

# The Polish Review



**SOSNKOWSKI INTERVIEWED BY JEWISH PRESS**

During his stay in the Middle East, General Sosnkowski, Polish Commander in Chief, gave an interview to Nathan Gurdus for the Hebrew newspaper "Haaretz."

His first question concerned the Polish Army's standard of training. General Sosnkowski said that there was no difference between the standard of training of the Polish Army in the Middle East and the Polish Army in Scotland, these two parts of the Polish armed forces complete each other in every respect. The Polish Army in the Middle East has reinforced the Polish Army in Scotland, with contingents of their youngest cadres; while the Polish Army in Scotland has sent some splendid detachments to the East.

The next question concerned the war situation, whether the internal collapse of Germany could be expected or whether final victory must be achieved by force of arms. General Sosnkowski replied:

"I should like to cover more territory in my reply than the question implies. When the Reich began the war it had an absolute superiority in all types of arms, especially planes and tanks. This assured Germany's lightning victories in the period of 1939-1941. The Battle for Britain enabled the RAF, assisted later by the United States, that great arsenal of democracy, to win air superiority. The Blitzkrieg on land broke on Russia's vast expanses, thus ensuring Allied victory. The Germans suffered a disastrous defeat on the Russian steppes, while the XIIIth Army simultaneously carried out a successful offensive which, with the participation of American troops, was crowned with success. The Germans and Italians were driven out of Africa and the invasion of the European continent was made possible.

"The results of these great victories, by Anglo-American armies lightened the burden falling on the British and American Navies and enabled them to undertake an effective offensive against the U-boats.

"We Poles are proud of having contributed to those victories to the limit of our possibilities, with the sacrifice of our own blood.

"German strategy was founded on methodical surprise tactics and blitzkrieg, but did not reckon with the possibility of having to carry on a long war. From the moment this became obvious, the German leaders have encountered difficulties in the spheres of strategy and policy which they had not expected and which rendered further action by them immeasurably more difficult.

"The German Government pre-

**BOMBED-OUT GERMANS ARE TOLD HOW TO TREAT POLES**

Recently the underground Polish paper "Rzeczpospolita Polska" published the following instructions issued by German authorities in Poland for the German citizens evacuated from Germany to Western Poland:

"Germans from territories endangered by bombing!

"Here in Warthegau you will be living not among Germans only. You will contact a foreign nation, too. Perhaps for the first time you are faced by a nation completely different in character than you all. Remember that you can not estimate things according to the internal German Weltanschauung. Therefore remember that

"(1) The German order has been ruling over Wartheland for four years assuring most complete peace and security. The Polish hatred which we all know from September, 1939, and from the entire history of the Polish Nation cannot appear here actively. This is guaranteed by the mighty strength of the German Army, Party and State.

"(2) We must never forget that a Pole is a stranger to us, perhaps even our enemy. A well-known Polish proverb reads: As long as the world lasts, Germans and Poles never will be brothers.

"(3) Do not be deceived by Poles' smooth manners. Like none other, a Pole knows how to assume a mask of a sanctimonious honest simpleton. While he is assuring you of his subjection, he is secretly dreaming of victory.

"(4) The German is master here. Germans won their right to rule solely by their exemplary attitude and capacity for bearing burdens. It is a matter of your attitude too.

"(5) There can not be anything in common between a German and a Pole. Keep away from everything Polish. Whoever becomes friendly with the Poles, excludes himself from German society and may exact police reprisals. Also there is no religious unity between Germans and Poles. Polish church always serves Polish hatred.

"(6) Poles must be treated sharply but justly. Poles wrongly understand politeness as weakness while injustice is unworthy of a German.

"(7) Every German living in Wartheland must wear a German badge according to his group, i.e. NSDAP, etc. or Swastika. Those who fail to do so will be considered Poles and treated accordingly.

"(8) Be cautious! Many Poles understand your language. Remember they will spread and magnify your tales about air raids. Never discuss politics in the presence of Poles.

"(9) Whoever hoards supplies, steals national property belonging to all. Whoever accepts blackmarket goods from Poles is a traitor.

"(10) You are in a battle area. Many a small German group like yours have preserved their strength in the national struggle against superior force. You too must contribute to the victorious conclusion of this national struggle.

"This notice should be attached to your identity card."

pared for total war, but at the war's beginning had no constructive political program and were not inspired by any thought of securing European interests. The German program was founded on aggression and destruction. This was one of the chief factors in breaking up Hitler's "New Order" founded solely on brute force and ruthless exploitation of economic resources.

"The Germans have never understood the psychology of other nations and did not realize that was indispensable as a basis for their strategy.

"You asked, whether I expect Germany's internal collapse? It should not be forgotten that Hitlerism is founded chiefly on the complete liquidation of all other political parties and their removal from social life. As the situation on all fronts grows worse, German internal pressure is increased, as proved by Himmler being appointed Minister of Home Affairs.

"Of course it is possible that Germany will suffer an early in-

ternal collapse, but I am convinced that will only occur under the weight of further blows by Allied armies and air forces.

"In my first answer I mentioned the Polish armies outside Poland. But an army representing a part of Polish armed forces is fighting ceaselessly against the invaders in Poland itself. In September, 1939, Poland's attitude was the deciding factor in the international situation. In the war's final phase, Poland's geographical position will cause (just as the numerical strength of Polish forces and Poland's unyielding struggle) Polish problems to be a test for building a better future for Europe, as well as a test for those principles on which the future world order must be founded."

At the conclusion of the interview General Sosnkowski expressed his horror at the barbaric persecutions of Jews in Poland. He also expressed his satisfaction at the good relations existing between the Jews and the Polish Army in the Middle East.

**POZNAN SHOPS DO NOT OBEY GERMAN RULE**

The "Rzeczpospolita Polska," one of Poland's leading underground papers, publishes an article on a circular issued by the German authorities to shops and commercial enterprises in Poznan. This circular deals with the complaints of German housewives about the service they receive in shops. It says:

"German housewives' complaints are primarily directed against the behavior of Polish shop assistants, men and women alike, in Poznan shops. Complaints state that Polish shop assistants, without taking note of the presence of Germans, continue to speak Polish among themselves, and with Polish customers. Moreover, it is frequently noticed that non-Polish customers begin to speak Polish while being served.

"Polish shop assistants behave often as if no German customers were present and before the German customer gets even a chance to express his wishes, the Polish customer is served. Regulations concerning shopping hours for Poles are not observed. Poles are not allowed to be served after 5 p.m. Nevertheless, Poles may be seen crowding into all shops after five. This must be stopped immediately.

"Police have been instructed to watch the shops after five. All shop owners are asked to supervise conditions in their enterprises, so that German housewives may have no cause to complain.

"All shop owners know that their first duty, as it is the duty of the commercial authorities, to concentrate on making impossible any incident, in this the fourth year, to annoy the German population. All efforts must be made to make life for the German Wartheland bearable. None of us must forget that we are working and doing our utmost duty to attain ultimate victory."

**SHOT IN GRODNO**

Among those shot by the Germans in Grodno Prison were: the Dean of Lipsk, the parish priests of Nowydwor, Grodno and a village near Lipsk, Dr. Lazowski with family of three, Dr. Waszczuk with family of four, Dr. Panczynsk with family of five. Following teachers were shot: Wiewiorzki with family of nine, including a two-months old baby, Link with family of four, Wisniewski with six, Krajewski with five, Bialas with three, Field with five, Niewiecka with five, Judge Buchali with five, Solicitor Chojnowski with seven, work inspector Janowicz, Deputy Postmaster Witkiewicz with three, and a Franciscan monk, Kazimierz, Vicar of Fara, Chaplain of the Sisters of Nazareth.

**The Polish Review**

Vol. III, No. 46

DECEMBER 20, 1943

Weekly Magazine Published by

THE POLISH REVIEW PUBLISHING CO.  
with the assistance of the Polish Information Center  
745 Fifth Avenue, New York 22, N. Y.

Annual Subscription Four Dollars

Single Copy Ten Cents

**METHODS OF GERMAN IMPERIALISM**

by PROFESSOR ADAM PRAGIER\*

THE *Deutsche Monatshefte in Polen*, published in Poznan, included scores of articles stressing the "German character" of Polish territories, which were invariably described as *Deutscher Siedlungsraum*. If the Germans discovered that a Polish scientist or writer attended, even for a short time, a German university, they immediately claimed all his work to be "an achievement of German culture." German scholars tried to discover German influence in Polish proverbs, folk dances and even in the embroidery patterns of Polish peasant women. German newspaper reporters travelled all over Poland, and the principal purpose of their journeys was to discover German "influences" everywhere and to try to prove that all civilization in Poland had its origin in Germany.

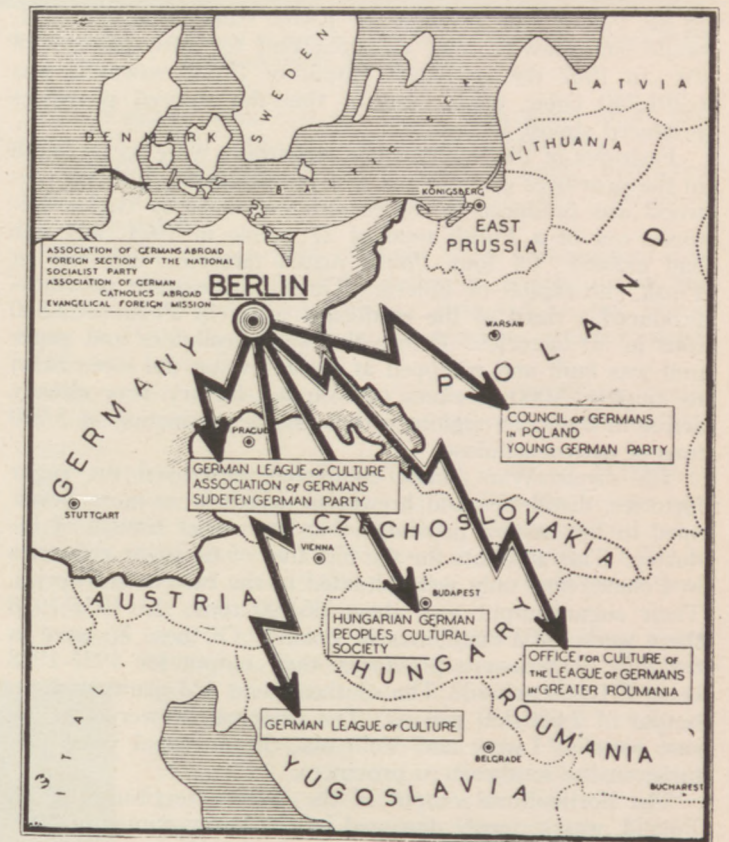
Such "scientific research" was dangerous, for it served certain definite plans of aggression. It fitted in with Penck's theory of *Deutscher Kulturraum*, on the basis of which General Haushofer built his plans of including various foreign countries within the Greater Reich. It was in accordance with Grothe's notion of the *Kulturdeutscher*, that is people of non-German origin, who become Germans through being subject to German cultural influence. The Viennese professor Lendl, a National-Socialist, added the term *Volkslandgewinn*, by which he described the settlement of German colonists on new lands as an intermediate stage leading to their eventual annexation by the Reich. It meant the extension of the German national territory before the actual extension of the territory of the German State. The existence of all these theories and terms proves that German imperialism has had in view for a long time two distinct methods of expansion, which were later theoretically defined by German scholars:

(1) The territorial expansion of the Reich by political annexation of neighboring territories.

(2) The extension of the sphere of influence of the German nation, which may reach far within the boundaries of other countries. The second method is as dangerous as the first, for it is only a transitory stage on the way to annexation. The National-Socialist doctrine fails to discern any difference between the German nation and the German State. A minister of the Interior of the Third Reich wrote, long before the war:

"The Third Reich, as the embodiment of the German national idea, cannot be looked upon as a separate organism, as an abstract State entity superior to the nation. It is simply the political organization of the national unity. The politically formed and legally organ-

\*From "ENEMY WITHIN—German Minorities as a Weapon of German Policy." Hutchinson and Co., London.



ized nation is the State." (DR. WILHELM FRICK, *Vier Jahre Aufbau des Dritten Reiches*.)

National-Socialism is, therefore, aiming at achieving the political unity of the nation by the incorporation in the Reich of all foreign territories with a German minority, or territories declared to be *Deutscher Kulturraum*. Other territories are prepared for future incorporation by means of the *Volkslandgewinn* method.

The short sociological study of Rudolf Heberle, *Auslandvolkstum-Soziologische Betrachtungen zum Studium des Deutschtums im Auslande* (Leipzig 1936), proves that the use of the imperialist "scientific method" of Germany is not confined to Europe alone. The same means of penetration, actuated by similar motives, are used also in the United States of America.

Hugo Grothe (*Die Deutschen in Uebersee*, Berlin 1932), (Please turn to page 14)

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# ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN EASTERN POLAND

IN the 123 years of partition Eastern Poland was destroyed and exploited by Russia and Austria. When these lands were returned to Poland a process of intensive industrialization was started which brought about the results illustrated by the figures given below.

In 1935, there were 50,893 industrial enterprises in Eastern Poland, out of a national total of 221,710; 141,951 out of a total of 468,774 commercial firms; and 95,009 handicraft licenses were issued there out of a total of 573,529 for the whole of Poland. In 1931 out of 4,217,000 manual laborers and 664,500 white collar workers, 959,500 and 155,200 respectively were employed in the Eastern provinces, which had only 110,800 unemployed out of a total of 603,400.

Natural conditions in the eastern provinces found expression in the development of oil boring and refining, timber and food production and stone quarrying. Out of thirty petroleum refineries working in Poland in 1935, twenty were in the provinces of Lwow and Stanislawow, and five were large plants. As for the timber industry of 1,557 sawmills in all Poland, the province of Lwow came first with 201, while Stanislawow and Volhynia tied for fifth place with 79. In 1937 the aggregate output of Polish sawmills was 6,291,740 cubic yards, and of this the eastern provinces produced almost 50 per cent.

Factories of the manufacture of parquet were to be found in the provinces of Volhynia and Stanislawow. In 1937 plywood was produced in the eastern provinces by twelve factories out of a Polish total of 27, while in 1921 only one had existed. Of four Polish match factories, one was at Pinsk, the capital of Polesia. Three northeastern provinces produced a third of the cardboard made in Poland, 27,550 tons in 40 factories. Before the war a cellulose and paper mill was built and equipped at Zydaczow on the river Stryj to employ 3,000 workers. A similar factory was already active in the same region, with a yearly production of 5,900 tons of natron-cellulose.

The Great War almost completely destroyed the sugar factories, distilleries and breweries, which were more developed in the eastern provinces than any other branch of industry. This accounts for the fact that of 61 sugar refineries in Poland, nine only were situated in the eastern territories. Their sugar output was about 66,000 tons. In 1937-1938 there were 1,403 distilleries in Poland. Of these 76 were in the four northeastern provinces, their output for 1937-1938 being 770,000 gallons. The southeast had 323 plants with an output of 2,650,000 gallons. The principal breweries in the east were at Lwow and Volhynia, the principal yeast factories in the southeastern provinces.

The horticultural output of the eastern territories of all Poland, was seriously damaged by the heavy winter of 1929 which utterly destroyed the orchards and fruit-tree plantations here, representing 36 per cent of the Polish total. The development of the fruit preserving industry was seriously hampered. Nevertheless, by 1936, thirteen fruit-drying factories were already active in the eastern provinces. Out of 39 fruit preserving and 21 vegetable canning factories in Poland in 1936, the eastern territories had 21.

The production of wine developed here, as in the rest of Poland, only after the Great War. The chief centers were Wilno for artificial wines, and "Warm Podolia," where the vineyards produced about 4,000 cwts. of grapes yearly.

The meat industry, including bacon, tinned ham and lard, did not develop till after 1926, when Polish products found good foreign markets, particularly in England and the United States. In 1937, out of a Polish total of 253, there were 46 of these factories in the eastern districts. Between 1935 and 1938, large canning and lard factories were built at Dubno and Kowel in Volhynia, at Nowowilejka near Wilno, and at Baranowicze in the province of Nowogrodek.



Timber in the Wilno district, Northeastern Poland.

About one-third of all the flour mills in Poland, 5,870 out of 17,629 in 1934, were in the eastern provinces. Twenty-eight modern grain-elevators closely connected with flour-production, were built here since the re-establishment of Poland.

Finally, the eastern provinces had thirteen factories of potato products, exclusive of spirit-distilleries, mostly making starch, as against a total of 230 potato-drying factories, 54 starch factories and 13 syrup factories existing in Poland in 1937.

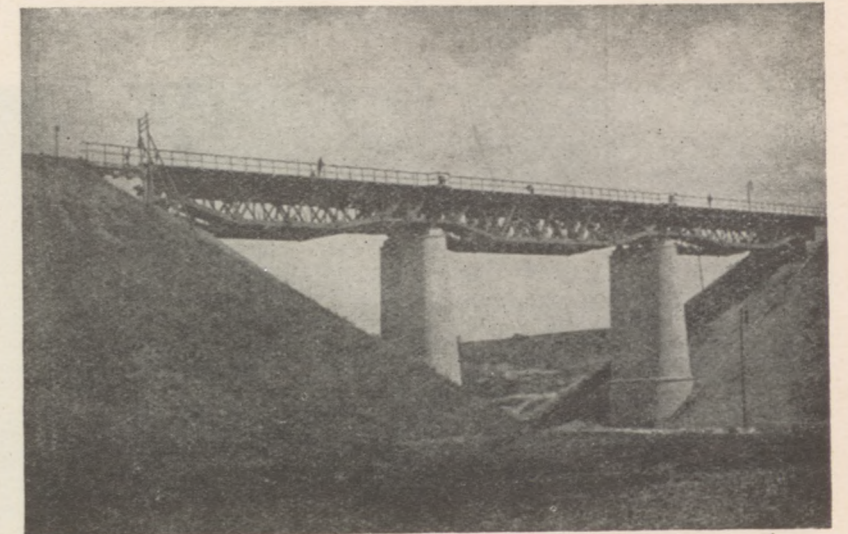
Of smaller industries, the production of underwear, ready made clothes, and other wearing apparel deserves notice. Underwear was made at Lwow, gloves at Wilno, shoes and rubber articles in the west of the province of Lwow, and at Lida in the province of Nowogrodek. The tanning industry was more or less equally distributed all over Poland. In 1927-1928, 327 large tanneries and 969 smaller tanning workshops were active. In the chemical industry the eastern provinces were particularly rich in oil mills with some hundreds of small and twelve large ones, using the raw material produced locally. The ceramic industry was also well represented, and there were numerous brick kilns. In 1936 the eastern provinces had nine of the 64 Polish glass works. They also possessed eleven coke and gas works. The graphic industry was represented by several important printing offices at Wilno and Lwow.

Electrification of the eastern territories progressed under Polish rule: in 1923 the existing power plants amounted to no more than 4,233 kw. In 1936 the corresponding figures were 27,082 kw., an almost sevenfold increase.

In reborn Poland the re-establishment of communications presented a serious problem. Every part of Poland was frontier territory to one of the three partitioning powers, and Russia and Austria systematically neglected such territories for strategical reasons. Then, all railway lines built on Polish territory in the 19th and early 20th centuries were laid to connect the three annexed parts of Poland to the administrative and economic centers of the partitioning Empires, that is to say, in directions contrary to what was required in restored Poland. Finally, Poland's railway system was ruined and disorganized by six years of warfare. The Polish State Railways had to start by repairing the damage done, reconstructing bridges, railway stations, workshops, etc., spending 780,000,000 zloty, or \$125,000,000. At the same time the existing lines had to be developed to correspond to the needs of Poland by linking together the three former parts. Regional needs had to wait. Poland built 1,097.7 miles of new railway lines, but those connecting Upper Silesia and Central Poland with the seaport of Gdynia, and the western borderlands with central and eastern Poland had priority. In the eastern provinces two new railway lines were built, one between Luck and Stojanow (52.08 miles) shortening by a half the journey from Central Volhynia to Lwow, and the other between Voropajevo and Druja (55.18 miles) making accessible the northern part of the province of Wilno.

An undertaking which particularly met local needs, was the construction of highways, most urgently needed in the eastern provinces, particularly in the northeast, which had been completely neglected by the Russian Government. Up to 1936, the following new highways were built: in the province of Nowogrodek, 800.42 miles; Wilno, 650.38 miles; Polesia, 88.04 miles; Volhynia, 298.22 miles; and in the southeastern provinces, 181.04 miles.

The total mileage of Polish railways in 1937 was 12,473.16, i.e. 8.34 miles per 100 square miles and 3.59 miles to every 10,000 inhabitants. In the four northeastern provinces the total mileage was 2,532.08 miles, with from 4.97 to 6.25 miles of railway to 100 square miles, and from 3.28 to 5.33 miles to every 10,000 inhabitants. In the three southeastern provinces the corresponding figures were



One of the thousands of railroad bridges built in Eastern Poland to replace those destroyed during the last war.

2,120.40 miles; from 7.21 to 8.98 in 100 square miles and from 2.85 to 3.47 miles to every 10,000 inhabitants.

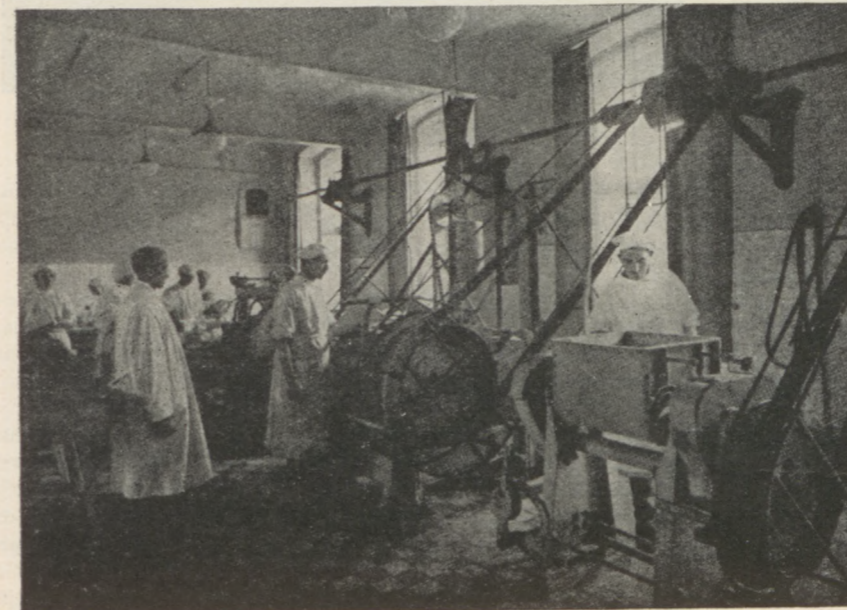
In 1938 Poland had 39,164.78 miles of public highways, 4,253.20 in the four northeastern provinces, and 7,377.38 in the southeastern.

Before the war of 1914-1918 the three southeastern voivodships felt the effects of the policy of exploitation by the Austrian Government of Galicia. Reunited to the Polish State in 1919, they underwent an economic transformation which was fairly favorable.

The picture of Eastern Poland's economic condition would not be complete without the consideration of its natural resources.

Rye, which for the whole of Poland averaged 41.80% of the area under the main crops, was 50.20% for Polesia and over 52% for Wilno and Nowogrodek. The sugar beet cultivation for 1938 covered 19,760 acres in Volhynia, 17,290 in the province of Lwow, 9,880 in that of Stanislawow, and 12,350 in that of Tarnopol.

Tobacco, one of the most valuable plants, yielding about 15.7 cwts. to the acre, the production of which grew in Poland from 2,854 cwts. in 1919 to 267,204 cwts. in 1937, was cultivated chiefly in the southeastern territories in Volhynia and Podolia. The production of vegetables amounted in Poland to 2,505,605 tons in 1937, the figures for the different provinces being: Lwow, 279,110 tons; in Volhynia, 198,900 tons; Tarnopol, 168,560; Nowogrodek, 149,640; Wilno, 135,142; Stanislawow, 126,036; Polesia, 62,720. Maize was grown only in two southeastern provinces, Stanislawow and Tarnopol, where the areas in 1934-1938 averaged 205,000 acres out of a total of 222,300 acres for the whole of Poland, against 167,900 acres in 1921. In 1938 these two provinces accounted for nearly 990,000 tons of maize out of a total of 1,055,400 tons for the whole country, while in 1921, the figure was only 637,000 tons. Flax, rare in western Poland, was grown in the eastern territories on 2.5-5% of the total cultivated area, rising from 55,822 acres in 1921 to 154,375 in 1937. The crops of linseed amounted to 170,799 cwts. in 1921, as against 473,000 cwts. yearly in 1934-1938, those of flax-fibre rose from 171,981 cwts. to 272,845 cwts.



Churning equipment on a dairy-farm in Eastern Poland.

# POLISH TRADITION OF TOLERANCE

by PROFESSOR

PRZEMYSŁAW DABKOWSKI

FROM the early times Poland was a national state: the inhabitants were all Poles, belonging to several tribes, the Wislanie, Polanie, Mazowszanie, Kujawianie and others.

German expansion to the East and the migration of Germans into Poland broke the national unity of the Polish State. Then wars and migrations on her eastern frontier, introduced new nationalities into Poland. Among those who established sizable communities in Poland were the Armenians, Wallachians, Ruthenians, Hungarians, Gypsies, Czechs and Germans. The Jews and Tatars, practising the religions of Moses and Mohammed, should not be considered as separate nationalities, but rather as religious groups.

The Germans in Poland were scattered throughout the country, and non-Polish nationalities settled in great variety in Eastern Poland. Side by side with the Poles lived Ruthenians, Armenians, Wallachians, Hungarians. That is why Western Poland developed more evenly than Eastern Poland. All these national groups enjoyed equal civic rights and suffered no disabilities because of their nationality.

Quite a number of Armenians lived in Southeastern Poland, principally in the provinces of Ruthenia and Podole, living mostly in cities. They were merchants, trading between Poland and abroad. An enterprising, shrewd and wealthy element in Poland's eastern communities, they were grouped in two great trading centers of Eastern Poland, Lwow and Kamieniec Podolski. They were given complete autonomy, and recognized as a separate nationality with their own administration, officials, elders, courts and laws. Some Armenian families were accepted into the Polish nobility. In 1519 their rights were sanctioned by King Zygmunt I. Although differing from the Poles in origin, religion and character, they adapted themselves swiftly and found their second fatherland in Poland.

A totally different picture was presented by the Wallachians. They came to Poland from Wallachia and Hungary. Some of their settlements date as far back as the Xth century. They lived on the slopes and in the valleys of the Carpathian Mountains, in the province of Ruthenia. Their settlements are also found farther north in the province of Belzec and the district of Chelm. They were mainly peasants raising live stock, particularly sheep. They obeyed the *ius Valachium*, based on Germanic law. The head of each community was a chief called a *Kniaz*. Several such settlements made up a *Kraina* with a *Krajnik* or *Wajda* at its head. The *Kniaz* and *Wajda* were above all legal authority. Under them the Wallachians were admirably organized: they served in the army; law and order was maintained in their settlements and they paid their dues in sheep and produce. But before long the Wallachians lost their exclusiveness and were assimilated into the Polish-Ruthenian element. From stock raising they slowly changed to tilling the soil.

A few Wallachians lived in the cities, but never formed a distinct national group.

The Ruthenians did not migrate to the territory they occupied in Eastern Poland. They were native to it.

Like the Poles they were divided into three classes: the nobility, townfolk, and peasants. But there were many gradations and differences in the relationship between these classes that did not exist among the Poles. Just below the princes and nobles there existed a numerous class of Boyars whose personal rights were much lower than those of the Polish nobility. They were subjected to their masters by feudal ties, did not possess full personal liberty, could not marry their daughters as they wished, their rights of inheritance were limited and their use, ownership and disposal of land was also limited. Polish law brought them personal



Armenians have their own Armenian Cathedral in Lwow.

freedom, and granted them all the privileges enjoyed by Polish nobility. Of its own free will, the Ruthenian nobility accepted the "free, good and Christian laws such as in the Polish Kingdom."

That is why the Ruthenian nobility soon became completely assimilated. At a Sejm in 1565-6 a delegate from Podlesie, representing the Ruthenians, asked the Polish King that documents and communications be written in Latin or Polish, since the Ruthenian gentry could not read Ruthenian.

The urban population during independent Ruthenian existence were a weak, neglected element. When Western Ruthenia was joined with Poland, the cities were given full freedom and rights. Much later, in the larger cities of Poland, like Lwow for instance, a separate Ruthenian national group with complete autonomy came to live side by side with the Poles and Armenians. They also had their separate trade guilds in the Polish towns and cities.

The majority of the Ruthenian population in Poland were

peasants, to whom Polish rule brought better living conditions. Where before they had been divided into the free and non-free groups, under Polish rule all of them were granted personal liberty and the cultivation of land for their own benefit, in return for small money payments for rent. In addition to this, payments in kind and work were also demanded. The "*Datio iuris Polonici terrae Russiae per Serenissimum principem dominum Vladislaum*," brought to this land the benefits of western culture.

There were not many Hungarians in Poland. Their settlement can still be traced in numerous villages on the northern slope of the Carpathians bearing names derived from the word "Hungary," and date back most probably to the time when Hungary's rule extended over these territories. In addition there were many Hungarians living in the Wallachian communities. The families of Hungarian nobility and peasantry were assimilated. Many Polish families trace their ancestry to these early Hungarian colonists.

There were comparatively few gypsies in Poland. They were nomads, traveling from one place to another. It is difficult to place them in any one class. Nevertheless, they were autonomous and had their own laws and leaders. They even had their own king. The gypsies migrated to Poland from Hungary and Wallachia. Some of them settled in the cities and a few entered the ranks of Polish nobility.

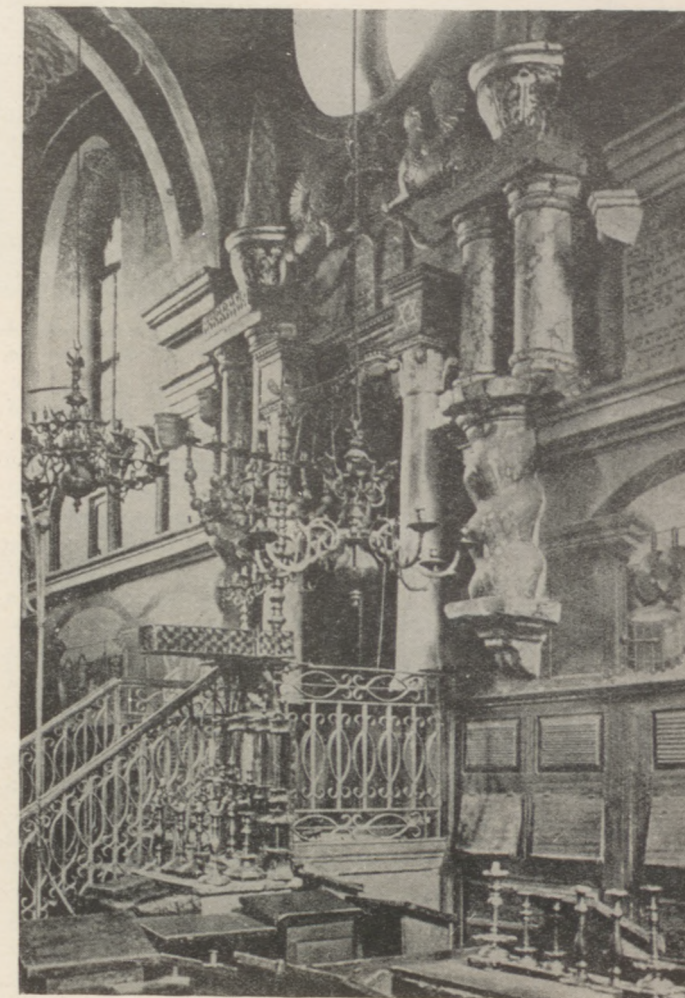
A large group of Czechs lived in Poland. They settled in Malopolska, in Western Ruthenia, and in Southern Poland. They come principally from Silesia, Czechia and most numerous of all from Moravia. These migrations seem to have occurred in the first half of the XVth century. We find many unions between Czech and Polish nobility, and Polish townfolk. A large percentage of the Czechs living in Poland were employed on Polish estates. They soon became adjusted to

**Stephanus Dei Gratia Rex Poloniae, Magnus Dux Lituaniae, Russiae, Prussiae, Masoviae, Samogitiae et Transylvanicae Princeps.**

Amatis: proconsuli, consulibus, advocatione et scabinis civitatis nostrae leopolitensis fidelibus nobis dilectis gratiam nostram regiam. Fama fideles dilecti! Exposuit coram nobis in querela generosus Constantinus Corniactus, theloneorum nostrorum in Russia praefectus, suo et aliorum ritus graeci civitatis nostrae leopolitensis incolarum nominibus ipsos ex parte usus ecclesiae ritus graeci tituli beatae Mariae virginis in platea ruthenica ibidem sitae a fidelitatibus vestris impediri sibi nimirum ipsam ecclesiam et turrim sive campanilem reedificare campanasque in eo campanili, quod penes dictam ecclesiam aedificatum est, collocare interdici, supplicavitque nobis ut eiusdem Ruthenis hac in parte remedio iuris opportuno prospicere dignemur. Cum vero nos omnia iura et privilegia universorum subditorum nostrorum sarta tecta conservare sancte recepimus ipsiusque religionis ruthenicae a serenissimis antecessoribus nostris Poloniae regibus Ruthenis liber usus cum in regno nostro tum in dicta civitate nostra leopolitensi concessus fuerit, mandamus fidelitatibus vestris, ut tam dictum Constantinum Corniactum quam ceteros ritus graeci praenominatam ecclesiam reedificare, restaurare, campanas in dicto campinili iam aedificato collocare omnibusque praerogativis ipsis a serenissimis antecessoribus nostris antiquitus concessis per nosque approbatis pacifice et sine quovis impedimento vel contradictione frui nec non etiam vladicam leopolitensem iurisdictionem suam more solito in dicta ecclesia exercere libere sinant et permittant. Pro gratia nostra fidelitates vestrae aliter non facturo. Datum Vlnae, die XXVIII mensis maii, anno domini MDLXXX, regni vero nostri anno quinto.

—Stephanus rex.

A decree issued in Wilno, on May 28, 1580, whereby King Stefan Batory of Poland guarantees freedom of worship to the Greek-Orthodox citizens of Lwow and provides for the construction of the Greek Orthodox Basilica of the Virgin Mary.



One of the oldest Hebrew synagogues is in Grodek Jagiellonski, Southeastern Poland.

their environment and lived under the same rights as the Poles.

Most of the Germans lived in East Prussia, but in addition were scattered throughout the Polish Kingdom. They started to settle in Poland at a very early date. The German influx was greatest in the early Middle Ages. Whole German towns and villages were established in Poland, and in these the Germans enjoyed complete autonomy. They had their own laws, courts, administration, legislative body and schools. The Germans were given complete liberty to preserve their national culture. They were even allowed to create unions between towns inhabited by German minorities. The German minorities were also represented in the Polish Sejm as late as the XVth and even the XVIth century.

Not until the second half of the XVIth century did the German element begin to be assimilated. In the larger towns the German communities preserved their distinct entity for a longer period.

German nobles were the first to fraternize and merge with the Poles. They were given a status equal to that of the Polish nobility. They participated in the national life and even held offices in the Polish government.

In Prussia, the Germans lived under equality of civic rights and national freedom. The Prussian cities remained German for the most part, although the German nobility of its own

(Please turn to page 14)

# EIGHTEENTH CENTURY BAS-RELIEFS IN SOUTHEASTERN POLAND



Guardian Angel. Church in Buczacz, Southeastern Poland.

decade of the 18th century. The first, the *Ascension of the Virgin Mary*, betrays a certain awkwardness in composition and an insufficient mastery of technique. Considerable progress is shown in his other work in the same church, the *Resurrection*. Against a fantastic stone grotto, in the shape of a vaulted arch through which are seen in the distance three lonely crosses on the hill of Golgotha, lies the martyred Savior, as he awakens from a death sleep and moves aside with difficulty the heavy stone that covers his grave. Seeing this miracle, the young woman kneeling in the foreground who had come to visit the Lord's tomb, turns her face in amazement, her gesture eloquently showing her feelings. In one corner, on a rocky projection sits an angel proclaiming the glory of the Son of God, risen from the dead, and opposite two soldiers flee in horror.

Connected with these works in the Church of the Lwow

IN the 18th century the Lwow school of sculpture was famous throughout Poland. The various sculptors active in and around Lwow in the middle of the 18th century, were true artists who devoted themselves to religious work for churches.

One of the most gifted was a Pole known simply as "Master Pinzl." He was in the employ of Mikolaj Potocki of Buczacz, and created for the latter a number of delicately carved altar antependia that stand apart in Lwow's plastic art. These antependia do not all follow the same style but stem from various periods of Pinzl's creativeness. Their chronological study illustrates perfectly the evolution of this master of bas-relief.

The Church of the Carmelite Brothers in Lwow has two altar bas-reliefs by Pinzl executed in the middle of the fifth

Carmelites, are several similar bas-reliefs in what was once a church of this order in Przemysl, but is now the Greek Catholic Cathedral. These show a striking artistic kinship with the Lwow reliefs. As a matter of fact, one of the antependia, *Resurrection*, is a close repetition of the Lwow work. The two reliefs portraying the martyrdom of St. Tecla and St. Apollonia, reveal the same master touch in their general composition, the treatment of the figures, and the characteristic treatment of the flames shooting from the burning stake.

Of these works, the *Martyrdom of St. Apollonia* merits closer attention. Beside the fiery stake at which she is to perish, kneels the virgin radiant in her chastity. At her side lie the bloody signs of the torture inflicted upon the hapless victim—a torn out jaw and tongue. Steeped in a mystic trance with an expression of ineffable goodness and mildness on her face, she has lost all feeling of her physical existence and is insensible to pain or suffering. The martyr's inflexible attitude, her strong spirit and heroic nobility in the face of death, have so impressed the soldier assisting at the execution, that he falls to his knees in reverend homage. His conversion and the fearless behavior of the tormented virgin, also fill the other executioner with terror, causing him to draw back as if he wished to cease further tortures.

Analogous values are shown by the next scene, the *Vision of St. Humphrey*. To a hoary hermit, with knee-length beard and flowing hair, lost in religious meditation, appear horrible phantoms symbolizing the temptations of the flesh. From the vision of the crucifix that also appears before him, he obtains sufficient strength to combat his sinful desires and passions. In the center of the composition is a thick tree trunk, with branches, bearing stylized leaves. A picturesque walled town fills in the background.

Another noteworthy relief by Pinzl is in the former Carmelite temple in Przemysl, depicting the *Holy Family resting on Its way to Egypt*; it shows all the marks of maturity in the artist's style. Exhausted by a long journey, the homeless wanderers have stopped for a brief rest. St. Joseph is being roused from deep sleep by a large winged angel pointing to the Child entrusted to his care.



Annunciation. Church in Buczacz, Southeastern Poland.

Against a background of a distant, undulating landscape, with a few trees, suggested only by clusters of leaves, the Madonna, with the Infant in her arms, is riding a mule led by Joseph, and their slow progress bespeaks their extreme weariness. Over the homeless refugees from Bethlehem, which is shown in the background as a medieval walled fortress dominated by a tall city hall spire, stand guard angels leading them to their destination. The Holy Family constitutes not only an ideational but also a formal center of composition, showing a trend to exact symmetry, accentuated by the spreading tree placed in the center of the picture. The castle at left is balanced by the bridge and tree on the right, while the huge angel at the right has its counterpart in the two cherubs opposite. An illusion of depth is created by perspective architectural lines and a gradual decrease in the size of objects. Somewhat weaker

The Madonna sitting near, is also roused from slumber. Sensing impending danger, she prepares with painful resignation to continue her difficult flight. The unusual mood of this strange scene is intensified by the masterly delineation of the human figures. The fluent softness of the harmoniously flexed silhouettes, the unforced freedom and elegant lightness with which the various elements are combined, the sculptured compactness of the composition, enclosed in an ideal geometric form, the nervous rhythm of the wavy curves, as well as the painted effect of the raised sculpture—all combine to make this work one of the most perfect examples of bas-relief in Southeastern Poland.

Further proof of Pinzl's interest in bas-reliefs may be found in Roman and Greek Catholic churches founded by Mikolaj Potocki in Horodenka and Buczacz. The parish Greek Catholic Church in Horodenka was consecrated in 1763, and the antependia for the altars were probably executed at that time. The bas-reliefs in this temple consist of three beautiful antependia in the side altars, bearing all the marks of Pinzl's art. Here again the *Flight from Egypt* theme is treated.

were his next two compositions, depicting the *Visitation of St. Elizabeth* and *Coming of the Angels to Abraham*. These antependia, however, are marked by an enriched decorative effect achieved through the use of an ornamental rococo border to enclose the central scene. The introduction of these borders marks a new phase in Pinzl's art.

Pinzl's most outstanding work of this period, which may be considered the flowering of his art, consists of three bas-reliefs in the Greek Catholic Church of Pokrowa in Buczacz, executed about 1763. The two smaller antependia in the side altars illustrate the *Miracle of St. Nicholas* and the *Decapitation of St. John the Baptist*. Their well planned composition, the moderate use of genre elements, the clear portrayal of the central theme, and the charming treatment of the landscape, prove Pinzl was a great virtuoso of the chisel.

The antependium in the main altar of the Church of St. Pokrowa, showing *Christ on His Way to Emmaus*, holds the most important position among rococo Lwow relief sculpture. Against the city gate are picturesquely outlined the ragged, vibrant silhouettes of the Redeemer and his two pupils, grouped in a pleasing arrangement, the dynamic movement rendered by the decorative swing of the boldly rumpled draperies that cover the bodies of the travelers. Genuine esthetic effect is produced by the unusually subtle figure of Jesus, breathing elegance and noble dignity. The real values in this work emerge in the technical treatment of the bas-relief. The figures are merely a pretext to make possible the spinning of a colorful thread of architectural landscape fantasies, that become the aim and center of the artist's creative intention as well as the main subject of artistic representation. Amazing are the well-nigh inexhaustible wealth of invention, the lively imagination, and fresh feelings manifested. (Please turn to page 10)



Holy Family rests on Its way to Egypt. Church of the Carmelite Brothers, Przemysl, Southeastern Poland.



Martyrdom of St. Apollonia. Church of the Carmelite Brothers, Przemysl, Southeastern Poland.



Vision of St. Humphrey. Church of the Carmelite Brothers, Przemysl, Southeastern Poland.

## EIGHTEENTH CENTURY BAS-RELIEFS IN SOUTHEASTERN POLAND

(Continued from page 9)

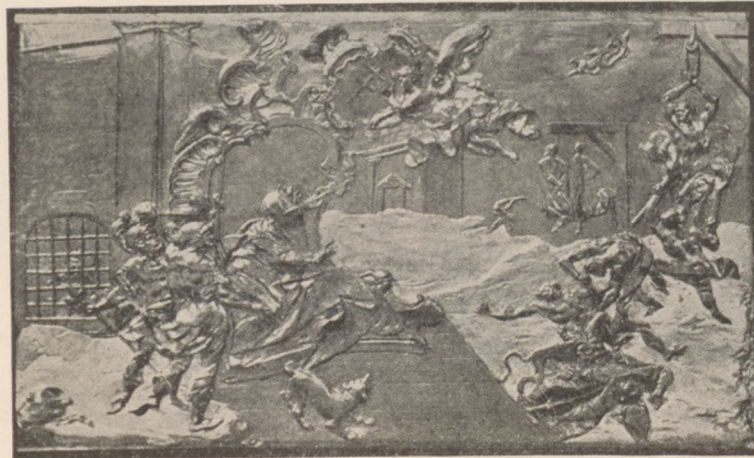
fest in this relief. A closer analysis reveals a fragment of the defensive walls, bristling with tall bastions. At the sides, spires of dwellings and churches shoot upward unexpectedly out of the rocky terrain. The abundance of bas-relief details, a far cry from lavish and inartistic overloading, was dictated by the artist's desire to fill the space decoratively. Pinzl was inspired by the same aim in carving his human figures. His skill in evolving this truly magnificent decorative synthesis, the refined charm and lacy daintiness that make this bas-relief his best religious work, force us to



Christ on His way to Emmaus. Church in Buczacz, Southeastern Poland.

recognize this scene as a true masterpiece of rococo sculpture. The exquisite chiseling of even the smallest details give this bas-relief a beautifully gem-like quality, enhanced by the delicate shading of the relief from the almost flat details of landscape and architecture, through the more convex surfaces of human figures and gnarled trees, to the three dimensional treatment of rolling hills and plastically modelled "rocailles."

The Buczacz Church has, in addition to the bas-reliefs below the "mensa" of the altar, a double door leading to the sacristy sculptured in bas-relief. One of the doors is adorned by a group of the *Annunciation*, full of noble elegance in artistic construction and its "pendant" is the *Guardian Angel*, a handsome slim youth with a fine face, an expression of dreamy sweetness, holding a playful child with one hand and with the other pointing heavenward. The almost chorographic pose and grace of the angel's body harmonize in their sensuality with the garment slipping from the shoul-



Allegory from Potocki Family History. Church in Buczacz, Southeastern Poland.



Flight to Egypt. Church in Horodenka, Southeastern Poland.

ders of this charming figure.

Finally, the last group of bas-reliefs traceable to Pinzl's workshop is a series of five reliefs in the parish church in Buczacz, which were done around 1760. But not all these antependia were the work of Pinzl himself. Three are by the Master: *Our Lady of the Scapular* surrounded by adoring Saints, and two compositions having the verve of a painting: one shows Constantine at the head of an armed group of Roman Legionnaires, over which hovers the picture of Christ in an oval medallion held by an angel; the other reproduces an historical episode, probably borrowed from the tradition of the Potocki family. Allegorical in nature, it rivets attention by its dramatic vision of the conflagration of war, showing with suggestive force the enormity of human destruction and cruelty. It is not so much a sculpture as a plastic painting, achieving its impression of depth by the use of perspective. In these latter works, even the ornamental borders are omitted, thus heightening the effect of painting.

Master Pinzl worked in the churches of Southeastern Poland during only ten years of his life. Yet in this brief space, he left behind him such fine works of art that Lwow, Przemysl, Horodenka and Buczacz may well be proud of this Polish sculptor.

Pinzl did not limit his activity to the execution of fine religious bas-reliefs. Between 1759 and 1761 he produced magnificent stone statues of St. George, St. Atanazy and St. Leon for the facade of the Greek-Catholic Cathedral in Lwow. More and more of Pinzl's work was being brought to light, but the German aggression in 1939 brought a sudden halt to this research.

## EAST PRUSSIA—MENACE TO POLAND AND PEACE

by ROBERT MACHRAY\*

IN the political and economic situation in her association with Germany, East Prussia could not develop normally or find sound compensation for its rather slender bases of raw materials. The artificial connection with the distant German Reich, together with the neglect of the province's first-rate geographical maritime position with an extensive Polish hinterland, were bound to have a bad effect on East Prussia's well being.

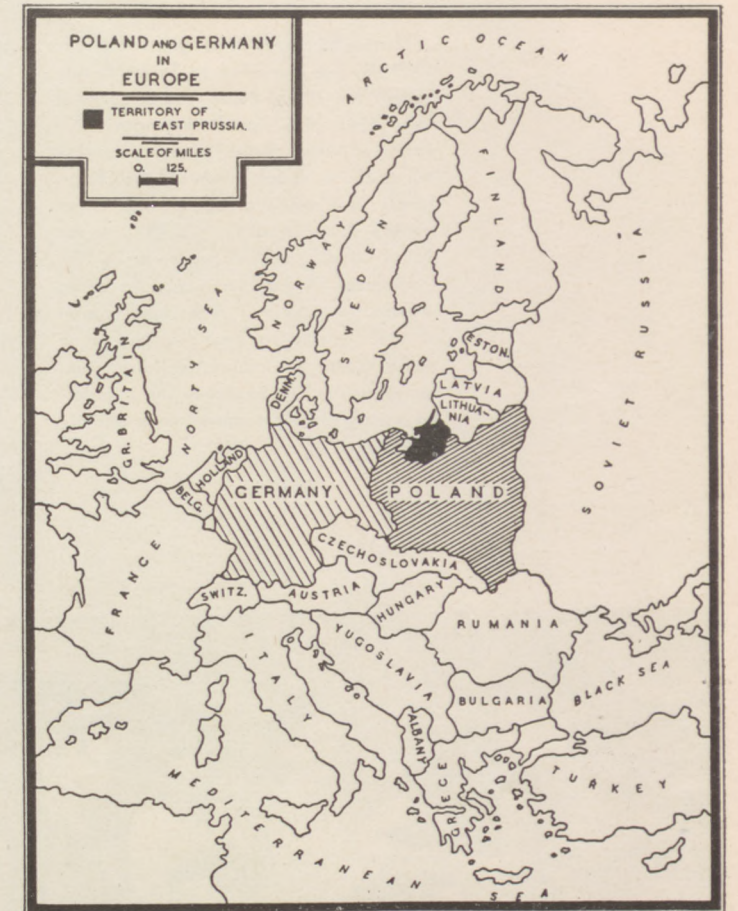
That East Prussia's economic structure is one-sidedly bound up with agriculture determines the poverty of the province by comparison with Germany as a whole. The main cause of the unprofitable economics of East Prussia was and is its distance from the German markets. Distance also condemns East Prussia's maritime trade and its ports to stagnation. It is obvious that East Prussian ports cannot in any way compete with German western ports, as these are close to the centers of heavy industry.

Therefore, because of its distance from Germany proper East Prussia is condemned to a perpetual economic crisis. In modern times this crisis has found glaring expression in the migration of the population, the indebtedness of landed property, and the systematic subsidizing of East Prussia by the German state and industry.

Since Hitler came to power these programmes have been enlarged beyond all measure. And in addition to the open programmes of *Osthilfe* and to the funds which flowed secretly into East Prussia in various ways, the Reich paid out vast sums for the province's benefit in the form of a highly developed system of special transport rates, taxation reductions, and priorities granted to the small number of East Prussian factories in regard to Government supplies, despite the fact that the prices they quoted were higher than those of industrial establishments in other parts of Germany.

East Prussia was not industrialized and the agrarian reform was only partially realized. The Nazi revolutionary plans were shattered because they came up against two obstacles: the resistance of the large landowners, and the reluctance of Germans in the Center and West of the Reich to settle in the East, and the reluctance of those born in the East to remain there.

Yet separated from Germany the province could obtain conditions assuring considerable development, and all its economic relations could be placed on a healthy basis. With



Poland rapidly becoming industrialized and so achieving a considerable increase in consumption, the province's agricultural production will be easily absorbed by the home market. The fact that this market, especially its chief centers, are close to the territory will also be important.

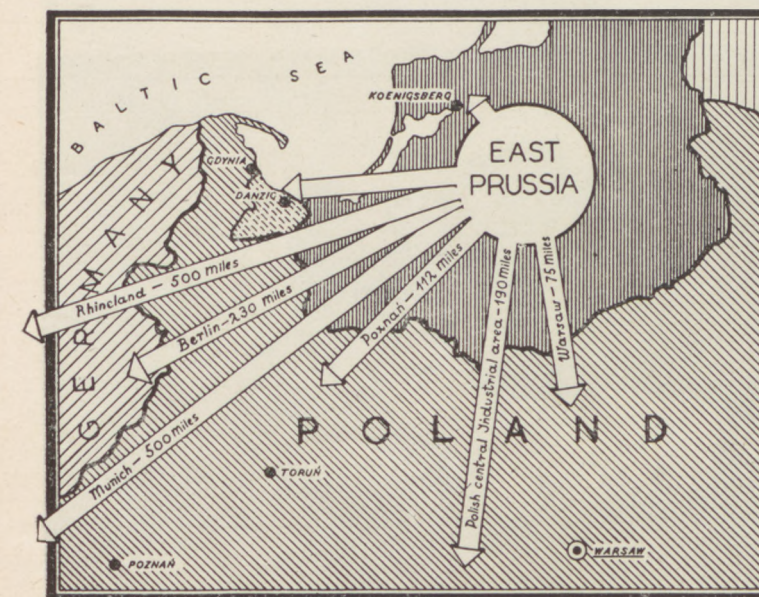
After being included in Poland East Prussia would also be able to draw supplies of coal unhindered from Polish Upper Silesia. This is its nearest coal field.

In addition to the development of the provision industry, a revival may be foreseen of the timber industry, which has hitherto suffered severely from shortage of raw materials. East Prussia is not particularly rich in forests, but the proximity of large forested areas in Bialystok, Wilno and other Polish eastern areas will provide a large and valuable reserve of raw material for its timber industry, covering all stages of manufacture, including furniture-making. It is also worth while emphasizing the value to Koenigsberg as a port of direct contact with Polish timber production, unhampered by tariff walls and prohibitions.

In the proximity of large ports numerous branches of industry requiring overseas raw materials always develop. They include various forms of the chemical industry, artificial fertilizers, soap, fats and so on. In East Prussia these industries will go hand in hand with the development of the port turnover. And, moreover, it may be expected that the capacious market in East Prussia's hinterland will facilitate the growth of a widely-ramified manufacturing industry.

\* From "EAST PRUSSIA—Menace to Poland and Peace." By Robert Machray. American Polish Council, Chicago.

(Please turn to page 14)



Distances from the frontier of East Prussia.

# HANKA JOINS THE "PESTKI"

Hanka is twenty-three years old. In 1939 she was deported to Soviet Russia. When the Russo-Polish Agreement of July, 1941, was signed she, with thousands of other Polish women, traveled by foot to Buzuluk where the Polish forces were being grouped. She immediately volunteered for the PSK, or the Polish WAC, and was placed on the waiting list for Scotland where she would receive her training. After long months of waiting, Hanka finally arrives at a Polish Women's Auxiliary, or *Pestki*, center somewhere in Scotland. She is greeted warmly by her countrywomen already in uniform.



The official welcome and registration over, Hanka and the other newcomers are led to the *Pestki* Equipment store where they are issued their full complement of service kit and uniform.

The first meal in uniform. Hanka is still a little bewildered by her new surroundings and new life. The veterans take her under their protection and soon the recruit feels at home.



# HANKA JOINS THE "PESTKI"

Classes begin for Hanka. Here she is shown listening intently to a Polish Captain lecturing on map reading. This is only one of the features of her training program.



In addition to class room theory, Hanka gets a taste of real warfare in the toughening "Commando" course. With rifles cocked, she and her companions crawl to their objective through barbed wires, ditches and tall grass.

Here Hanka is seen with her colleagues at rifle practice. She is preparing for "the day" when she hopes to be among the first women to cross the continent into Poland with the Polish invading forces. The *Pestki* regulations and requirements are the same as those in the men's army. They are trained to take active part in fighting at the side of men. The *Pestki* will go back to Poland with the fighting forces, and once there, they will link up with the thousands of Polish women who went underground in 1939. Then will begin the greatest task of all—the rebuilding of Poland.



(Continued from page 3)

declared his belief that the American Germans would in the future serve not only the German nation but also the German State.

This pseudo-scientific activity, preparative for war, had one of its principal protagonists in the German historian Dr. Kurt Luck, resident in Poznan, in Poland. His two major works, *Der Mythos vom Deutschen in der polnischen Volksüberlieferung und Literatur*, and *Deutsche Aufbaukräfte in der Entwicklung Polens*, 1934, were calculated to prove how much Poland owes to Germany and how the Poles hate Germans. They were both based on false data and their conclusions were untrue. They were thoroughly dealt with by Polish authors. One of Luck's books was prefaced by Hermann Rauschning, conservative, then Nazi, now a leading German in America.

All these activities had, of course, an adverse effect on the relations between the German minority and the Polish majority. The Germans in Poland obeyed strictly all orders from Berlin.

At the congress of German teachers held in Chorzow, in Polish Silesia, on January 3, 1939, the assembled teachers

resolved to demand for the German schools in Poland the same curriculum as that used in Nazi Germany. The resolution claimed for the children of Polish citizens of German nationality teaching based on the following principles:

- (1) The aim of a German school in Poland is to bring the children up to be Germans.
- (2) The principal subjects taught to children should be German history and German culture.
- (3) The children should be encouraged to follow the example of persons that played a decisive part in German history.

All these facts caused deep resentment among the Poles, who saw the frustration of all hopes of securing normal relations between the Polish and German citizens of the Republic. The German minority became an organized Fifth Column, determined to disrupt the country from within, acting under orders from abroad. Its activities were highly dangerous, for they provided the German government with opportunities for applying pressure from outside. The events of September, 1939, proved that the suspicions concerning the espionage and sabotage work of the German minority were fully founded.

POLISH TRADITION OF TOLERANCE

(Continued from page 7)

volition became Polish. The Germans held administrative offices and by a special statute Zygmunt I, King of Poland, ordered the Prussian clergy to establish German schools.

All these nationalities living in Poland were subject to Polish law. In addition to these, however, there were inhabitants of non-Polish nationality who did not possess Polish citizenship. These foreigners or guests, as they were called, were at first subject to certain civil and private disabilities. But that was the fate of foreigners in all other countries at that time. They could not hold office, buy land, nor carry

wealth out of Poland. Later the civil disabilities remained, but private rights were broadened. In the second half of the XVIIIth century the statutes of 1768, 1775, 1778, 1792 authorized the ownership of land and in Eastern Poland real estate could pass to their heirs, also Polish citizenship was made more accessible. Furthermore, non-citizens were allowed to carry their wealth out of Poland on payment of a tithe of their possessions. Legacies could also be taken out by heirs up to the eighth degree, on payment of ten per cent.

Merchants in Poland were given equal rights, among others that of speedy trial of any cases they had pending in Polish courts.

EAST PRUSSIA—MENACE TO POLAND AND PEACE

(Continued from page 11)

Although in the future Danzig and Gdynia will probably constitute a single haven and become one of the largest in Europe, it is certain that the ports of Koenigsberg and Pillau (Pillau) will find ample employment, and their turnover will greatly exceed the level reached under German rule. Such will be the result of the general quickening of the economic life of East Prussia itself and of the hinterland close to it, and of the abolition of the province's economic isolation and the development of transit trade with both Eastern and Central Europe.

For the chief structural defect which weighed upon East Prussia's economic life, i.e. its disadvantageous situation—severance from the geographical and economic area of which it really forms a part—will altogether disappear as soon as it is linked with Poland. Within the boundaries of the Polish State the area will recover its health and be able to set free all its natural vital forces.

Nor is there any doubt that East Prussia will cease to be an almost exclusively agricultural area, to which role it was restricted during its association with Germany. And as a link between Poland and the sea it will play an important part in the maritime trade of a State of 35,000,000 inhabitants, one moreover closely joined with Czechoslovakia and probably with other States of Central Europe. And all this will of course greatly increase the commercial importance of East Prussia, as of the entire Baltic coast of Poland generally.

Therefore the advantages to East Prussia of becoming part of the Polish State are beyond question, and are, in fact, decisive.

Cover: A Lwow Monument: Entrance to the Cemetery of the Defenders of Lwow.

SWIT REPORTS INCREASE IN GERMAN TERROR

SWIT reports increased German terror against the Polish population in the middle of November. Public executions were carried out in the streets of Warsaw on the 13th and 16th, when Polish officers who had left war prisoners camp, legally or illegally, were shot.

German S.S. Chief Libay of Libau gave orders for the arrest of all Polish ex-officers and all persons suspected even slightly of illegal activities. Many officers are hiding in Ghetto ruins, where the Gestapo stages manhunts and raids.

The Germans have arrested new hostages in Lwow, Przemysl, Cracow, Kielce, Rozwadow, Jaslo, Dembica, Radom, Jendrzewoj and Lenczyca. These new arrests and manhunts are partly an effort to liquidate the underground movement as thoroughly as possible, partly to obtain additional manpower for labor in the Reich, where the supply of labor is being gradually exhausted by evacuation and RAF bombing.

Recently some tens of thousands of Polish workers, mainly from Lodz, were deported into the Reich. Germans carry out their manhunts in all the cities of the Government General and eastern Poland, where they are particularly brutal.

The Germans plan the deportation of 15,000 Poles from Wilenszczyzna, according to registration lists prepared by the Lithuanian Quisling Police.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports published in Budapest on November 26th that Bishop Tarnowski died recently in Poland, also Edward Komar, co-editor of Kurjer Warszawski, Michal Sobanski and Director Rady Głownej Opiekunczej Jalowiecki.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports publication in the German controlled press that Kazimierz Tanski from Tczew charged with so-called "banditism" was sentenced to death. In Opole a 65-year old postal official, Jozef Wloka, from Raciborz, accused of postal sabotage was executed.

V.V.V.

SWIT reports that manhunts and street raids continue. The fate of those caught in manhunts is unknown. Some are deported to the Reich for forced labor, others sent to Oswiecim or murdered straight away. One day last month 150 Poles were driven to the ruins of the Warsaw Ghetto, where the Germans have set up gas chambers and were murdered. Also 600 Poles from Pawiak prison were murdered in the Warsaw Ghetto.

The Germans are carrying out mass arrests among Polish educated classes: In Radom 250 were arrested, in Kielce 120, in Strachowice 40.

V.V.V.

By every possible means the

Prime Minister Mikolajczyk on the Teheran Declaration

Prime Minister Mikolajczyk has made the following statement on the Teheran Conference:

"Poland has fought the Germans the longest and most unyieldingly and awaits the moment of liberation with special longing.

"The Declaration of the Three Powers, confirming an agreement on war strategy with a view to destroy the German war machine and promising blows at Germany from every side, forecasts a speedy end to the war in Europe.

"Poland with her bitter experience of many wars, greatly desires not only a speedy victory but a lasting peace. That is why we attach special importance to those points in the Declaration that indicate Peace will be lasting. It will be all the more lasting if, as the Declaration of the Three Powers states, real cooperation and active participation by great nations and small exist among the family of democratic nations.

"In particular, the determination to live up to the principles of the Atlantic Charter, and to eliminate tyranny, slavery, intolerance and oppression, has found a deep echo in Polish hearts.

"Through her struggle, Poland has proclaimed her membership in the world family of democratic nations, from which tyranny, slavery, oppression and intolerance are to be driven.

"We also express our conviction that in liberated territories, these democratic principles will be put into practice immediately.

"With special joy we greet the Declaration concerning Iran, the fact that that country's contribution to the common cause will be taken into consideration and that its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity will be guaranteed. For, in that Declaration as in the Resolution accepted by the Conference concerning the Pacific—guaranteeing China the return of all territories stolen from her—we see the fulfillment of basic conditions for true peace which, if it is to be lasting, cannot be built on wrongs, especially territorial wrongs.

"I am convinced that these precedents, applied also in other cases, will give the best results in building a lasting peace and promoting cooperation among nations after the war."

LODZ SITUATION IS VERY TENSE POLISH RED CROSS RECORD

From articles in the German controlled press it is apparent that the situation in the Lodz district is very tense. Some weeks ago a great fire broke out in an industrial establishment, whose name was not given but which is located in a street the Germans have renamed Wuppertaler Strasse. The fire raged until the middle of the next day. From the description it is obvious the fire was due to sabotage.

It is also reported that the German police in Lodz killed two Poles "who attempted escape." Their names are given as Jozef Korczewski and Zdzislaw Rayski and the charge against them was so-called "banditism."

In Pabjanice a Polish woman, Franciszka Madej was arrested because she refused to work for the Germans. In Bielszowice in Upper Silesia "unknown persons" systematically destroy plates with German street names. German papers state that these name plates cannot be replaced at present, so the streets have no name plates at all.

The German press has issued an appeal to the population to watch out for "criminals" destroying name plates.

Germans are trying to wipe out the Polish educated classes. They know their "new order" will be soon finished, so they destroy and murder all they can.

On December 6th the annual meeting of the Polish Red Cross was held in Ognisko Polskie in London. President Raczkievicz attended as patron of the Red Cross with Prime Minister Mikolajczyk and other members of the Polish Government.

Chairman Prof. Koskowski welcomed the gathering and thanked all who by their generosity and help had made the Polish Red Cross's activities possible. Koskowski particularly expressed his deep gratitude to the Polonia in America and recited the amounts Poles in America had given: In 1940 Rada Polonia Amerykanska paid 10,507 pounds sterling; in 1941 7,122 pounds, in 1942 30,940 and up to October, 1943, 31,200 pounds. Funds given by different other organizations in America were in 1940 4,651 pounds, in 1941 7,775 pounds, in 1942 5,942. New Zealand organizations contributed in 1942 4,824 pounds, Australian organizations 2,000. Among gifts in kind, especially mentioned were Canadian Red Cross gifts worth 31,356 pounds and Netherlands Red Cross with 1,972 pounds.

Engineer Krybinski then reported our assistance given to war prisoners and Koziol Poklewski spoke about the activities of Polish Red Cross branches in twenty-one countries. Concluding the meeting, Bishop Gawlina spoke about the aims and tasks of the Polish Red Cross.

POLES RECREATE HOMES IN FAR OFF TANGANYIKA

Early in 1942 Tanganyika identified itself with the decision of the East African conference, to offer hospitality to refugees from occupied territories. Seven camps were organized of which four were set aside for six thousand Polish refugees evacuated from Russia.

Though four thousand natives had been employed it had not been possible to put up more than twelve hundred huts. Acres of uncultivated land lay between groups of round mud huts. Families or groups of more than three were given two huts limewashed on the outside and freshly whitewashed inside, with extra protection of banana leaves on top of the grass thatching.

Individual dwellers show their ingenuity in little interior decorations and improvements, gay beds of French marigolds, petunias, convolvulus, cannas and zinnias provide refreshing patches of color. In Tengeru, as in every other settlements, one man is elected as Polish camp-leader to work in close cooperation with the camp commandant. Ultimate decision rests with the commandant who is directly responsible to the Government.

As the needs and the activities of settlers have developed, original administrative offices, storerooms and workshops have all had to be enlarged. New buildings including communal messrooms and kitchens in process of erection are all built of local stone of which there is plentiful supply. A hospital was fortunately available at the outset, for the Greek community willingly cooperated by evacuating their school, thus freeing a suitable stone building. It is supplemented by a Red Cross out patient station and by doctors supervising a squad of health workers who wage war on possible malaria breeding grounds. The percentage of sickness is low considering the long period of anxiety and undernourishment which preceded the refugees' arrival in East Africa.

Early organization of agricultural work was imperative if numbers of people were to be adequately fed and as months went by more and more land has been brought under cultivation. Roads are being improved with native labor. The African natives are good to children and small Polish boys are often seen talking to these good-natured Africans in a mixture of Polish and Swahili. Agriculture provides occupation for many settlers. Others work in a large piggery and on the poultry farm, thus increasing food supply.

With the monthly milk bill running to \$3,200 it is not surprising that the camp purchased a herd of cows as an alternative to bringing milk from distant farms every day.



# Freedom House Honors Polish Publishers

In connection with the first anniversary in the United States of the Polish publishers "Roy", Freedom House organized a reception at which the following speeches were made:

H. E. JAN CIECHANOWSKI, Polish Ambassador to the United States:

"... This world conflict did not start on the battlefields of Poland, in September 1939. It started on May 10th, 1934, when Hitler ordered the burning of all books which expressed the free human thought and culture of the ages—that was the fundamental challenge to thought and individual freedom.

"The war and all its total and barbarous destruction is but the culmination of this attempt at the enslavement of human minds and souls.

"Europe is now a prisoner of wanton brutality.

"European thought and culture have instinctively sought refuge and protection in this great, free, untrammelled American Democracy.

"Poland's literature has always been appreciated and read by American people. At present, when all our universities, colleges, our Academy of Arts and Sciences have been trampled and closed down by German Machtkultur, our Polish culture and inspiration are given a God-sent opportunity to develop in America.

"Here our Polish publishers are helped and encouraged and the wronged Polish soul can live regardless of the tempest of pagan oppression which once again is trying to murder it."

CARL CARMER, President of the P. E. N. Club, said:

"The springs that feed the stream of a people's imagination are few and very clear. The numberless, nameless men and women who, without conscious artistry, make the songs and tales of a region are moved to expression by impulses as old as the history of local human habitation.

"For a river sings a song which the boys and girls who wander its reaches will never forget, and a desert's awful humming is always in the ears of those who were born there even though they spend long years and die among the whispering grassy hills.

"Work, too, feeds the mind with imaginings—the kind of work that the landscape breeds, whether it is the swinging of axes in the woods, the herding of cattle on treeless pastures, the digging of ditches to bring water to parched earth.

"And the daily happenstances of a people's life—the true dramas that are played only to the limited audience of a countryside take firm hold on the mind and live long after the players are only names on headstones.

"The experience I have listed above as spurs to the popular imagination are so all-inclusive that many a shrewd and ambitious charlatan would conceal them. He would, for his own aggrandizement, have those who follow him believe that people living in a different part of the world are strange and inexplicable and menacing. He would destroy anyone who denied this, anyone who tried to show that common experience bind men together.

"Victim of such a charlatan, the starved lifeless body of the Polish poet, Kazimierz Przerwa-Tetmajer, was found among the ruins of Warsaw one pitilessly cold afternoon just before the dark year of 1941 was born.

"But the death of the body of a poet never accomplishes all the German charlatan, Adolf Hitler, believes it will. If he were sane, by this time he would have learned his lesson, but his diseased mind still sticks to its old formula—that death puts an end to all things.

"Now the Roy Publishers here in New York City, have refuted the German madman's logic; they have remembered the poet the Polish people loved and are bringing out TALES OF THE TATRAS, a volume of his folk-stories.

"It is a book that Americans can take to their hearts. Those who have read it feel that they have had a rich friendly evening beside the leaping flames of an open fire. And of all the tales in it perhaps that of Zwyrtala the Fiddler best sums up why this is so. For Zwyrtala died and went to Heaven and soon had the place so disorganized with his fiddling that the angel choir was singing wicked fiddle tunes rather too well. The only solution was for the Management to send him back down the Milky Way into the heart of the Tatras where he still fiddles.

"That is the possibility the German charlatan always forgets. He has murdered millions of Poles, but the fiddling of Zwyrtala still mocks him, the tales of the starved Tetmajer still prove him a fool. We Americans know this and are happy that it is so. Our country has its fiddlers and poets, too."

DR. HENRY SEIDEL CANBY, of the Book-of-the-Month Club and the Saturday Review of Literature, said:

"... The last year or two I have been associated with a group of scholars engaged in the production of an extensive literary history of the United States. In surveying the field and outlining the book, it has become clearer to me than ever before how important have been the contributions of racial groups in this country, not of British descent and whose tradition has not been English. So much so, that we shall devote an extensive chapter to the inter-twining of national traditions coming from outside the Anglo-Saxon nations with the English tradition with which American literature began.

"Among these European strains the Polish has had an important place, and it is a great satisfaction to those of us whose great concern is the development of American literature, that a publishing house should have been established which will further the enrichment of American books by publications authoritatively selected from the rich Polish literature, old and new. Poetry, unfortunately, is difficult to transplant, and here we must hope for new voices in American poetry among men and women of Polish origin or descent living in this country.

"But one great branch of literature translates easily and effectively, and that is historical fiction. As a member of the Board of Judges of the Book-of-the-Month Club, I had an opportunity some months ago to read and help choose as one of our selections, Zofia Kossak's novel, 'Blessed Are The Meek.' Here is an historical romance which is, I believe, in the best Polish tradition and also in the best tradition of that artistic genre. The characters, of whom St. Francis is the chief, are historically true and yet full of life and vivid in personality. The theme is a great theme, the attempt to revive a militant Christianity, stiffening in the materialism of the latter Middle Ages by recapturing for the West the holy places of Palestine. The narrative is spirited; history becomes concrete; the new points of the times are never forgotten; and yet the whole book does what historical fiction always ought to do, it makes the past an indivisible part of the present.

"I am sure those who hear me today will share my enthusiasm when they read 'Blessed Are The Meek.'"

"If the world is going to grow steadily smaller; if the nations, no matter how strongly they hold to a healthy nationalism, are inevitably to become more integrated, more communicative with each other, more dependent upon each other, then literature must, as it has done before, lead in the sharing of experiences and ideas, and this means specifically that we Americans must read more foreign books, in our own tongue if we cannot read them in the original."