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GEN. ANDERS CONFIDENT OF VICTORY

GENERAL Władysław Anders is a tall, well-knit man of 49, broad-shouldered, narrow-waisted, long-legged, with the bearing of a typical cavalry officer. He has a keen, soldierly face and deep-set piercing eyes under rather heavy eyebrows that contrast strangely

with his lofty brow and bald head. When he removes his forage cap, the change in his appearance is startling. He has a straightforward manner of speech and always goes right to the point. At a recent press conference in Moscow, he said:

"The army under my command is a splendid fighting force, eager to get back at the Germans. The vast majority of my men are old soldiers who have had years of military training and saw actual fighting during the 1939 campaign. The reserves are large and will enable me to increase the number of Polish divisions far beyond what was originally contemplated. We are busy at our task. The main problems of the organization and formation of a Polish army in Russia have been solved. The training of many regiments is completed, their formation into brigades and divisions is proceeding apace. Equipment remains our principal problem. But already many soldiers are in British battle-dress. Their marksmanship is impressive. They love their arms and take good care of them. We already have some tanks, but we need more and also an air arm complement so essential in modern warfare. But an army is not equipped in a day. It takes time and we are making good use of that time in perfecting the training of the troops and getting them into good physical condition.



Polish Volunteers from all parts of Russia, take the oath.

"Our relations with the Red Army are very friendly and we have had their full support in the matter of vital supplies, etc. We have an excellent training sector and although most of our heavy equipment must come from American and British sources they

have shown real understanding of our problems and have helped us in every way. I am certain that the comradeship now existing between the two armies will cement a lasting friendship between Russia and Poland.

"We have a vision of the Poland that is to be. We realize that the struggle to retake our native land will be hard and may be long, that the path will be strewn with blood and 'sweat and toil', but in the end we shall reach our goal.

Our faith in Victory has been greatly strengthened by Stalin's attitude towards the Polish nation.

"I have been greatly impressed by my talks with Stalin. He thinks clearly and acts quickly. Of course our conversations only bore on military matters. To me, as a soldier, that was the vital thing. When I placed a problem before him or wanted something done, he listened attentively and replied in a calm and confident tone, 'This will be done', 'We shall overcome that difficulty,' etc. He impressed me with his willingness to help and assured me that Polish-Russian relations had entered a new era of good-will and that Poland and Russia would see this war through to Victory together.

"We are eager to fight! We want to reach Poland as soon as possible, to see our families and our homes and then," concluded General Anders, "we shall march into Germany to final Victory."

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N. 10/ 2019

POLAND SPEAKS . . .

From A Recent Broadcast Of General W. Sikorski,
Commander-in-Chief Of The Polish Army



MANKIND is paying dearly for its errors over a long period of 20 years, it is paying in blood and devastation for its material and moral disarmament. It is paying for allowing Germany to rearm to the teeth and use her mighty military force to overrun the democratic nations of the world.

This war is not being fought for territorial acquisition or for economic gain. This most horrible of wars is a life and death fight between Democracy and Totalitarianism — two conflicting conceptions of human life. Out of Victory will rise a new world based on justice, a world of free nations where liberty is cherished as the supreme right and essential foundation of true Democracy.

... Germany's treachery gave her initial gains on the eastern front, but Russia's undaunted spirit and fighting power, military tactics and modern implements of war, as well as the moral stamina of the Russian people, have dealt them unexpectedly severe blows.

The Red armies have already deadened the first impact of the German juggernaut. Blitzkrieg is a thing of the past.

German territorial gains are meaningless, since they are of no strategic importance. Germany proclaimed that Russia's fighting power had been broken. That this is untrue, I can personally vouch for, even if military events had not already given the lie to the claim of Nazi propaganda.

Hitler's authority and prestige are waning, and his supporters will soon realize that victory is not his exclusive privilege. Thanks to her farsighted policies, Russia has great potential industrial powers hidden deep in her territory, as well as enormous resources in men and material. With the help of the U.S.A. and Great Britain, she will be able to supply all her needs and deal smashing blows to Hitler's military machine.

... Soon the Democracies will be able to start a powerful counter-offensive on both eastern and western fronts, in which Polish armed forces will participate side by side with their Russian allies. Now that both our countries have faced destruction at the hands of a common foe — Polish soldiers will fight shoulder to shoulder with the Russians for the liberation of their country.

Russia realizes that a strong Poland, governed in the spirit of tomorrow and of its traditional policies, constitutes an indispensable factor for maintaining lasting peace and that the comradeship of arms now existing for the first time in the history of our two countries will be of decisive importance to the future of both nations—as a solid basis of friendly relations.

Both sides have agreed to let bygones be bygones. We are confident that the Russian people will remember that we rallied to their side in their hour of trial, that they will appreciate the good-will and friendship of Poland; mutual respect for national sovereignty will make these relations durable. Recognizing realities and taking advantage of them we shall do our best to fulfil our agreements of July and August 1941. Thus we shall demonstrate to the world at large, that international problems can be settled peacefully in the name of common sense and for the good of all.

We Poles have learned a great deal by this war. It has taught us to fight in unity and solidarity for a new Poland, whose strength will be based on equal rights for all its citizens, irrespective of race or creed, on the political, social and industrial principles of Democracy. In building a new Europe after victory we must exclude selfish nationalism, the greatest evil of all times that was so cunningly exploited by Germany in sowing discord and dissension among other countries.

The new world will not be based upon doctrines or formulae, but on justice, international honesty and rational federation of nations.

GENERAL ANDERS CONFIDENT OF VICTORY

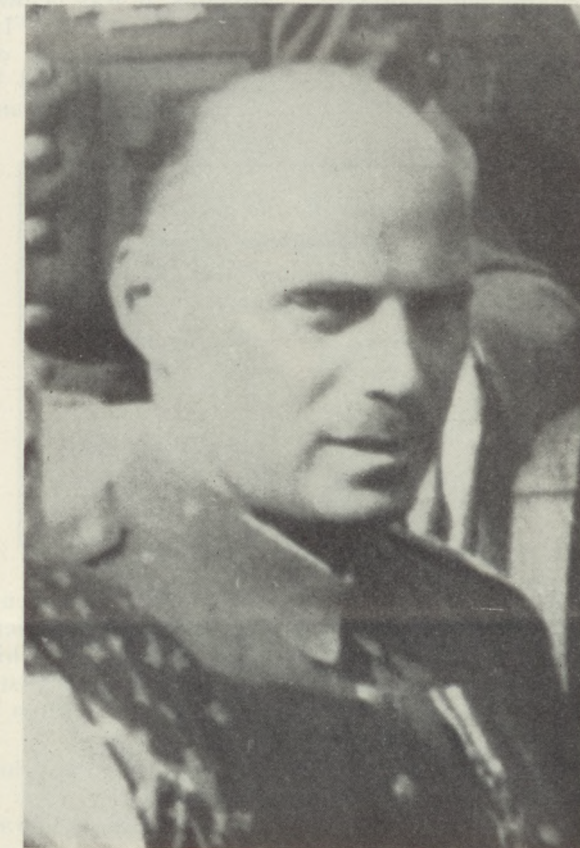
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General W. Anders, Commander-in-Chief of the Polish army in Russia, is a truly heroic figure. He was studying mechanics at the Polytechnic in Riga when the first world war began. He was drafted into the Russian army, as the part of Poland where he was born then belonged to the Russian empire. He fought throughout the war on Russia's Western Front from the Baltic to the Black Sea. Several times he was wounded and received numerous decorations and citations for bravery. In 1916 he captured, in the Pinsk marshes, the staff of a German army group with its commanding general. He was then sent to the Russian General Staff College where he stayed until the outbreak of the Bolshevik revolution. All he lived for was a chance to pass from the army of the Tsar to that of his own country, and fight under the Polish flag. Since Poland regained her independence, he has made a rapid military career. In the Russo-Polish campaign of 1919-1920 he commanded a regiment and received the highest Polish military decoration for valor, the "Virtuti Militari".

After the Treaty of Riga, Col. Anders was sent to France to continue higher military studies in the Ecole Supérieure de la Guerre. During the Pilsudski coup d'état of May 1926, he was Chief of Staff of the army that remained loyal to the government. Again wounded, he was interned after Pilsudski's victory, but was soon recalled to the army and entrusted with the command of various brigades.

During the German invasion of Poland in September 1939, General Anders fought with extreme courage as commander of an army division. After the bloody battle of Minsk Mazowiecki where he inflicted severe losses upon the Germans, he broke through the German ring that was about to cut him off from Southern Poland and marched through the Lublin voyvodship capturing a large number of

German prisoners. The Germans started negotiations with the Polish commander promising not to oppose his march southward, if he would only release the prisoners he had taken. The campaign might have taken a different turn, had not Russian armies attacked him from the rear. Unable to defend himself on two fronts, lacking ammunition and seriously wounded, he ordered his troops to try to escape in small detachments towards the south and to cross the Hungarian frontier. At his request an officer and an orderly brought the wounded general to the Soviet military command. After some time spent in the hospitals of Stryj and Lwow, he was finally transferred to Moscow and remained twenty months in prison, cut off from any news from the outer world.



General W. Anders, Commander of the Polish Army in Russia

On August 4th, 1941, five days after the signature of the Russo-Polish Pact. General Anders left the Lubianka prison. He received the Polish Government's order to organize a Polish army in Russia. This appointment was greeted with enthusiasm by all the Poles in Russia.

General Anders belongs to a family of soldiers. Two of his brothers, both colonels, are prisoners of war in Germany. The third serves with the Polish army in Scotland.

One of the best cavalymen in Poland, an experienced staff officer, a tireless worker, General Anders is the idol of the Polish army in Russia, indeed of all the Poles in the great empire of the Soviets. They trust him, they know that he means what he says when he promises them to lead them back to a free and independent Poland:

"We shall return to our own country. Maybe not all of us, but we shall return . . ."

BALTIC STATES UNDER GERMAN RULE

TODAY, after seven months during which Germany has made an armed advance into the heart of the Eastern European areas, she has occupied the whole of Poland's eastern territories, the Baltic States, Lithuania, Latvia and Esthonia, Soviet White Ruthenia and almost all the Soviet Ukraine.

In consequence, the remainder of the Polish territory and that of several other nations which down to June 22nd was either occupied by or constitutionally formed a part of the Soviet Union have come under German occupation.

Obviously, these areas have not yet been long enough under the German authorities, who at present are fully occupied with their anti-Soviet war, to render it possible to determine exactly what forms the German political domination of these areas will ultimately take. But in the light of their activities to date it is possible to deduce certain definite tendencies. Analysis of the decisions already taken will provide very extensive material for more general conclusions as to the true German intentions.

The Baltic States

Despite universal expectations the Reich did not commit the farce of giving the Baltic republics "independence" and "sovereign Governments." Evidently it was judged that such steps would not conduce at all to encouraging the militant mood of the Reich citizens, who prefer annexation in its downright form and who well remembered the drive for the incorporation of the entire Baltic region which existed during the 1914-18 war. As for the Baltic population, the Germans probably realized that the fear of a possible return of military operations plus the existence of a German military occupation would be sufficient to keep in check any inclinations towards liberty on the part of these nations.

The Lithuanian Rising

The German attack on the U.S.S.R. was the signal for a general rising against the Soviets in Lithuania. This rising began on June 23rd in Kaunas, the capital. All stories to the effect that it preceded the actual outbreak of the German-Soviet war are not in accordance with the facts.

Yet it is obvious that it was not an improvised revolt. For at least as early as December, 1940, the Lithuanian Minister at Berlin, Colonel Kazys Skirpa, energetically set to work to prepare for it with the aid, under the patronage and the inspiration of the German authorities. On Skirpa's initiative a

secret "Association of Lithuanian Partisans" was formed in Lithuania, its task being sabotage, propaganda, and ultimately armed activity in the event of German troops invading Lithuania. In December 1940, the National Lithuanian Committee formed in Berlin announced that "established on the basis of the decision, of the heads of Lithuanian diplomatic missions, it was beginning to lead the struggle for the liberation of the Independent Lithuanian State from the Bolshevik occupation." Almost at once propaganda material began to be smuggled from Germany into Lithuania.

The rising proved to be far bigger than could have been foreseen. It was a mass action on an extensive scale. Lithuanian estimates of the numbers involved fluctuate between 125,000 and 200,000, though the latter figure is certainly too high. Even detachments of the Soviet Territorial Lithuanian Corps, the remnants of the former Lithuanian army reorganized by the Soviet authorities, and sent by the Soviet command to the Orany district (near Grodno) attacked

the Soviet troops when the German army approached and, so the Lithuanian Press states, penetrated as far as Vitebsk in White Ruthenia. Here the Lithuanian flag was hoisted, but was taken down by order of the German military commandant of the town.

The Lithuanians had a considerable success at Kaunas, which they mastered after 48 hours of difficult struggle of varying fortunes.

In a general estimate of the Lithuanian military activities the *Tribune de Geneve* says that "The Germans broke the Russian front in the northern sector, and reached Minsk and Riga so swiftly, while destroying enormous Soviet forces at Bialystok, because of the active participation of little Lithuania." A strong case could be made out for this view.

In this struggle 4,000 Lithuanians were killed (3,000 of them at Kaunas) and over 10,000 wounded.

The Political Effects of the Rising

Immediately after the capture of Kaunas, on June 25th, the provisional Lithuanian Government, which was first led by Skirpa himself, and later by his deputy, Ambrazevicius, issued a proclamation announcing the restoration of an independent Lithuanian State. The Government then appealed to Hitler for recognition, and offered to cooperate "in the new order in Europe." Yet, despite the Lithuanians' military services, Hitler would not grant recognition, and early in July the provisional Lithuanian Government had to resign. The Germans decided to take the reins of government directly into their own

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HENRYK SIENKIEWICZ —PATRIOT NOVELIST OF POLAND

HENRYK SIENKIEWICZ, the greatest of Polish novelists, is the only writer of his nation who is not a stranger to the general English reader. In its day an English version of "Quo Vadis" lay on the counters of every bookshop and railway stall in England. Few among those who read this story, glowing with life and color, realized that it was written out of the darkness of national oppression: that the very words of its writer were fettered by the censorship of a foreign conqueror.

Born in 1846, Sienkiewicz, like the majority of the great writers of Poland, drew his first breath in a remote Polish country district. Those early years spent in close intimacy with Nature intensified that inborn Polish love of the soil which in one form or another impregnates his writings. When his childhood was over he studied in Warsaw. He then took up the journalism with which his literary career began. These are the broad lines of the first thirty years of his life, of which, superficially speaking, there is little to tell. Nor is there much to relate of external event even in Sienkiewicz's later life. His life was his work; and the story of his work is the story of his life.

But an undercurrent ran beneath an uneventful youth that was largely accountable for the direction that Sienkiewicz's genius was to take. He was not seventeen when the Polish insurrection broke out in 1863; he was just eighteen when it ended: but it affected the psychology of his whole work little less than it influenced the history of his country for generations to come. Its failure was followed — in the years of Sienkiewicz's young manhood — by a period of national reaction after great and unsuccessful effort. It was then, during the dreariest epoch of Poland's history, that Sienkiewicz came forward as a brilliant novelist whose fame travelled beyond the confines of his forgotten country, and who, in pages of splendid pageantry, of heroism, tenderness and humor, reminded Europe that there was still a Poland.

As a master of historical romance Sienkiewicz stands in the foremost rank of European novelists. But at the outset his genius expressed itself in a

different form. He wrote short stories, the best of which are no less masterpieces in their own line than his great historical fiction. The hand that later gave life to the dead bones of history was equally sure in the delineation, infinitely tender, profoundly touching, of the inarticulate emotions of a Polish peasant heart.

Sienkiewicz was among the first of Polish novelists to consecrate his pen to peasant themes, which have since played so great a part in Polish literature. He is not out to idealize, still less to make poetry out of prose. What he saw in the peasants he describes: their hardships, their struggles with the red tape of official petty tyranny, their restricted intelligence, their roughness, their rugged fidelity, their deep piety.

Sienkiewicz called the earliest of his peasant tales "Sketches in Charcoal."

While still writing "Sketches in Charcoal," Sienkiewicz went for a time to America. The years he spent there influenced him profoundly. The New World not only inspired him with subject-matter; it also brought him into contact with human types hitherto unknown to him and with Nature on an immense scale.

All this matured his judgment and gave his genius a wider scope. "Sketches in Charcoal" was followed by the best of his short stories. "Janko the Musician", "For Bread", "The Lighthouse Keeper", and "Bartek the Conqueror!" are all peasant tales. Each of these, but most noticeably "Janko" and "The Lighthouse Keeper," is tinged with the peculiarly Slavonic atmosphere that is so marked in the first and third parts of the Trilogy.

Sienkiewicz's greatest book, the Trilogy, is a work on a heroic scale. The subject of its thirteen volumes is the period from 1648 to 1673, when Cossack, Russian, Turkish and Tartar invasion swept over the Republic of Poland, overwhelming her with the waves of war and calamity, but unable to destroy her.

As the depicter of seventeenth-century, tempest-tossed Poland, Sienkiewicz plunges into a labyrinth of troubled politics and conflicting characters. Deal-

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HENRYK SIENKIEWICZ from an oil painting by K. Pochwalski

BALTIC STATES UNDER GERMAN RULE

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hands, and von Rintelen was appointed the commissar of the Lithuanian territory.

In this area von Rintelen organized a general council of nine members. General Rastikis, on the German authorities instructions, set about the organization of a police-military formation intended as a substitute for the Lithuanian army, and existing independently of the Lithuanian police. The task of this formation seems to be the prevention of any possible sabotage.

Under the leadership of Karutis, a supporter of Valdemaras, former Lithuanian Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs, a secret organization known as the 'Iron Wolf' was started. It was associated with the Skirpa group in the Lithuanian Nationalist Party.

However, military co-operation with the Germans did not bring the Lithuanians all the expected results, nor even the appearance of independence, in the form of a German protectorate, like Slovakia. In their disillusionment the Lithuanians began to ask themselves whether it was really worth while having sacrificed 4,000 killed and 10,000 wounded simply for the sake of a general council advising the German commissar, together with the military-police formation already mentioned and the dubious benefits of the German military occupation.

Ostland

It is now to be feared that certain Lithuanian circles may pin their hopes on the newly organized province of Ostland, with its unpublished and, so far as is known, undemarcated frontiers, but which includes territories from Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Soviet White Ruthenia.

The Ostland conception is by no means new. German propaganda introduced it in the Baltic States in the years 1938-1939. However, in those days they did not speak of 'Ostland,' but of 'Grossbaltland,' and it was spoken of as embracing Latvia, Lithuania, and the former Tsarist provinces of Vitebsk, Pskov, part of the province of Tver, Smolensk, Mogilev, Minsk and Chernigov. The resultant creation would be a State organism numbering a population of some fifteen millions, of course under Reich patronage.

In those days German propaganda also talked of the emergence of a second State, the 'Ugro-Finnish,' embracing Finland, Estonia, and an enormous stretch of northern Russia, which has a population of mixed Russian and Ugro-Finnish in language and origin. Needless to say, this State also was to be under German patronage. Though it cannot be affirmed with certainty, there is little doubt that this plan for the formation of an Ugro-Finnish State is

regarded with favor by certain ambitious Finnish politicians. It is interesting to note the rumors now in circulation to the effect that certain Finnish circles would like to see not only Eastern Baltic, both in Ugro-Finnish Esthonia, and in Finland.

It appears that, independently of the State conception above outlined, the Germans intend to create strong bulwarks of Germanism along the entire coast of the Eastern Baltic, both in Ugro-Finnish Esthonia, and in Lithuania and Latvia.

The withdrawal of the Baltic Germans from this area during the period of 1939-41 was certainly not meant as a final renunciation of the German claims on the Baltic. And the present refusal to sanction the Baltic Germans' return to these areas is to be explained by the proximity of military operations in the East and the difficulties which would necessarily arise in Polish areas now settled by the Baltic Germans.

The supposition that the Germans are intending to introduce masses of German settlers into the areas of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia is prompted by a number of facts. They had a similar design in the years 1915 to 1918, when it was intended

to transfer German colonists from the German settlement on the Volga, which the Soviet authorities, to the great indignation of the Nazis, are now transferring to Asiatic Russia.

A further noteworthy indication in the German press is the statement that the Latvians had showed a lack of gratitude for the "liberation" of Riga from the Bolsheviks in 1919 (*Berliner Börsen Zeitung*, July 3rd, 1941, in an article "Das Deutsche Riga").

A third type of charge was that Estonian, and Latvian peoples showed pro-Soviet sympathies (Königsberg wireless, September 8th). This was in flagrant contradiction with the previous reports alleging the immense joy of the population at the arrival of the German troops.

There is also the attempt to persuade themselves and the world that the Baltic nations have a large admixture of Germans, or germanic blood, that indeed they belong to the Nordic race. The *Danziger Vorposten* of September 4th and the *Münchener Neuste Nachrichten* of September 6th, both deal with this theme.

Of course the German press spares no labor or ingenuity to discover traces of German cultural influence, both real and imaginary, in the Baltic countries. For the German press completely ignores Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian culture and the achievements of the Baltic States during their twenty years of independence. All these press references must be regarded as a hint of forthcoming Germanization activity in the Baltic States, to begin when the Reich has achieved complete victory.

"World history has so far been more willing to forgive all crudity rather than a lack of the will to power. Not 'Live and let live,' but 'Live and decide the life of others.' That is strength . . . Talk of the rights of others is foolish, talk of Justice which hinders us from doing to others that which we ourselves do not wish to suffer, is foolish."

Carl Peters, Founder of German East Africa. ("Not und Weg," 1915. 129, p. 13).

NATIONAL TRENDS IN MODERN POLISH PAINTING

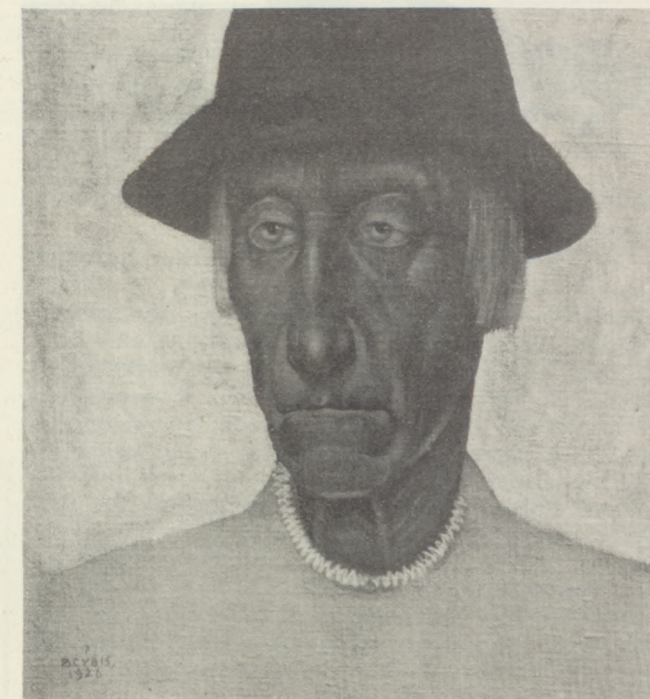
By DR. IRENA PIOTROWSKA

AS MENTIONED in the article on "Neo-Classic Trends in Modern Polish Painting" in a recent issue of this magazine, Z. Stryjeńska and W. Skoczylas (1883-1934) were representatives of the neo-classic movement in Polish painting who based their art on national traditions as manifested by Polish peasant art. Skoczylas' main achievements, however, lie in the field of graphic art. Instead, Stryjeńska concentrated on painting, especially decorative painting. Her works are Polish in line, color, composition, Polish in their interpretation of the scene represented, in their spirited vigor. At the same time her facture, her strong simplification of form, rejecting all detail and concerning itself solely with things basic and essential, stamps her work with those qualities that characterize all art of the post-formist period, approaching in style the neo-classicism. Her influence upon other Polish artists was great, and many followed in her footsteps.

However, among the generation of erstwhile abstractionists, later converted to neo-classicism, not a small number faithfully followed the modern Parisian school. Among these, Eugene Zak (1886-1926), A. and Z. Pronaszko, T. Czyzewski, H. Gotlib, should be mentioned. These artists spent most of their creative years in Paris. Also the youngest generation of Polish artists produced many fervent



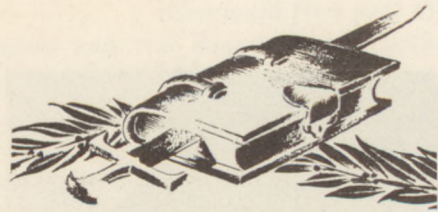
Z. STRYJENSKA: THE MONTHS OF MAY AND JUNE
One of six decorative panels from the Hall of Honor of the Polish Pavilion at the International Exhibition of Decorative Arts in Paris in 1925. Exhibited in Brooklyn Museum in 1933.



B. CYBIS: POLISH PEASANT FROM LOWICZ

admirers of Parisian art. These formed a group called the "Parisian Committee," in Polish, "Komitet Paryski" or simply "K.P.". This group was headed by Z. Waliszewski, Jan Cybis, J. Czapski and T. Potworowski. After returning home from Paris, these artists influenced not a few of their young colleagues, among whom W. Taramczewski was the most outstanding.

Nevertheless, national influences were so strong that in recent Polish painting, Polish elements of design and color are apparent even in the work of those artists, who were not consciously preoccupied with the national style. The conflict, however, between national traditions and alien influences remained unsolved when war broke out. The evolution of Polish painting, so full of promise, was suddenly stopped by the German invasion. It can be carried on only by the few Polish artists who happened to be abroad when war broke out. There is no doubt, however, that as soon as Poland regains her national freedom, Polish art will continue to grow and produce masterpieces that will endure for centuries.



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ing as he does with so huge an arena, his wealth of historical personages, and of the more ob-

scure men and women who make up the multitude of human life, is correspondingly vast.

We must bear in mind that at the time in which Sienkiewicz lays his story the Republic of Poland ruled from the Baltic to the Black Sea. She was the mother of many races. East and west met under her banners, and jostled each other in her markets, her streets, her armies. In the historical romance that is the faithful picture of past Poland, Sienkiewicz is bound to present the paradoxes of mediaevalism and modernity that make up the multi-colored history of Poland, illustrated if only by the fact that her enemies on her western side were the ultra-modern Swede and Prussian, and her enemies on her east were the then barbaric Muscovite and the Tartar hordes. Not only do all these elements contribute to the gorgeous canvas of the Trilogy, but a totally different field of vision is unrolled before the eyes of the foreign reader from that which he is accustomed to meet in the fiction of his own country. In "With Fire and Sword," and in the third part, "The Little Knight," we are in the Ukrainian and Podolian steppes. I think that one of the reasons why the second part — "The Deluge" — is not so attractive to an English mind as the other two parts is that, although it has its pages of wild romance, the historical setting is, generally speaking, more on the lines to which we have been used. Seventeenth-century Swedes in perukes do not capture the fancy quite like the half-savage Zaporogian Cossacks of the first part, or the Tartars sweeping with the wind into the Polish plains in the third.

Yet in the midst of all this great drama Sienkiewicz remains always human. He deals with heroic epic; but the little faults and homely virtues of men and women, the story of their hearts, their tears, their jests and laughter, are those equally with the heroism of patriotic sacrifice, with the crimes that will send fellow-mortals to their death or plunge the sword into the heart of a mother country. For all that his pages ring with the clash of steel, and run rivers of blood, Sienkiewicz's sense of humor is un-failing. He can also be strangely tender.

War, terrible and splendid, sweeps through these thirteen volumes. Their pages reverberate with the charge of the Polish cavalry, then among the finest in Europe, beating like thunder over the plains of Poland, rushing with the sound of the wind in their white shoulder-plumes. Sienkiewicz has been described as an idealist with the manner and the methods of a realist. His battle-scenes are magnificent.

Added to his superb picturing of war and his masterly depiction of men and manners and historic

events, Sienkiewicz's use of atmosphere goes far in making the Trilogy the book that it is.

"Quo Vadis" is probably the most widely-read novel of modern times. It is translated into all the European, and into several Oriental, languages. It is reproduced in the movies. No foreign novel has ever been so popular in England, and to this day the largest section of the British reading public know Sienkiewicz only as the author of this book.

It might seem an ironical treatment on the part of Fate that the fame of the great Polish patriot novelist should live abroad as the writer of a Roman romance, while his noble national Trilogy is, save by a very restricted circle, ignored outside his own country. But this is a merely superficial manner of regarding "Quo Vadis." If we go farther beneath the surface, we shall discover that "Quo Vadis" is as genuinely and intrinsically Polish as any of Sienkiewicz's stories on properly speaking Polish themes. The whole conception on which the book is based—that love, whatever the weakness of its instruments, is the power which conquers the universe — is Polish psychology, and is rendered in a peculiarly Polish manner.

This book, great in its conception and in its artistic treatment, stands at the high-water mark of Sienkiewicz's genius. To "Quo Vadis" and its author the Polish nation owes the distinction of which she has always been proud that, when Polish literature was an unknown world outside Poland, a Polish novel penetrated into every country of the world.

After the astounding success of "Quo Vadis" Sienkiewicz returned to national themes, and wrote a romance on the struggle of Poland and Lithuania with the monk-soldiers known as the Teutonic Knights or the Knights of the Cross. The Knights of the Cross, a military order which had served its time in Palestine, were in the thirteenth century called in by Polish Duke Conrad of Mazovia to assist him against the heathen Prussians. They came: they established themselves in the Prussian territories. The process that they undertook of the conversion of the Prussians to Christianity resolved itself into that of extermination. The Prussians, originally a Slav race, soon ceased to exist, whether as heathen or Christian. The natives who survived passed into slavery under the yoke of the Knights whose castles and fortresses dominated the country. They next turned their arms against Lithuania, then still a heathen land, proclaiming to the world that they were engaged upon a crusade to win pagans to the Christian faith. From that time the Teutonic Knights became the gravest menace to the Polish State: and for three hundred years this national contest raged with scanty intermission, albeit the Poles and Lithuanians dealt a deadly blow to the Order at the Battle of Grunwald-Tannenberg. With this victory Sienkiewicz closes his story. This subject not only lends itself to the dramatic and adventurous element congenial to the Polish novelist. It presents all the features of one of those great patriotic duels dear to every nation that can point to such in

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POLAND'S BURDEN OF WOE

POLAND was first to take up arms in defense of her liberty and of her right to live. Those arms she never has laid down, and never will. She fights on even in Poland itself where the most terrific oppression has failed to break her spirit. The whole world knows that Germany is doing her best to exterminate the Polish people.

But does the whole world realize just what that means? Two hundred hostages have been shot in France. The world may well suppose that the number of Poles murdered runs into thousands, but few have any idea of how many.

The Times has prepared a table without precedent

Country	Population Before War	Date of Invasion	Civilians Shot or Hanged	Workers Deported to Germany
Czechoslovakia	14,729,500	October, 1938	509 — many dead in concentration camps.	219,000
POLAND	34,775,700	September 1, 1939	82,000 — thousands dead in concentration camps.	1,200,000
Norway	2,937,000	April 9, 1940	14	1,400
Denmark	3,706,350	April 9, 1940	Unknown	40,000
Holland	8,728,600	May 10, 1940	60 killed, over 400 dead in concentration camps.	120,000
Belgium	8,092,000	May 10, 1940	Unknown	200,000
Luxembourg	297,000	May 10, 1940	Unknown	Unknown
France	41,834,000	May 10, 1940	250 — Lot of thousands of Frenchmen unknown.	62,000
Greece	7,108,000	Oct. 28, 1940 by Italians; April 6, 1941 by Germans and in May 1941 by Bulgarians.	921 murders committed by Bulgarians.	3,000
Yugoslavia	15,703,000	April 6, 1941	6,280—excluding victims of partisan guerrilla warfare.	Unknown

In this bloody record of human suffering, Poland stands at the top: 82,000 Poles executed, murdered

"Germany and Poland cannot exist at the same time. Poland needs the East Elbian space to breathe freely, and Germany needs the Polish space both as a connecting channel for her surplus population, and for the sake of Prussian order."

Friedrich Hielscher

"Most probably, we shall be dubbed barbarians for this view, about which it need only be observed that we regard the war cry, 'Back to Barbarism!' as one of the best that have been coined in recent years."

H. Shultze Pfälzer
("Wir Suchen Deutschland,"
cf. II, 15, p. 235)

in the annals of statistics, for its sheer horror. The greatest of London newspapers vouches for the following:

in cold blood, leaving a host of bereaved behind them.

We publish these facts because they are true. We know that a growing wave of indignation is sweeping over the world, that the conviction is deepening that such crimes must be atoned for. When the time comes we shall present this record to silence the cries of those who may ask that Mercy be shown to the blood-thirsty barbarians who are seeking to exterminate Poland, to crucify Europe, to conquer the world. Mercy — in justice to generations as yet unborn — demands that for once the punishment be made to fit the crime.

HENRYK SIENKIEWICZ — PATRIOT NOVELIST OF POLAND

(Continued from page 8)

its history, and which in this particular instance is a conflict that has always peculiarly appealed to the Polish soul. The Teutonic Knights ceased to exist in their original form: but did not cease to be Poland's deadliest foe. Embracing Lutheranism and secularized in the sixteenth century they became the founders of the modern State of Prussia that has always been the bitterest enemy of Polish nationality, that first partitioned Poland, and that, when Sienkiewicz wrote "The Knights of the Cross" in 1900, was inflicting the most ruthless persecutions upon the Poles who were subjected by that partition to the German Empire.

In the closing span of his life Sienkiewicz held a peculiar position among his countrymen: that of their representative and spokesman when Poland, under the heel of Russia, Prussia and Austria, was deprived of all political existence, oppressed, powerless, forgotten. When she had none other to defend her, her greatest novelist pleaded for her at the bar of Europe. He sent forth on different occasions appeals against the injustice and persecution of which his country was the victim in the form of open letters, addressed to public characters or to the Governments of Europe. Especially striking are the protests that the man who had depicted in letters of fire the torments of the Polish child in the Prussian school, the dumb pain of the Polish peasant under Prussian tyranny, uttered in 1901 against the flogging of the Polish children by German masters for refusing to learn their faith in a language not their own. His famous letter to the representatives in general of European culture implored the civilized world to condemn the Expropriation Law passed by the Prussian Government in 1907, by which the owners of Polish soil in "Prussian" Poland were evicted at the will of the Prussian Government. The first world war drove Sienkiewicz out of Poland, together with thousands of Polish refugees over whose homes, the debatable ground between Russia, Austria and Germany, the ebb and flow of three great armies swept like a devastating sea. The story of the misery and ruin that swept down upon Poland during the years of the Great War is one of the most terrible chapters in Polish history. Then, from his exile in Vevey, the septuagenarian Polish novelist entered on a new phase of labor for his country — his last, and the one that he loved most and considered as his greatest. His voice rang through war-swept and mourning Europe, pleading with all the passion of his eloquence for help for the starving children of

"The present war has inflicted injuries on nearly all the people of Europe, but on none of them have the calamities pressed so heavily — as on the Poles, divided between Russia, Prussia and Austria . . . Nearly two millions of Polish soldiers have been drafted in three armies and in consequence have been forced into a fratricidal struggle."

Henryk Sienkiewicz, 1916

Poland, dying of hunger by the Polish waysides.

He had lived to see his nation suffer. He did not live to see her rise from the dead. He died on November 15, 1916, at Vevey, Switzerland.

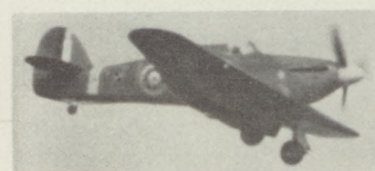
His writings were the school in which the youth of oppressed Poland, according to their own testimony, learned faith and strength: while his compatriots have not hesitated to affirm that his moral influence contributed in building the foundations of restored Poland. If, as a great novelist, Sienkiewicz has won a place in the literature of his country that, whatever the shifting tides of time, cannot fail to remain upon the heights, his place in the history of his country rests on a yet higher basis. His is one of the everlasting voices of patriotism. He labored for the strengthening of hearts.

Twenty-five years passed. The Teutonic Knights again plunged the world over the boundless precipice of crime and paganism. Before the grave in Vevey, kneel the Polish soldiers of the 2nd Division, interned in Switzerland after a heroic campaign in France. In Poland people pray in silence and derive their persistent strength from the words: "When times of trial come, let there be no despair, for there are no misfortunes, from which, with our united strength and the help of God, we can not rise." The Polish soul is arming the world over, "the alarm is sounding, the enemy is on the border . . ." Polish Eagles are taking to the air, hearts stirred by "Deluge" are beating faster, and never will stop fighting till victory is won.

Sienkiewicz will be victorious in the present war. The truth he told about the Teutonic Knights will live forever in the home and heart of every civilized man.

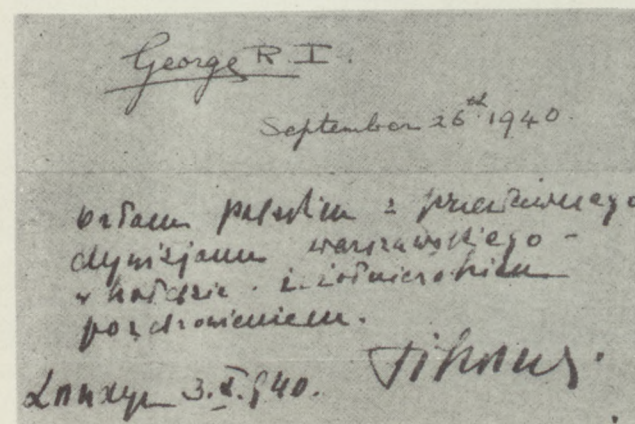
SQUADRON 303, AND ITS EPIC RECORD

BY A BRITISH WAR CORRESPONDENT



BEFORE me lies the Squadron's log-book in which every fact, every detail is painstakingly recorded. I also look through the per-

sonal diaries of the pilots. All these, written in a straightforward soldierly style, tell of a life of zealous endeavor, of superhuman effort and sacrifice. I read the words of those who have left the Squadron forever and whose photographs, edged in black, adorn the last pages of the album under the simple inscription: DIED THE DEATH OF FIGHTING AIRMEN.



From the pages of the Guest's Book of Squadron 303. Signatures of H.M. King George VI and General W. Sikorski.

Of these there are twenty, but beside them I see another figure, the impressive figure of 165 German planes shot down by Squadron 303 in the course of one year's action over Great Britain and occupied France — a fine bag, that shows how well-deserved is the praise lavished on the Kosciuszko Squadron. Surely, the proportion of the losses to the victories achieved, speaks for itself; but even so the picture is not complete unless these figures are compared with those of other Squadrons.

My thoughts run riot. I would like to write about everything with one sweep of the pen. I turn over the pages of the album of history.

The Kosciuszko Squadron possesses a long history. It had its beginning in the first year of Poland's newly-found independence, regained after long years of partition.

In 1918, the 7th Kosciuszko Squadron, under an American aviator, Cedric E. Fauntleroy, a colonel in the Polish Army, took an active part in the defense of Lwow. Later it was reformed as the 111th Kosciuszko Squadron, and its first commander was also an American, Lieutenant-Colonel Cooper.

During the time of the German blitz — for up to October 7, 1940, Squadron 303 took an active part in the defense of London — they had a total record of 126 enemy planes shot down and 21 probables. That is, and I repeat it with emphasis, a record. No other squadron achieved during the same period such an impressive result: 126 certain and 21 probables at a loss to themselves of 13 pilots.



H.M. KING GEORGE VI

On September 26th, 1940, King George VI visited the Squadron. The pilots lined up on the airfield and behind them were the ground staff. The King spoke with the pilots and congratulated them. Meanwhile the alert was sounded. Pilots and mechanics rushed to their machines. They took off so that the King might witness them match themselves with the enemy. Before leaving the King asked that the result of the battle be telephoned to him. The report after the battle read: 7 Heinkel 111's, 2 Dornier 215's and 4 Me 109's — a total of 13 machines shot down and 1 probable.

On October 11, Squadron 303 left for a short rest, to return on New Year's Day to their old aerodrome. Soon the British spring offensive over Northern France began. In this offensive the Squadron gained fresh laurels, bringing down 39 machines in the course of 38 days, and that under more difficult conditions, since these battles were fought over enemy territory.

Again this is a record figure over a given period. No other squadron has achieved such results. The Poles have not allowed anyone to wrest their lead from them. But in the album are to be found a few new photographs edged with black. They died the death of fighting airmen.



GERMANY AND INTERNATIONAL LAW

I begin by taking, I shall find scholars afterwards to demonstrate my perfect right.

FREDERICK THE GREAT

IN THE German philosophy based on the glorification of force there is no place for too deep a respect for right, and for international right in particular. For the Germans, an international agreement has only a transitory value for just so long as they cannot enforce their will on their co-signatories. It is not surprising that in Germany the clause *rebus sic stantibus* is regarded as implicit in every international treaty. The Germans have always given this clause an interpretation highly favorable to themselves, since in their view it connotes the right to unilateral abrogation of a treaty immediately the interests of the Reich require it, or the strength of Germany allows it.

Given such an attitude of contempt for the value of one's word, if it has been given to a foreign nation, it is possible to understand the astonishment of Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, who in his memorable conversation with the British Ambassador, Sir Edward Goschen, on August 4, 1914, made the famous remark: "Just for a word—'neutrality'—a word which has so often been disregarded in wartime—just for a scrap of paper Great Britain is going to make war on a kindred nation which desires nothing better than to be friends with her." On August 28, 1939, i.e., twenty-five years later, another British Ambassador in Berlin, Sir Neville Henderson, heard similar words from another Reich Chancellor — Adolf Hitler. When Hitler expressed his doubts whether Great Britain would implement her guarantee to Poland and act in defense of that country's independence, and when Sir Neville Henderson answered, "Our word is our word, and we never have and never will break it," recalling that in the days of Blücher a promise had had the same value in Germany, the present Reich Chancellor declared curtly: "Things were different one hundred and twenty-five years ago." In other words, in present-day Germany the pledged word no longer has the same value.

In her periods of power Germany has never been chary of giving frank expression to her views on the value of international agreements. But in her periods of weakness she has been very careful to conceal those views, while awaiting better times for herself. But very characteristic is Stresemann's indignation

with Bethmann-Hollweg, when in 1925 he accused the former Chancellor of openly admitting that Germany had violated Belgian neutrality in 1914, instead of following the example of Frederick the Great and throwing the responsibility on the Belgian Government. We do not know whether Hitler has ever read Stresemann's Memoirs, but his tactics have been in consonance with this criticism made by the Chancellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs in

the Weimar Republic. Hitler always begins by publicly accusing the State he is planning to attack of preparing aggression against Germany, then hurls his air and land forces against it taking it by surprise.

This part of the German philosophy directly concerns other nations. Let them remember it when Germany is once more ready to conclude international agreements.

"Every nation desires to enlarge its possessions as far as possible, and as far as possible to incorporate the entire human family into itself. This is

a tendency which it has received from God. In relations with other nations there are no laws or rights beyond the right of the strongest."

—Johann Gottlieb Fichte, (*Macchiavel als Schriftsteller*. Cf. *Macchiavel et l'Allemagne*, by Henri Berr, p. 12.)

"All treaties between nations are valid only with the reservation clause: *rebus sic stantibus*. They do not pledge a State forever."

—Heinrich von Treitschke (1869, *Politics*, Vol. 2, p. 239.)



THE FASTER WE GO THE FURTHER AWAY IT GETS

(Continued from page 6)

Part of the autochthonic "Nordic" population would then be subjected to direct Germanization, i.e., they would suffer no degradation in their social status. A further part would be reduced to the status of social outcasts, working for the Herrenvolk. Part would be removed by force to areas farther east, and German settlers would be brought in to take their place, as they became available. All these artifices are known from the experience of Poland, which is the experimental station for the Nazi New Order in Europe.

Meantime, before any more extensive plans can be carried through, the Baltic States, already badly devastated as the result of military operations, are experiencing the benefits of the German occupation.