

# The Polish Review





## Poland's Reaction to Mr. Churchill's Speech

PROFESSOR STANISLAW KOT, Polish Minister of Information, has authorized the following statement on Mr. Churchill's broadcast:

"It is the first time that the conception of a Council of Europe has been clearly outlined by so high an authority in this country.

"The Polish Government views with the deepest satisfaction Mr. Churchill's desire to base a Council of Europe on concepts of freedom, law and morality, and to make it not a system of dictatorship by a few great powers, but a system which would protect the rights and interest of all European states.

"His statements on this question show his great sense of statesmanship and traditional British loyalty towards those who have given their blood to destroy the powers of evil and of ruthless egoism that plunged us into this war.

"The same attitude is undoubtedly being shown by Mr. Eden in his conversations in Washington.

"Mr. Churchill's speech is particularly to be welcomed as a counterblast to the malicious propaganda conducted in last few weeks by Hitler and Goebbels.

"By his outline of postwar Europe, Mr. Churchill gives the best proof that he really is what he believes himself to be,—a good European.

"From the Polish point of view we are extremely pleased that Mr. Churchill should attach so great an importance to the coming together of states into groups or federations. The Polish Government was the first to raise this question and we sincerely welcome and appreciate Mr. Churchill's support of such a conception. It is obvious that these federations, intended to promote not disorder but order, far from provoking further conflicts will best harmonize with the permanent interests of Europe.

"Further we accept Mr. Churchill's admirable outline of democracy at work, as a guide for our post-war planning in Europe."

Professor Kot added: "I was extremely glad to hear Mr. Churchill deliver his momentous speech with such strength and youthful vigor. It gave us confident hope that he will not only win the war but the peace as well."

## CHINESE PRESS FOR FRIENDSHIP WITH POLAND

Chungking, April—Replying to a speech by Ambassador Poninski, at a reception in honor of the Chinese press, Chen-Po-Sheng, editor-in-chief of the official Chinese News Agency, said:

"Poland and China are bound together by strong ties of friendship, as the two countries who suffered most and earliest from totalitarian aggression in this war. These ties have been further strengthened by our comradeship of arms, fighting against our common enemy.

"As the Polish Ambassador has just pointed out, we should not only fight, shoulder to shoulder, in this crucial moment, but should also work shoulder to shoulder for a post war reconstruction of the world, so as to build a lasting peace.

"Close and intimate collaboration between Poland and China is just as necessary now as after the war. Friendship cannot endure long on sentimental grounds. It must be fostered by some concrete form of collaboration."

## MAJDANEK IS TYPHUS CAMP, 200 DIE DAILY

London, April—The Germans have recently considerably enlarged the concentration camp at Majdanek, near Lublin. Following increased attacks on Germans, as well as constantly recurring resistance to acts of oppression, the Germans have made large-scale arrests, especially of Polish youths.

In connection with these arrests the German authorities have run up flimsy barracks for about eighty thousand people on the Majdanek camp territory. At present these barracks are almost full.

Recently an epidemic of typhus broke out in Majdanek, and in others concentration camps in Poland. The lack of water, cold, undernourishment and incredible hygienic conditions, helped to spread the disease and the death rate at the Majdanek camp rose to two hundred a day.

General Sikorski has had a conversation with the Netherlands Premier, Prof. Gerbrandy in presence of the Netherlands Minister of Commerce Mr. Kerstens.

## HUNDREDS SET FREE AS POLES ATTACK PRISONS

London, April—Prisons in Poland at present are so overcrowded that the Germans are having difficulty in protecting the warders. Some days ago Polish underground papers published the fact that a number of inmates had succeeded in escaping from Rowne Prison after killing several warders. That time Germans brought up reinforcements and simply shot all the remaining prisoners.

In Pinsk Prison a similar attack was carried out by a Polish guerilla group. Sixteen armed Poles attacked the Pinsk prison at night. The attackers killed three of the twelve warders, the remaining nine surrendered. The Poles then succeeded in freeing fifty-four political prisoners. The next day in reprisal the Germans shot thirty of the remaining inmates.

Similar action to free political prisoners was carried out in Bialystok, Lomza, Kielce, Konskie. Such activities, of course, brought about German reprisals against the Polish population, but the Poles have succeeded in freeing some hundreds of political prisoners whose participation in the resistance on the Home Front against the German invaders is of the utmost value to Poland.

## POLES OUTWIT GESTAPO, GIVE WARSAW NEWS

London, April—News has been received here that last Monday, late in the afternoon, Warsaw's streets were suddenly livened up by newsboys running up and down selling thousands of copies of a special extra of the *Nowy Kurjer Warszawski*, with sensational headline all over the front page "Spain has entered the war." Amazed by this startling announcement the Poles bought the extra, but to their delight under headlines saying that Spain had entered the war, they found a report of Churchill's speech, a long story about Polish forces in the Middle East and Great Britain about the Polish Air Force's activities and news of the Polish Government. On the inside pages were some anecdotes ridiculing Hitler and so-called German victories with an appeal to the Poles not to believe any German propaganda.

The Germans were all the more furious as they themselves publish a daily in Warsaw, called "Nowy Kurjer Warszawski" to create the impression that it is a continuation of the former well-known Polish paper. Only the language of this sheet is Polish, its content and spirit are purely German.

## POLES TO HELP DESERTERS ON EASTERN FRONT

The Polish Government has received information from Poland that on the night of March 16 to 17 an appeal by Polish underground organizations was placarded on the walls of all the principal Polish cities, giving instructions as to the assistance which the Polish people should give to deserters from Italian, Rumanian, Czechoslovak and Hungarian units, sent to the Eastern front by the Germans.

Desertions from these units are becoming more and more frequent. The appeal calls upon all Poles to render every assistance and protection to these deserters, by giving them shelter, food and civilian clothes.

Anti-German sabotage by the peasantry in the Wilno district is seriously increasing. Von Rentelen recently threatened wholesale confiscation of all cows because "milk deliveries of late have been absolutely insufficient, even for town populations and no milk is available for children."

## SWEDES SHOCKED AT TREATMENT OF POLES IN NORWAY

Stockholm, April—Articles that have been appearing recently in the Swedish press about the shocking treatment of Polish civilians kept at forced labor in German camps in Norway, have aroused great indignation.

The articles describe in detail the conditions under which Polish workers live and work in these camps, calling their treatment mediaeval slavery. They are very badly fed and no medical care of any kind is given them. Regardless of their age or sex, or the state of their health, they are obliged to do work far beyond their strength. Eleven hours work daily for women and children is the average demanded by the Germans. Old people of 75 are forced to do night work. The German authorities constantly recruit this forced labor, by street raids in Polish cities and other brutal measures.

The Duke of Gloucester visited the Kosciuszko Fighter Squadron 303 and spent the whole day with the Polish pilots.

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## THE PRESENT STORM WILL PASS \* . . .

THE destruction of Polish science and learning is far more complete today, than it ever was during the worst years of the Partitions. In the provinces seized by the Germans all higher schools of every kind have been closed, all scientific societies and journals abolished. Not a single book or serious article has been allowed in print. General Governor Frank himself declared: "The Polish slave-people (*Knechtenvolk*) has no need of education. The elementary school is more than enough. There will never again be a higher institution of learning in Poland; instead, there will be an intellectual desert." The greater part of the teaching staffs were arrested and sent to concentration camps, an example being the herding together of the whole Cracow professorial body, to the number of 180, and their deportation to Oranienburg in November 1939. Nearly a score died as a result, and their ashes were sent home to their families. Not a few are still in durance, and the news coming from them is pitiable. Following their principle that the whole community is responsible for the actions of every member, the Germans have not hesitated to shoot eminent scientists, though they were innocent. Among them was the eminent zoologist Kopec, notable for his original studies of insect life.

All libraries have been closed, the contents of many have been carried off. Others have been reopened as German institutions and are meant to serve the cause of the Germanization of Poland. All museums, galleries, collections of archives or other treasures, have been subject to repeated searchings, and whatever seemed to have special value was taken away to the Reich. Even church and cathedral treasures, including *objecta sacra*, have not escaped this ordeal. Some of the work of plundering scientific institutions was done by German professors of distinction, who had been guests not long since in Poland at scientific congresses. In some cases these gentlemen had with them copies of the receipted bills prepared by the German firms which had sold equipment to Poland, and so knew exactly what there was to be taken away.

Already during two weeks of heavy bombardment Warsaw had lost many of its libraries, museums and other treasures. But it must be said that the systematic plundering carried on after hostilities were concluded brought far worse losses on the Polish nation. The Board of Education is occupied by the Gestapo, the University by the Security Police, the

\* Excerpts from "Five Centuries of Polish Learning." Three lectures delivered in the University of Oxford, May, 1941, by Stanislaw Kot. Oxford: Basil Blackwell.



Prof. STANISLAW KOT, Minister of Information of the Republic of Poland

middle schools by the army, etc., etc. The Jewish students' residence in Cracow has been made into a public brothel.

More than once in its history, the Polish people has suffered a period of subjection, and survived it. None of us has any doubt that even the present storm will pass; and that Poland will come out of the inferno purified and renewed in strength. When that happens, Polish learning will again take up its task, and go forward with the other peoples of the world to greater and better things.



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# POLAND'S NAVY IN OLDEN TIMES



"DO NOT GIVE WAY TO EVIL"  
Polish medal struck in 1768

**T**HE Polish Navy, sailing the seven seas, contributing its quota to the winning of the war by lively sea-battles and dreary convoy duty, is a young navy, one of the youngest among the United Nations.

Yet this navy, the pride of the Polish nation before the war, and more so than ever now, is old in tradition. By the hand of fate and the greed of her neighbors, Poland's ensign had been swept from

the sea for a long time. This despite the fact that her sea-coast in ancient times extended from Hamburg to Danzig, and in more recent years from the Oder to the Vistula.

On numerous occasions in the past, Poland made a determined effort to build up her Baltic fleet. Though doomed to failure in the long run, each time the Polish navy enjoyed a period of expansion that left its mark on Polish history.

The first definite effort to create a Polish navy came in the middle of the 16th century. To understand why this effort was made, one must turn back a few centuries and look at the political situation of Pomorze. In 1230, the Teutonic Knights of the Cross, who had violated the charter granted to them by the Polish Duke of Masovia by turning the fief of East Prussia into an independent state of their own, seized Poland's Baltic coastline and began to oppress Pomorze. In 1308, they treacherously seized Danzig. Poland regained her maritime province in 1454 when the Pomeranians threw off the Teutonic yoke and returned to Poland. In recognition of the services that Danzig had rendered in the fight against the Teutonic Knights, the Polish King, Casimir IV, renounced his direct control of maritime navigation. As events proved, this generosity was ill advised. The almost independent merchant city exploited it to her own advantage, paralyzing Polish activity on the Baltic.

Nevertheless, political events in the 16th and 17th centuries compelled Poland and her rulers to adopt a definite maritime policy. Unable to use Danzig's fleet, Poland had to create her own. For, without a fleet, the defense of her Baltic sea-coast was impossible and Poland was threatened with the blockade of Danzig and the throttling of Polish commerce.

So to protect Livonia against Ivan the Terrible, who had already obtained the port of Narwa in 1558 and was importing war material and specialists from Western Europe, Zygmunt August expanded the Polish privateer fleet that had been organized in 1557 by Waclaw Dunin Wasowicz, first Polish privateer and sea-rover. This fleet had been formed to engage enemy ships or ships carrying contraband of war. Privateers in those days were private owners of small merchant ships who volunteered their services to a belligerent, and took upon themselves to watch the seas and prevent contraband from getting by. Operating at their own risk and cost, their sole reward was in their spoils, of which they gave ten per cent to the side whose flag they flew.

Wasowicz and Thomas Scharping from Elbing rendered Poland a signal service by their organization of the Polish privateer fleet on the Baltic. They induced many coastal inhabitants to enlist under the royal flag and guard the sea



KING WLADYSLAW IV, BUILDER OF THE POLISH NAVY  
Engraving by Paulus Pontius (1624) after a portrait by P. P. Rubens

lanes leading to Narwa and the Swedish coast. In this way there came into being an emergency maritime guard, based on the port of Danzig, that to some extent at least met the defense needs of the State. The appearance of the Polish Ensign covered "with the dignity and name of the King," confirming Poland's right to the sea, proved a real surprise to all her neighbors, evoking their envy and fear. The privateer fleet grew so rapidly that by 1563 there were several score armed vessels flying the Polish flag.

Danzig was opposed to the privateers, insisting that they hampered its trade and reduced its profits. Whereupon the Polish king moved the privateer fleet to Puck and restricted its activity. As unfortified Puck could not provide the protection afforded by fortified Danzig, Poland's maritime defense eventually declined. Other sea-going nations, fearful of the growing power of the Polish fleet, launched a campaign against it. They sank many ships, took the crews prisoner and condemned them to death.

Realizing that a privateer fleet could not provide a solution to Poland's naval needs, Zygmunt August decided to create a permanent navy. He made a beginning in 1570 by ordering at his own expense the construction in Elbing of the first war galley, a large 400-ton ship. Unfortunately, Zygmunt August died two years later and the fleet never materialized.

However, this experience brought home to the Poles the importance of a national navy. From then on, one of the demands made of each newly elected Polish king was that he build a navy at his own expense. Although Zygmunt

August's immediate successors tried to meet this condition, they did not succeed.

A national navy became a pressing question when Zygmunt III ascended the throne. Sweden declared war on Poland in 1600. Long years of conflict between the two countries loomed. It was obvious to all that no war with Sweden would be successful unless Poland had a fleet. Zygmunt III turned to a Scotsman, Jacob Murray, who entered the King's service as a "sea captain," to build and equip a war fleet with men, equipment and supplies. The King himself spared no effort or expense to carry out the undertaking. Construction was begun in Danzig and continued at Puck. Five years after the first keel was laid, seven three-masted ships of the type of contemporary Dutch warships were ready. Each ship bristled with twenty cannon and flew the Polish flag. The vessels were manned by Poles from the sea-coast and by volunteers from Germany, Denmark, England, Scotland and even remote Spain.

In July 1626 Gustavus Adolfus, King of Sweden, sent 15,000 men on 200 ships across the Baltic and seized part of East Prussia. The Swedish fleet blockaded Danzig, took Puck and Oliwa, and obtained control of the whole sea-coast. The Polish army under Hetman Stanislaw Koniecpolski, gathered at Grudziadz and Tczew and in combination with the new Polish navy, began military operations against the enemy. In November 1626 the fleet left for its first expedition on the Baltic. It gave a good account of itself judging from the fact that five Swedish ships laden with supplies for the Swedish army, were captured and added to the Polish forces.

In the campaign of 1627 the Royal fleet of Poland achieved important results. Hetman Koniecpolski regarded the recovery of Puck as indispensable. In the battle for this port the cannon fire of the Polish fleet compelled the Swedes to give up the fortress. Shortly afterward, the Polish fleet was attacked by a force of 12 Swedish ships, and emerged victorious from the sea battle, without the loss of a single vessel.

The most important Polish naval battle of olden times took place in November of the same year at Oliwa, a small port west of Danzig. Six large three-masted Swedish ships, each with thirty guns, under Admiral Niklas Sternskjold, were blockading Danzig. The Polish fleet had more ships but was weaker in fire power. Nevertheless, it decided to risk an offensive action. Taking advantage of the fog, the Polish ships left their base at Latarnia on November 28, and attacked the Swedes.



A 16TH CENTURY POLISH MAN O' WAR

The battle was short but furious. Three hours later, the Swedish fleet had been routed. Polish losses included the death of Admiral Dickmann, one captain, and 33 Polish sailors and soldiers. The Swedes fared worse. Admiral Sternskjold and 100 of his men were killed. The Polish fleet captured the Swedish flag ship of 38 cannon, with all its armaments, strongbox and important papers. Taken prisoner were two captains, two lieutenants, a pastor and 66 unwounded men plus many wounded. Two ensigns and several flags also fell to the Poles. One Swedish ship blew up, while the rest fled in panic.

One result of this victory, that vastly enhanced Polish morale and created a great impression throughout Europe, was the lifting of the Danzig blockade. The Baltic, cleared of enemy vessels, was now open to Polish merchant ships. During the next few months the Polish navy embarked on the most glorious period in its history. All winter the "Royal fleet was constantly seen on the sea," writes a contemporary, (Please turn to pg. 6)



BATTLE OF OLIVA AFTER A CONTEMPORARY ENGRAVING

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## POLAND'S NAVY IN OLDEN TIMES

(Continued from page 5)

"it caught quite a number of ships and was well off." But this lasted only until the summer of 1628.

Realizing that the Poles were not to be lightly dismissed, Gustavus Adolphus decided at all cost to destroy the young Polish navy in her home port of Latarnia. He partially succeeded on July 6, 1628, in a night attack. Although the Polish losses were repaired the same year, the fleet did not enjoy long life. In 1629, the German Emperor Ferdinand II induced Zygmunt III to take joint action against the Swedes. The Polish fleet left Danzig for Wismar to join the German fleet. The Habsburg plans failed to materialize but the Germans refused to send the Polish fleet back. Unpaid crews left the ships which fell prey to the Swedes in 1632 when the latter captured Wismar.

And so, the Polish fleet with its 120 cannon, came to the end of its brief but not inglorious career.

A third Polish effort to create a national navy was made a few years later when Wladyslaw IV became King. In preparation for a new war against Sweden, Wladyslaw IV began to mass troops, weapons, ammunition and food along the Vistula. From that time the building and equipping of a fleet of twelve men-of-war, the creation of a new port for the navy and the regaining of the lost "dominium maris" became the all-consuming aim of Wladyslaw IV.

The King found a rich Danzig merchant, Jerzy Hewl, who undertook at the King's expense, to purchase twelve large merchant vessels, convert them into warships and outfit them with arms and crews. As this could not be done in Danzig, a new port had perforce to be found. Wladyslaw IV dispatched three engineers to study Puck bay. His trusted advisor and confidant, Hetman Stanislaw Koniecpolski, was in favor of Oksywie, the site of present-day Gdynia. The King's engineers, however, recommended a spot opposite Puck, suggesting that for the protection of the port two forts be built on the sand dunes. The King agreed to this project and by the end of August 1635, the improvised port was completed and the royal fleet built.

But the navy was never used, for peace was signed with the Swedes. It stood idle in its port until the Danish King sent his fleet to destroy the royal ships in 1637 and with them the maritime hopes of Wladyslaw IV and the Polish nation.

There were sporadic attempts in the following centuries to create a new Polish navy, but unfavorable circumstances prevented the realization of these hopes. It was not until 1918 that reborn Poland could finally realize its age-old dreams. In the twenty years of her existence Independent Poland fully appreciated the importance of a fleet and a merchant marine. No effort was spared to make the nation sea-conscious. The results are evident enough. Today, after four years of cruel warfare, the Polish Navy is greater and more powerful than when the war started, and has won the highest praise from the British Royal Navy for its many deeds of heroism in the Battle of the Atlantic and on the Seven Seas.



The table in the monastery of Oliva used for the signature of peace between Poland and Sweden in 1660.

### ALONG WITH THE UNITED NATIONS!

*"Among all fleets of the United Nations, the Polish Navy fought best especially when considering her immensely difficult operational conditions.*

*"Poland built the modern port of Gdynia which arose on sandy dunes; nevertheless the Polish Navy born in its narrow strip on the Baltic was first among all the fleets of the United Nations to take up the fight against the German aggressor.*

*"The Polish Navy not only performed its task with great bravery but succeeded in rescuing many ships that have been reunited in Great Britain's waters as a large operational unit.*

*"The Polish Navy has gone into action on all the seas and oceans of the world from new bases in spite of having been organized and trained, during its first nineteen years of existence, for service only on the Baltic Sea."*

W. TUNSTALL, British historian,  
speaking over the BBC.

## GOOD SHEPHERDS

by MGR. ZYGMUNT KACZYNSKI

**"I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd giveth his life for his sheep." (JOHN x, 11)**



IN my memoirs of my stay in German-occupied Poland I hardly mentioned the activities and heroic attitude of the Polish bishops and priests, because to write about it is to expose them to even greater persecutions and reprisals. But when in Rome I handed a detailed report about the condition of the Church in Poland to the Holy Father.

I cannot write today of the living. When we return to Poland, thousands of our brothers will tell us of the innumerable sacrifices, including the sacrifice of life, made by the Polish clergy. Great numbers of Polish priests were murdered or are dying a slow death in concentration camps. A prominent Socialist in Poland told me: "I must confess with shame that I was wrong when I accused the Polish clergy of lack of patriotism."

Of nearly 800 priests in the Archdiocese of Poznan before the war, only 34 are now left, and these are mostly very old men. This is even confirmed by Cardinal Bertram, Archbishop of Breslau, in his report to the Holy See.

As I cannot write about the living, I am devoting part of my memoirs to shepherds who have departed. Before my eyes I see the handsome, tall figure of Antoni Julian Nowowiejski, Archbishop of Plock. In spite of German pressure, he refused to leave his flock. When he was expelled from Plock by force, he settled in a convent outside the town. In January 1940 I sent the first Encyclical of Pius XII (Summi Pontificatus) to the Archbishop by someone in whom I had full confidence. A few weeks later I received a little note with the following words: "I thank you and bless you. Antoni Julian."

Despite his 82 years, the Archbishop was still strong and full of zeal. The German police brutally interrupted one of his pastoral visitations in a parish in the neighborhood, and sternly forbade him to leave the cloister. Nevertheless, the priests and faithful flocked in great numbers to the Archbishop's home. About the end of 1941, on a cold night, Gestapo agents came to the cloister and requested the Archbishop to dress at once and leave with them for Rypin, some sixty miles distant. The Archbishop refused. He was taken by force, put into a car, and driven by the Gestapo agents to Rypin, whence he was sent to Dzialdow by bus. There in the Gestapo building he was beaten into unconsciousness. In a few days the unflinching old man rendered his spirit to God. His comrade in tribulation was his Suffragan Bishop, Monsignor Wetmanski, later a prisoner in the concentration camp at Oswiecim.



NOTHER good shepherd who was always ready to give his life for his flock was Archbishop Stanislaw Gall, who after the death of Cardinal Kakowski administered the Archdiocese of Warsaw, and died a few weeks ago. I personally owe him a great debt of gratitude. He received me into the seminary, he was my professor and rector, he facilitated my university studies, and introduced me, after eighteen years of priesthood to the Chapter of the Metropolitan See in Warsaw.

The late Archbishop Gall was a man of character and unflinching principles. He was deeply devoted to the Church

of Rome and a fervent patriot. He collected money to build magnificent orphan asylums and schools, old people's homes, etc. Charity dwelt within him.

He was born in Warsaw, and was so wholeheartedly devoted to her that he preferred to remain Suffragan Bishop there, rather than be Bishop elsewhere. He lived in the oldest part of our capital, in Kanonia Street, in the shadow of St. John's Cathedral. For a number of years I lived next door to him.

For fourteen years Archbishop Gall was Vicar-General to the Polish Armed Forces. He organized the army chaplains; in 1923 the then Minister of War, General Sikorski co-operated with him closely in concluding an arrangement with the Holy See regarding the status of chaplains in the Polish Armed Forces.

In September 1939, Archbishop Gall was at his post, and indeed he considered St. John's Cathedral as his fortress. During the period of the heavy bombardment, when enemy shells and bombs poured day and night over the heroic capital, the Archbishop never left his Cathedral. He slept in an armchair in the sacristy, and when the bombardment reached its peak we knelt behind him in the Chapel of Jesus, famous for its miracles. When on September 17th the German shells set the roof of the Cathedral and the organ-loft on fire, he himself helped to put out the flames despite his 75 years. When fighting ceased, he immediately proceeded to repair the roof of the Cathedral, and we owe it to him that this ancient church was partially saved.

At the beginning of October 1939 the chief of the Gestapo, Meisinger, called on Archbishop Gall. He strode into his study with a cigar in his mouth and his cap on his head. Turning to the Archbishop, he asked loudly: "Are you (bist du) the commander of the clergy?"

The Archbishop rang the bell and ordered his butler to bring his own hat; he put it on his head and, still sitting, replied quietly, "Yes, I am the shepherd of the Archbishopric of Warsaw."

The German was surprised, and after a while he took off his cap. Then the Archbishop removed his own hat, adding, "I am sorry. I thought that it is a custom of your nation to talk with the head covered."

The Archbishop never called on the German authorities, nor did he have any relations with them, treating them as temporary occupants and mortal enemies of the Polish nation. The German authorities often tried to approach the Archbishop and to break down his reserve. These advances were always rejected. In November 1939 Dr. Mutz, the head of the religious section in the Government General Office, accompanied by a Nazified priest, Dr. Krawczyk, from the Archbishopric of Breslau, called on the Archbishop. Dr. Mutz described to the Archbishop at length the magnificent renaissance of the Church in Germany under Nazi rule. A similar future, he added, awaited the Church in Poland if it were to be fully submissive and loyal to the Fuehrer. In his opinion, the first step towards better relations and closer cooperation would be for the Archbishop to issue a pastoral letter, in which he would urge the faithful to be loyal and obedient to Hitler. The Archbishop listened and then replied drily: "Herr Mutz, I am a disciple of Christ, not of Judas."

The three years which Archbishop Gall spent under German occupation were one long purgatory.

Archbishop Gall died at his post as a soldier of Christ, and he always remained faithful to Poland and to the Government of the Republic.



# POLISH CARICATURE THROUGH THE AGES



"A Polish Squire"  
by Jan Piotr Norblin (1777)

DERIVED from the Italian word, *caricare*, meaning to overload or exaggerate, a caricature in its broad sense is any drawing, painting or sculpture of a satirical or humorous nature. The Poles include under this heading not only caricatures proper, but lampoons, political cartoons, grotesques and mildly satirical line drawings.

Because a work of art necessarily portrays the more outstanding or distinguishing features of whatever serves as its model, the element of caricature, or exaggeration of special features, found its way into the realm of art in very distant ages.

In Poland the earliest preserved caricatures date from the late Gothic period. In his desire to reveal more forcefully his subjects' character, the Gothic artist pictured even the saints with a trace of the grotesque. Wit Stwos, greatest of Polish medieval sculptors, peopled his famous altar-piece in St. Mary's Church in Krakow with grotesque figures of doctors arguing in the Temple with the 12-year-old Christ.

A fine opportunity for exaggerated drawings was offered by medieval reproductions of scenes of martyrdom. Thus in many medieval Polish triptychs showing the stations of the Cross, the diabolical brutality of Satan's torturers is stressed with especial relish.

Late Gothic and early Renaissance artists were not content with this incidental use of exaggeration. They also had a weakness for pure caricature, but they concealed their frank satire in the leaf-like arrangement of architectural capitals and the scrolls of illuminated miniatures. Church walls and parchment missals of those days abounded in rather free and even obscene caricatures, in particular of the clergy.

The genesis of these tendencies is simple enough. Medieval imagination lived in a three-fold world: this transitory vale of tears and the eternal reality of heaven and hell. Hence the medieval artist paid scant attention to contemporary life, concerning himself mainly with the hereafter. And just as paradise is the idealization of life on earth, so hell is its caricature.

The Renaissance gave even freer play to caricature but introduced the element of good-natured humor. The *Graduale of King Olbracht* and the Renaissance decorations of the Zygmunt Chapel in Krakow no longer portray the sombre ruler of Hades and his fearsome entourage, but a host of engaging if somewhat coarse and earthy imps. Terrifying dragons and chimeræ are replaced by exquisite grotesques; in place of the frightful beasts with human heads typical



"The Wine-bibbers," by Feliks Pecarski



Early Polish Caricature (16th Century)

of medieval art appear ambulant troupes of trained animals clad in contemporary raiment and performing humanlike acts for the edification of the crowd.

There have not come down to us from the Reformation period in Poland, when religious disputes were rife, any of the anti-clerical cartoons so prevalent in Germany, France and Holland. But the robust humor of the late Gothic may be found in illustrated collections of facetiae so popular in the 16th century—for instance the famous "Conversations that King Solomon the Wise had with the fat and obscene, yet eloquent Marculfus, with comic illustrations and riddles" published in 1521, or the even more popular *Till Eulenspiegel* reprinted in countless editions during the entire 17th century.

These, as well as the relics of satire affected by the Bernardine monks in the 17th century and the traces of the art of caricature in the work of Maciej Morawy (1590-1657) are northern in nature, stemming from Gothic tradition and based on Flemish and Dutch art. The lone exception is that of the Italian Renaissance grotesques woven into the decorations of the Zygmunt chapel.

The type of caricature made popular in Italy by the Bologna school did not take root in Poland. Its belated reflection occurs in the work of Teodor Koniecz (1690-1780) whose humorous Roman sketches betray a touch of caricature.

The modern period of Polish caricature began toward the middle of the 18th century. At first showing English and French influences, it soon became truly Polish with Jan Piotr Norblin (1745-1830). Norblin's most artistic and best humorous work, the subtle, witty illustrations for Krasicki's *Myszeid* bear the stamp of French art, but his most important creations, in the mirroring of Polish life, show no foreign influences. This versatile artist's numerous satirical drawings of conclaves, fairs and peasant funmaking, as well as his well documented figures from the *Collection of Polish Costumes* opened the eyes of many a young artist to surrounding reality.

One of his most outstanding pupils, Aleksander Orłowski (1777-1832), first professional cartoonist, attracted a bevy

of pupils, disciples and drinking cronies to him, and founded the first "school" of caricature in Poland. Gifted with unusual verve, a fine sense of the comic and a satirical bent, he specialized in depicting the humor of Polish life before the partitions. Orłowski's gentry were anachronistic to be sure. Yet they were Polish par excellence, and could still be found on country estates far from all beaten tracks. The artist's temperament and amiable character made him very popular

among his amateur and semi-amateur disciples, and he was imitated by countless other Polish caricaturists, who knew him only from his published works.

Among Orłowski's more talented students were Aleksander Oborski, creator of extremely comic types, Wincenty Smokowski and Jakob Sokolowski who liked to portray conventional sportsmen, compulsory trips made in overcrowded coaches or in dilapidated hired cabs. Sokolowski, the best draftsman of the group, showed no mean talent in portrait caricature.



Poet Kasprowicz as King of Hearts (1915)  
by Kazimierz Sichulski

Heirs to the Norblin tradition were the artists of the Orłowski school. There were a few caricaturists, however, who did not come under the influence of Norblin or his artistic disciples. One of these, Feliks Pecarski, prominent in Warsaw between 1840 and 1860, was a unique individual for



"The Tortoise and the Tigers," by Kazimierz Grus



"Dogs of the Day" (1865), by Franciszek Kostrzewski

his time; in his oil paintings, he ridiculed with fine mimicry and characterization of types the negative aspects of contemporary life.

An important figure not so much for his artistic activity as for the influence he exerted, is another inheritor of the Norblin tradition, Jan Feliks Piwarski (1794-1859). Piwarski's humor can hardly be called caricature. His naive compositions, with their urban and rural types, often lithographs or zinc cuts, provided with a pedestrian anecdote or eloquent title, show unmistakable classic tendencies in contrast to the overlaid work of Orłowski and his successors.

Piwarski's greatest claim to fame is that he turned all contemporary youth studying under him to the observation of native types. Out of his school came Franciszek Kostrzewski (1826-1911), who did for Polish caricature of the late 19th century, what Orłowski had done for it some fifty years earlier.

It was in Kostrzewski's time that the first humorous papers came into being in Poland—*The Mirror of Asmodeus* in 1856,

*Free Jokes* in 1858, the *Fly* in 1868, *Thorns* in 1871. The "humor corner" became a permanent feature of other illustrated publications. In this period of romanticism, caricature in Europe lost its pure humor and acquired a more frankly satirical character — political or social. In enslaved Poland political satire could not circulate freely. Of necessity the emphasis was placed on social satire. Kostrzewski, more or less imitated by a whole generation, stands out as a professional cartoonist in this period. From 1860 to 1880 he filled the illustrated papers of Poland with his humorous drawings. These drawings, aside from their



Painter Leon Wyczolkowski,  
by Fryderyk Pautsch



topical character, their facile portrayal of movement and types, sunny and good-natured humor—have this basic virtue that they are drawn directly from life by a good observer, who felt the things of this life deeply and sincerely, and whose moral honesty and stability enabled him to reach the heights of social satire.

Kostrzewski was surpassed in drawings of Polish peasant and city types. His caricatures of pompous country gentlemen, of successful burghers, skint-flints and simpletons, or of foppish dandies were not always accurately drawn, but they bore traits of nativeness that made Kostrzewski the real successor of Orłowski.

The list of those influenced by Kostrzewski is long indeed: Henryk Pillati who flayed such social shortcomings as extravagance, pride, intemperance in humorous pictures; Leon Kunicki whose amusing drawings are enhanced in value by a witty literary text; Jozef Młodecki with a considerable gift of observation that enabled him to recreate peasant, gentry and noble types of Eastern Poland; Aleksander Rudzki, Ksawery Pillati, Kazimierz Przyszykowski, and many others.

Cyprjan Kamil Norwid (1821-1883) was one of Poland's best poets. An artist as well, his line drawings are full of unexpected humor or maliciously ridiculed the indifference of Society with a capital S to art and culture.

Such first rate artists as Michałowski, Grottger and Matejko also engage in caricature with success.

Around 1870 the heroic period of European caricature drew to a close. Naturalistic accuracy, characterizing the period, excluded exaggeration, grotesqueness and stylization, the inseparable elements of this art. Deserving of attention



"Good news, Germans! Water won't be rationed!"  
by Artur Szyk (1942)

Courtesy The New York Post



"Laugh, Clown, Laugh!" by Zdzisław Czermański (1943)

in this period are the caricature sketches of Maks Gierymski, J. Chelmonski, Stanisław Wolski, Jan Rosen, J. Ryszkiewicz. Somewhat later appear several important talents: Bruno Tępa, Konstanty Gorski, Jozef Rapacki, Stanisław Lentz.

The next period was marked by the abandonment of naturalism—stylization returned to its rightful place in art and caricature flourished. Almost a caricaturist in this period was Witold Wojtkiewicz (1879-1909), the author of strange grotesques whose eerie, mystic and wholly original poetry, and melancholy irony, were expressed by his capriciously drawn line.

Real caricature is represented in this time by Kazimierz Sichulski, the best representative of this art in Poland and a draftsman of European stature. His visionary feeling for character and resemblance, his complete mastery of the art of drawing, original coloring and grotesque sentiment so in keeping with his capricious, unusually lively and flexible line, all this places Sichulski in the front rank of contemporary

(Please turn to page 14)

## GERMAN ANTI-POLISH PROPAGANDA



ERMAN propaganda in the days of the Weimar Republic hotly denied that its desire to revise the Treaty of Versailles had any imperialistic tendency. But the age-old *Drang nach Osten* was revived in all its fury by Hitler, who said:

"We, National Socialists, return to the German policy of six hundred years ago, we stem the drive to the south and the west, we turn back to the lands of the East. We definitely abandon the colonial and commercial policy, we turn to the future policy of space." (*Mein Kampf*, vol. 2, p. 742.)

Thus the dictator of present-day Germany proclaimed himself the modern advocate of German revisionist propaganda. In *Mein Kampf* he declared: "The frontiers of 1914 were contrary to logic. As a matter of fact they did not include all Germans, nor were they intelligible from a military-geopolitical point of view. . . . We must wipe out the disproportion between our numbers and the expanse of land occupied by us. . . . The fist must gather in that which is refused to good will. . . . If our forebears had paid any attention to this pacifist rubbish, the German nation would today possess barely one-third of the land it occupies."

Rosenberg's theory that all Europe was a German colonial area was sanctioned by Hitler, when he declared:

"Such a policy can be realized not in the Cameroons, but only in Europe. But we must not allow political frontiers to turn us away from our age-old right."

At the time of Germany's courtship of Poland when anti-Polish propaganda was being soft-pedalled in official declarations, it assumed an even more accurate form in educational publications on the German home front. In May, 1935, the Nazi Party published a primer by school inspector Ertel, "*Ein Lese- und Arbeitsbogen für den Schulgebrauch*" (a Reader and exercise book for school use), with references to the "bloodstained earth of the corridor," to "Polish tortures in Silesia," and such slogan as: "Germany will not be satisfied until the wrong done her is righted. . . . We wait for the hour, we dream of the day, in which we shall be called to demand our lost land back, that our shame may be washed away."

In *Die Volksschule*, a school almanac for 1934, *Pockrandt* published an article entitled *Der Weichselkorridor in der Reichsdeutschen Schule* (The Vistula Corridor in the German Reich schools). This article contained such sentences as: "It is an indispensable duty of all schools to point out to their pupils with all possible emphasis the irrefutable historical, national, cultural, and economic right of our nation to these lands." The following year, in the elementary schools of the Kwidzyn region, maps were displayed which showed Polish Pomerania with the inscription: *Zur Zeit Polen* (temporarily Poland). In 1935 propaganda pamphlets for German youth were published. On the cover of one of them was a map of Germany, bound with triple chains, showing East Prussia

as an island torn from her, and with a sword, the point driven into Germany's heart, on the blade the word Entente. A serial publication for youth entitled *Deutsches Wollen*, issued in 1935, was devoted to Germany's living space. This publication had a map, showing future Germany. On the west the frontier embraced Danish and French territory, including Alsace and Lorraine; on the south it took in Austria and part of Bohemia; on the east the frontier cut straight across Poland from Katowice to Memel, thus bringing into Germany all Silesia, Poznan, Pomerania and Danzig. Beneath the map was the inscription: *Das ganze Deutschland soll es sein.* (All this shall be Germany.)

To complete the picture, mention must also be made of Kurt Lück's publication *Mythos vom Deutschen in der Polnischen Ueberlieferung und Literatur*, published some twelve months before the war, in Poznan. Dr. Lück, notorious for his anti-Polish views asserted that in Polish-German enmity, the initiative had always come from the Polish side. It was the Poles who hated the Germans, not vice versa!

Children in East Prussian schools were taught to sing songs with a refrain referring to the "greedy Pole" stretching out an insolent hand after the German lands, and ending with the assurance that the time would soon come to "free the fatherland from all foreign bonds."

So there was never any decrease in propaganda, nor any just treatment of the Polish minority in Germany, nor any abandonment of the revisionist agitation. German dishonesty and lack of good-will led to an ever-increasing German propaganda, until the mark fell away altogether, even before Germany denounced the Pact of Non-aggression on April 28th, 1939.

### BLUE FLOWERS OF POLAND

Sometimes, the blue of Summer skies  
Reflected in the sea,  
Is like a little way-side flower  
Of tragic memory;  
Of homes and towns laid waste by bombs  
On a bit of conquered earth,  
Where Patriots toil for victors  
In the land that gave them birth.

Yet, I know in sunny meadows,  
Bending over crystal streams,  
Fringing every forest pathway  
Poland's gem-like flower gleams,  
Blooms, to give them hope and patience  
Badge of purpose strong and true,  
Poland's sons wear in their tunics  
"Everlasting" flowers of blue.

OLIVE REESE CHASE.

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# "BABS" GOES TO THE BOTTOM

by RYSZARD KIERSNOWSKI

ENGLAND—January . . . Rain is falling in a steady ceaseless downpour. It is cold and foggy. A day like all others, without any change. The call to scramble is in the normal order of the day. As soon as the clouds disperse, as soon as the weather conditions improve, war in the air will start again. "We're flying to war" is said with the same light-heartedness as "We're going to tea." It is a usual everyday occurrence and the word "war" is no different from the word "tea." That is the most curious thing in life on an airfield.

We are sitting in the armchairs of a comfortable clubroom and gaze into the fire. The holiday atmosphere still hangs in the air. Garlands of ivy are on the wall, and there is a Christmas tree in the corner decorated with toys made by the pilots. It is a time for talk and confidences. We are all rather silent and refrain from reminiscences, as the past may at any moment become the present. When one starts talking, I don't interrupt him with questions. I understand he is talking rather to himself, putting, perhaps for the first time, his "experiences" into words.

"We took off," he begins, "a few minutes before midnight. The flight was normal. Speed 180 miles per hour. Target, a large industrial city in northwestern Germany. Ahead of us the first wave of bombers had gone to set fires and light up the target. Calmly we flew on waiting for the moment when flames of the burning city and rockets would appear indicating the exact spot to be bombed.

According to schedule, after a few hours in the air, we saw reflections on the horizon. With each second the aura grew more intense and soon it covered half the sky. We



POLISH BOMBER ABOUT TO TAKE OFF

could distinguish the streaks of tracer bullets and observe the frequent explosions. It was a sight we were used to, a sight we saw frequently, but a sight we looked at with dread and that strained our nerves to the last degree.

The pilot headed for our target. We found it in a sea of raging flame. A voice sounded in the intercom. "Bomb door opened!" The observer pressed the pear. The plane quivered slightly, then we heard: "Bombs gone!"

Our job was done. We realized just then that the situation was not clear. Anti-aircraft fire exploded all around us. Incessant vibrations of the plane told how near the explosions came. We were only about 11,000 feet up and we had to get out of the hell of bullets and reflectors. But we were to make photographs. The pilot veered round over the target. The place where our bombs had hit, in the very heart of the industrial district, was photographed. Just as we were turning to fly away, a stronger explosion than usual shook the plane. For a second we thought it was our end, but the motors were still running. Comforted by the hope that the plane was not seriously damaged, we headed for home.

An hour passed. When we were almost sure that everything was all right, I looked at the gas indicator. The needle was falling with alarming rapidity. The explosion must have damaged our gas tanks.

We calculated the distance. We were more than 200 miles from the English shore and we only had 160 gallons of gas. That was very little. We tried to comfort ourselves that with fair weather we should make the English coast if the gasoline didn't leak out in the meantime. We counted there would be enough gasoline for half hour's flight even when the needle pointed to zero. That kept our spirits up.

Every moment we calculated the distance. When we had 50 more minutes to go, the gas indicator showed 120 gallons. It was frightfully little. The gas flowed out of the plane like life-blood. Outwardly calm, we were all fully conscious of the impending danger, 35 minutes of flight—80 gallons of gas, 20 more minutes and 30 gallons left. . . .

We were losing altitude, and in addition it was foggy. That made our situation still worse. The telegraphist sent a message to the station. The station answered. Our friends on duty in the "operation room" led us to the airfield, and we knew they were as tense as we were.

We lost altitude by the second. The fog lifting from the sea, the escaping gasoline, the strain and uncertainty upset our nerves. Maybe that was why the front gunner called "Beacon." Joy flooded our hearts. If that were so it meant we were mistaken in our calculations and were now over land, not over the North Sea. Not one said a word, but we all felt sure we were saved.

Suddenly the right motor spluttered into silence. It had no more gas. Our momentary joy was turned to gloom. The fog spread below. The beacon disappeared.

The left motor was beginning to cough. The end was near. None of us knew whether we were over sea or land. Large balls of fog rolled beneath us.

The left motor stopped. The silence that enshrouded us came as a shock. Even the whistling of the wind seemed a signal of death.

The pilot's voice in the intercom cried crisply, "Dinghy." That call dispelled any hope we had of being above land. The supposed "beacon" must have been a light from some ship. The telegraphist began sending an SOS. We were all on edge.

"In the name of the Father, the Son . . ." voices in prayer sounded behind me. A strong jerk interrupted it.

Waves hit the plane. Our "Wellington" under the skillful handling of the pilot floated on the water. After a few seconds the water began to flood the cabin through the astro. In a few seconds we were half immersed in water.

We all knew very well that the plane would sink in a few minutes. Never in normal conditions does a person act so swiftly or with so much strength and energy as in the face of death. In a flash the telegraphist, the front and the rear gunner jumped out through the astro opening. I was tangled in some lines and couldn't make it. The plane was filled with water. Choking with salt water, I got out through the cabin door that by some miracle had opened when we hit the water. I was thrown up into the air. I could see nothing. I reached out wildly and grasped the propeller of the sinking bomber. I clung to it and then I heard the tragicomic voice of the pilot calling:

"Come Kitty!"

I turned my head in the direction of the voice. The rest of the crew was on the wing letting down the "dinghy," that was soon afloat. I climbed up on the wing and we all swam to the dinghy. We pushed off from the sinking plane as quickly as possible.

Pilot-lieutenant X, who had completed 30 flights on that bomber said in a tone that reminded us of a death knell: "My Babs! My Babs is going to the bottom!"

That's what we called our bomber.

It was some time before we got the dinghy sufficiently inflated to be safe. The sea was stormy, the water ice cold and we were soaked to the skin. We looked into the sky for help and we were not disappointed.

Above us we heard our bombers returning to the base. We threw up our rockets and began to signal with our lamp. They noticed us. Later we were told a Polish crew was first to see us. We signaled shortly "O.K."

Sure now that help was coming, we shivered and fought with the waves. Two hours later a rescue plane, the so-called "Walrus," began to circle above us. He could not come down because the water was too rough. He circled around several



GOOD TO SEE YOU, OLD PAL



TWO POLES ON A BOMB

more times and turned back. We were alone again.

Another hour passed when a small gunboat appeared before us. Waves screened it from our sight at first. A boat was let down.

On deck we got a hot meal and a fine bottle of "medicine" to warm us up. British sailors were glad to welcome Poles in their ship. It was a happy end.

When a few hours later we landed at a British port, a group of people were there to greet us. An old woman made us take a basket of apples she happened to be carrying. "Well, you know," the pilot was finishing, "they say the English are not sentimental, but we know different."

As if to confirm his statement, Chopin's Prelude floated from another room. "Who's playing that?" I asked.

"Oh, that's our Waf, who's in charge of the casino. She loves Polish music. We think she's very sweet."

Chopin's Prelude, a fireplace, and real rain on the window pane made a close harmony. Suddenly it became warmer and more cheerful in the Polish airfield.



# THEY BURN WHAT THEY DO NOT STEAL!



IN THEIR mad war on Polish culture—a war of utter destruction—the German barbarians have vented their rage on Polish books and the Polish printed word in general.

The German "Kulturträger," sent to Poland, were experienced "professionals" who had already done the same work in Austria and Czechoslovakia. They were accompanied by other scoundrels who for years had lived in Poland in the pay of the German intelligence. One of them, Baum, an attaché of the German Embassy in Warsaw, died not long ago; among the others were J. P. Grundmann, former assistant of Professor Lompicki at Warsaw University, Kostrzewa, once employed in the "Trzaska Evert i Michalski" bookshop, and Dietrich, former curator of the Starostwo of Warsaw. Another of this crew of "Education and Propaganda" was Ohlenbusch, who had lived a long time in Poland.

First, they looted the great libraries. The catalogues of all collections of books, whether belonging to the State or privately owned, were carefully gone through and, for months on end, lorries carried off to an unknown destination, boxes of books from the most splendid libraries of Warsaw—the University, the Public Library, the Zamoycki, the Krasinski. The same fate awaited the libraries in Cracow and other cities. Not a library of any importance escaped.

According to information given at the end of 1941 by one

of the librarians in the Warsaw "State Library," the books in the University, Public and Krasinski Libraries were dealt with in one of two ways: 1. Books and papers considered of value or importance by the Germans were confiscated and taken to Berlin to be distributed to German libraries. 2. Books, papers and manuscripts dealing with Poland, her history and culture, were burned.

"Nothing of value remains to us," said the informant. "On the floors everywhere are huge heaps of books which workmen—Jews—load into baskets and take away to be burnt in furnaces. Every one of those books has its value, and among them are many for which we paid high prices. Even the workmen wept on seeing what was happening. We all wept over the books that were burned and wanted as many as possible taken to Germany, because we shall be able to get them back from there. Some of the Germans who supervised this destruction did not know a word of Polish. Others who knew a little Polish were even worse, they were the most vicious Pole-haters and delighted in destroying the greatest treasures of our culture."

An even more cruel fate met collections of books in the Western provinces of Poland, illegally incorporated in the Reich. In libraries such as the Raczyński in Poznan and the Pilsudski in Katowice, only books, the preservation of which was considered necessary by the Germans, were saved. Hundreds of thousands of books have been burnt in Poznan, in Katowice, in Lodz, in Torun, in Bydgoszcz.

## POLISH CARICATURE THROUGH THE AGES

(Continued from page 10)

European caricaturists. He was the mainstay of one of the best humorous papers ever published in Poland—the *Liberum Veto*.

In addition to Sichulski almost all the more outstanding students of the Krakow Academy in its heroic period and even some of its professors, contributed to the *Liberum Veto*. Active in this field were K. Frycz, F. Pautsch, Jarocki, A. Procajlowicz, H. Uziemblo, T. Niesolowski, S. Rzecki and others. Among the professors were J. Malczewski, J. Falat, K. Laszczka; L. Wyczolkowski gifted with a fine sense of characters; Stanislaw Wyspianski who could portray kings and heroes with a single stroke of the pen.

More recently new personalities appeared in Poland. Kazimierz Grus, a caricaturist of animals whose grotesque verve, witty anecdotes and forceful drawings won him fame. Aleksander Swidwinski, not unlike him, affected narrative drawings with a foundation of social satire. Edward Glowacki, a portrait caricaturist, combines a feeling for character with decorative sense of black and white in which stylistic traits of modern art forms find grotesque application. Realistic caricature was well represented by Kamil Mackiewicz, who excelled in recreating types or movement, charming by their sunny humor. Jotes (Jerzy Sz wajcer), a specialist in portrait caricature, sought mainly a fleeting but characteristic grimace or smile.

In 1926 was founded in the Polish capital the *Cyrulik*

*Warszawski* (Barber of Warsaw), a literary satirical weekly edited up to 1933 by Jan Lechon and later by Jerzy Paczkowski. The *Cyrulik* served as a forum for many of Poland's outstanding modern cartoonists. Its pages were graced by the political cartoons of Zdzislaw Czeremanski whose quick eye and great wit saw the comic side of every situation. Czeremanski later exhibited in Warsaw and Paris, and his illustrations have been published in the *London News* and the American *Fortune*. In the *Cyrulik*, Feliks Topolski, who became one of the most popular black and white artists in England, made his debut. Jerzy Zaruba, whose style resembled that of England's Low, and the highly original and frivolous woman cartoonist, Maja Berezowska, likewise drew for the *Cyrulik*.

The war has given birth to a new type of cartoon. Two eminent Polish cartoonists now in New York, Artur Szyk and Zdzislaw Czeremanski, have turned their efforts to lampooning the Axis and showing by means of tragic and biting satire how the "New Order" works in Poland. By his unique drawings, Feliks Topolski, now in England, devotes most of his energy to portraying the contribution of Polish soldiers to the Allied cause.

The cover shows a Polish infantryman making a periscope observation.

## ENGLAND THANKS POLAND

For Jan Sobieski's victory over the Turks before Vienna, 1683

"Charles the Second by the Grace of God King of Great Britain . . . to the Most Serene and Powerful Prince Lord John, King of Poland. We have been informed with what success the Christian armies under the command of Your Majesty have been blessed and what triumphs they have won against the common enemy of our most sacred faith. We cannot refrain from making known to Your Majesty how much we are affected by this news, both on account of the advantage which will accrue from it to the whole Christian world, and on account of the singular glory and honour which Your Majesty and the Polish Nation have thereby gained."

## IN VAIN GERMANS TRY TO WIN OVER SILESIA POLES

London, April—The Polish Government has received information that on March 20th, the anniversary of the Silesian plebiscite, the Germans carried out many arrests and executions throughout Upper Silesia.

The Germans accuse the Poles of sabotage in plants and transport of never allowing an opportunity to pass of lowering or even stopping production.

In their efforts to break the patriotism of the Silesian people, the Germans have applied the most brutal methods of Germanization and a ruthless terrorism directed mainly against the educated classes and against all Polish patriots.

These were all deported and sent to concentration camps, or simply murdered on the spot. At the same time all workers and farmers were registered on the German *Volksliste*. German propaganda has done its best to convince the people that Poland will never be restored again and that German nationality would be a blessing to the Silesians.

In spite of all this the Germans see to their dismay, in the fourth year of German occupation, that they have not only not succeeded in breaking the patriotism of the Silesians but on the contrary underground resistance is becoming stronger, the output of Silesian industry is still far below what the Germans expected and the attitude of the Silesians unflinching.

This led the Germans to increase their terrorism by the application of new and more refined methods. Silesian Gauleiter Bracht recently made two speeches in Chorzow and Sosnowice, in which he announced that all Poles who refused to work, who fomented trouble in industry or took part in any action directed against Germany would be ruthlessly exterminated. He said:

"A section of the Polish people is shirking work. We shall exterminate these Poles ruthlessly, the only penalty being death. Only in this way shall we convince the Polish people that every form of resistance will be suppressed immediately."

## SOMMERSTEIN POLISH ZIONIST ILL IN RUSSIA

Dr. Emil Sommerstein, Zionist leader and former member of the Polish Diet, is seriously ill in Soviet Russia. He is reported to be suffering from heart trouble, developed as a result of the hardships he has undergone.

The Zionist leader has been granted a visa to Palestine, but so far has been unable to obtain the necessary exit permit from the Soviet authorities.

Until Hitler's attack on Russia, Sommerstein was one of several Jewish leaders arrested and deported to Siberia. Following the intervention by the Polish Government, he was brought back recently to Kuibyshev, and further efforts are now being made to enable him to proceed to Palestine as soon as his health permits.

## "GERMAN TERROR" IN POLAND CONTINUES UNABATED

In Torun the death sentence was passed upon a Polish railwayman, Konrad Szymanski, accused of economic sabotage. No details were given.

V.V.V.

A German special Court in Poznan has sentenced a railwayman, Marian Fertyk, to five years penal servitude for having "abused" the Nazi uniform.

V.V.V.

The German-appointed mayor of Wilno has decreed that all persons between the ages of 18 and 60, who are in arrears with their taxes, will be deprived of their ration cards.

V.V.V.

It is reported from Katowice that Natalja Chorzelska, aged 37, of Sosnowiec, and Marjan Cichy, aged 35, of Sieradz, were sentenced to death by the German Special Court for illegal trade in textiles. The same court passed death sentences on Jan Galecki, Stanislaw Gniazdo, and Tadeusz Bastek for alleged banditism.

## RAILWAY SABOTAGE IN POLAND SERIOUSLY HAMPERS GERMANS

London, April—Of the 2,000 railroad locomotives in Poland at the outbreak of the war, nearly 900 have been destroyed by sabotage on the Home Front, and Polish guerrillas lose no opportunity of crippling German communication with the Eastern combat zone, as this has been found to be the most effective way of hampering Germany's military effort.

## POLISH-BRITISH MILITARY TALKS UNDER SIKORSKI

General Sikorski recently gave a luncheon to high ranking British officers during which there was an exchange of views on the military situation and on the problem of Anglo-Polish military collaboration. Among those present were the Commander-in-chief of the British Home Forces, General Sir Bernard Paget, the deputy Chief of the Imperial General Staff, General Navy, the Chief of Staff of the Home Forces, the Chief Liaison Office with the Allied Forces and General Sir Hastings Ismay, Head of the Defense Secretariat of the War Cabinet. On the Polish side were General Kukiel and Klimecki, with other high staff officers.

During the past few weeks Polish patriots have blown up bridges and railway junctions at Chotylow, Radom, Minkowice, Piaskiruskie and Werkkowice. Sections of railway line have been destroyed, thus disconnecting communications at the important railway junctions of Skierniewice near Warsaw and Krasnik near Lwow.

In Warsaw a tunnel has been put out of use, the lines in it being destroyed. Station installations have been destroyed at Krasnobrod and Szczepieszyn.

In many places throughout the country telegraph wires have been cut, making it impossible for the railway service to work smoothly. In carrying out these acts of sabotage Polish patriots have often come into conflict with the German police, as a result of which a number of Germans have been killed.

These encounters are always followed by ruthless reprisals on the part of the Gestapo, who time and time again have burned down neighboring villages, near the scene of railroad wrecks, killing the inhabitants or carrying them off to forced labor in Germany.

An official German communique announces that the Government-General of Poland holds first place among occupied countries for the amount of labor sent to Germany. The total number of Polish civilians deported to forced labor in the Reich is given as 1,110,000.

V.V.V.

The most modern Polish sanatorium at Zegiestow, built shortly before the war, has been placed at the disposal of the new chief of the German Navy, Admiral Doenitz, as a recreation home for German submarine crews.

V.V.V.

German measures for the mobilization of Polish civilians for forced labor in the Reich is meeting with strong resistance on the part of the Poles. In Cracow and Warsaw an appeal has been posted on the walls of all engineering and other technical schools instructing Polish students not to appear for medical examinations, establishing their fitness to be sent to the Reich or other rallying points. As soon as they learn that medical examinations are to take place, they must leave their homes and go into hiding.





# LEST WE FORGET

## POLISH CITIES TELL OF NATION'S GREAT PAST

1. **WARSAW**, capital of Poland, stands for the unconquered spirit of the Poles. Throughout centuries of greatness and oppression it bore the light of the Polish heroic spirit. Every inch of its ground reminds the Poles of their struggle for liberty. The Old Warsaw—the Belvedere—the suburb of Praga virtually wiped out in the insurrection of 1831—and now all Warsaw in ruins after the stubbornest resistance of an open city in this war. Storms come . . . and pass away. Warsaw remains the heart of fighting Poland. (Population 1,289,000.)
2. **LODZ**—"the Polish Manchester," is the second largest city in Poland. The layer of soot and clouds of smoke that envelop it are in striking contrast to the native energy and spirit no enemy can break. (Population 672,000.)
3. **LWOW**—once the center of Polish trade with the Near East. Famous for its treasures of art. Here the Poles made a do or die stand against the Tartar hordes, and saved Poland from the invader. (Population 312,000.)
4. **POZNAN**—the largest city in Western Poland. Was the residence of Polish Kings in the 11th century. Although under Prussian rule for 120 years remained Polish to the core. (Population 272,000.)
5. **CRACOW**—former capital of Poland, rich in Poland's prehistoric lore. There Krakus killed the dragon, and Krakus' daughter refused to wed a German Prince. From the 14th Century the home of Polish learning and art. Seat of the Jagiellonian University, where Copernicus studied and taught. (Population 259,000.)
6. **WILNO**—One of the most important centers of Polish art and learning. Famous for its University and the miraculous image of Our Lady of Ostra Brama. (Population 209,000.)
7. **GDYNIA**—Poland's window on the world, in her 35-mile coastline. Seventeen years ago a small fishing village, in 1939, it was one of the largest and most beautiful ports of Europe. (Population 145,000.)
8. **KATOWICE**—capital of Polish heavy industry. Its coal and iron was exported to many foreign ports. Yet the people have retained their homely Polish faith and way of life. (Population 142,000.)
9. **BYDGOSZCZ**—on the River Brda, is one of the leading lumber centers in Poland. It has a special holiday on which a log rolling contest is held. (Population 141,000.)
10. **CZESTOCHOWA**—the Polish Lourdes to which all Poles make a pilgrimage at least once in a lifetime. There the "Black Madonna," the "Queen of the Polish Crown" sheds her miraculous light on her people as she did when they repelled invasion in the 16th century.
11. **LUBLIN**—Where trade routes between East and West cross, remained Catholic and Polish throughout the reformation and partitions. Home of the Catholic University. The first Polish King built a chapel here and many steeples grace its skyline. (Population, 122,000.)
12. **SOSNOWIEC**—stands next to Katowice, as a center of Polish heavy industry. On the main road to Polish health resorts in the Tatras.
13. **CHORZOW**—Here in the midst of green fields and gay costumes of the Polish peasant, a chemical and fertilizer industry has sprung up—a boon to Polish farmers. (Population 102,000.)
14. **BIALYSTOK**—Next to Lodz as a textile center. Its gay city life was that of a manufacturing and garrison town. (Population 102,000.)
15. **RADOM**—In the 20 years of Poland's independence became the center of the armament industry. Today Polish workers slow down production by sabotage. (Population 85,000.)
16. **KIELCE**—One of the beauty spots of Poland, where the Medieval splendor of the Bishop's palace contrasts with the modern housing developments. (Population 65,000.)
17. **TORUN**—an old Hanseatic town—the home of Copernicus—Age-old towers and walls speak of the glory of Poland's Golden Age, when her realm stretched from the Baltic to the Black sea. (Population 64,000.)
18. **STANISLAWOW**—On the threshold to Poland's most colorful district—the Hucul's country. Its kilims and rugs display the richness of native Polish design. (Population 64,000.)
19. **GRUDZIADZ**—Home of the renowned Higher Cavalry School, underwent severe Germanization during the partition yet its entire population greeted the Polish Army with unbounded joy in 1919. (Population 58,000.)
20. **GRODNO**—Its life is dominated by the river commerce of lumber destined for Baltic ports. (Population 56,000.)