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Czechoslovak Poles demand Autonomy LONDON LETTER

By Gregory Macdonald

The representatives of all Polish parties in Czechoslovakia founded on March 26th in Cieszyn the Union of Poles in Czechoslovakia, which will henceforth be the centralised representation of the 200,000 Poles of the region of Cieszyn.

On the 27th March the Union published a manifesto in its organ "Dziennik Polski". It states that the aim of the Union will be to consolidate the forces of all the Poles in Czechoslovakia, irrespective of their religion, class or former political allegiance, in order to obtain general benefits for the whole Polish community.

"We regard as Poles" stated the "Dziennik Polski"—"not only the members of our organisation, but also those of our brothers who have been temporarily enticed away by methods we know only too well. Until the Czech nation does not recognize our right to full and free development on our territory—nobody can expect us to extend a friendly hand".

The Union of Poles in Czechoslovakia demands equality of political and economical rights for the Poles within the Republic. It claims the right for equality of right to employment, not only as workmen, but also as executives, engineers, etc. So far the Poles in Czechoslovakia have not been admitted to the higher grades of employment. As to the civil service, the Poles were never admitted to it, not even in the districts which are inhabited almost entirely by them.

The Poles of the region of Cieszyn further claim from the Czech authorities the discontinuation of the anti-Polish activity, which is designed to turn Poles into Czechs. The public schools are the principal instrument of that activity and for that reason the main demand of the Poles is concerned with the educational system, which should be entirely Polish in the territories inhabited by Poles.

"We shall never tolerate that the Polish population should not have the same rights which are enjoyed by other populations in the Republic"—concludes the manifesto of the Union. "We demand the same rights as those of the Czech nationality. As all the nationalities are claiming autonomous rights, we claim them also for ourselves on the ethnographically Polish territories".

The region of Cieszyn (Teschen) was taken by the Czechs by force in 1919, when Poland was menaced by the Bolshevik aggression from the East and was not in a position to offer sufficient resistance also in the West. The Czechs occupied the region inhabited by Poles because of its rich coalfields, and during the following eighteen years they oppressed the Poles in many ways, attempting to make them desist their nationality.

Such attempts, as well as the efforts of the Czechs to win over the Poles of Cieszyn to their side, have remained fruitless and the Poles have become more and more determined to stand up in the defence of their rights. The moment when the Germans of the Sudeten, the Slovaks of Slovakia and other nationalities of the mixed Czechoslovak Republic are claiming autonomy, has been judged opportune by the Poles of Cieszyn for stating their demands.

Needless to add, the Poles of Cieszyn have in their desires of autonomy the fullest sympathy of the whole of Poland, which watched with resentment the severe treatment to which their brothers have been subjected until now by the Czechs. The 200,000 Poles inhabit the region of Cieszyn in a compact mass and they have every right to a free national life within the Czechoslovak Republic.

(A.T.E.)

London shares the relief of other European capitals over the outcome of the vital debate on foreign affairs which included Mr. Neville Chamberlain's statement of policy. It is seldom that any such pronouncement gets a universally good press, and there is satisfaction that the comments from Prague and Paris as well as from Berlin and Rome all in one way or another praise the Prime Minister or criticise him in a subdued key. At home the reaction is equally favourable. Comments in that part of the Press which supports the Government are balanced and constructive. The opposition papers naturally have their doubts, but the significant features of the day are that the clamour of certain sections in the House of Commons has been silenced and that the Trade Union leaders are willing to support the Government to the utmost in the armaments programme.

In our own quiet way we have passed through a severe political crisis, partly the result of events on the European mainland and partly a demonstration of the struggle of ideologies in the community. That struggle is going on here as elsewhere, though in a modified form, and in the face of a real emergency the national unity reasserts itself. What was in question was whether the idealists of the League of Nations school would continue to guide British policy or whether national support would be given to a realistic attempt to understand differing political conceptions before the cleavage of Europe into two hostile camps finally crystallised into a state of war. The incorporation of Austria and the bombing of Barcelona did not help Mr. Chamberlain in his efforts to educate the public. As for the first, perhaps not sufficient notice was taken of the danger of civil war in Austria, had Dr. Schuschnigg's plebiscite proposal been allowed to mature. But films showing the evident delight of the Austrian people at the entry of German troops did much to dampen the cry that this was another Belgium. As for the second, there can be little doubt that General Franco's cause suffered heavily in public esteem, and so there was an opportunity to whip up public indignation over the advance into Catalonia. But the people of this country want peace if it can be honourably achieved, and the strength of Mr. Chamberlain's statement was that it underlined the obligations which Great Britain considers binding, at the same time promising a sensible discussion of a wide range of other interests connected with a confidence that the armed strength of the British Empire is increasing to implement a just policy.

It is nevertheless appreciated that the crisis is not yet passed, though any new emergency is not likely to come first from the

Marshal Smigly-Rydz speaking to a crowded audience at Wilno on the 18th of March during the Polish-Lithuanian crisis.



opposition at home. The Spanish War is bound to have its echoes yet and if the conflagration were to spread at the last moment there would be little possibility for this country to be an interested observer. But on the whole a remarkable advance towards the pacification of Europe has been gained. It is still possible for London to negotiate with Berlin, for the Prime Minister refused to adopt a static attitude towards the Austrian question. The Italian talks are proceeding satisfactorily, with no more than the hitches easily to be foreseen on the thorny problems of Spain and Abyssinia. And perhaps most important of all, though forgotten in the whirl of European events, the Anglo-American Trade Treaty is being negotiated in Washington, with every likelihood now that Germany and Italy may subsequently adhere to it.

Meanwhile the depressing preparations for war have to continue. These are most noticeable in the anti-air raid precautions which are being popularised in London and in the greater towns by a campaign of recruitment. "Black-outs" are being practised in the big sea-ports and in the London suburbs. Searchlights add to the beauty of the night sky. Bomb shelters are being built everywhere, in back gardens and on large estates, in factories and in office buildings. Large firms are taking the precaution of training their employees and some of them have their own fire brigades. The size of London is recognised to present a particular problem of defence. Lord Beaverbrook, ever fertile in suggestions, is campaigning for inducements to be given for Londoners to move further afield by cheap fare facilities and garden city development. It is likely enough that some such long term policy will be given consideration,

and if so the present menace of war will have a permanent effect upon the structure of the metropolis.

But the air in peace has its victories no less renowned than in war. Flying Officer Clouston and Victor Ricketts are popular for their spectacular flight to New Zealand and back in eleven days. This was recordbreaking on a big scale, besides being a singular test of endurance for the men and for their machine. No doubt their record will be broken soon enough, but it takes its place as one of the great pioneer flights the memory of which every nation treasures when it is achieved in the face of long odds. The most remarkable feature of the New Zealand flight was that there were no emergencies to report. It went off almost as though by routine.

The crisis in Eastern Europe which resulted in the negotiations between Poland and Lithuania was treated with remarkable sympathy and understanding in the London Press. The first news was disturbing at a time when the international atmosphere was obscure anyhow. But the main lines of the situation soon emerged and considerable attention was given to the interview with Colonel Beck in the *Daily Mail*. There was an almost universal comment that something had been done to clear up one of the danger spots of Europe, while the rights of the Polish case were recognised. The negotiations between Polish and Lithuanian representatives are being followed with interest and the possibilities of establishing a neutral bloc are being examined in the papers which carry the most influence. This sympathetic attitude is symptomatic of the excellent Anglo-Polish relations at present obtaining, for no one can pretend that there is a close

(Continued on page 2)



Mr. CASIMIR SKIRPA, the first Lithuanian Minister to Poland on his arrival at Warsaw.

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

After the reporting that the index of industrial production in Poland for last January revealed a further advance the monthly bulletin of the National Economic Bank pointed to the usual seasonal increase in the number of registered unemployed. Domestic trade turnover slackened after the animation in December, as did also foreign trade, especially on the export side, which resulted in a larger adverse balance. Besides a decline of timber, iron and steel exports, shipments of agricultural produce to foreign countries were also smaller than in December. Contraction of turnover and the existence of considerable financial reserves in business undertakings caused a restriction in the money demand for credit, a corresponding restriction in the credit activities of the banks and much lesser rediscount with the Bank of Poland than at the end of last year. The great liquidity of the money market was maintained, while deposits, especially of savings, continued to rise. The cut in the interest rate on deposits caused a partial transformation of call into fixed term deposits for which a higher rate of interest is allowed. The cheapening of credit effected by the banks at the end of the year resulted in reduced rates for private money also, but so far no corresponding animation on the securities market has been observed, although quotations especially of shares, show a fair advance.

CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETIES

At the end of the third quarter of 1937 there were in the 5,993 co-operative credit societies in Poland 700,127 depositors accounts with aggregate credit balances of 255,797,000 zlotys. The increase of deposits during the quarter amounted to 6 million zlotys. Deposits with 3,574 Polish societies totalled over 150 million and these with 1,747 national - minority societies over 102 million zlotys. Deposits on current accounts came to more than 24 million zlotys, the Polish societies accounting for over 10 million zlotys. The aggregate credits granted amounted to 512,126,000 zlotys (an increase of the quarter of nearly 10 million); the joint indebtedness of the societies rose from 170,886,000 to 178,366,000 zlotys.

TIMBER FELLING AND AFFORESTATION

During the period 1919 - 36 the Administration of the Polish State Forests felled timber on 476,664 hectares, and re-afforested 669,069 hectares (1 hectare = 2.47 acres), a net gain

of 192,385 hectares of afforestation - over fellings. During 1931-32 193,86 fellings totalled 121,028 hectares and afforestation 179,044 ha, a surplus of just over 58,000 hectares. When taking over the State Forests in 1919 the Administration found 213,500 hectares of recent fellings left without re-afforestation, while another 20,000 hectares of forest had been devastated during the War. Thus the re-afforestation of about 240,000 hectares had to be effected and in the course of eighteen years, this difficult work was carried out with the result that the unwooded area of the State Forests has been reduced from 9 per cent to 3 per cent of their total area.

THE LABOUR MARKET

During the period February 15th - March 1st this year the total number of registered unemployed in Poland decreased by 5,962 to 547,983 persons. In itself the decline is only slight, yet very significant as a symptom of economic conditions in the country, the decrease of unemployment connected with seasonal conditions having set in much earlier than in former years and before the resumption of public works on a large scale which usually takes place, in mid-March. The number of persons employed in the industries (establishments employing 20 or more workers) is this year considerably in excess of former years. Last January such establishments employed 725,121 persons as against 645,671 a year ago.

NATIONAL DEBT

As on October 1st, 1937, the internal debt of Poland totalled 2,100 million zlotys. The total amount of internal loan issues was 1,700 million zlotys, an increase of 400 million zlotys as against the total outstanding on October 1st 1936. Since April last the bonds of Polish external dollar issues held in Poland have been converted to bonds of the 4% per cent internal loan; this operation will go on to the end of next May. The other internal debts of the Polish Treasury amount to 400 million zlotys, including the interest free credit of 90 million zlotys with Bank of Poland, of which, however, 10 million were paid off before the end of last year. Between October 1st 1936 and October 1st 1937 Poland's external debt decreased by nearly 290 million zlotys, external loan issues totalling 548.9 million as against 743.6 million zlotys a year ago. The debt to foreign governments declined by 165 million to 1,700 million zlotys. As on October 1st 1937 the debt to the U. S. Government was just

over 1,000 million zlotys, that to France 400 million, that to the U. K. 100 million zlotys. The so-called Liquidation Debt (Austro-Hungarian debts taken over) stood, as October 1st 1937, at 300 million zlotys.

ACCUMULATION OF CAPITAL

The opening months of the current year were marked by continued favourable progress in the accumulation of capital. Savings deposits with the Polish Postal Savings Bank (P. K. O.) increased by nearly 26 million zlotys during January and February, the total reaching over 87 million zlotys. Deposits on cheque accounts exceeded 241 million, so that deposits with the P. K. O. aggregated 1,049 million zlotys at the end of February. Nearly 154,000 new depositors' books were issued during these two months, bringing the number of valid books to over 3,044,000. A similar expansion took place in deposits with the Warsaw Communal Savings Bank; deposits on savings and cheque account with this bank rose in 1937 by 28.6 million to over 145 million zlotys; the number of new depositors' books issued was 17,000 so that the number of valid books at the end of the year was over 116,000. As at the end of February, deposits amounted to 150 million zlotys and the number of valid depositors books came to 120,669. The other communal savings banks in Poland and the cooperative loan and savings societies also reported favourable progress.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

The revenue of the Polish Treasury for the first eleven months of the current fiscal year totalled 2,110,812,000 zlotys as against 1,960,614,000 zlotys for the corresponding period of the preceding year (increase: 7.66 per cent). A surplus of 15,349,000 was attained, the total expenditure being 2,095,463,000 zlotys (1,960,666,000 zlot for the same period of 1936/7). For the yield of taxes and duties amounted to 1,229,598,000 zlotys (as against 1,104,458,000 zlot - an increase of 11.3 per cent) net payments to the Treasury by the State Monopolies came to 593,370,000 zlotys (as against 585,303,000 zlot - an increase of 1.37 per cent) the net receipts of the State enterprises came to 96,264,000 zlotys (as against 61,296,000 zlot - an increase of 57.04 per cent). Administrative receipts amounted to 191,580,000 zlotys. Custom duties recorded the greatest rise - from 79,012,000 zlotys to 143,629,000 zlotys (increase: 81.78 per cent). The State Tobacco Monopoly paid in 301,504,000 zlotys, the Spirits Monopoly 220,744,000 zlotys.

THE ORIGINS OF THE POLISH STATE

By Max Goryński

(Continued from No. 8)

The three or four Polish genes of reputed Scandinavian ancestry were originally settled around Goplo where Kruszwica, the original seat of the Popiel dynasty is to be found. After the ousting of the Popiels by the Piasts, the Awdianiec family, in whom Prof. Semkowicz sees descendants of a Viking Ascolid, while Dr. Krotoski says more daringly, of Ascolid of Kiev, settle beyond the Warta river, in the marshes of the Obrva river, out of reach of the then Piast power; the family spread later on into Lower Silesia even as far as Breslau. Being fervent Christians the Awdianiec-Popiel - Dr. Krotoski does not refrain from this identification—became reconciled to Casimir the Restorer and were his main support in Poland in suppressing the pagan reaction. The overthrow of the Popiel dynasty may have happened about 900, the reconciliation of the house of Awdianiec with the Piasts about 1040.

Etymology is slippery ground for historians to fight upon; very few of them are sufficiently trained in linguistics to avoid the pit - falls of what to philologists is known as "popular etymologizing". By his appeals to etymology Dr. Krotoski has rather weakened than strengthened his main argument. Just because it reads so romantic there is nothing really inacceptable in his thesis that fugitives from Kiev may have given rise to the Polish State, even the leading Polish historical journal, *Kwartalnik historyczny* (Historical Quarterly) has published one of Dr. Krotoski's papers on the question, manifesting in this way the intention of the craft to keep an open mind. Yet evidence of the kind historians are prepared to accept as conclusive is still missing in the matter, and without such support Dr. Krotoski's etymological reasoning has too little weight. References to linguistic authorities are baffling; without a thorough research into the origins of all those places the names of which are quoted by Dr. Krotoski, it is impossible to decide whether he is right in connecting them with the arrival of Polans from the Dnieper. Prof. Alexander Brückner persists in rejecting the rehabilitation of the Popiel and Piast Sagas as possible sources of fragments at least of historical facts. He does not, for instance, exclude the equation Ascolid =

Jaszczold, Jaskotel, but he derives the name Ascolid from Swedish *asca* = ash - tree (Polish *jasion*), and then, of course, the dynasty Ascolid = Popiel falls to the ground. Unless we construe a prehistoric case of "popular etymologizing" and say that nevertheless the Polans of Kiev may have preferred the other derivation and translation of their Viking leader's name.

The last section of Dr. Krotoski's paper in the *Kwartalnik historyczny* where he grapples with the problem of King Popiel's Mice, is certainly built up on most slippery ground. The first of his etymological arguments holds fast well enough; there is hardly any doubt that *Misca* of the German chroniclers, *Mszka* of the Jewish-Arab sources corresponds to a Slavonic *Miszka* or *Mieszka*, and that the meaning of this name of the first authentically recorded ruler of Poland is Slavonic in Scandinavian *Björn. Mieszka* is the diminutive to *niedzwiedz* (originally *międwied* and *międwiedz*), the "honey - eater", common to all Slavonic languages for naming the animal that down to historic times was the king of the Eastern European forests. Why Długosz, the Polish historian of the 15th century, substituted *Mieszko* for *Miszko*, is more than Prof. Alexander Brückner cares to tell his readers, and Prof. Theodor Schiemann's Russian predictions seem a poor excuse for his again changing the name to *Mstislav*. Matrimonial connexions of the Piast dynasty with Scandinavian ruling families may have begun in prehistoric time, thus *Mieszka* may have been named for some Björn in his mother's family. Dr. Krotoski, however, tries to establish quite a different explanation.

Gallus Anonymus was the first to tell that Popiel, after being driven out of his realm by Ziemowit, the son of Piast, was chased by mice, and finally devoured by them in a wooden tower on an island. The chroniclers who came after Gallus greatly expanded and "embellished" this story; popular tradition did not hesitate to see Popiel's Mouse Tower in a structure at Kruszwica on Lake Goplo. There are, of course, several Mouse Towers in Europe, the most famous at Bingen in the Rhine where an archbishop died of Mainz, the first about 850-913) or the second (968-970) of the name, popular opinion holding both worthy of such an end - is told to have been devoured by mice. The folkloristic motif of mice avenging popular wrongs is widely spread, yet seems not older than the 11th or 12th century, and may be of learned foreign importation in Poland, even in the same sentence of Gallus' chronicle. Unfortunately Dr. Krotoski found a townlet *Mieszów* on the map of Great Poland, to the south of the Warta, where in ancient times there was a maze of marshes, small lakes and rivers convenient for roving expeditions in the old Viking style, and places like Lwanów, Kusko, Cerekwica are near by. As those are all place names of Eastern Slavonic type of which Dr. Krotoski is making so much in his etymologizing, he claims that this region of Great Poland must have been a settling centre of the Russ or Varangians who led the Dnieper Polans on their expedition in search of a new home when Ascolid had been slain and Kiev taken by Oleg; and he suggests that in the 10th century there was still a gens of Björns, *Slavonic Mszkas* (Bears - little bears) around Mieszów, of which they had been the chief supporters of

London Letter

(Concluded)

Knowledge of Eastern European affairs among the general public here, and some years ago mistakes of fact were common in the Press. Where they occur now it is by way of obvious propaganda from interested quarters and they are confined to a few papers.

Sir John Simon's first Budget will from now on command the chief attention in internal affairs unless an unforeseen crisis develops. Already more than the estimated revenue has come into the Treasury, and the only likelihood of increased taxation will arise from the arms programme. It is rumoured that the Government is scrutinising the accounts of richer tax-payers who manage to evade their dues, to the extent, it is said of £ 50,000,000. The forecast can be safely made that there will be for the general public no more than a re-arrangement of existing burdens for the convenience of the Treasury. But the first Budget of a new Chancellor is always likely to contain surprises.

(Continued on page 3)

POLISH UNION OF BACON AND ANIMAL PRODUCT EXPORTERS

Warsaw, Kopernika 30
Cables: BACUNION

Unites all Polish Exporters of Live Stock and Animal Products.

Value of exports in 1937 - 195 million zł.

Address of Welcome to Mr. Herbert C. Hoover



on his visit to
Cracow University.
March 11, 1938
by Professor
R. Dyboski

Mr. H. C. Hoover
at the
Wauel Castle

Sir,
when a man who has in his time been the head of one of the two great English-speaking communities in the world is the guest of a University whose honorary degree he holds, it is only natural that the Professor of English should claim the honourable privilege of expressing the University's welcome to the distinguished visitor. If, in this capacity, I venture on the present occasion to engage your attention for a brief while, it is because I have even more particular reasons to prompt me. My eminent predecessor on this platform has paid you the tribute which is your due on behalf of the medical Faculty, whose honorary degree was selected as the most appropriate mark of our recognition of the great services rendered by you to the health of the people of the reborn Poland. Tributes of the same sort are strewn your path on your present journey through Europe, and little can be added to the unanimous chorus of praise and gratitude by which so many nations take occasion to commemorate in these days your memorable and historic relief action of the early post-war years. It was not my fortune to be in Poland at the time and to have a share in the act by which this University honoured itself through adding your name to the roll of its honorary graduates. But from my captivity in Russia, where your name was at that very time becoming a household word, I returned home to Poland soon enough to find myself still surrounded by the full wave of popular enthusiasm over the beneficial activities organised by you; and even now, in the exercise of my profession of University teacher, I am in daily contact with young people who remember from their earliest childhood what they were then told by their parents, and what they are not likely ever to forget — that it is to Herbert Clark Hoover that they owe their rescue from starvation and their fulness of life in that new free Poland which another great American — President Wilson — had been instrumental in placing on the map again. Some of those students, who were among the "Hoover children" in their infancy, are now in this hall to do you homage.

In the years between then and now I have had the happy chance to see something of the United States for myself, on the occasion of two lecture tours, and it was during the second one of them that I had the distinguished privilege of being received by you, Sir, at the White House as a

member of the delegation which represented Poland at the celebrations on the 150th anniversary of the heroic death of the Polish General Pulaski in America's War of Independence. My two visits to America have enabled me to present to my hearers and readers in Poland the achievements of America's great men of letters and of her great men of action against their proper background as constituted by the American scene and by the American people. If after my visits to your great country I feel better qualified to trace the unifying thread of Americanism running through the life's work of such widely different and equally outstanding personalities as George Washington and Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton, Abraham Lincoln and Theodore Roosevelt, or in the sphere of literature — Ralph Waldo Emerson and Walt Whitman, Nathaniel Hawthorne and Mark Twain. — I may perhaps say that the same experience has helped me to realise which of the highest qualities of the American national genius we are justified in thinking of as being worthily represented by your own personality, Sir, and the chronicle of your active life. Both your notable early work as a mining engineer in many parts of the world, and your eight years' record of public service as Secretary of State for Commerce, with its memorable measures in the field of economic policy, indeed breathe that very spirit of daring individual enterprise backed by strict efficiency, and of power of vision combined with a shrewd sense of reality, which built up the greatness of America in the course of the last hundred years. And while the world-wide experience of your early engineering days was a fit preparation for your great organising activities in post-war Europe, your Secretaryship of State was an equally creative period of preparation for the hard and difficult tasks which fall to you share during your Presidency, when the whole world found itself in the grips of unprecedented economic depression.

According to a time-honoured medieval custom those who are awarded the degree of doctor — which literally means "teacher" — are by virtue of that very title in possession of the right to teach in the halls of the University. In your case, Sir, we assuredly have enough to be grateful for in what your life and your constructive labours teach us without the formality of academic lectures. It was also as a lecturer, however, that you taught us something of

PRESS REVIEW

The press is still much interested in the solution of the Polish-Lithuanian problem. *Stowu*, a Wilno paper, writes that Minister Beck is supposed to have said in a circle of politicians that while the standpoint of Germany and Italy was known to be that of disinterestedness, the French position was also no surprise "as France during 18 years did nothing to contribute to a normalizing of Polish-Lithuanian conditions. The English initiative proved to be very conciliatory. The Soviets showed entire powerlessness." *Stowu* writes that we may expect that Minister Beck's policy towards Lithuania will continue on the same lines of patience, calm and moderation.

J. K. C. discussing Premier Chamberlain's speech in the House of Commons says it will bring some tranquillity to Europe. Now at least we know more of the principles of the game. The game itself remains a mystery and a theme for guessing. However we know now that England does not find it possible to hold aside in the case of a European conflagration. She warns in polite,

vital importance on at least one memorable occasion. An address of yours on "Science and the Nation", delivered at a conference in December, 1926, was published in translation in our Engineering Review and had a wide repercussion in Polish public opinion. In that address, while illustrating by facts and figures the disproportion between the endeavours of our own scientific research in the United States, you dwell in weighty words on the national importance of abstract science and of its advancement. It cannot be repeated often enough and deserves to be remembered throughout the world in the very words you used on that occasion, that "the achievements of pure research, although not productive of immediate material gain, yet in the last resort uphold our entire civilisation and constitute its essential future; that research workers are the most valuable citizens and ought to be provided by all national governments, in their own best interest, with full opportunities to pursue their labours unhampered, that all branches of essential production are bound ultimately to benefit by scientific discoveries in all domains; and the organised quest for Truth is, in fine, the only path of true progress, intellectual and material as well as spiritual and moral."

Such maxims and doctrines, supported as they are by your own life's work for the benefit of your nation, as well as of humanity at large, certainly will be one of the great doctors or teachers of our time and fully justify all the honorary doctors' degrees which have been conferred upon you, including the Cracow degree of nearly twenty years ago which we commemorate to-day.

Among those who are no doubt most willing to profit by the lessons which by your precepts and your practice convey, allow me to recommend to you, as your benevolent interest the thousands of young American students of Polish origin who now figure on the rolls of Colleges and Universities in the United States. During XIXth and early XXth centuries, the United States nobly repaid the services of Kościuszko and the heroic death of Pulaski by affording hospitable shelter to millions of poor, hard-working Polish emigrants who made a new and more prosperous home for themselves across the seas. Their children, born under the happier stars of your great Republic and endowed with all the advantages of American higher education, are now preparing for professional careers as fully equipped and efficient American citizens, eager to serve the

old-fashioned terms, discreetly hidden under the mantle of good form that it will not do to count too much on her extreme patience. Such English words mean much. By the lips of the Premier England repeats the old proverb "We are all in the same boat."

Dziennik Poznański writes in the question of the University disturbances saying that disputes, political quarrels and mutual fighting with clubs and sticks will disappear from Polish life if professors will devote more time to the youth "if they succeed at the seminaries, practices and lectures in inspiring the youth with true love of science, if they themselves as lecturers cease paying homage to routine and to the easiest road of the professor — who in general does not know his audience."

Przeg a weekly organ of the Peoples' Party discusses the President's last speech on the radio saying that according to him the Government will gain over the rural population by reforming its economic situation, by land reform, melioration, better organization of the sale of land products etc. In fact, writes *Przeg*, the programme is the same as that of Minister Poniatowski and Premier Składkowski, etc. "The President criticises politics in the countryside and the rural leaders who aim at acquiring political power. Hence we see that the opinions of those who connected the utterances of the President with hopes of changes in the government and policy must suffer disappointment." K. M.

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community which they will live and die in, and to which they are attached with the affection felt by all true Americans for their great country and nation. Some of them are availing themselves of the opportunities offered by such organisations for the exchange of students and teachers between Poland and America as the "Kościuszko Foundation" in New York, and are actually among us in this University and in other Universities of Poland, in order to become acquainted with the historical civilisation and the recent independent life of the country of their fathers. They will surely not become worse but better sons of America and fellow-builders of her future greatness if they thus act in the spirit of Virgil's great words *Antiquam exquirite matrem* — "Find your ancient mother again" — and if they establish a solid and lasting spiritual connection with one of the greatest civilisations of Europe, with which they are linked up by ties of blood and descent. You yourself, Sir, have shown us to-day by the noble gesture of your visit to the tomb of our national hero Kościuszko, who is also a hero of America, that a great American patriot's lifelong devotion to his country may be combined with whole-hearted recognition of what America owes to Europe, and Americans of Polish origin will assuredly be made as proud and happy by this new proof of the unbroken and undisturbed historical tradition of friendship between our two nations, as are the Poles themselves, who rejoice in welcoming you among them, and for whom Poland's oldest University speaks to-day through my mouth in extending to you the most respectful salutations.

The Origins of the Polish State

(concluded)

Ziemowit in his rebellion against Popiel, and that out of gratitude to them Ziemowit's grandson received the name of Mieszko. In course of time, when the diminutive *mieszko* had begun to be replaced by *międatęk* in popular speech, the Mieszkos who had played such a role in Popiel's undoing, were confused with fabulously ferocious *myszki* (little mice) popular imagination, giving rise to the story that Popiel was devoured by mice. The Piast dynasty may have helped in spreading the story by which the rebellion of the Piasts and of the Björn-Mieszkos was extinguished from popular memory. The legend of a tyrant was substituted, who was put out of the way by miraculous means to make place for a dynasty of peasant origin.

Apart from the etymological blind alleys into which Dr. Krotoski is straying, his suggestion of a Polan migration from the Dniepr to the Warta basin has some value as an indication of a possible avenue for further research. No positive evidence, however, is as yet forthcoming in support of popular thesis; on the contrary, there has come recently to light much negative evidence against connecting the origins of the Polish State with Viking enterprise, under which heading a supposed trek of Ascolod followers from Kiev would have also to be ranged. Excavations going on at Gniezno have uncovered the site of the oldest settlement of the Piast princes and, below these remains, other layers of which the oldest goes back at least to the 7th century, two hundred years before the earliest mention of Gniezno by an Arab geographer. The finds dating from the 10th and 11th centuries are very numerous, but according to a report by Prof. Kostrzewski there is not a single one among them which would establish connection with Scandinavian culture. The digging up of Gniezno's past is to be continued, and it will certainly result in a welcome extension of our knowledge, so scanty at present, of Poland's Dawn of History. Yet it appears doubtful whether it will yield materials for a definite settlement of the fundamental dispute that divides the schools of Polish historians — of the great majority who hold the opinion that the Polish State, like that of Alfred the Great, originated in the gradual conquest of the country by a dynasty of Polish chieftains, and of the very small minority, votaries of a supposed general "law" in history, that no people of primitive agricultural civilization ever rose to the foundation of a state by inside evolution, that always and everywhere the State has been the exclusive achievement of invading nomads, conquerors on land and on sea. Of course, no prejudice or "doxy" of any kind is at the bottom of the diverging opinions, and both the schools are open and ready to accept their opponent's teaching if only conclusive evidence is presented.

Max Goryński.

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THE JUBILEE OF THE TEATR POLSKI IN WARSAW



On March 31, all cultural Poland celebrated the 25 years' jubilee of the *Teatr Polski*, which was created in 1913 thanks to the initiative of Dr. Arnold Szyfman, who is still its general manager. Many representatives of Polish aristocratic and financial circles, headed by Tomasz Count Potocki, Edward Count Krasiński, Stanisław Prince Lubomirski, Maurycy Count Zamoycki, Julian Tołkocki, Maurycy Spokorny, Franciszek Karpiński and others gave financial support to Szyfman which resulted in the opening of the finest stage in Poland and one of the best in Europe. The edifice was projected and built by an excellent Polish architect, Czesław Przybylski and received all the technical and structural requirements of a modern theatrical building.

The inauguration of the theatre took place on January, 29, 1913 with a performance of "Irydion" by Zygmunt Krasiński, one of the masterpieces of Polish romantic literature. This great work produced by Arnold Szyfman, with settings and costumings projected by Karol Frycz and executed by Wincenty Drabik, with a cast including Józef Węgrzyn, Edmund Weychert and Stanisława Wysocka opened a new era in the Polish stage — the epoch of modern theatre, the original character, style and artistic expression of which were developed and created at the Teatr Polski.

"Irydion" put the Polski Theatre on such an artistic level, that it became famous throughout Europe. This performance was the first in a whole chain of triumphs of world and Polish romantic and classic literature, shown in an impeccable artistic and original form. Apart from this great repertoire, the Teatr Polski has presented in 25 years all the eminent modern literary and theatrical productions.

During the 25 years Dr. Szyfman has presented 347 plays among which 143 of Polish authors. Several plays of Shakespeare were presented 552 times; moreover the fame of the Teatr Polski caused George Bernard Shaw to give it the world premieres of his last plays. This stage then has 569 performances of G. B. S. plays among which "Pygmalion" was revived several times.

The most outstanding performances were those of "Undivine Comedy" (by Krasiński), "Prince Constant", "Bialadyna" and "Samuel Zborowski" (by Slowacki), "Anators" (by Mickiewicz), "The Night of 29 November" (by Wyspiński), "Figaro's Wedding" and several plays by Shakespeare, Shaw and Molière and others have shown to Warsaw not only new modern theatrical forms but also new great talents. Such names, as Wincenty Drabik (d. 1933) and Karol Frycz among stage-designers, Juliusz Osterwa, Arnold Szyfman, Leon Schiller, Aleksander Zdobych, Aleksander Wegierko among producers were introduced to Warsaw by the Teatr Polski, who have united their greatest successes with that theatre.

The jubilee ceremonies of March 31, 1938, under the patronage of President Ignacy Mościcki and Marshal Smigły-Rydz, were begun by a solemn Mass at the Holy Cross Church. Afterwards followed the unveiling of a tablet, in the front of the Teatr Polski building, in memory of its architect, Czesław Przybylski. At noon, in the foyer of the Teatr Polski an exhibition of sketches for settings and costumes for the plays presented at this stage was opened, showing at its best the artistic achievements of this theatre.

The gala performance presented Stanisław Wyspiński's "Noć listopadowa" (The Night of 29 November), the fantastic vision of the 1830 Insurrection. It was produced by Aleksander Wegierko, whose realization of Wyspiński's masterpiece has drawn out all the poetry and ideology of the work and all the power of its tremendous theatrical expression. The settings are by Stanisław Śliwiński, and the costumes by Zofia Wegierko. In "Noć listopadowa" nearly the whole troupe of the Teatr Polski takes part, reaching a high level of artistry. The patriotic fire and inspiration of Piotr Wysocki was interpreted with insight and power by Jan Kreczmar, Bogusław Samborski gave to the Great Prince Constant fiery temper and passion, creating a suggestive picture of the Russian satrap. Zbigniew Ziembiński with dramatic expressiveness and poetry rendered the tragedy of Stanisław Potocki. Among the actresses great dramatic creations were given by Alina Halska (the impressive Nikke of Napoleon), Zofia Grabowska (very moving, as the Nikke of Cheronos), Zofia Matyńczak (Demeter) and Zofia Tańkiewicz - Woskowska (Hekate). The programme included nearly 50 names among whom we would like to mention: Irena Borowska, Helena Halańska, Janina Niczewska, Hanna Parysiewicz, Gustaw Buszyński, Stanisław Grolicki, Tadeusz Kański, Józef Kondrat, Stefan Michalak, Jerzy Pichelski, Jerzy Roland, Edmund Wierciński, Jerzy Woskowski, Stanisław Żeleński and also Saturnin Butkiewicz, Karol Dorowski and Bronisław Lipski, as Satires.

The musical illustration was by Lucjan Marzecowski in Jan Maklakiewicz's orchestration. The choreographic side was prepared by Ruth Sorel, the choir by Maria Wiercińska.

The performance was followed by speeches in which the merits of Dr. Arnold Szyfman as the foremost in the development of Polish theatrical art were specially emphasized.

We may express our sincere wishes for a long and successful continuation of the activities of the Teatr Polski and Dr. Arnold Szyfman, its great manager.

Jerzy Macierakowski

THE JUBILEE OF ANTONI RÓŻYCKI

On Friday, March 25, on the stage of the Teatr Narodowy, Antoni

PELICAN BOOKS

- The latest batch of Pelican Books to be issued include the following:
- A 21/22 *An Outline of the Universe* by J. G. Crowther. An admirable summary of the results of modern research on the nature of the universe.
 - A 23 *Religion and the Rise of Capitalism* by R. H. Tawney. An interesting book tracing the link between the development of these two systems.
 - A 24 *Psychopathology of Everyday Life* by Sigmund Freud. The application of the author's theories to normal existence.
 - A25/26 *Only Yesterday*, by Frederick Lewis Allen. The history of the post war years in America up to the great slump of 1929.
 - A 27 *Ur of the Chaldees* by Sir Leonard Woolley. The first account of the seven years of Anglo-American exploration in Chaldea.
 - A 28 *Civilisation* by Clive Bell. A lucid and convincing definition of the Anglo-Saxon view point on civilisation.
 - A 29 *Limitations of Science* by J. W. N. Sullivan. A readable explanation of some of the problems now facing scientific thinkers.
 - A 30 *A History of the English People* (3) by Elie Halevy. The last volume of this standard history of the 19th century in England.
- Readers are again reminded that the above books are obtainable at any good bookshop in Poland at one zloty each.

New Art Exhibitions.

At the National Museum an exhibition of Jan Matejko's drawings and sketches was opened to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of his birth. The exhibition was organised by students of the Art Seminarium at Warsaw University.

The new show at the IPS presents paintings by J. Czapski, Antoni Kudła, Czesław Rzepiński and Władysław Paronczewski. Anela Cukierowa and Bogna Krasińska-Gardowska present their latest wood-engravings, and Julia Keiowa her latest achievements in metal.

"Zacheta" houses an exhibition of paintings by Stefan Filipkiewicz, Janusz Janowski, Ludomila Lanżanka, Bolesław Surabogajduzeni, Leon Szczepanowicz, Włodzimierz Nałęcz and Konstanty Wróblewski.

Różycki, an excellent actor and favourite of the Warsaw public celebrated 30 years of his scenic career. Różycki is especially well known for his creations of lovers in comedies, to whom he gives always exquisite artistic elegance, charm and expressiveness.

The jubilee-evening amazed crowds of Różycki's admirers and enthusiasts. The artist appeared as Count Charles de Flavi in Forzanno's comedy *THE GIFT OF THE DAWN*, supported by his delightful partner Miss Karolina Lubieńska, as Lucy Bianchi. ARNO

WALTER RUMMEL

The well known American pianist Walter Rummel gave a recital at the Conservatorium on March 23, which was largely attended. This was not his first appearance in Warsaw as some time ago he played at a symphony concert. A varied and difficult

WARSAW AMUSEMENTS

THEATRES

- NARODOWY.** "Cyrano de Bergerac" by Rostand
- POLSKI.** "Noć listopadowa" by Wyspiński
- MAZY.** "Freud's Theory of Dreams" by Cwojdzinski
- NOWY.** "Gift of the dawn" by Forzano
- MALICKIE.** "Jastrząb wśród gołębi" by J. A. Hertz
- ATENEUM.** "You can't take it with you" by Hart and Kaufman
- KAMERALNY.** "Zabusia" by Zapolska
- LETNI.** "The Girl from Maxims" by J. Feydeau

MUSIC

- TEATR WIELKI — OPERA.** Saturday: "Faust" and Valpurgis Night Sunday: 12 — Performance for children 8 — "The Fowler of the Tyrol"
- Tuesday:** Closed
- Monday:** "Pan Twardowski"
- Wednesday:** "Pan Twardowski"
- Thursday:** "Pan Twardowski"
- Friday:** "Pan Twardowski"
- KONSERWATORIUM.** Monday: Violin recital by Stanisław Jarzabki
- FILHARMONIA.** Sunday: 12.15 Early Matinee. Dir. Bolesław Wodanowski. Piano — Agi Jambor 3.— Stanisław Kazuro's concert
- Friday:** 8.15 Concert of French Music Dir. Albert Wolff. Violin — Ginette Neveu

MUSICAL SHOWS

- CYRULIK WARSZAWSKI.** "Cyrulik. Warsaw Axis"
 - TEATR 815.** Messal in "Virtuous Susanna"
 - WIELKA REWIA.** "Dudek"
 - MALE QUI PRO QUO** "How and Where"
 - CINEMAS**
 - ATLANTIC.** "The Courier of the Czar" (American version of Jules Verne's novel)
 - BALTYK.** Greta Garbo in "Walewska"
 - CASINO.** Powell and Rafter in "Masquerade" (English language issue of famous Austrian film)
 - CAPITOL.** Barczewska in "Znachor" (The Quack — Polish Drama)
 - COLOSSEUM.** "Marked Women" with Bette Davis (Drama)
 - EUROPA.** Greta Garbo in "Walewska"
 - IMPERIAL.** Loretta Young in "Women's Doctor" (American Comedy Drama)
 - PALLADIUM.** Deanna Durbin in "Mad about Music"
 - PAN.** Groswowska in "Queen of the Outskirts" (Polish melodrama)
 - RIALTO.** Sacha Guitay in "The Pearls of the Crown" (First class Historical Drama in French and English)
 - ROMA.** "In Secret" (Spy drama)
 - STYLOWY.** Vogues of 1938
 - STUDIO.** "Alarm in Pekin" (German)
 - SWIATOWID.** Danielle Darrieux in "Dede"
 - VICTORIA.** Nora Ney in "Women on the Precipice" (Polish drama)
- Starred cinemas play at 5, 7, 9, others at 6, 8, 10.

NOTICE TO READERS

We regret to state that it is no longer possible for the Warsaw Weekly to be carried on as a weekly publication and endeavours are now in progress to reorganise it as a monthly. Further particulars will be announced later.

Pending this, however, the unexpired balance of any existing subscription will be refunded on demand.

The Editors

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No. of certificate	NAME	Age	Category	Last date of visa	Admission (date of issue of certificate)	Address
F.2357	BUCH Mordka	—	H	—	9.6.38	Warsaw
F.2404	WAJNSZTOR Towja	67	G	—	31.5.38	Łosic
F.2404	CHAZE Dawid	69	G	—	15.5.38	Warsaw
2377	HABERGRUTZ Szmul	51	G	—	30.4.38	Warsaw
2406 f. 3	MIDLICH Riva	39	H	—	4.6.38	Sienna 19/2 Warsaw
2400 f. 10	GRONOWI Pinchas	24	G	—	1.10.38	Morzowska 88 Bedzin
2406 f. 4	WIENBLAT Josef	60	H	—	9.6.38	Panaka 48m. 27 Warsaw
105982	WINKELSCHEIN Wolf	19	B/S	25.3.38	31.3.38	Łomza
108034	ABRAMOWICZ Estera	23	A/I	25.3.38	31.3.38	o Stache Zilbersteyer 1/a Miarki, Bieliz
F. (Miss Abramowicz—subject to production of original immigration certificate)						
F.2107	KREWINSKI Szlama	52	G	—	10.3.38	Dombrowa—G.
F.2400 f. 10	TOPOREK Israel	66	G	—	30.6.38	Łask
F.2400 f. 3	MIDLOWIC Tecla	41	C	—	—	Kalisz
F.2400 f. 20	LAZNOWSKI lech	41	C	—	31.5.38	Kalisz, Piłsudskiego 25
F.2377	6.98 GESUNDHEIT Cesia	30	G	—	30.6.38	Warsaw
104829	GINSBURG Ruwen	23	B/S	—	—	Mie Gostynin, Plocka 9
2406 f. 5	PINCOZWSKA Trudla	91	G	—	20.3.38	—
—	Smul-Zanwel	24	G	—	—	—
2406 f. 6	GLIKMAN Sara	68	G	—	18.9.38	Wilno, ul. Wielka
2377 f. 90	BIALA Chajm Sara	37	G	—	1.10.38	Grodno, Bednarska 8
2377 f. 98	HELBER Szlama	50	G	—	30.9.38	Warsaw, Grochowska 292

programme gave an opportunity for valuing the many sidedness of this gifted artist. His interpretation of the Bach-Busoni Choral Vorspiele showed him to be a musician of deep and serious feeling. The performance was dignified, grave and thoughtful as became the music. Moreover he succeeded in bringing out the organ qualities of the music. The Schubert Fantasia was less suited to the pianist's individuality, but Debussy was played with great delicacy and beauty of touch.

Altogether the concert was a most successful one as was testified by the enthusiastic applause with which the artist was rewarded for his efforts. K. M.

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