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3rd YEAR

WARSAW, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1937

No. 52

The Holy Virgin trod over the world until she came to a poor peasant's hut, and in it she begged to be let pass the night, having nowhere else found a place for herself.

The country dogs, on seeing her, knelt before her instead of barking; they recognized the Lady of the Heavenly Manor, but the peasant did not see what a guest he had under his thatched roof; he made excuses for not letting her pass the night in his hut, having many children and but a small hovel.

"My beautiful Lady," he told her at last, "go to my shed; there will Thou sleep in peace; I have no room for Thee in my hut."

At two o'clock in the morning a bright light woke him up suddenly; he looked outside and saw that over his head shone a star, the brightest of all; golden-winged angels flew to the thatched roof and, like a flock of pigeons, circled round and sang and made merry and joyfully proclaimed that the Virgin had borne a Son Who would bring "glory to God on high and peace on earth to men of good will."

The peasant wrung his hands with fear, reproaching himself:

"I would have preferred to stay with my children out-doors and give Thee, God's Maiden, the entire hut, had I only known who Thou wert, had I only known."

As little Jesus trembled with cold in the shed, his Mother took her kerchief off her head and wrapped Him in it; she put a handful of hay under His knees, covered Him up with straw, and rocked Him to sleep with a song: "Rock-a-by, little Jesus." She refused the angels' service, although thirty thousand of them awaited her single nod; she must needs herself take care of her Baby, because no angel can take a mother's place. The news of Christ's nativity first spread among the poor and lowly, among the shepherds at the border of the wood, and woke them up and called them to be the first to greet the Lord from the high Heaven, laid in a manger on hay in great poverty, modest as a field flower, even though the whole world was His inheritance.

A CHRISTMAS LEGEND



THE SHEPHERDS' HOMAGE TO THE INFANT JESUS. F. M. Wągrzywański

The voices of the shepherds joined the angels' hymn, with the Blessed Virgin's lullaby. They played their bag-pipes for the little Baby; they performed tricks that God's little fellow might have enjoyed; they brought Him humble gifts, begging Him to accept them. In the manger, lovely Jesus kept on looking at everything and, smiling tenderly, raised His hand as if blessing them.

The Very Holiest busied herself in the bare shed, now full of heavenly lights and earthly hum and, kindly and indulgently, she encouraged to mirth the shepherds, who had come first to honour her Son.

Joyful and noisy they crowded around Jesus' crib, as if eternal light and bliss had descended to earth from Heaven.

The peasant, a smith by trade, was rewarded miraculously for having let the Virgin pass the night in his shed. He had a daughter, a sweet but maimed girl. She was born without hands and was doomed to a pitiful life. Furtively, among the angels and the singing shepherds she went to the shed; with her eyes looking tenderly at Jesus, she stood humble and shy, wondering at all the things she saw. When the Virgin Mary spied the maimed girl, she said to her, moved by compassion:

"Bring me my Child from the manger".

Tears came to the girl's eyes; she approached the manger timidly and said, deeply grieved:

"How can I, unworthy, bring Him to Thee when I have no hands?"

"Just reach for Him, you poor thing".

She reached, and suddenly she had hands grown, with which she could give Jesus to His Mother. Her heart filled with happiness, and waving in the air her new-grown hands, like a young birch with its branches, she laughed and cried, and ran to her father's hut, shouting: "Lo and behold! I have my own hands, I have something to pray with and work with".

Excerpt from "THE QUEEN OF HEAVEN" by Marian Gawalec. Translated by Lucia Borski and Kate B. Miller.

A MERRY XMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS WHEREVER THEY ARE



Buying Christmas Trees (Choinki) in Old Warsaw.

Andrioli.

Christmas Customs

There are many legends and customs connected with the Christmas period. The peasants believe that the water in the springs turns into wine in the exact moment when Jesus Christ was born and that a man free of sin could fill a jug with wine at that moment.

The animals receive the gift of speech on Christmas Eve and they talk between themselves, but very seldom address human beings.

In certain parts of Poland it is customary to make for Christmas a cake of flour from nine cereals and feed the animals with it, in order to assure good crops for the coming year.

In the district of Łowicz even the poorest farmers have to scrape together a good Christmas meal, for it is firmly believed that one will eat throughout the year as one ate at Christmas. Thus an

expensive Christmas meal is no more than an investment, bringing in good returns.

Everywhere in Poland the Christmas Eve supper is the most important part of the holiday. The breaking of the wafer, recalling the sharing of bread with the Apostles, is a ceremony observed with great care. No one must be omitted in breaking the wafer and all the servants are called to share it with their master, even in country houses where there are many servants and tenants.

The wishes made on Christmas Eve, when the first star appears in the sky, will be infallibly fulfilled.

The table for the Christmas Eve meal must be laid out on hay and a bundle of straw must stand in the corner of the room, in

MARSHAL PILSUDSKI'S STATUE IN ROME

Rome. A statue of Marshal Pilsudski, bearing the inscription: "The man who gave back to Poland the position it deserves in the world" has been unveiled in Rome in the presence of a delegation of Polish legionaries, headed by Gen. Wieniawa Długoszewski.

The Arioli avenue has been renamed Marshal Pilsudski avenue. It is situated in one of the most picturesque parts of Rome, near the Park of Remembrance.

memory of the Manger of Bethlehem.

The singing of carols is not particular to Poland, but the Polish carols are certainly the oldest songs in the language, dating from the XI-th and XII-th century.

VIENNA LETTER

By Eugene Hinterhoff

It is a long time since the political journeys of European statesmen have been as numerous as during the last few weeks. They did not, however, take the form of "hunting expeditions" so popular now in Central Europe. On the contrary there were elaborate preparations and all the diplomatic and drawing machinery was set in motion, drawing the attention of the whole world.

The most important of these journeys were those of Lord Halifax, Minister Delbos, and M. Stojadinovic, the Prime Minister of Yugoslavia.

It would be very difficult to find any close connection between these journeys. In fact the attempt to find a connection would require the imagination of a poet, though putting too great a strain on that of a politician. Nevertheless all these journeys have had one thing in common, and that is the object of securing the future peace of Europe. And one of the most important problems discussed, was undoubtedly Germany; the most interesting for us, being the connection with Austria. Thus on the occasion of the visit of Lord Halifax to Germany, which was precisely what concerned Germany, in order to secure peace in Europe, a sensational report appeared in some of the English papers, stating that Hitler had openly demanded a free hand regarding Austria and Czechoslovakia. It is necessary to mention that none other than the grand old man of journalism Wickham Steed had held forth that England could not remain indifferent towards the German aggression against the Danube states. In reply to Mr. Wickham Steed, to whom I take the liberty of expressing my respects as to one of the greatest political writers, I should like to mention, the well-known words of Lord Castlereagh in 1820, which have lost none of their truth; namely that England is the last country from which one might expect intervention in the abstract affairs of the continent.

There is no doubt, in spite of the Austro influx of English tourists to Kitzbühel and St. Anton, Austria still remains something very abstract as far as Great Britain is concerned. On the other hand, one might easily imagine that the farseeing English politicians might have no objections to seeing an increase of German influence in the Danube basin, as a German advance towards the Brenner would be a serious menace to the Axis Rome-Berlin. This might be cause for friendship between Italy and Great Britain — which is, as a matter of fact, a secret dream of both of these powers.

It would be more difficult to bring the journey of Delbos in connection with the Austrian problem. It is interesting to note that in none of the official communiques issued in connection with his talks in Warsaw and Bucarest was there any mention of Austria whatever. This might possibly be interpreted as a lack of active interest in French diplomacy as regards the Austrian question, which is all the more significant, as Delbos represents now not only the attitude of the Quai d'Orsay, but also that of Downing Street. At the same time, it does not mean that England or France would show complete indifference to the future fate of Austria, especially if we consider the friendly talks which Dr. Guido Schmidt had in the early part of this year with the British and French statesmen. We might recall some speeches in favour of Austria in the French and English Parliaments, but as a matter of fact we may candidly say that the interest of the Western Powers for Austria are merely platonic.

It is also rather difficult to find a connection between Stojadinovic's journey to Italy and the Austrian problem, but being an economic and political nature, any negotiations of that sort between Italy and Yugoslavia must undoubtedly have an immediate negative effect upon the commercial relations between Austria and Italy, and especially on the export of Austrian timber. While speaking of politics, we must mention the point of view of the English press, particularly of the Times, emphasising the historical right of German pressure towards the Adriatic. In this case, Italy, by gaining the friendship of Yugoslavia will be able to erect a wall against the German advance in the direction of the Adriatic and the Balkans.

And now to take the reader's minds of the complicated problems of European politics, it may be of interest to tell about a romantic story that came to a happy end in Vienna at the beginning of this month.

In 1933, a prominent young Austrian aristocrat, Prince Starhemberg, made the acquaintance of a charming young actress of humble origin — Nora Gregor — with whom he fell in love. As an actress, she is by no means a mediocrity. She has already been successful in numerous films in Hollywood, and speaking English perfectly, has also been a great success on the American stage.

In the meantime, he played no little rôle in Austrian politics, being the chief commander of the Heimwehr and becoming Vice-Chancellor. He took complicated and costly steps to obtain a divorce from his first wife, but was not successful till after he had lost his post during a cabinet crisis. Thus, a few days ago the wedding took place in the historical little Polish church on the Kahlenberg, putting an end to this romantic story.

PRESS REVIEW

I. K. C. (16XII) very strongly protests against the information appearing in the Foreign press concerning Poland's alleged intention to withdraw from the League of Nations. It writes "These fantastic rumours about Poland's intentions floated in Vienna and discussed in the London press have been contradicted by P.A.T. According to all probability they were initiated by Communist spheres who are not pleased with the moderate and objective policy of the Polish Government in relation to the doctrinaire camps that are in course of formation. It is equally untrue that Poland has any intention of withdrawing from the League of Nations".

Kurier Warszawski (16XII) expresses alarm at the "increasing arrogance of Danzig" and finds it is not astonishing that disturbing rumours about Danzig appeared in the English press "These rumours concerned alleged negotiations between Poland and Danzig on the question of creating a new state of affairs in the Free Town as regards international law with consideration of Polish needs. This is an obvious absurdity as Poland is only one of the participants in the Versailles Treaty and therefore cannot carry on such negotiations". Minister Eden explained this question in the House of Commons on the 17th inst.

Nowa Prawda (14XII) contains an article by the former President Stanislaw Wojciechowski in defence of parliamentarism which he finds is the more necessary for Poland in that after the long years of captivity there has remained a certain inclination to conspiracy and violence as a method of government. Among the intelligentsia there are still many hotheads not admitting any authority but their own understanding. A nation becoming independent within a parliamentary system ceases to be a suitable material for experiments

of different kinds of revolutionists".

Polska Zbrojna (19XII), writing in connection with the yearly meeting of the Union of Rural Youth, held on the 19th inst. in Warsaw, says that the enormous gathering of rural youth testified to their deep attachment to Marshal Smigly-Rydz and their readiness to work at the building up of the State. "Nowadays, in speaking of questions concerning the national defence, we cannot but base it permanently on such a fundamental element of its strength as the countryside. It gives to the army the largest amount of soldiers, it nourishes the country, finally it is the nearest connected with the field of struggle and the degree of its culture exercises a strong influence on the course of military action. Therefore both the cultural level and the economic development of the countryside as well as the mental standard of its inhabitants have a fundamental importance for the armed forces of the State".

Kurier Poranny in an article entitled "Poland must not be in arrears" advocates the adoption of modern methods of economy and politics contending that former economic and political liberalism do not answer to present day needs. It is impossible to put the clock back "The more therefore must we oppose all pressure of private interests, or tactics warning the country against modernity such as is practised by either fossilized brains or too crafty ones. Such agitation retards the natural process of development and in many cases is a reason that we drag behind other nations whereas we have all the abilities for taking a lead in every field".

Gazeta Polska (20XII) discussing the results of Minister Delbos' visit to Roumania says that the French diplomat similarly to his tactics in Warsaw emphasized chiefly concrete problems that are an essential and permanent basis for French-Roumanian cooperation. In conclusion the writer says "Minister Delbos' journey called by the French press a tour of friendship and information has ended with complete success both in Warsaw and in Bucarest. The alliance uniting France and Poland and the friendly French-Roumanian cooperation have been strengthened and the talks carried on in both capitals have supplied Mr. Delbos with informative material which is specially valuable at present when such serious and difficult tasks stand before French policy". K. M.

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Merry Christmas

and all good wishes for the New Year

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AUSTRALIAN LETTER

By Helen Heney

Interest was shown in Sydney lately when the Polish flag was flown there for the first time. It had only been seen previously in Australian waters at Broome, in the far north, when the "Dar Pomorza" called there for a few days in 1925.

The present arrival, Mr. Wagner, with Mr. Kondratowicz, roused interest among all those whose hobby is yachting, by his daring passage of the Pacific in the yacht "Ziwa III".

The two Poles left Guayaquil, Ecuador, on July 19th, and made a rapid passage to Raoria (Tuamotu Islands) covering 4200 miles in just over thirty days, and from there proceeded to Papete, Tahiti, where the yacht was laid up for repairs. The next lap took them to Raorotonga on September 30th.

Thence, the yacht made a line for Sydney, a difficult feat of steering, for this part of the Pacific is well within the tropic zone where coral reefs are numerous and the charts far from perfect owing to volcanic disturbances and the rate of growth of the coral itself.

The yachtsmen reached Sydney on November 5th. The journey is to be resumed in January next, and the yacht is at present undergoing repairs and painting. She is very well built, extremely fast, and has been attracting the attention of all people about the harbour who follow this sport (Sailing and racing yachts is with surfing, the chief coastal sport of New South Wales).

The Premier of New South Wales predicts a brighter Christmas, since there is to be reduction and partial abolition of the Wages Tax. This is important for the evidence it gives of Australia's progress on the way to recovery, since this tax was collected from those unemployed to finance part of the money paid for the maintenance of the unemployed. Mr. Stevens went on to say that unemployment was falling and there seemed every indication of record Christmas trade.

This recovery brings the question of migration again into prominence and during the depression, the tide was flowing the other way, and Australia was losing population. For the nine months ending in September this country received 2438 people, as compared with 177 in the same period last year. With the stimulated flow of population, too, has come a change in outlook — a readiness to look ahead to plans for further increase. It is felt that many mistakes have been made in the past, and that the subject should be gone into before anything practical is done. Little research has been carried out into the potential carrying capacity of Australia, which still rests largely on individual opinion but although it is being realised how much of Australia is unsuited in the present state of our knowledge to close white settlement, there is no doubt that the country could if more industrialised, support in primary secondary and tertiary production, a large increase over her present population without lowering the standard of life. The Empire Migration Conference held in London last month showed that interest is awakening in England, and that it seems likely that joint efforts for Empire Immigration between England and Australia will take place in the near future. But it is fairly safe to say that it will not be mass immigration, but the sending out of trained operatives and selected boys. Further than that cannot at present be prophesied.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE NAVY

It is believed that the plan suggested recently by General Sosnkowski, the Naval and Colonial League, may be accepted by the Government, at least to a considerable extent.

Six flotilla leaders of the "Grom" class, identical to those built in Coves by Messrs. Samuel White, would be built in the Gdynia shipyards, which are being developed. A thousand workmen have been engaged by the Gdynia shipyards to cope with the increased work, and technical collaboration of Messrs. Samuel White has been secured. It is understood that Poland will adhere to the London naval treaty of 1936.

POLISH — BRITISH COAL AGREEMENT

The Polish coalowners have signed in London a new agreement with the British coalowners, providing for an extension of the export agreement for another two years. The Polish coal industry obtained also a certain increase of its quota of export.

WARSAW BEATS IRELAND

The Warsaw boxing team beat the Irish national team by 10:6 in Warsaw on December 20th. The second Warsaw team scored a draw with the Irish boxers a week ago. (A.T.E.)

The New York Public Library requires the following back issues of the Warsaw Weekly: Vol. I, 33, 39, 41, 47, 49, 51, and Vol. II, 1, 2, 4. While any reader having these or other early issues please communicate with the Editorial office, Casackiego 1, Tel. 278-77.

FOREIGN TRADE, JANUARY—OCTOBER 1937.

The value of goods imported by Poland during January—October this year totalled 1,035,572,000 zlotys, while that of her exports was 976,926,000 zlotys, leaving an adverse balance of 58,646,000 zlotys for the ten months. Poland's commodity exchange with European countries, during the same period resulted in 771,201,000 zlotys of exports and 657,606,000 zlotys of imports, leaving a favourable balance of 113,595,000 zlotys. As regards trade with European countries the United Kingdom was first with imports from Poland valued at 180,309,000 zlotys and exports to Poland at 126,309,000 zlotys; Germany was second (imports from Poland 129,364,000 zlotys, and exports to Poland 146,478,000 zlotys); then followed Belgium, Holland, France, Czechoslovakia, Sweden and Italy. With the exception of Germany, the balance with all these countries was favourable to Poland.

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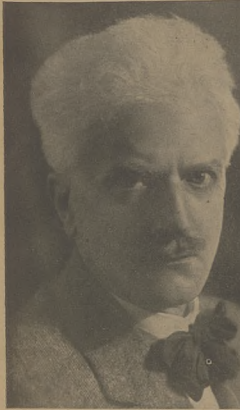
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Andrzej Strug (1873-1937)

By Jerzy Macierakowski



The late
ANDRZEJ STRUG

Photo K. PĘCHERSKI

Polish literature has suffered an irreparable loss through the death, on December 9th, 1937, of Tadeusz Gałeczi, one of the greatest contemporary novelists, who was also an eminent patriot and one of the leaders of the Polish Socialist Party (P. P. S.).

ANDRZEJ STRUG — such was the pseudonym of Tadeusz Gałeczi — was born on November, 26, 1873, on the estate of Konstantynów, near Lublin. He was educated in the Lublin schools, and afterwards in the Institute of Rural Economy at Putawy.

In 1894, he was arrested for his cultural activities in connection with the Rural Section of the P. P. S. After being imprisoned for some time in the 10-th Pavilion of the Warsaw Citadel, he was deported to Archangel, but in 1900 he returned to his native country and resumed active membership of the P. P. S.

He made his literary *debut* with a study of Stefan Żeromski (1901), for which he was awarded the first prize in a competition organized by the Literary and Scientific Association at Lwów. This study of Stefan Żeromski, and a second work (an analysis of the same author's great novel, *POPOLY (ASHES)*), are very characteristic. Of all Polish authors, Żeromski exercised the greatest influence on Strug as a creative artist, and throughout his life he continued and developed the ideology of the author of *ASHES*, even surpassing him in the powerful personal, political, and social motifs, which frequently re-echo in the background of his novels.

The Revolt of 1905-6 (in the preparation of which he played a part), again turned Strug's attention from literature to politics, with the result that in 1907 he was again arrested, imprisoned first in the Warsaw Town Hall and afterwards at Brześć n/B, and finally condemned to exile at Wiatka. Through the efforts and influence of friends, however, the novelist-politician, was rescued from isolation at Wiatka, and obtained permission to go to Paris. For six years, from 1908-1914, he remained there and, apart from his ceaseless political activities, he settled down seriously to novel-writing.

With the exception of *OJCOWIE NASI (OUR FATHERS)*—1911—based on the 1863 Insurrection—the entire series of novels produced during this period have as their background the author's own personal experiences and the events of 1905-6. *LUDZIE FOLZEM (PEOPLE OF THE UNDERGROUND)* 1908, is a picture of conspiracy in the struggle for

liberty. *JUTRO (TO-MORROW)*, 1909, recounts the experiences, on the day before his execution, of a rebel under sentence of death. *ZE WSPOMNIENIEM STAREGO SYMPATYKA (FROM THE MEMOIRS OF AN OLD FRIEND)*, 1909, contains a splendid portrait-gallery of the Revolutionaries of 1905. *W TWARDEJ SŁUŻBIE (HARD LABOUR)* 1909, shows the tragedy of youth in captivity. *DZIEJE JEDNEGO POCISKU (THE STORY OF A BOMB)* 1910, is a description of all classes of Polish society who took part in the 1905 Revolution and *PORTRET (THE PORTRAIT)*, 1913, is about the love of a painter for a girl - revolutionary, who is shot, but resurrected for him in his portrait of her.

These novels revealed to the reading public many unknown facts about the lives and ideas of the heroes of 1905-6. They were, however, much more than documents of an epoch. They were sufficiently rich in the freshness of their literary style and general power of characterisation to be counted from the first amongst the best of Polish novels, and to open up for Strug the prospect of a brilliant career as a novelist.

In 1914, his novel, *PIENIĄDZ (MONEY)* was printed in the Warsaw periodical, *Swiat (The World)*. It was at first reckoned amongst the literary battles with capitalism. Essentially, however, *MONEY*, depicts the tragedy of modern civilisation and the absolutism of human life under the all-pervading pressure of money. It is certainly one of the best novels written by Strug during that period. The construction of the plot is admirable, and free from the many digressions which sometimes mar the literary perfection of Strug's works, even though they contain just and penetrating observations upon the past or present epoch.

In August 1914, after his return from Paris, Strug became a member of Piłsudski's Polish Legions, and served in the cavalry under Belina, taking an active part in all the latter's campaigns. At the end of 1915, and throughout 1916, he was also editor of a military paper, *Rząd i Wojsko (The Government and the Army)*, printed in Warsaw.

The year 1916 also dates Strug's return to literature. At Zakopane he wrote one of his finest novels, *KRONIKA ŚWIECIECHOWSKA (THE E SWIECIECHOWSKA CHRONICLE)*, a very interesting and original study of the life and impressions of a man living in a remote provincial atmosphere, far from the world and the exciting problems of the day. The year 1916 also saw the production of

Some Unusual Diplomatic Cases in the Early 17th Century

By Dr. Waclaw Borowy.

Turkish affairs formed in the 16th and 17th centuries the principal political complex on which English and Polish interests and feelings agreed. One of the testimonies of this was the appearance of an unusual ambassador in Cracow in 1609. His name was Sir ROBERT SHIRLEY, but he wore an Oriental costume, his wife was a Circassian princess, and he had a message not from the King of England but from the Shah of Persia. He was a member of a very adventurous family, and together with his two elder brothers had made himself a name as a traveller and privateer. Having penetrated as far as Persia, he stayed there for some years, apparently instructing the Persian army, and was entrusted by the Shah with a political mission to several princes of Europe concerning the common danger from the Turks. Poland was the first country to which he went. It is doubtful whether anyone knew at that time at Cracow of his renown; that his life had been already described in special pamphlets in London and that he had even become a hero of a play (in 1607); at any rate he was regarded as a representative of England as well as Persia and entertained with great honours and display. No less than four flattering anagrams were devised for his name, and a number of elaborate Latin speeches were delivered which are all recorded in a pamphlet written by the dramatic poet Thomas Middleton (1609).

But not every embassy was so pleasant. In November 1615, e.g. an English envoy, JOHN DICKENSON, came to Warsaw and being received in state by King Sigismund III, complained of and protested against a book recently published in Poland containing several disparaging passages about the royal house of England. The insult was resented the more deeply, as the work was dedicated to a member of the well known family of the Ossolinski. Dickenson in the name of his monarch claimed punishment for the author and demanded the confiscation of the book. It was an awkward occasion. The work in question, signed by the name of some obscure Jesuit Caspar CICHOCKI, a medley of all possible matters (its title was *Alloqua Owecegnia*), contained indeed the passages in question. Elizabeth was called *portentosa virgo*, James I was compared with Nero, Diocletian, Maximian, and at one time even with Antichrist. These outbursts were *à propos* the persecutions of English Catholics. Now, Sigismund III was a fervent Catholic himself, and to a large extent certainly sympathised with the *Alloqua*, in spite of its tactless phraseology. When His British Majesty had written a book called *Bastion doron* glorifying his superiority in matters spiritual, His Polish Majesty was believed to have thrown that book into the fire, but political circumstances dictated prudence. Sigismund was

CHIMERA, not published until 1918, the story of a Socialist who takes part with the Legions in the War, in pursuit of the chimera of liberty.

The liberation of Poland found Strug engaged in all kinds of national and political activities, which finally brought him the dignity of Senator (by vote of the P. P. S.) in the years 1928-1930.

The last period of Strug's literary achievement — which is also the most brilliant and distinguished — opens in 1920 with the novels *ODZNAKA ZA WIERNĄ SŁUŻBĘ (THE CROSS FOR FAITHFUL SERVICE)* —

(Continued on page 4)

just thinking of an armistice with Sweden and had asked James I for mediation. James ordered his envoy to make it clear that his intervention was dependent on the outcome of his protest against the book. The Chancellor of Poland in his reply to Dickenson's oration expressed his regret over the affair, promised that the printer would be punished, but as for the author explained that he being a priest and subject therefore to the episcopal court, the most he could do was to appeal to the bishop. What the bishop would have done we know not, as Cichocki died during the trial. But some copies of his book were publicly burnt in the market - place in Warsaw. James I felt satisfied and presented Sigismund later with an autographed copy of his new work *Mskokapnos* inveighing against the stuff habit.

To indulge in invective was by no means safe in that period. Cichocki in spite of the English accusation could at least quietly die. But less fortunate was a citizen of some Prussian town whom we know by the latinised name of Stercovius. Interested in Scotland whose many representatives he had seen at home he went to see that country, but met there with a very unkind reception. His native costume which it did not come to his mind to change exposed him to the universal derision of the street, as we learn from a Scottish verse description of his adventures: „Hither he came clad all in:

antique sort,
Where seen in streets, the subject
of a sport
He soon became to childish

gazers, who
With screeches and clamours his
him to and fro,
Till forced he was with shame and
speed to pack him
And to his feet and loathsome
cabin take him".

His tourist plans having so miserably collapsed, the unfortunate "Polonian swaine" went "home to Pole" (as the same poem says).

"Where in a furious and choleric mood,
He nothing breathed but fire,
revenge and blood".
He gave way to his offended feelings in writing and published a pamphlet "in the German tongue" denouncing the nation by which he had been insulted. To quote the same source, it was "a legend of reproaches":
"Against the Scots, their manners,
and their fame
Of purpose to obscure their
splendid name
In all the Eastern clime".

The pamphlet was made known to James I and so upset him that he ordered his representative in Poland, PATRICK GORDON to prosecute its author for libel. Gordon did it so well that poor Stercovius was not only seized and tried, but condemned and — incredible though it seems — put to death. This happened in 1611 at Rastenburg, Prussia. It must be remembered that towns in Prussia as everywhere in Poland were ruled by the Magdeburg law which allowed capital punishment to be applied where it would be impossible under any other procedure in the country. It was certainly "one of the most atrocious acts of cruelty and injustice ever perpetrated under colour of law", as the chronicler of *Scottish Pasquils* (Edinburgh 1828) has qualified. The fate of Stercovius,



Sir Robert Shirley
(1591 — 1628)
From miniature by P. Oliver.

nevertheless, was not the worst one possible: when a few years later one Thomas Ross, a born Scot, published a pasquill against his countrymen living in England, he was not merely beheaded, but had his right hand cut off before. Both pamphlets have been so thoroughly suppressed that until lately nothing definite was known of their contents. Some time ago Professor Kot found a manuscript copy of Stercovius' pasquill in one of the East Prussian archives and is preparing its text for publication.

His vindictive process in Poland cost King James the large sum of £ 600 — which it was not easy to recover. The Scottish burghs were ordered to share the burden, and as they protested against it, the reimbursement seems to have been finally effected by the Scottish settlers in Dantzig. At least that is what was believed by Adam Anderson, the editor of the *Letters and State Papers during the Reign of King James VI* (Edinburgh 1830).

That painful case shows at any rate that the Scots and their king were not indifferent to views current in Poland.

POLISH - FRENCH MANIFESTATION IN LILLE

Lille. The 10th anniversary has been celebrated of the establishment of the chairs of Polish language, history and literature at the University of Lille. Lille is the centre of an area densely inhabited by Polish emigrants, who work as miners in the French coal mines of the North.

The teaching of the Polish language at the University of Lille has given excellent results, as a large number of French students have acquired the mastery of that language and many of them have visited Poland.

The Polish Ambassador in Paris, Mr. Łukaszewicz, decorated with the Polish order of Polonia Restituta several professors of the Lille University who have contributed to the progress of Polish studies.

(ATE)

SUCCESS OF MINISTERS AS MONEY COLLECTORS

The annual street collection for the Winter Relief Fund was helped by the participation of members of the Government, who went into the streets with money boxes.

2,500 collection boxes were used in Warsaw alone and they were all filled. The total sum collected has not yet been calculated, but it should certainly constitute a record.

The principal point about the Winter Relief collection is that everyone gives some sum, however small. The participation of the cabinet ministers, who stood each in front of his ministry, was a great attraction.

(ATE)

HUNGARIAN GYPSY ORCHESTRA

at FUKIER'S

Music and song to awaken the admiration of all



The Polish Ballet showing at Covent Garden London from 16th December to 9th January

Fukier House at the Old Market

Who has not heard of the beautiful old part of Warsaw, with the Presidential Castle, its numerous churches and the picturesque Old Market Place.

The quaint middle age buildings of the Old Market Place with their coloured fronts, were in former times the centre of the life of the Warsaw burghers. One of the most interesting of them is the house of Fukier, under the Sign of the Ship, known the world over for its cellars full of old wines and Polish meads.

The subsequent history of the firm is linked up with the history of Poland. Their rooms were frequented by Polish Royalty, the Nobility and the simple citizens. During the insurrections and the fighting for Polish independence, conspirators met in the Fukier cellars, to plot against the oppressors.

In the signature books which are kept there, can be seen that the tradition of visiting the Fukier house has been maintained until the present time. Amongst the famous signatures will be found those of Marshal Foch, the present Pope, Pius XI, and many others. One of the beautiful rooms on the first floor, is the Knight's room, decorated in Danzig style, and which has beautiful carvings in wood representing all the



The Cellar at Fukier's

coats of arms of the Polish provinces and of its prominent leaders, including Marshal Piłsudski. The best society of Warsaw

WARSAW CONCERTS

The second Szymanowski concert devoted to the works of this composer was held under the auspices of the Society for the Cultivation of Contemporary music in the Conservatoire on Thursday, 16th inst. The performers were Miss Goldhammer (piano), Madame Faryaszewska (song), the Polish Radio String Quartet, and Mr. J. Lefeld (accompaniment). All the artists approached their task with the reverence and seriousness these works demand.

At the Philharmonic Symphony Concert on Friday last Mr. Yssay Dobrowen conducted the G minor Symphony of Mozart with refinement and delicacy as well as two nocturnes of Debussy and Scriabin's "Ecstasy". The Swiss violinist André de Ribaupierre showed himself to be a fine artist in his performance of Bach's A minor concerto and some smaller pieces of Bach given as encores.

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Andrzej Strug

(Continued)

the moving memories of a young legionary.

In 1922, Strug achieved a great success with one of the most beautiful of his novels, MOGLA NIEZNANEGO ŻOŁNIERZA (THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER), which is not only a very patriotic, but also a very original literary work. This novel contains an interesting double plot — the first dealing with the life of a Polish soldier who is a prisoner of war, and the second (in the background of the world-struggle) suggestively and pertinently depicting the life and environment of the hero's family in a country in which the majority of the men are at the front.

MOGLA NIEZNANEGO ŻOŁNIERZA includes one of the most beautiful studies of a young girl in Polish literature. Nelly, a child of the hero, the young Polish patriot, is extremely moving in her love and in her misgivings over her father's fate.

Like all who worked and struggled hard for the resurrection of Poland, Strug also has an ideal vision of his re-created native country, and its citizens. The difference between reality and ideal is presented in the novel KOŁENIK MARKA SWIDY (THE GENERATION OF MARK SWIDA) 1925, which, apart from some biographical notes, is a portrayal of post-war Polish society, its development, disruption and change of ideology. Contemporary conditions of life are also vividly portrayed.

FOR TUN KASJER A SPIEWANKIEWICZ (THE FORTUNE OF CASHIER SPIEWANKIEWICZ) 1923 again deals with the money problem, this time in rather a sensational way. The plot revolves around a financial swindle and is perfect in its psychological design and in the development of the hero's character. KLUCZ OTCHŁANI (THE KEY OF INFERNO) 1929, on the other hand, is a great pacifist novel, the first of its kind in Polish literature, in which the author levels an accusation against all the war-mongers.

The greatest of Strug's literary works appeared in 1933. It was ŻOŁY KRZYŻ (THE YELLOW CROSS), a cycle divided into three parts: I. TAJEMNICA RENU (THE SECRETS OF THE RHINE), II. BOGOWIE GERMANII (THE GODS OF GERMANIA), and III. OSTATNI FILM EWA EVARD (THE LAST FILM OF EVA EVARD). The action of this masterpiece takes place in the last year of the world war, and the novel may be named, without exaggeration, the only great work written on this theme in Poland. Strug conducts his readers to the actual war-front only on very few occasions. His real object is to show the essentials of the war, all its secrets and political machinations, the causes of its birth and development. In a word he has written a study of the organism of war.

Moreover, the tragedy of war, treated here as a great human problem, is lifted far above the minor level of photographic reminiscence. The canvas of THE YELLOW CROSS is at its most impressive in the story of the film star, Eva Evard, the innocent victim of the war.

Finally, 1937, the tragic year of Strug's death, brought us his last work — the first volume of a new novel, MILLIARDS (MILLIARDS), dealing with capitalism.

He left some unfinished fragments of novels and many interesting papers, which we hope will be included in the existing

WARSAW AMUSEMENTS

THEATRES

NARODOWY. "Skiz" by Zapolska. POLSKI. "Głaska rozmaitynu" by Nowakowski. MAZY. "Freud's Theory of Dreams" by Cwojdzinski. NOWY. "Powrót Mamy" by Jasnorze wska. MALICKIE. "Maria Stuart" by J. Slowicki, or "The Mollus" by Davies. ATENEUM. "Panna Maliczewska" by Zapolska. KAMERALNY. "Christian" by Noe. LETNI. "In the Receivers Hands" by Arnold and Bach. NOWOSCI. MUSIC

TEATR WIELKI — OPERA. Saturday: Closed. Sunday: 12 — Performance for children. 3.30 "Legenda Baltyku". 8 — "The Sun of Mexico". Monday: "Halca". Tuesday: "Tosca". Wednesday: "Rigoletto". KONSERWATORIUM. Saturday: Closed. FILHARMONIA. Sunday: Early Matinée, Dir. Bronisław Wolfstali. Singer — Michał Zabejdo-Samicki. Friday: Symphony Concert. Dir. Bronisław Wolfstali. Piano — Janina Familler-Hepnerowa.

MUSICAL SHOWS

CYRULIK (WARSAWIAN). "Ktoś zna zwirowała". (One of us is Polity) "Upstairs". A.T. I. P. S. Winter Salon. ZACHETA. Winter Salon. NATIONAL MUSEUM. Monuments of Marshal Piłsudski. "Italian Landscape".

The Polish Institute for Collaboration with Foreign Countries is moving to new premises at Marszałkowska 153 on 1st January

CINEMAS

ATLANTIC. Errol Flynn in "The Prince and the Beggar Boy". (Mark Twain's Famous novel). BAŁYK. Dita Parlo and Erich Stroheim in "Comrades in Arms". (A Striking War Film). CASINO. Turska Bandrowska & Zielińska in "Halika". (Montausch's Famous opera). CAPPELLI. Smorawska in "Prince Józef's Uban". (Polish Film of Napoleonic wars). COLOSSEUM. Barszczewska in "Kosciuszko at Raclawice". (Poland in the reign of Stanislaw August). EUROPA. Rainer and Tracy in "Dead End". (High quality sociological drama). IMPERIAL. Madeleine Carroll in "Boulevard Lights". (Romantic Comedy). HOLLYWOOD. Magda Schneider in "Two Days of Happiness". (Sparkling Austrian musical). PALLADIUM. Taylor & Powell in "Broadway Melody of 1937". (Musical with good tap dancing). PAN. Laurel and Hardy in a new full length comedy. RIALTO. Jean Arthur in "Essay Living". (The best comedy of 1937). ROMA. Full Programme of Walt Disney Films. STYLWY. Barszczewska and Cwiklińska in "Dziwaczka z Nowolipki". (Good rendering of the well known novel). STUDIO. "The Country of Love (German comedy). SWIATOWID. Maurice Chevalier in "A smile on the Lips". (French comedy). VICTORIA. Shirley Temple in "Wee Willie Winkie". (Kipling's well known story). Starred cinemas play at 5, 7, 9, others at 8, 6, 10.

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very beautiful edition of his works, published by J. Mortkowicz.

In concluding this literary silhouette of Andrzej Strug it must be added that he will occupy his place in history, not only as one of the greatest contemporary Polish novelists, and a great patriot, but also as a very

powerful personality, who was never content to let his words remain words, but always confirmed them by his actions. It was because he embodied in himself the highest ethical and patriotic principles that during his life and after his death even his political adversaries rendered homage to the great citizen and eminent writer.

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