

POLISH FLAG FLIES OVER NIAGARA CAMP

Emblem Floats in the Breeze
Over Military Headquarters
First Time in 123 Years.

TO FIGHT IN FRANCE
Freedom of Poland Animates
Brave Men With Hope That
Present War Revives.

Poland's magnificent army of 20,000 men, now fighting in France, is one of the greatest wonders brought about by the great world war. The fact that, approximately, 15,000 of these men have passed through the Polish concentration camp at Niagara-on-the-Lake on the way to France, is in itself unique.

Through the kindness of the Toronto Y. M. C. A., a trip was made by representatives of the press to this camp yesterday, when a concert was given for the Polish soldiers by Toronto talent in the large Y. M. C. A. tent located in the camp grounds.

At present there are 1,500 Poles there who have been recruited in the United States during the past year through the National Polish Commission, of which Paderewski, world famous pianist, is the leader. It has been said by the Poles themselves that when Poland is regained Paderewski will be king. The Polish army was created by President Poincaré of the French nation in January, 1917, in recognition of a debt due the Polish nation by France.

They Yearn For Home.

For more than one hundred years it has been the desire of the Poles to return to their native land, which has probably seen more bloodshed caused by wars than any other country in Europe.

The opportunity to realize their dearest wish was offered them through the French President, and they immediately seized it. The result was that a National Polish Commission was organized in January of 1917 (before the United States came into the war, its object being to recruit all the Poles in the United States and Canada for service overseas. The French Government assumed all responsibilities of the army, and pays all the expenses.

The majority of the Polish soldiers have been recruited in the United States, having come from some of the largest cities, these including Chicago, Buffalo, Springfield, Pittsburg, and New York. Polish recruiting depots are also stationed at Montreal, Toronto, and Winnipeg.

When the recruiting for the Polish army started in January, Niagara-on-the-Lake was chosen for a concentration camp. While at Niagara-on-the-Lake they are under the command of Canadian administrative officers stationed at headquarters. They include Lieut.-Col. A. W. Lapan, O.C.; Major C. R. Young, camp adjutant, and Capt. Harris and Capt. Pembroke, camp adjutants, the latter being one of the original Princess Pats. There are 32 Polish first and second lieutenants.

Uniformed Like French.

They wear the blue-grey French uniform, with the exception that the badges bear the Polish eagle. The privates, while in the concentration camp, wear the old Canadian militia uniform, but upon arrival in France they are given the blue-grey uniform.

They are taught the French drill, but in the Polish language. They are a splendid race of men and have sacrificed all they hold dear to go to France and fight the Hun and regain Poland.

These men receive 5 cents a day French pay and are paid \$10 a month by the Polish Commission. They forsook all to join their army. Through influential men \$1,000,000 has been raised for the maintenance of their families.

The Polish soldiers at the camp at Niagara at present include Russian Poles, German Poles and Austrian Poles. They are a happy crowd of men, with one object in view—to get back to their own country.

Dear Ones in Poland.

Many of them have wives and children in Poland to-day whom they have not seen for four years and who have received frightful hardships at the hands of the hated Huns.

"No army receives more consideration at the hands of the general public than the Polish army," said one of the officers yesterday.

The Toronto Y.M.C.A. have erected an amusement tent and canteen for the soldiers, which has been in operation for a year, and never a day goes by but concerts or moving-picture shows are offered by the association. Ross L. Beckett, Y.M.C.A. secretary, has shown a keen interest in the men and has spared no efforts to give them every kind of entertainment.

The Niagara Falls chapter of the American Red Cross has also done great things for the Poles at Niagara. The Polish White Cross, of which Madame Paderewski is president, at Washington, works through the American Red Cross at the camp.

Last week a tent was opened by them, designated at Service Station No. 1 of the American Red Cross. This serves as a place of meeting for the soldiers with their friends. Each week-end the women of the chapter come over and bring the men all kinds of comforts. No Polish soldier leaves the camp at Niagara-on-the-Lake without a full equipment of every kind of comfort. Toronto women have formed a Mothers' Club, and go over at stated times to mend the soldiers' clothes.

The Niagara Falls Red Cross chapter also sends nurses to the camp each week-end to care for the men. It has done great work in gathering

up information for the soldiers concerning their relatives in Poland.

Polish Flag Flies Again.

Features of the camp is the Polish flag raised outside the officers' headquarters. It is the first time it has been raised over a Polish military camp in 123 years.

The 1,500 soldiers at Niagara are divided into two battalions. Each battalion has two chaplains, Father Rydlewski is one of them, and is a well-known Pole in the United States. He comes from Pittsburg where he had charge of the Church of the Immaculate Heart with a congregation of 25,000 people. He says: "If my people can give up everything and fight for the magnificent sum of 5 cents a day, I will leave my parish and follow them wherever they go."

Upon arrival of the musical artists yesterday at the camp they were received by Lieut.-Col. Le Pau, C. O., and were shown about the camp.

They included Miss Grace Gillies, of Niagara-on-the-Lake, pianist; Miss Ruth Thom, Toronto, soprano soloist; Lieutenant J. Campbell McInnes, R. A. F., celebrated baritone; and Boris Hambourg, cellist.

They were entertained at dinner in the officers' mess by the Canadian officers.

During the meal the Polish band, consisting of 32 pieces, played outside near the Polish flag. The Poles are noted for a very musical people and the evidence of their band selections were proof of this.

At 6:45 all went over to the "Y" tent where the concert was given. The soldiers showed their appreciation for the excellent concert given them through the efforts of the Toronto Y. M. C. A., by their prolonged applause for each artist. A fitting climax was given, when at the conclusion on a word from Lieutenant-Colonel Le Pau, the two battalions rose and made the tent ring with the patriotic strains of the Polish National Anthem. Three cheers were given by

SOCIETY

Mrs. H. B. Holloweg has left for St. John.

Colonel and Mrs. Robert Low have arrived in town.

Mrs. Edmund Bristol is going to Cobourg next week.

Mrs. W. Johnston is at her summer home at Port Sidney.

Judge and Mrs. Sutherland have gone to Kemicbunk, Maine.

Mrs. G. A. Richardson and family are spending the summer at Southampton.

Mr. and Mrs. Percy W. Milligan have left on a two weeks' trip to New York.

Miss Aimee Shaw, MacPherson avenue, is at Put-in-Bay, Ohio, for a few weeks.

Col. H. C. Bickford left to-day for Camp Borden to inspect the military hospitals.

Mrs. William Boulbee is the guest of Sir William Mulock at his summer home in Newmarket.

Capt. Bowler, R. A. F., and Mrs. Bowler have taken Mrs. Allan Case's house for three months.

Mrs. W. H. Fox and children of Boswell avenue, are spending a few weeks at Sparrow Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cassels will spend the holiday with Mrs. Cawthra Mulock in Muskoka.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. McWhinney left to-day to motor to the Kickfield Inn, en route to Muskoka.

Mrs. W. Harper Nelson and son have returned to town after spending a few weeks in Muskoka.

Lady Hearst is arranging a sport day in aid of the Navy League, at the Royal Muskoka on Monday.

Mrs. Harton Walker, Miss Evelyn Walker and Mrs. Victor Goad will spend August in Knowlton, Quebec.

Mrs. Strachan Johnston and family have returned from Kemebank and will leave later for Muskoka.

Mrs. H. A. Morine and her daughter, Miss Audrey Morine, are spending the month of August at Lake Rosseau.

Mrs. Bruce T. Ripley, 35 Heath street east, who has been engaged in patriotic work, at Vancouver, for the past four months, is now home.

Miss Armored Drynan is arranging a party of young people to go down to Cobourg next Saturday for the dance which is being given by Mrs. Duncan at the Arlington.

Miss Ruth Thour, Lieut. J. Campbell McInnes, R. A. F., Miss Grace Gillies and Mr. Herbert A. Fruker gave a splendid concert at the Polish Camp at Niagara-on-the-Lake yesterday under the direction of the Y. M. C. A.

Among the Toronto people in Algonquin Park are: Mrs. E. J. Hyland, Miss Hyland, Mrs. E. C. Fox, Duncan Robertson, Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Norwich, Miss McAndrews, Miss A. McAndrews, Miss L. McAndrews, Mr. J. A. McAndrews, Mrs. William Davies, Miss M. Moyle, Mr. and Mrs. T. Armstrong, H. L. Nussbaum, Wm. H. Hough, Mr. and Mrs. William Rush, Lionel Davis, H. J. Scott, Miss Margaret Penell.

LOOK LIKE TOY BOATS

Bow and Stern of Aegean Cargo Carriers Are Indistinguishable.

When Saint Paul was shipwrecked in the Aegean Sea the chronicler of the incident wrote that "fearing lest we should have fallen upon rocks, they cast four anchors out of the stern and wished for the day." The British inspector-general of communications in Mesopotamia liked to refer to this, and he read somewhere once that because anchoring by the