

THE WARSAW WEEKLY

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No. 13

EASTER GREETINGS TO ALL OUR READERS

THE DREAM OF THE HOLY VIRGIN

by Marian Gawalewicz

Sorrows and, wringing her hands, she kept looking up at her Son. The only thing she saw was His lowered head in the thorny crown

like bats blinded in the sun, the envoys of Hell darted back and forth in the air with despair and rage, losing their sight and unable

seize the Lord Saviour's soul, sitting just above His holy and inviolable head. The Lord Jesus raised His eyes for the last time,

The Father-God sent a dream to the Holy Virgin, a dreadful, prophetic dream, in which He showed her the Passion of His only Son, beginning with His fainting in the garden of Gethsemane and ending with His crucifixion on Golgotha.

She saw Him caught, betrayed by Judas, and, bound with cords, taken before the judges; she saw a crown of thorns put on His head; she saw Him tied to a stone pillar and buffeted, mocked and condemned to death. The sorrowful Mother saw for herself the most cruel tortures, when His side was stabbed with a spear and when from the wound flowed blood with water, a sign of bodily death. Later she saw the dead and mangled body taken of the cross, and she touched it with her hands, clasping it to her bosom just as when Jesus had been her little Baby, when His hands and His feet were not pierced with nails. His brow not crowned with thorns, and His side not deeply stabbed.

Then she heard a sweet and tender voice:

"Mother, art Thou asleep?" The dream had vanished and she, there at her side stood her Son, alive, asking her what she had dreamt about.

"Of Thy Passion and Thy Death, my Jesus," she answered. "The prophets foretold it and I was written long ago, so that now everything shall be fulfilled, in testimony to God and truth, my beloved Mother," He said.

Everything did come to pass as it had been foretold; and the Saviour's innocent blood was spilt to wash away the sins of the world.

Under the cross on Golgotha stood the Mother of the Seven



J. Unerzyński

The descent from the Cross

and His eyes drawn with the veil of death, and His blue lips, trembling with a beseeching whisper for His executioners:

"Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do."

She did not see that, when the Lord Jesus was dying, nailed to the cross, a whole army of devils flew from Hell; they circled like a black cloud over the cross to snatch by force by Lucifer's command God's soul and drag it as a captive to the Prince of Darkness.

The devils surrounded the cross and watched for Christ's last breath, but God's power punished their audacity with blindness;

to see the soul of the Lord Jesus. Blinded, they broke their wings against the arms of the cross and fell down into the infernal pit, like moths burnt with flame, rolling and howling at Lucifer's feet:

"We see Him not! We see nothing! He blinded us!"

At that, Lucifer himself, angry, raging, furious, unfolded his wings, bent his talons, flew to Golgotha, and, having risen above Christ's cross, dared to stop on its summit, like a hawk lying in wait for its prey.

He shook with rage and infernal hatred; he ground his talons together and panted with lust to

sighed, and called to the Father-God:

"Father, into Thy hands I commend my spirit."

Lucifer, meeting the Lord Jesus' dying look, went blind, just as his boldest envoys had formerly;

a black night was cast over him, the like of which there was not in the deepest abyss of Hell. Terror overwhelmed him and, disgraced and crushed, he let go the cross. Gropping in the dark, he caught on his way only the knave on Jesus' left and the hanging Judas and toppled down into the infernal abyss, tearing his own body in impotent fury and shame.

The Mother of God stood weeping under the cross with her Son's beloved disciple, John, and Mary Magdalen. A flock of swallows flew up cloudlike and, beating their wings in the air, began to warble sadly, like mourners at a funeral:

"Dead, dead, dead!"

On the opposite side, another gray cloud, flew up a flock of noisy sparrows, chirping spitefully:

"Alive, alive, alive!"

Hearing this, the executioners took up a spear and pierced the Lord Christ's side and, as the Mother of God had dreamt, forthwith there gushed out blood and water. Above the head of the crucified Saviour there wove back and forth a garland of swallows, like a mourning ribbon, while the frightened sparrows flew away. Since then, on the day of the sainted Apostles, Simeon and Judah, the devils catch them by the bushes and throw them into Hell. From the blood that flowed from Christ's wounds there sprouted white lilies, while from the bloody tears of the Mother of God, the golden and silvery leaves of wild orchids, which grew by the roadside on their way to Golgotha, turned blood red; and where fell the tears of Mary Magdalen there sprang daisies for the soil.

Martyrdom, sorrow, and grief for the death of the Lord Jesus were written down on the earth with flowers in praise to God and in remembrance to people.

Excerpt from

"THE QUEEN OF HEAVEN".

Translated by

Lucia Borski Szczepanowicz
and Kate B. Miller.

Sir Austin Chamberlain

The death of Sir Austin Chamberlain has made a deep impression not only in the British Empire. Thanks to the eminent qualities of his heart and head the deceased enjoyed high esteem and well merited sympathy beyond the frontiers of the Empire. Sir Austin Chamberlain belonged to a family of eminent patriots, who by their achievements have more than once decided the policy of Great Britain. Sir Austin's father, Joseph Chamberlain - whose name for England is unforgettable - is considered the creator of the modern policy of the British Empire.

The splendid family traditions were not only piously preserved by Sir Austin but, during his long political activities, worthily continued and developed. In every one of the highly responsible positions which he

occupied, Sir Austin always gave proof of impeccable straightforwardness and great force of character, as well as a profound understanding of the real interests of the Empire.

Death has deprived Great Britain of one of its most distinguished statesmen. The responsibility of continuing the eminent part played in Great Britain by the line of Chamberlains devolves now on Sir Austin's brother, Neville Chamberlain, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who has succeeded in attaining no less high and meritorious a position in the public life and England.

The rôle which the deceased statesman played in Great Britain was not due only to the high functions which he fulfilled. Strongly characteristic is the fact that even after he had retired from power, Sir Austin was continually consulted by the governing circles of the country. This is why the reserves of experience which he had gained,

during his long political and social career, were always at the service of his nation and that each time that he found it opportune to speak in public his words, until the last moment, were listened to with the greatest respect and attention both in Great Britain and outside of it. This position Sir Austin did not acquire by means of a brilliant superficiality, as is the case with certain politicians of our time, but thanks to the qualities of his great character as also to his fact and deep feeling of responsibility for the words he pronounced.

The upright and noble personality of Sir Austin Chamberlain was deeply admired and esteemed in Poland. Although the Locarno Pact, with which his name was connected, awakened well motivated reservations in Polish opinion, our people have always known how to appreciate the real sympathy for the restored Polish

The Congress of Peasants in Warsaw

Following the congress of representatives of the Polish towns, the representatives of the rural districts met in Warsaw on the 14th inst. The Congress was organised by the National Unity Group of Colonel Koc. The Congress was presided by Senator Galica, a retired General, who is of peasant origin and a distinguished soldier of the Piłsudski Legions. In his opening speech, Senator Galica pointed

State of which Sir Austin gave numerous proofs both in his capacity of member of the Government and parliament.

The Polish nation joins sincerely in the deep sorrow of the English nation caused by the death of Sir Austin Chamberlain, a great and irreproachable statesman.

P. I. P.

out that there are about 24 million peasants in Poland and that they are the largest and the most important group of Polish citizens.

In referring to Marshal Smigly Rydz, the speaker mentioned the Marshal's peasant origin and the services rendered by him in the struggle for Poland's independence. Finally Senator Galica, whilst emphasizing the constitutional form of government obtaining in Poland, called upon the representatives of the country to endow Marshal Smigly Rydz spontaneously and voluntarily, with the same power as vested in leaders of other countries adhering to a totalitarian system.

After several other speeches, including one by Colonel Koc, the Congress voted the access of all the delegates present to the National Unity Group and undertook the organisation of branches in the country.

LONDON LETTER

By Gregory Macdonald

It is now announced as a certainty, though not by an official statement, that Mr. Baldwin is laying down the Premiership in favour of the Coronation. His retirement will probably take place in the last few days of May, and it seems also to be known that he will not continue as a Member of the House of Commons, whether because he will take a Peagee or because he intends to desert politics altogether. The latter decision would not be surprising. Mr. Baldwin is famous for a series of masterly speeches and essays extolling the life of the English countryside in Worcestershire and the West Midlands. He is lampooned by cartoonists for his devotion to pigs. On the other hand his family connections and business associations in the heavy industry, and it may prove impossible for him to tear himself away from the crowded life of Westminster. Most probably his successor, Mr. Neville Chamberlain, would welcome Mr. Baldwin as a member of the Cabinet. The retirement of Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, Lord President of the Council, will probably be a relief, though not heavy responsibilities.

The whole affair passes with the smoothness, and with the absence of any pretence of consulting the people, which characterise democracy in its latest phase. But no other candidates for the Premiership command the confidence enjoyed by Mr. Chamberlain within the reigning cadres of the National Government, which has a large majority and three and a half more years of statutory life. It only remains to be seen what team Mr. Chamberlain will select as his colleagues in the Cabinet; which means that rumour is busy with retirements and new appointments. Chief speculation concerns the Chancellorship of the Exchequer, which Mr. Chamberlain vacates. Mr. Runciman is now less favoured, despite the significance that must be attached to his recent visit to Washington. Sir Samuel Hoare is mentioned. So also is Sir John Simon. Of these two, Sir Samuel Hoare is the more likely choice.

Another key position is the Foreign Secretaryship. The *Economist* rather sternly tells Mr. Chamberlain that on no account must he dispense with Mr. Anthony Eden, who represents for the country at large the high idealism of League of Nations pledges. League of Nations opinion is not, in fact, as strong to-day as it was during the Hoare-Laval crisis, but the blunt reminder that the rearmament programme depends upon the certainty among the working classes that policies of peace and democracy are being pursued, is more than a hint that powerful weapons might be brought to bear upon a recalcitrant Mr. Chamberlain. Nobody knows whether the new Premier will make radical changes in the composition of the Cabinet with fresh blood drawn from the House of Commons, but Mr. Duff Cooper and Mr. Ormsby-Gore are both expected to retire.

It cannot be said that Mr. Chamberlain possesses a wide popularity among the people. He gives an impression, reinforced by his control of the public purse, of austerity and remoteness. Cartoonists, who cannot endow him with comfortable-looking pigs, accentuate the narrowness of his face, the prominence of his teeth, and the height of his collar. Nevertheless, Mr. Chamberlain's reign at the Treasury has been an epoch-making period in English public life, when a

complete financial revolution was carried out and defended against a series of heavy assaults. Only a week ago the tripartite agreement had to be preserved with difficulty when the attack was on the franc, the weakest of the Big Three. At present the trouble is in the commodity markets, where a deliberately engineered speculative boom on both sides of the Atlantic threatens, but only threatens, to upset the international price structure. Mr. Chamberlain will have the enmity of International Money, but its power is less than it was, and the new order initiated by President Roosevelt becomes more consolidated every day. The stable price-level is liquidating the debt system all over the world; not the least important event of the past week was the announcement from the Reichsbank that Germany approves the tripartite agreement, which was viewed with suspicion until experience showed that it favoured Germany as much as it favoured its signatories.

At a time when all eyes are watching Washington, with the coming and going of foreign statesmen, there is importance to be attached to persistent rumours that some big move will be made in April. That story may be associated partly with the Coronation and with the impending change in the British Government. Nothing would more suitably initiate the new order than a sensational settlement of some outstanding international questions, especially of debt and armaments. Much still depends upon the internal situation in France, though the restoration of prosperity will do more against Communism than any single political move. Much also depends upon the internal position of Russia, whence also vital changes are once more being reported. The interpretation happily put by the London papers upon the uncompromising speech of the Russian Ambassador last week was that he was warning Germany and Italy against any aggression. But the choice of London for the pronouncement suggests that the argument came nearer home. More likely it was a warning to Poland that a Western Pact would prove a dangerous instrument to play with, and that any move to unite Europe must reckon with the military strength of Russia.

The Left Wing of the Communists still lives by dissensions among the European nations. As Mr. Baldwin's Premiership comes to its end the verdict can be passed that effectively it did not assist Left Wing policies, although always it was under heavy pressure from the forces of Liberal Internationalism. Despite the active propaganda of the Left in Scandinavian and Baltic countries, the Baltic was taken out of the control of the Left by the Anglo-German Naval Agreement. Again, despite the earth-shaking Abyssinian crisis, in which the Press and the international societies played so large a part, the subsequent Anglo-Italian Naval Agreement left the Mediterranean in the hands of the enemies of the Left. Danger points in Egypt, Palestine and Spain were insulated one by one. The blundering Mr. Baldwin may go down to history as a man much more subtle than the public were allowed to guess, for with every appearance of being carried with the muddiness of Liberal Democracy, he yet managed to divert the current at one place after another where real disaster threatened. It is difficult to

A Hundred Ambulances for the Polish Red Cross



The Ambulances on the Marshal Pilsudski Square.

The Polish Red Cross has for some time been collecting funds by means of selling stamps affixed to entertainment tickets.

A hundred ambulances have been purchased with the proceeds of the collection and their official presentation to Marshal Smigly-

Rydz took place in Warsaw on the 21st inst. The motor ambulances are of Polish manufacture.

The attitude of Poland towards the work of the Non-intervention Committee

The preparatory work for the control of the Spanish frontiers being completed and an executive body on which there is a delegate from Poland — (Poland being a Baltic country) once constituted, the interest of public opinion in the action of the Non-intervention committee, now conferring in London, has re-awakened. The committee, as is known, was founded on the initiative of France, expressed on the 7th August 1936, which was supported by Great Britain. From the beginning, the Polish government has shown itself favourable to this initiative, as it agreed entirely with the principal lines of our policy.

Poland, it is true, cannot be considered as a state directly interested in the events taking place in the Iberian peninsula, nevertheless the Polish government has refused and still refuses to admit that interior conflicts of ideological order should extend and influence international relations. In point of fact, this might lead to the formation of hostile blocs, threatening Europe — as Mr. Beck has said — with a kind of modern religious warfare. As Poland leaves every nation the right of settling freely her inner relations, she refuses with all the more firmness, to countenance any outside interference in the events taking place in Spain, being certain that any such action bears in itself the germs of the most dangerous complications and collisions for Europe. The facts that she herself bears the strongest evidence that the approbation of the non-intervention initiative, contained in the notes of the Polish government of the 22nd and 27th August 1936, was not purely formal and that the idea of this initiative itself lay near to her hearts. Forstalling the dispositions of the committee, Poland of her own accord introduced, before others, a series of regulations based on the principle of non-intervention.

Thus from the beginning, the prohibition of exporting arms destined for Spain was promulgated in Poland; further the prohibition to transport arms to Spain on Polish vessels was published on the 11.XII.1936; on the same day it was announced in the "Polish Monitor" that Polish citizens who engage in one or the other of the belligerent armies in Spain would lose their nationality, finally again in the "Monitor" of the 28th February 1937, a reminder was published to the effect that, according to Polish laws, the recruiting of volunteers for Spain on Polish territory

express a final judgment, for hardly ever do statesmen say what they actually mean, but at least a division is apparent between the Politician and the Press.

would be punished by 2 to 5 years imprisonment.

Without entering into details, the work of the committee in London as a whole deserves appreciation. It has applied itself to eliminating all the diverse modes of intervention to arrive, finally, at such a decisive measure as the plan for controlling the Spanish frontiers which has just been adopted. Its realization, barring unforeseen events, ought effectively to isolate Spain and render all outside interference impossible.

Although it must be admitted that the committee has not succeeded in excluding from the beginning and completely foreign intervention in the war in Spain, it has accomplished a work of vast importance to the interests of the whole of Europe. The high tension which might, on many occasions, have provoked incalculable consequences, has been neutralized within the breast of the committee. There is no doubt that the work of the committee has contributed greatly to the discharging of the dangerously laden international atmosphere. For the most part, the discussions held led to the discovery of acceptable solutions for all those interested, and the participation in the work of the committee in itself prevented too great a liberty of movement on the part of the respective states. Whilst proposing to localise and abridge the civil war in Spain as much as possible, the London committee has successfully fulfilled its rôle of "safety valve", sparing the territories situated beyond the Spanish frontiers from the misfortune of inevitably being drawn into the war, had one or another of the states been openly involved in the present conflict.

The Polish government, continuing to cooperate loyally with the London committee, has judged it well to take part also in the organization of the control over the frontiers of Spain. Poland associates herself with this action being profoundly convinced that the Spanish nature will itself find means to overcome its interior antagonisms and that it will soon regain in Europe its rôle of a normal political factor of full value, a rôle which has always belonged to it and which will return to it by reason of the eminent position it occupies in the family of nations and Western civilization.

Communal Savings Banks in Poland

The joint deposits of the 362 communal savings banks in Poland amounted in January to 704,719,000 zlotys as against 687,828,000 zlotys in December. Deposits with urban savings banks totalled 461,466,000 zlotys and those with district savings banks 238,419,000 zlotys.

Polish Rumanian Cultural Agreement

M. Angelescu, the Rumanian Minister of Education, signed in Warsaw a Polish-Rumanian cultural agreement, similar to those concluded by Poland with several other nations.

Agreements of this type usually provide for an exchange of University professors and students between the signatory countries, facilities for a practical training of young people on factories, hospitals, commercial houses, etc. The working of all such agreements concluded up to date has been entirely successful, and they have contributed considerably to the better mutual understanding between the signatory nations.

The degree of Doctor "honoris causa" of the Warsaw University was conferred on M. Angelescu.

Conversion of Local Government Indebtedness in Poland

The Polish Government has prepared a bill for winding up the conversion of the local government boards, which was started in October 1934, and for dissolving the committees entrusted with this action. The purpose aimed at is to relieve the financial situation of these boards by adjusting their debt services to their revenues. The general measures applied for this purpose comprised a scaling down of the interest rate to 5.5 per cent, a three-year suspension of payments on some mortgage debts, cancellation of Treasury loans granted to rural boroughs for the erection of school buildings, etc. Apart from such general facilities, individual ones were accorded after an examination of the individual situation of the respective boards. Up to the January 1st 1937 applications for debt conversion were filed by 588 local-government boards of which 152 were county boards, 428 urban corporations, and eight other communal boards. The joint total of indebtedness submitted for conversion was 971,717,000 zlotys of which 852,909,000 zlotys were advanced by the Treasury and other public institutions while 118,728,000 zlotys came from private persons and institutions. Of the first category of debts, 245 million (28.7 per cent of the total indebtedness with public institutions) were cancelled there were also in this class 227,328,000 zlotys of short term indebtedness the service of which exceeded the total normal annual revenue of the debtor boards by 10 millions zlotys. After these writing-off, payment of the most onerous debts was arranged by instalments spread over various periods from five to fifty years.

THE ENGLISH CHURCH WARSAW, SEWERYŃÓW 3

Raster Services.
Good Friday: 11 am Morning Prayer
Sunday: 8:30 am Communion
11 am Morning Prayer and Communion.



Polish Easter Customs

by Mary Pat

Poland loves tradition. Old customs, especially when connected with some fixed dates in the calendar, are faithfully observed year after year. Easter is the time when the Catholic tradition of the country and the arrival of Spring combine to make the customs especially numerous and pronounced.

After the long sad period of Lent there comes the time of Resurrection. Spring brings new joy, and after a long fast there comes the time of plenty. Meat is to resume its place in the week's diet which it has lost ever since Ash Wednesday. Eating to satiety is to be allowed again. Hence the most characteristic of Polish Easter customs is the Easter table with its "blessed food".

In the early hours of the afternoon on Saturday the dining-room table is covered with the best white cloth and thickly set with a number of meat and sweet dishes. In the centre, on a large round plate there rests a big ham, home cooked, with its glossy brown skin partly preserved, its white tender coat of fat on the sides marked by beads of clove that have been stuck into it. It reposes in the tight embrace of a wreath of the famous Polish sausage, the dark-red coils of which pile on another plate close by. The royal place of ham is occupied in some homes, especially in the country, by a pig's head, or even a whole little pig roasted in its entirety.

In the background, tall cakes attract the eye. One, cone-shaped, with corrugated surface, wearing a crest of powdered sugar on its ruddy top, is the famous "babka", full of raisins inside. Another, still taller, of cylindrical shape, with funny garbled protrusions all over its body, represents evidently the cook's pride and masterpiece. Then there are flat cakes — with poppy seeds, nut and almond-paste, candied fruit, dates, figs, oranges, and a big round pastry cake with an elaborate inscription: "Alleluja" in white letters of icing across its chocolate crust.

We also see a loaf of bread on a flat basket plate, butter, salt, the "Tartar" sauce (made of horseradish and eggs), a bowl of mayonnaise, and, rising above the low dishes, a slender bottle of French wine or a more bulky, dusty one of some old Tokay (a wine favourite in Poland), "brought in the vineyards of Hungary and educated in the cellars of Krakow", as the old saying goes.

In the very front of the table a multicoloured plate catches the eye. Are these eggs? Yes, eggs, hard-boiled eggs, painted all over in minute lively designs, of geometrical lines, or animal, bird and flower patterns. Country girls make these, by covering the shell with wax, with only a few spots left bare, and then dipping the egg in some dye; and again, when the first spots have been coloured, putting wax over these, and uncovering the next set of dots and lines, to be dyed in some other shade. There are ordinarily three or four colours, the natural colour of the shell providing one more. Laborious work, this is certainly, but the effect is certainly to the eye, and a proof,

undoubtedly, of the inborn artistic sense of Polish country folk.

Next to the eggplate in its honoured place, or sometimes on the top of it, a little sugar lamb is placed, with a red little banner of Resurrection attached to it. Not infrequently in the front of the table a little doll table is to be seen, a minute replica of the real Easter table, with all its dainties craftily worked in marzipan. This is for the children of the house — all pastry shops supply these toy hams and eggs and cakes, at Easter time, even including a little bottle with some red fruit juice inside it in imitation of wine.

A sprinker with holy water and a sprinkler complete the setting of the table. There remains one more thing to be done — little twigs of box to be stuck perpendicularly into meat and sweets — to add the festive touch of green to their mosaics.

One more look at the whole — well, what a lot of food. But you mustn't think this is all that the house has to offer for Easter. These are mere representatives each of its particular species, the other items being safely stored away on kitchen and pantry shelves, cooler windowsills or even more shadowed nooks of the back balcony.

However, the table is ready at last, and with the last touch put to the house shining after its spring cleaning and smelling of hyacinths, there remains nothing more to be done, but to wait for the priest to come to bless the Easter table.

He has been ordinarily invited, he may be a friend of the family, or not an acquaintance at all, a lay priest or a monk of some congregation to which one has applied. But how can he be punctual! He has a round of houses to visit, and, if he happens to call on friends, he is treated to some of the just blessed food, or, out of mere politeness, has to stay a few minutes for a chat; not even in the street is he sure of his time, as he is accosted by people who neglected to apply earlier and ask him to step in and bless their table also.

Of course, this cannot be done in the peasant houses in the country. In the country the women prepare little baskets of Easter food — eggs, sausages and bread, and go with them to church, and there, having deposited the baskets on the first green of the churchyard, wait standing behind them in a large semi-circle, for the priest to come and bless them all together. This is also practised in many of the parish churches in towns.

But, to come back to our real Easter table. At last the priest has come. An attendant helps him to put on his white vestment and a stole — a few words of prayer, some drops of holy water sprinkled over the table, and the ceremony is over.

The lady of the house for whom the last few days have been a rather trying time, breathes a deep sigh of relief. At last she is going to have a few hours for herself — at last she, as all others (including her cook)

on that day, can go out to make a tour of some churches and to visit the "graves".

The Saviour's "grave" — this is another feature of Polish Easter season. After a morning service on Good Friday — the noon services are not attended by the public at large, and the day is not a real holiday as it is in England — the Holy Sacrament is transferred to a side chapel or altar to await there the Resurrection service when it will be brought to the main altar again in triumphant procession. Thus that side chapel or altar becomes the symbol of the grave where Christ's body rested between crucifixion and resurrection.

Throughout Poland, country and town, in every parish and monastic church this grave is specially arranged, displaying ambition, taste and means of the arrangers.

Below the altar with the Holy Sacrament, flooded with the profusion of candle light, a stone figure or a painting representing Christ's body is placed, and a carpet of blossoming plants is stretched in front of it. In richer churches the walls of the chapel are covered with silk or satin hangings, or a painting representing the mount of Calvary with the three crosses is put behind the altar. But it is the flower decoration which remains the main feature. Especially in monastic churches, some of the orders being renowned for their flower gardens, real walls of bloom are built on both sides of the grave, not infrequently reaching to considerable height. Asias, pink and white, hyacinths, camelias, tulips, primulas and daffodils fill the air with heavy scent and look almost unreal in the glow of candles infused with daylight. There are churches where a guard of honour is held — two men, soldiers, firemen or boy scouts, on the two sides of the grave, facing each other, immovable as statues.

It is no wonder that crowds of people of all social classes go from church to church "to visit the graves." Sincere religious feeling is mixed in these pilgrimages with snobbishness and fashion. It is an excellent opportunity for meeting one's friends, for showing off in one's new spring clothes. The humbler crowd prays at the grave and bows to kiss Christ's wounds on a crucifix lying on a carpet on the floor near the grave — the fashionable society gathers, after a glance at the grave, round the



collection tables placed at all entrances to the church, and presided over by young ladies.

"Visiting the graves" goes on till Saturday evening, when the Resurrection service is held, transferred in towns from the early morning of Easter Sunday to that more convenient hour. It is one of the most important services of the year, and again, almost a social event. It is characterised by the spirit of joy, with its procession held, in fine weather, outside of the church, with its bell-ringing, general singing and organ music.

That evening in many homes the process begins which is to reach its full height only the next day, that is, the Easter over-eating.

On Easter Sunday about noon a series of visits begins. People, especially young people come with their season's wishes, and have to contribute to make the Easter table disappear, both food and drink. After two or three such visits the situation begins to look serious, but it is hopeless to try to defend yourself.

Everywhere it begins in the same way — the host, carrying a plate, with one of the blessed eggs cut into small pieces along its longer axis, in hand, passes from one person to another, and sharing the egg with them

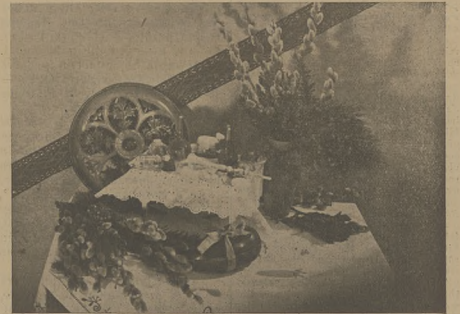
(everybody — takes a fork from his plate) exchanges wishes. If there are no visitors, the ceremonial is done among the members of the family only.

Lunch follows — there is no "dinner" on Easter Sunday, but — by Jove! The afternoon must necessarily be very quiet — digesting is some job that day!

Easter Sunday is over, but not Easter customs. If you happen to have a boy friend or a cousin or nephew below 15 years of age — and sometimes above it — beware! For this is the day when a rough trick is authorised — pouring water down peoples' collars when they least expect it. It is a country game — whole buckets of water being splashed at the village wenches by farm hands from behind the corners of barns and cottages, or straight from under the spouts of wells. But complete safety could not be guaranteed in towns either — you won't get a bucket, but half a tumbler or a vodka glass is almost certain. You are lucky if it is perfumes instead of plain water.

But the air is much warmer already and you dry up soon. And besides, you may take your revenge. Though — it is not always advisable...

Anyhow, you will remember long a Polish Easter.



PRESS REVIEW

Kurier Warszawski has an article discussing the speech of President Mościcki broadcast on the occasion of the commemoration of Marshal Piłsudski's namesday. It is evident, writes the *Kurier*, that the President is in agreement with the declaration of Col. Koch who, as the mouthpiece of Marshal Smigły-Rydz, announced the continuation of the policy of Marshal Piłsudski aiming at the consolidation of the Nation. This unifying of the nation, however, according to the President, will not be undertaken in slavish imitation of other nations since "other conditions demand other methods and a simple imitation of foreign standard would obviously meet with complete failure." The *Kurier* continues that these words assure the independence of the Polish consolidation process "which, according to the declarations made heretofore, is to develop slowly without external pressure. While entirely agreeing with the principles enunciated, the *Kurier* asks how and who will put them into practice? The Polish community, it says, is ready and willing to cooperate but "needs the guarantee of a good selection

of executors and suitable forms of cooperation, together with good organization of public control, assuring the effectiveness of all national efforts". *Kurier Warszawski* also draws attention to the fact that the President only once stepped out of the region of generalities in order to approve, without reservation, the foreign policy of Minister Beck, the pupil of the Great Marshal. In this way he pointed out one more postulate of consolidation "that the methods of foreign policy should seek the only reliable support in the agreement of public opinion".

The Polish press has reacted in a very lively way to the action of the speaker in the Sejm who deprived the I. K. C. of the permission to report on the proceedings of the parliament on account of the newspaper's attitude in the question of abolishing trials by jury in Little Poland. *Kurier Warszawski* quoted the incriminating article, almost verbatim. *Robotnik* writes "the order of the speaker, doubtlessly given under pressure of over sensitiveness on the matter of prestige of the September deputies, creates an entirely new situation in Poland. Beside the administrative authorities and

prosecutor there now appears a third factor exercising censorship and dealing out punishment to the press."

Czas in a leader, entitled "Will the Senate save trials by jury?" writes "Some people say not all regions of the Republic are ripe for the system of trials by jury. There is a certain amount of truth in this, but after all these institutions might be introduced gradually beginning for instance with the largest towns. It would be difficult to deny that the population of Warsaw could produce decent popular judges." On the other hand, *Kurier Poranny* reprints the speech of Senator Waclaw Sieroszewski who says that "Trials by jury introduce vagueness, often ambiguity and chaos into legal conceptions and this in view of the enormous disparity in verdicts in quite analogous cases, a disparity arising from the accidental composition of the jurors and their unavoidable basing of their verdicts not on the impartial estimation of proofs, but on their emotional reaction to moments having little in common with the given case accounted for by the lack of specialist preparation."

K. M.

THEATRES

PADEREWSKI ON THE SCREEN

Warsaw Amusements.

(Sunday To-Morrow at the Teatr Letni, Pignomial at the Teatr Polski).

The Viennese play by Adler and Perutz, Sunday To-Morrow, essays to point out that a "lost" man from the treasury of an enterprise is quite justified, especially when the clerk borrows the greatest part for his wife's numerous misdeeds...

The premiere of The Moonlight Sonata, featuring Ignace Paderewski, was a sensational event, for here, in Poland, this famous artist is admired in a double capacity: first as a consummate artist, and secondly, as a noble patriot.

The presentation of the Moonlight Sonata thus becomes an act of high homage by his compatriots to the man and his art.

Through his film, his art has become immortalized. For the younger generation, here especially, which has not had the opportunity of hearing him in person, this film plays an important cultural role.

The directing and acting (the cast including Marie Tempest,

Barbara Green and Charles Farell) is good. The scenery plays but a secondary part, being overshadowed by the genius of Paderewski, the pianist, who gives a long recital including the Polonaise As-dur of Chopin, the Second Rhapsody of Liszt, his own Minuet and the first Movement of Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata.

To criticize Paderewski's performance would be quite out of place here, and any compliment would seem a desecration of his marvellous art. We can only confirm that, even in the cinema, his playing produces an unusually deep impression...

THEATRES NARODOWY, "Pan Jowiaski" POLSK. "Pignomial" NOWY, "Three-Six-Nine" LETNI, "Sunday-to-morrow..." MALY, "Lato w Nohau" MALKIEJCZY, "The Kitty" A TENEUM, "People on an Ice-foe" KAMERALNY, "The Marriage" REDUTA, Closed.

MUSIC. TEATR WIELKI - OPERA. Monday mat., "Nightsy Dwor" Monday ev., "A Night in Venice" Tuesday, "Aida" Wednesday, "La Juive" Thursday, "Carmen" Appearance of Conchita Velasquez Friday, "Tosca" Saturday, "Carmen" Appearance of Conchita Velasquez

FILHARMONIA Monday, Matinee Concert Wednesday, Symphonic Concert Friday, Symphonic Concert KONSERVATORIUM. Thursday, Laureate Concert Wednesday, 7. IV, Claudio Arrau piano-recital

MUSICAL SHOWS OPERETKA - Parnell's Ballet and CYRULIK WARSZAWSKI - "Balagan." TEATR 8.15, "The Dance of Happiness" 13 RZDZDOW, "Siönka Polityczna." CIRCUS, Daily at 8.15.

Mlle LUCIENCER BOYER will appear at the Teatr Wielki on April 5 and 8-th.

ART AND OTHER EXHIBITIONS I. P. S. "Interior Decoration." ZACHETA, Jubilee Show of Augustynowicz and collection of Mehofferr. Y. M. C. A. Tourist Exhibition.

ANGLO BALTIC LINE S.S. "Balticway" From Gdynia: April, 15th and April From London: 8th, 22nd April Cabin class £7. 0. 0. return 25% reduction. For further particulars, apply to UNITED BALTIC CORPORATION, Ltd., Warsaw, Bredytowa 18, tel. 299-30.

CINEMAS APOLLO Ino Sym and Kenda in "Dyplomacyjna Zurna", Polish. **ATLANTIC Deanna Durbin in "Penny" American. **BALTIC Ribieta Barszewska and Mieczyslaw Milecki in "Plomienie serca", Polish.

BRITISH PASSPORT CONTROL OFFICE UJAZDOWSKA 18, WARSAW The following persons are entitled to receive visas or immigration certificates for Palestine:

Table with 7 columns: No. of certificate, NAME, Age, Category, Last date of visa, Address. Rows include Gelberg Ester, Feldman Emanuel, Zerkow Chania, Wajner Rosa, Lewkowicz Szymon, Goldstein Chaja, Kotwicz Rycka, Krakowska Gittel, Cytryn Rycka, Bodsensztejn Gela, Hubszner Bracha, RubinSTEIN Szejnada, Schlaf Rachela, Arwaten Fajga, Schwanzun Mozes, Lewi Mechla, Bialer Rycka, Borensztejn Aron, Abowicz Izak, Moszanjan Mojshe, Serlin Luba, Aronowicz ita Dyna, Fruchtman Jakob, Rybak Chil, Slucki-Rawicz Akivo.

**CAPITOL Barszewska and Brodziejewicz in "Ornyat Michorowski", Polish. **CASINO Ignacy Paderewski in "Moonlight Sonata". **COLLOSSEUM Irene Dunne in "Theodore Carew", American. **EUROPA Shirley Temple in "Poor Little Rich Girl", Polish. FILHARMONIA, Pola Negri in "Shanghai" German. HOLLYWOOD Hortense Raky in "Only You", Austrian. **IMPERIAL Kay Francis in "Branded", American. **PAN Dietrich and Boyer in "The Garden of Allah", American. **PIALTO Bodo in "Pigro wyzej", Polish. R O M A, "The secret of a castle", American. **STYLON, Daniela Darieux and Henry Garat in "Mauvais Garçon", French. SWIATOWID "New Tarzan" American. **TUDJO Renata Muller in "Madame Lenox", German.

What the asterisks mean: - **An outstanding feature. **Very good. **Good. **Average entertainment.

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Art and cultural news in brief

On March 22 the Jury of the State Art Prize decided to award the prize for 1937 to Wojciech Weiss, professor of the Academy of Fine Arts in Cracow, for his 40 years of high artistic achievements.

Wojciech Weiss was born in Rumania, at Leorda. He began his artistic studies in Cracow at the School of Fine Arts, which he finished in 1899 (then under the direction of the famous Polish painter Jan Matejko) when he was awarded the gold medal.

Afterwards he continued his studies abroad in Paris (1899 - 1900) and in Italy at Florence and Rome (1901 - 1902). Living in Poland, Weiss regularly visits the European countries in order to maintain close contact with all the novelties in the modern art world.

As a member of "SZTUKA", a society organizing very many exhibitions of Polish Art abroad, he has shown his paintings in nearly the whole of Europe, as well as in America.

Apart from his artistic works he is a well-known pedagogue, whose talented pupils finishing his class at the Cracowian Academy of Fine Arts.

Polish Radio symphony concert

The Polish Radio orchestra under the direction of Mieczyslaw Mierzajewski gave an orchestral concert at the Roma Cinema on March 23rd. The works performed were a symphony in D major by Clementi, which might have still been left to repose on the shelves of the library where Casella unearthed it, - the Stabat Mater by Szymanowski, a work of such deep religious feeling and so profoundly touching that it may well rank among the masterpieces of modern music.

The concert concluded with Respighi's "Stained glass pictures".

where they gained a Gold Medal for his picture The Portrait of Parents.

Visitors to the Henryk Sienkiewicz Memorial Exhibition, now open for several weeks at the Józef Piłsudski National Library, will find a very interesting collection of that great writer's manuscripts, including correspondence with many of his contemporaries, both Polish and foreign.

Book-lovers, on the other hand, can acquaint themselves with a rare collection of old editions of historical novels dating from the XVIII Century, as well as with a collection of the translations of Sienkiewicz's works in all languages. Among other souvenirs connected with Sienkiewicz is a collection of illustrations for his works, especially Quo Vadis, by Stachiewicz.

That wonderful comedy of Agneta Beczka Shaw Pignomial is again revived by the Teatr Polski. It is undoubtedly with Candide, the best of Shaw's scenic works, possessing not only its always fine intellectual content and of the great Irish author, but also sincerity, conviction and vital truth in the creation of figures and situations.

Pignomial is always greeted with admiration by the public and attains a steady enormous success, especially when appearing under the direction of Aleksander Wegierko, who has long since earned the name of a specialist in the production of G. B. S. comedies on our Warsaw stages, and who has already acquired an excellent style in their realization. Pignomial is staged by him with great freshness of idea and wit in its scenic situations. This time, however, the success of Wegierko-the producer - is followed by an equal success of Wegierko-the player, as the role of Professor Higgins is one of his best creations: the intellectualism mixed with impetuosity and lack of dogmatism is rendered by him with conviction.

Eliza Doolittle, the fancy of all dramatic actresses, is performed by Janina Romanowska. This role has a beautiful tradition on Polish stages. Miss Romanowska continues this fame of Eliza's interests only in a second part of the role played with charm and sincerity. But the two first scenes of the flower-girl were excessively applauded - the rare in its always cultured and discreet playing of Romanowska.

Jan Kurnakowicz, as Doolittle the father and Gustaw Suszki, as Colonel Pickering played the remaining main roles with good understanding of Shaw's style.

The heavy rain in the first act and the interiors of the Higgins' and his mother's house, in the following acts, were so successful works of Stanislaw Sliński.

ARNO

Ada Sari at the Opera.

The famous Polish coloratura, Miss Ada Sari, appeared at the Teatr Wielki last week for the first time this season in two favorite roles of her enormous repertory, as Glilda in Verdi's Rigoletto and as Violetta Valery in La Traviata by the same composer.

Ada Sari's art is always ravishing. Her acting, her fine control and possession of voice, - all always in dramatic activity, her few appearances something of a sensation and a true artistic event in the musical and operatic life of Warsaw.

Incidentally, it must be added that, during the last few years, Polish operatic art is becoming more and more known and known abroad. This well-merited appreciation, disregarding, for the moment, Jan Klepura, has been gained by the great Polish primadonnas, Ada Sari and Ewa Bandrowska-Tarska, who are excellent exponents of our operatic art in the best meaning of this word.

Jerzy Macierowski.

Laureate Concerts.

The review of the Chopin Competition Laureate Concerts (of Witold Maltczyński, Monique de la Bruchollier and others) will appear in the next issue of The Warsaw Weekly.