



JÓZEF PIŁSUDESKI INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

FOR RESEARCH IN THE MODERN HISTORY OF POLAND, INC.

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XIX Year, Bulletin No. IA

March 1962

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THE INSTITUTE'S REPORT FOR 1961

The primary task of Jozef Pilsudski Institute in America has been expressed in a maxim which is not liable to change. It is: **telling the truth about Poland.** One of the ways of putting that maxim into effect is becoming more and more edistinct nowadays: it is **helping to tell the truth about Poland.**

Poland, deprived of political independence for more than twenty years, more often than ever before, is becoming the target of attacks on the part of her enemies who believe that unmasking them is particularly difficult in the present situation. That duty, nearly all its burden, falls upon the Polish exiles, because their Home country, deprived of the freedom of speech, must remain silent, despite its fervent desire to make itself heard. After all, how could the present rulers of Poland, who are dependent upon the Kremlin, allow anyone to tel the truth about the Katyn Massacre, or to stand up against the falshoods and slander contained in the "Istoria Polshi" (The History of Poland), published by the Soviet Academy of Sciences?

But the disseminators of lies are not always mere executors of the tasks assigned by the party bosses. Sometime they are actuated by the hope of securing personal gain, when they expect a poor novel devoid of any literary value yet replete with calumnies, to reach certain groups of readers, to become the so-called 'best-seller', and, after getting onto the movie screen, to fill the pockets of a dishonest speculator of the pen trade.

Sometime it is even hard to know whether the attack has been prompted by ignorance or by ill will. For instance, recently, there appeared an article written by Lord Taylor of Harlow, a physician by profession and amateur historian, after office hours. From the aforesaid article we learn, that Russia has so often fallen a victim to invasion, that she has a legitimate ground for distrust and suspicion of the West. Among

the invasions suffered by Russia the pink Lord-ignoramus cites the Polish insurrections of 1830 and 1863!

This and other examples prove how important nowadays is the task of setting the lies straight and of branding the liars. Therefore, one can take considerable satisfaction in the fact, that increasing numbers of students and professors of high schools and universities are taking advantage of the Institute's collections and materials. The same is true of the many writers and authors who come to New York, even from distant parts of the country, and avail themselves of the Institute's resources. Professors Oskar Halecki, a distinguished historian, has provided guidance in that area of the Institute's activities.

No less encouraging is the fact, that the Institute's collections and membership have been growing steadily. A vivid response which followed the Christmas Appeal of the Institute warrants hope that its members will continue their support and assistance upon which the Institute's future depends in a large measure.

I. ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION

1) The XVIII Annual Membership Meeting

On March 19, 1961, the XVIII Annual Meeting of the Institute's Membership was held, Mr. Jan Librach presiding. Mr. Tadeusz Pawlowicz was the secretary. After the Institute's President, Treasurer and the Chairman of the Auditing Committee presented the reports, and following a discussion on the reports, the membership unanimously adopted the report of the outgoing Council. The following persons were elected officers of the Institute for 1961: President, Mr. Witold Kosicki; Vice President, Gen. Władysław Bortnowski; Treasurer, Mr. Włodzimierz Falencki; Secretary, Mr. Jan Kowalski. Members of the Board: Messrs., Dr. Jan Fryling; Jacek Gałazka;

Prof. Oskar Halecki; Henryk Korab Janiewicz; Stefania Januszewska (Detroit); Prof. Waclaw Jedrzejewicz; Att. Juliusz Kanarek; Prof. Edward Kleszczynski; Col. Adam Koc; Dr. Aleksander Korczynski; Gen. Wincenty Kowalski; Lucjusz Kupferfasser (Chicago); Ignacy Nurkiewicz; Dr. Leopold Obierek; Tadeusz Pawłowicz; Jadwiga Pułaska and Antoni Repeczko. Committee of Auditors: Chairman, Czeslaw Zbieranski; members: Col. Leon Miłkiewicz and Wanda Rosten; Alternate member of the Auditing Committee: Halina Ablamowicz.

The Board elected Gen. Wincenty Kowalski Director of the Institute and Prof. O. Halecki — the Institute's Chairman of the Educational Board.

During the report year the President of the Institute, Mr. Witold Kosicki, resigned his post due to illness (upon doctor's advice). The Board expressed regret over his resignation and entrusted Gen. Władysław Bortnowski with the duties of Acting President.

Gen. Wincenty Kowalski, the Director of the Institute, advised the Board in June 1961, that due to illness and prolonged medical treatment (following an automobile accident) he would no longer be able to serve as Director. The Board did not accept Gen. W. Kowalski's resignation but wished him a quick recovery and speedy return to work at the Institute. At the same time the Board requested Col. Adam Koc to act as Director of the Institute until Gen. Kowalski's return.

2) Honorary Patrons of the Institute.

During the report year, of its 45 Honorary Patrons, the Institute lost one — the late Gen. Anthony Drexel-Biddle, former U. S. Ambassador to Poland. Late last year, a full list of the Honorary Patrons of the Institute was distributed along with the text of the Appeal.

3) Members of the Institute.

In 1961, the Institute acquired 19 new members. The fact, that the membership has been increasing every year proves that the need for the Institute's existence is strongly felt and that its tasks, work and efforts are considered vital and important.

During the report year the Institute had a total of 294 members.

Members of the Institute who passed away:

Dr. Edwin Cytron; Col. Janusz Iliński; former Envoy Michal Moscicki; former Ambassador Jerzy Potocki and Wanda Rosten.

Let us pay deserving homage to their memory.

4) Friends of the Institute

The annual Appeal seeking American Polonia's support of the Institute proved that the Institute's new friends acquired in recent years are still with the Institute. This is evidenced by their contributions. The financial results of the annual Appeal are listed below, as part of their financial report.

5) The Office of the Institute.

Just as in the past years, during the report year the Institute's Office performed a tremendous job in the financial, general administration and secretarial sections. This achievement was possible thanks to the wonderful and dedicated work done by a number of Institute's members, headed by Mr. Jan Kowalski, Secretary of the Institute. Ceaseless contributors to that work were: Mr. Kazimierz Bazanowski and Col. Witold Czaykowski, who worked for the Office of the Institute and subsequently also for the Institute's Archives. A number of members of the Institute volunteered their time working for the organization and administration sections. They had made possible considerable economies also in launching the annual Appeal. The Institute's address file grew substantially and has been brought up to date. All the donations received in connection with the Appeal have been acknowledged. We wish to express our appreciation to all those who contributed their time and effort to this job.

With a feeling of profound sorrow we announce the passing of Wanda Rosten, the Institute's tireless and dedicated worker, who died last year. In her passing the Institute sustained a great and irreplaceable loss. Let us honor her memory.

II. THE FINANCIAL REPORT

a) Revenue:

Balance as of January 1, 1961	\$ 7,548.29
Membership fees	1,944.00
Donations from Institute's Friends (The Appeal)	4,078.37
Sale of Books	1,509.65
Lectures	142.31
Miscellaneous	301.91
	\$ 15,524.53

b) Expenditures:

Bank balance as of January 1, 1962	\$ 6,611.15
Administration	3,672.65
Appeal	925.75
Publications and books	1,648.36
Library and miscellaneous	2,666.62
	\$15,524.53

Among the generous donors were Mrs. Stefania Januszewska, editor of the "DZIENNIK POLSKI" in Detroit, who donated \$300.00, Dr. S. N. Korzeniowski — \$165.00, and Dr. Henryk Gruber — \$100.00.

III. THE ARCHIVES AND THE LIBRARY

The Institute's Archives continued to grow. Among the donors who contributed major collections were Messrs.: Jan Librach, former minister plenipotentiary (archives of the late Col. Janusz Iliński); Czeslaw Zbieranski; Jan Walczak, Envoy Michal Moscicki; Jerzy Ponikiewski and a number of persons who donated private collections of historical documents. The Archives' Management continued

the job of stock-taking and arranging the documents in groups, which will make the Institute's collections more readily accessible to the public. The acquiring of new material continued. Mr. Tadeusz Pawlowicz cooperated very actively in that direction.

The Institute's Library obtained 800 new books which were either donated or purchased. The work in the Archives section was under expert supervision of Mrs. Jadwiga Pulaska, who must be credited with the continuous progress achieved in this area.

The Institute's Archives and Library were used by a number of people engaged in historical research. Among them were university and college professors as well as an increasing number of young people, studying at academic schools. Those working at the Institute's Archives were helped by our staff in securing the sources and documents available at the Institute.

IV. RESEARCH AND SCIENTIFIC WORK. LECTURES.

A vast collection of original documents and a specialized library, both owned by the Institute, made possible the setting up of a program of historical studies and research. A large group of scholars — prominent professors teaching at American universities and numerous centers of learning throughout the world — who were the corresponding members of the Institute, provided a good basis for the realization of that program of historical studies and historical publications.

The purpose of the program is to promote scientific research in the field of Poland's most recent history and to publish the results of that research. This task has become of particular urgency now when the Polish science at Home is deprived of free expression and is unable to oppose distortion and falsification of the history of the Polish people. The struggle for historical truth — is the primary task of the Institute and all its efforts are directed towards that goal.

Listed below are the projects on which work is being carried on within the framework of the general program.

a). Analysis of the documents owned by the Institute. The work continues with the view to making the documents available to students.

b). In connection with the publication of Volumes I and II of Prof. W. Jędrzejewicz's work, entitled "Poland in the British Parliament" — Volume III (the last one) is being prepared for publication.

c). Prof. Tytus Komarnicki, author of the valuable work entitled "Rebirth of the Polish Republic", is putting the finishing touches on the second and third volumes of that book, covering the period of Poland's independence and entitled "Poland in World Politics between Two World Wars" (the title has not been selected yet). The Institute had awarded

the author a scholarship in connection with this work which will be ready for publication in 1962.

d). Prof. M. K. Dziewanowski is finishing a book (in the English language) entitled "The Federative Policy of Jozef Pilsudski", which will be published by the "Harvard University Press". The Institute had helped in the realization of this project both financially and by making its archives available to the author.

e). Former Ambassador, Prof. Michal Sokolnicki finished writing a book entitled "The Year 1914", which has already appeared in print. The book depicts the conditions in which the struggles for Poland's independence were carried on in the period 1914-1916. This is Volume II of a book entitled "Fourteen Years" which was published in Poland in 1936.

f). Prof. Sokolnicki has begun preparatory work on a book entitled, "Jozef Pilsudski and Poland's and Europe's International Relations (1905-1935)".

g). General Kazimierz Sosnkowski is working on a book entitled, "Poland at the Crossroads", of which Volume I, entitled "In Search of Truth" is near completion. This is a military and political study, covering the period prior, during and after World War II. The work is being prepared for publication by the Institute's Publishing Committee, headed by Col. J. Matecki.

h). "The Polish Military Organization (P.O.W.), 1914-1917". This is a history of the P.O.W., being prepared by Col. Adam Koc, its former Commander (in Warsaw).

i). Plans are being made for the publication of a historical work, in connection with the approaching 100th anniversary of the Polish Insurrection against Russia in 1963.

j). A study of a collection of documents left by the late Ambassador Jozef Lipski is conducted under the direction of Prof. O. Halecki. These records are prepared for publication by Prof. Roman Debicki, who is the author of the book. The work will represent a contribution to our political literature dealing with the period preceding the outbreak of World War II.

k). Plans are made for an exhaustive study of Poland's Modern History. The study is designed as a collective endeavor by a group of prominent Polish historians.

Lectures:

Prof. Jan Karski — "Principal Elements of the United States Policy Towards Poland" — a lecture delivered on January 25, 1961.

V. PUBLICATIONS.

1. "Independence" — a periodical dedicated to problems of history, published in London. It is a joint organ of the Jozef Pilsudski Institute in London and in New York. (Beginning with the publication of Volume VII, which is ready for printing and will appear soon).

2. The Institute's Bulletin. No. 1. XVIII year, March 1961, containing the Institute's report for 1960, published in Polish and in English.

3. "Jozef Piłsudski Institute, Its History, Purposes and Tasks" — an informative leaflet, published in Polish and in English.

4. "The Institute's Appeal", directed to its members and friends and to all Americans of Polish origin, requesting their cooperation and support in the struggle for the truth about Poland and for Poland's rights as an Independent and Sovereign State. Published in 25,000 copies which were distributed.

5. Pamphlets about books which are on sale at the Institute. Books and publication available at the Institute (for sale):

Alskandra Piłsudska: "Recollections". Published by "Gryf", London, 1960. Here, a prominent leader of the struggle for Poland's independence and wife of the Great Marshal, tells about the achievements of the generation which had won freedom for Poland. Price \$6.00. (Discount for members and students — 25%).

Kazimierz Sosnkowski: "About Józef Piłsudski", London, Committee for the Commemoration of Jozef Piłsudski on the 25th Anniversary of his death, 1961. Price \$1.50.

Michał Sokolnicki: "The Year 1914". Published by "Gryf", London, 1961. Eminent historian, soldier and prominent political associate of J. Piłsudski, depicts the period of preparations for the struggle of Independence, prior to World War I and its initial years. Price \$6.00.
(Discount for members and students — 25%).

M. K. Dziewanowski: "The Communist Party of Poland", Cambridge (Mass.), Harvard University Press, 1959. Price \$7.50.

W. Jedrzejewicz: "Poland in the British Parliament". Volume I and II. New York, Jozef Piłsudski Institute, 1959 (Volume II). Contains documents and comment on the Polish-British policy during World War II. Price of Volume I and II (together) \$15.00; price of Volume II — \$10.00.
(Discount for members and students — 25%).

T. Komarnicki: "Rebirth of the Polish Republic". London, W. Heinemann Ltd., 1957. A study in the diplomatic history of Europe 1914-1920. Published through the endeavors of Jozef Piłsudski Institute in America, which has the exclusive right to sell the book in the United States. Price \$12.50.
(Discount for members and students — 25%).

Z. Czemanski: "Józef Piłsudski in 16 Drawings". London, Committee for the Commemoration of Józef Piłsudski on the 25th Anniversary of his death, May 12, 1960. Price \$3.00.

Józef Piłsudski: "Selected Writings". New York, Published by Józef Piłsudski Institute, 1944. Price \$5.00.

Ignacy Matuszewski: "Selected Writings". New York — London, J. Piłsudski Institute, 1952. Price \$3.00.

W. Jedrzejewicz: "The American Polonia in Poland's Policy". New York. National Committee of Americans of Polish origin, 1954. Price \$3.00.

Damian S. Wandycz: "Piłsudski's Forgotten Letter to Massaryk". New York. Published by J. Piłsudski Institute, 1954. Price \$1.00.

Damian S. Wandycz: "Polish-Americans and the Curzon Line". New York, Published by J. Piłsudski Institute, 1944. Price \$1.00.

"The Constitution of the Polish Republic" — April 23, 1935. New York. Published by J. Piłsudski Institute, 1944. Price \$1.50.

"Józef Piłsudski Institute in America" is an independent historical and scientific organization. It is under no one's influence, either political or financial. In its existence and growth the Institute relies upon membership fees and contributions of the many thousands of friends throughout America. Its purpose is to defend the truth about Poland as well as Poland's rights as a Free and Independent Republic.

A Non-Profit Educational Institution.

Contributions are deductible for income tax purposes.