

The Polish Review

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WITH THE POLISH ARMED FORCES



CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION BY POLISH SOLDIERS AND SAILORS IN SCOTLAND

POLAND SPEAKS . . .

IN HIS message to Poland broadcast on May 3rd, 1941, Prime Minister Churchill said:

"Every day Hitler's firing parties are busy in a dozen lands. Monday he shoots Dutchmen, Tuesday Norwegians, Wednesday French and Belgians stand against the wall, Thursday it is the Czechs who must suffer, and now there are the Serbs and the Greeks to fill his repulsive bill of execution. "But always, all of the days, there are the Poles."

And firing squads still reap their bloody harvest daily in Poland, tens of thousands of Poles still live in the hell of concentration camps, Germans daily evict Polish peasants from their homesteads and when these peasants ask what is to become of them, they hear only one reply from Gestapo lips: "Die!"

It staggers the imagination to think that every tenth human being in German occupied Poland has already been hanged or shot, tortured to death, starved, or after being turned out of house and home, robbed of all his worldly goods, deported to forced labor in Germany or left to face hunger and privation.

The German Plan

The German ten-year plan for Poland, formulated in 1939, included:

1. The "incorporation" into the Reich of Western Poland — that is Silesia, Poznan, Pomerania and part of Central Poland, and the setting up of a colonial Government-General over the rest of the country.
2. Deportation from Western Poland of all Poles, about nine million in all, and the settling of German colonists on their lands.
3. Extermination of Polish intellectuals and complete destruction of Polish culture, literature, science and art.
4. Moral degradation of Polish youth.
5. Confiscation of Polish property.
6. Transformation of the Polish nation, after decimation and the breaking of its spirit, into a slave-people working for the Germans.

The Germans make no secret of this plan. On the contrary, they openly boasted of it in print and in speech.

Moral and Physical Extermination

To wipe out and destroy, morally and physically, such is the aim of the German occupants in Poland. The blade of the German executioner's axe falls mostly on the necks of the educated classes and of Polish leaders. By far the greatest number of Poles who fall before a German firing squad or perish by tortures in concentration camps, are Polish professors, doctors, engineers, lawyers, priests, scientists and leaders of farm and industrial organizations.

Polish Universities, professional and technical institutions as well as high schools and all private schools are closed. The Germans degrade the morals of Polish youth by pornographic literature and movies, by encouraging drink and vice in all its forms.

GRIM FIGURES

July 1942 saw the 1,000th Day of the German Occupation of Poland.

During the 1,000 Days the Germans deported, confiscating all their belongings, To forced labor in Germany.... 1,000,000 Poles To the Government General.. 700,000 Poles The Germans shot or hanged 140,000 Poles Tortured to death in Concentration Camps..... 60,000 Poles Starved to death 500,000 Poles

Poles are being slowly and scientifically starved to death. The Germans claim that to maintain life, Poles require only a quarter as many calories as an ordinary individual.

How Women Are Treated

Polish women sent to the Ravensbruck concentration camp are flogged with thin rods of steel and when they lose consciousness are revived with cold water and the torture is continued. Throughout Poland the fate of women and young girls has been worse than death.

In all Polish cities there were mass raids to carry off all the good-looking women and girls who were placed in houses of prostitution for German soldiers. Some of these girls were only 15 years old and were taken from respectable and often well-to-do families. In addition countless young peasant women, ordered to report for forced labor in the agricultural districts of Germany were sent to brothels in the industrial centers.

These raids against women were deliberately organized not only by the German Gestapo but by the German Army. In Warsaw, a patrol was sent out by the 228th Reichswehr regiment to carry off young women and girls from a residential quarter of the city. They were taken to the barracks occupied by the regiment and raped. Soldiers of the 7th Anti-Aircraft Battery did the same thing in the suburb of Mokotow. In the homes and streets of Lublin the Gestapo organized a similar raid and a number of quite young girls and women were seized. After a medical examination they were turned over as a graduation gift to the young German pilots who had just completed their training course at the Swidnik air field.

PILLAGING OF POLISH AGRICULTURE CANNOT AVERT GERMAN FOOD CRISIS

DOWN to 1918 the Western provinces of Poland were regarded by Germany as one of the most important agricultural areas in the Reich. As Imperial Germany encouraged production in these areas, there were very large surpluses which went a long way to cover Germany's general shortage in home-produced food. In October, 1939, Germany illegally annexed these Western provinces. She decided to turn them into a granary for the Reich, and to eliminate the local Polish population.

It is most imperative for Germany that agricultural production should develop as quickly as possible. To this end the annexed lands are subject to strict control. The quantity of artificial fertilizers distributed is relatively high; the supply of agricultural machinery, tractors, selected seed, blood stock and swine is comparatively good. Of course German farms have priority. Milk production is strongly encouraged, and local conditions, so far as fodder provision is concerned, are relatively better than in Germany.

This agricultural policy has enabled the yield of agricultural production to be maintained at the pre-war level. Surpluses are at present much higher than in the pre-war days simply because the Polish population of these areas receive food rations much lower than those of the recently settled German population. Only thus is it possible to explain how the Germans were able to export some 800,000 tons of grain from these areas in the current year, as well as 150,000 tons of sugar, ten to twelve thousand tons of butter, 40,000 tons of meat, a million tons of potatoes and a large quantity of milk and eggs. To judge the effects of German spoliation in the annexed area one need but remember

that the average export from all Poland in pre-war days was, for example, only some 500,000 tons of grain, and 80,000 tons of sugar.

In the General Gouvernement (central and southern Poland) the situation is different. Here, for the time being, German colonization is proceeding only sporadically, and less attention is being devoted to the intensification of agricultural production. Before the war this area was not self-sufficient in food. The losses in capital and livestock caused by the war have been considerable, and are continually being augmented by German spoliatory policy (quotas, military requisitions, so-called voluntary buying up of food by the German soldiers individually). There is a particular shortage of artificial fertilizer, of draught animals (requisition of horses for the Eastern campaign) and even of labor (forced labor sent to the Reich). Agricultural production in the General Gouvernement has deteriorated considerably. In these conditions, with a population increased by the one and half millions deported from the Western provinces, Germany is not only feeding all her military and civilian army of occupation very well from local resources, but is even exporting food to the Reich, at the cost of starving the local Polish population.

No satisfactory data are at hand regarding agricultural production in the areas formerly under Soviet occupation. But undoubtedly any surpluses in those areas are allocated for the provisioning of the German Army on the Eastern front, and there can be no talk of any planned policy for stimulating production.

(Please turn to page 4)



THE BARTER SYSTEM IN ACTION

by Arthur Szyk

PILLAGING OF POLISH AGRICULTURE

(Continued from page 3)

Even before the war, the consumption of food in Germany had been restricted, and was below the demand. At the beginning of the war rationing reduced it still more. A further reduction in rations is occurring in the present war. This is shown by the following table:

Food	Kilos.* consumed per head, 1935/38.	Annual Ration in Kilos. per head, 1939.	1939 Rations in % of pre-war.	Annual Ration in Kilos. per head, 1942.	Present Ration in % of 1939 Ration
Bread		130.0		104.0	79
Fats	26.05	22.2	85.3	10.7	49
Meat	45.45	40.0	88.0	15.6	39
Sugar	23.1	14.56	63.0	11.8	84
Milk	112.0	75.6	67.5	—	—

(*1 Kilo = 2.2 lbs.)

So far potatoes and other vegetables have not been rationed in the Reich, but undoubtedly they will be. In general the present rations have shown a marked decline as compared with consumption in pre-war years and the first year of war. For instance, the bread ration has been reduced by one-fifth, the fat ration by over a half, the meat ration by three-fifths.

The food-rationing system in Germany calls for the following comments:

1. It does not treat the entire population alike, for there are considerably higher rations for the army, auxiliary formations, workers on heavy labor, mothers and children. Only 40 per cent. of the population receives the "normal" ration.

2. The shortage of certain articles of food causes a higher consumption of other articles that are more available; for instance, the shortage of meat and fat might cause a rise in consumption of bread and potatoes.

3. Owing to full employment and the increase in labor hours, the earnings of the poorer classes have improved and the demands of workers doing valuable work have increased. Thus the demand of these classes for certain articles of food may be greater than before the war. For instance, a worker's family may now be availing itself of the meat ration, whereas previously it did not eat meat at all. These factors have the effect of causing a shortage in the supply of articles which formerly were in plentiful supply. This, in part, explains the rise in general consumption of certain articles in wartime, despite the ration system.

A second important factor making for modifications in the total consumption of the population is the mobilization of the army. In countries with a low living standard, mobilization entails a very great increase in the consumption of meat and fats, as army rations are much higher than average civilian consumption. In view of the diminished consumption of pre-war Germany this factor applies there also, and is causing additional difficulties of supply.

Germans experienced all the highly unpleasant effects of the blockade in the last war, and so for a number of years they geared their economic system to meet the needs and demands of a new war. In

their endeavor to assure themselves as large as possible food reserves they worked hard to increase their own production of vegetable and animal food. The results achieved enabled them to maintain a comparative equilibrium during the first two years of the war.

In this regard 1940 was a particularly successful year for the Germans. The occupation of Poland, Denmark, Belgium, Holland, and France put the Reich food supply on a solid basis. In the occupied countries the German authorities ruthlessly pursued a policy of requisitioning food supplies, starving the local population, in order to carry off as large as possible quantities to Germany. Millions of people brought under the German yoke have had to starve, in order that the German *Herrenvolk* could meet their own insatiable demands.

This system, based as it was on exploitation, could not maintain a lasting equilibrium. In the second year of war the first symptoms of deterioration began to be manifest. In the occupied areas the effects of Germany's shortsighted policy in undermining agricultural productive forces began to make themselves felt. In Germany itself agriculture is feeling a growing shortage of the means of production and a severe shortage of labor. The German people are suffering from an increasing deficiency of fats, and their livestock from a lack of fodder. In the second half of 1941 a shortage of meat developed. That year closed with Germany having a deficit balance in food supplies.

1942 promises a further deterioration in the supply of fats and a sharp fall in the supply of fodder, which will entail at first a brief period of increase in meat supply, owing to the necessity of increased slaughtering, but which later will lead to a severe reduction in meat supply. The shortage of grain and dairy produce will also increase. The measure of the existing difficulties is the reduction in German food rations and the probability that ration cards will be introduced for potatoes.

All these symptoms indicate that Germany's food supply system is entering upon a critical phase.

Faced with these increasing difficulties, the German machine will bring still more pressure to bear on agricultural production in the occupied countries. There will be an increase in the severity of German policy, which can be summed up in two words: *aus-hungern* (starve out) and *ausführen* (carry off). In consequence the people of the occupied countries are threatened with an intensification of the hunger régime.

Even so, the systematic spoliation of the occupied lands cannot meet the needs of the German people, who will experience an increasing lack of the basic foods.

The dismissal of Walter Darré, Minister of Agriculture and Food, retiring for a long rest after nine years in charge of German agricultural policy, is a proof of the increasing tension, and also a harbinger of catastrophe in Germany's food supplies, which will ultimately break down under insuperable difficulties.

TOPICS OF THE POLISH UNDERGROUND PRESS

EVERY step of production of each number of every conspirational journal is fraught with danger. From the collection of news by listening in to wireless communiques, to the distribution of copies to the readers, the workers are liable to imprisonment and execution in the event of discovery. For the German terror is directed first and foremost against the secret organizations struggling for Polish independence.

The risks that are run in order to carry on the work are illustrated by a report taken from one of the secret periodicals, the "Głos Polski" — the Voice of Poland — of July 6th, 1941:

"On July 4th the Gestapo surrounded one of the villas in Czerniakow, in — — Street. An S.S. detachment armed with machine-guns also arrived. In the villa they found our printing plant, which had recently been transferred from Mokotow, where the situation was beginning to be dangerous. When the Germans got no answer to their knocking on the doors, they shattered windows with hand grenades and fired into the building with their machine-guns. As a result two of our people were killed and two others died of wounds in the hospital. The owner of the villa, Michael Kruk, his wife and two sons, aged 15 and 17, and all the inhabitants of the nearby villas were arrested and shot. Altogether 83 persons perished."

Thus the Germans attempt to suppress the secret journals. But those who escape, often after an armed battle, and others who are left, carry on the work from another center.

The distribution is a particularly dangerous enterprise. German authorities are continually carrying out searches in the street, cafes, trams and wherever they are likely to come upon traces of underground activities. To force confession of details concerning the conspirational organizations, those caught are subjected to torture.

To reduce the hazard of discovery to a minimum, each distributor is acquainted with only one or two other persons in the organization, and supplies copies only to one or two recipients. In such conditions it is obvious that the distribution of 12,000 copies involves enormous labor. We cite two examples of the risks run by the distributors and recipients.

In one report from Poland the following incident was related:

"In August 1940, two girls were seized and arrested in a street of Warsaw; one fourteen, the other sixteen. Illegal journals were found on them. They were both taken and held in prison for three weeks, then they were shot, and their mutilated bodies were handed over to their parents. An examination of the bodies revealed what monstrous crimes had been committed against these two children. The girls betrayed no secrets, and the journal which they were distributing continues to appear."

In a report from Poland in January 1942, was the following passage:

"In Poznan, a Pole named Nurzynski, caught publishing and distributing a bulletin with wireless information was sentenced to death by beheading. The sentence was carried out. Some 100 people were arrested as recipients of the bulletin."

The underground movement on which the future of Europe is being built is engaged in a hard and dangerous struggle and those who are engaged in it do so under the continual danger of imprisonment, torture and death.

The people in Poland, as in all the occupied lands, are most of all anxious to obtain news from abroad. Owing to the excellent organization of the secret Press, they get that news with only a slight delay. For instance, Mr. Churchill's speech on January 27th last, was reported in full in the "Wiadomosci Polskie" — Polish News — two days later.

Britain's armed effort and America's drive for armaments are closely followed, but the views expressed on such subjects reveal great objectivity and understanding. For instance, the "Wiadomosci Polskie," of October 9 last, had the following comment:

"Why does not England take advantage of the favorable situation to effect a descent? Has British phlegm again led to her being five minutes late? The present conditions are extremely favorable. The Reich has the greater part of its forces in the East. On the other hand, there is still a risk. The coastal fortifications which have not yet been demolished, would render any landing operation difficult, the German submarine fleet has not yet been crushed.

(Please turn to page 8)



ROUND-UP OF POLISH UNDERGROUND WORKERS

POLISH DEVOTIONAL ART

that he revealed in his home altars, bas-reliefs and tombstones.

Of especial interest are the devotional articles worn by Polish warriors in the time of the Crusades. In the 16th century, the traditional scapular, consisting of two small strips of cloth connected by strings and falling over the shoulders, was transformed into a copper-plate *kaplerz*, oval or rectangular in shape, with the image of the Virgin painted on it. Worn over the chest beneath the armor, it was not only a symbol of divine protection but an additional device for warding off enemy blows. In the 18th century the *kaplerz* assumed a different shape, became an external adornment of the military uniform, and received the name of *ryngraf*. Like the *kaplerz*, the *ryngraf* was of copper. Almost always it bore a painted or engraved image of Our Lady of Czenstochowa. The *ryngraf* was worn as a breastplate by Polish infantry up to 1830. In its later form, however, instead of the sacred image, it bore a white eagle on a field of silver or gold. Following the Great War, the *ryngraf* was restored to the Polish army, not as part of its military dress but as an adornment of soldier's living quarters.

Another trapping of the knight of by-gone days was the rosary. Polish rosaries, beautifully made of amber and coral, were famous along the Baltic coast from the dawn of Christianity in Poland. More recent rosary centers were Czenstochowa, the site of Poland's miracle-working shrine, and Krakow, which in 1804 boasted twelve master craftsmen who specialized in rosary making.

Holy pictures played an important part in the religious life of ancient Poland. In the 18th and 19th centuries, Wilno was the great center of devotional engraving. The founding of the School of Engraving at the University of Wilno in 1805 gave further impetus to this activity. As a rule, the pictures were etched in monastery workshops by artist monks and were printed in the monastery printshops. The archives of these shops still have many valuable unpublished copper-plate engravings.

Polish church art owes its lustre chiefly to plastic artists: sculptors, goldsmiths, carvers, metal casters, aided by painters, pooled their efforts to produce works of devotional art worthy of the Italian Renaissance.

Amber and ivory proved happy mediums for Polish artists and were characteristic of Polish Baltic art. The Papal Legate Gaetano kept as his most pleasing mementoes of Poland an amber crucifix and a salver for ampullae. King Zygmunt-August who reigned in the 16th century liked to work in this medium and was the author of an amber chalice for St. Mary's Church in Krakow.

The charming reliquaries, home altars and devotional scenes in ivory may still be admired in art collections and church museums. It is even said that the hero of two continents, Tadeusz Kosciuszko, executed a small ivory sculpture of the birth of Christ.

Marble, an ideal medium for statues, busts and tombstones, was also used for church interiors. But, curiously enough, small devotional objects of great appeal and grace were made in marble by the peasants of Debnik.

Akin to the working of marble was the stone-cutter's art of carving small medallions and bas-reliefs in precious stones. But very early in the history of church art it was discovered that gold and silver lent themselves best to the fashioning of artistic devotionalia.

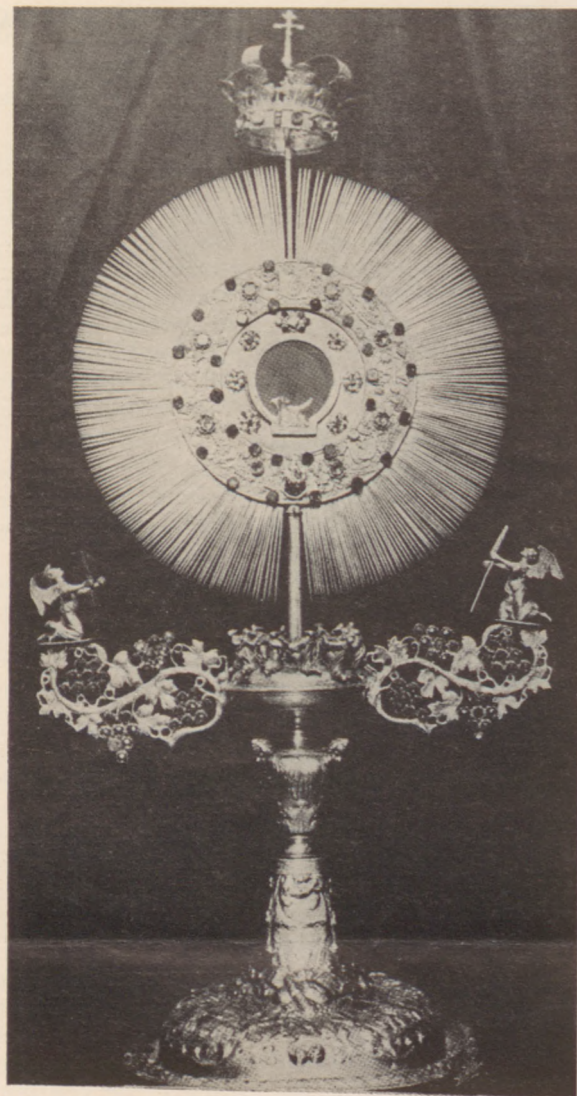
The first example of the goldsmith's devotional art in Poland was the golden coffin of the martyred St. Adalbert ordered in 999 by Boleslas the Valiant. At first, work in gold was confined to monasteries and churches. But already in the 14th century the lay goldsmiths of Krakow and Plock were famous for their tiny devotional articles. The 16th and 17th centuries saw the flowering of goldsmith activity all over Poland. Krakow alone had forty goldsmiths whose works rivalled and often surpassed in

artistry the production of Italy and Germany.

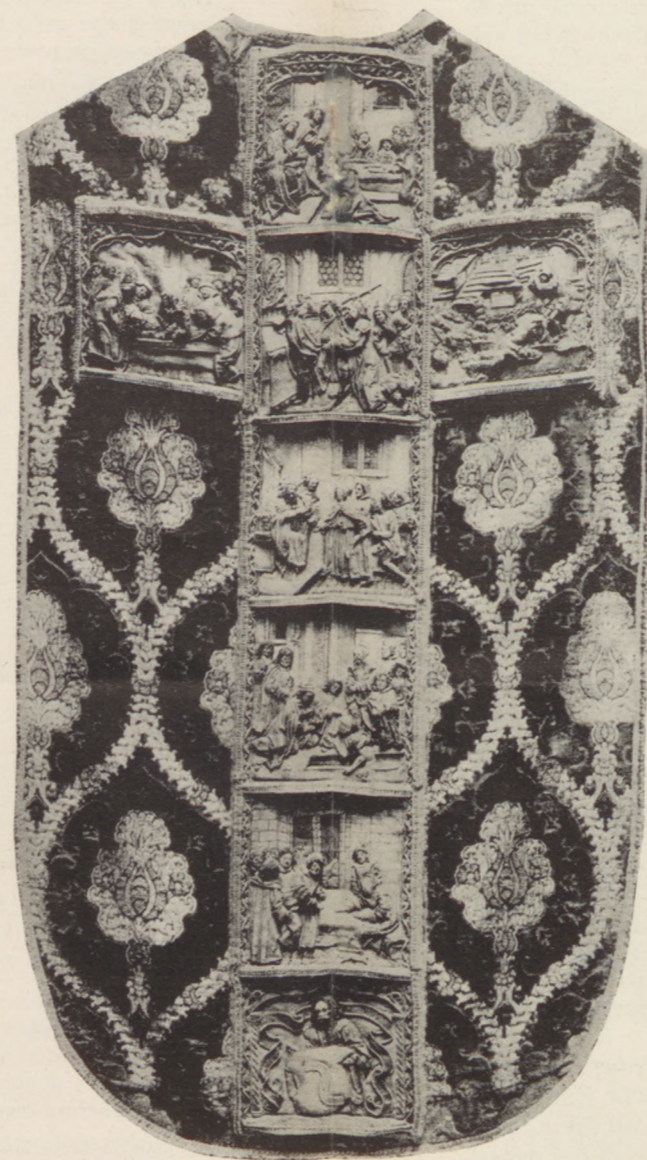
One of the reasons why art in ancient Poland enjoyed such widespread popularity, why it flourished so well in the days when Poland was great and free, was that it enjoyed the protection of the Kings. Zygmunt I and Leszek I both prided themselves on their work as goldsmiths. Zygmunt-August, the monarch of Poland's Golden Age, continued this tradition.

A great patron of the arts, he was no mean artist himself. He carved fine portraits in stone and presented them to his Ministers. He painted, sculptured and engraved many beautiful monstrances, chalices, reliquaries and statuettes. The Church of the Carmelites in Warsaw had a coffer made by him while the Cathedral of St. John, heavily damaged during the bombardment of the Polish capital in 1939, had his gold cup, his monstrances, cross and two silver statues fashioned with his own hands.

(Please turn to page 12)



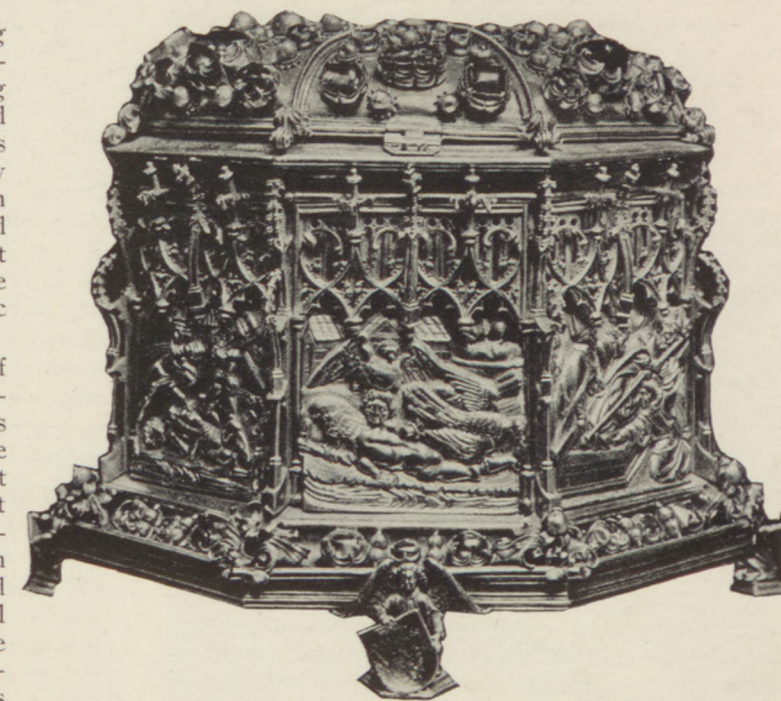
MONSTRANCE IN THE PARISH CHURCH OF PIASECZNO (XVII c.)



CHASUBLE, 1504, THE TREASURY OF THE CATHEDRAL OF CRACOW



"RYNGRAF"



St. Stanislaw's Relics, 1540, The Treasury of the Cathedral of Cracow

TOPICS OF THE POLISH UNDERGROUND PRESS

(Continued from page 5)

Probably England is not yet ready for offensive activities on a large scale, either in terms of training or in terms of materials, for supplies from the United States are only now reaching real dimensions. In addition, the Reich military potential is still a force, but every day the gaps increase and the already strained reserves of manpower and materials are greatly reduced. England can wait and is waiting until the offensive operation can be undertaken with the least risk . . . The Allied front is in the nature of a blockade, but at the same time its strategic potential is increasing with every day. The Axis is definitely being strangled, as it is completely deprived of the most necessary raw materials."

The secret Press devotes much attention to America's rearmaments, discussing the published figures and data. The belated beginning of rearmament is recognized and allowed for.

It goes without saying that the Polish - Soviet agreement, the development of a Polish Army in Soviet Russia, and General Sikorski's visit to the U.S.S.R., have been extensively discussed in the Polish secret Press, and the discussion has been very matter of fact and objective. The Press shows special interest in the development of the Polish army in Russia.

The "Rzeczpospolita Polska", of December 11th, 1941, most perfectly reflected the hopes which Poles at home attach to this army. It printed the interview given by General Anders to the Russian press with the expressive title:

"We shall fight our way through to Poland."

The Polish secret Press looks to Russia to pursue a course which will ensure the future development of good Polish-Russian relations.

Germany's military and economic situation is followed just as closely, as the course of the war on the Eastern front is studied with special interest.

The difficulties which confront the Germans in their attempts to exploit the Polish industries for purposes of war are commented on in detail. The "Biuletyn Informacyjny" — Information Bulletin — for February 26th reported:

"News coming in from all parts of the country on the state of industry working for German armaments shows how great are the difficulties which that industry has to combat. For instance, a number of industrial establishments in the Polish Central Industrial Region are only working certain days in the

week. Moreover the dismantling of machinery has begun in a certain number of factories in the Warsaw Industrial Region. Dozens of workshops are standing idle, the working day is shortened and workers are put off for holidays. The case of the Warsaw Rifle Works is a classic example of this slowdown.

"News from Silesia also indicates a reduction in labor output. The rate of output in the coal mines has fallen considerably below the normal in Polish times."

The state of railways in Poland must give the Germans serious cause for concern. The "Rzeczpospolita Polska" — Polish Commonwealth — for November 13th, 1941 reported:

"Railway transport is getting more and more defective and cannot cope with the tasks which it is set. In Warsaw and other railway junctions endless blocks of trains waiting for engines, are forming. The rolling stock is being steadily ruined and is not properly cared for because of shortage of grease. This in turn leads to

continual interruption of traffic. Owing to the shortage of spare rails the railway tracks are falling into disrepair, thus threatening many accidents in the winter. Already damaged rails are not replaced, but are only put in 'splints'."

Other things besides railway stock and permanent ways are beginning to let the Germans down. The Polish underground Press is quick to note signs of human weakness. The "Narod" — Nation — of January 20th, 1942, had the following report illustrating the spirit of the German troops:

"It is reported from the Eastern front that cases are increasing of entire detachments of Italian soldiers going over to the Russians with all their equipment. German detachments are increasingly deserting from the field and trying to make their own way to the rear. Cases of desertion are so frequent that recently the command has begun to issue indefinite leave on a large scale in order to save its prestige."

The Polish secret Press also reports on the European anti-German underground front, and devotes much space to articles and notes on sabotage in Czechoslovakia, the attacks on German authorities in France, the guerrilla war in Yugoslavia, the Croat risings and so on. Thus the Polish people are helped to realize that they are not alone in the mortal struggle with the enemy.



THE LAST MILE

POLISH "MEN IN WHITE"

AS EARLY as 1364, when founding the University of Cracow, King Casimir the Great provided for a chair of Medicine at this first Polish center of higher learning. In those days medicine was strongly influenced by astrologers, who were in addition astronomers and mathematicians.

In the 15th century, Marcin Bylica of Olkusz, an alumnus of the University of Cracow, a distinguished mathematician, astrologer and physician, attained such fame that he was called to a professorship at the University of Bologna.

The Cracow school of Medicine continued to be world-famous even up to the 16th century. One of its best-known graduates was Maciej (Matthew) of Miechowo (1457 - 1523), professor of medicine and rector of the university, wrote many works and founded a second chair of medicine. Jozef Strus (Struthius) (1510-1568), another alumnus of the University of Cracow, lectured on medicine at the University of Padua for ten years. After returning to Poland he attained fame throughout Europe as a distinguished physician and the author of a treatise on the pulse.

In later years, Jędrzej Sniadecki (1768-1838), a professor of the University of Wilno, became famous as a physiologist, biologist, chemist and physician. T. Chalubinski (1820-1889) professor at the Chief School at Warsaw, was a distinguished clinician and balneologist. He founded the climatological station at Zakopane, in the Tatras.

In the field of medical philosophy much of lasting value was accomplished by W. Bieganski (1857-1917) whose works were translated into several foreign languages. Prof. H. Hoyer (1834-1907) of the Chief School at Warsaw, was an outstanding histologist.

Besides those mentioned above, other Polish doctors have made considerable contributions to general medical knowledge. L. Teichmann - Stawiariski (1823-1895), a Cracow anatomist, discovered the crystallization of blood haemin (Teichmann's Crystals); J. Dietl (1804-1878), professor of Cracow University, was an eminent clinician and balneologist; the Pole, J. Babinski in Paris, laid the foundation of our knowledge of diseases of the nervous system (Babinski's symptom).

In the treatment of diseases and infections of the eye the work of W. Szokalski (1811-1890) and

Ksawery Galezowski (1832-1907), two of the founders of modern ophthalmology, added glory to the name of Poland.

In dermatology valuable contribution was made by F. Krysztalowicz (1868-1931), who did outstanding research work in dermatology on the course of fungoid diseases.

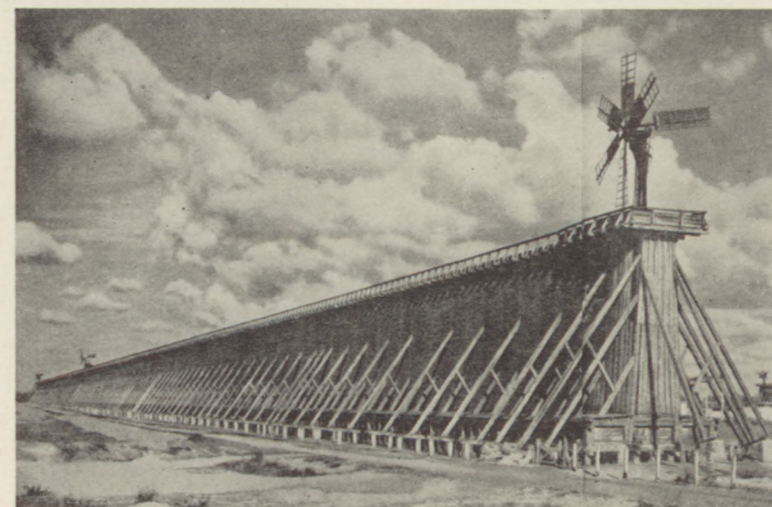
Some of the famous Polish surgeons were: Prof. L. Rydygier (1850-1914) of Lwow University, was the first to perform the operation for excision of the pylorus by a new method; and Prof. J. Mikulicz - Radecki (1850-1905) of Cracow University, who introduced improvements in aseptics, such as using gloves and iodoform in operations.

A. Le Brun (1801-1869), a distinguished surgeon, introduced

numerous operative methods which made his name famous throughout the medical world.

The Nestor of Polish bacteriology was O. Bujwid, who among other things founded the first institute in Poland for inoculation against rabies, and the second in the world after Pasteur's at Paris. In this same field of bacteriology and serology excellent work and great contribution was made by Prof. R. Weigl of Lwow University, who introduced the first successful inoculation against exanthematic typhus. The law of the inheritance of blood types and their signi-

(Please turn to page 12)



SALT CONCENTRATION PLANT IN CIECHOCINEK SPA



ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS SPA IN ZAKOPANE

THE SAGA OF THE POLISH CARPATHIAN BRIGADE



HELLO!

Stanislaw Kopanski formed the nucleus of the Brigade in Syria.

Desert war is a specialized profession calling for particular qualifications and great sacrifices. Living quarters are among stones and tents; food is scarce and exclusively tinned. The beginning for the Polish soldiers used to European climate and terrain was therefore hard. In addition, tropical fever causing a weakening of the heart muscles, desert sand storms filling eyes with sand, scurvy, the heat and intense cold took their toll of the Brigade. And then like a thunderbolt came the news of the fall of France. After a dramatic interview between General Kopanski and General Mittelhauser an Independent Carpathian Brigade entered Palestine. Independent but without any supplies or armament. It finally got some old and outdated mountain guns and the men began to train in Latrun. In the sweltering heat of the Middle East summer the Brigade worked tirelessly. Their work was rewarded by an order to leave for Alexandria. All the men rejoiced, for this move would bring them closer to the enemy. In Alexandria they were put to work on strengthening the defenses.

In January 1941, the reorganization of the Brigade along British lines was complete. But the soldiers were not ready to fight yet. Endless days of drill at Marsa Matruh followed. In their spare moments the soldiers wrote letters, mended their garments, read what literary matter came into their hands. Of

THE fall of Tobruk, Gazala and Bardia are now recorded in the annals of history. A place of great distinction has been awarded to the Polish Carpathian Brigade which fought so valiantly and fearlessly against superhuman odds.

Long and weary was the way of the Brigade before it reached Tobruk. A handful of officers and men came from France and, in March 1940, under the command of the then Col.

course, they were hungry for news from Poland or from other units of the Polish Armed Forces. It is no wonder then that the Polish publication "Ku Wolnej Polsce"—Toward a Free Poland—found so many avid readers. It was read meticulously from cover to cover and then passed on to other readers.

The endless waiting was finally rewarded and that very richly, for soon the order came to move to the front line. In August 1941, the Polish Carpathian Brigade marched into the famous fortress of Tobruk.

The Carpathian Brigade remained in Tobruk until December 12, 1941. At first it took over from an Australian Brigade the defense of the southern sector. Then in the first days of October it relieved another Australian Brigade in a western sector called "Salient". This was the hardest position of all, for it was situated exactly opposite the Medauer Hill which was occupied by Italians and Germans and was bristling with armament of every kind. The Brigade held that sector about ten weeks, until the end of the siege. The Polish Brigade thus bettered by

more than a half the record time for position-occupation during the whole siege.

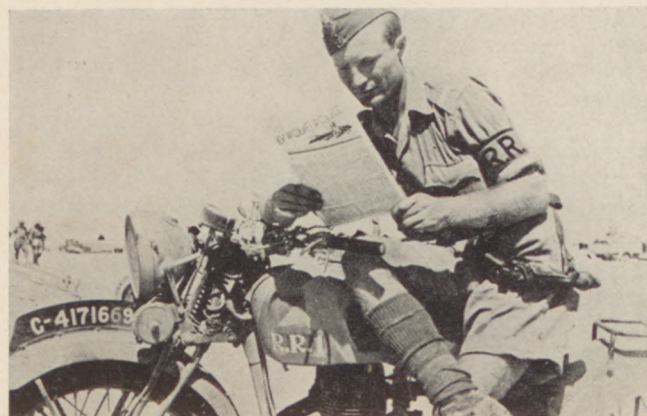
The fighting conditions in Tobruk were bad. Furthermore the Polish soldiers were unprepared in every sense of the word. The "Aussies" whom they relieved had to give them their own long woolen trousers and heavy jackets because the Poles had only thin shorts and sleeveless shirts. The enemy lines were often hardly 500 feet

from their position, but the Polish soldiers fought on bravely.

Patrols in the desert were no joke. There was no



POLISH ARTILLERY IN ACTION



POLISH PUBLICATION FINDS AVID READERS

cover to protect the advance. Yet, despite these difficulties, some Polish soldiers found their way to the rear of the enemy lines. At 330 feet from the enemy position they set fire to Italian observation posts and under a heavy barrage of enemy fire returned safely to their own lines. Today many of them wear proudly the distinctions awarded for their bravery.

There are countless examples of bravery and daring. A Cadet

Sergeant has more than 50 patrols to his record. Then a Polish Cavalry patrol of five men captured an enemy platoon. The danger of explosive mines did not deter volunteers who went to disarm those mines under constant enemy fire. Another daring exploit was when a small group of raiders under cover of night penetrated past the enemy trenches and captured five Italian guards.

The Polish Artillery so often mentioned in communiques hit the German and Italian targets so often and with such good results that its repute was firmly established.

When General Sikorski visited the Carpathian Brigade during its stay at Tobruk, he made personal contact with those on the fighting front. He saw with his own eyes how anxious the soldiers were to plunge into active fighting with the enemy so as all the sooner to bring victory to the Allies and to bring back freedom to Poland.

This period at Tobruk marked the baptism of war for the Brigade. Experienced soldiers and men who were facing the enemy for the first time fought side by side. Lawyers, artisans, newspaper men, all flung themselves wholeheartedly into the struggle. They were all fighting as common soldiers. The Polish soldiers under fire proved to be magnificent fighting material, hard and ruthless and prepared to give their life for Poland and Liberty. Differences of social standards disappeared, discontent caused by the weary months spent in previous locations vanished as soon as they were put into action. The morale of the men facing the enemy was almost superhuman. All of them were animated with the ardent desire for action, to shed blood for their families, their homes, their soil, their country. Equality in the face of death bound all these men with bonds of steel. An 18-year-old Pole from Persia who had never seen Poland fell close to a miner from Silesia. A young college boy, who ran away to the army to take part in the September campaign in Poland, found his way to



PATROLS IN THE DESERT ARE NO JOKE

there are many like Lt. Zbigniew Pieniazek whose cross is decorated with the "Virtuti Militari" awarded after his death.

These defenders of Tobruk, covered by desert sand, are not only soldiers who fulfilled their duty. Each one of them is a symbol of a Fighting and Suffering Poland. They went through concentration camps, internment camps, torture chambers; they stole illegally through the borders in order to meet the enemy again.

Five days after the fall of Medauer Hill the Poles were already fighting with great success in Gazala. They attacked the enemy positions furiously and as a result of this fierce attack the enemy retreated on

(Please turn to page 12)



THE LAST GOODBYE

the East and gave his life for his "mother and country."

The graves of 130 Poles who fell at Tobruk are marked by stark white crosses that glow in the blinding light of a desert noon. No trees throw their cooling shade—no wind moans through the branches, no rain weeps on their graves, no snow covers them in the winter. They are men who fell for their country in a foreign land. — Among them

POLISH DEVOTIONAL ART

(Continued from page 7)

Polish devotional art passed into abeyance during the Partitions. Master craftsmen gradually ceased to make home altars, diptychs, triptychs, monstrances, gold tablets, bas-reliefs, chiselled frames for pictures of saints painted on parchment, combination clocks and crosses, medallions and the hundreds of other examples of devotionalia that had enjoyed European renown.

The beauty of Polish devotional art, however, did not die. It was reborn in the simple expressive creations of folk artists, who like the professional artisan of old, left the mark of their feelings upon their works. The sad, seated wood figures of "Afflicted Christ", the wayside shrines and crosses, the crude wood cuts of the Mother of God are eloquent testimony of the Polish peasant's pristine faith and of the survival of Polish devotional art.



ST. PETER CHRYSOLOGUS, DELIVERER FROM RABIES
Woodcut by Janina Konarska

Polish Carpathian Brigade

(Continued from page 11)

December 17th after only three days of fighting. About 1,700 prisoners were taken together with about 100 machine guns and ammunition and other valuable equipment.

With the fall of Bardia on January 1, 1942 ended the first chapter of the adventure of the Polish Brigade in the Middle East.

The Britisher, Czechoslovak, Australian and New Zealander will remember the Polish soldier for his fearlessness, hard fighting and complete devotion to the cause for which he fought. There was another side too—wherever a Polish camp was stationed there would undoubtedly be a lot of laughter, singing and music. In this manner the soldiers for at least a fleeting moment tried to recapture the spirit of their country.

P O L I S H " M E N I N W H I T E "

(Continued from page 9)

ficance for the study of race and nationality was expounded in conformity with biological laws by L. Hirschfeld, professor of Warsaw University. Prof. W. Biernacki of Lwow was the first to investigate the rapidity of the sedimentation of the blood-corpuscles as an aid to the diagnosis of disease.

A. Sokolowski (1844-1921), a distinguished specialist in diseases of the lungs, introduced new methods for diagnosing and treating pulmonary tuberculosis. He founded the Polish school of medical physiologists, from which a number of well-known clinicians have come.

In physiology N. Cybulski of Cracow discovered adrenalin, the hormone exciting the secretion of the kidneys which regulates the blood pressure.

T. Browicz (1847-1928), a distinguished anatomist and pathologist of the University of Cracow, was the first to observe the bacteria in the spleen of a victim

of typhus abdominalis. J. Parnas, professor of Lwow University, elucidated the chemical phenomena in the muscles when in action and at rest.

Prof. J. Brudzinski (1847-1917), first rector of the newly constituted University of Warsaw and an eminent specialist in pediatrics, introduced new methods (Brudzinski's symptom) for the study of meningitis.

Numerous health centers were established throughout the country to ensure proper protection for public health.

But all these men in white did not foresee nor prepare for the plague which fell on Poland in 1939. Hitler's New Order, the epidemic sweeping Europe for which no cure has been found yet, destroyed hospitals, schools and health resorts as well as men of medicine. These things cannot be replaced by any retribution.