THE POLISH REVIEW

WEEKLY MAGAZINE PUBLISHED BY THE POLISH REVIEW PUBLISHING CO., with the assistance of the POLISH GOVERNMENT INFORMATION CENTER
STANISLAW L. CENTKIEWICZ, Editor — 745 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 22, N. Y. • ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FOUR DOLLARS • SINGLE COPY TEN CENTS

MAIN FEATURES

Minister Stanczyk Addresses I. L. G. W. U.

•

Fourth of July

•

Tributes to General Sikorski in Polish Underground Press

•

As One Statesman to Another

•

Prime Minister Churchill's Tribute to General Sikorski

•

Polish Navy Aids the Invasion

•

Jan Matejko, Painter of Poland's Glorious Past

•

Thomas Jefferson and Julian Ursyn Niemcewicz

VOL. IV. No. 25
JULY 4, 1944

Landmark of pre-war Warsaw: Prudential Building on Napoleon Square.

"ONE TRADE UNIONIST TO ANOTHER"

Jan Stanczyk, Polish Minister of Labor and Social Welfare, addressing the 25th Convention of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union at Boston, Massachusetts, on June 8, 1944:

THE Polish people are as determined and unyielding now in this deadly struggle as they were in 1939. We were the first to resist German aggression by force of arms. We were the first to pay, and we paid the highest price for our resistance in the form of persecution and oppression. I hope you understand how and why it was possible for Poland to be the example, or as President Roosevelt said recently, the inspiration of the world.

The first principle which a nation fighting Axis aggression must remember is the principle of unity of all forces in the struggle. Since the beginning of the war, the first and most important line of division was between those who fight our common enemy and those who yield. It so happened in Poland that this approach gave rise to an indomitable spirit of resistance, which has survived all the terror and all the hardships. Thanks to this principle—a principle applied in this country by your great President Roosevelt to the united war effort—we can now prepare for the struggle to come. Thanks to this principle, Germans failed to get any aid or comfort from Poles —not even in the fight against Soviet Russia—in spite of the great effort and propaganda on their part.

Our forces first fought on Polish soil in September, 1939; then in Norway, in France, in the Battle of Britain, in Africa. And now we fight in Italy. Our underground movement has never rested in its war on the Nazis; it has never ceased to use the slowdown, sabotage, and to engage in active guerrilla warfare. The German paper, "Krakauer Zeitung," printed in Poland, recently published an article from which I quote: "The Poles know of no means of struggle but murder. To shoot, to kill, is their favorite occupation—their way of expressing their hatred of us. The greatest danger, however, lies in the fact that they are behaving as if Poland still existed. They go so far in their complete refusal to face reality that they even report their murders of the Fuehrer's soldiers in illegal posters pasted on the walls, proclaiming with cold cynicism that the 'sentence was carried out in the name of the Polish Republic.' . . ."

Here is the spirit of Poland and its reflection in the German mind. Your translation, as free men, of these "unrealistic Poles" would read "indomitable Poles."

With the principle of unity of all forces ready to accept the challenge of Hitler as our base, we built the underground movement in Poland and its counterpart abroad, the coalition Government in London, which is composed of representatives of the main political parties.

One may like it or not, but the fact remains that for nearly five years, this government, the result of an anti-Nazi coalition, has been devoted solely to the defeat of Germany. We united with this as our aim and agreed on the minimum of democratic principles essential to the reconstruction of a truly democratic and free Poland—a Poland whose fate we believe will be decided by the freely-expressed will of its people. And so we can certainly say that our government is a democratic coalition in the same sense as many other governments, the British Government included.

We have, as all other nations, our forces of reaction. We have, as all other nations, our conservative elements. Conservatives were admitted to our coalition government, just as they were in most wartime cabinets of other countries. In the Polish Government, however, they constitute a minority. Reactionaries of all shades and degrees, on the other hand, were not invited to join the Government and have bitterly opposed it.

We know that among our old-time bureaucrats and pre-war officers there were reactionaries and even anti-Semites. We have all been made to suffer for recent events—known to you all. I refer to cases dealing with anti-Semitism in the Polish Army. At the same time, however, we know of the common struggle being waged by Jews and Poles within their homeland, we know that thousands of Jews are alive today in Poland in hiding, thanks to the help and brotherly devotion of their Polish comrades. I should like to repeat the words of Flight Sergeant Richard Bychowski, a Jew and a Polish patriot, a courageous young navigator in the Polish Airforce and member of the Polish labor movement, in a recent interview whose subject was anti-Semitism. Sergeant Bychowski was killed last week after a bombing mission over Germany. He said: "There are some men both among Poles and Jews who have not as yet understood the meaning of the word—Freedom. These words are inscribed on crosses in the Polish Airforce cemetery in Newark. Those who fly seem to have become broader-minded and have a clearer view of the world. They are not shut in a ghetto, they are not isolated from the great changes the war causes. I've come here to fight side by side with the Allies because I feel there should not be a corner in this world where people are slaves irrespective of their race, creed or religion. I've come to fight the common enemy—Germany—and for the freedom of my homeland—Poland. Freedom—if only more people would understand the meaning of this word."

We of the Polish Labor Movement have for years led the struggle to achieve full freedom for all people, independently of race or creed. We fought reaction and, particularly, anti-Semitism, as the most deadly poison of the human mind. We continually fight the remnants of old evils.

We want the people of the world to understand our fight, to sympathize, and to help us, instead of condemning all Poles for the crimes of a few—those whom we were the first to condemn. And we will never stop fighting until their way of thinking and the poison that they have spread among some of the people is wiped out.

My party, along with the Peasant Party, together the most powerful group in the government, formed a coalition to defeat Hitler and free our country. We have never abandoned the ideals for which the Polish Labor Movement and its liberal friends have always stood.

We fight for a truly democratic Poland, assuring to all citizens, without any discrimination, equal rights and a decent standard of living.

May I add now a few words about the problem of Polish-Russian relations. There are some propaganda agencies and there are some puppet elements serving foreign interests which want the world to picture us as reactionaries, and try to depict our government as not truly representative of the Polish people.

I need not point out to you how harmful to Polish-Russian understanding this vicious propaganda and the activities of these elements can be. Allow me to repeat in part that which I have heretofore declared and one of our cardinal principles of behavior toward Soviet Russia: "Poland has always desired and desires today to live in harmony and friendship with Soviet Russia. The cooperation of these two nations is vital to the prevention of any future German aggression against them and Western Europe. Both countries have an interest in the reestablishment of normal relations, but they can only be achieved satisfactorily on a basis of equality. The realization of this basic condition lies at the bottom of the statement, unanimously adopted by the Polish Government and issued on January 15th, 1944. The Polish Government instructed the Polish Underground Movement, and especially the Polish Underground Army to cooperate with the Red Army in the struggle against the common enemy. This order was duly executed by the Polish Underground. At present, the reestablishment of full cooperation and the solution of Polish-Russian problem depend on the good will of our eastern neighbor. We are ready to collaborate, but collaboration does not consist of unilateral decisions, forcibly imposed, through interference in the internal affairs of the other party. It should be based on good will and equal rights if it is to succeed, both of which principles were embodied in the Polish Government's statement of January 15th, 1944. . . ."

Furthermore we have proposed a working solution to make Polish-Russian collaboration possible. I speak of the suggestion of a temporary demarcation line which was proposed east of Wilno and Lwow, to outline areas under Polish and Russian administration respectively. We still await an answer.

Such is our attitude toward Soviet Russia—an attitude of good will and of readiness for real friendship. We want the Soviet Union to allow us to realize this policy by demonstrating sufficient good will as a gesture of friendship on their part. The Polish Underground Labor Movement fights today under the most difficult conditions; its sacrifices have been tremendous and they are not over. In this difficult situation, they have worked out post-war programs, have drawn up instructions for the day of uprising. Yet, in the midst of it all, the Polish Labor Movement has not lost sight of the fundamental aims of this war, an essential part of which is embodied in the Atlantic Charter. They are faithful to the ideas which we share, and they trust that you who have the chance, you who work above ground, will reaffirm your allegiance to these ideals.

Before I left England, I received a letter from a prisoner in one of the most terrible concentration camps in Poland—a letter which made a deep impression on me and with which I should like to sum up my remarks: "We shall not get out of here alive. We shall never see the happy world, the vision of which has been drafted by President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill in the Atlantic Charter. We shall die here in humiliation on these rotten litters which serve as our couches. But we shall die quietly with firm faith in the better future of mankind. We are convinced that our sufferings have not been in vain and that the new world towards which mankind advances, not only through bloody struggles and battles but also through the tortures of a concentration camp, will be a world of liberty for all and social justice for all."

Today, when the armies of liberation of the United Nations batter Hitler's fortress, the Polish people as well as all other people of all occupied countries firmly believe that the hour of liberation is approaching. The world of freedom and justice which was dreamed of by this unhappy prisoner, and which expresses the sacred hope of millions and millions of his fellow prisoners in all occupied countries will soon be realized. And I believe, dear friends, when my country is liberated, we shall live together—the Jewish and Polish people as brothers.

"In Poland, war has made men equal in sacrifice, suffering, resistance and fighting. When we liberate Poland we shall all have an equal right to freedom, work and education."

—General Wladyslaw Sikorski (1881-1943),
Speaking to a labor delegation in Detroit, Michigan, December, 1942.

THE FOURTH OF JULY

by JOSEPH P. JUNOSZA, Director of the Polish Government Information Center

ON July 4th, 1776, the representatives to the National Congress at Philadelphia placed their signatures to the American Declaration of Independence, and proclaimed to the world the right of the American people to Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness! Little did they realize that a new nation was then being born in which the noblest sentiments of democracy would find their realization, and that twice in the tragic first half of the twentieth century that nation would be called upon to fight in their defense!

That is why American Independence Day does not belong to any single continent. The country of Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln has become a symbol, and symbols are the property of all peoples. Especially are they the property of those who in unhappy, imprisoned Europe turn their thoughts and hopes, their longings and their prayers to the West!

How appropriate are the words Thomas Paine wrote in *Common Sense,* published the same year as the Declaration of Independence: "Today when Liberty is vanished everywhere and is persecuted throughout the world . . . you Americans at least extend your hospitality to this wanderer, and in time, provide an asylum for humanity . . ."

Kosciuszko and Pulaski, Polish leaders in the struggle for freedom, found such asylum in America, and paid their debt of gratitude to that country; in America Kosciuszko established his Engineering Corps and Pulaski his famous Cavalry, at the head of which he gave his life for this country in the battle of Savannah. Other Poles, Mieszkowski, Grabowski, Kossowski, Rogowski, Kowacz, Litomski, unable to go to the defense of their own country, partitioned by its imperialistic neighbors, crossed the Atlantic to fight in America's war of liberation: "For Our Freedom and For Yours."

Poles well understand the great significance of the Fourth of July. Their highest national ideal has always been the complete independence of the land of their forefathers, their greatest privilege the individual freedom of its citizens.

Today, warm and sincere greetings of Polish soldiers everywhere are directed to the American nation—Polish soldiers fighting side by side with their Allies in Italy, over Germany, and on the high seas offer their greetings; Polish soldiers, without uniform or flag, who daily continue their underground struggle against the invader, remember this day.

24th Polish lancers (motorized) raising the American flag on the Fourth of July.

From the ruins of Cassino where the Polish flag flies proudly beside the Union Jack, from airfields and ports whence Polish formations leave for battle, from martyred Warsaw, from the bloody concentration camps at Oswiecim and Mathausen, wherever a Polish heart beats and a fist is clenched in revolt, Poles send their good wishes.

By some strange decree of fate American Independence Day is connected with the unhappy anniversary of the death of General Wladyslaw Sikorski, Polish Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief, on July 4th, 1943. He was killed in an airplane crash off Gibraltar, while returning from an inspection of the Polish Army in the East.

Like Paderewski in the years of the last War, he stretched out his hand in amity to the United States. He turned to the United States for help for his country, the first to accept the challenge of totalitarian nations to the Democracies of the world, now the United Nations. His hand was not stretched out in vain. To the appeal of the Polish Commander-in-Chief, the Commander-in-Chief of the American Armed Forces answered in an address to the Polish nation on January 14, 1942:

"The United States is ready now to make whatever sacrifices may be demanded of her to make conclusively certain that Poland shall not have suffered in vain . . ."

(*Please turn to page* 14)

Tribute to General Sikorski in Polish Underground Press

THE death of General Wladyslaw Sikorski, Prime Minister of Poland and Commander-in-Chief of her armed forces on July 4th, last year, was mourned throughout the Allied World, but most of all in Occupied Poland, still awaiting liberation.

Despite German terrorism, the Polish nation is still unconquered and unconquerable both in thought and spirit. Public opinion is still strong, strengthened, informed and unified by the vast network of the underground press. This press voiced the feelings of the entire nation last July when news of General Sikorski's death reached the Polish people.

Rzeczpospolita Polska devoted a special issue to the late General, and summed up his life in these words:

". . . All his life, from his earliest youth to the very day of his death, he worked and fought for Poland—for her freedom and her greatness . . . His unusual talents made him one of the greatest leaders in the annals of the Polish Army, but he was also an equally able statesman . . . Because of these qualities he was entrusted, from the beginning of the war, with the guidance of Polish affairs. He quickly gained for himself a position of unusual importance—after Roosevelt and Churchill, he was the most famous leader of the Western Powers; in domestic affairs, he was guided by a deep and unshakable faith in the greatness of the Polish nation and in its future. He was tireless in organizing the strength of the nation and worked ceaselessly to overcome the tremendous problems facing it . . .

"Such a man was Wladyslaw Sikorski and thus did he labor for Poland. Today that he is no longer among the living, it is possible to sum up his entire life, particularly the last four years of that life, and to perceive the true extent of his greatness and the magnitude of his service to Poland. So, in deepest mourning, the Polish nation reveres and will continue to remember for many years, the greatness of soul and the accomplishments of Wladyslaw Sikorski . . . Although even the best, the greatest and most needed of men die, the nation remains immortal . . . We cannot stop to mourn over the body of Wladyslaw Sikorski, who was not a man of lamentation, but a hard realistic man. We must draw from him an example that will inspire us to a further unyielding fight for the future greatness of Poland . . . The strong hands of Wladyslaw Sikorski always held aloft the banner of the White Eagle of Poland. We must not let that flag waver even for one instant . . . Sikorski's greatest aim was to continue the fight against Germany to the end, along with a close and harmonious cooperation with the Allies . . . This we must continue . . .

"Wladyslaw Sikorski furthermore worked untiringly to unify nations . . . but above all else the work closest to his own heart was his army. To this work he devoted most of his time and energy. During the present war, despite great hardships, but supported by Polish patriotism, he founded a strong and ever-growing Polish Army in exile, that at the time of his death numbered nearly 200,000 well-trained and well-armed men. Not only this army in exile, but also the secret Home Army grew in strength under his direct if distant leadership . . . His spirit still lives in the memories and the hearts of all his soldiers in the Polish Army he so longed to lead victorious into a liberated Poland. Who, then, could feel more deeply the death of this leader than the soldiers who served under him. He freed them from internment, gathered them from all corners of the earth, armed them and made of them a well-knit and powerful army.

"The war continues . . . Soon, however, the day will come when the red and white banner will once again wave triumphant over the towns and villages of Poland. When the Polish Army returns, the figure of its leader will not be there, but his spirit will still be marching on."

Prawda, an underground monthly, wrote:

"The death of General Sikorski went to the very heart of all Poles. Despite the misfortunes already heaped upon our nation, the news of the accident at Gibraltar struck the nation unbelievably hard, and caused a wave of mourning and depression throughout the country. Our German oppressors tore down Polish flags flown at half-mast and dragged them through the mud . . . But in these times of war, the words of General Sikorski ring clear over the entire nation:

"'Citizens of the Polish Republic! I speak in the name of the government. I ask you to have patience and perseverance. You must take care to be prepared for even the heaviest sacrifices for the nation. Dignity, national pride, and

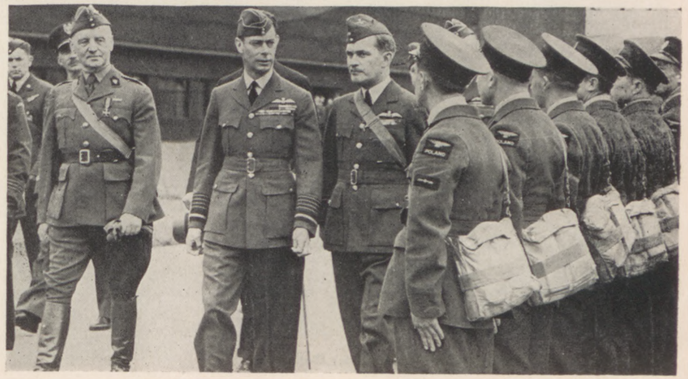
(*Please turn to page* 14)

Polish underground press mourned Sikorski's death.

AS ONE STATESMAN TO ANOTHER

Sikorski was a welcome guest at the White House (1943).

Face to face with Kalinin, President of the U.S.S.R. (1941).



With King George VI inspecting Polish airmen in England (1941).

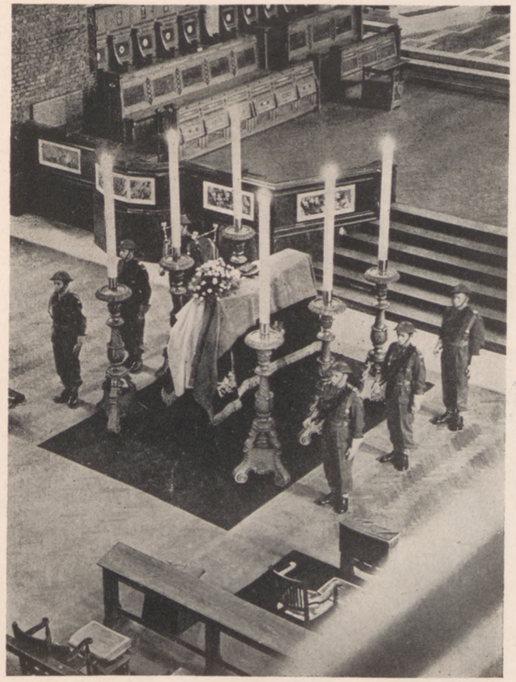
Prime Minister Churchill's Tribute To General Sikorski

Speaking in the House of Commons on July 6th, 1943, Mr. Churchill said:

WE learned yesterday that the cause of the United Nations had suffered a grievous loss. It is my duty to express the feelings of this House, and to pay tribute to the memory of a great Polish patriot and staunch ally, General Sikorski. His death in the air crash at Gibraltar was one of the heaviest strokes we have sustained.

From the first dark days of the Polish catastrophe and the brutal triumph of the German war machine until the moment of his death on Sunday night he was the symbol and the embodiment of that spirit which has borne the Polish nation through centuries of sorrow and is unquenchable by agony. When the organized resistance of the Polish Army in Poland was beaten down, General Sikorski's first thought was to organize all Polish elements in France to carry on the struggle, and a Polish army of over 80,000 men presently took its station on the French fronts. The army fought with the utmost resolution in the disastrous battles of 1940. Part fought its way out in good order into Switzerland, and is today interned there. Part marched resolutely to the sea and reached this island.

Here General Sikorski had to begin his work again. He persevered, unwearied and undaunted. The powerful Polish forces which have now been accumulated and equipped in this country and in the Middle East, to the latter of whom his last visit was paid, now await with confidence and ardor the tasks which lie ahead. General Sikorski commanded the devoted loyalty of the Polish people now tortured and struggling in Poland itself. He personally directed the movement



Sikorski lying in state at Westminster Cathedral.

Laid to rest under the White Eagle.

of resistance which has maintained a ceaseless warfare against German oppression in spite of sufferings as terrible as any nation has ever endured. This resistance will grow in power until, at the approach of liberating armies, it will exterminate the German ravagers of the homeland.

I was often brought into contact with General Sikorski in those years of war. I had a high regard for him, and admired his poise and calm dignity amid so many trials and baffling problems. He was a man of remarkable pre-eminence, both as a statesman and a soldier. His agreement with Marshal Stalin of July 30th, 1941, was an outstanding example of his political wisdom. Until the moment of his death he lived in the conviction that all else must be subordinated to the needs of the common struggle and in the faith that a better Europe will arise in which a great and independent Poland will play an honorable part. We British here and throughout the Commonwealth and Empire, who declared war on Germany because of Hitler's invasion of Poland and in fulfillment of our guarantee, feel deeply for our Polish allies in their new loss.

We express our sympathy to them, we express our confidence in their immortal qualities, and we proclaim our resolve that General Sikorski's work as Prime Minister and Commander-in-Chief shall not have been done in vain. The House would, I am sure, wish also that its sympathy should be conveyed to Madame Sikorska, who dwells here in England, and whose husband and daughter have both been simultaneously killed on duty.

POLISH NAVY AIDS THE INVASION

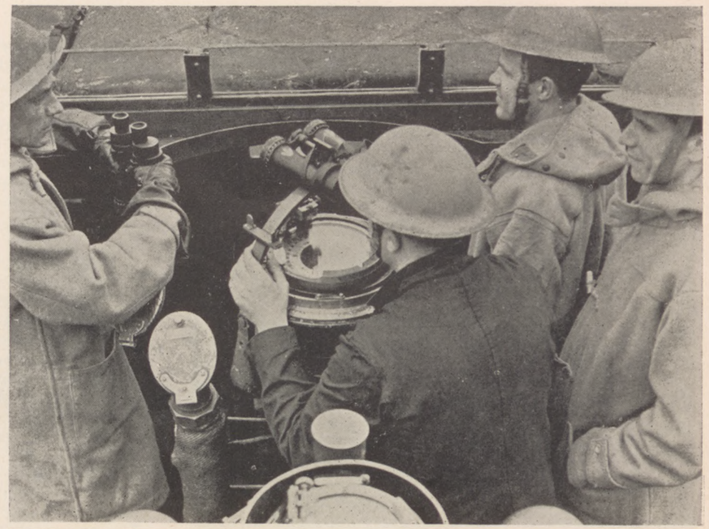
WHEN Allied forces struck at the coast of Normandy early in June, Polish destroyers now serving with the British Navy took part in protecting the invasion forces and covered their landing operations.

The destroyers *Slazak, Krakowiak, Blyskawica, Piorun,* and the cruiser *Dragon* with other Allied naval units cleared the channel of mines, bombarded the invasion coast and once the beachhead had been established, covered the landing of reinforcements.

Two of these ships, the *Blyskawica* and *Piorun* on June 8th engaged in a running fight with German vessels, the first naval engagement of the invasion. It began when the two Polish ships were on routine patrol duty in the Channel. On that night of June 8, German ships finally decided to come out for a long-delayed fight. The battle began at 1:30 in the morning about two and a half miles off the French coast.

During the first phase, Allied vessels met four German destroyers. Broadsides were exchanged. Then the ships closed in to fight at shorter range. Two of the four German ships slipped in between the Allied destroyers, splitting the unit into two groups. During this first phase, H.M.S. *Ashanti* sank a German destroyer with torpedoes. At least two of the "tin fish" found their mark and two explosions rent the German ship asunder. Flames from the blazing ship momentarily lit up the night sky.

The second phase of the battle began when the Allies tried to prevent the German ships from entering the Channel proper. The Allied flagship H.M.S. *Ashanti* was slightly damaged in this phase of the action and was forced to withdraw to a home port. As a result, the Polish destroyer *Blyskawica* assumed command of the Allied naval force. While some of the Allied vessels barred the retreat of the Germans—the others pursued them. Toward dawn, another German ship was seen speeding along the French coast in an attempt to bring aid to the surrounded ships, but it was hit several times by Allied shells and sank in flames. The other ships were also damaged and forced back into French ports.



On board the destroyer *Slazak.*

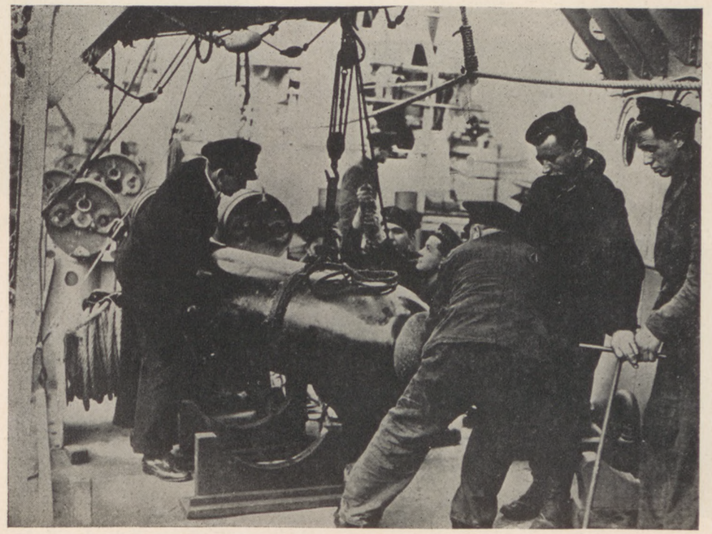
One week later, early on June 14th, another naval engagement took place in which a Polish ship participated. Six out of seven enemy minesweepers of the "M" class were hit and probably sunk by the Polish destroyer *Piorun* while it was on another patrol with H.M.S. *Ashanti.* The enemy was engaged due south of the island of Jersey, not far from the so-called Minquiers Rocks, about 25 miles off the Cherbourg peninsula.

While still some 3,000 yards away, the Allied ships fired star shells that lit up the enemy vessels. Torpedoes from the *Piorun* made several direct hits and the enemy was forced to scatter, some taking shelter under the shore batteries on Jersey. Others were burned and sunk by shells and torpedoes.

Although their work is as dangerous as it is hard, the Polish sailors manning these ships feel proud of their important assignment in the invasion. They work to the point of exhaustion, with little rest or sleep.

With British cruisers the cruiser *Dragon* bombarded German coastal batteries of the famous West Wall. The accuracy of their fire was such that during a single operation fourteen out of fifteen shots fired by the *Dragon* were hits. At one point during the action, a

(*Please turn to page* 14)



Loading torpedoes on the destroyer *Krakowiak.*

JAN MATEJKO, PAINTER OF POLAND'S GLORIOUS PAST

by DR. IRENA PIOTROWSKA

Self-portrait by Jan Matejko (1892).

WHEN a new style is evolved in art its distinguishing features appear gradually and almost timidly, until some individual artist gathers up its preliminary and scattered manifestations and by this decisive step creates a style at once pronounced and uniform. Such an artist was Matejko in relation to Polish historical painters of the first half of the nineteenth century and his immediate predecessors, Lesser and Pillati, Jozef Simmler (1823-1868), Wojciech Gerson (1831-1901) and, greatest of them all, Henryk Rodakowski (1823-1894), an excellent portraitist. Native themes and national motifs which they frequently used, Matejko employed exclusively. Polish types, formerly found only in portraits, predominate in his historical paintings. Sentiment that here and there characterized the figures in his predecessors' pictures, developed in the paintings of Matejko to an emotional force that forms an integral part of the master's works. In Polish painting Matejko was a concentrating power as regards subject-matter and inner content.

The Prussian Homage (detail) by Jan Matejko (1882).

Jan Matejko was born in Cracow in 1838. When he was fourteen, he began to attend the local School of Fine Arts. However, it was not the art school that was the chief interest in the youthful artist's life. He felt irresistibly attracted to the Cracow libraries and church treasuries, where he began to carry on intensive archaeological research. It is to these studies that Matejko's pictures owe their historical veracity. The artist began with a purely external, though fundamental, element. Thanks to his study of ancient Polish costumes, so rich and varied, thanks to his familiarity with the faces of kings on ancient coins and old images, he mastered the Polish historical motif as though a craft and was able to operate with it freely throughout his life. This made it possible for him in his mature years to concentrate on purely artistic problems.

Battle of Varna (detail) by Jan Matejko (1879).

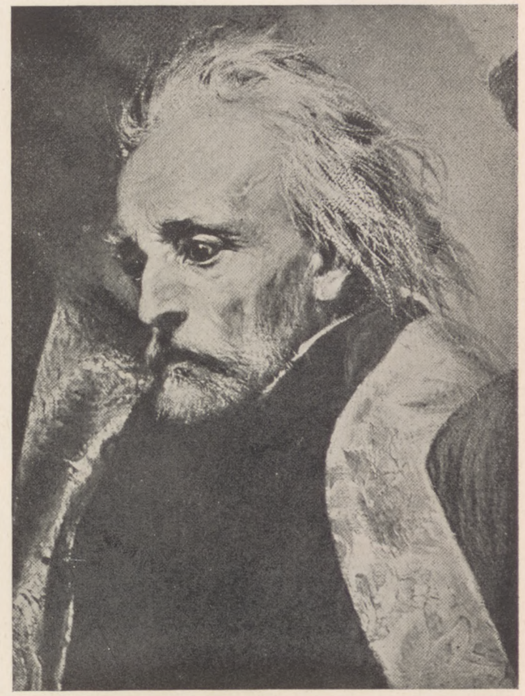
In 1858 Matejko went to Munich for ten months on a scholarship, and then for a shorter period to Vienna. From his travels he returned disappointed. Before he left for abroad Matejko's artistic vision had already crystallized, and neither the Munich school nor the Viennese Academy had much influence upon him.

All his life the artist created in solitude, his mind fixed upon his own ideas. External influences never seemed to touch him. He was actually self-taught, his true and only teacher being Poland with her rich past and her innumerable relics. It is possible that by isolating himself in a purely Polish world, Matejko imposed more than one stylistic limitation on his art. Among other things, he held aloof from the naturalist currents arriving from Paris. But more important, he failed to fully develop his ability as a colorist, a gift plainly inherent in his talent. Yet it cannot be denied that to this very isolation the artist owed his final break with all the foreign influences that stifled the national originality of the Polish historical painters who preceded him.

As mentioned above, in Matejko's paintings Polish motifs no longer appear fragmentarily; he reconstructed Poland's past and fixed her pictorial vision forever.

But it was not historical accuracy alone that found such a ready response in the Polish people. It was the spirit and expression in Matejko's works. They gained fame primarily because of their dramatic tension, strength, and the depth of sentiment emanating from the personages created by the artist. A contemplative and almost sad mood is inseparable from the human beings depicted by Matejko.

Matejko created the aesthetic ideal of the Pole. He produced a complete series of *Polish Kings,* a subject that had already tempted other painters before him, but had never been treated satisfactorily. To the imagination of the Poles, Matejko's kings became what the Zeus of Phidias had been to the Greeks or The Madonna of Raphael and God the Father of Michael Angelo have been to every Christian. Although we know many of the kings of old



Piotr Skarga (detail) by Jan Matejko (1864).

Poland from contemporary portraits and from pictures created by historical painters living just before Matejko, the memory we conjure up of every great king of the past is always unconsciously his image as conceived by Matejko. Fortunately the Museum of the Polish Roman Catholic Union in Chicago has excellent copies of the whole series of Matejko's kings. These copies, almost equal to the originals, were executed by Tadeusz Zukotyński.

Stefan Zolkiewski (detail of *Batory at Pskov*) by Jan Matejko (1871).

Matejko's intensive productivity spread over many years of his life. His first mature work of art was produced when he was only twenty-five, and from then to the very last years of his life he painted ceaselessly and without any decrease of creative power. One historical painting followed another in uninterrupted sequence. Matejko's first great work, epochal in the history of Polish art, was *Skarga's Sermon,* finished by the young artist in 1864. Splendid are the prophetic head of Skarga, the sixteenth-century Polish Jesuit, and the intent faces of the listeners. That Matejko was a master in the portrayal of pro-

(*Please turn to page* 10)

JAN MATEJKO, PAINTER OF POLAND'S GLORIOUS PAST

(*Continued from page 9*)

phetic figures is also shown by his somewhat later painting, *The Prophecy of Wernyhora.* Here the artist depicts this eighteenth-century soothsayer and bard as he lifts his hand from the lyre resting at his feet, and filled with the spirit of prophecy, foretells the future suffering and greatness of Poland. Himself a prophet in spirit, Matejko was able to commune with such subjects and to understand every moment of their souls. In the persons surrounding the priest Skarga or the bard Wernyhora, we trace all emotions, save one . . . joy, which Matejko neither knew how, nor cared to render.

Matejko may be compared to an eminent actor who grasps and masterfully renders the varied psychology of the human mind. An historical painting like an historical drama, presents many problems. As on the stage so on canvas, it is not easy to portray an historical character. The artist is confronted by the task of reconciling objective truth with his own conception and his own personality. Matejko solved this problem in unrivalled fashion; and that is why his pictures are so convincing, why they so deeply stirred the whole Polish nation.

Matejko expresses character not only by the features but by the entire figure, the movement of the body, the hands, the feet, the attire. The passion expressed in the faces spreads to the rest of the figure. And thus it is that the paintings of Matejko acquire dynamic power. This is

Horse Study by Jan Matejko (1883).

Angel. Polychromy by Jan Matejko (1889).

especially true of the *Battle of Grunwald,* painted in 1878. The whirl of action and rare intensity of strength have produced here the effect of a tangled mass of men and horses. The dramatic quality lends itself also to the latter, and last but not least, to the color scheme.

However, Matejko never introduced color harmonies for the sake of beauty alone. All through his life, guided by his own ideas and a sincere, fervent sentiment, he consciously devoted his art to the inner and spiritual themes; so although the outward form of his works is above reproach, his highest achievements lie in the realm of expression. Only a genius could have been directed so exclusively toward expressing the spirit of a painting without neglecting form.

It is curious that Matejko as an historical painter created no school; possibly because no one could have been as national either in subject-matter or inner content. Matejko left no further possibilities of development in respect to intensity of feeling. He put a full stop to the progress of Polish nineteenth-century historical painters. All of Matejko's talented pupils were unfaithful to him as regards subject-matter and began to solve other artistic problems.

Towards the end of his life, Matejko initiated a new stylistic tendency in another field of art: decorative painting. His importance rests on this, that he introduced new elements of a national artistic form into mural polychromy. In 1890 while executing cartoons for the decoration of the old Gothic Church of Our Lady in Cracow he employed certain decorative motifs, above all floral, and certain conventions of purely Polish peasant art. Particularly Polish is the clear, vivid coloring. Here were great possibilities of future development, and it was in this field of his artistic activity that Matejko found followers. Thus while as regards historical painting, Matejko closed an era of progress, in decorative painting he opened a new line destined to bear splendid fruit during the twenty years of Poland's independence. Happily among the six pencil sketches by Matejko at the Museum of the Polish Roman Catholic Union in Chicago, there is a study for one of his famous cartoons.

AFTER THE VICTORY OF CASSINO

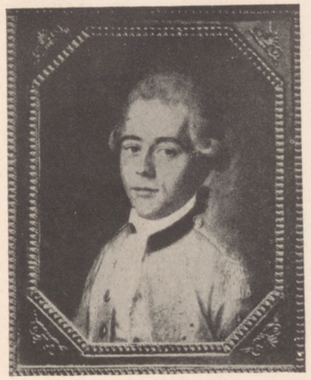
Triumphant Poles amid the ruins of the Benedictine Abbey at Monte Cassino.

Inside the ruined Abbey.

Polish artillery on the Italian front.

THOMAS JEFFERSON AND JULIAN URSYN NIEMCEWICZ

by **W. M. KOZLOWSKI**

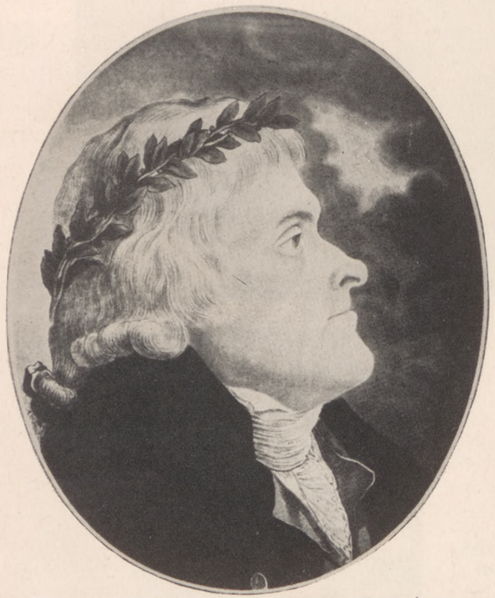


Julian Ursyn Niemcewicz as a young cadet.

JULIAN URSYN NIEMCEWICZ, Polish poet, patriot, soldier and statesman, first met Thomas Jefferson in Paris in 1787 when he was American Minister to France and a popular figure in liberal French circles. The French Revolution and the Polish Insurrection of 1794 interrupted the acquaintance. Jefferson returned to America while Niemcewicz took an active part in the Polish Insurrection, led by his good friend and compatriot, Tadeusz Kosciuszko. Indeed, the two Poles had been so inseparable during the Insurrection and later in their captivity at St. Petersburg from 1794 to 1796, that when Kosciuszko received permission to sail for America, where he had already made a name for himself during the Revolutionary War, Niemcewicz unhesitatingly decided to accompany the Polish hero across the Atlantic. They arrived in Philadelphia, then the capital of the young Republic, early in 1797. As Kosciuszko had been gravely wounded at Maciejowice in the last battle of the Polish Insurrection, and had not recovered the use of a leg, he was not very anxious to leave the City of Brotherly Love. However, Philadelphia was being ravaged by an epidemic of yellow fever and Dr. B. Rush, a close friend of Thomas Jefferson, advised the Poles to leave for the country.

By August 1797 the exiles were back in Philadelphia. In his memoirs Niemcewicz mentions meeting Louis-Philippe, Duke of Orleans and future King of France. Early in 1798, Niemcewicz was elected to the American Philosophical Society, an organization of humanitarian and liberal pursuits. In all probability, his name was proposed for membership by Thomas Jefferson.

In May 1798 the paths of Kosciuszko and Niemcewicz parted for the first time in many years. Kosciuszko, invited by the French Directorate to assume command of the Polish legions that had been organized in France and to take over their subsequent organization, decided to leave in secret the land that had granted him hospitality. The invalid was carried on board ship in the company of Jefferson and Niemcewicz. He sailed for Europe under the assumed name of Thomas Kanberg.



Thomas Jefferson. Drawing by Tadeusz Kosciuszko.

Niemcewicz remained behind, a sad and lonely man. As he had been asked to keep his friend's departure for Europe secret as long as possible, he began to travel. But he kept in touch with Jefferson.

The Polish poet knew English. He had lived in England in 1787 and during his imprisonment in Russia had translated Pope's famous poem, "The Rape of the Lock." Nevertheless, his first letters to Jefferson were written in French. From Philadelphia, Niemcewicz headed South. He first wrote to Jefferson on May 27, 1798, from Washington, D. C., then called Federal City:

"In the midst of the concern and anxiety you feel, Sir, over the fate of your friend, who is in danger of more than one shipwreck, you will perhaps not be sorry to know what has befallen one who for so many years was the companion of his travels and misfortunes. I hasten to reassure you on this point. Acting on the instructions of G. K——, I took (as if to follow him) the road South. I was in Baltimore and now for a fortnight have been at Federal City in the house of Mr. Law. Everywhere I have been overwhelmed with questions. I do not know how I managed. All I know is that the vocation of a liar (for whomsoever is not accustomed to it)is as difficult as it is humiliating. However you may be sure that the secret is religiously kept, no one suspects the truth: some believe him really to be on his way to a water cure, others imagine we have quarrelled and separated, finally word has reached here from Philadelphia that you have kidnapped him and hidden him at Monticello. You see you are accused of rape and violence, try to extricate yourself as best you can." After informing Jefferson that George Washington and his wife had visited their granddaughter, Mrs. Law, and that he, Niemcewicz, had been introduced to Washington, he wonders what he is to do in the future. Having left Europe without arranging his affairs, solely to accompany and care for a sick friend he is, plainly speaking, without funds. And he feels hurt that Kosciuszko did not take him along to help with the Polish legions. "Pardon, Sir," he continues, "this unintentional grumbling, you are the only one to whom I dare speak of my condition and of my plans. Until I receive news and help from my family, I have decided, so as to distract myself and waste no time, to see a little of America. I would like to go as far as Boston: Could you be good enough to lend me 150-200 dollars to that end: I promise to return them to you in the fall, I shall even be very happy to be able to repay the debt in person."

Jefferson replied to this melancholy letter with warm words and a draft for 200 dollars. In his letter to Kosciuszko, Jefferson wrote that "Niemcewicz is much affected."

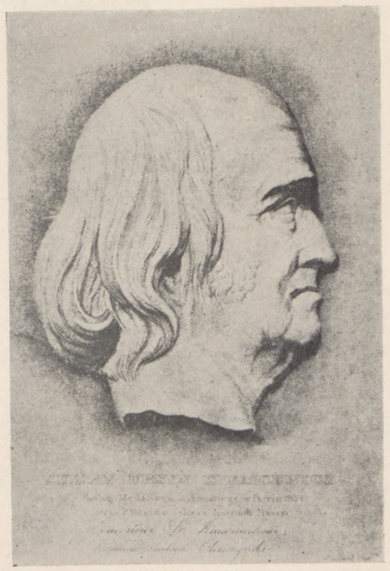
In his next letter (June 9, 1798), written at Mount Vernon, where he had been invited by President Washington, Niemcewicz heartily thanked Jefferson. He announced his intention of leaving Federal City and proceeding to Frederickstown, Lancaster, Bethlehem and finally stopping at Philadelphia for a day, at which time he hoped to see Jefferson. Referring to the Napoleonic expedition in Egypt, he added, "Events in Europe seem to be near their climax. It looks as if the scene is to be transferred to Egypt, which pleases me greatly; if it is conquered and the Turks are ousted from Europe, I see the greatest possibility that in giving from this side compensation to the houses of Austria and Russia, their prey, Poland, may be torn away from them and my poor country be reborn." He concluded with a request that Jefferson take a gold-mounted sword—which had been presented to Kosciuszko by the Whig Club in England and which the *Adrianna* had just brought to Philadelphia—and put it in safekeeping.

Philadelphia during Niemcewicz's stay there (ca. 1800).

To this Jefferson replied from Philadelphia on June 14, 1798, regretting that he would probably not be in Philadelphia when Niemcewicz arrives. He went on to say: "I have this day received the sword for Gen. Kosciuszko and put it in the care of a trusty person. Capt. Lee who delivered it to me, tells me he has a letter for you from England; which he will bring me tomorrow morning. I shall leave it in the care of my landlord, Mr. Francis, to be kept till you call or send for it. I am sorry you were so late getting my letter, as it must have occasioned you some uneasy sensations . . . I shall count on the pleasure of seeing you at Monticello."

Niemcewicz's next letter to Jefferson was dated September 3, 1798 and was written in Elizabethtown, New Jersey. In it he reported on his trip through the East: "I went up to Boston and Portsmouth, from there across the mountains to Albany, whence I descended the river as far as New York. Everywhere I was burnt by the sun and sometimes scorched by the Yankees." There follows a long passage about the rumors he heard regarding Kosciuszko and news about mutual friends. Another epidemic of yellow fever had broken out. "Philadelphia is entirely deserted. Grass grows in the streets. It has only 10 thousand inhabitants and one hundred of them die daily, half of that number die in New York. If the wrath of God requires victims, why does it not seek them in Russia, Austria, Prussia!"

Jefferson replied from Monticello on November 30, 1798: ". . . I have no letter yet from our friend Genrl. Kosciuszko, but find from the newspapers he is safely arrived in a country where a due value is set even by those in power on his pure and republican zeal. However cold to that merit some of this country have been, I can assure you that the mass of our countrymen have the highest veneration and attachment to his character. This State would have felt a particular sensibility if he had thought proper to make it his residence. Should the war between France and Austria arrive, I shall conceive great hope that your country will again rise into the map of the earth and there seems reason to believe that war is occurring. On this and other subjects I shall have the pleasure of hearing your opinions in Philadelphia for which place I set out in about a fortnight."



Julian Ursyn Niemcewicz. Medallion by P. David 1834.

Niemcewicz answered promptly on January 19, 1799, this time in English, which was to be the language in which his remaining letters to Jefferson were written: ". . . Although the love of tranquillity and retirement, the political intolerance and above all the fear of indelicate questions render me extremely averse from visiting large cities, the desire of seeing you, Sir, and some other few friends have decided me to come to Philadelphia before the Congress breaks off."

During his stay at Elizabethtown, Niemcewicz met Mrs. Livingston Kean, widow of Kosciuszko's friend. Rich and charming, she offered him her hand. They did not marry until two years later, but the friendship prevented him from accepting Jefferson's repeated invitation to visit him in Virginia. "I had hoped," wrote Jefferson on Janauary 16, 1799, "we should have seen you here (at Monticello) ere this, and still flatter myself you will not let the session pass over without visiting

(*Please turn to page* 15)

ALEKSANDER SKRZYNSKI ON "DEEP SPIRITUAL AND IDEALISTIC UNION BETWEEN POLAND AND THE UNITED STATES"

"Old Poland was not a democracy in the modern sense of the word. No such democracy existed in Europe before the nineteenth century. She was, however, a democracy sui generis, *a democracy based upon the social and political principles which had marked her unbroken historical evolution. Poland was both a democracy and a republic. Political rights were, it is true, the privilege of the nobility, but this class was so numerous and was so freely and copiously renewed, that Poland possessed, without question, the most liberal political system that Europe up to that time had produced.*

"When the State found itself in mortal danger, the better elements among the democratic nobility, under the leadership of the last king of Poland, framed and passed a new constitution, on May the third 1791. *Considered in the light of the ideas and conditions prevailing in Europe at the time, the brightness of the thought that inspired it and the liberal nature of its covenants are truly astonishing. It aimed on the one hand at strengthening the authority of the monarch, on the other at broadening the basis of state by the extension of political rights to the entire middle class.*

"This great national impulse, unfortunately, came too late . . . The first to draw his sword against the invading hosts was Tadeusz Kosciuszko, who while fighting at the side of Washington for American independence, had imbibed the spirit of modern democracy.

"It was no mere caprice of chance that brought Kosciuszko, the defender of a perishing old democracy and the hero of its rebirth, to this free land and to the side of your illustrious forbears to fight a disinterested battle for the ideal of liberty and progress. The Kosciuszko statue in Washington is a great deal more than the commemoration of a curious or even touching historical anecdote. It symbolized in Kosciuszko's act the existence and the disclosure of a certain deep spiritual and idealistic union between Poland and the United States, which existed before any mind was able to detect, describe or explain it. It is a union of the same yearnings, the same affections, and of the same ideals in which these yearnings and affections became incarnated."

From an address delivered at The Institute of Politics, Williamstown, Mass., in July, 1925, by ALEKSANDER SKRZYNSKI (1881-1931), for many years Polish foreign minister and delegate to the League of Nations.

THE FOURTH OF JULY

(*Continued from page* 3)

As witness to the truth of these words and noble aspirations, the Atlantic Charter came into being, a document that gave to all Poles faith in a better future, a document that sustained their hopes. The Poles know that American soldiers are not sacrificing their lives for the establishment of new dictatorships on the ruins of Europe; they know that its underground is not losing hundreds of thousands of men that Might shall triumph over Right in their country.

The Fourth of July, celebrated today in the fire of invasion, at a moment of decisive Allied action, is more than an American holiday, it is a Holy Day for all the world. The American Declaration of Independence reminds us all of the eternal values for which we fight.

Poland waits and keeps her faith. She has faith in the Declaration of Independence and in the Atlantic Charter. She believes in the spirit of the great Jefferson, and in the sense of justice of his worthy successors.

TRIBUTES TO GENERAL SIKORSKI IN POLISH UNDERGROUND PRESS

(*Continued from page* 4)

discipline must ever be your qualities. You must continue to reject all orders not emanating from the only legal Polish Government. Always remember that you are all soldiers of Fighting Poland, led by this Government and its Army. A nation that can stand united in the face of a cataclysm, understands that only by the victory of its armed might can it break the bonds of tyranny.'

"His faith, his unshakable belief in victory for the Allies, his trust in these Allies should be an inspiration for us all.

"General Sikorski was one of those Poles who in discussing European affairs, always championed the cause of all downtrodden or oppressed peoples . . . he used his own fame to the advantage of his people . . . The practical democracy Sikorski believed in was a yard-stick by which the social and political needs of the nation could best be realized . . . Sikorski's opposition to an authoritarian form of government was expressed in the way he based his government on the representation of all parties . . . If the conceptions of Sikorski bind us, it is not because he is dead, but because his beliefs were right . . . We hope that despite the death of the General we shall not forget these principles for which he lived . . . Many paths lead to immortality and the epitaph of many famous persons is written in the glorious memory that remains to posterity, but not many of these paths lead to the high degree of immortality attained by men like Wladyslaw Sikorski . . . Individuals so great that they become legends are like apostles in the life of a nation, stirring it to ever higher achievements. Let us remember that the very life of a nation is but the realization of the promise given by its great sons."

Similar notices appeared in other underground newspapers: *The Bulletin of Information, The Voice of Poland, Dawn,* and *W.R.N.* (Liberty, Equality, and Independence).

POLISH NAVY AIDS THE INVASION

(*Continued from page* 7)

British ship signalled "Can you locate the German conning-tower from which they are directing their fire?" The *Dragon* answered that it could—and at once located it and wiped it out with a single broadside.

In May, 1941, one of these Polish destroyers, the *Piorun,* took part in sinking the famous German super-battleship the *Bismarck*. It was the first Allied vessel to locate the exact position of the *Bismarck* and despite the enormous difference in size between the two vessels (the *Bismarck* was a 45,000 ton battleship and the *Piorun* a 1,650 ton destroyer), the latter opened fire on the dreadnought.

After the *Bismarck* had been sunk, Rear Admiral Vian, under whose command the *Piorun* then fought, sent the Polish commander the following message: "Congratulations, you were the first of our ships to spot the *Bismarck* and get into the fight. I hope that you will continue to serve under my command."

The commander of the *Piorun* replied: "We are proud to fight with you and shall feel honored to hunt the *Tirpitz* under your command."

The *Tirpitz* was the only other German battleship of the same class as the *Bismarck*. Almost three years later, on April 3, 1944, units of the British Navy along with its fleet air arm struck at the *Tirpitz,* anchored in the Alten Fjord in Norway. During this operation, the *Piorun,* as it had hoped, took an important part. It was also among the Allied vessels covering the invasions of Sicily and Italy, fighting off Naples and Salerno.

Following the action against the *Tirpitz,* the *Piorun,* along with the British vessels taking part, received congratulation signals from His Majesty King George VI; the first Lord of the Admiralty, Admiral Alexander; and the Commander of the Home Fleet, Admiral Fraser.

THOMAS JEFFERSON AND JULIAN URSYN NIEMCEWICZ

(*Continued from page* 13)

Philadelphia, and to be assured that your partialities for the Northern part of our country will not prevent your coming to see what we are in the South."

To Niemcewicz's congratulations on his election to the Presidency of the United States, Jefferson hastened to answer from Washington on January 11, 1801: ". . . It is, I believe, a twelve-month since I have had a letter from Genl. Kosciuszko. But I had an opportunity of hearing some particulars of him from General Davis, one of our envoys lately returned from Paris. He says the General is in tolerable health, is considered as the head of the Polish corps in the service of France, keeps a table as such, and is the regular organ between them and the government of France, he is *able to walk about*. I thank you for your congratulations on **the** subject of the late election. It is not however yet decided. The vanquished party have still the resource of some maneuvres to shew their spirit and adroitness."

Five months later Niemcewicz addressed a request to the President of the United States that is perhaps not so strange if one remembers that botany was one of Jefferson's hobbies: "Amongst numerous petitions and applications which as the first Magistrate of the Commonwealth you daily receive, Sir, you will not I hope reject the petition of an old acquaintance, it is only for a plant that grows in Virginia by the name of Seneca Root, *Polygala Seneca* of Linneus. Being witness of its efficacy in various diseases, & seeing the difficulty of procuring it here, I thought it would be of some utility for the inhabitants to propagate it. The seed, according the directions of the botanists, must be sown as soon as it is ripe, I shall then be extremely obliged to you, if you have the kindness to ask it from some of your friends of Virginia, & have it forwarded to me. I am aware that to trouble the President of the U.S., among his serious and important occupations, for the sake of a plant, is a bold intrusion, but I know likewise your zeal and eagerness to promote and spread whatever may be useful and in the least beneficial to mankind. A single child cured by your plant will be a sufficient reward for your trouble, and to me would be the highest pitch of ambition to which I aspire . . ."

The busy President took time out to reply immediately. He had no plant on hand but would "endeavour to have some sowed."

Having settled with his wife on a farm where he worked in the garden and fields, Niemcewicz enjoyed a peaceful happiness he had hardly believed possible in exile. In 1802 news reached him of his father's death in Poland. He crossed over to his native country and returned to America in 1803.

Then came a piece of news that kindled hope anew in the heart of every Pole: the Napoleonic campaign of liberation in Poland. Niemcewicz felt he could not remain indifferent to the call of his native land. So, invoking his friendship for Jefferson, he appealed to him thus:

"Avril 1807, Elizabeth-town.

"Sir,

"The important events passing now in Poland, have certainly Sir attracted your attention, and as friend of freedom and national independence, have excited your interest. Never was there a more promising prospect of that unhappy country regaining its existence. Altho now an American citizen and enjoying under your administration the blessings of the only free Government in the world, I can not forget my native country: consistent in my principles, I consider it as a sacred duty to hasten to my post & join my feeble service to those my countrymen undertake. The present war exposes even the neutrals to a thousand vexations, they can not be too well provided with passports, certificates &; &; I have my certificate as an American citizen, but take the liberty to apply to you, that you may be so good, as to direct the secretary of state Teler Madison, to whom I have not the honor to be acquainted, to give me a passport. Should you wish to write to Gl. Kosciuszko, or give me any other commands, I shall be happy to execute them. Permit Sir to return you my thanks for all your civilities & to express my most sincere wishes for your health & happiness, and the wellfare of a country which for ever will be dear to me."

On April 21st Jefferson dispatched a note to the Secretary of State:

"Monticello, April 21. 07: Will you be so good as to send a passport to Julian V. Niemcewicz, an American citizen of New Jersey going to Europe on his private affairs. I have known him intimately *for 20 years,* the last 12 of which he has resided in the U. S. of which he has a certificate of citizenship, he was a companion of Kosciuszko. Be so good to direct it to him at Elizabethtown, and without delay, as he is on his departure."

The following day he replied to Niemcewicz:

"Monticello, Apr. 22. 07.

"Dear Sir,

"I received on the 20th your favor of the 10th inst. and yesterday I wrote to desire the Secretary of State to forward your passport to Elizabeth-town. In the visit you propose to make to your native country, I sincerely wish you may find it's situation, & your own interests in it satisfactory. On what it has been, is, or shall be however, I shall say nothing. I consider Europe at present as a world apart from us, about which it is improper for us even to form opinions, or to indulge to any wishes but the general one that whatever is to take place in it, may be for it's happiness. For yourself however personally, I may express with safety as well as truth, my great esteem & the interest I feel for your welfare. From the same principles of caution I do not write to my friend Kosciuszko. I know he is always doing what he thinks is right, and he knows my prayers for his success in whatever he does. Assure him, if you please, of my constant affection, and accept yourself my wishes for a safe & pleasant voyage with my friendly salutations & assurances of great esteem & respect."

Armed with an American passport, the Polish poet left his adopted country. Although he did not know it at the time, he was never to return to the United States. Nor did he see his wife again. However they kept up an affectionate correspondence up to Mrs. Niemcewicz's death, which preceded by several years that of her husband, who died in 1841.

It was in this period of his life that Niemcewicz was most active as a writer. Work after work came from his facile pen—twelve volumes in all of verse, drama and historical romance. Despite his tremendous literary and political activity, Niemcewicz retained his affection for America. He gave concrete evidence of his feelings by having Jefferson elected to membership in the Royal Society of the Friends of Sciences in Warsaw. Here is the note of September 4, 1810, by which he advised the American statesman of the honor conferred upon him:

"Sir,

"Being constantly mindful of my citizenship of the United States of America, grateful for the attentions which I have received in that country, from you Sir & my other friends, desirous of conveying on our society the honor of reclaiming you in its number I took the liberty to propose you for a member of the Royal Society of the friends of Sciences in Warsaw & have the pleasure to announce to you, that you have been unanimously elected. I inclose here your diplomma begging you would accept it as a tocken of the high regard which our nation entertains for your merit, virtue and knowledge."

This is the last known letter of Niemcewicz to Jefferson. Pressure of events prevented a further exchange of letters between the two statesmen, but the feelings of mutual esteem and of regard for each other's country persisted to the end.

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

BACK THE ATTACK!

Most dramatic spectacle at "Weapons of War," big Army exhibit of American and Axis equipment now open in Central Park, New York, N. Y., in connection with the Fifth War Loan Drive, is the Fighting Quartermasters' "Sham Battle," by a team of 18 soldiers dressed in American and German uniforms. Staged on terrain simulating an actual battlefield, its purpose is to demonstrate the comparative practicality of American and enemy battle dress. Here a Nazi patrol prepares to stand off the oncoming Americans.

BUY WAR BONDS!