

## CHRISTIAN LABOUR PARTY.

At the beginning of the present century there come to life in Poland several social and cultural organizations, based upon the principles of the Papal Encyclical Rerum Novarum. In 1917 these organizations led to the creation of the Christian Democratic Party. At the same time, among the Polish emigres in Westfalia, and later also in Poland there created trade unions, also based on the Christian-social principles. Later they form the National Workers Party.

The first period of the consolidation of this Christian-Social movement comes in 1937. Then the Christian Democratic Party and the National Workers' Party, supported by the majority of the former combatants of the General Haller's Blue Army, merged and thus created the Christian Labour Party. The merger was due to the initiative of two great statesmen: Ignacy Paderewski and General Władysław Sikorski. and the active support of the president of the Christian Democratic Party: Wojciech Korfanty and the president of the National Workers' Party: Karol Popiel, the present president of the Christian Labor Party.

This movement is further consolidated during the German occupation, when several underground organizations, based upon the Christian-social principles join the Labour Party.

In the years 1918 - 1939 the Christian Democratic Party and the National Workers' Party and later the Labour Party carry on in Poland the fight for true democracy and the principles of the social justice, based upon the teachings of the Christian ethics. Engaged in fight against the colonel's regime, they are being fought down with drastic police methods. The most brutal instance of the government policy toward this group is the imprisonment in September 1930 of the leaders of the Christian Democratic Party Wojciech Korfanty and the National Workers' Party Karol Popiel in the Brześć fortress.

During the war, the representatives of the Christian Labour Party, who succeed in escaping abroad, enter the political representation of Poland - the National Council in Angers and later in London. Since 1942 the acting president of the National Council is its vice-president Michał Kwiatkowski - representative of the Christian Labour Party. In the government of General Sikorski and later of Stanisław Mikołajczyk in London the following members of the Christian Labour Party are ministers: at first General Haller, later president Karol Popiel, general Izydor Modelski and Monsignor Zygmunt Kaczyński, at present arrested in Poland.

In Poland a great many of the members of the Labour Party join the Home Army / A.K. / and the administration of the secret state. The leaders of the Christian Labour Party start the underground Institute of Central Europe, whose program is to create the principles and the methods of carrying out the program of the federation. The Leaders of the Labour Party take an active part in the work of the following political representations: The Political Consultative Committee, the Home Political Representation and the Council of National Unity. In this last group the representatives of the Christian Labour Party at first hold the post of the Secretary General and later the Office of the President of the Council. Three of the five Delegates of the Polish Government in London for Poland during the war, are the members of the Christian Labour Party. There are the representatives of the Christian Labour Party among the 16 Underground Polish Leaders, arrested in Pruszków, tried and convicted in Moscow in 1945.

In July 1945 The Christian Labour Party comes to the open, calls the general Congress in Warsaw, July 15th, 1945 and makes the decision to fight for the democratic regime. At the same time the Congress renews the mandates of its representatives. However, the communist regime opposes the independent existence of the Party and through reprisals it succeeds in introducing communist agents. Yet within a year through the elections at all the levels of the Party the communists are completely eliminated. but the communist regime repeats its reprisals and forbids the Congress of the Christian Labour Party to

CHRISTIAN LABOUR PARTY.

At the beginning of the present century there came to life in Poland several social and cultural organizations, based upon the principles of the Papal Encyclical Rerum Novarum. In 1917 these organizations led to the creation of the Christian Democratic Party. At the same time, among the Polish emigrants in Westphalia, and later also in Poland there created trade unions, also based on the Christian-social principles. Later they form the National Workers Party.

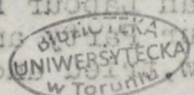
The first period of the consolidation of this Christian-social movement comes in 1937. Then the Christian Democratic Party and the National Workers' Party, supported by the majority of the former combatants of the General Haller's blue army, merged and thus created the Christian Labour Party. The merger was due to the initiative of two great statesmen: Ignacy Paderewski and General Władysław Sikorski, and the active support of the president of the Christian Democratic Party: Wojciech Koroty and the president of the National Workers' Party: Karol Popiel, the present president of the Christian Labour Party.

This movement is further consolidated during the German occupation, when several underground organizations, based upon the Christian-social principles join the Labour Party.

In the years 1918 - 1939 the Christian Democratic Party and the National Workers' Party and later the Labour Party carry on in Poland the fight for true democracy and the principles of the social justice, based upon the teachings of the Christian ethics. Engaged in fight against the colonial regime, they are being fought down with drastic police methods. The most brutal instance of the government policy toward this group is the imprisonment in September 1930 of the leaders of the Christian Democratic Party Wojciech Koroty and the National Workers' Party Karol Popiel in the Brest fortress.

During the war, the representatives of the Christian Labour Party, who succeed in escaping abroad, enter the political representation of Poland - the National Council in Angers and later in London. Since 1942 the acting president of the National Council is its vice-president Michał Kwiatkowski - representative of the Christian Labour Party. In the government of General Sikorski and later of Stanisław Mikojczyk in London the following members of the Christian Labour Party are ministers: at first General Haller, later president Karol Popiel, general Izidor Modelski and Minister Zygmunt Kaszyński, at present arrested in Poland.

In Poland a great many of the members of the Labour Party join the Home Army / A.K. / and the administration of the secret state. The leaders of the Christian Labour Party start the underground institutes of Central Europe, whose program is to create the principles and the methods of carrying out the program of the federation. The leaders of the Labour Party take an active part in the work of the following political representation: The Political Consultative Committee, the Home Political Representation and the Council of National Unity. In this last group the representatives of the Christian Labour Party at first hold the post of the Secretary General and later the Office of the President of the Council. Three of the five Delegates of the Polish Government in London for Poland during the war, are the members of the Christian Labour Party. There are the representatives of the Christian Labour Party among the 10 underground Polish leaders, arrested in Pruszków in Moscow in 1945.



In July 1945 the Christian Labour Party comes to the open calls the general Congress in Warsaw, July 15th, 1945 and makes the decision to fight for the democratic regime. At the same time the Congress renews the mandates of its representatives. However, the communist regime opposes the independent existence of the Party and through reprisals it succeeds in introducing communist agents. Yet within a year through the elections at the levels of the Party the communist are completely eliminated and the communist regime repeats its reprisals and forbids the Congress of the Christian Labour Party to

138866

take place in July 1946. This influences the decision of the executive of the Party to stop its activities at home. This event caused the Conference of the Bishops in Poland in Częstochowa, 8 - 10 September 1946, issue the decision, which states that since the representatives of the Christian Labour Party, who were trying to introduce the Christian principles into the public life, were forced to suspend their activities, the Catholics in Poland are deprived of their political representation.

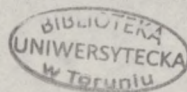
The communist terror forces more and more leaders of the Christian Labour Party to leave Poland. They set to work in Western Europe and in September 6- 8 1947 they call an organisational convention in Paris. They elect there the Board of Christian Labour Party in exile. This organization, by the status has the rank of the organisation at the province level.

With the new arrival of the president Karol Popiel in exile it is possible to create June 3rd 1948 the Central Committee of the Christian Labour Party. This Central Committee is composed of the members of the executive authorities of the Party, elected at the Congress of 15th July, 1945 in Warsaw, now in exile as well as some other coopted members. The present set up of the Central Committee is as follows:

Karol POPIEL	- President of the Christian Labour Party,
Bolesław BIEGA	- Member of the Executive Committee;
Jan BOROWIAK	- Member of the Executive Committee,
Izydor MODELSKI	- vice-president of the Supreme Council,
Konrad SIENIEWICZ	- Secretary General,
Stefan WOJCIECHOWSKI	- Member of the Executive Committee,
and the coopted members:	
Prof.dr.Stefan GLASER	- former Minister of Poland to Belgium,
Cyprjan ODORKIEWICZ	- former commander of the underground armed forces.

The Christian Labour Party is a member of the Nouvelles Equipes Internationales - the Christian-Social International, which includes all the European Christian-Social parties.

The Christian Labour Party is the co-founder of the Alliance of the Democratic Parties, organised in London, November 15th, 1948.



take place in July 1946. This influences the decision of the executive of the Party to stop its activities at home. This event caused the Conference of the Bishops in Poland in Caszobow, 8. - 10 September 1946 issue the Declaration, which states that since the representatives of the Christian Labour Party, who were trying to introduce the Christian principles into the public life, were forced to suspend their activities, the Catholics in Poland are deprived of their political representation.

The Communist terror forces more and more leaders of the Christian Labour Party to leave Poland. They set to work in Western Europe and in September 6 - 8 1947 they call an organisational convention in Paris. They elect there the Board of Christian Labour Party in exile. This organization, by the status has the rank of the organization at the province level.

With the new arrival of the president Karol Popiel in exile it is possible to create June 3rd 1948 the Central Committee of the Christian Labour Party. This Central Committee is composed of the members of the executive authorities of the Party, elected at the Congress of 15th July 1945 in Warsaw, now in exile as well as some other cooped members. The present set up of the Central Committee is as follows:

- Karol POPIEL President of the Christian Labour Party
- Bolesław BIEGA member of the Executive Committee
- Jan HOROWIAK member of the Executive Committee
- Zygmunt MODERSKI vice-president of the Supreme Council
- Konrad SIEMNIEWICZ Secretary General
- Stefan WOJCIKOWSKI member of the Executive Committee
- and the cooped members:
- Prof. dr. Stefan GLASER former Minister of Poland to Belgium
- Stefan ODORCZYK former commander of the underground armed forces

The Christian Labour Party is a member of the Nouvelles Indépendantes Internationales - the Christian-Social International, which includes all the European Christian-Social parties.

The Christian Labour Party is the co-founder of the Alliance of the Democratic Parties, organised in London, November 15th 1948.

