

The Polish Review

VOL. II, No. 4

NEW YORK, N. Y., JANUARY 26, 1942

PRICE TEN CENTS

SCORCHED EARTH

By A. CWOJDZINSKI



In the County of Zywiec (Southwestern Poland), Germans deported the entire peasant population of more than thirty villages. In 1941, 30,000 people lost their homes that were given to German colonists.

AT DAWN the tolling of the church bell broke in on the thoughts of old grandma. She got up and made her bed. She smoothed the sheets and piled the pillows high, patting down the lace edges of their cases, perhaps — the thought came to her — for the last time. This pillow case she had made with her own hands, that other was part of her trousseau — how far off it all seemed — this one was a gift from her God-parents and that she had bought in Zywiec . . . when was it . . . oh, so long ago,

when she was going to have her first baby . . . So many years had passed, so much joy had been hers. They had loved each other on those pillows . . . their children were born in that bed . . . and now!

— No! They shall never breed there, those German women . . . I will not let them!

Outside she heard the voice of the Gestapo sergeant.

— That German barking means more here than all laws, human or divine . . .

The clock went on ticking, doing its duty to the last.

When did she buy it? Well . . . 'twas just after her wedding . . . in the seventy-fives. In Zywiec. It had ticked away the hours to her husband who had never come home from

(Please turn to page 10)

POLAND SPEAKS . . .

From a Recent Speech by Jan Stanczyk, Polish Minister of Labor at the Meeting of the General Executive Board of the United Automobile and Aircraft Workers



AS ACTING vice-chairman of the Miners' International, I am happy to bring you the heartiest greetings of the Polish people and workers of other countries now under the Nazi heel.

Upon my arrival in the United States I was asked by a newspaperman whether this country would be obliged to

enter the war. I replied that the United States was already virtually, if not formally, at war with the "Axis," — and this because the totalitarian countries are fighting not one or more democratic nations, Democracy itself! Their fight is directed against all democratic countries.

The war of today is a duel to the death between Freedom and Slavery.

Another question was: whether this being the case, the United States should declare war against the "Axis"? I replied that Hitler and his satellites do not stand on ceremony in the declaration of war. They simply attack all democratic countries without any warning, and make war an accomplished fact!

Democratic countries should bear this in mind so as to be able to defeat the methods of the totalitarian countries, not by verbal discussion alone, but by attacking and hitting back.

Addressing many mass-meetings recently in this country, I have repeatedly said that Germany would attack this country either directly or by egging on Japan. I never thought my warning would so soon materialize.

Today we face a world war in the fullest sense of the word. The United States has also been attacked by the same murderers who attacked Poland and so many other peaceful countries.

The war forced upon us must be won. The workers of all countries and their leaders must realize that if Hitler and his accomplices were able to defeat the nations defending their freedom, workers would become slaves throughout the world. Polish workers already have a tragic knowledge of how appalling can be the fate of labor under the domination of Nazi and Fascist task-masters and executioners.

Today it is the bounden duty of every worker in Europe, in Russia and in the United States to work with all his might to defeat not only Hitler and his satellites, but to punish those gangsters for the unspeakable crimes they have committed in conquered and occupied countries.

Not only must we work to win this war, we must keep vigilant watch to prevent saboteurs doing their dirty work in factories, in transport, in warehouses. Every worker, every citizen, every lover of freedom and of his country must help to guard the plants, the goods that have been manufactured in those plants, indispensable for the defeat of the enemies of freedom.

Polish workers, and workers in other Nazi occupied countries are destroying the Hitler war machine by acts of sabotage, despite death sentences, terrible persecution and terror.

Labor in the United States must do everything it can to prevent German, Japanese and Italian agents from destroying the goods it has manufactured in this country, goods which are essential to defeat our enemies, and to make secure the future peace and freedom to all peoples!

"... The German thought that after a certain time the silence of the grave would fall over Poland, over her life, even over her name. In Poland they repeated, time and again that Poland would never rise again, in a vain effort to accustom the nation to this idea and to kill its faith and will to survive. Abroad deliberately and with painstaking precision, they avoided all mention of Poland, so that the world might lose the habit of thinking about her. Now Germany has had to abandon propaganda pretense and in his last speech, on December 11, Hitler again spoke of Poland! Much against his will he was forced to admit that Poland exists and will exist. This was because Poland has kept pace with events. In 1941, a year that saw the entry of both Russia and America into the war, Poland kept pace with these events. In April, General Sikorski went to Washington and saw President Roosevelt. From that moment the Polish cause held firm place in America. After these visits President Roosevelt wrote to President Raczkiwicz that Poland had become an inspiration for all nations, loving liberty everywhere . . . The day after Hitler's attack on Russia Prime Minister General Sikorski proclaimed his readiness for a Polish-Russian understanding. By the Agreement of July 30 Russia recognized that German-Russian partition of Poland was null and void and liberated more than one and a half million Poles . . . We concluded this agreement at a time when the Russians were suffering defeat, and General Sikorski put his seal to it in the Kremlin in a threatened Moscow, on the very eve of a change in the situation."

ST. STRONSKI, Polish Minister of Information

MARTYRDOM OF THE POLISH PROFESSORS

IN NOVEMBER two years had passed since the arrest of the professors and lecturers of the oldest University in Poland, that of Cracow (founded in 1364) and their removal to a concentration camp at Sachsenhausen-Oranienburg. In honor of the mem-

ory of those who died in the concentration camp, were tortured to death, or were murdered by the German authorities in Poland, a Memorial meeting was held on November 26th at the Royal Institution, in London.

ADDRESS BY SIR DAVID ROSS, K.B.E., D.Lit.
VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

AS REGARDS the first two countries over-run by the present rulers of Germany, namely Austria and Czechoslovakia, the Germans were able to attain what they wanted without fighting, by massing irresistible forces on the frontiers of those countries. In the case of Poland this was not so. They had to fight, and fight hard, to obtain possession of the country, and I suppose it was for that reason, and because their appetite for cruelty had grown by what it had fed on in Czechoslovakia, that their fury was let loose with unexampled severity upon Poland. Nothing like that tale of cruelty has been known in modern history. The cruelty was not exercised without discrimination. The plan seems to have been to convert the Polish people into a purely vassal race—hewers of wood and drawers of water. The Germans reasoned, that the best way to do this was to deprive the people of their natural leaders. Mr. Churchill speaking in January, 1940, stated that 15,000 of the leaders of the Polish people had been put to death, and this not in the heat of war but after the country had already been occupied. What that number has now risen to I will not venture to say. Leaders of all types, political, religious, cultural, academic, were singled out for death or for imprisonment; and of all these classes none suffered more cruelly than did the academic class. The policy of the Germans with reference to Polish learning has been summarized in the following words:

They pursued the aim of systematic destruction of Polish learning by the following methods:

(a) IN RELATION TO SCHOLARS: By imprisonment (arrest of about twenty professors of the Poznan and Warsaw Universities), isolation and torture in concentration camps (Sachsenhausen-Oranienburg and Dachau, where almost all the professors of Cracow University were interned), deportation from their place of residence, as in the case of all the professors of the Poznan University, expulsion from houses (both private and officially allocated), as in the case of numerous professors in various universities, robbery of private libraries and collections.

(b) AS REGARDS MATERIAL EQUIPMENT: Denudation of numerous laboratories and other establishments, the equipment of which was mostly taken to Germany, the robbery of the most valuable specimens possessed by museums and libraries, and the removal to Germany of valuable scientific equipment, and even their sale locally in the case of less valuable objects. There were also reported cases of intended sale of valuable publications as waste paper as, for instance, in the Polish Academy of Science at Cracow.

(c) AS REGARDS ORGANIZATION: Through shutting down centers of learning and higher education, all without exception, regardless of their purpose, character and speciality, i.e., the Polish Academy of Science and other research institutions as well as universities, technical and other colleges.

But a more vivid idea of the methods actually followed may be gained from reading the history of the German treatment of the professors of Cracow University, the oldest and most famous in the country, founded in 1364 and therefore one of the oldest universities in the world.

On November 6th, 1939, it was announced at Cracow that a lecture would be given in the University by the S.S. Major, Dr. Mayer, on "The Attitude of the German authorities to Science and Teaching." The Rector asked all the professors to appear. Nearly 200 people attended, from the oldest professors to the youngest lecturers. The lecture was restricted to a short address in which the S.S. Major accused the Cracow professors and the Jagiellon University of having always adopted an antagonistic attitude towards Germany and German science, and accused the professors of lack of discipline. As an example he said that the University had been opened without first consulting the German authorities. "For this offense you will be sent to a concentration camp," he declared at the end of the lecture, and then ordered the women to leave the hall. The men were ordered to stand in threes. The whole university building had been surrounded by the police, and S.S. men drove late-comers with shots and at the point of the bayonet to a place near the doors of the lecture hall. Here the professors were pushed against the wall with shouts of "Haende hoch," which meant that they were going to be searched. The least sign of resistance or failure to obey instantly resulted in insults and blows. The professors were taken to a place where several lorries covered with canvas were waiting. Into these they were brutally herded. During this rough treatment several of the elderly professors were severely knocked about, among them the 70-year-old ex-Rector of the university, Stanislaw Estreicher. The total number arrested was 180. The first stop was the military prison. The cells were narrow, overcrowded, without even straw mattresses, and there was nothing to eat. Late in the evening the guard came, but gave only a chunk of bread to each man for the entire night. The next day they were all sent to the barracks in Lobzow, where they were placed under military guard and subjected to the usual regulations for prisoners of war. On the

(Please turn to page 4)

MARTYRDOM OF THE POLISH PROFESSORS

(Continued from page 3)

third day the prisoners' families were not admitted, and the professors were again put into lorries and driven away to the railway station. Their train stood in a siding, and to reach it they had to jump from a platform 5 feet high, and then to clamber up into the high railway carriage. It must have been pitiful to see these men, old, spectacled, many of them retired and over 70, burdened with their suit-cases and umbrellas, made to climb about in this way. In the train they discovered that they were bound for Breslau. In Breslau they remained for three weeks. During the daily exercise in the prison yard young and old were all compelled to run around the yard at a brisk trot. Those who were too old to move quickly were transferred to a second and smaller ring, where they could move more slowly and could exchange a few words with each other. If they did not obey promptly there were insults such as "What did you learn in Poland if you don't even know how to march?"

One day they were ordered to be ready, but they were not released: instead they were ordered to march. The public which had gathered at the station jeered at them, shouting, "You Chamberlains, keep your umbrellas." Two professors were released on the intervention of Hungary. The rest journeyed for nearly 24 hours in the direction of Berlin until they reached Oranienburg, where they were taken on foot in threes to the camp. One of the professors, who had a weak heart staggered under the weight of his suit-cases, and when one of his colleagues attempted to help him by taking the suit-cases the guard came bounding towards him, shouting that it was forbidden to help each other.

On arrival the professors were kept waiting in the open for 1½ hours under an icy November rain in the light of arc-lamps nicknamed "The Sun of Sachsenhausen." During this interval there took place a "taming of the slaves," which involved sneering conversations, questionings, and jeers. One of the guards took off a professor's hat, battered it, and replaced it on the professor's head back to front, convulsed with laughter all the time. Only when the professor refused to lose his temper did the guard sober down. Among the higher of the German guards was one who was nicknamed *Der Schwarze Gustav*. He behaved like a bad actor, grinning at and simultaneously threatening his unfortunate victims. He approached a professor and asked him why he had been arrested, and when the answer was "I do not know," he replied, "Aha, you don't know, then take that." With that he struck him in the face and then repeated the question. Receiving the same reply, he gave him a blow in the ribs. They certainly know how to hit, and their violence has a professional touch. They know how to deliver blows near the heart the pain of which lasts for several days.

Finally, on being admitted to the office the professors were obliged to listen to a speech by the commander, which began with the words: "Here only will you obtain a proper education."

They were ordered to undress, to go under a shower, and to have their heads shaved. They then had to put on the prisoners' uniform of black and white stripes, and on top of that an old worn-out and ragged soldier's tunic and forage cap. In this get-up, shorn of their beards and hair, many of the prisoners were quite unrecognizable. Every prisoner is compelled to stand to attention and take off his cap on meeting any of the guards. The punishment for not doing this is to be struck in the face.

It is hard to imagine where these guards for concentration camps are recruited; they have every appearance of degenerates, and are hideous to look at.

The prisoners' day always began at 5:30 in the morning with a cold shower. The barracks were not heated; the long corridors through which they had to pass had no windows and were bitterly cold. The wash-rooms were as cold as the open air, and the wet towels froze in their racks. Breakfast consisted of soup made of flour called *Mehlsuppe* and a dry piece of bread if there was any left from supper. The ration of bread for supper was ten ounces for each person. The soup smelt and tasted abominably, but it was at least hot and could be eaten with bread. After breakfast and when everything had been cleared away, there was the morning roll-call. There were three roll-calls daily. Each of them lasted half an hour, which gave the wardens a chance to beat their prisoners for the slightest breach of discipline or negligence. Some of the prisoners were constantly beaten and tortured. People too weak or ill to walk were brought by their fellow-prisoners to the roll-call and put on the floor. If someone was missing, the rest were detained until the missing prisoner was found. On January 16th, with a frost of 22 below zero Fahrenheit, the prisoners were kept on parade for two whole hours. A number of them fainted, and some froze to death. The same day sixty internees died in the prison hospital. Their bodies were later brought out publicly in wheelbarrows.

Lunch was at noon; it was made up of turnip soup, sometimes a potato, very rarely a portion of tough meat. Experts were satisfied that it was whale-meat. The prisoners ate all the soup they were given so as to warm themselves. The supper was of "ersatz" black coffee, bread, sometimes a piece of curd mixed with flour. The doctors estimated the quantity of calories contained in the food as amounting to 40-60 per cent. of the food required by a non-working man. Their physical condition stood up to it for a fortnight, after that they began rapidly to lose weight and to look like skeletons. This was obvious while the prisoners were washing. It seemed impossible that they could go on in such a state, and yet these skeletons survived for months.

Punishments depended on the whim of the guard; for instance, prisoners were forced to roll over and over in the snow at words of command. The guards revelled in punishing and insulting the older and weaker internees; some of the older professors had not been able to stand the rigors of cold and priva-

(Please turn to page 6)

TERROR! . . . Thy Name Is "NEW ORDER" in Poland



"When on the 1st day of September 1939 the German army entered Poland, this was done under the banners of civilization and Christianity."

KRAKAUER
ZEITUNG,
March 1941

GAULEITER Forster, speaking in Bydgoszcz (Western Poland) on November 26, 1939, said:

"Appointed by the Fuehrer to this post and in full enjoyment of

his confidence, I am charged with ensuring the final triumph of Germany's cause in these regions. I have received express orders to Germanize them in the shortest possible time.

"This applies most particularly to the racial cleansing of this country. Whosoever belongs to the Polish people must leave this land. We trust that in this struggle for the triumph of our German cause, we shall never become merciful, that we shall always show necessary harshness."

This policy of extermination of all trace of Polish character and culture was ruthlessly pursued from the very outset of German occupation of Poland. The past year brought no change in this attitude of the Germans towards the Poles, oppression became even more severe and was more systematically applied. Mass arrests and deportations to concentration camps have continued on an increasing scale. Many of the people arrested, are subjected to torture in the prisons and concentration camps where they are confined. The arrests and deportations chiefly affect the intellectual classes, who are being mercilessly crushed out, but workers and peasants do not escape. A high proportion of all prisoners are sentenced to death by the Gestapo special courts, (*Sondergerichte*). Many are tortured during police interrogation and sent to concentration camps. Conditions in the prisons and concentration camps defy description. They are crowded, persecution is permanent, hygienic conditions are disgusting, prisoners receive starvation rations, are frequently beaten and daily compelled to work beyond the limit of their physical strength. Literally the prisons, and even more so the camps are hell on earth, a hell where thousands die of hunger, exhaustion, and disease.



Polish Civilians being taken to be shot.

Excerpts from some of the ordinances and decrees issued are quoted below. They show the true character of German occupation in Poland, under the banners of civilization and Christianity.

In the summer 1941 the Germans introduced forced labor for Polish youths from 14 to 18 years of age. A recent decree of October 8th, 1941 published by the German Ministry of Labor in *Reichsanzeiger* No. 235, provides that German labor laws governing the protection of youth do not apply to young Poles, as they are subject to the same regulations as adult workmen. The same decree abolishes former limitations of the working hours of Polish youth.

We print herewith a photostatic copy of an official announcement published on June 27th, 1941, in the *Ostdeutscher Beobachter* ordering all Polish youth from 12 to 18 to register at the German Labor Office (see picture on page 9). This document speaks for itself. We also reproduce a photostatic copy of another German document, reading in part:

(Please turn to page 9)



AFTER THE MASS MURDER

MARTYRDOM OF THE POLISH PROFESSORS

(Continued from page 4)

tion, and died in the month of December after only a few weeks in the camp. Kazimierz Kostanecki, the famous anatomist and former President of the Polish Academy of Science, met his end on Christmas Eve. The day before Christmas a roll-call of all prisoners was taken; being so very ill he was unable to attend. His colleagues carried him out, and there he had to lie in the snow, dying and in agony. He was taken to the hospital the next day and died there. No drugs or medicines of any description were available in the hospital except iodine. A temperature of less than 100.4 deg. Far. did not warrant the calling of a doctor. Only accidents, broken and frozen limbs, acute pneumonia, and dangerous heart troubles were considered important enough to be sent to hospital. Few cases that entered the hospital ever left it except as corpses, their bodies being invariably brought out on wheelbarrows.

During this period no less than twelve important Polish scientists and professors died. A great blow to the intellectual life of Poland was the death of Professor Estreicher, lecturer on the history of Western European law. His activity went far beyond his University career: he was a man of great culture, and continued the great "Polish Bibliography," begun by his father. As Rector of Cracow University, he organized the intellectual life in Cracow, and as the most prominent journalist of the Conservative Party he will live forever in the history of Polish culture. He was a man who never compromised with his conscience, and he refused without hesitation the proposals to take part in a puppet Government which the Germans wished to set up in Occupied Poland in the autumn of 1939.

Christians were ridiculed in a most horrible way. At the sight of a Cross or a medallion of the Virgin Mary the warders burst into laughter and made coarse jokes. One day one of the guards snatched at a professor's Cross and asked what it was. The professor replied: "It is a cross." The guard then ordered him to kiss it, which he did, and for so doing he was slapped across the face. This was repeated several times. Finally, the guard tore the Cross from the neck of the professor, broke it, and flung it upon the ground.

PROFESSOR DR. GILBERT MURRAY, O.M.

THE detailed story of these martyred intellectual leaders of Poland brings one face to face with horrors for which ordinary language has no name and which leave one frightened. The crust of civilization is broken; that we knew; we knew that beneath the crust there would be, as in other wars, outbursts of savagery. But we never knew that there was in human nature such a depth of insane wickedness as these last years have revealed, or that men had in them the power and the will to inflict on others such extremities of suffering. Historians know much of the possibilities of evil in man. Gibbon has spoken of history as being mainly a "record of the crimes, follies and misfortunes of mankind." Yet

During the early days of February the Germans released 103 professors of Cracow University because public opinion outside had raised a wave of indignation throughout the civilized world. These people were released and allowed to take their clothes from the prison office. Most of them had scars and weals on their faces and bodies as signs of the punishment that had been inflicted upon them. Thirty younger professors and lecturers were transferred to the camp in Dachau, where they still remain.

The tortures inflicted on the professors of the University of Cracow had apparently two aims. The first was to threaten, terrorize and break the spirit of the community. The second was disclosed with true Prussian brutality by Governor-General Frank himself, who stated:—

"It is the will of the Fuehrer that you have to become a community of workers and peasants; we don't need Polish intelligentsia; we have enough of our own."

But the Germans failed in their objective. The suffering professors became a symbol of martyred Poland in the hearts and minds of every fellow-citizen.

The martyrdom of the Jagiellon University professors is one more page to be written in the history of this University. The chapter is tragic and fearful, but also noble and heroic.

Eighteen professors returned in coffins, victims of the most brutal tortures and persecution.

This is a fair sample of the German treatment of the Universities of Poland. This is an example of what *Lebensraum* for Germany means for Germany's neighbors. These are among the first proofs of the "New Order" which Germany is seeking to establish in Europe and in the world.

Let me finish with two sentences. "The blood of the martyrs," it has been said, "is the seed of the Church." May the blood of the martyred professors and students of Poland and Czechoslovakia become the seed of a permanent union of sentiment and policy between the two brave nations whose Presidents have honored this meeting by their presence today.

historians will turn many pages in vain before they find crimes like these, follies so frantic or misfortunes so desperate.

It has been well said that, when war breaks out, the first casualty is Truth. But never at any time known to me has Truth been so absolutely forbidden as now in Germany, and the organized Lie so set upon a throne, regardless of all fact and all reasoning. "The Poles have never possessed any true culture, any intellectual life." A lie, of course, but observe what conclusions these logical reasoners draw from it. "The Poles have no culture, no intellectual life." Therefore it is necessary with the utmost

(Please turn to page 8)

POLAND'S MARTYRDOM IN STAINED GLASS

One of the well-known Polish artist painters, now with the Polish Army, whose pictures were exhibited under a *nome-de-plume* Andrzej Wart, has just finished a set of drawings for stained glass windows



dows which we here reproduce for the first time. Their common title is "Poland's Martyrdom." The first picture represents the Polish Calvary; the second "Forwarding the Polish Banner" (angels



taking the banner from the hands of a soldier dying in Poland and giving it to a soldier of the Polish Army in France). The third picture shows the new banner (the cloth of St. Veronica of the first



picture) in the hands of a Polish soldier in Great Britain. On the fourth drawing St. Casimir shows to Our Lady the torn Polish flag brought from Poland.

MARTYRDOM OF THE POLISH PROFESSORS

(Continued from page 6)

energy to suppress the Universities of Cracow, Warsaw, Vilno, Lvov, Poznan, Lublin and the numerous technical and scientific Academies, to which the Poles are so devoted. They have never taken any interest in education, therefore we must destroy their secondary schools, must kill their teachers, must burn their books, must stamp out all this dangerously inspiring Polish literature. They have no intellect, therefore we must kill 15,000 of their too numerous intellectuals. As for their elementary schools, most must be closed, the others must be supplied with teachers of the true *Herrenvolk* type. "Teachers wanted," says an advertisement in the *Ostdeutscher Beobachter*. Applications are invited even from those "who have not had the requisite education and training." The task of these Nazi teachers is one that does not need education or training. They have only to "spread loathing (*Abscheu*) for all that is Polish." They must be soldiers or political directors more than teachers, says the Reichsminister of Education, Rust; they must, for instance, "make the children carry out heavy manual labor" in order to "break their rebellious spirit" (*Daily Telegraph*, 4/1/40) to thwart their absurd desire for intellectual education.

It is all a mass of contradictions, a complex of false premises and conclusions which do not follow. Yet is there not in the whole complex a kind of logic, a perverted and devilish logic?

PROFESSOR VLADIMIR KLECANDA CHARLES UNIVERSITY, PRAGUE

WE MUST not forget that when the raging hurricane of this terrible war will have passed, and when we shall again be able to turn our attention to intellectual and spiritual matters, we shall find the schools in our liberated countries smashed to pieces not only from a material but also from a spiritual point of view.

The state of public instruction and of the schools of a nation is a faithful picture of her spiritual and intellectual life, and the universities as the culminating points of her schools are a reliable indicator of her moral resources, from which all her national civilization originates.

The Nazi repeats and spreads these statements about the Poles, not because they are true or have the faintest resemblance to the truth, but because they represent the Poland that he wishes to create in his New Europe — a nation of slaves, with no culture, no self-respect, no intellectual life.

And what a lie it is! Who are these men who have been dragged from their university chairs, insulted, beaten, handed over to the mercy of Gestapo scoundrelism? They are the very flower of Central European culture, scientists, philosophers, winners of Nobel Prizes, writers and poets, leaders of their people's thought. In Poland more than elsewhere imaginative culture was specially valued just because political power was lost. Imaginative literature, as Georg Brandes remarked, "came to supply, as it were, the place of a national life which was lost at the partition of the State." The young Poland in 1918, as Professor Dyboski puts it, had gathered "round the standard of a great poetical tradition."

I have had the privilege of knowing many of the intellectual leaders of Europe and America. Comparisons, would, of course, be foolish; but among all those I have known I doubt if there was one more beloved and revered by her colleagues than the Polish lady, Marie Curie-Sklodowska. Let us thank God Mme. Curie did not fall into the hands of the Gestapo. She would have fared like the rest.



A new Nazi "Game" — stringing two Poles on one rope which is thrown over a pulley. One man can touch the ground, but he pulls the other off; when the other struggles, he pulls the first off. And the rope throttles them both to death, after more than an hour of agony.

po. She would have fared like the rest.

The German universities whose teaching staff with only very few exceptions have cowardly surrendered to Nazism and betrayed scientific truth, exchanging it for the pseudo-scientific slogans of the racial theory, are a convincing proof of this fact. Their wretched intellectual level shows the true moral value of Hitlerite Germany.

But where will our Universities be? In Poland and in our country they have disappeared. Both our countries will have to make colossal endeavors in order to rebuild out of the pillaged ruins left by the Germans a perfect network of schools for their

(Please turn to page 12)

TERROR! — THY NAME IS "NEW ORDER" IN POLAND

(Continued from page 5)

TEXT OF AN APPEAL BY THE FEDERATION OF GERMANS ABROAD

Our views on the Problem of Poles living in the Reich.

(Extract)

The Reichsfuehrer of the S.S. (*Schutzstaffel*) and police has ordered in the name of Reich Marshal Goering that all Polish workers of both sexes shall in future wear ostensibly on the right breast outside their clothes a cloth insignia as shown above.

"... Our racial existence is at stake. Above all, beware that ties are not forged above our common faith.

"Our peasants know nothing about the racial struggle. They look upon the Pole who greets them with 'Blessed be Jesus,' as an honest man, and reply, 'For ever and ever, Amen.'

"... See whether the Poles write long letters home. As a result of such letters parcels have arrived with food from Poland, so you may imagine what the Poles wrote home. Never give Poles any money.

"Germans! The Poles can never be your comrades..."

signed: Volksbund fur das Deutschtum im Ausland, Gauverband Berlin.

W-30, Berlin, Motzstrasse 46.
(See picture on page 11)

Here is another Nazi order, issued at Thorn by S.S. *Obergruppenfuhrer* Weberstadt.

"In order to correct the insolent attitude of part of the Polish population, I order that:

"(1) Polish inhabitants of both sexes are obliged to give way to the representatives of German Power whenever they are in uniform or wearing an armet. The streets belong to the victors, not to the vanquished.

"(2) Male Polish inhabitants must uncover their heads in the presence of higher officials of the State, the Party and the German Army.

"(8) Polish women who speak to 'Volksdeutsche' or insult them will be sent to brothels.

"(10) Poles who do not yet understand that they are the vanquished and that we are the victors, and who act contrary to the above provisions shall be subjected to the severest penalties."



Chief of the State Police, Signed: (—) Weberstadt.

Thorn (Torun)

October 27, 1939.

Ostdeutscher Beobachter
Freitag, den 27. Juni 1941

Amtliche Bekanntmachungen

Bekanntmachung

Ich fordere sämtliche in der Stadt Posen wohnhaften weiblichen Jugendlichen polnischer Volkstumszugehörigkeit im Alter von 12—18 Jahren auf, sich zur Prüfung ihrer Arbeitseinsatzfähigkeit im Arbeitsamt Posen zu melden. Der Arbeitseinsatz dieser Arbeitskräfte erfolgt in der Stadt Posen.

Zur Meldung sind nicht verpflichtet alle in einer vom Arbeitsamt zugewiesenen Beschäftigung stehenden Personen, sowie solche, die bereits beim Arbeitsamt Posen gemeldet sind und darüber eine Ausweisarte besitzen.

Die Meldung hat an den unten angegebenen Tagen im Arbeitsamt Posen, Schwerdtfegerstraße 9, Zimmer 16, in der Zeit von 7—10 Uhr zu geschehen.

Wer dieser Aufforderung nicht nachkommt, macht sich strafbar.

Meldung.

Am Montag, dem 30. Juni 1941, Arbeitslose der Anfangsbuchstaben A—D.

Am Dienstag, dem 1. Juli 1941, Arbeitslose der Anfangsbuchstaben E—J.

Am Mittwoch, dem 2. Juli 1941, Arbeitslose des Anfangsbuchstaben K.

Am Montag, dem 7. Juli 1941, Arbeitslose der Anfangsbuchstaben L—R.

Am Dienstag, dem 8. Juli 1941, Arbeitslose der Anfangsbuchstaben S—X.

Am Mittwoch, dem 9. Juli 1941, Arbeitslose des Anfangsbuchstaben Y.

Am Freitag, dem 11. Juli 1941, Arbeitslose der Anfangsbuchstaben Z—3.

Posen, den 27. Juni 1941.

Der Leiter des Arbeitsamtes Posen,
Dr. Luitpold,
Oberregierungsrat.

Photostatic Copy of German Order Published in "Ostdeutscher Beobachter" of June 27th, 1941, for Registration of Polish Youth Between 12 and 18 for Forced Labor.

GERMAN EXTIRPATION OF POLISH CULTURE

Victor Hugo once said that if intolerance could lay bare the brain of humanity, it would begin by making erasures. In Poland the Germans are not making erasures, they are seeking to destroy the brain itself.

PARALLEL with the extermination of the cultured classes, heavy blows have been dealt to Polish education. A few facts about German intellectual terrorism will give the reader a necessary insight into how the future of Poland is being undermined.

1. In September, 1939, some secondary schools were reopened in the General-Gouvernement, but their activity did not last long and in Warsaw all secondary schools were again closed on November 15th. Provincial towns soon followed suit. Some time later, a delegation was sent to Dr. Hans Frank with a petition for reopening secondary schools, but this request was flatly rejected by Herr Wartheim

(Please turn to page 11)

(Continued from page 1)

the Balkan war . . . to her sons who never returned from the Great War . . . to her grandsons who never came home from this war . . . and to her great grandchildren, yes, to the youngest who had been taken away to forced labor in Germany, and would probably never return either. It had ticked away hours of joy and hours of sorrow that clock, good old keeper of time, of time that heals all sores . . . Now it shall stop ticking.

— No, she whispered, I will not give it. Never shall it tell German children the time to go to school, as it told ours . . .

Outside someone was speaking Polish. She opened the window. In the whistling autumn wind she heard the faltering voice of the old village headman explaining the German order to the peasants.

— So it is, brothers, well . . . there is no help for it . . . we must pack up and leave these homes of ours . . . and this land . . . For it says here, everyone has to be ready in fifteen minutes and we are all to meet before the church, and march where we are told. And if you don't — the old man added in a whisper — I shall pay with my life . . .

Silently they dispersed, each to his old home. Not a word, not a sob, not a tear in those gloomy, pensive eyes of theirs . . .

The old woman jogged on through the room and rested her gnarled hands upon the stove. For how many winters had it warmed their frozen hands . . . the children when they were coming home from school, the men returning from work in the woods, and the old folks who ever and everywhere feel cold . . . How many loaves of rye bread had been baked in that stove . . . how many wedding, christening and funeral meals had been cooked upon it . . .

— Don't be afraid, old friend, she said tenderly, you won't have to cook any meals for the Germans. I will not let you . . .

She cast a last glance at her home . . .

— My dear little cottage, she sighed, 'tis better you should die than have to serve the German vermin.

And then, muttering a *Requiescat in Pace*, as she had so often done when kith and kin were laid to rest, she slowly drew the wick from the old kerosene lamp.

Forsooth she would have preferred, the old grandma, to have people say that prayer over her. Yet for a little while she had to take the hard path of life — she thought — that no German might rejoice at her death.

As she left the house clouds of smoke curled from it as from a pyre, bidding farewell to grandma . . .

In silence the peasants stood before the church. The old priest knew now why grandma had saved her stint of oil. He took his hat off to the old woman and so did all the men. But grandma didn't see them. Her undimmed eyes were fixed on other and far distant things . . . of more worth than her cottage, her chattels, her soil . . . on things that no German bomb or Gestapo order could ever destroy . . . on things that can be taken from man only with his life.

Just then a goose-stepping detachment of German soldiers entered the village singing the *Horst Wessel Lied*.

Grandma came out of her dreams and went to her people.

— The whole village, she said in her forthright way, will be burned down — but we shall build a better one on our return. Yes! We shall build a better Poland!

No Nazi psychoanalyst will ever explain how it was that a few simple words from an old woman full of faith in the future, gave to a group of poor homeless people greater strength than German tanks, stouter hearts than German soldiers armed with guns.

Gray-clad men in the Nazi detachment felt that hidden power and stopped their song in honor of a Berlin wastrel. They stood helpless before the raging fire. Not one of them moved against the peasants, not one of them tried to quench the flames, to save the village where three hours later German colonists were due to arrive.

And the peasants left their burning homes singing the Polish national anthem "*We shall retake by force what was taken from us by foreign violence*" as the soldiers looked on in silence.

Even they felt that the souls of plain people — and not panzer divisions — would shape the future of the world.

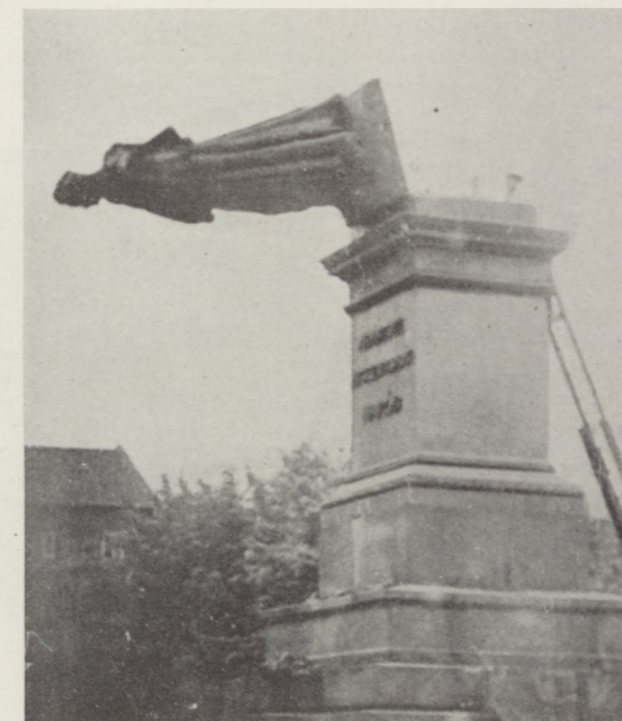
(Continued from page 9)

on behalf of the Governor-General. On another occasion the Governor-General, Dr. Frank, himself summed up his attitude as follows: "A nation of serfs (*Knechtenvolk*) needs no education."

2. On November 2nd, 1940, the official Journal of the Government-General announced the appointment of a special "curator" whose task was to liquidate all Polish educational establishments in the area. On November 5th, 1940, a decree prohibited the publication of all books, pamphlets, periodicals, music, calendars, etc.

3. Probably the most incredible of all is the instruction issued under the Governor-General's authority on June 3rd, 1940, in an effort to abase the culture of the Polish people. It stresses the importance of distracting the attention of the Poles from the consideration of serious and important matters. The Poles are only permitted to satisfy their "primitive needs for entertainment and distraction." They must be, however, "kept away from German books, especially from works concerned with the general outlook. Therefore, care should be taken that Poles are allowed to read only thrillers, short stories, etc."

In regard to the stage, the circular prescribes the suppression of serious drama and opera but suggests the production of comedies and light operas, as it is not necessary to counteract the lowering of the intellectual level, even if this entails the introduction of erotic elements. This circular takes the same attitude as regards music: "The performance of Polish Music is to be allowed but only for



Monument of the famous Poet, A. Mickiewicz in Cracow, destroyed by Germans to exterminate all trace of Polish Culture.


amusement. Concerts which by their inspiring program lead people to seek an artistic life are to be forbidden.

Together with this deliberate attempt at lowering the mental standards of the Polish people by the prohibition of all works of literature and art of any higher value, Polish bookshops are flooded with pornographic books and photographs circulated by the Gestapo.


Wholesale confiscation of public and private property has led to the destruction or disappearance of priceless works of art of all descriptions, jewelry, laces, carpets, furniture, musical instruments, books, armourings, arms, autographs, medals, coins, etc. Poles had to declare them on a special form giving all particulars as to date, origin, name of artist, material. This registration was always the prelude to confiscation.

This systematic pillage was directed by German scientific experts such as Professor Dr. Ernest Peterson, Dr. Joseph Muehlman, Dr. Karl Kraus and others. In many cases priceless manuscripts and books were simply burned. With the same savage fury, monuments proclaiming Poland's past glories or her fights for independence were razed. Even statues having only sentimental or religious value are being destroyed.

Photostatic Copy of Leaflet Published by the Federation of Germans Abroad in Berlin, on the Treatment of Poles.



Unsere Stellungnahme zur Frage der Polen im Reich.



Der Reichsführer SS und Chef der Deutschen Polizei hat im Auftrage des Reichsmarschalls Göring u. a. angeordnet, daß alle Arbeiter und Arbeiterinnen polnischer Volkstümme das nachstehende in Originalgröße abgedruckte Ostfahnenkreuz stets sichtbar auf der rechten Brustseite eines jeden Kleidungsstückes zu tragen haben. Das Ostfahnenkreuz ist auf dem Kleidungsstück fest anzubringen.

Wir erleben heute die Enttöschung unseres Volkstums und sind uns darüber klar, daß in Zukunft fremdwirtschaftliche Elemente in großer Zahl innerhalb unseres Lebensraumes wohnen werden. Darüber hinaus sind durch den Einfluß polnischer Land- und Fabrikarbeiter aber auch im ganzen Reich wichtige Fragen aufgeworfen. Das Volkstümliche kann nur dann seinen Bestand haben, wenn jeder Volkstümliche in seiner Haltung vollständig auftritt und mit all diesen Fragen von sich aus fertig wird. Geringere können das Zusammenleben v. z. untereinander unmöglich machen. Das Wichtigste bleibt die gefühlsfähige, sichere Haltung jedes einzelnen. Das geführte Volk muß daher in ganz besonderem Maße über die Gefahren aufgeklärt werden, die das Zusammenleben mit fremdwirtschaftlichen Elementen mit sich bringt.

Es geht um unsere Volksgemeinschaft! Wer allem achtet darauf, daß nicht über den gemeinsamen Glauben Verbindungen angeknüpft werden. Unsere Bauern kennen den Volkstumskampf nicht und halten den Polen, der sie ständig mit „Gelobt sei Jesus Christus!“ begrüßt, für einen anständigen Menschen und antworten ihm mit „An Wohlgeleit, Amen!“. Polen, die nur mit den Reichern, die sie auf dem Leib hatten, anfangen, erheben sich in ihren Bauern Wäldern und Arbeitsstätten. Sie haben sie dann an den Reichsbauern verkauft und den Reichsbauern haben sie an der nächsten Stelle, noch wieder zusammengefunden. Wartet darauf, ob die Polen lange Zeit in der Daulf schreiben Sie sind aus Polen auf diese Weise hin Lebensmittel geföhrt worden, so daß man sich nicht fann, was der Pole nach Daulf geschrieben hat. Gebt ihm kein bares Geld in die Hand! An seine eigene Familie, wo die Wäuerin in kurzer Zeit mit ihrem kleinen Kind niederstürzt. Es im Haus keine andere Hilfe als ein Polenskind vorhanden. Erst in besartigen Fällen mit zurecht Nachbarschaftshilfe ein!

Deutscherei! Der Pole ist niemals kein Kamerad! Er steht uns in jedem deutschen Volksgenossen auf dem Fuß über in seiner Arbeit. Gel, wie immer als Deutscher, gerächt, aber vergiß nie, daß du Angehöriger des Herrenvolkes bist!

Die deutsche Wehrmacht erklammert und den Arbeiter Europas. Wir sind für den Arbeiter im neuen, größeren Deutschland verantwortlich. Das Zusammenleben mit Menschen fremden Volkstums wird noch häufig zu wilden Kämpfen führen, die du als Deutscher bestehen mußt.

Volkstümlich für das Volkstum im Ausland
Gemeinschaft Berlin
10 30, Weststraße 46

POLISH ARMY IN RUSSIA

THE organization of a Polish army in Russia recruited from among former Polish soldiers, taken prisoners of war in September 1939, and volunteers from the million and a half deportees, is nothing short of a miracle. It demonstrates most strikingly the extraordinary physical as well as mental of these Poles who, for two years had endured unheard-of privations, lack of food, cold, illnesses, scurvy and other diseases, and lived in a constant state of mental depression.

They held out bravely against physical adversities and moral pitfalls. More than that, they rose as one man, full of renewed physical and mental vigor, when the almost incredible news reached them, the hallelujah-like announcement that they were free and would be given a chance to fight again the German enemy.

These glad tidings worked wonders upon them: they forgot their miseries, their long ordeal, their physical pains and moral afflictions and they rushed to enlist.

Immediately, as soon as freedom was restored to them, they organized centers of information and instruction among themselves. University professors organized, lectured to them on all kinds of subjects — the men started publishing camp papers, bringing radio news from all over the world. In every camp one could see those extraordinary publications issued on a brown wrapping paper, not printed but written with a red or blue pencil, and posted on the wall before which a long line of avid readers quickly formed. One of the most important of those publications bore the characteristic name "Marching On."

The news came mostly from radio broadcasts, the most impatiently read concerned the Polish army in Scotland and in Africa, the deeds of Polish fliers abroad, reports from the old country that came with long delay by round-about routes.

It was like a great revival, a great outbreak of joy amidst indescribable everyday hardships — a miraculous physical and psychic recovery under the magic touch of the GREAT TIDINGS.



Staff of the Polish Army in Russia. Seated, General Tokarzewski, General W. Anders, Commander of the Polish Forces in Russia; General Boruta-Spiechowicz. Standing, General Szyszko-Bohusz and Lt.-Colonel Okulicki.

(Continued from page 8)

nations . . . We, teachers of youth, must reflect on the causes of the downfall and degeneration, on the ideological chaos and moral disintegration that

strike at the very roots of our society; we must realize our mistakes, the lack of moral education in modern civilization, so that we may again resolve on new, hard but better work.

PROFESSOR STEFAN GLASER

CHAIRMAN OF THE ASSOCIATION OF POLISH UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS IN GREAT BRITAIN

THE world of spiritual values and intellectual properties is strange and even dangerous for a world of slavery, violence and plunder, for a world in which for long the main principle and directing idea in political rule has been the priority of force over law. It is precisely in this idea that we see the real reason of the hatred of Hitler's New Order for religion, and its oppression. But, in spite of all this, we can be and we must be of good cheer. Not only because we are deeply convinced that absurdity cannot rule the world, if the world is to survive, but also because it is clear to everyone who knows the history of mankind that in spite of all this, history during the last two thousand years is primarily the history of the development of liberty, interrupted only on its political side by a curious but fortunately passing

phase of absolutism that always falls to pieces under the weight of its inherent absurdity and incompetence.

We remember the well-known saying of Bacon about the passing periods in the history of civilization which could be compared to a desert in time. And we are convinced that, as in the past so also in the near future, after this nightmare of which we are witnesses and of which our colleagues are victims, a better time will come in which the spirit will take precedence over force, a sunny and, God grant, a lasting period in which the principles and ideas of *Magna Charta*, the Great Charter of humanity, which was the basis of the first free government that Europe had known, will form the constitutional ground for a new and free world.