

HUGE MEETING HERE LAUNCHES POLISH ARMY

**Paderewski Stirs Crowd;
500 Recruits Sworn
and Receive Flag.**

Poland, free and united by means of the Polish national army, was foreseen at a monster demonstration held at the International amphitheater yesterday afternoon, evening and night. It was the eve of the hundredth anniversary of the death of Thaddeus Kosciuszko, the Polish hero.

The demonstration was preceded by the blessing of two battleflags for the new Polish army at St. Joseph's church at Forty-eighth and Paulina streets. The flags were the gifts of Ignace Paderewski, the pianist, and of the Polish women's organizations of America.

The church was filled to its capacity of 1,000 people by representatives of various Polish organizations, while thousands of people thronged the adjacent streets for a sight of the cherished emblems.

Church Services.
At the church the flags were solemnly dedicated by the Rt. Rev. Mgr. Nawrocki and the Rev. Father Cholewicki, pastor of the church. In the church door crowd were over 150 uniformed Polish recruits, all of which took part in the parade, which had in line over 10,000 people, led by a living American flag of Polish girls.

The main exercises were held at the pavilion, where the gathering was said to have been the largest Polish assemblage ever seen in Chicago. The exercises finished, supperless, until a o'clock, only a few leaving the hall.

The climax of the exercises came when 500 recruits took the oath of the new Polish army, which is to fight along with the other allies in France. The leaders believe the army will soon number 50,000.

Paderewski's Battle Hymn.
A new Polish battle hymn, both the words and music of which were written by Mr. Paderewski, was then sung by the Filareet Singing society, a male chorus of eighty-five, under the direction of Thaddeus Wronski.

Then Paderewski spoke in Polish. He aroused the audience to a pitch of enthusiasm which at times seemed to approach frenzy, his hearers often rising and cheering almost to the point of tumult. This was especially marked when he said, "America cannot be a step-mother to you Polish people; she must be a real mother. For Thaddeus Kosciuszko fought for her freedom."

"The name of Kosciuszko symbolizes all of Poland's glory," he continued; "symbolizes Poland itself. His name is the brightest star in her armament; of Polish heroes he is the best loved."

"Poland says today what one of its first queens, Queen Wanda, said—that it would rather die than be found on the side of Germany."

Influences Wilson.
"Kosciuszko's deeds, his virtues, his immortal memory, have played their part in influencing President Wilson to become one of Poland's greatest champions. Poland fell and became enslaved because it did not maintain a great national army."

"As in the days of Kosciuszko, these new Polish warriors will go forward like a terrible storm that will crush everything before it and that will not cease until the enemy is conquered and the Polish flag waves over the enemy's trenches."

"Kosciuszko's spirit tells you to fight that Poland may live and that there never be an alliance with Germany. The hour has come. You must go on to battle, on to victory."

"This is not the 100th anniversary of Kosciuszko's death, but the 100th anniversary of his spiritual birth. This is a national holiday, held to celebrate the birth of the new Polish national army, whose godfathers are the United States, France, and England. Kosciuszko is not dead. Long live Kosciuszko!"

With this the crowd, many of whom wore the uniform of the new Polish national army, rose in frenzy.

Presentation of Flags.
Then followed the presentation by Paderewski of a battle flag, a reproduction of the ancient battle emblem of the Polish nation. It consists of a silver eagle, on a field of crimson silk. Col. Gasiorowski received it for the Polish national army, kissed its folds, and was then reverently kissed upon the forehead by Paderewski. Prince Poniatowski saluted the flag in the manner and in like manner was saluted.

Mrs. Lucy Lipczynska of Grand Rapids, Mich., the widow of an officer who

THEIR WATCHWORD — FREEDOM

Prominent Figures at Great Polish Demonstration Yesterday at Which Polish Army to Fight with Allies in France Was Launched; Paderewski is Standing with a Member of the Deposed Polish Royal Family, Wearing the Uniform of the New Army. Below is the Polish Colonel.



At left: MARIE GOODT. At right: IGNACE JAN PADEREW-
SKI and PRINCE STANISLAUS PONIATOWSKI. Below—COL.
VENCESLAS GASIOROWSKI.

was killed in the last Polish insurrection, and Miss Emily Napieralski of Chicago then presented another flag on behalf of the Polish women's organizations of America. Col. Gasiorowski received it and made an impassioned address, vowing upon behalf of himself and his comrades that they would justify the gifts with their lives.

Col. Gasiorowski then administered the oath to the recruits.

Prince Poniatowski spoke in English, following which Maj. S. C. Stanton, U. S. A., spoke on behalf of the American army; Commandant Eckensfelder, on behalf of the French army; Col. Murray on behalf of the British army; T. P. O'Connor, on behalf of the Irish nationalist party, and Henry Rathbone on behalf of the Lawyers' War Council of Chicago.

For the support and equipment of the new army a sum exceeding \$15,000 was raised.

Smulski Presides.

John F. Smulski presided, and was introduced by M. J. Perlowski, president of the Polish Citizens' committee. The Rev. W. Szpala, rector of St. Stanislaus college, read the invocation, following which Chairman Smulski introduced the guests. Telegrams were read from Secretary of War Baker, Ambassador Jusserand of France, Sir Cecil Spring-Rice, the British ambassador who was represented by the Hon. A. C. Murray, military attache of the embassy, Ambassador Bakhtmetoff of Russia, Bishop Rohde and others.

Ambassador Bakhtmetoff's message aroused wild enthusiasm when a quotation from the most recent public utterance of War Minister Terentchenko of Russia, which was part of it, was read, saying that regenerated Russia favored the complete regeneration of ancient Poland.

Other celebrations of the Kosciuszko anniversary were held at the Carter Harrison high school in the afternoon at which Anthony Czerniecki was the principal speaker, and by the United Polish societies at Pulaski hall, Eighteenth street and Ashland avenue, last night.

Haberdasher Robbed of \$125 and Check by 2 Men

George Desler of 4023 Kenmore avenue was robbed of \$125 and \$40 in checks by two men late last night at Kenmore avenue and Buena terrace. Desler owns a haberdashery at 4403 Broadway.