

No. 1 News From Poland 1938

Series VI

(For Bulletin Boards and Private Persons)

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Peace in Europe

During his five years as Minister of Foreign Affairs Colonel Beck has won the name of being one of the wisest and ablest statesmen of Europe. His far-sighted policies, backed by Poland's powerful army, have gained Poland general recognition as the most potent power for peace in Central Europe. Refusing to be either pro-Russia or pro-Germany, Poland maintains friendly relations with each of these Powers and its 400 miles of width keeps them safely apart.

The permanence of Poland's defensive alliance with France was strongly emphasized during the recent visit of the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Delbos, to Poland. Both the "Manchester Guardian" and Minister Eden's "Yorkshire Post" have recently paid tribute to Poland's useful function in preserving peace in Europe. Poland's success in this matter is due in no small degree to the quiet, smiling, but strong and competent work of Minister Beck.



The Polish and French Ministers of Foreign Affairs
Colonel Jozef Beck M. Yvon Delbos

Parliament in Session

This is a busy season for Polish public officials. Both houses of Parliament are meeting in annual session, the Senate of 96 and the Sejm of 208 members. Naturally the budget is one of the most important matters under discussion, in connection with which is also discussed the policy of the different ministries. There are a number of bills dealing with social welfare and also many having to do with smaller and local matters. Parliament continues in session until about the end of March.

Note for Sportsmen

The Polish amateur boxing team, one of the best in Europe, defeated the Irish team from Dublin 10 to 6.

Our 14th Birthday

The birthday of the Polish YMCA, December 8th, falls on a general holiday, so each Association provides a big all-day program for its members and friends. This year these programs were enormously successful, drawing thousands of people to the building, and occasioning many columns of articles about the Polish YMCA in the daily press. On December 8, 1923, in the presence of the President of the Republic, the American YMCA discontinued its administration, and turned all its interests in Poland over to the young Polish YMCA, since which time this day has been regarded as the birthday of the Polish YMCA. The celebrations of the event increase in importance each year.



Dr. Tadeusz Dyboski
New president of the Polish YMCA

Dr. Dyboski, formerly president of the Krakow YMCA, now a resident of Warsaw where he is the director of an important department in the Ministry of Social Welfare, was elected president of the whole Polish YMCA at the November meeting of the National Council.

"Winter Help"

In common with other countries, Poland has a serious problem of unemployment. An important factor in its solution is a large government agency created under the leadership of Minister Zyndram-Koscialkowski bearing the name "Pomoc Zimowa" or "Winter Help". It relates the unemployed to construction, building, and industrial enterprises during the five months of the winter, paying them for their work from funds secured by special taxes and contributions.



Minister Marian Zyndram-Koscialkowski
Former Premier, now Minister of Social Welfare

Minister Zyndram-Koscialkowski came into national prominence as the successful governor of one of Poland's 16 provinces. Then, because of his administrative ability and progressive ideas he was made Minister of Interior and later Premier. After a term as prime minister he was assigned to the post of Minister of Social Welfare, a task for which his interest in people, his idealism, and his managerial abilities specially fit him. He is capable, progressive, and of deep human interests.

Immediate Success in Lodz

November 6th the Lodz YMCA opened temporary rooms for the Boys' Division next door to the partly completed main building, already in use. By the night of November 12th, when I was there, 935 boys had been enrolled, paying membership fees ranging from \$1.50 to \$4.00 a year. A limit of 1000 was set.

Projects

Shortly after my return to Poland we held a meeting of the financial leaders of the Polish YMCA to prepare a program of projects to be carried to completion during the three year period 1938-39-40. Five of these must be pushed hard and at once. They are:

1. To finish the \$900,000 Warsaw building by April 1938, \$16,000
2. To continue work on the two-thirds completed \$600,000 Lodz building, \$165,000.
3. To complete the Gdynia \$10,000 camp, \$5000.
4. To erect the Gdynia building, about \$85,000.
5. To erect the first of five small YMCA buildings in Warsaw for working young men, \$25,000.

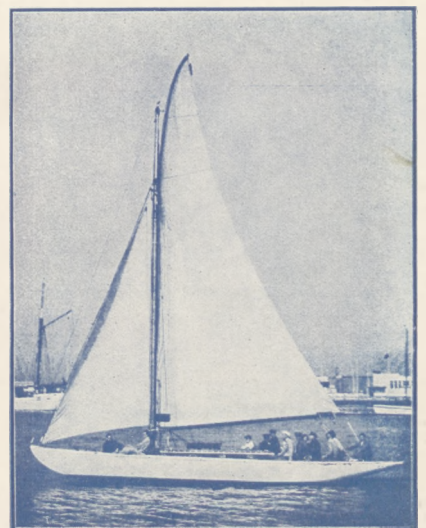
Of this sum of \$296,000 about \$150,000 must be secured during 1938. This in addition to the current expense budget of \$200,000. Any one of these building projects is a fine opportunity for anyone who can make a large gift and who wants to do something more for Europe than worry about it.

Honored

Each year on the national birthday of Poland, November 11, men who have rendered distinguished public service are decorated by the Polish Government. This year the Polish YMCA was honored by having six men on the list of those awarded decorations. Dr. B. Walukiewicz, president of the Warsaw YMCA, and Mr. Jan Gadowski, legal adviser of the Polish YMCA for over 10 years, received the Gold Cross of Merit. The silver cross was awarded to Dr. F. Pintowski, chairman of the National Boys' Work Committee, Mr. B. Waliszewski, a member of the Warsaw YMCA board, Mr. M. Wronski, business secretary of the Warsaw Association, and to Count A. Krasicki, general secretary of the National Council, for the second time.

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On the Sea



The Gdynia YMCA's new yacht "YMCA III"

We Resume

With this issue I resume my editorship of "News From Poland". Numbers 7 to 11, 1937, were prepared by my colleagues, Mrs. A. E. Zawisza and Count A. Krasicki. During the summer Mrs. Zawisza received the Silver Cross of Merit for her 15 years of service on the headquarters staff of the Polish YMCA.



