

The Polish Review

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The New York Times

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SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 1943.

RUSSIA, BRITAIN AND AMERICA

Anthony Eden is to be congratulated on dissociating the policy of his country from the editorial in The Times of London last week which proposed an Anglo-Russian joint guardianship of the peace of Europe and advance approval by the United Nations of any frontier changes which Russia may want to make after the war is won. Mr. Eden has come to the United States to confer with leading American statesmen on the issues of the post-war world, the most important of which is the organization of future peace and security for all. It would be unfortunate if his mission were to be marred by alarms such as The Times article was bound to arouse; and it is reassuring to hear from official British quarters in Washington that in this instance The Times expressed more nearly the Russian than the British point of view.

There can and will be no quarrel with the fundamental thesis advanced by The Times that a policy of "splendid isolation" is no longer either safe or practicable, or with the other thesis that security in Europe can be achieved only through close and trustful cooperation with Russia. Both propositions are self-evident, and have been accepted in this country by all but the most hidebound isolationists. But if there is one method to drive America back to isolation, it is to question the fundamental basis for international cooperation among the United Nations laid down in the Atlantic Charter.

That charter provides, among other things, "no aggrandizement, territorial or other; no territorial changes that do not accord with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned, respect for the right of all peoples to choose the form of government under which they will live; restoration of the

sovereign rights and self-government to those who have been forcibly deprived of them." These principles are also the basis of the Anglo-Russian Mutual Assistance Pact of May 26, 1942, and of the Russo-American War Aid Pact of June 11, 1942, under which Anglo-American aid is being sent to help Russia win her victories. The charter and the pact contain clear-cut and binding obligations for all, and any enduring organization for peace and mutual cooperation after the war will have to be built on them.

American opinion will not look favorably on any proposal to put the small nations of Europe on the auction block in order to purchase Russian confidence and cooperation. This policy carries an echo of the Chamberlain idea of appeasement, and is based, we believe, on a misunderstanding of recent history and European and world realities. The European nations did not go to war against Hitler to submit to Russian domination. On the contrary, the threat that "the Bolsheviks will get them" if they don't support Hitler is Goebbels's last persuasive talking point, and The Times article is grist to his mill. For let there be no illusions on this point: the Communist Trojan Horse is no stronger in Europe than the Nazi Fifth Column, and the European nations are tired of both of them. But if they are forced to choose, they may choose Hitler rather than Stalin. And the only way to rouse their whole-hearted resistance to the Nazis is to assure them that there is no need for such a desperate choice—which there isn't if the United Nations remain loyal to the Atlantic Charter.

Nor would an appeasement of Russia be more successful than the attempt to appease Hitler. On the contrary, appeasement at the surrender of principles would not only whet the appetite of the appeased, but would also arouse like appetites in possibly unexpected places. The demand heard in this country for outright cession of all naval and air bases now occupied by the United States should be a warning of this danger.

National policies cannot be based on mutual trust and confidence unless the policies themselves are such as to create mutual trust and confidence. And the appropriation of territory by large Powers at the expense of small nations is not a policy designed to achieve that end.

STANISLAW KOT, POLISH MINISTER OF INFORMATION

London, March—Professor Stanislaw Stronski, Polish Minister of Information, has resigned and President Raczkiewicz has appointed Professor Stanislaw Kot, until recently Polish Ambassador to Moscow, to take his place.

For thirty years Professor Kot has been a close friend and collaborator of General Sikorski, Polish Prime Minister and Commander in Chief. He was born in 1885 and graduated as Doctor of Philosophy from Lwow University. He was Professor of History at the University of Cracow and has written many books on Polish-British relations which had great influence on Polish thought in the pre-war period. Among them are his "Anglo-Polonica", "The Influence of the Polish Brethren Known as Socians in England", "The Republic of Poland in Western Literature" and "Le Mouvement Antrinitaire au XVI et VII Siècles." He is a member of the Polish Academy of Science and of the Czechoslovak Scientific Society in Prague.

One of the prominent leaders of the Peasants Party, Professor Kot, as Minister of the Interior, was a member of the Polish Government for three years and was then sent on a temporary mission to Moscow as Polish Ambassador.

At a meeting of the Polish Cabinet on Thursday, General Sikorski, who presided, accepted Professor Stronski's resignation and with the unanimous approval of the Cabinet, thanked him on behalf of the Polish Government for the zeal he had shown and the eminent services he had rendered for three and a half years in the difficult post of Minister of Information.

POLES FORCED TO SERVE GERMANY

London, March — Underground news from Poland is to the effect that Gauleiter Greiser, upon concluding his inspection tour in the so-called Warthegau, the Western provinces of Poland illegally "incorporated" in the Reich, expressed satisfaction with the way German total mobilization had been carried out in this province. Total mobilization was applied to all Poles.

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FANATICISM AND TERROR



GERMAN fanaticism is limitless. In 1942 a hospital in Great Britain wanted to make a blood transfusion to save a German officer prisoner's life. The German refused to have a transfusion of British blood. He died. In Poland the German authorities explain to these fanatics that their task is to win back out of the Polish mass all who have the least drop of German blood in their veins. (*Taubdeutsche* or "deaf Germans," they call them.) Not one drop of that blood must be lost. All resistance must be broken. Fanatics who are ready to die for the blood doctrine, are all the more willing to act in accordance with its dictates.

The S.S., Elite Guard, the Gestapo and the German Police are not exclusively composed of fanatical adherents to perverted Nazi ideals. There are also many adventurers and moral degenerates who lack neither energy nor inventive power to execute any order no matter how bestial. They do their utmost to see that as many as possible *Taubdeutsche* are gathered into the German fold, even though not a single drop of German blood has flowed in their forbears' veins.

Terror tactics to compel Poles to register on the *Deutsche Volksliste* are not only direct, but applied to individuals and whole families. The entire atmosphere in the illegally "incorporated" western provinces of Poland is one of oppression. Poles are persecuted in every conceivable way. Although their homeland has been annexed they are not considered as *Schutzangehörige des deutschen Reiches*, and have no legal protection. They are completely at the mercy of the police. Nothing indicates their position better than the special decree governing Poles and Jews, issued on December 4th, 1941 (*Reichsgesetz Blatt* i, 1941, p. 759). Here are some of its provisions:

ARTICLE I.

1. Poles and Jews in the incorporated areas must comply with German law and with the rules made for them by the German authorities. They must abstain from anything detrimental to the supremacy of the German Reich or the interests of the German nation.

2. They will be subject to the death penalty for any act of violence against a German, for his adherence to German nationality.

3. They will be subject to the death penalty—in less serious cases to penal servitude—for showing a spirit hostile to Germany, by odious or provocative acts, especially by hostile criticism, the tearing down or defacing of public notices by German authorities or offices, or detracting from or injuring the prestige or welfare of the German Reich or the German people by their behavior.

ARTICLE III.

1. Penalties to be inflicted upon Poles and Jews are imprisonment, fines or the confiscation of their property. Imprisonment is to be in a penal camp for a period of from three months to ten years. In serious cases it is to be in a severe penal camp for a period of from two to fifteen years.

2. The death penalty will be imposed whenever provided by law. Also in cases where it is not specifically provided for, the death penalty will be imposed whenever the crime reveals an unusually low mentality or is especially serious for other reasons; in such cases the death penalty may also be imposed against juvenile criminals.

3. The shortest term of imprisonment provided in German criminal law, or the prescribed penalty may never be reduced.

4. In some cases where a fine cannot be levied, imprisonment of from one week to one year may be imposed.

ARTICLE VI.

1. Every sentence is immediately enforceable. The public prosecutor may however appeal to the Court of Appeal against the sentence of the magistrate. The appeal must be filed within two weeks.

2. The right of indictment is reserved solely to the public prosecutor; the Court of Appeals passes on the indictment.

ARTICLE VII.

Poles and Jews cannot challenge a German Judge on the ground of bias.

ARTICLE IX.

Poles and Jews may not be put on oath as witnesses. In case they give untrue or false evidence to the court, the penalties for perjury are, of course, applicable.

ARTICLE XI.

Poles and Jews are not allowed to enter suit or be parties to a suit in the Civil Courts.

ARTICLE XII.

The Court and the Public Prosecution deal with each case on the basis of German Criminal Law and their own discretion. They may depart from the rules of Legal Procedure and the Reich Criminal Code, if this serves the quick and vigorous disposal of the case.

It must not be thought that registration on the *Deutsche Volksliste* affords escape from the hell of German terror. The *Basler Nachrichten*, of April 13th, 1942, rightly summed up the situation as follows:

"Poles living in the old Reich are already obliged to wear certain distinguishable marks, similar to the Jews. Everywhere under German dominion they are subject to a special criminal code that provides intensified punishment in special camps where, under a decree of the Reich Ministry of Justice working hours are longer than in German penitentiaries, where no remuneration is given for work and disciplinary measures are harsher. The Pole is subject to other employment laws that bind him to his place of work more than they do a German. The list of legal discriminations could be greatly extended. To remain a Pole within the new Reich cannot, therefore, be easy. But even those who are willing to adopt German nationality are by no means at the end of their trials when they register on the 'Deutsche Volksliste.' First he has to be properly 'educated' so that, according to Förster, 'he comes up to standard with regard to his philosophy of life and his character.' The (Please turn to page 14)

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WAR ODYSSEY OF A POLISH FAMILY

Told on these pages is the gripping story of Poles evacuated from Russia under the Polish-Russian agreement of July 30, 1941. These evacuees represent only a small part of the Poles deported from their homes when the Soviet army marched into Poland in September 1939, and of those still scattered over the vast stretches of the U.S.S.R.

They are ill-clad, some of them without shoes, and carrying all their worldly goods. They are resting before starting on the last lap of the journey. They have walked most of the way from the northernmost parts of Russia to Iran—to freedom. But even this will not mean the end of their journey. It will be a halt on their way to India and Africa, in the long, long trek to Poland. Yet nothing stops these brave spirits. They know that the worst has been left behind.



Here is the Kowalski family. By some miraculous chance all six of them—the father and mother and four children—have survived the hardships of deportation which took them from their peaceful farm near Trembowla in southeastern Poland, through the bitter cold, hunger and hard work on a cooperative farm in Russia, to the mild climate and freedom of Iran. Hope and faith have kindled a strong flame in Polish hearts. Not even the snow-laden winds of Russian steppes could put it out.

A POLISH FAMILY

Cries of welcome from the "residents" of the Polish camp to the newcomers. Joy at the sight of their countrymen gives wings to travel worn feet. With the last ounce of strength the weary travelers rush to opened arms. The grim pall under which they have lived has been dispersed by the warm sun of Iran and the smiles of friendly Polish faces.



Reunited . . . the wildest hopes realized. No words can express the joy of this family meeting . . . there are only sobs and tears. To have been lost on the long road through the wide wastes of Russia was like death. Finding one's loved ones again is like welcoming the dead among the living. Hope springs eternal.



They see a vision of home.

WAR ODYSSEY OF A POLISH FAMILY



But the Poles evacuated from Russia are not idle for long. The Kowalskis, father and son, join the army. The eldest daughter serves in the "Pestki," the Polish WAAC. She is working hard, looking after the fighting men and doing auxiliary work.



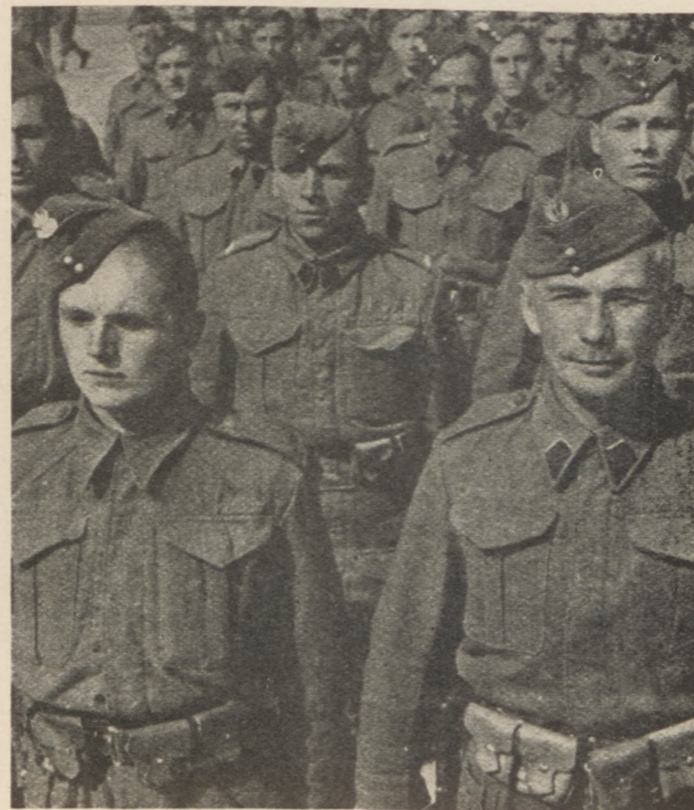
The younger children are sent to a safe place in East Africa, where far from the stress of war they can pick up the threads of the life disrupted in Poland. For the moment they must go to school where they will acquire knowledge, though undoubtedly both look forward to the day when they will don uniforms.



A metamorphosis — or a Polish Cinderella. The loving care and the balmy weather of East Africa work their magic. Who would think this smiling girl is the same child who left Russia in rags only a short time ago?



Mrs. Kowalski smiles again. Working on the land in East Africa she looks forward to the day when they will return to their Polish farm.



The younger and elder Kowalski with the Polish Forces in the Middle East aim to march into Poland as soldiers of a victorious army.

ALEXANDER ERLICH SPEAKS OF HIS FATHER

ALTHOUGH showing the strain of his recent ordeal, Alexander Erlich, 30-year-old son of Henryk Erlich, the Polish labor leader executed by the Soviets, was willing to talk about his father.

Alexander, his brother Victor and their mother have been in the United States since last October. They arrived here from occupied Poland by way of Siberia and Canada. Alexander, who studied economics at the University of Warsaw is employed in the Slavonic Division of the New York Public Library. A serious man with slightly stooped shoulders and an earnest manner, he spoke of his father with deep feeling:

"My father's entire life was dedicated to the ideal of freedom. Even as a young boy he was active in anti-tsarist student organizations. He was arrested by the tsarist police three times—in 1905, 1909 and 1913. After his arrest in 1909 he was permitted to leave the country as an alternative to exile in Siberia. He spent several years in Paris and Munich, where he got to know other Socialist emigrés. Returning to St. Petersburg, where he had studied law, he joined the General Union of Jewish Workers, becoming a member of its Executive Committee. In recognition of his services to labor, he was elected to the Executive Committee of the All-Russian Social-Democratic Party. During this time he wrote articles for Russian and Jewish Socialist papers.

"My father remained in St. Petersburg until 1918. When revolution broke out in Russia in March 1917, he was elected to the Executive Committee of the Council of Workers' Soviets. At one of the first meetings he introduced a resolu-

tion that the Council declare itself for Polish independence. This resolution was passed.

"When the Council instituted a campaign for international peace, Erlich was one of several delegates to tour Europe to lay the groundwork for the International Socialist Peace Conference in Stockholm, Sweden."

Soon after the Bolshevik Revolution, Erlich and his family—his wife was the daughter of the world-famous Jewish historian, Simeon Dubnow—left Russia for his native city of Lublin, Poland. In 1919 they moved to Warsaw, where they remained until the German aggression in 1939.

Between 1919 and 1939 Erlich was thrice elected to the Municipal Council in Warsaw. Throughout this period he was the leader of the Jewish labor faction in the City Council. In 1938 his party, the *Bund*, won 17 out of 20 Jewish seats.

"As a Councilman my father consistently championed the cause of the underprivileged. His office was always filled with working people who came to him for help. A lawyer by profession, he devoted himself to representing the interests of the poor, defending many a worker in an eviction case."

Erlich's political philosophy was expounded in the *Neue Volkszeitung*, the Jewish Labor Daily of which he was editor. "He was a Socialist who wanted a radical change in the social set-up," said his son, "but he was an ardent foe

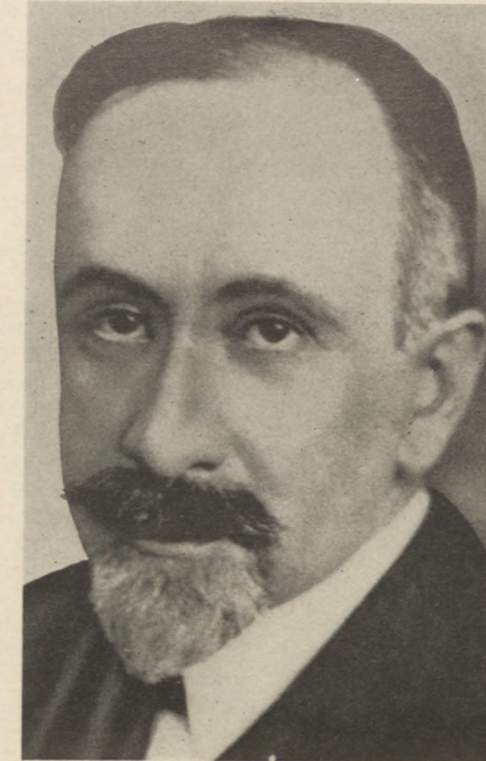
of totalitarianism and the enslavement of the spirit. In this new set-up the decision for everything would belong to the people. There should be no compulsion, no totalitarianism, everything would be based on the free initiative of the masses. That's why he was always against Communism, which denies freedom to the masses. But my father was against the persecution of anyone for his Communist beliefs. In 1933 when five Communists were tried before a court martial for treason, my father's intervention saved them from the death penalty.

"As a Socialist and a democrat, my father fought against all reactionary and nationalist tendencies. In his book, the *Struggle for Revolutionary Socialism*, which was printed by the Socialist Party of America in 1934, he came out for a decisive battle against fascism.

"As a matter of fact, ever since Hitler's advent to power my father was a strong advocate of the formation of a bloc of democratic states, which, together with Soviet Russia, would oppose Germany. He strongly urged that Poland join such a bloc. He espoused this policy not only in Poland but in the Socialist International. Repeatedly he came out against all appeasement of Hitler and Mussolini. The consistency of his stand and his obvious sincerity made him very popular in the International, and caused him to be well known in labor circles inside as well as outside Poland. Norman Thomas of the U. S. A. and Léon Blum of France were personal friends of his and of Victor Alter."

Asked whether he would care to make a few remarks about Victor Alter, the other Polish labor leader executed by the Soviets, Mr. Erlich replied that having known Alter since childhood, he felt almost as close to him as to his father.

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HENRYK ERLICH



VICTOR ALTER

ART PROTECTION IN INDEPENDENT POLAND

by DR. IRENA PIOTROWSKA



BEFORE the restoration of free and independent Poland, knowledge of Polish art of the past was but fragmentary. The only two Polish universities that had enjoyed complete freedom during the partition, Cracow and Lwow, produced a few prominent specialists in the history of Polish art. Their number, however, was too small to cope with the vast field, and they merely covered the accumulations to be found in the city of Cracow and its vicinity. Yet in Poland many churches, large and small, were filled with precious sculptures, pictures, embroideries, chalices and other vessels and vestments used in divine worship.

After the rebirth of Poland and the return to freedom, the Poles began eagerly to catalogue, photograph, and describe these national treasures. Official art conservators were appointed by the Polish government and much assistance was given them by the Faculty of Architecture at the Warsaw Polytechnic Institute and by the schools of art history of all Polish universities, in the domain of architecture, sculpture, painting and applied arts.

Professors of the history of art, aided by their pupils, conducted a systematic survey of Polish art relics. The task was no small one, as many of these relics were hidden in little country churches far from railway stations. The gothic interiors of these churches were dark, the pictures usually hung high, and the statuary perched in lofty cornices, difficult of access. Yet every year brought new discoveries in the history of Polish art. There seemed no limit to these art treasures, and when war broke out only a beginning had been made in examining and photographing them.

Many of the art treasures discovered had to be taken away from the damp churches and placed in museums to preserve them, and many required expert restoration.

It is impossible to describe here all the work of restoration accomplished in free Poland by experts. The work started with the rebuilding and repairing of countless churches, palaces, and other buildings, ruined during the last war. The first ten years of Poland's independence were spent in repairing these war damages. . . . But independent Poland did not have time to restore even a small portion of her art treasures

ruined or neglected by her oppressors during the years of partition.

First among architectural restorations, the work done in the old royal Wawel Castle at Cracow by the well-known architect, Adolf Szyszko-Bohusz, deserves mention. The same artist also restored the Royal Castle in Warsaw, now in ruins.

The furnishing of the inner halls and rooms of these two castles, as well as of those of the royal *Lazienki* Palace in Warsaw, was made possible by the return from Russia of part of the Polish art treasures that had been taken away from Poland during the almost one hundred and fifty years of Poland's partition. This recovery of Polish art objects, as well as of libraries and archives, was arranged—under the Treaty of Riga in 1921—by a special Polish delegation that negotiated with the Russian government for several years.

Among the more valuable art treasures returned by Russia were 136 tapestries saved from the 156 made in the 16th century in Brussels for the Polish king, Sigismund Augustus, and removed from Poland to Russia in 1795. They had been hung by Sigismund Augustus in the Wawel and they were replaced there on their return. Twenty-four wooden renaissance heads were also brought back from Russia and attached to the ceiling of the *Ambassadors' Hall* in the Wawel, for which they had been designed. The missing heads were supplied by new carvings executed by Poland's greatest modern sculptor, Ksawery Dunikowski.

Of the many other expert architectural reconstructions carried out in independent Poland, one of the most striking was that of the famous Renaissance town square at Zamosc, fully described in "When the 16th Century Came Back to Poland," Vol. III, No. 10, of *The Polish Review*.

In the field of sculpture, the most important work of restoration was that done on the great altar-piece in Saint Mary's at Cracow, a gigantic wooden polychrome triptych in honor of the Blessed Virgin, carved by Wit Stwosz, the famous Polish artist of the middle ages. This restoration is fully described by Earl Morse Wilbur in "The Great Altar-Piece of Veit-Stoss (Wit Stwosz) at Krakow," which appeared in "Liturgical Arts" in 1936.

Folk art and its preservation presented a special and difficult problem to the newly-restored country. The arts and crafts of the Polish peasant,—a treasure-house of Polish traditional art-forms—had been most seriously threatened by 19th- and 20th-century mass-production. Under foreign rule little could be done to protect the handicrafts of the peasant



POLISH NATIONAL MUSEUM IN WARSAW

from the overwhelming competition of machine-made products, and to stop the ensuing slow but certain disintegration of Polish peasant art. The efforts of a few artists and art lovers to halt this process could do but little.

As soon as Poland regained her freedom, however, systematic action was taken to reawaken the peasant's interest in his own traditions, and much was achieved by the carefully planned methods of a number of associations—some of them sponsored by the Polish government—which afforded the peasant an opportunity to earn money by selling his work in the cities, and at the same time saw to it that his output did not lose its high artistic level. An effort was also made to arouse the peasant's pride in his own achievements by arranging Polish folk festivities and establishing regional ethnographic museums. Many precious relics of peasant art, such as costumes, long laid away, old paintings on canvas, glass, or wood, and carved images of saints, found a safe place in these museums and became easily accessible to artist, scholar, and tourist.

As the preservation of peasant art required the founding of a large number of new ethnographic museums, so the need of proper conservation of old sculptures, paintings and liturgical vessels and vestments, saved from the damp atmosphere of medieval country churches, necessitated the erecting of museums devoted either specifically to ecclesiastical art or to art in general. The problem of providing proper buildings became all the more acute, as many private owners donated their collections to the state or to the few existing museums.

As a result of the great impetus thus given to museum building, one hundred and nine Polish museums and collections of art, archaeology, ethnography, and peasant art were listed in 1935 in the *Répertoire International des Musées No. 2: Pologne*, published by the "Institut de Coopération Intellectuelle." Even these did not include all the Polish works of art deserving protection, and many were placed in storehouses, inaccessible alike to the public in general and to the scientific student.

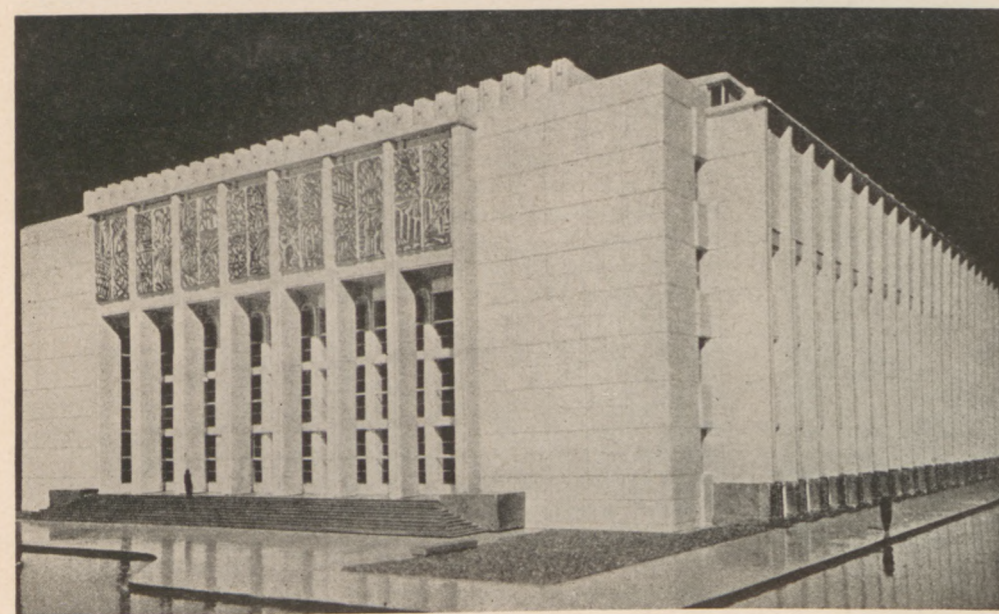
This was especially the case in Cracow, rightly called the *Polish Athens*. Already before the last war, Cracow was known for its many imposing art collections. Let us mention among others, the *Czartoryski Museum*, famous for its Leonardo da Vinci, its Raphaels, Van Dycks, etc., the *Ethnographical Museum on the Wawel*, the *Count Czapski Museum*, and the *Matejko House*. The last two were branches of the *National Museum* in Cracow, founded in 1879, which contained, among other works, a splendid collection of Polish medieval and 19th-century paintings.

After Poland regained her independence, the collections in this museum grew so rapidly that



HALL WITH POLISH MEDIEVAL SCULPTURES AND PAINTINGS IN THE SILESIAN MUSEUM AT KATOWICE

the erection of a new building of unusual dimensions became a necessity. After careful studies of the most modern museum arrangements, its construction was begun a few years before the outbreak of the war. This new museum was finished (Please turn to page 10)



NATIONAL MUSEUM IN CRACOW COMPLETED IN 1939



HALL WITH 18TH CENTURY WOODWORK AND CERAMICS IN THE WARSAW NATIONAL MUSEUM

ART PROTECTION IN INDEPENDENT POLAND

(Continued from page 9)

but not yet open when the Germans invaded Poland. Mention must also be made of the *State Art Collection of the Wawel Castle*, founded in 1923, the development of which was closely connected with the work of restoration of the Castle.

Before the restoration of Poland's freedom, Warsaw's art collections could not be compared with those of Cracow because the political situation in Warsaw was more precarious. Nonetheless, Warsaw had its *Palace of Fine Arts*, belonging to the Society for the Encouragement of the Fine Arts, founded in 1860; its *Ethnographical Museum*, founded in 1888, and a number of important private collections. Of great value was the collection of prints belonging to Warsaw University. This collection was removed to Russia during the partition period. Fortunately, after 1921, one hundred thousand prints and drawings, Polish and other, were returned by Russia to the Polish University.

After Poland's restoration, Warsaw, as the capital of the free and independent country, was in many ways privileged, and its museums and galleries developed very rapidly. The most important accomplishment was the erection and organization of the *National Museum*. In it were placed the antiquities and objects of art brought by free Poland to Warsaw from Rapperswil, Switzerland, where they had formed a Polish national museum since 1869. Originally this collection was the property of the Society of the Friends of Science in Warsaw (*Tow. Przyjaciol Nauk w Warszawie*). During the 19th century it had been sent to Switzerland for protection against the rapacity of Poland's oppressors.

Other outstanding collections of the new National Museum in Warsaw were almost entirely private donations, embracing representative galleries of foreign art, as well as all phases of Polish art. Again, a State Collection of Art, assembled in the Royal Castle in Warsaw, came into being in connection with the restoration of that castle.

It is impossible even to mention here the names of all other collections in Poland that were restored and enlarged, or all the new foundations in Lwow, Wilno, Poznan, or Lodz, and many smaller towns. The work accomplished by Free Poland in each of the cities here named would require a special article. Among the new art institutions perhaps the Silesian



POLISH BOOK EXHIBITION IN THE WARSAW INSTITUTE FOR THE PROPAGATION OF ART (1936)

Museum in Katowice, opened in 1927, was one of the best known because of its very unusual collection of the old church and religious folk-art of Silesia.

In addition to museums housing permanent collections, Poland had a large number of galleries for transient exhibitions, among which we may mention the gallery of the *Institute for the Propagation of Art* in Warsaw, founded in 1930, and well known for the very high level of the exhibitions arranged. While this Institute, called in Polish *Instytut Propagandy Sztuki*, or *IPS* for short, was concerned exclusively with fostering art at home, another Warsaw institution, the *Society for the Expansion of Polish Art Abroad*, in Polish *Towarzystwo Szerzenia Sztuki Polskiej w srod Obcych*, or simply *TOSSPO*, established in 1926, was concerned primarily with the arranging of art exhibitions abroad. The *Bibliothèque Nationale* in Paris housed the largest and most important collection of Polish books and art abroad.

Moreover, Poland erected her own pavilions at many international exhibitions throughout the world. In these pavilions were shown art relics of Poland's past, along with her new accomplishments in the field of art. A great many Polish art treasures were exhibited in the Polish Pavilion at the New York World's Fair. Many of these objects of art are now housed in the Museum of the Polish R. C. Union of America in Chicago. Some of them have been ac-

quired by that Museum, others are there for safe keeping as long as the war lasts—to be returned as soon as may be possible to their country of origin.

Polish museums, art societies, and art committees in charge of Polish pavilions abroad have done as much for art students and the general evolution of Polish art during the twenty years of Poland's independence, as the art schools with their advanced principles of education. The German invader realizes this only too well. Under German rule schools have been closed, all art societies liquidated, and the museums looted. When Poland's independence is again restored, all that was done by free Poland will have to be done over again with the starting point at a much lower level than when the work was first begun.

"The Polish territories are to be transformed into an intellectual desert." —Governor General Dr. Frank

ALEXANDER ERLICH SPEAKS OF HIS FATHER

(Continued from page 7)

Alter was born in Mlawa, Poland. He, too, was arrested by the tsarist regime as a 16-year-old student. Forced to leave Poland, he went to Belgium, where he finished his engineering studies. He gave up a lucrative position in Belgium to hasten to Russia when he heard of the outbreak of the Revolution. In 1919 he too returned to Poland and settled in Warsaw.

"Alter and my father were very close friends. They complemented one another. Father was a serious person, an introvert, Alter was full of life, gay and had tremendous vitality. Like my father, he was a member of the City Council of Warsaw and from 1927 to 1934 was also elected to the Municipal Administration for Warsaw. Furthermore, he was a member of the Central Committee of the Jewish *Bund*, a leader of Jewish Trade Unions and their representative on the Executive Committee.

"In 1937 the Polish Central Committee of Trade Unions sent Alter to Spain as a representative of Polish Labor. After his return to Poland he started large-scale agitation to send help to the Loyalists.

"A brilliant man and gifted writer, Alter was extremely popular with the working people. Many of his works had been translated and were known abroad. He wrote on economic problems placing strong emphasis on the role of freedom of socialist ideology."

Mr. Erlich went on to give an account of his father's and Alter's activities in 1939. The day after Hitler sent his hordes into Poland, the two labor leaders issued an appeal to Jewish workers to take a most active part in the defense of their country.

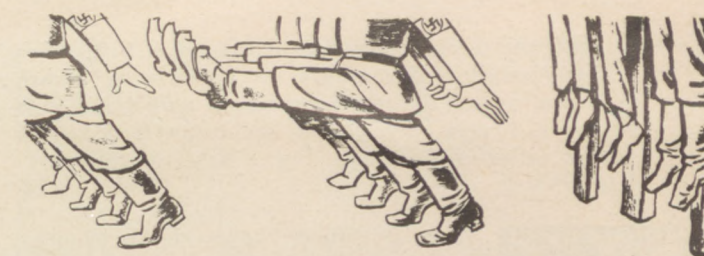
"Then, on September 6," continued Mr. Erlich, "the Polish Government informed my father and Alter that they were on the German Black List and would be well advised to leave Warsaw. At first they refused, but when the official announcement came that Warsaw would not defend itself and that all men were to leave and follow the army, they decided to quit the capital and go east, in the belief that the decisive battle against Germany would be fought there. When they learned that, after all, Warsaw would defend itself, they had gone a distance of 200 kilometers east on foot and could not return. It was a severe blow to both of them that they could not take part in the defense of Warsaw.

"My father reached Pinsk with the army on September 17, the day the Soviet army entered Poland. War operations were now practically over. So my father tried to return to German-occupied Poland to direct the underground activity of Jewish labor against the Nazis. He was arrested at Brest-Litovsk on October 4, 1939, the day the joint German-Russian military parade was held in that city."

"Was Alter arrested at the same time?"

"No, Alter had gone to Lublin where he published several issues of the *Bund* paper, calling for resistance to the Germans and helped to organize a Civilian Guard for the defense of the city. When Lublin was declared an open city, Alter followed the Polish army to Kowel in southeastern Poland. There the Soviet occupation caught up with him and he was arrested at the end of September, 1939."

The rest of the story is well-known. Following their arrest they were kept imprisoned by Soviet authorities for two years. "Their old friend, Léon Blum, tried to intervene on their behalf," said Mr. Erlich, "but they were not released until the Polish-Russian pact was signed in September, 1941. They were cleared of all charges of collaboration with the forces of International Fascist reaction and an official apology was tendered to them by the Soviet authorities. Their first act upon release was to issue an appeal to all Jewish citizens of Poland, then on Soviet territory, to volunteer in the Polish army being organized in Russia.



TWO STORIES OF POLAND

"Ten weeks later Erlich and Alter were re-arrested. Despite protests of many liberal Americans at their arrest, they were executed in December, 1941, for "subversive activity and espionage." Their executions were not announced until March, 1943, in a letter from Maxim Litvinov, Soviet Ambassador in Washington, to President Green of the American Federation of Labor.

"It is inconceivable," insisted Mr. Erlich, "that any one could believe my father and Alter guilty of these charges. My father's arrest caused real grief among all friends of labor. He was a man everybody loved and admired—he had as many friends among Polish labor as he did among the Jews. One of his warmest friends, Mieczyslaw Niedzialkowski, leader of the Polish Socialist Party, was shot by the Germans in 1940. Even his political opponents—extreme leftists and extreme rightists alike—respected him for his sincere, disinterested defense of labor and his personal integrity.

"When the Germans entered Warsaw, the Gestapo raided the office and home of my father and of Alter, looking for them. They arrested scores of people named Erlich.

"How could people who regained their freedom and life by virtue of the Polish-Russian pact signed after Germany attacked Russia," continued Mr. Erlich, "hope for a return of peace between Germany and Russia? And how could men who sharply denounced the German-Soviet pact of 1939, long for a renewal of such a pact in December, 1941?"

"The Soviet Government deliberately declared them Soviet citizens to make the intervention of Allied Governments impossible. The Soviet Government was well aware that all who knew my father and Alter would reject the accusation made against them with scorn and indignation. So they were made Soviet citizens, even though they had previously been freed as Poles."

—HALINA CHYBOWSKA.

"TALISMAN" BY KAZIMIERZ WIERZYNSKI

After the German invasion of Poland in September 1939, Kazimierz Wierzyński, a well-known Polish poet and writer, spent several weeks with the Polish army in France. Following are excerpts from an article he wrote for "Tygodnik Polski" of February, 21, 1943.



ARRIVED there (somewhere in France) with an army theatrical unit. We were under the command of Major A., a robust man with a ruddy face and a sweeping moustache. But for his uniform one could have taken him for a Podolian farmer.

... His red brick house was cold, the wind whistled against the windows, the poplars stood knee-deep in fog. Rain-filled clouds moved across the skies throughout the long days. I remember how each new day started for me with hopelessness and melancholy. Sometimes at dusk we would light a fire in the Major's room, and then the pillar-like trees, swaying in the evening storm, would appear like phantoms.

... Major A. rose and paced up and down the room: "In the darkest moments I recall an incident that happened in Poland, in September 1939. It was near Jozefow, near the Jozefow estate. When things look black, I repeat that name and it heartens me. It saves me like some talisman."

... He poured out a glass and sat down by the fire again: "I repeat to myself: the Jozefow estate, that means nothing to you, but to me it means a great deal. There are hundreds of such names in Poland. There's some kind of Jozefow at every step, nothing is more common. ... Mine lay between Wloclawek and Kowal. On September 9th, I found myself in that neighborhood with the 22nd regiment. You know what that means: nine days of fighting and nine nights of retreat. In this war you had to know how to get along without food or sleep, how not to get tired or hungry. That's all right for fakirs, but not for lusty infantrymen. We told ourselves that we must learn the art of war. So we learned everything,



ON THE BARRICADES OF WARSAW, SEPTEMBER, 1939, BY ZDZISLAW RUSZKOWSKI

but with a vengeance. We could hardly breathe. I shan't speak of chafed feet, and other trifles, but believe me Sir, we were tired. I emphasize that because we were to rest in the morning when we got to the pine forest south of Wloclawek. My battalion was in the rear and we were promised a breathing spell. And indeed, at first everything seemed to be going well. I thought kindly of Wloclawek. There was a sun dial on the cathedral tower made by Copernicus. A charming city indeed. The kitchen arrived before noon, and we got something to eat, the first time in four days. It was cool in the forest. Our artillery was firing at the Germans who were under cover about five kilometers away. Under protection of cannon, in such cases, it is much easier to sleep. I had to think about asking in the vicinity what was happening in the world, to find out about France and England. That was what I did at all halting places, because the staff knew as much as myself, that is, nothing. I learned to drop in on civilians. "Do you have a radio?" I would ask, "What's the news?"—My God, what nonsense these people would talk! "The Siegfried Line is broken, the bridges on the Rhine taken, the Gneisenau sunk, we are in East Prussia." Once this, another time something else, but nothing coherent. But they couldn't fool me. "Can you get Paris?" I would ask, "or London? What do they say?" "No, nothing, no news from there." So I would have to wait till the next halt and the next radio. It made one's stomach turn. I couldn't believe that nothing was happening. This time too, I thought, we'll stumble into some hut. I circled around my people bivouacking under the pines. The chaps lay as they fell. They were dried out and smudged, you couldn't even see the whites of their eyes, they were so red. I was tempted to stretch out somewhere, but curiosity overcame my weariness. I walked out of the forest, and looked around for some seemly house. That very moment I saw our jeep moving through the field, it was our liaison car. "Does this mean a new job?" I thought. I was right! The regimental adjutant brought me an order to organize another defence attack behind the regiment. Now wouldn't that be my luck! It would be easier to bury those fakirs underground than to move them from the spot! These sleeping, unconscious lads on the defence line! But whom could I bring a charge against! I cursed and set to work!"

The Major threw more wood on the fire and continued:

"You know what the two worst things in war are? Suspense before an expected attack and interruption of an unfinished rest. Mine was the second lot. I dragged my men from their resting places though they had hardly stretched out their legs. I made believe that I didn't see how hard it was for them to get up and that I didn't hear their curses. Try to approach a soldier and tell him that he is a paragon and an angel, and he will greet you beautifully. The officers too weaved about as if they were gassed. I myself felt that I was unravelling. But the order pulled me up, and I in turn pulled them up, the machine worked. I really don't know how, but I moved my chaps. Two companies went into the field and I brought the third into starting position. We marched through a little wood, a meadow and another little wood. Suddenly the rattle of a car reached me again. I turned around, the adjutant motioned to me from a distance. What is this! Are they picking on me, or something! A new order, a new cabal! The Germans had broken through our right wing,

they must be attacked; the hole must be stopped. I can't believe my own ears. Who is to attack? With whom are we to fight? Bayonet on gun, direction through the forest. I moved like to an execution. What could I do with this worn out bunch. My eyes were popping out, my head was hammering. I heard the corporal railing at someone. "Hey wake up, you rascal, it's the Germans you're going to fight!" My battalion of human ghosts changed formation, although the men were falling through their own fingers! Finally they began to move like an invalid, but they moved. I looked to see if there were any stragglers, or if someone were not playing hookey under a hedge. No, they were all there plugging along! A mortar was pulling toward the front. It was getting hot again, I could swear, but why waste words? It's a known fact that a human being has no idea how much he can stand and where he gets all his strength. Machines, I tell you, machines.

... "We entered on the Wloclawek-Kowal highway. I glanced at my watch, it was almost five. We had been marching an hour. I got my bearings on the map: highway, forests, river, and one lone human residence. I read: Jozefow estate. Uninteresting territory, but hard to penetrate. You can guess what went on in the forest. Suddenly they report a telephone line. We examined it. It was German. I thought, it must lead from somewhere to somewhere, or in other words, I'm in the middle. In the middle of Germans. Isn't that just ducky. Because the area was not guarded, I deduced that it was a German motorized unit. It must have passed here, made contact and was doing its work somewhere. But where? Where was the main force? Where was the hole? We cut the line, I took the necessary precautions and took the direction on the Jozefow estate. We'll see what's happening there. So we all moved along the highway.

"We all went. You should have seen the soldiers then. My battalion of ghosts became an army again—dirty, drawn faces, but alive. All of them were bent with effort, their packs weighed them down, but they marched on—new people, and fresh strength. How did that happen? Everything woke up, yes, Sir, woke up. I think of that in the hardest moments, and that always lifts me up. They sensed the Germans by some mysterious instinct. Nerves evidently have their own intelligence service. We marched in silence, not one word was uttered. The tension grew, heads stopped pricking, only cheeks burned. From tree to tree everybody gripped his gun. Suddenly from the front of the line I heard, "Germans, Germans!" A few shots fell, my first line was attacking. Bullets whizzed by, then a loud, storming Hurrah! was heard. Have they surprised them, or what? The whole line lunged forward. We passed the German front lines, several of them were lying on the ground. Yes, it was a complete surprise. Forward, Brothers, Forward! The forest was thinning out, light was shining through. We reached the last trees and flopped to the ground. The others



AT THE WARSAW FRONT, SEPTEMBER, 1939, BY ZDZISLAW RUSZKOWSKI

reached us, our small gun was there too. I was gasping, trying to catch my breath, and glanced quickly ahead. Before us stretched a muddy field covered with bushes, and in the center flowed a river; behind it swamps and another forest, only not so thick, and a bridge across the river that looked very strange. I looked closer, it was barricaded with felled trees. The highway in front and behind was blocked in the same way. The trees were being removed, but the job was interrupted. It was impossible to ride or walk through. That was our handicap. The Germans had not removed it yet. Somebody was stubbornly crawling between the trunks. Beyond the river, to the right of the road stood a mill, behind it other buildings. The Jozefow Estate, I surmised. But there was no time to think, nor to admire the landscape. The distance between the forests, through the river was from 150 to 200 feet. The Germans were as plain as on the palm, a delight for the soldiers. The lads were giving it to them. The gun was put into action too. The Germans behind the river were feeling in the forest with grape shot. They had placed three guns right opposite us plainly visible among the trees. Could it be that they didn't know what had happened, that we were in front of them. One machine gun rattled from the mill and another from the road. We must strike swiftly before they could collect themselves. Otherwise the whole surprise assault would go to the devil. We already caught our breath and picked ourselves up again. My group sprang forward. The river looked shallow, but it reached to our waist. A few steps and we were on the swampy ground. A hundred, two hundred yards in less than no time. Cruel slaughter, they and we were hitting blindly, but the issue was decided. The heavy gun from the left stopped firing. We were at their side. The Germans fled behind bushes. The guns were cleaned up, we were taking the mill. Noise, shouting, confusion. After about fifteen minutes, silence—only the groans of the wounded. It was amazing how fast it happened. I called my people, and walked through the battle field. There was plenty to see. The cannon on the

(Please turn to page 14)

(Continued from page 13)

left was blown up by our small gun, the gun crew with the officer killed. The buildings were still smoking, we were putting out the fire. Their equipment was lying in disorder. A countless number of Germans, heads turned away though something pulled them to that revolting sight. My people discovered one horde after another. Every corner was full of surprises. Near the buildings we stumbled upon a large store of pioneering equipment, a complete arsenal of saws, axes, levers and countless tools. Farther—a hundred bicycles. And that was not all. How well I remembered that booty. Three howitzers, the second machine gun, untouched, three hand machine guns, five trucks, three armored trucks, one car. What more could you want? Our casualties, five men killed, among them an officer, 57 wounded, mostly by cold steel. There were about 100 wounded Germans whom we herded into the estate. We took nine prisoners. From them we learned that we had broken up a motorized battalion and a division of pioneers. The surprise was successful. The task was accomplished, the hole was repaired.

"Why don't you ask me, how this happened? Sleeping, human shadows? I ask that myself, but I can't answer. God knows that the army has its own mysticism, its own mysteries from another world. They all should have died from exhaustion, and not fought and conquered. And yet they did not die, they went ahead and did their job. A mystery. Naturally afterwards, a virtual pestilence fell on the people. They collapsed and again I had a slumbering brotherhood. We were dead tired. The pricking sensation in the forehead returned, and heads became like lead. Those who stayed on their feet swayed like drunks. Dusk was falling, and I still had so much to do! I had to clear up the matter of the telephone line—the other end of it. Patrols had to be sent out, liaison contacts made, the wounded evacuated. A lot of time passed



CAVALRY VS. TANKS—KUTNO, SEPTEMBER, 1939, BY ZDZISLAW RUSZKOWSKI

before my volunteers fell upon the cut off German telephone operators, and before everything was set in order. Even then we weren't left in peace. Poor boys, another sleepless night was in store for them, the tenth in a row. We had to get up and march; that, however, has nothing to do with the matter. My Jozefow estate episode ended that night."

Then he added in a lowered voice.

"I don't know what this war will bring, surely many fantastic wonders. Jozefow will last me for some time. I think of it often, and return there in my darkest moments. That's my talisman,—I carry it in my memory..."

FANATICISM AND TERROR

(Continued from page 3)

Nazi Party and all its organizations, especially the Hitler Youth and the Women's Association, have as their chief task the 'recovery' of those registered on the 'Volksliste.' Every official in the district must lead the authors like a 'fanatical champion of German nationality.'

Children are torn from their parents and sent to be "re-educated" in Germany, and many of them never return. The majority of those compelled to register on the Deutsche Volksliste do not know a word of German. They are forced to attend German language classes. At these classes everything is done to insult national Polish sentiment, to slander the Polish nation, to decry Polish culture.

At the same time all legal trace of the Polish nationality of these persons is destroyed by the falsification or destruction of birth, marriage and other records. The following noted from the *Neues Wiener Tageblatt*, of October 2nd, 1941, needs no commentary:

"As in Polish times all entries in the Record Offices in Posen were made in Polish, and as these records are in constant use by German authorities and the Nazi Party, the administration of this provincial city began some time ago to have all such entries translated into German. The intention is to achieve an unbroken sequence of all entries from the German times before the last war. It is estimated that it will be necessary to make

about 125,000 separate translations. The work will take several years."

The arguments used by the Germans themselves are absolute proof that:—1. The Germans in Pomerania (now Danzig-West Prussen) are in the minority. 2. With a view to its Germanization, the Polish population has been deprived of its leaders. 3. The Germans recognize that Germanization calls for constant effort, an admission that compulsion is resorted to.

There is no lack of indignation in the German press at the suggestion that the registration of Poles on the Deutsche Volksliste is tolerated. Often instances are given of cases where applications for registration on the Volksliste have been rejected. This is done to allay the alarms of the more rabid exponents of German racial purity or to lend credibility to the national census results thus being arrived at. Such exceptions are comparable to the insignificant percentage of opposition votes always reported in all Nazi plebiscites and referendums. Not 100 per cent, but 98.5 per cent, in order to make this "will of the people" sound more plausible to the outside world.

The cover shows a Cassubian girl dressed in the colorful costume of Poland's ancient maritime province.

Poland's Post-War Policy "HOUR OF BATTLE IS NEAR" GENERAL SIKORSKI WARNS POLISH TROOPS IN SCOTLAND

London, March—At a meeting of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Polish National Council on March 16th, the Polish Minister for Foreign Affairs, Count Raczynski, in his exposé concerning problems of international policy said:

"The steady and sure approach of victory of the allied arms compels our minds to dwell more seriously and more definitely than ever on the problem of organizing the post-war world. All nations participating in the present struggle, but more particularly those amongst them who have made the greatest contribution towards it, have the right and duty to devote their utmost attention to the problem.

"This also concerns Poland who was the first to enter the war, on the strength of her own decision after having rejected any compromise with the enemy, and who is paying in blood and treasure the highest price of which she is capable.

"The construction of the post-war system cannot be achieved by means of mechanical operation according to a theoretical pattern. Neither does it depend solely or primarily on a problem of procedure. It must be made to serve generally accepted and honestly interpreted principles.

"The ideological program of the United Nations, as conceived up till now, consists primarily of the four freedoms enunciated by President Roosevelt and of the Atlantic Charter, to which all Governments of the United Nations have subscribed. This frame work still remains to be filled in with substance and adapted to the actual needs of the moment.

"The post-war organization must include both the great and small Powers, either individually or—one may hope—collectively in the shape of federations or regional agreements.

"Marshal Smuts, in his memorable address delivered in London recently, made a very apposite suggestion for the acceptance, as a point of departure for future organization, of the already existing body of the United Nations, by extending its powers and in time supplementing its composition in conformity with such rules as may be established for the purpose.

"It is an obvious requirement that within the United Nations, the Great Powers should occupy the position to which they are entitled. But it is a matter of equal necessity to adopt the democratic principle of equal participation in the organization of all its members.

"In this connection it may be useful to recall emphatically, and contrary to the opinion of those whose memories are either too short or who are simply ignorant or inclined to hypocrisy, that the responsibility for the outbreak of the present war does not lie with the smaller states, but with aggressive Powers thirsting for territorial conquests and for dominion, not only over their weaker neighbors but over their powerful rivals as well.

"This war is being waged in order that such crimes should not be repeated, and that such methods of conduct, incompatible with modern progress and with the principles of Christian civilization, should be definitely condemned.

"The services of Great Britain, of the United States of America, of the U.S.S.R. and, on the Asiatic continent, of China in the achievement of victory will be great. Their corporate collaboration in defense of proclaimed principles will be universally welcomed and will be readily supported by the other United Nations.

"It would be a mistake, however, to canalize it into an exclusive grouping of some four-power pact, on the model of the abortive creation conceived by Mussolini and designed to exact concessions for the benefit of Germany and Italy, which was realized but once—at Munich, with results we all know so well.

"The acceptance in any form or shape of the profoundly immoral Teutonic conception of living space, which is but a convenient screen for concealing outright conquest, would amount to a mistake of the same order.

"I cannot therefore subscribe to the treatment this problem received in one of the leading London papers on the eve of Mr. Eden's departure for the United States, as it has been interpreted with an ambiguity of which enemy propaganda has made immediate and full use.

"The article in question, I have reasons to believe, expressed only and solely the opinions of the paper with which we have already become familiar on certain previous occasions.

"The journey of the British Foreign Minister to America at the present momentous juncture will enable him to have a profitable and direct exchange of views with President Roosevelt, Secretary of State Cordell Hull, and other advisers of the President. I have no doubt that it will constitute another stage in the process of defining doctrines and perhaps also forms of collaboration within the body of the United Nations."

Edinburgh, March—General Sikorski, Polish Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief, inspected the First Rifle Brigade somewhere in Scotland and addressing his soldiers said:

"Soldiers of the First Independent Rifle Brigade:

"Today you are being confronted with new tasks. I fully appreciate your soldierly value and your efforts made hitherto. The First Rifle Brigade was the first large Polish Unit formed in Scotland. Thanks to your pioneer work, the training and mechanization of our Army here in Scotland as well as in the Middle East has been made possible. This achievement would have been impossible without your efforts.

"The hour when we were going into battle is approaching. We are honest allies. We regard readiness for military action as of the utmost importance and standing above all other considerations.

"Political difficulties are rising before us—they are bound up with the present situation but they will pass by.

"We shall fight on together with Great Britain and the United States on land, at sea, and in the air!

"We shall fight for nothing less than for Poland and for the freedom of the Polish people!

"The fame of our air force has gone around the world. Our Navy is the pride of the allies, our Army at Narvik, at Tobruk, and in France proved that when

well-trained, adequately equipped, and under good leadership, it will always add glory to the name of Poland. Shortly we shall be able to prove that again.

"Soldiers of the First Brigade! "The great hour is approaching. Great possibilities are rising before us, but heavy fighting as well. Poland has many adversaries and enemies, but we shall overcome everything and return to Poland in disciplined array. I am convinced of that. If this did not come to pass there would be neither God nor Justice!"

Later General Sikorski inspected the Parachutists and witnessed their ordinary training exercises. He then looked over the work of the Sapper Units.

Addressing his paratroops, General Sikorski said:

"Paratroopers—you are special troops. Every exercise is a new confirmation that you are magnificent troops. Special tasks are awaiting you in Poland. Our homeland is particularly interested in your work and is enquiring about you through various channels. You are the vanguard of the Polish Army because when conditions are such as to permit us to set foot again on our own soil, you will be the first to do so."

TYPHOID PRISON HOLE OF HORROR JEW CHILDREN TELL OF TERROR

London, March—The Germans in Poland have added a new place of horrors to the already notorious concentration camp at Oswiecim and the equally sinister village of death at Palmiry.

The new place of Polish martyrdom is the Prison of Myslowice in Upper Silesia. At the end of 1942 there were more than 3,000 Poles confined there.

In January 1943 an epidemic of typhoid broke out among the inmates. The appalling conditions of prison life and famine contributed to spread the epidemic and by the end of February sixty percent of all the inmates of Myslowice Prison were dead.

Then under pretext of preventing a further spread of the epidemic, the German prison authorities killed thirty percent of the survivors in gas chambers, leaving only the strongest and fittest alive.

Jerusalem, March—A group of seventy-four Jewish children arrived in Palestine from Hungary on February 22nd.

This is the second batch of Jewish children from the Balkans to enter the country with certificates granted to the Jewish agency. Of these refugee children, twelve came from Yugoslavia, eighteen from Poland, eighteen from Slovakia, and the remainder from Germany and Austria.

Many escaped massacre after a hazardous journey across frontiers. Their journey from Budapest to Palestine lasted a fortnight and was without incident.

Refugees from Slovakia and Poland gave gruesome details of mass massacres of Jews in Poland, in some cases of their own parents and brothers and sisters which they had been obliged by the Germans to witness.

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ST WE FORGET

WHO PLACED CIVILIZATION IN DEBT TO POLAND

1. BOLESŁAW I, or Boleslaw the Brave, was Poland's first King. The greatest European statesman of his day, he forged the unbreakable link between Poland and Western Civilization. (966-1025)
2. CASIMIR THE GREAT came to the throne when Poland's fortunes were at low tide and created a strong Poland by expansion to the East. "He found a Poland of wood and left a Poland of stone." An outstanding diplomat, he built on national, not dynastic foundations, and left Poland a permanent Power. He gave asylum to the Jews, persecuted elsewhere. (1333-1370)
 3. QUEEN JADWIGA, elected Ruler of Poland, over her eldest sister, who was married to a German. She was crowned when only eleven. For reasons of State she married Jagiello, Grand Duke of Lithuania, thus bringing about the peaceful union of the two States. He adopted Christianity and became as great a ruler as he was a soldier. He crushed the Teutonic Knights at Grunwald in 1410. (1373-1399)
 4. COPERNICUS, NICHOLAS, the father of modern astronomy and one of the greatest scientists was of pure Polish stock, and was educated at Cracow University. He bitterly opposed Albrecht of Hohenzollern and, as commander-in-chief of the Olsztynek fortress, played a notable part in repelling the Teutonic Knights. (1473-1543)
 5. SKARGA, PIOTR, a Jesuit preacher of soul-stirring eloquence. His court sermons were masterpieces of outspoken oratory and statesmanship. A great Pole and a great Catholic. (1563-1612)
 6. ZAMOYSKI, JAN, a great and farsighted Polish statesman, soldier and educator, Chancellor of Poland and "Hetman" of her armies under two Kings, was a great patron of culture. (1542-1605)
 7. SOBIESKI, JAN, King of Poland, savior of Vienna and of Christian civilization, was one of Europe's greatest soldiers. He beat back the Cossacks in 1667, the Tartars in 1672, the Turks in 1673. In 1683 he finally broke the Ottoman Empire and destroyed its forces before Vienna. (1642-1696)
 8. KOSCIUSZKO, TADEUSZ, Polish national hero who was commander-in-chief of the Polish forces during the struggle that preceded the 1795 partition. He came to the United States to fight for American independence and fortified West Point. (1746-1817)
 9. PULASKI, CASIMIR, another great Polish soldier who fought for the freedom of the United States. "The Father of American Cavalry," he died leading the charge at Savannah. (1747-1779)
 10. STASZYC, STANISLAW, a scientist and social reformer. Founder of the First Ministry of Education in the world. (1755-1826)
 11. LELEWEL, JOACHIM, a great Polish historian and teacher of patriotism. His historical essays taught Poles how and why to love Poland. (1786-1861)
 12. MICKIEWICZ, ADAM, great patriot and poet of Poland, author of "Pan Tadeusz," an epic full of Polish life. The most eminent Polish romanticist, he gave a new voice to an old and glorious land. (1798-1855)
 13. CHOPIN, FRYDERYK, the greatest of Polish composers, who, by sheer force of genius, raised the locally national to the plane of the universally human. Wrote the most national music in the world. His "Polonaise" was the last broadcast from Warsaw in 1939. (1810-1849)
 14. MATEJKO, JAN, the greatest of Polish painters, who inspired Sienkiewicz to write his trilogy, won early fame by his two pictures, "Skarga" and "Reytan"; in his maturity he produced "Sobieski at Vienna," "The Prussian Homage" and the "Battle of Grunwald," three of the greatest historical paintings. (1839-1895)
 15. WYSPIANSKI, STANISLAW, playwright, painter, patriot, poet. In poetry and drama he attained to the height of emotional expression based on elements of Slavonic mythology and Polish culture, in painting he was an impressionist. (1869-1907)
 16. SIENKIEWICZ, HENRYK, the immortal author of "Quo Vadis." His early trilogy was followed by a number of historical novels, the greatest being "The Knights of the Cross." He stands as one of the greatest Polish novelists. Winner of the Nobel Prize. (1846-1916)
 17. KORZENIOWSKI, CONRAD, better known as Joseph Conrad, the greatest modern master of English letters. The chivalrous idealism and infinite woe of heroic Poland lives in Conrad's prose, as Polish folklore and the Polish soul live in Chopin's music. (1857-1924)
 18. PADEREWSKI, IGNACE, patriot, pianist and statesman, to whom more than to any other man Poland owes her rebirth of 1918 with access to the sea. (1860-1941)
 19. SKŁODOWSKA, MARIE, Mme. Curie, the discoverer of radium, a self-sacrificing scientist, who mastered the forces of nature for the good of mankind. She was awarded the Nobel Prize. (1867-1934)
 20. REYMONT, WŁADYSŁAW, one of the greatest of modern Polish writers, winner of the Nobel Prize for literature. "The Peasants" is one of the world's greatest literary masterpieces. (1868-1925)