.

There are many traditions concerning the origin of Warsaw. One of the oldest is the account which says that, in the year 1108, a Bohemian family of the name of Varsofski, suspected of treason to its king, was banished from Bohemia. It settled on the banks of the River Vistula, and the growth of centuries has made of its little settlement the city of Warsaw. On the north shore of the Vistula, is the original seat of this family, now a suburb of Warsaw, and known as Praga, in memory of the Bohemian capital Prague. Then the princes of Mazovia took possession of the growing town, and when the last of this Mazovian line died, Zygmunt, the Polish king, made Warsaw his fortified residence.

There is something in Warsaw that seems familiar to the traveller that knows western Europe—at first he is at a loss to say just what. Then it comes back—the touch of Paris, the light gaiety and pleasure-seeking, the beautiful parks and splendid drives, the fine theatres and seemingly inexhaustible capacity of the people for amusement — almost all that makes Paris — is characteristic also of Warsaw. But Warsaw has, in addition, a 'flavor all her own.

How much these Poles have suffered and are suffering day by day! The old royal palace is weighted down with tragic, agonizing memories. On the great balcony, to the right of where the Russian sentinel now treads day and night, Stanislaw Poniatowski, the last Polish king, looked out upon the square along the Vistula and saw the Marshall Suwarow slaughter 14,000 Poles. Here, in 1863, 50,000 Russians camped and made "order" by firing with cannon on men and women who knelt in the snow and sang the national hymn. I tried to enter and look over this palace, but found it so full of Russian soldiers that visiting was exceedingly difficult, even with an official pass. On coming out of the court-yard I found my way across the square barred. A Russian army corps, including 4,000 Cossacks and the famous mounted infantry regiment organized by Alexander III., was returning from a review preparatory to leaving for the seat of war in the East. The force of man carried an 18-foot lance resembling one of the celebrated Cromwellian pikes, a short sword with a wicked, half-Turkish crook to the blade, a long carbine, and the cruel Cossack whip, the most terrible of the four.

The detachment stopped directly in front of the monument in the palace square to the Polish king, Zygmunt. This column, says the inscription on its base, was erected to the memory of Zygmunt III, by his son Wladyslaw IV. In Zygmunt's reign, the inscription says further, Moscow was captured by the Poles and Prince Wladyslaw proclaimed Tsar of Muscovy. The inscription does not refer to the fact, but all this reminds one that Philaret, the father of the first Romanov, was carried a prisoner to Poland and kept there for nine years, for refusing to acknowledge Wladyslaw as king. It was significant to recall this fact again when, standing in the Red Square, in front of the Kremlin, in Moscow, I read beneath the great group of statuary in its centre:

"To the memory of the Aristocrat and the Peasant who, in 1613, saved Russia from the Poles."

The Cossacks halted right beneath this Zygmunt column, and the humble citizen of the latter-day Warsaw stepped nervously aside. So history mutates.

To thoroughly enjoy Warsaw, understand it, and appreciate it, one must enjoy good music, understand good painting and good acting, and be able to appreciate fine public gardens, splendid horsemanship, good eating, and— and beautiful women. The subtle, cultured taste of the Poles is especially conspicuous in Warsaw in all of these; in the music they hear, the painting and drama they see, the parks and horses they enjoy, and the fascinating women who make their seats and drawing-rooms so alluring.

One of the gayest corners of Warsaw is the Krakowskie Przedmieście — the Suburb of Cracow Street—in front of the Hotel de Europe. Most of the Churches, newspaper offices, and public buildings of the city are located on this busy thoroughfare. At night it is a blaze of light and a whirl of life and motion. Hundreds of cabs dart about—and in Warsaw the cocher drives as swiftly and recklessly as the swallow flies—and the elegantly dressed throng passes and repasses. The street is literally lined with *cukiernias*—those attractive little tea and cake houses which were originally an exclusively Italian institution, but brought into Poland during the Italian immigration. There the Varsovian sits and sips his glass of tea and munches his bit of cake, while he skims the latest newspaper from Paris, London, Berlin. The *cukiernia* is to him what the cafe is to the Parisian, and more than the beer-garden is to the German.

There is a nervous quickness about the Pole, a staccato nimbleness of spirit, which makes him again resemble the Frenchman. He is exceedingly fond on light and sociability, and these little tea-houses which line the streets of Warsaw are immensely popular with him. They are scarcely second to his home.

*

Warsaw is more than a city of music and musicians. Every Varsovian is a musical connoisseur. Warsaw has been the home of Paderewski, Sliwinski, and the Reszkes. Its conservatory is world-famous.

The Poles are born actors. Even after Vienna, Berlin and Paris, one can find new beauties and harmonies on the Warsaw stage. This stage is the place to see artistically perfect dancing. The polonez, the mazur, and the *krakowiak*, the three national Polish dances, are the race in epitome. The polonez gives the color, ceremony, politeness, grace, suppleness and rhythm of the Polish lady and gentleman. It is the aristocracy personified. The mazur gives the agility, suppleness, almost recklessness, and, withal, the gallantry of the *szlachta*, or landed gentry. The *krakowiak* shows the quick, gusty, passionate alterations between passivity and wild abandon, so characteristic of the Polish peasant. The music seems to be part and parcel, bone and sinew, of the dance itself, and the color of the costumes is picturesquely and artistically perfect.

The art impulse of the past twenty-five years that has resulted in the appearance of a distinctively Polish school of painting, looks to Warsaw as the home of many of its imitators.

The Sienkiewicz house, in Spolna street, has long been the shrine of literary Poland. Warsaw has been the home of Alexander Glowacki (better known by his nom de plume of "Boleslaw Prus"), who has been captivating Germany by his classical novels; of Waclaw Sieroszewski, the Polish Pierre Loti; of Maryan Gawalewicz, author and editor of the *Kuryer Warszawski*, and of Eliza Orzeszko, author of "The Argonauts", recently translated into English.

The Lubomirskis, Potockis, Zamoyiskis, and Radziwills,

the oldest and most aristocratic families of Poland, each has a representative in philanthropic and educational work in the city.

The Poles think very highly of their physicians, and justly. The medical profession is unusually well represented in all advancement and public enterprise in Poland. One of the best known presidents of the Warsaw Society of Fine Arts, which numbers more than 5,000 members, was a physician, Dr. Karol Benni. It was a physician, Dr. Chalubiński, who founded the great Polish health resort, Zakopane, in the Carpathian Mountains. Dr. Jordan, who established the unique park for children in Cracow, which bears his name, was a citizen of the widest reputation. Dr. Jakubowski, at one time Rector of the Cracow University, founded a hospital for poor children irrespective of their religion.

*

Two details of the vast scheme of the Russian government to minify the evils of intemperance are worked out very picturesquely in Warsaw. Local temperance committees supervise a popular theatre and a "Sociological park", supported by government subsidy. The theatre gives performances for merely nominal prices—the maximum being sixty kopecks, about thirty cents.

Here to the accompaniment of an excellent orchestra, popular plays are given every night in the year, all with temperance morals. The writer attended one performance. The hall was crowded with intelligent-looking, fairly, well dressed people of the peasant and lower bourgeois class. The play rendered was simply another variety of the old story. The husband, led away by jovial companions, spends all his money for drink, even the little hoard the hard-working mother has laid aside for her sick child. The child is finally taken to a hospital, where the parents cannot see it. Through the intervention and good offices of a kind, temperance gentleman, the husband reforms, the child is restored to its parents, and every one is happy. Of course, all the scenery and accessories are Russian (or Polish), and the people see before them a bit of their own life, with its consequences. The acting is excellent, and the audience in complete sympathy with the performance. The state official who is in charge of these plays declared to me that they are growing in popularity every year, and that a decided change for goods is to be noted since they were begun. These plays are now given in Polish, but occasionally a Russian play is presented. The radical Polish party fear that these performances will be used to further the Russification process. Consequently the local support is not as strong as it might be.

In Praga, one of the suburbs, the Sunday entertainment is perhaps, unique in the world. The day I visited the park there were between 32,000 and 33,000 people enjoying its amusements. The entrance fee is ten kopecks (about five American cents), and for this sum one has the privilege of every feature the park presents—music, side shows, theatres, merry-go-rounds, swings, and a number of games especially arranged for the little ones. All sorts of cakes and fruit are vended, as well as a large variety of soft drinks, red lemonade, "pop," etc. But not a drop of alcoholic liquor is allowed.

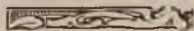
It is an interesting sight to the student of sociology to walk about the well-kept paths. There are no "keep off the grass" signs in this park. All the Slav love of color, music, and pleasure can be seen on every hand. There are eight dancing pavilions, where the stout, healthy, rosy-cheeked peasant girls dance the Polish dances. One may see soldiers in white uniforms and great black top-boots

whirling around, often two heavy fellows embracing each other and fairly beaming with delight. At the accented note of the music, all stamp vigorously on the wooden floor, with a resounding noise. Acrobatic shows, Punch and Judy pavilions, "post-office", games whereby, for the extra sum of three kopecks, the peasant lad may address a card to an unknown girl, and, in the course of an hour, be regularly presented to his partner for the evening's festivities; fireworks, a kitchen spotlessly clean where, for a merely nominal sum, you can get an excellent meal—these and other features make an afternoon spent in the park exceedingly interesting. The very little ones have sections devoted to them exclusively, where they play games, sing songs, make sand-cakes, according to model—all under the direction of a trained kindergartner. The

parents must see that the youngsters are clean and presentable; must bring them and come for them when the exercises are over.

Two thousand children, of twelve years or under, were playing in the park on that Sunday. An efficient fire department and ambulance service complete the equipment of the park. These two features—the theatre and the park—cost the government \$750,000 in one year.

This picture of the old Polish capital is the one I prefer to have remain in my memory—rather than that showing the great seething centre of industrial and social revolt which, during the past two years, has suffered so much bloody, vicarious agony for Russia's misadventure in the Far East.



Historical Poland

HISTORY demonstrates these well known facts: that Poland was the bulwark of Christendom; that her efforts repulsed the Tartarean and Mussulmanic invasions of western Europe; that Sobieski's sword prevented the annihilation of Christianity; that for five centuries Poland struggled with the Teutons until at Grunwald the Teutonic Order (Knights of the Cross) was dealt a crushing blow; and finally, that by impeding the Mongolian incursions Poland successfully protected Europe's western culture and civilization. Here it may not be amiss to recall that the present Prussia, as a state, owes its existence to Poland; because it was at Cracow that the first Kurfuerst of Prussia took the oath of fealty and begged protection of Sigismund I, the reigning King of Poland.

The historical mission of Poland in the past was an arduous task requiring continuous effusions of her life's blood and, when at the walls of Vienna, she terminated that mission her spirit of devotion began to wane and the sacrifice of the nation began to decline. The nobility started a strife for dignities and additional privileges at the cost of the welfare and to the detriment of the nation and all its lower classes. This continued until the French Revolution awakened the conscience of the nation and its nobility, in the "Four Year Diet", renounced their rights and privileges and adopted a modern constitution with a system of government that placed Poland in the ranks of the leading republics. Her neighbors, however, could not endure the improvement and, then and there, conspired against her and planned Poland's dismemberment and subjugation. Thrice this operation was performed and thrice the nobility, in conjunction with the commons arose in active protest until forced to yield by the superior power.

The congress of Vienna returned a particle of this territory, and conferred upon it the pompous title of "Kingdom of Poland" and, as an additional mockery, vested the sovereign power of king in the Czar, who from the outset, conceived the design of destroying the Kingdom, at the first opportunity, and of annexing the remaining of Poland's territory to his Empire.

Since then, a century of tortures have passed; the roads to Siberia have been strewed with the bones of thousands upon thousands of sufferers time and time again; the chains and shackles that bound our noblest sons, if linked end to end, would girdle the earth at its greatest

circumference. Prussia has oppressed us with a bitterness unsurpassed; millions of marks were appropriated to wrest from us our lands; our children were scourged and their parents fined and persecuted because they prayed to the Almighty in their own language. Austria, for a long time debased and depraved the Polish soul until the depravity, in 1846, bore the desired fruit in the massacre of the nobles in Galicia.

In spite of these trials and tribulations, in spite of the fact that the means of culture and education were denied us and our commerce hampered and destroyed at every opportunity, we still live, continue developing nationally and numerically and serve civilization in all the various fields of activity. Such names as: Mrs. Curie Sklodowska, the scientist of France; Minkowski and Salkowski, the chemists; Laskowski, the anatomist of Geneva; Nencki, the bacteriologist of Berne; Jurosz, the laryngologist of Heidelberg; Kowalski, the mathematician of Upsala; John Sniadecki, the astronomer and mathematician of European fame (1756-1830) and his brother, Andrew, the chemist, physiologist and physician (1788-1838); Gumplowicz, Ostrorog, and Majewski, the sociologists; (Baudouin de Courtenay), the linguist; Trentowski, Cieszkowski, Struve and Lutoslawski, philosophers—the latter, the greatest living authority and commentator of Plato; Lelwel, the historian—whose service to universal history and geography, especially of the ancient world, are recognized by all the European schools; "Michellet" Aszkenezazy, the historian of Lemberg; Kraszewski, the novelist and historian; Glowacki "Prus", the author of "Pharaoh"; Sienkiewicz, the widely known author of romance, and historical novels; Joseph Conrad (Korzeniowski) one of England's foremost novelists; Mickiewicz, Slowacki, Krasinski, Wyspianski and Konopnicka the poets; Modrzejewska (Modjeska), the famous Shakespearean actress; Matejko, Semiradzki, Kowalski, Brand and Zmurko, the painters; Chopin, Moniuszko, Wieniawski, and Paderewski the musicians; and many, many other representatives of the world of art and science, who carried and still carry the beacon light of knowledge the world over; as well as a Fahrenheit, Kant, Nietzsche, Freitag, Hauptmann, Sudermann, Przewalski, Korolenko and others whom Germany, Austria or Russia claim as their own, who, however, were either of Polish descent or were born on Polish soil.

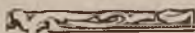
These names prove that Poland, though in bondage, has not ceased in the work of civilization and that she

still is the Poland of Copernicus and his classmate, Martin Olkusz, the author of the Gregorian calendar; of Brudzewski, the mathematician, astronomer and teacher of Copernicus; of Vitellio-Ciolek, the first who, in the beginning of the 13th century, investigated the theory of light; of Strus "Struthius", the first investigator of the action of the pulse, who was called to Spain to save the life of Phillip II, and to Turkey to attend Sulliman II; of the poets Janicki (1516-1543), Sarbiewski "Sarbevius" (1595-1640) and Szymonowicz "Simonides" (1559-1629) crowned by the popes Paul, Urban and Clements respectively. Their Latin poems secured them lasting fame throughout Europe and were read—as Sarbiewski—in the English schools and models of classic literature.

Every generation of the nation since its dismemberment paid its quota of blood as a tribute to freedom's cause. The civilized world looked upon these titanic exertions with amazement and sympathy, but none had the courage to compel the proper spheres to take up the "Polish Question" until now. Europe's equilibrium was patched and repatched; disarmament and peace conferences met; the peaceful development of civilization was hamper-

ed and all because this question was scrupulously evaded. For fifty years an ominous silence prevailed. People hesitated even to utter the name of Poland, fearing to incur the displeasure of the plunderers. Men wanted to believe that the Poles had vanished and that Poland ceased to exist; when . . . lo, there came a day of reckoning, the usurpers or Poland are at each others throats and up . . . bobs the "Polish Question", brought forth before the forum of the world by the despoilers themselves, as a very urgent proposition. Right and left the Poles are swamped with promises first by one then the other. Be neutral, if you do not want to help me—says one—and you shall have freedom; take up my cause—says the other—and I shall rebuild the kingdom of your forefathers. Advocates galore discuss the questions from every angle. The Pole, however, remains quiet and chains his fortune to neither chariot, with the exception of sporadic outbursts here and there. A century of alien culture has fashioned and moulded his soul and such must be its harvest.

(From the Memorial of the Alliance of Polish Gymnastic Societies.)



Medicine in Poland

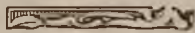
In spite of the greatest obstacles and difficulties the pursuit of medical science in Poland grows steadily year by year, in fulfillment of its early traditions. The year 1914 will be the 550th anniversary of the foundation of a medical faculty at the University of Cracow. Two factors have helped to hinder the progress of the practice of medicine in Poland:—the fact that the country is divided up among the three neighboring Powers; and the difficulties raised by both the Prussian and Russian governments. The suppression of the general school and the Russification of the Warsaw University deprived both student and scientist of opportunities to study or develop the science, hence the reason for such noted scientists as Nencki and Teichman conducting their research in exile. Consequently there are only about 2,000 Polish doctors among 12 million Poles, or 1 doctor to 13,500 inhabitants; while in France the proportion is 1 do 2,000. In Austrian Poland conditions are far more favorable, and there are 2 facul-

ties of medicine in Cracow and Lemberg, each with a teaching body of 100 and about 550 students.

The most important events in the medical annals of Poland are the periodical Congresses, of which the chief is known as the Congress of Polish Naturalists and Medical Men, which was founded in 1869 and is held every two years. Other congresses are held by specialists in the various branches of medical research.

There are 21 medical associations in Russian Poland; in Austrian Poland, besides the medical department of the State Academy of Science, there is a large Medical Association with 24 provincial sections, and 14 professional associations; whilst in Prussian Poland there are only two.

24 papers and periodicals are published in Poland in the interests of the medical profession, with a total circulation of about 30,000. In the year 1909, no less than 1,077 treatises on medicine were published; in 1910 there were 1,516; and in 1911, 1,533.



The Commerce of Russian Poland

English trade with Russian Poland developed considerably of late years, and English manufacturers found in that country a ready market for their products, especially in steel and iron. In exchange Poland grew tremendous quantities of corn, and this together with pork, bacon and dairy produce she exported in increasing quantities to England. Financial journals published confident reports of the stability of the Polish trade, statistics proving that the kingdom of Poland, for credit and solvability was one of the most staple of the provinces of the Russian Empire.

During September and October of last year, for example, Poland came eighth in a comparison of bankruptcies and liabilities, having experienced only 21 fail-

ures, with liabilities amounting to no more than 1,459,000 rubles (\$725,000 while the number of failures in the province of Southern Russia was 192, and the liabilities amounted to 7,413,000 rubles (\$3,700,000) and even in the wealthy districts around Moscow there were 32 failures, with liabilities of 4,092,000 (over \$2,000,000.)

The fact is significant that 24 per cent of the industry of European Russia is maintained by Poland, with her 10,953 factories employing more than 400,000 workmen and producing annually commodities to the value of 90 million pounds.

These figures are all the more remarkable since the population of Poland was only 10.3 per cent of that of European Russia.

Wiesław

(Continued from FREE POLAND, No. 22.)

Forgetting all—all e'en the tears they poured
In solitude,—while at a stranger's board
The daughter sits. O no! I long had dreamed
Of bliss to come,—and sweet and bright it seemed
To think her mother, when death's curtain fell
Upon my silent grave, in peace should dwell
In her own cottage;—but 't was vain to build
Such visions;—Be the will of Heaven fulfilled!
Go—with my blessing, Wiesław—go; let John
Escort thee, counsel thee;—Heaven's will be done!
Go to thy loved one's dwelling. If the maid
And the maid's friends consent love's wreaths to braid,
Thou bring her hither;—John thy guide**) shall be
And she be welcomed when betrothed to thee."

IV.

So John and Wiesław left their home at length:
And Wiesław, sped by love and youthful strength,
Flew o'er the mountains, through the fields and dells,
And reached the dwelling where the maiden dwells;
While thus beneath her window, where they stood,
Their strains of music on her ear intrude:

"The beds are covered with flowerets sweet,
And rue and rosemary bloom in pride;
A garland lies in the window-seat,
And a maid walks forth to be a bride.

"A youth from a distant land will come,
And soon to the maiden's parents speak;
The daughter will pluck the flowers that bloom,
And swiftly another mother seek.

"O rosemary! wear they gems of blue,
And garland once more the maiden's brow;
And wake again, thou emerald rue,
For none shall water thy springing now.

"The cottage is neat, though poor it be,
The blessing of God beams bright care,
The magpie cries on the old elm tree,
And the maid in her morning robes is there.

"Awake and open!—the guests draw nigh,
O welcome them in a day like this;
Receive the stangers cordially,
They come to shed and to share in bliss!

The mother from her spindle rose, and drew
The bolt,—the creaking door wide open flew;
Old John and youthful Wiesław entered then,—
Wiesław of giant height and noble mien,
Whose head reached e'en the ceiling. Jadwicz said,
"Welcome, our guests! Sit down and rest, and spread
The news ye bring." Next came the bright-eyed maid
Blushing, yet bending like a flower that's weighed

**) Among the peasantry in Poland it is customary for the young man who ask a maid in marriage to take the most venerable of his friends to plead for him. He is called the Swat. The ceremony of betrothing follows, and rings are pledged in exchange.

By heavy dews John hailed her: "Maiden, stay!
Those rosy cheeks an old man's toils shall pay."
Then she blushed deeper, and from Wiesław took
His traveling-basket, and his traveling-crook
From the good sire:—she drew the settle near,
And bid them rest, while whispering in her ear
Jadwicz gave speedy orders: "Light the hearth,
Prepare the meal." While with a smile of mirth
The old man said, "I would not now transgress
The customs of our fathers,—I confess
I love old usages;—so with your leave,
And ye will lend your goblets, and receive
A draught from our own flagon, I will pledge
My landlady, for wine gives wit its edge;
It cheers and it emboldens; tears the veil
That hides the heart, and bids us see and feel:
And, as when children in the crystal brook
Upon their own, their very image look,—
So the red wine's the mirror where we see
Our very souls. The honey-gathering bee
Is a bright emblem of our cares; he goes
Busy o'er all-providing earth, and shows
What order, care and zeal can do:—in spring,
From fragrant flowers and orchards blossoming
To his hire brothers bears the gathered stores:
So in his maiden's lap the fond youth pours
His passions, his affections.. How sincere
Is the pure offering of a villager,
Who offers honest, ardent love! The bee
Its emblem,—labor,—concord,—purity!"
The mother reached the goblets. John's discourse
Delighted all; for in it shone the force
Of a clear intellect, which God had given.
He had bound many ties, and had made even
Many strange odds:—at every wedding feast
He was the starost, and of course the guest;
And hundred children called him "Father"; he
Called every happy home his family;—
And he was always welcome. Now he took
The goblet in his hand, and o'er it shook
The liquid honey. "Take it, gentle maid!
It grew in distant fields," he smiling said:
"Take it, for thou deservest all that's sweet
And beautiful in life." Her glances meet
Her mother's eye, and with averted look
Neath her white apron hid, the maiden took
One solitary drop. The rest old John
Drank to the dregs;—while like a summer dawn
That brightens into light with flushing hue,
The maiden stood; and all the old man anew
Thus said: "The maiden's silence speaks; and now
I'll turn me to her mother:—Wayward youth,
Both blind and passionate wants our guide; in truth
It cannot penetrate futurity,
But hangs on love, and trusts to destiny.
Let's lead them then,—they wander far astray;
We'll take their hands, and guide them on their way,
And watch their happiness,—foresee, control
Their path; and God, who watches o'er the whole,
Will turn all ill to good.

(To be continued)

Relief Work in Detroit

A princely donation, which is estimated at \$250,000 to \$1,000,000, was raised in one day by the Polish-Americans of the entire country, as one contribution to the relief of the afflicted people of Poland, the battle-ground of the Russians and the Germans.

The amount was raised by every man and woman setting aside his earnings for July 15. a great patriotic day for all Poles. The sum thus consecrated has not yet been collected, the ingathering has only begun. In Detroit the amount collected in one day amounted to \$1,400.

The sum of \$250,000 contributed from the daily income of a single nationality among Americans proves how strong a racial spirit still lives in the people of Kościuszko.

It shows another thing that is more striking now that the Germans and the Russians are battling for the possession of Warsaw.

While some Poles are hoping for Polish freedom if Germany triumphs, others are hoping for free Poland if Russia triumphs. But a large number are attending first of all to the cry of Paderewski, Sienkiewicz, Mme. Sembrich and other leaders; that what Poland needs most of all is food and clothing and shelter for the millions of dwellers in the old land who are the chief sufferers in the war of the empires.

The 4,000,000 Polish-descended people of America are naturally watching with pathetic interest the movement of the armies. But while a German advance rouses jubilation among some of these 4,000,000, a Russian gain causes others to rejoice. A large number also held a bitter neutrality between Germany and Austria and Russia, since Austria and Prussia and Russia were all partitioners of the ancient kingdom.

It is the supporters of the Austrian Polish legion that will rejoice if the Germans take Warsaw. Now there are Poles in America as well as in Europe whose sympathies are with Russia. Their hopes are not so much based on Russia's promises as on what they hope England and Italy and France may induce Russia to concede to Poland if the allies win.

The literature circulated among Poles, from Europe and America, draws this contrast between what Russia has promised and what Germany has promised:

The Grand Duke Nicholas, uncle to the Czar, declared early in the war that if Russia triumphed all the ancient Polish provinces now under Russia, Germany and Austria would be united in one kingdom with the czar as suzerain, and "under the protectorate of the allies."

The new Poland would reach from the Niemen to the Bug river. It would include the Polish-inhabited provinces of Russia, also those of Galicia, Upper Silesia, West Prussia and East Prussia.

A shadow forecasting of what the Germanic allies might do if they triumph has been made, as follows:

Germany would create out of Russian Poland a new kingdom of Warsawian Poland, with a younger son of the Hohenzollern house on the throne.

The promises made by the pro-Russian Poles are greater than the hopes advanced by the pro-German Poles. But the third party among Polish-Americans holds fast to a rather embittered neutrality, declaring that nothing should satisfy Poland but a free and independent nation, ruling over all provinces where the Poles number 60 per cent of the population.

The Germanic element among the Polish-Americans declare a free Poland is inevitable if the kaiser conquers Russian Poland, Germany will need this "buffer state." On the other hand, the Poles who express hope from the allies do not build so much on Russia as on the other powers.

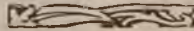
"This was declared by Great Britain and France to be a war on behalf of small nations," said one of them. "The first small nation to benefit if the allies win should be Poland. We Poles cannot hope much from any of the powers that once partitioned us, if those powers are left to themselves.

"What we do hope is that the influence of England, France and Italy will compel Russia to keep the promise of Grand Duke Nicholas. That is why we differ from those Poles who in perfect good faith are siding with Germany.

Thus the sentiment among Polish-Americans duplicates the sentiment abroad, and anyone who talks with leading Poles in Detroit can get a clearer view of how the Polish people are divided and distracted in Europe. For example, there is a volunteer legion in Austria's army, fighting for the cause of Poland. And there is a volunteer Polish legion in the French army, fighting for the cause of Poland.

The Poles cannot agree on the future because of the sufferings of the past. But they can agree on the claims of widows and orphans, and the \$250,000 raised in one day will outshine and outlive the disputes of factions. —

C. D. CAMERON.



The Attitude of the Poles

The Poles can hardly be called a "small nation". There are at least 20,000,000 of them in Europe. This statement may be verified by reference to the proper sources.

But the assertion which brings us most harm is the one that we sympathize with the Teutons in the present war. This is absolutely false. Poles cannot and will not sympathize with any of their enemies, who have partitioned their native country, deprived them of their independ-

ence and for more than hundred years tried to exterminate them nationally.

The Poles in the United States are neutral. In Europe it is true they are fighting under Russian, German or Austrian colors, but it cannot be said truthfully that their sympathies are with the Teutons. They are fighting for their enemies against their will.

STANISLAW OSADA.

\$1000⁰⁰ = A MONTH



This man, Rev. Otto Schulze, of Missouri, says: "Sales increasing. Made 7 sales in 8 calls. Sent 4th order yesterday for 50 Tubs." SALES \$1600 TO DATE. Minister of the Gospel, without previous experience, makes this record.

Ambitious, Honest Men Wanted At Once. I Need 500 Sales Agents Who Want to Make from \$50 to \$250 a Week. Experience Not Necessary.

I want square men to act as my Special Sales Representatives in every county. I want hustling, energetic, ambitious fellows, anxious to make big money, who are willing to work with me. I want to show YOU how to MAKE BIG PROFITS EVERY MONTH. I want to show YOU how to make more money, easier, quicker, more sure and certain than you ever did before in all your life. I want you to advertise, sell and appoint local agents for the most sensational seller in 50 years—the startling invention that has set the entire country agog—THE ROBINSON FOLDING BATH TUB—I want you to handle your County. I'll furnish demonstrating tub on a liberal basis. I'm positive, yes, I'm absolutely certain that you can make bigger money in a week with me than you ever made in a month before. Hustlers, east, west, north, south, are simply coining money. Orders, orders everywhere. For, remember, fully 70 per cent of the people have no bathrooms. You can take the orders right and left. Quick sales and immense profits. Stop and realize the tremendous possibilities. Look around you. Be amazed. Your neighbors, friends, relatives, have no bathrooms. They are eager for one; never had the opportunity to install one. You step in; show the tub. Sales made, profit sure.

Sensational Sales Success!

What others are doing YOU can do. Read these records: N. T. Smith, Ohio, \$90 weekly profit. Meyers, Wis., \$250 first month. Beasley, Nebr., \$35 profit first 4 hours. Newton, Calif., \$60 in 3 days. Mathias, Fla., \$120 in 2 days. Corrigan, N. Y., \$114 in 60 hours. C. H. Tremour, Ind., \$35 profit first 6 hours. W. F. Hincard, New Mexico, \$35 in 2 days. Average men, average sales, average towns. Undeniable Proof of the Big Money to be made by the hustlers everywhere. The Robinson Tub is badly wanted and eagerly bought.

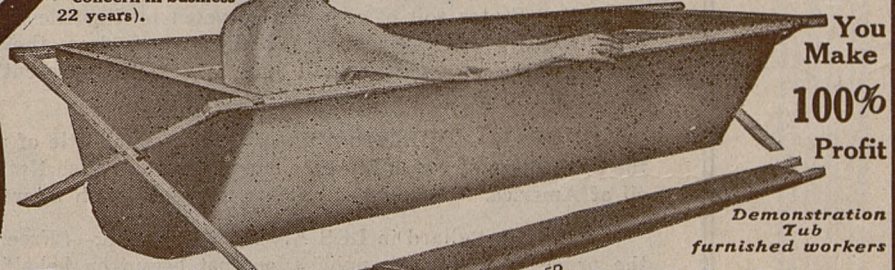
A Folding Bath Tub for Every Home
No home barred—for the rich and the poor; for all homes without modern bathing facilities—Here is an absolutely new invention. Nothing else like it. Has taken the entire country by storm. Solves the bathing problem. Gives every home a modern, up-to-date bathroom in any part of the house. No plumbing, no waterworks needed. Take full length baths in any room; up stairs, down stairs, bed-room, sick-room, parlor, kitchen, any room in the house. The Robinson tub folds in small roll, handy as an umbrella. Rivals expensive bathroom. Constructed of the wonderful "Steeline" material. I tell you, it's GREAT! Remember it is needed in every home. Means modern bathing facilities for all the people. A godsend to humanity.

Guaranteed for 10 Years
(Manufactured by old established concern in business 22 years).



This is the Robinson Folding Bath Tub that is bringing cleanliness, health and happiness to thousands of homes—and thousands of dollars in profits to the lucky men who control exclusive territory. Write for your county TODAY.

You Make 100% Profit



Demonstration Tub furnished workers

SEE how it folds in a roll. Takes up less space than an ironing board.

Dan Burkholder of Montana, says: "Was out 4½ days this week and sold \$393.50 worth. Sold 3 this afternoon. Enclosed find check for 48 tubs. Ship 50 more next week." Orders \$1072 worth in 17 days. What Burkholder is doing you can do!



This is Chancy—A Hustler. Sold \$4,000 worth of our goods in 5 weeks. No, he's not a genius, not a wizard-worker, not a "miracle man." Just an everyday American like you and me—but a hustler from his head to his toes. He started just as you will start. What he has done you can do.

Join Robinson's Army of Money-Making Agents—Get Exclusive Sales Rights on the Famous Folding Bath Tub

Yes, join the many agents who are making bigger money than they ever did before. You don't need to quit your regular job right now. Try the business out evenings, Saturday afternoons, whenever you have a little spare time. See that all I tell you is so. Then quit your job. Say good-bye to the time-clock; say good-bye to grinding work and meagre pay. I know after one week of spare time effort, you will be eager to devote all your time to my splendid proposition. You will be enthused, positively amazed at your wonderful success.

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If I could only see you and tell you all the facts about this wonderful business: if I could only lay before you undeniable proof—stacks of letters and orders on my desk; if I could personally show you enthusiastic letters from Robinson Representatives—Hesitate! Why, man, you wouldn't hesitate for the thousandth part of a second. You would drop everything, your job, your other business like a "hot potato" and say "Robinson, I'm with you." If you really want to get into a big money-making business, get into communication with me at once.

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Opinion of the Press

BOSTON GLOBE:—One of the most significant events in Polish history since “freedom shrieked when Kościuszko fell” is the issue on United States soil of a journal devoted by its title and program to a “Free Poland”. The new periodical comes from the Polish National Council of America, and may be said to represent the views of thoughtful Poles in all parts of the world.

BUFFALO COURIER:—“Free Poland” is the title of a periodical the publication of which has been started by the Polish National Council of America. The current number is replete with interest.

Walter J. Ballard in **LOS ANGELES TIMES**:—“Free Poland” is the proper title for the publication just begun on behalf of Poland and her people because they should aim at nothing less than the highest, even if they resort to arms to realize it at once after they have been accorded the rights and the privileges promised by the Russian Emperor.

ROCHESTER DEMOCRAT AND CHRONICLE:—Of the numerous partisan publications that have appeared since the beginning of the war, quite the most interesting and ably edited is a semi-monthly periodical called **FREE POLAND**. The articles in it are free from bombast, and two or three of them are first-rate literature. **FREE POLAND** presents interesting facts which are probably unknown to, or forgotten by a large number of Americans.

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