LEAGUE OF NATIONS

PROTECTION OF MINORITIES IN UPPER SILESIA


(See document C.59.1931.I.)

Note by the Secretary-General.

The Secretary-General having decided to apply in this case the urgent procedure provided for in the Council resolution of September 8th, 1928, this petition is circulated to the Members of the Council at the same time as to the Polish Government for the latter's observations, which will be communicated to the Council as soon as they are received.

CONTENTS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part I : Petition</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Part II : Evidence</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Part III : Cases of Terrorism</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PETITION FROM THE "DEUTSCHER VOLKSBUND FOR POLISH SILESIA" TO THE COUNCIL OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS ON ACCOUNT OF INFRINGEMENTS OF ARTICLES 75 AND 83 OF THE GENEVA CONVENTION.

"Deutscher Volksbund for Polish Silesia."
Serial Number B.R.1/31.
Katowice, January 7th, 1931.
Ulica Mlynska, 23.

To the Council of the League of Nations, Geneva.

We have the honour to submit the following petition to the Council of the League of Nations under Article 147 of the Geneva Convention.

The German minority in Polish Upper Silesia has already, on a previous occasion, been obliged to submit an appeal to the Council of the League of Nations regarding conditions of security in Polish Upper Silesia. We refer to our petition of May 17th, 1928, which was considered by the Council at its meeting of September 8th, 1928 (Official Journal, pages 1489 and following). After that date, the situation improved, apart from isolated incidents.

In the months of October and November 1930, a systematic persecution of the German minority, accompanied by acts of violence, was instituted. In several hundred cases illegal acts were committed against the lives, security and property of members of the minority.

The authorities took no effective steps to protect the minority and did nothing to ensure the safety of its members. In numerous cases, officials took part in the outrages. Often, too, members of the minority seeking protection from officials were treated with contempt.

In Part III we give a list, arranged by localities and in chronological order, of the cases of terrorism and outrages which have come to our knowledge. This list makes no claim to be exhaustive, since many of the persons assaulted failed to notify the fact for fear of further persecution or, for the same reason, requested that no use should be made of their information.

The great majority of the cases were notified to the President of the Mixed Commission for Upper Silesia in the form of petitions under Article 585 of the Geneva Convention. A copy of these petitions was received by the Polish representative on the Mixed Commission. The President examined a large number of the persons assaulted. Should our statements be doubted or contested, we request that this evidence should be consulted.

Organisations exist whose object it is to conduct a campaign against the German minority, with a view to driving out the German element from Poland. These organisations take every opportunity of inflaming national passions.

In August 1930, the German Minister Treviranus dealt in an election speech with the possibility of a peaceful revision of the German Eastern frontiers on the basis of Article 19 of the Covenant of the League of Nations. This speech, in conjunction with a discussion of the revision of the frontiers in the international Press as well as in that of the Reich, created a reaction in Poland. In speeches and articles, in interviews, at meetings, in the Press, in communal assemblies, etc., it was declared that the raising of the revision question meant war between Poland and Germany. It was in this atmosphere that the Warsaw Seym, the Senate and the Silesian Seym were dissolved and that new elections for these bodies were ordered. The campaign against a revision of the frontiers now became a plank in election platforms. The German minority was reproached with having supported the demand for a revision of the frontier and with having thus departed from its duty of loyalty to the Polish State.

In the Voivodie of Silesia, an anti-German week was organised from October 19th to 26th, 1930, which was advertised in the Press and by means of posters (page 9). Such posters were put up even in public buildings—for example, in the official building of the Silesian Voivodie and in the main arrival hall of Katowice railway station.

With the anti-German week began the systematic persecution of the German minority.

The Relationship of the German Minority to the State.

The attitude of the German minority to the revision question is shown by the speech made in the Silesian Seym by the President of the German Club, Dr. Pant, Member of the Seym, on September 19th, 1930 (page 9).

The attitude of the German minority to the State and its conception of citizenship are shown in Dr. Pant's speech in the Silesian Seym on June 23rd, 1930 (page 9), and in the election manifesto of the German electorate of October 15th, 1930 (page 10).
Representations to the National Authorities.

The election manifesto of the headquarters of the “Union of Silesian Insurgents” in the Polska Zachodnia of October 3rd, 1930 (page 10), the organisation of the anti-German week, the attitude of the semi-official Press and the increasingly bitter feeling against the German minority aroused in this way and at meetings, led the deputies, Dr. Pant and M. Rosumek, on October 18th, 1930, to request the Voivode, Dr. Grazynski, personally to take steps for the protection of the German minority. The Voivode stated that the safety of the German population was fully assured.

After the events which occurred during the period ending October 30th, 1930, and which already revealed the failure of the police, the deputies Franz, Rosumek and Kowoll attempted in person to bring the seriousness of the situation once more to the Voivode’s notice. After being kept waiting for nearly two hours they were told either to address themselves to the Head of the Presidency Office or to send in their application in writing. The deputies did not regard this procedure as expedient and on November 1st, 1930, sent the following telegram to the Minister of the Interior:

“On October 18th, the former deputies, Dr. Pant and M. Rosumek represented to the Silesian Voivode the dangerous position in which the German population of the Voivodie was placed by the organisation of an anti-German week. The Voivode assured them that the police would prevent any excesses.

“Since then many peaceable Germans have been assaulted publicly and in their dwellings, have been severely ill-treated and have gone in danger of their lives; in one case firearms were used. Even women are not spared. Windows are broken. The general state of insecurity is rendered more acute by the daily threats of the Press. No police protection is forthcoming. The German population feels itself a helpless prey to terrorism.

“An attempt to represent to the Voivode in person the seriousness of the situation and the need for immediate remedial measures met with no success. He refused to receive us. We therefore request you, Sir, to take immediate and effective measures for the protection of the German population.”

No reply was vouchsafed.

Only when these representations to the Government authorities had met with no success and when the persecution of the German minority had become more and more outrageous and brutal did the “Deutscher Volksbund”, in its capacity as an organisation for the protection of the rights of the German minority, appeal to the President of the Mixed Commission under Article 585 of the Geneva Convention on November 18th, 1930.

The Promoters and Agents of Terrorism.

(a) The “Union of Silesian Insurgents” — In nearly all the cases of terrorism there is evidence of the participation of “Insurgents” in uniform or civilian clothes; while, in other cases, the persons attacked nearly always assert that their assailants were “Insurgents.”

Section 5 of the Statutes of the Insurgents’ Union says:

“Tasks of the Union:

“(a) Social relief . . .

“(b) Strengthening of the national power by educating its members in discipline, and in moral and physical efficiency, by cultivating public spirit in social work and by military training.

“(c) Activities in the sphere of culture and learning.”

Section 66 says:

“Powers and rights of Headquarters:

“(j) The maintenance of close contact with the competent authorities and the adaptation of its activities to the provisions of the law.”

Section 68 says:

“The Union places itself under the control of the competent authorities, and, in military matters, is under the supervision of the military authorities.”

The Silesian Voivode, Dr. Grazynski, is Honorary President of the Union and takes a large part in its activities. His speeches at the Union’s sessions of September 16th, 1928 (page 12) (a few days before, on September 8th, 1928, the Foreign Minister, M. Zaleski, gave the Council of the League of Nations a materially different account of the character and duties of the Union), and of September 14th, 1930 (page 13), show his close connection with the Union.

The members of the Union are authorised to wear uniform and carry arms. They organise military exercises, for which notices are publicly issued and for which they are supplied with firearms and ammunition by the police authorities (page 15).

The Union receives financial support from the State and from many Silesian communes. Its members enjoy privileged treatment as regards the granting of retail licences for Government monopoly products, as well as other advantages.
The privileged position of the Union and the relations existing between it and the Government authorities, both in virtue of its Statutes and in actual practice, show that the Government authorities must be held directly responsible for the activities of the Union and its members.

The Union of Silesian Insurgents proclaimed the annihilation of the German minority as the aim of the electoral campaign, and endeavoured to carry its purpose into effect by the most brutal means.

On October 3rd, 1930, the headquarters of the Union of Silesian Insurgents publicly addressed an election manifesto to all the political parties (page 10): "Not a single deputy of the national minority must be returned to Parliament." The chief attention is directed to the "agents of Berlin." "Do not give to those who are working for the ruin of the Government and the Republic an opportunity of speaking anywhere." "To the enemies of Poland and of the Government show the strong right hand of the Silesian Insurgents." This manifesto still keeps to more or less general terms and is directed also against the Polish opposition parties. But the predominance of anti-German tendencies is already clear.

On October 10th, 1930, the district administration of Rybnik issued its circular No. 8 (page 15): "Do not allow the casting of even a single German vote". The martyrdom of the German minority in the Rybnik district was the consequence of this injunction.

At the beginning of November 1930, thousands of printed threatening letters (page 15) were sent to members of the German minority: "We warn you that, after the elections, we shall take the strongest measures against you should you have the audacity to cast your votes for the list of the militant German party which aims at detaching Silesia from Poland".

In the night of November 9th, 1930, thousands of copies of the election poster of the Insurgents' Union (page 16) were publicly put up, even in places where ball-posting was prohibited.

Both the picture and the wording of the election poster constitute an incitement to hatred of Germanism. It is a proclamation of systematic terrorism against the members of the German minority. The manifesto is signed by numerous officials. We shall revert to this fact later.

On November 19th, 1930, the Union issued a manifesto (page 17) celebrating the Polish victory over Germanism. A call to "further work" was made during the week ending November 23rd. Voting for the Volksbund list was stigmatised as treason to Poland.

On November 20th, 1930, the Union for the Western Marches published a proclamation (page 17), which again celebrates the victory over Germanism and thanks the insurgents for their "devoted work of enlightenment". The reproach of terrorism is repudiated. In conclusion, the appeal asks for "hard and systematic work in order to root out the evil where it still remains".

(b) The "Union for the Western Marches". — The Union for the Protection of the Western Marches (Z.O.K.Z.) is, together with the Insurgents' Union, the chief protagonist in the campaign against the German minority. It counts among its members officials of the highest rank. There is a separate section for the Voivodie of Silesia. During the electoral period, it combated the German element by spoken and written word. It, too, had as watchword the exclusion of the German minority from political life. Numerous special meetings were held (page 10), at which the details of an effective and universal campaign against the German minority were discussed.

As early as October 31st, 1930, the Polska Zachodnia relates details regarding its activities (page 10). The readers of German newspapers are to be stigmatised and made the object of a determined campaign. The meeting at Brzezie was presided over by M. Szymanski, head master of the Minority School, who later took a prominent part in the incidents at Brzezie (page 16).

In the night of November 9th, the election poster of the Union for the Western Marches was publicly put up (page 20). The German minority is reproached with being in league with "the hereditary enemy, Germany": "No one must cast a vote for the German list." "Anyone who votes for the German list is a traitor to the Silesian people and exposes himself to unpleasant consequences, for no one will have the slightest consideration for those who dare to vote for the German list." It is the duty of every Polish man and woman "to see personally that everyone goes to the polls on the day of the election and votes for the Polish lists".

On November 20th, 1930, the Union for the Western Marches published a proclamation (page 21): "The disloyal anti-national agitation has suffered a crushing defeat". "Here and there persons still exist who have dared to vote for the Germans. Next Sunday we must see that this does not happen again."

Then, on November 23rd, 1930, we have the manifesto of the headquarters (page 21): "Not a single German must get into the Senate".

(c) The Government Party. — The Government party reaped the benefit of the activities of the Insurgents' Union and of the Union for the Western Marches. Its own methods were modelled on those of the two societies and may be gathered from the circular of October 1st, 1930 (page 21).

In this circular, propaganda is made in favour of an open ballot, on the ground that a secret ballot betrays hostility to the State. The ballot officers are mostly officials.

"The Germans must not get a single seat." "Keep a watchful eye on the traitors." At Mychalcowice, Germans at the beginning of November were brought unstamped letters (threatening letters) by postmen (page 23): "We warn you against such experiments—i.e.,..."
the secret ballot—for the justly chastising hands of the true sons of the Fatherland will shortly fall upon you, and we will deal without consideration or mercy with the enemies of the State". "For the wrath of the outraged national dignity will overtake those who disregard the above manifesto." "Should you act otherwise, no one can be responsible for the consequences that will overtake you."

The election poster of the Government party of November 23rd, 1930 (page 24), says: "For the first time we have struck a shattering blow at the Volksbund Germans. In spite of this, there were still too many German votes."

(d) The semi-official Press. — The semi-official organ of the Silesian Voivodie is the daily paper Polska Zachodnia. This paper is deliberately hostile to the minority. It shrinks from no calumny and from no distortion of the truth, however gross, in its attacks upon the minority or upon individual members of the minority.

Its methods are shown by the following few extracts.

No. 226 (page 24): "... the present elections provide an opportunity for demoralising machinations on the part of our mortal enemy." "For us... the arch enemies at the election are, of course, the Germans." "... the fight against the disruptive tendencies of the party system should not for a moment distract our attention from our arch-enemy the Association of German Electors." "While paralysing the work of those who live exclusively for their party, we must, above all things, pay heed to the machinations of the Volksbund wire-pullers." "The agitators of the Volksbund electoral organisation must realise that we see what they are up to and that we are ever at their heels."

No. 265 (page 25): "In Silesia, the so-called secret ballot is only of advantage to the propaganda of the outposts of Berlin. The Volksbund people... wish to still the consciences of such corrupt voters by laying stress on secrecy of the ballot."

No. 272 (page 26): "We refer to the ranks of the Volksbund electors who carry on their treasonable calling under cover of the secret ballot."

In the same article this journal boasts of the campaign it has waged during the last four years against German in the schools, film captions and the theatre.

This article is an open admission of the fact we have always asserted—that this excitement of the national passions is not spontaneous on the part of the Polish population of Upper Silesia, but is the result of a systematic and deliberate agitation.

No. 284 (page 27): "Our efforts must be still further intensified. The Volksbund agitators must be watched and unmasked." "On Sunday, a full participation in the elections and an open ballot must be enforced." "Only a few more days of effort... the Volksbund people must be wiped out."

No. 288 (page 28): "The legend sedulously spread by the Germans regarding the German character of this ancient Piast territory was exploded like a soap-bubble once and for all on November 16th."

No. 289 (page 28): "This election defeat of the Association of German Electors has broken the back of militant Germanisation once and for all. We must therefore regard with some degree of gentle tolerance the idiocies which we find in the election comments of yesterday's Volksbund Press. Such a collection of imbecilities, conceived as a result of 'sore heads', we have never met before in the Volksbund Press, although the rags of the pro-Berlin agitators have often distinguished themselves before by remarkable pieces of stupidity." "The idiotic legend of election terrorism exercised by the Sanacja has burst like a soap-bubble..."

It was enough for the Poles to shake off their lethargy and take somewhat firmer action for Treviranus to receive as an answer that, in Silesia, the Germans only got three seats instead of six, and in the whole of Poland only five instead of nineteen. The German 'revisi... are now free to boast of the German character of the lost German Eastern provinces. Yes, yes, you Volksbund reptiles, our patience and lethargy were bound to come to an end soon."

"The defeat of the Volksbund rabble must be made still more crushing."

No. 297 (page 29): The official announcement of the election results in Silesia by the Minister of the Interior, circulated by the Polish telegraph agency, appears under the heading "The Ministry of the Interior unmasks the shameless German lies as to alleged terrorism in Silesia..."

We imagine that the above examples sufficiently show that the terrorisation of the German minority was systematic and was stirred up and conducted by the above-mentioned agents. We also think that the campaign was directed against the Germans, not as a party, but as a national minority.

The German element has already suffered once from similar methods, before the plebiscite of March 20th, 1921.

Behaviour of the Police.

We admit that at election time excesses are always possible, but for this very reason the police must use their whole authority to ensure the maintenance of public peace, security and order. When terrorism against the minority is openly preached and exercised, it is not only the ordinary duty of the police authorities, but a duty expressly laid upon them by the Geneva Convention, to take steps to protect the minority against illegal proceedings and to assure to its members the same security as to other citizens.
The poster of the Union of Silesian Insurgents and the poster of the Silesian Section of
the Union for the Western Marches incite to class hatred and fall under Section 130 of
the Penal Code. The election poster of the Insurgents' Union is signed by numerous public
and communal officials, their official rank in some cases being stated. It contains the
following names of officials:

Witozak, provincial judge.
Baron, district school inspector.
Wasik, State railway director.
Sojka, Deputy Public Prosecutor.
Orlicki, burgomaster.
Zeyer, chief official and official head of a commune.
Grzenik, burgomaster.
Przybila, official head of a commune.
Kawa, official head of a commune.
Janas, official head of a commune.
Koj, burgomaster.

In cases where the poster does not state the official rank of the signatory, we have added
it when it was known to us. It is possible that other signatories were also officials.

It was the duty of the police to prevent the putting up of this poster, which was contrary
to the law. It did not perform its duty and therefore connived at an illegal proceeding.

It was the duty of the police to protect the members of the minority against attacks
on their lives and property. Either it did not perform its duty at all or did so in an entirely
inadequate manner.

Police officers looked on at brutal assaults on members of the minority without protecting
them (page 34, no. 4; page 36, no. 29; page 37, no. 38; page 37, no. 52; page 38, no. 71;
page 39, no. 4; page 39, no. 5; page 41, no. 4; page 43, no. 24; page 45, no. 17).

Police officers themselves ill-used members of the minority (page 36, no. 22; page 38,
no. 74; page 44, no. 10; page 45, no. 24; page 49, no. 20).

Police officers spoke to members of the minority in a contemptuous and insulting manner
(page 35, no. 12; page 42, no. 5; page 44, no. 5; page 46, no. 31; page 46,
no. 34; page 46, no. 4; page 48, no. 12; page 49, no. 20; page 50, no. 24; page 51, no. 43).

The official head of the commune of Wilcza Gorna brought ruffians from another locality
to the house of the farmer Greitzke and had him kidnapped.

At Brzezie, two ringleaders were only arrested when the President of the Mixed Commission
looked into the matter.

Furthermore, several notorious ringleaders are not yet known to have been arrested. No
single sentence has yet been pronounced.

The majority of the cases given in Part III represent offences on which criminal proceedings
must be taken ex officio without any complaint on the part of the victims.

Under Article 53 of the Decree on Penal Procedure of March 19th, 1928 (Dz. U.R.P.,
No. 33, of March 20th, 1928, paragraph 313 page 617), the Public Prosecutor is bound to
take official proceedings for breaches of the law. The Public Prosecutor in all law courts is the
"Staatsanwalt" and in the court-leet is the State police (Articles 55 and 56 of the aforesaid
Decree). Under Chapter IV, Article 12, Section 2, of the Decree giving effect to the Decree
on Penal Procedure of March 19th, 1928 (Dz. U.R.P., No. 33, of March 20th, 1928, paragraph
314, page 654), civil proceedings in the Upper Silesian part of the Voivodie of Silesia are
confined to the cases covered by Section 414, sub-paragraphs 1 and 2, of the German Decree
on Criminal Procedure of February 1st, 1877 (German Legal Gazette, page 233).

Nevertheless, in cases in which there was no doubt whatever that proceedings should
be taken ex officio, the police declined to accept denunciations and told the persons concerned
to bring a civil suit.

The Public Prosecutor, for example, told one, Miklitz, who was severely injured, to take
civil action. As early as November 11th, 1930, the Public Prosecutor informed the
bank director Janotta (page 52), who, on October 24th, 1930, had lodged a complaint, that
the proceedings were being discontinued, since further enquiries with regard to the authors
of the offence did not seem likely to yield any results.

The Public Prosecutor thus denied the members of the minority the public legal protection
to which they were entitled under the laws of the State and under the Geneva Convention.

Attitude of the Government Authorities.

Statements regarding the occurrences in question have been made by the Minister of the
Interior, the Voivode in his speech to the Silesian Seym on December 9th, 1930, and the Minister
for Foreign Affairs in an interview granted to the representative of Le Matin. The statement
made by the Minister of the Interior on November 27th, 1930, shows that he possessed entirely
inadequate information as to the seriousness of the incidents.

This possibility is, however, ruled out in the case of the Voivode, who is in
supreme command of the police in the Voivodie of Upper Silesia. He must have been acquainted
with the manifestos of the Insurgents Union and of the Union for the Western Marches, as
well as with the articles of the semi-official Polska Zachodnia and with the excesses which had
been committed. His statement: "I must state definitely that the incidents were . . . of
The text of the interview given by M. Zaleski is not at our disposal. According to the accounts in the Polish and German Press, the Minister concluded from the heavy poll that this contradicted the assertion of terrorism and that the reduction in the number of German votes was the consequence of spontaneous deremanisation.

The heavy poll has other causes, however. Under the Silesian law of October 29th, 1926 (Dz. U.S.L., No. 24, paragraph 41), voting in the communal elections was made compulsory in the Upper Silesian part of the Silesian Voivodie. Since then, the Upper Silesian population has imagined that voting was compulsory at all elections. The correctness of our assertion is confirmed by the materially smaller poll in the Teschen part of the Voivodie.

The representations made to the national authorities have had no results. The Association of German Electors has disputed the validity of the elections to the Warsaw and Silesian Seyms in all three Silesian electoral districts. We reserve the right, after the expiration of the time-limit allowed for objections, to appeal to the Council of the League of Nations on account of infringements of the right to vote.

The facts mentioned constitute breaches of Articles 75 and 83 of the Geneva Convention.

The cause of this reduction in the number of votes within five months resides exclusively in the methods employed in the election campaign. The Association of German Electors has disputed the validity of the elections to the Warsaw and Silesian Seyms in all three Silesian electoral districts. We reserve the right, after the expiration of the time-limit allowed for objections, to appeal to the Council of the League of Nations on account of infringements of the right to vote.

We ask that it should be recognised that the German minority did all in its power to have the severe breaches of the treaty remedied by making representations to the national authorities and by securing the intervention of the President of the Mixed Commission, and to avoid having recourse to a minority petition.

The Government has not been able to bring itself to take measures against the Union of Silesian Insurgents, which was the prime mover in the acts of terrorism, and the close connection of which with the authorities should have led the latter to take immediate steps. The Government considers a reprimand sufficient for public officials who took part in acts of violence.

The instructions of the Minister of Justice have either not yet been issued or have not yet come to the knowledge of those concerned. In the particularly serious case of Midlitz (page 41), the Public Prosecutor, for example, on December 20th, 1930, directed the injured party to take civil proceedings, although this case ought obviously to be dealt with by the Public Prosecutor ex officio.

We ask that it should be recognised that the German minority did all in its power to have the severe breaches of the treaty remedied by making representations to the national authorities and by securing the intervention of the President of the Mixed Commission, and to avoid having recourse to a minority petition.
The Government's declarations, for the above-mentioned reasons, are not calculated to restore to the German minority the confidence in the legal protection and legal security to which they are entitled, a confidence which they have lost during the experiences of the past few weeks.

The immediate restoration of this confidence is absolutely necessary in view of the present situation, and for this reason we request the Council of the League of Nations to treat our petition as urgent and to deal with it at the next session of the Council. The submission of the petition within the normal time-limit was impossible owing to the proceedings instituted by the President of the Mixed Commission.

We request the Council of the League of Nations to note and resolve the following:

1. Articles 75 and 83 of the Geneva Convention have been infringed.
2. The Polish Government shall take such steps against the authorities responsible for permitting the breaches of the treaty as will demonstrate to the Polish and German populations that there can be no repetition of such offences.
3. The Polish Government shall examine whether the privileged position of the Union of Silesian Insurgents can be maintained.

(Signed) Ulitz,

Chairman.
DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE.

Election Poster.

(See illustration inset between pages 16 and 17.)

Speech by the Deputy, Dr. Pant, at the Meeting of the Second Silesian Seym Held on September 10th, 1930.

The external cause of the resolution was the election speech of a German Minister. A Minister who addresses his electors is a party man, and his words must therefore be considered and judged only from the standpoint of party politics and not from that of the State as a whole. We therefore see no reason for concerning ourselves with the speech of a foreign party politician. It is, perhaps, natural enough that Polish public opinion should be alarmed by the demands of a portion of the German people for a peaceful revision of the frontier on the basis of Article 19 of the Covenant of the League of Nations, and should oppose this claim. We cannot, however, approve of the form which this opposition has taken. It is most regrettable that this fact has been taken advantage of by a portion of the Polish population to inflame national passions and to stir up hatred, not only against the German people, but also against the German minority in Poland. We pursue only one purpose in the Polish State, and that is to secure the rights granted to us by the Constitution and by international treaties. We shall fulfil our duties as citizens of the State at all times and in all circumstances, for we know that the State is greater than the individual. But justice is even greater than the State, and we shall always oppose the violation of justice.

Extract from Dr. Pant’s Speech at the Meeting of the Second Silesian Seym Held on June 23rd, 1930.

Our political life is, unfortunately, embittered by the conflict between the legislative and the executive power. This conflict goes on at the expense of the majority of the population, and constitutes one of the most important causes of the present economic crisis. We sincerely hope that the Silesian Seym will be drawn into this conflict as little as possible. For our part we shall, in the interests of the community, avoid all that could contribute towards aggravating the already strained situation in our Voivodie. We recognise, of course, the necessity of a strong Government. This strength should not, however, rest on a violent and arbitrary basis, but on the principles of law, order and justice and on the confidence of the citizens of the State. No one, not even the Government authorities, should be allowed to infringe with impunity these principles, which should be binding on both governors and governed, both individuals and the community.

It is a great misfortune for the Voivodie of Silesia that the highest representative of the Government has, hitherto at least, based his power only on a relatively small portion of the population and has thus placed himself in opposition to the majority of the Silesian people. In our opinion, the Voivode should stand above all differences which may exist among the population, and should strive to play a conciliatory part by manifesting a just and impartial spirit in his dealings with all classes of the people.

One of the chief causes of the embitterment of our relations is the artificial creation of national differences. The experience of the past has shown, without any doubt, that no creative work can be based on national zeal alone, and that the latter provides no solid foundation for the life of the State. And, when this zeal is enhanced by hatred of other nationalities, it not only loses moral value, but has a disruptive influence owing to the poison which it instils into men’s minds.

Hence we find it difficult to understand how the authorities can, not only tolerate, but encourage this propaganda of hate, as has been the case in connection with the deplorable occurrences at Oppeln and the unpardonable abuse of the Jakubowski trial, which was represented on the stage in different towns and villages in the Voivodie. (Witczak: “What about the film ‘Land unterm Kreuz’?”) This film was banned, at any rate in the Catholic Associations. (Cry of “What about Berlin?”) We cannot be responsible for what happens on the other side of the frontier. (Cry of “That is agitation too!”) This has nothing to do with the Seym. In any case we must see to it that individual occurrences on the other side of the frontier, with which we have nothing to do and for which we cannot be made responsible, are not exploited to aggravate national differences and are not used as a pretext for denying us our rights. We are always conscious of the fact that we are Polish citizens, and we have the sentiments of Polish citizens—I say this with the knowledge and approval of the German Club. We are therefore entitled to be regarded and treated as citizens of the State, having the same rights as others.

A State which, with the help of its officials and administrations, carries on a campaign against a portion of its citizens undermines its authority and the foundations of its existence.
It is in the best interests of the State that no national rights should be infringed, that each citizen should be left free to declare himself of this nationality or that, and that he should be entitled to a share in the life of the State. We must, unfortunately, recognise, however, that hitherto in our country the fact of declaring oneself as belonging to the German minority—at least in certain circles—is regarded as a crime to be punished and repressed, even by the most stringent measures, such as the deprivation of employment and of the means of subsistence. In making appointments to posts, in granting concessions, in assessing taxes, in granting loans and in other matters national considerations are paramount.

The logical consequence of such an attitude is not only that we are deprived of our rights, but that offences committed against members of the German minority are not properly punished. When, therefore, we fight for equal rights, we are not fighting against the State as such, but are simply fighting for a sound basis for our political life.

Much has been said and written about the so-called "German peril". In this connection I should like to say that, at least as far as the German minority in Poland is concerned, this German peril is purely imaginary. I was very pleased to read a short time ago in the Kurjer Slaski the following passage on this alleged peril: "We are ourselves to blame to a certain extent for having allowed ourselves to be led astray by the German peril, but our great patriotism must be our excuse." If this German peril has any basis at all, it is due, not to the attitude of the German minority to the State, but, on the contrary, to the attitude of the State to the German minority. I am therefore convinced that the German peril will cease to have even an imaginary existence if the German minority is granted its due.

ELECTION PROCLAMATION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF GERMAN ELECTORS.

Electors!

This time the Germans in Poland are going to stand for the elections TO THE WARSAW SEYM AND SENATE as a German electoral group independently of other national minorities.

The German list is No. 12.

We stand for justice, which constitutes the only basis for a vigorous and clear-sighted development of the State.

We stand for political liberty, since only a free people can bring the State to prosperity.

We fight for the cultural liberty of the national minorities, for nationality is the basis of our being.

We fight for equal rights, since we are members of the State and can only do constructive work if we have equal rights.

We stand for economic and social progress of all kinds, in order to relieve the great distress of the people.

We combat discord and party strife, for they are harmful to the State and to the people.

These are the principles on which our candidates will act.

Katowice, October 15th, 1930.

Association of German Electors.

ELECTION PROCLAMATION OF THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE UNION OF SILESIAN INSURGENTS.

(Polska Zachodnia No. 249, of October 3rd, 1930.)

Insurgents!

The new elections ordered by the President of the Republic in accordance with the laws furnish us with a fresh proof that both the Chief of the State and Marshal Pilsudski's Government desire the people to manifest their willingness to support the changes of the laws which will constitute a basis for the permanent existence of our independent fatherland. The fact of new elections being held is the best proof that the Polish people must express their conviction that a reform of the Republic is a national necessity which no Pole can evade.

The new elections lay upon us fresh and very important duties. Conscious of our purpose and of the efforts of Marshal Pilsudski's Government to strengthen the existence of the Republic, we must set to work with the greatest energy, self-sacrifice and zeal in order to bring to a successful conclusion the work of bettering the constitution set in hand by Marshal Pilsudski. We must see, too, that this work is carried out in the form which Marshal Pilsudski has decided upon as the best. The combined efforts of all the Insurgents and of all those who have created Poland with their sweat and blood must be directed towards ensuring that only such people are elected to the future Seym and Senate of the Republic, and also to the Silesian Seym, as will sink their personal interests and work solely for the good of the State and the development of its power.
Insurgents! We call upon you to take the offensive for the reform of the Republic! To the future legislative assemblies not a single deputy or senator must be elected by our territory who will not support Marshal Pilsudski's Government. Our activities must be directed towards ensuring that not a single deputy of the national minority and not a single representative of the party demagogues enters the Senate or the Seym. We must not allow men to enter these assemblies who, instead of serving their constituencies and the State whose citizens they are, will take their orders from their party or from Berlin or Moscow.

In order that our aims may be carried into effect, we call upon you, Insurgents, to carry on energetic propaganda. Each member of our Union must play his part. We must all go to our fellow-countrymen and explain to them that our whole future depends on the constitution of the Seym elected on November 16th. Our economic situation, the welfare of the working-classes, the relief of unemployment and all the other vital questions of concern to the community depend on whether the forthcoming Seym is able to bring into effect the changes which are such an urgent necessity. The situation should be made clear to the masses of the population in order that the future Seym should not consist of the representatives of parties but of men who will leave no stone unturned to carry through Marshal Pilsudski's work to a successful conclusion.

Everyone must be made to realise that there will be no room in the future Seym for party intrigues and for personal interests, and that its members must be guided by the needs of the State and not indulge in petty agitation against the State and its Chief.

Insurgents! There is reason to suspect that all those who have an interest in decrying the Polish State, in reducing its prestige abroad and in breaking up the community into small factions, will do all in their power during the election period to induce the sound portion of the Polish community to vote for individual parties or for anti-Governmental lists. Keep a watchful eye on the behaviour of the Volksbund and Communist agitators and on the agents of the parties in your locality.

Above all, you must keep a watchful eye on the machinations of the agents of Berlin and Moscow and bring all cases of illegal agitation to the knowledge of the authorities. Your attention must be specially directed to those who, by bribery or the exercise of material pressure, endeavour to induce unenlightened electors to vote for German or Communist lists. Watch all stewards or officials of German estates who by threats or promises endeavour to force their workers to vote for German lists. In mining or industrial enterprises, keep your eye on the German foremen and officials who, by threats or promises, endeavour to secure votes for the German list. Such proceedings are punishable and inadmissible. Keep careful watch on the insidious machinations of the agents of Moscow.

Anti-national activities must everywhere be opposed. The Silesian Insurgents must not permit foreign agents to gain a footing in our land, conquered with our sweat and blood. Do not allow those who work to the detriment of the Government and of the Republic to get a hearing.

Insurgents! We have won the freedom of Poland with the blood and the heroic deaths of our fallen comrades-in-arms, and not by diplomatic negotiations round a green table. We have always worked for Poland with the utmost self-sacrifice. It is time that all those who have fought and died for Poland should be heard, and that their sacrifices should gain due recognition. The authorities have never gainsaid this, and recognition must now come from the community as a whole. For this reason we must pursue our work with all our strength and devotion.

Insurgents! As so often before, we appeal to you to-day to put forward your best efforts to ensure the triumph of the just cause. All must respond to this appeal and no one can afford to stand by inactive. Your consciousness of the importance of the Insurgents' work calls you to your posts in the electoral campaign. Rally round the election work of the National Christian Labour Union (N.Ch.Z.P.) in your locality. Where election committees of the N.Ch.Z.P. do not yet exist, they must be created at once. Where they do exist, come forward and work with them in a spirit of concord and unity. All citizens devoted to the Polish State must take part in the work of these committees.

To the enemies of Poland and of the Government show the toil-worn but strong fist of the Silesian Insurgents. Let them know that the Silesian Insurgents are on the watch and will not allow the atmosphere of Polish life to be poisoned. Nor will they tolerate anti-national machinations or attempts to stir up outrages or rebellion or other artifices of party demagogues.

Long live Marshal Pilsudski!

Long live Polish Silesia conquered by the Insurgents!

Long live the triumph of the idea of the Republic's rebirth!

Headquarters of the Union of Silesian Insurgents.
Speech delivered by the Voivode Dr. Grazynski at the Eighth Congress of Delegates of the Union of Silesian Insurgents in Katowice on September 16th, 1928.

(Polska Zachodnia, No. 258, of September 17th, 1928.)

Insurgents! This is the second time I am here to meet you at this Congress in my capacity as Voivode of Silesia. It is to you I owe that office. I am come to tell you what I think and feel about you. The President of the Congress has called me your spiritual leader. I want to tell you I accept this honourable title at your hands.

Whenever I meet you at assemblies of any kind, I always feel I am in a cordial and fraternal atmosphere, an atmosphere evoked by common experiences and struggles and the tradition of our Insurgent ideals. Allow me therefore to go back for a moment into the past.

I came to Upper Silesia from another part of the country. You remember the period of conspiracy, and again the time of the Second and Third Insurrections when I was leader—that is to say, head of the general staff—of the Fourth Group. I said then explicitly that I regarded the question of where a man belongs from a different standpoint to some. The fact of birth in this territory is not, in my view, the principal condition for belonging to it. I have said this again and again, both in the period of conspiracy and later during the insurrectionary struggles. I say it again, and repeat that the most important factor in this matter is the idea, the conviction, the act and the readiness to struggle and make sacrifices for the freedom and greatness of the Fatherland! These are the links which bind me to this soil; and the blood which has been shed upon it in common is, to my thinking, a better and a stronger link of fraternity than the fact of birth! On these grounds, I consider myself a sincere and devoted son of Silesia. (Frantic applause.) The Third Insurrection, to which you gave its national historical value, was the fruit of just these ideals, this heroic spirit of sacrifices, deep-rooted as it was in the masses of the people and not organised from without as our enemies maintain.

I was with you then, whenever others left you seeking better conditions. I was with you when, the struggles being at an end and Upper Silesia assigned to Poland, your enemies set to work to agitate against you. Here and now I definitely assert that the Insurgents not only received no sympathy from the social organisations after their self-denying activities for the Polish cause, but were, on the contrary, attacked from those quarters. Certain Polish leaders were actually in the habit of treating the Insurgents as common bandits. These attacks, these reproaches, I endured in common with you in unshaken loyalty to our idea and our achievements, which were the product of the very soul of Upper Silesia and the beginning of the insurrectionary tradition. By your exploits in arms you won this ancient soil of the Piasts for Poland. (Frantic applause.) If I, as your spiritual leader, have survived those hard times which all the Insurgents had to go through, I must say that it was you who gave me the strength to do so. Even at that time, after the close of the insurrection and the partitioning of the country, when many of the leaders were leaving German territory in a body, I as your organiser remained alone for a whole year on the other side working for those I had myself armed for the struggle. (Loud applause.) I mention this to show how closely I feel myself associated with the fraternity of Insurgents on both sides of the frontier. As I served our brothers in the period of their subjection as best I could, and shared with them all their joys and sorrows, I am convinced I am entitled to call myself a true son of this land just as much as others who come from here. (Frantic applause.)

The Union of Silesian Insurgents has been through a number of stages of development since the year 1922. Numerous other associations have been dissolved during this period; and, if we are to-day the most powerful association in this field, we owe it only to the high sense of nationality by which our activities are inspired. Hardened in the struggle for our common idea, you have maintained the faith that Poland, renascent, will one day recognise your services. If you have remained up to the present isolated, that position has been fundamentally changed by the return of Marshal Pilsudski to power, since he has placed me, an Insurgent, at the head of this Voivodie, which amounts to an indirect recognition of your great achievements in arms. (Frantic applause.)

In this land of Silesia, gentlemen, there are various rumours in circulation and various currents of opinion, as I know from my own observation. The Union of Silesian Insurgents must therefore close its ranks and be ready to repel all predatory aspirations. You are the core of the Polish people in Silesia, and must therefore penetrate to every place where there is a glimmer of Polish life. I told you before in 1926, when you greeted me on the Ring in Katowice, that no national service should be wasted in this field. All such service must now be turned to practical account. You must prepare, therefore, for constructive action in all branches of our economic, social and national life. You must co-operate with the administrative authorities in all important social and economic questions in the land. For centuries this land was the scene of national exploitation, and it is saturated with survivals of Germanism and disloyalty and elements whose nefarious influence is even now apparent. It is your duty to wage a vigorous struggle with these elements by energetic propagation of the Polish spirit in all corners of the land. The banner of our national pride must be held high and propaganda made for it amongst the children: for, if the children are penetrated by our national pride, it will not be possible to fight against Polish influence here.
Further, there is the work of the Union in the field of organisation, education and enlightenment, which appears on our programme of action. Your influence must go still deeper in this field, and prepare public opinion for the voting of further important measures by the Silesian Sejm for the strengthening of Polish influence in the country. Was it not under your influence that the Sejm decided to abolish the eight-year period of exemption of Upper Silesian citizens from military service? In this connection I want to speak about another matter—I mean the limitation laid down in its statutes. The dividing-line between political and unpolitical questions is very ill-defined. Take the case of a social claim put forward by a non-political body. If such a claim coincides with the requirements of the community, it is a political claim; and that is the case with practically every issue of a political character. The Union of Silesian Insurgents is not an organisation of ex-combatants or anything of that kind; it is an organ of constructive national effort, and its activities should cover the whole social life of Silesia. It must not allow itself to be excluded from the social sphere by other organisations of party politics which are apt to make the most vital requirements of the Silesian people the subject of party struggles, as was the case with the shelving of the land reform in Silesia. The Union of Silesian Insurgents must provide the element of social strength which is required in determining the political programme of the Voivodie, and I as Voivode must be able to use this strength in my support.

Lastly, I want to refer to the elections to the Sejm. During the national elections, the organising capacity and elasticity of which you gave proof resulted in the strengthening of our political position by the return of our candidates to the Sejm and Senate. I hope that in the elections for the Silesian Sejm, your influence will weigh even more heavily in the scale, and that a genuine majority of Polish Insurgents will be returned who will effectively support the exclusive interests of the Polish State and of the Polish community in Silesia.

Lastly, I want so say a few words on the subject of discipline and training. You are to-day an association of some 40,000 members and the organisation is semi-military in character. But what is the greatest numerical strength worth to an army without discipline? I know, of course, to what the slackening of the ties of obedience is due. There are grievances. But it is precisely in order to discuss our internal defects that Congresses are called together, at which all members of the Union have an equal right to discuss this or that defect with a view to its removal. But in the interval between Congresses unconditional discipline on the part of subordinates to their leaders must be the rule, or the significance of the organisation becomes illusory. Better ten well-organised, disciplined men than 40,000 with loose conceptions of discipline. I appeal to you, therefore, to support discipline in all groups of the Union; for without it we can do nothing.

I now take my leave of you. I am sorry I cannot remain with you until the close of the discussion, feeling as I do—here in the midst of my beloved comrades-in-arms—in the most congenial surroundings. But duty calls me elsewhere. Others are waiting for me. I hope, however, to meet you again at the reception I am giving in your honour, at which we shall have a further opportunity for intercourse.

Lastly, I want to mention the man who inoculated us with this great insurrectionary idea, showed us the way to armed action and taught us how to fight, to die and to conquer. Long live Marshal Josef Piłsudski! (Frantic applause.) Long live the President of the Republic, Professor Mosciński! (Loud and continued applause.)

A NOTABLE DAY FOR THE INSURGENTS IN UPPER SILESIA.

Impressive Proceedings at the Tenth General Meeting of the Delegates of the Local Headquarters of the Union of Silesian Insurgents.

Extract from Polska Zachodnia, No. 237, of September 16th, 1930.

The Voivode, in his speech, said that the ideals of the Insurgents have not weakened, but have, on the contrary, gained in intensity. The assignment of Silesia to Poland was undoubtedly due to the third Silesian Insurrection. Just as the voice of ex-combatants must always be heard in the political life of the State, so in Silesia the former insurgents must have a decisive word to say. At the present time, when Germany is bringing up the question of frontier revision, the solidarity of the Polish community with the Polish Government is an unconditional necessity. This is the moment that the Centre-Left Coalition has chosen to call a meeting in Katowice to protest against Marshal Piłsudski's Government! Such a step in Katowice is a real outrage from the standpoint of national interests. We are not passive individuals;
we are men of action. Conscious of our own strength, we shall endeavour to put through the Insurgents' programme without regard to whether it pleases this quarter or that. The Union of Silesian Insurgents adheres firmly to Marshal Pilsudski's banner and will remain true to him until his programme has been realised in its entirety. To-day's meeting is designed to prepare the Insurgents for even more important moments. The Union must close its ranks and redouble its efforts. It is the noblest representative of the Silesian community; for its programme has more regard than any other to the interests of the Silesian people, and it is for this reason that the Voivode feels bound to it by links of fraternity and comradeship-in-arms. The Voivode concluded his speech by calling for cheers for the Polish Republic, its President and Marshal Pilsudski.

The following resolutions were passed at the meeting:

"I. Against German Machinations.

The general meeting protests with indignation against the provocative language of the German Minister Treviranus in regard to the revision of Poland's western frontiers. Our reply to this provocation must be an intensified cohesion of the community, to enable it at any moment to repel such attacks on the inviolability of the frontiers of the Polish Republic. We note with indignation that the representatives of the German minority in their public utterances and the German Press in Silesia have shown that they are at one with the German machinations against our frontiers. We call accordingly, upon the authorities to give special attention to this contemptible activity on the part of the disloyal German minority. Further, we call upon the Polish community in Silesia ruthlessly to boycott the German Press."

"II. A Greeting to our Brothers beyond the Frontier.

"To our brothers in German Silesia who languish under the Prussian yoke we send cordial greetings, offer them our consolations and call upon them to persevere in this hard struggle."

"III. Censure of the Volksbund and its Associates.

"The meeting protests in the most vigorous manner against the perfidious German methods, the aim of which is to germanise the Silesian children. In particular, the meeting condemns the action of the Volksbund which, unasked, has assumed the rôle of protector of the minority against the Polish authorities, and endeavours by dishonourable means to attract Polish children to the German schools. In the same manner the meeting condemns all those who facilitate the work of the Volksbund and share its standpoint in the matter of the Polish schools. In particular, we condemn the action of the Deputy Korfanty, who, on personal and demagogic grounds, opposes the action of the Polish authorities on the educational question and is consequently acting to the detriment of the Polish State."

"IV.

"We call upon the authorities to adhere steadfastly to the watchword of 'The Polish child for the Polish school', and declare that we will not allow the Polish child in the Polish State to be germanised by paid agents of Berlin."

"Censure of the Disloyal German Communal Representatives.

"The meeting condemns in the strongest terms the disloyal standpoint of the German communal representatives who have ventured to oppose the wishes of the Polish community in face of the German Minister Treviranus' provocation, and calls upon the entire community to make a decided stand against the unpatriotic action of the Volksbund and its agents."

"V. Economic Demands.

"We note that, in spite of the economic crisis from which Silesia, like other countries, is suffering, Silesian industry still employs German nationals and frequently dismisses individuals who formerly did great service in the recovery of Polish independence. The workers and employees who formerly took part in the Silesian insurrections are the chief sufferers in these cases. A large number of Polish directors and managers are already occupied in the Silesian heavy industry. We appeal to their national loyalty to devote more attention in social matters to those placed under their authority, and not to allow persons who fought for the independence of Poland in the sanguinary Silesian insurrections to be deprived of their daily bread. We cannot in this connection overlook the fact that the management of the State nitrate factory in Chorzów shows very little friendliness to the members of the Union of Silesian Insurgents. We are bound specially to censure the attitude of the management of the Ferrum works in the matter of the dismissal of the Insurgent Tkocz.

"We at the same time address to the authorities a request to expel from the Polish State managers and engineers of German nationality whose activities are disloyal to the Polish State."

VI. Protest against Unpatriotic Restaurant and Hotel Keepers.

"The assembled meeting urges that all permits to exceed the closing hours should be withdrawn from and not in future granted to restaurant and hotel keepers who place their premises at the disposal of organisations hostile to the Polish State for the purpose of public meetings, and, further, that, in future, concessions for such purposes should be granted only to Poles."

VII. Help for Polish Trade and Handicrafts.

"In view of the heavy competition of the minority with Polish trade and handicrafts, the meeting addresses a request to the authorities to consider remissions of taxation and cheap credit to Polish trade and handicrafts. The meeting demands that all public works and services should be entrusted to Poles, particularly those who have done service to the national cause, passing over the claims of the minority. We know from the past that, in Germany, a Pole could never obtain State orders, and the attitude of our minority does nothing to justify any more favourable treatment of it.

The meeting appeals to the authorities to speed up the land reform in Silesia in order to provide the agricultural population with normal conditions of existence."

Attention! Insurgents of the Katowice Division.

(Polska Zachodnia, No. 268, of October 25th, 1930.)

In accordance with instructions received from higher authorities, I hereby order all insurgents to stand by from 6 to 11 p.m. on the 25th instant. The alarm may be given at any moment during this period without notice.

On the 26th instant field service exercises (manœuvres) will take place with the agreement and co-operation of the competent military authorities, in which all detachments forming part of our Divisional Command will take part. Battalions I, II, III, IV, V and VI will meet at 2 a.m. at the church in St. Stephen’s Square in Bogucice, where the allocation of units, distribution of arms and ammunition and the issue of orders will take place. Battalions will fall in in column of march in the order of their numbers I, II, III, IV, V, VI. The arms stored at the commissariat or at the police station will be taken over by company commanders in return for certificates of receipt.

It is the duty of members to appear for manœuvres, and there is no need to point out how necessary these exercises are at the present time when the catchword of "Revenge" is being spread by German jingoes. Absence without excuse will be treated as breach of duty, and I shall call offenders to account. Each insurgent is required to provide himself with a table-spoon and canteen.

(Signed) Sojka,
Divisional Commander P.W. and W.F.,
Union of Silesian Insurgents,
Katowice Division.


As from the date of receipt of this circular, uniform is to be worn in all localities in order to impress the people and to display our strength to our enemies.

Insurgents should not allow the opposition parties to put up electoral posters or distribute election handbills. Government posters must be everywhere.

On the day of the election, insurgents in uniform will arrange with other groups to exchange localities, with a view to establishing order in localities other than their own.

Insurgents! Show your national strength. Do not allow the casting of even a single German vote. Away with all that is hostile to the State!

Rybnik, October 10th, 1930.

For the Divisional Committee,
(Signed) Pielka.

Translation of the Printed Threatening Letters.

Dear Sir,

We have ascertained beyond doubt that at the elections to the Seym and Senate in 1928, as also to the Silesian Seym and communal administration in the same year, you expressly supported the list of the Association of German Electors.
As the representatives of this list were not and are not protectors of the interests of the German minority in Poland, but the emissaries of Berlin and of its agency, the Volksbund—that is to say, of the element in conflict with the Polish State—we appeal to you

for the last time,

in the name of the blood of the best sons of this land, shed for the Polish cause in Silesia, in your own interest to vote publicly

for the Polish List "i".

We warn you that, after the election, we shall take the strongest measures against you should you have the audacity to cast your votes for the list of the militant German party, which aims at detaching Silesia from Poland.

(Signed) THE INSURGENTS.

You are required to present yourself at the polling station at 10 a.m.

TRANSLATION OF THE ELECTION POSTER OF THE UNION OF SILESIAN INSURGENTS.

Union of Silesian Insurgents.

Our reply to Treviranus!

Brother Insurgents!

In recent times we have witnessed how our hereditary enemy, the rapacious Knight of the Teutonic Order, has been arrogantly laying claim to the land which is ours and was our fathers'.

As our reply to the insolence of "Hakatism", we have resolved to organise from November 9th to November 23rd, 1930, an

Insurgents' Offensive Week

and at the same time to arrange a general mobilisation of the

Union of Silesian Insurgents.

The mobilisation of the Insurgents will, for the time being, take the outward form of complete preparedness for all emergencies.

The object of this preparedness is to show the people of Silesia that, despite the elections, the attention of all Poles, irrespective of party, must be concentrated on the designs of the disloyal German minority. Among these we count the following:

(1) The Volksbund and the Association of German Electors;
(2) The disloyal German Press;
(3) The landowners, capitalists and German officials who oppress Polish workers in the heavy industries and in agriculture.

On them we declare war to the knife, because their activities strengthened the hands of those who, according to the declaration of the leader of the Stahlhelm, are the advance-guard of the Germans pressing eastward.

Our programme will be carried out by every local group of the Union of Silesian Insurgents, and by everyone who took part in the Silesian insurrections, using any method suited to the circumstances in the various communes; the programme may even be extended.

I. In every locality large meetings must be called at which our speakers will explain the programme of the German minority in Silesia.

II. The activities of the agitators of the Volksbund, of the Association of German Electors and of Hitler, who are trying to steal Polish votes from us by bribery, promises, economic pressure and other villainies must be nipped in the bud. Every case of such abuse must be reported at once to the divisional committees or to the Central Committee. Such abuses are punishable offences and should therefore be notified to the police.

The committees will sit continuously during this week. Any German provocation which may harm the cause of Poland must be met with prompt and emphatic response.

III. Special attention must be paid to those Poles who, bribed by German Judas-money, are working for the Germans at the elections. Persons distributing German appeals and handbills must be marked.

IV. The emissaries of the Volksbund and of Hitler, who are worming their way into Polish homes, must be cleared out in a manner worthy of the Silesian Insurgents. German women hurrying busily from house to house carrying on illicit agitation on behalf of Germany must be kept under close observation.

V. Treacherous German newspapers must be banned from Polish houses and Polish premises. During "Insurgents' Week" and in the immediate future no Pole may tolerate any
Anti-German Week! Rifle Club! Down with the Prussians! We shall inflict upon you Another Grunwald.
BRACIA POWSTANCY!

Nasza odpowiedź Trewiranusowi!

BRACIA POWSTANCY!

TYDZIEŃ OFENZYWY POWSTAŃCZEJ

 przy równoczesnym zarządzaniu

OGÓLNEJ MOBILIZACJI ZWIĄZKU POWSTAŃCÓW ŚLASKICH

Nie damy ziemi skąd nasz ród!    Niech żyje Polska!

Niech żyje lista Nr. 1.
German newspapers near him. We must be informed of any Poles who read German newspapers. If any persons try to introduce German newspapers into your homes, throw them out.

Brothers! Insurgents!

We do not propose to wage war against the loyal population of our Voivodie of Silesia, who have accepted the permanent attachment of Silesia to the Polish motherland, won with the heart's blood of the Insurgents; it is a campaign to frustrate the treacherous designs of the Volksbund and its organisations against the Poles.

Our campaign is directed against the accomplices of Hitler, the Stahlhelm and Hörsing, the hangman of the Silesian population, and against the traitors to the faith and language of our fathers. At the present time, when Trewirganus and Hitler are working for war against Poland, the capture of Polish votes for the list of the German Electors' Association is a crime against the Polish State. It is high treason.

Any Pole who votes for the traitors to the Fatherland is himself a traitor and must be treated according to his deserts.

The Polish people, true to the traditions and the language of their forefathers, will solemnly and publicly record their votes for the list of candidates No. 1, who are led by Marshal Pilsudski, the architect of the Polish State, the noble representative of a strong and mighty Poland which must command respect from its enemies.

We shall not surrender the home of our fathers! Long live Poland!

Long live those whose names are on List No. 1!

I. Central Committee: Lortz Jan, President; Witczak Josef, First Vice-President; Jacek Pawel, Second Vice-President; Mastalerz Stanislaw, Secretary; Rzepka Augustyn, Deputy-Secretary; Harazin Franciszek, Treasurer; Kornke Rudolf, Deputy-Treasurer.

II. Supervisory Committee: Inspector Baron Brunon, Katowice; Dr. Kujawski, Brzegi; Slawek Josef, Czerwionka; Director Wasik E., Katowice.

III. Court of the Union: Kuczmik F., Katowice; Tyrika Kazimierz, Katowice; Procurator Sojka, Mysłowice; Imiela E., Katowice; Szlapa Jan, Pszczyna; Inspector Tatarczyk, Katowice.

IV. Committee of the Union: Golas Pawel, Lubliniec; Orlicki Feliks, Lubliniec; Gajdas Emil, Radzionków; Zejer Jan, Tarnowskie Góry; Mayor Grzesik, Karl-Wielkie Hajduki; Head of Commune Przybala Jan, Chrzanow; President Trojok Josef, Chropaczow; Feige Franciszek, Katowice; Staniczek Pawel, Katowice; Kula Robert, Mala Davrowka; Kopiec Mieczyslaw, Siemianowice; Head of Commune Kawa Franciszek, Slupna; Gajdzik Karol, Przelajka; Długiewicz Franciszek, Zaleze; Kozrya Pawel, Murcki; Head of Commune Janas Stefan, Murcki; Radwanski Florjan, Tychy; Mayor Koj Jan, Mikolów; Witczak Mikolaj, Jastrzebie-Zdroj; Pander Piotr, Jastrzebie-Zdroj; Lipina Ryszard, Gierałtowice; Biczylsko Walter, Rybnik; Dola Wilhelm, Rybnik; Szuster Jan, Cieszyn; Bazelides Josef, Bielsko; Dr. Döllinger, Biała; Head of Commune Olszowski Antoni, Bielszowice; Accountant Jarczyk Franciszek, Bielszowice; Hadrian Leon, Król. Huta; Orlowski Franciszek, Król. Huta; Kempa Euzebiusz, Katowice; Kuszmarc Marcin, Katowice; Hofman Antoni, Katowice; Kubiaczyk Piotr, Król. Huta; Zgrzebnick Antoni, Rybnik.

APPEAL TO THE INSURGENTS.

(Polska Zachodnia, No. 289, of November 19th, 1930.)

Insurgents!

By your unselfish self-sacrificing labours you have shown once more last Sunday that Upper Silesia is Polish territory inhabited by an absolute majority of Poles. May the result of the elections to the Polish Seym convince the entire world that the German element has been artificially introduced and forcibly maintained in this territory. This artificial strength of the Germans collapsed last Sunday like a pack of cards. That is mainly thanks to you, Insurgents! Not even the greatest party opponent can deny that; for all must admit that no party and no clique has to its credit such a successful struggle against Germanism as has the body of Insurgents.

For your unselfish and devoted labours, for your appreciation of the extent of the task, and for your spirit of sacrifice we express to you in the name of the Insurgent cause our recognition and thanks. Hail!

The result of your labours is the loss of half the German seats and the decline of the German vote by tens of thousands! May your reward be the consciousness of a good deed done.

Insurgents! may the results achieved spur you on to further efforts, so as to bring to a happy conclusion the work that has been begun.

We pass the word for a campaign of enlightenment to bring us next Sunday the absolute victory of the Government side in the elections to the Senate and the Silesian Seym.

Poland has been able to elect a Seym with an absolute Government majority. It is for us in Silesia to see that there is a Government majority in the future Silesian Seym also.

The thing is possible; and for that we have to thank our Voivode, Dr. Grazynski. His strenuous efforts, his consciousness of his vocation and his great love for the Silesians must
have their reward in the shape of a Seym which will help and not hinder him in his difficult task. Order must be established; and order will be established when the Voivode can rely in the Seym on representatives who will support him and not agitators and tub-thumpers from the Volksbund.

To work then, Insurgents! Go right among the masses of the people and tell them that we shall not make ourselves a better future by shouting and sullenness, but by common constructive action and unity.

Tell them that the days of the German Volksbund's arrogance are over for ever, that the election of the Volksbund candidates is not only treachery to Poland but a squandering of Polish votes. No German can to-day do anything for anyone else, because the Germans are at a loss even in Germany how to cope with unemployment and distress. Bring to every house the slogan: "Do not trust the Germans".

Go also to those of your own countrymen who still believe in the parties. Now that there is a Government majority in Warsaw, the parties are no longer in a position to keep any promises or assurances they may have given. To-day we can only go forward if all Poles lend the Government a hand in joint united co-operation for the accomplishment of their efforts for the creation of a better future for Poland.

The fate of the parties is settled for long years to come! Let us therefore join the powerful Government camp, and work for the removal of economic distress and the development of economic independence in conjunction with the authorities.

Let us impress everyone with the conviction that next Sunday will show a victory. Up and to work, Insurgents, for the rightful cause.

Long live the strong Government of Marshal Pilsudski! Long live the Voivode, Dr. Grazynski!

Cheers for List No. 1!

Headquarters of the Union of Silesian Insurgents.
The Committee.
(Signed) Jan Lortz, President.
(Signed) St. Mastalerz, Secretary.

AN APPEAL TO THE INSURGENTS AFTER THE ELECTIONS.

(Polska Zachodnia, No. 297, of November 27th, 1930.)

Insurgents! The elections to the legislative bodies have inflicted an ignominious defeat on the Germans and have shown to the world the unquestionably Polish character of the Silesian soil. Your efforts, and especially your devoted work of enlightenment, have contributed largely to this defeat. All thanks to you!

But our task, Insurgents, is not yet fulfilled. There remains much yet to be done before the face of Silesia is truly Polish. Our systematic propaganda must penetrate to where there are still minds which have succumbed to the long-standing process of systematic germanisation. We must find a way to all those deluded fellow-countrymen who, forgetful of their Polish origin, lend their ear to German agitators.

Insurgents! We repeat that our action is not directed against that section of the loyal minority which is reconciled to the final inseparability of Silesian soil from Poland. But we will not permit the unpatriotic activities of unscrupulous agitators to deprive our community of its rights. Nor will we allow our Polish population to be germanised by the economic terrorism of emissaries from Berlin, or permit artificial germanisation through bribery and other methods by the Volksbund. Our propaganda campaign against disloyal agitators will be carried through to a conclusion. Look out for those agitators who address themselves to the less enlightened Poles and endeavour to win them over to their unpatriotic work.

We have nothing against the association of Polish citizens in loyal and legal fashion. But we will not allow those who are by origin Poles to be swept into the German nets. We shall systematically fight all symptoms of artificial germanisation. Similarly, we shall fight against all efforts of oppression and destruction by the emissaries of Berlin, whose activities are directed towards a separation of Silesia from Poland.

Insurgents! The indubitably Polish character of Silesia which has been shown by the recent elections is our answer to the menaces and provocations of persons of the stamp of Treviranus. Let the whole world learn that there is not and cannot be any "revision" of Poland's frontiers. This land is Polish and will always be so. The German diplomats who cast longing eyes on our territories may be assured that their efforts are in vain and will break down on the determined front of the Insurgents. In case of need, the strong right hand of the Insurgents will always be there to prevent any bargaining away of Polish soil.

Insurgents! We express to you our profound appreciation of the coolness which you have displayed in face of the ignoble assassination of two former Insurgents by Berlin militant organisations. The murderers will receive the punishment which they have deserved at the hands of our courts. Do not permit yourselves, to be led by these shameful incidents into ill-considered action! Keep cool!

Insurgents! The German agitators, desperate as a result of their painful defeat, venture to assert that we exercised terrorism. Such accusations you must repel with dignity and in
all earnestness. We know where the terrorists are to be found, especially those who practise economic terrorism. We can name them, for we know what our people have suffered at their hands. We can name Germans from the Reich who have dismissed Polish workers for the reason that they voted publicly for List No. 1.

Do not allow yourselves to be provoked by this charge of terrorism, and inform us immediately of any case of chicanery.

Insurgents! To-day, after the struggle, with the result of the elections before you, you must form a clear idea of what your future work should be, and consult with one another as to what should be done in order to root out the evil where it still remains. By your propaganda you will be able appreciably to consolidate the results already achieved, and to this hard and systematic work we call you. To work, then, for the just cause!

For the Headquarters of the Union of Silesian Insurgents:
(Signed) Jan Lortz, President.
(Signed) St. Mastalerz, Secretary.

COUNTER-OFFENSIVE AGAINST THE AGITATION OF THE VOLKSBUND.

(Polska Zachodnia, No. 268, of October 25th, 1930.)

Latterly, an extremely gratifying fact has been noted in Silesia. In spite of the elections and the excitement natural to such a period, the Polish population has realised the necessity of a vigorous struggle against Germanism. The struggle must be conducted by the entire community without regard to party connections. The offensive in this sense has been inaugurated by the various local groups of the Union for the Western Marches throughout Silesia. Extraordinary congresses of delegates and local headquarters representatives take place at the instance of the directors in the various districts, and the best form of effective concerted action against the German agitation is discussed. Meetings of this kind have taken place up to the present in Pszczyna, Tarnowskie Góry, Królewka Huta and Rybnik. Similar meetings are to take place in other divisions in the near future.

These steps show the desired results. They serve, above all, to draw the attention of the community to the German agitation, and incidentally have done much to mitigate the forms of the political struggle in the Polish camp itself. In certain localities special committees have been even appointed with the co-operation of all political parties with a view to working against the Germans—for example at Alexandowice in the BIELSKO division.

On the 18th instant, a meeting took place in Janów at the instance of the local group of the Union for the Western Marches, at which the Presidents of various Polish associations were present. After an address by the Chairman, M. Basista, the President of the Union of Silesian Insurgents (M. Wykpis), the President of the Singing Club (M. Moczygemba), the President of the Union of House Property Owners (M. Czajkanski), the President of the Z.Z.P. and N.P.R. (M. Jasinski), and the President of the Ch.D. (M. Drosdek) spoke in turn. All speakers referred to the German danger and the need of fighting it by united effort on the part of the Polish community.

It is to be hoped that other communes will follow this example, and that the whole Polish community will be mobilised for the struggle against the agitation of the Volksbund.

UP FOR THE STRUGGLE FOR THE VICTORY OF THE POLISH CAUSE AND AGAINST THE GERMAN PRESS.

(Polska Zachodnia, No. 273, of October 31st, 1930.)

In all parts of the Voivodie of Silesia meetings are now being held at the instance of the Union for the Western Marches with the object of organising a campaign against the German agitation and inducing the Polish population to cast their votes exclusively for the Polish lists.

On the 25th instant, a Congress was held in Katowice of Presidents of all local branches of the Union for the Western Marches in the Katowice division with the President of the headquarters of the division, Kinowski, in the chair. The elections and the plan of campaign were discussed. A speech on the attitude of the Union for the Western Marches in regard to the elections was made by Gajkiewicz, delegate of the district headquarters. As a result of the discussions, which were lively, resolutions were passed unanimously to the effect that:

"The headquarters of the division and the Congress of Presidents of local branches of the Union in the Katowice division, having regard to the fact that the German newspapers disseminate the poison of hatred of everything Polish and exercise a deleterious influence upon the masses of the Silesian people, call upon the Silesian community not to purchase or subscribe to these papers and to stigmatise on any and every occasion all those who read them."
"The Congress, being of opinion that the strongholds of Germanism in Silesia and in the heavy industry are the German nationals residing in Poland in virtue of passports, calls upon the authorities in the interest of the Polish population in Silesia to refuse any further extension of the visas of such passports."

On the 26th instant, at the instance of the Union for the Western Marches, there was a meeting in Katowice-Brynów of members of the local branch of the Union and representatives of the local Polish societies. Eleven such societies were represented. The meeting was opened by the President of the local branch of the Union, Sławinski. The President of the headquarters of the division (M. Kinowski) and the representative of the district headquarters (M. Leyko) spoke on the need for a common front of all Polish elements in the struggle against Germanism during the elections. After a lively discussion, the following resolution was passed:

"The representatives of Brynów, recognising that the German newspapers are endeavouring to undermine the foundations of the Polish State in Silesia, declare open war on the readers of such papers and appeal to the whole Silesian community not to purchase or subscribe to these papers and to stigmatise on any and every occasion all those who read them. The Congress, recognising the importance of every Polish vote in the elections, calls upon the whole community to join at all costs in the polls and to vote only for the Polish lists."

On Sunday, the 26th instant, there was a meeting of the local branch of the Union in Tichau. After the meeting had been opened by the President, M. Rys, the representative of the district headquarters, Gajkiewicz, made a speech on the importance of the elections. After discussion, it was resolved to open a campaign in favour of the Polish lists and against the German newspapers.

On the 12th instant, there was an extraordinary meeting of the local branch in Brzezie to discuss how best to fight Germanism at the elections. The meeting was opened by President Szymanski, who was followed by Seidel (school-teacher) who spoke on "Germans in Poland and Poles in Germany". After a lively discussion, it was resolved to take steps to fight against the reading of German newspapers and to institute a campaign in favour of the Polish lists.

Translation of the Election Poster of the Union for the Western Marches. (Polska Zachodnia, No. 280, of November 9th-10th, 1930.)

Not a single vote must be given for the German lists.
Fellow-countrymen!

Our hereditary enemy, Germany, is turning her attention more openly and more boldly to our western frontier, and she has a faithful ally in our German minority. The Germans want to use the forthcoming elections to the Seym and Senate and to the Silesian Seym for their own ends to the prejudice of the Polish State and population. German agitators care nothing for the welfare of the Polish people; their one concern is to help the Germans in their anti-Polish activities.

The elections to be held on November 16th and 23rd must provide a crushing reply to German agitation. We must show the whole world that the population of Silesia is Polish and is prepared in all circumstances to repel every attack upon our State.

It is the duty of every Pole, man or woman, to take part in the election and to vote for the Polish lists.
When the election day comes no one must fail to vote.
No one must vote for the German list.
Every Silesian man and woman who votes for a German list becomes a traitor to the Silesian people and is liable to very unpleasant consequences; for no one will have any mercy on those who dare vote for the German list.
Fellow-countrymen!

When the election day comes, think of our compatriots groaning under the yoke of servitude in Germany, deprived of a Polish education and of their civil rights and constantly exposed, without hope of redress, to attacks by German shock. Every day we read of sanguinary acts of terrorism of which our fellow-countrymen are victims.

On November 16th and 23rd we must give an answer to these acts of Prussianism against our fellow-countrymen.
All must go to the polling-booth!
Not a single vote must be given for the German lists!
Every vote must be given to the Polish lists only!
It is the duty of every Pole, man or woman, on the election day, to see personally that no one fails to vote and that everyone votes for the Polish lists.

On the election day Silesia will once more prove her Polish sentiments and her attachment to Poland!
Long live the Polish Republic!
Long live Polish Silesia!

Union for the Western Marches.
District of Silesia.
POLES! We have conquered!

The elections on Sunday represent a gigantic victory of the Polish cause in Silesia. The Silesian people has thus given the best possible answer to the shameless German designs on our western frontiers.

The disloyal anti-national agitation has suffered a crushing defeat. The number of German votes has declined by nearly one-third in comparison with the last elections to the Silesian Seym—namely, from 180,000 to 130,000.

POLES! We must not, on that account rest on our oars! We have still before us the elections of next Sunday to the Senate and Silesian Seym. At these elections we must once more show our strength. Germanism in Silesia must receive its death-blow!

We call upon you all, therefore, for continued strenuous effort for the victory of the Polish cause. Here and there persons still exist who have dared to vote for the Germans. Next Sunday we must see that this does not happen again.

No Polish man or woman should vote for the German list.

All come to the polls!

All votes for the Polish lists and no others!

Next Sunday we must win an even greater victory!

Long live the Polish people of Silesia!

Long live the Polish Republic!

The Union for the Western Marches.

District of Silesia.

NOT A SINGLE GERMAN MUST GET INTO THE SENATE.

(C Polska Zachodnia, No. 299, of November 23rd-24th, 1930.)

Citizens!

November 16th, 1930, is a memorable day in the history of independent Poland. On this day the Polish minority showed the strength and power of the Polish element by preventing the German minority from obtaining a single seat in Pomerelia and depriving it of three seats in Silesia and two in Poznania. (In 1928, the Germans had three seats in Pomerelia; in 1930, they have none. In 1928, they had six seats in Silesia; in 1930, they have three. In 1928, they had four seats in Poznania; in 1930, they have two.)

By throwing into the scale at the elections your inflexible will to victory, your faith in the good cause and your burning love of the fatherland, you won the victory and deprived the hostile German minority of seats to which it never had a right, and which it has only held up to the present owing to breaches in our own ranks and inadequate attendance on our part at the polls.

The Polish community has won a glorious victory by voting in serried ranks in elemental strength for the Polish lists; and by the stunning blow which it has inflicted on the enemies of the Polish State it has confirmed the essentially Polish character of the western territories and shown the whole world that Pomerelia, to which the Teutonic knight with appetite unbridled still lays claim, was, is, and ever shall be, Polish.

On Sunday, November 23rd, you must come once more to the polls to elect representatives for the Senate of the Republic. The glorious victory of the 16th must be repeated on the 23rd.

Not a single German must get into the Senate!

Remember that the Polish minority in Germany has not hitherto been able to send a single representative to the Reichstag, although the number of Poles in Germany is greater than the number of Germans in Poland.

After the mighty and spontaneous demonstrations of the entire land against the claims of the German Reich to our western territories, after the victory won on November 16th and (please God!) after the further victory to be won on November 23rd, you must continue to keep watch and ward unshaken over the western frontiers of the Republic.

May the idea of victory be ever before your eyes, in the future as in the past, for the glory and welfare of the Polish people and its development and prosperity!

Headquarters of the Union for the Western Marches.

CHRISTIAN-NATIONAL COALITION.

DISTRICT ELECTION COMMITTEE FOR THE ELECTORAL AREA NO. II.

Katowice, October 1st, 1930.

Circular No. 1/30.

I. The Central Election Committee of the Christian-National Coalition is at Katowice, Plebiscytowa 1, fourth floor, Tel. 374. General Secretary: M. Bartłomiej Plonka. The District Committee is at Pocztowa 11, ground floor left, Tel. 2595. The Secretary for the division
is M. Bruno Kobusz, and, for the town of Katowice, M. August Rzepka. The chief election agent for Electoral Area No. II is M. Józef Witczak.

II. Organisation. — The local election committees are to send in a list of members not later than October 10th, 1930, and organisation meetings are to be held in all localities not later than October 15th, 1930. The election campaign is to begin on October 20th. Agents are reminded that, in order to be successful, meetings must be thoroughly well organised. In particular, (1) every public meeting in the various localities should be held well in hand by reliable supporters of the Government, whose duty it will be to maintain order firmly later than October 15th, 1930. The election campaign is to begin on October 20th. Agents are reminded that, in order to be successful, meetings must be thoroughly well organised. In particular, (2) the chairmen of meetings should be courageous, known locally in connection with the national-social movement and of good personal reputation; (3) all meetings must be notified in good time to the Election Committee of the Christian-National Coalition. All citizens in the locality must be informed that a meeting of the Christian-National Coalition is being held, and the speakers should be designated beforehand.

III. In every house there must be a reliable agent to agitate amongst the occupants and see that, on the polling day, all the occupants of the house go together to the polls with our voting-papers. The election committee will hold meetings at which these agents will attend and report with full details as to the feeling in each house.

IV. Each organisation in the Government camp must keep its members closely informed as to our slogans, and see that each member brings at least one indifferent voter over to the Government camp. The idea should be inculcated that every Pole should vote publicly and that anyone who conceals his voting-paper is a secret enemy.

V. For supervision of the work and to prevent misunderstandings, Electoral Area No. II is divided up between the following supervisory centres:

1. W. Katowice and Welnowiec. — Supervisor: Dr. Dabrowski and Professor Ligon.
2. Chorzów, Maciejkowice, Bangów, Przeląjka, Bytków, Michalkowice and Sieniawów. — Supervisor: M. Fojkis, burgomaster.
6. Bleszowice, Pawłów, Konczyce, Makoszowy and the villages of Rybnik Division which belong to Election District No. II. — viz., Geraltownic, Panowic, Panioici, Przyszowice, Bujaków and Chudów. — Supervisor: M. Olszowski, burgomaster.

The supervisors are to maintain contact with the local election committees, and to report on any defects in the organisation, and to see that the work is done on the above lines. On the day of the election, the supervisors are to keep in permanent touch with the election committees, and to see whether our agents are on duty at the polling stations with voting papers and, in the event of any omission by the persons distributing the voting papers, to send the latter away and themselves supply the voting-papers to the electors. The supervisors are to notify the district Election Committee at Katowice (Tel. 2529), not later than November 9th, of their own telephone numbers under which they can be reached. Each supervisor must have a motor-car at his disposal on the day of the election. A reserve supply of voting-papers should be given to men of a certain age who have done good service and are as to our slogans, and see that each member brings at least one indifferent voter over to the Government camp. The idea should be inculcated that every Pole should vote publicly and that anyone who conceals his voting-paper is a secret enemy.

VI. General instructions. — The elections to the National Seym which take place on November 16th, and the elections to the Senate and Silesian Seym on November 23rd, will constitute a decisive moment for Poland, as we shall then be deciding whether Poland is to have a democratic parliamentary Constitution with a strong Government, as Marshal Pilsudski desires, or a dictatorship. Our opponents will, in any case, not be returned to power. The electorate will turn on the amendment of the Constitution—that is to say, on the introduction of legislation to prevent men of the type of Witos, Liebermann and Glücksmann, or agitators of the Korfanty type, and their parties treating the State as a "milch cow". As the issue—i.e., the amendment of the Constitution—is one of general political significance and the fate of the State is at stake, there must not be a single citizen in the ranks of the Government party who supports leaders that have been put in prison for "crimes" against the State. All citizens must vote openly. Those who vote secretly are partisans of the Minister Treviranus, who wants war with Poland. The attitude of officials at the ballot-box must be carefully watched. At a time when the German Minister Treviranus threatens us with war, every official and every good Pole must support the State and not the agitators.

The Germans must not get a single seat. That will be the best answer to Treviranus. Keep a watchful eye on the traitors. All leaders of the Government camp in each locality, and all
those in whose hands lie the development of our national interests and the satisfactory issue of the elections, are responsible for the election results being favourable to the Polish State. You should at once issue your election slogans in your locality. We call upon each organisation in the Government camp to bring all their members to the polls in a body on November 16th and 23rd. In the election campaign it is particularly the Germans and Communists who should be attacked, and only after them the Korfantists (Centre-Left Coalition). Members of the organisations of the Government camp should attend public meetings of our opponents, speak at them and convince their (Polish) opponents that the course they are following is harmful to the State and can only play the game of Treviranus and his partisans in Silesia. Further instructions will be issued later. Get busy! We must make an end of the abuses of the party system and the political criminals, and give the country the security it requires, and the Government the power of doing peaceful work for a better state of things for the Silesian people now and in the future.

VII. The election committees are to send in their budgets to us not later than October 25th. It should be borne in mind that we cannot give more than half at most of the allocations made for the elections to the Silesian Seym. The committees must raise the rest themselves by collection. Collecting lists may be had from the district Election Committee in Pocztowa 11.

VIII. The situation in the Opposition camp. — The Opposition is completely disorganised and is endeavouring to establish a combination of the Centre and Left and to provoke a strike. It is trying to make Korfanty into a martyr, although the latter has been put in prison for frauds on the Bank of Silesia. He took up a loan of 40,000 zlotys and gave flour in security which was later found not to exist. He is also guilty of other frauds. In particular, it must be made clear to all that to defend Korfanty is to defend a common criminal and not a politician. He has already been sentenced for the same offences by the Court of the Marshal of the Diet. Endeavour to draw desirable members of the Opposition over to our side.

This circular is to be brought to the immediate notice of all members of the organisations in the Government camp.

District Election Committee, Electoral Area No. II.

* * *

(The originals are typed and multigraphed.)

Michalkowice.

Sir,

The elections of November 16th and 23rd will show which citizens desire to work with the Government. We accordingly call upon you to give your vote openly for a Polish list and for List No. 1 in particular.

If you, nevertheless, persist in availing yourself of the secrecy of the ballot, you will be showing that you have not the courage to show your adherence openly to one of these Lists, and are trying to work secretly against the Polish State, thus fostering the hostile efforts of our neighbours against the integrity of the frontiers of the Republic.

We warn you against such experiments, for the justly chastising hands of the true sons of the fatherland will shortly fall upon you, and we will deal without consideration or mercy with the enemies of the State.

Local Election Committee.

Dear Sir,

On Sunday, November 16th, 471 votes were given for List No. 12, although it is certain that there are only a very few persons in our commune who could sincerely and conscientiously be regarded as forming part of the German national minority.

What does this mean? We are bound to say frankly that over 400 persons have committed in secret an ignominious act which threatens the existence of the Polish State, although they make a comfortable living in this country and enjoy all civic rights.

Those who voted for List No. 12 are known to us.

We cannot possibly tolerate this state of things. Those who take the side of our hostile German neighbours and secretly undermine our own State have no place here! They can go where their Teutonic hearts and snake-like instincts draw them. On Polish soil there is no room for any citizen who is not loyal to the State or who endeavours to put spokes into the Government's wheels and cramp its action in the international field. You would do well to note that this is so; for the wrath of the outraged national dignity will overtake those who disregard the above manifesto. Recourse will be had to all available means, and strict supervision will be exercised, for the purpose of unmasking those reptiles which Poland is nourishing in her bosom.
We address this last appeal to you to reflect well on the circumstance that the only means of proving your loyalty is by voting publicly on the 23rd instant for List No. 1. Should you act otherwise, no one can be responsible for the consequences that will overtake you!

Polish Election Committee.

P. S. — Should the above letter fall by error into Polish hands, it should be passed on to a German.


Silesian Voters!

On November 23rd we shall cast our votes publicly for List No. 1 at the election for the Silesian Seym and for the Senate.

On Sunday the elections gave Marshal Pilsudski an overwhelming majority numbering 250 Deputies.

Marshal Pilsudski now has Seym and Government in his hands, and is to-day the principal force in Poland.

No one can to-day oppose this force. Consequently no votes should be cast on Sunday, November 23rd:

1. Either for the Germans,
2. Or for the Catholic popular block,
3. Or for the Socialists.

The Germans have five seats, the Catholic popular block fourteen seats in the whole of the country, and the Socialists only one seat in Silesia. None of these parties can do anything for anyone.

If, on the other hand, a Korfantist or Socialist majority should come into power in the Silesian Seym, that body will be condemned to impotence, and you, Silesians, will have to suffer the consequences. We have had enough of elections and only want now quiet economic work.

Such a possibility of common work is assured in the country as a whole by the election of 250 Deputies—that is to say, by the control of the Seym.

We must have a similar majority in the Silesian Seym! If you, Silesian voter, want peaceful economic work and measures to contend against unemployment, give your vote on November 23rd, 1930 publicly for List No. 1, the winning list, and no other.

For the first time we have struck a shattering blow at the Volksbund Germans in Silesia. In spite of this, there were still too many German votes.

Let us give Treviranus our final Silesian answer:

Down with the Volksbund!

Let us all cast our votes publicly for List No. 1 and no other!

(Block of non-partisan co-operation with the Government.)

250 Deputies. 14 Deputies. 5 Deputies.

Our Chief Task at the Elections.

(Polska Zachodnia, No. 226, of September 7th-8th, 1930.)

For all citizens imbued with patriotic feelings and national ideas, the present elections in Silesia represent an extremely important moment. The result of the elections in our own territory is always followed with attention by the whole of Poland, which is watching the progress of the national idea on Silesian soil. Moreover, the present elections provide an opportunity for demoralising machinations on the part of our mortal enemy, who is always waiting for moments of weakness on our part.

For the Polska Zachodnia, as the organ of uncompromising Polish vigilance in Silesia, the arch-enemies at the elections are, of course, the Germans.

Consequently, our battle-front will be directed, now as at all previous elections, against the advance posts of Berlin, who will once again make the attempt to derive advantages for themselves out of the unsound elements in our national life.

In the light of the German designs, it is a national duty in Silesia to establish a compact Polish block, the power and prestige of which would be of the utmost importance. We have, however, no illusions as to the current situation, and we know that such an appeal, which
we have so often addressed to Silesia, will not meet with any echo or recognition on the part of the leaders of the stubborn Polish parties.

We should like, however, to think we could reckon on a very important consideration, which we beg our opponents not to lose sight of. The Polish Opposition parties would do well not to forget for one moment, however violent their hostility to the Government may be, that their election campaigns in Silesia are conducted under the enemy's eye, and that he is always on the look-out for any sign of disunion in the Polish camp. The Opposition parties should not forget that unscrupulous, exasperated and libellous criticism of our Government has a very damaging effect on minds which are not sufficiently closely knit with the Polish community, and gives rise to currents of opinion which are directed, not so much against the Government, as against the State itself. The Opposition parties should remember that the consequences of these tendencies, which extreme demagogic opposition to the Government evokes, benefit, not the Polish Opposition parties themselves, but bodies which are fundamentally hostile to the Polish State—i.e., the Volksbund and the Communists.

The initial stage of the election campaign, however, unfortunately shows that the anti-Governmental Opposition are so blinded by the spirit of party as to forget this important consideration. The first of the "confidential" circulars which Korfanty has issued to the ranks of his partisans show clearly that this dethroned king of Silesia again proposes to direct all his efforts against the "Sanators". Korfanty's first electoral manifestos show not the slightest trace of patriotic feeling, or the slightest glimmer of concern, for the common interest of all Poles at the elections.

We cannot, of course, remain silent in the face of these nefarious tactics of Korfanty. We shall not, however, allow ourselves to be carried away by such provocation, and the fight against the disruptive tendencies of the party system should not for a moment distract our attention from our arch-enemy, the Association of German Electors. As the Polish Opposition parties, undeterred by any considerations of prudence, are preparing once again to commit the gross error of neglecting and tolerating the electoral machinations of the Volksbund, the task incumbent on us who fight under the banner of Marshal Pilsudski's ideals is all the heavier.

Our first general appeal, therefore, to our supporters, and to the whole patriotically-minded community, is as follows. While paralysing the work of those who live exclusively for their party, we must, above all things, pay heed to the machinations of the Volksbund wire-pullers. Wherever, at the last communal elections, as a result of Polish neglect, the poison of the secret confederacy of Berlin has penetrated, Polish vigilance and Polish activity must be revived and reinforced. The agitators of the Volksbund election organisation must realise that we see what they are up to, and that we are ever at their heels.

Polish families which are exposed to Volksbund solicitations must receive special attention, and must be made the subject of a more active campaign of enlightenment. All attacks on the prestige of Polish nationality and the Polish State must be repelled with exceptional energy. The enemy must learn that we are on the watch, and that we will never allow the atmosphere of Polish homes to be sullied by destructive propaganda of the Volksbund.

We are on our own ground! May Polish prestige and Polish strength find clear expression in our election activities and in our efforts to attain results favourable to the Polish cause.

Let us vote openly for List No. 1.

Official Statement.

(Polska Zachodnia, No. 265, of October 22nd, 1930.)

The resolutions of the various Governmental organisations calling upon the members of those organisations to vote openly and in a body for List No. 1 have excited the madatos of the Volksbund and their allies of the anti-Governmental Opposition parties to a frenzy. The newspapers of the Opposition parties and the Volksbund Press raise cries of alarm at the "terrorism" of the Sanacja, and try to confuse the minds of their readers with talk of what they call the compulsory secrecy of the ballot.

To make an end of this senseless talk of the Volksbund-Korfantist and Centre-Left Press, we print below an extract from a circular issued recently on the subject of the elections by the Ministry of the Interior. It runs as follows:

"With reference to the enquiry by an election commissioner of the General Commissioner as to whether, and to what extent, the voters are under obligation to observe secrecy in voting, the General Commissioner has issued a statement to the effect that the principle of the secrecy of the ballot applies only to the delivery of the voting-paper in the manner indicated in Article 74 of the Election Regulations—that is to say, the insertion of the paper in the official envelope.

"The voter is also entitled to the exercise of complete freedom in the public expression of his wishes and convictions, and can do anything openly and publish all actions or circumstances connected therewith if he so chooses. It follows from the above statement of the General Commissioner that the observance of the secrecy of the ballot is not an obligation but a right on the part of the voter which he can exercise if he pleases."
The above official statement says clearly enough that open voting is entirely permissible. We shall accordingly continue to make open voting our watchword, and we will even urge our supporters to make active propaganda for this watchword.

In Silesia, the so-called secret ballot is only of advantage to the propaganda of the outposts of Berlin. The Volksbund people, who corrupt the less enlightened Poles and compel them by bribery or economic pressure to vote for the German list, wish to still the consciences of such corrupt voters by laying stress on the secrecy of the ballot. "Take the money, give your vote for the German, take vengeance on Poland for the 'wrongs' you have suffered and no one can do anything to you, since the ballot is secret!" This is the well-tried electoral manoeuvre which the agents of Berlin repeat at every election. It is no wonder therefore if the Volksbund endeavours to surround all renegades and traitors, who for vengeance or for money cast their vote for the German list, with a ring-fence of "secret balloting".

The Polish Opposition Press, in supporting the outcry of the Volksbund about the secrecy of the ballot, is merely favouring the German machinations. The blindness of these party politicians is incurable. We propose to leave them to their quack cries, together with the Volksbund partisans of revenge; but we call upon all honest Poles to cast their votes openly. We may also state that, in the elections to the Seym and Senate, there will be no "separate polling booths", for the Election Regulations do not recognise this form of masquerade!

Let renegades and traitors hide their voting-papers. Poles have no reason to be ashamed of their convictions. They will vote openly. With List No. 1 in our hands we will go to the polls in serried ranks as one body and openly!

**IT IS NO USE THE RENEGADES HIDING THEIR TREACHERY BEHIND A PROTECTIVE SCREEN.**

((Polanka Zachodnia, No. 272, of October 30th, 1930.)

The Volksbund Press has hastened to comfort its readers with the following encouraging information: "Do not be afraid to vote in secret", so the megaphones of the Berlinophile cry, "and do not stay away from the polls. The 'Sanators' cannot do anything to you, as the Polish Opposition is also voting secretly." "All the Polish Opposition parties", so the Prussian reptile Press writes with relief, "have rejected the proposal of the 'Sanacja' that all Poles should vote together openly. Our votes are therefore concealed; we have a convenient screen. No one will be able to detect the treachery!"

We understand the satisfaction, the relief, the heartfelt thankfulness of the Berlinophile Press. The Volksbund papers have long been aware of the element on which the Association of German Electors regularly base their hopes at elections. Not on the Germans, for the genuinely German votes would not be enough to carry as much as two seats in the Warsaw Seym! A number of poor, unenlightened people, the ranks of professional malcontents seeking revenge, and certain individual renegades who hate the country whose bread they eat—these are the electors of the Volksbund who carry on their treasonable calling under cover of the secret ballot!

The Volksbund also knows that, if all Poles were to combine in a mass demonstration of Polish dignity and conduct a common Polish election campaign, the Association of German Electors would suffer a veritable electoral Tannenberg! The genuine Germans would, of course, cast their votes with a quiet conscience and without apprehensions, but all the renegade rabble would run to their rat-holes and never venture to expose to the daylight their unpatriotic treason!

But the Volksbund Press have a "gratifying" success to announce. Once again "the treason stunt" is to come off, because the naïve Poles of the Opposition parties are going to "help". They, and the renegades, are going to vote "secretly", which is, of course, in accordance with the law, and "all will be well".

We are not surprised at this welcome of the "protective flank". But that cannot divert us from our course or arrest our forward march.

**For four years past only the Government camp in Silesia has fought the militant Hakatis Germans, avid of revenge. In this struggle, which is inspired by the dictates of the Polish national idea, we meet with no support from the Polish Opposition parties; on the contrary, disgraceful obstacles are placed in our path and the work of the Volksbund is sedulously seconded! There are innumerable examples of this. The victorious campaign in the case of the Polish child for the Polish school" was initiated by the Government camp and carried through in face of the unworthy defeatism of the tin gods of the Polish political parties. There was a time when the Polonia expressly boycotted the Press campaign to enlighten the public in regard to the enrolment of children for the Polish schools at the very time when the enrolment was taking place! The campaign against Germans film captions was conducted by us and crowned with success, in spite of the alliance of the Volksbund Press and almost the entire Polish Opposition Press and the counter-offensive which they waged in common.

The just moral revenge for the shameful treatment of Polish artists was also an achievement of ours! We alone stood up in this case for the cause of Polish pride and Polish dignity! The ranks of the coalition which culminated the Polish artists included almost the entire Polish Press as well as the Hakatist Press on both sides of the frontier!
We again are the only representatives of Polish vigilance in the task of watching and unmasking the germanising designs of the advance posts of Prussia. We have not only received no assistance from the "Polish" Opposition Press in this national service, but we have even, on many occasions, had to record shameful incidents of national treason. It is enough to recall the statement by the President of the Christian Democrats and National Workers’ Party group in the Silesian Seym in favour of the attitude of the Volksbund in the matter of the schools.

We have long, therefore, been accustomed to ignore the Polish Opposition in our offensive against the stronghold of Prussianism in Silesia. In the eyes of this blind and demoralised opposition there is no political issue but their own agitation and imbecile designs against the Sanacja; no national question calling for the cessation of party hatred and the formation of a solid front.

We are not, therefore, in the least astonished at the friendly support given by the Polish Opposition to the Volksbund Germans in this matter of the "secrecy of the ballot". The slogan "Vote openly!" is sweeping the country like an avalanche. Every day we hear of declarations from every part of the country announcing the intention of all vigilant and patriotic Poles to vote openly in a body.

The screen behind which the renegades are once more seeking cover will be more insecure and more "transparent" than ever before. We have already settled with militant Germanism on more than one sector of the front. But it is a fact that there are many strongholds of the outposts' opposition that have still to be levelled. If we are compelled once more to proceed alone to their attack, so much the greater the honour for us and the moral credit we shall acquire in relation to the Polish people and State.

The screen behind which the renegades and the traitors seek to shelter unpunished will avail them nothing! It will be torn down by the enthusiasm of the advancing ranks of Polish vigilants! The Polish character of this Silesian land of the Piasts will triumph in complete and splendid victory!

**Wiktore Skalski.**

**UP AND ONWARDS TO VICTORY.**

(Polska Zachodnia, No. 284, of November 14th, 1930.)

From all parts of Poland reports come in as to the growing effectiveness of the "Jedynka" army's offensive. The Opposition fronts are broken completely. Here and there we find a last stand by the rearguard of the Opposition retreating all along the line.

A wave of growing enthusiasm for the idea of the people's great leader Marshal Pilsudski is spreading throughout this land of Silesia.

In almost every spot monster meetings have taken place at which former partisans of the Opposition, who have recognised the truth, have declared in favour of List No. 1. The desperate tin gods of the parties are having recourse to a variety of manoeuvres and ruses. The Korfantist rump is again attempting to save its vanished chances by pharisaical misuse of religious catchwords and the introduction of a handful of clergy blinded by party spirit into the election campaign. This "super-Catholic" assistance can only harm the Church; it cannot save the sinking ship of the "disciples of Moses"!

The following task awaits the advance guard of the Jedynka in the last days of the election campaign:

Our efforts must be still further intensified. The Volksbund agitators must be watched and unmasked! The "super-Catholic" pharisaiism of the disciples of Moses must also be unmasked and turned to ridicule, together with their rag the Polonia. An attack must be made in greater force on those points at which the enemy still holds out. There must be canvassing from house to house, and supervision of the distribution of voting-paper No. 1. On Sunday, a full participation in the elections and an open ballot must be enforced!

We are on the eve of decisive elections. There will be no election for the next five years. These elections must and shall bring the Jedynka (single front) victory. It should be the pride of each and every worker in the campaign to score the biggest possible success in the common struggle for victory. There must be no lukewarm supporters in our ranks. All must be of the keenest. The initiative which is developing so brilliantly and the ardour for work in the several sectors must be intensified from hour to hour until it reaches boiling-point. The victory of the Jedynka in Poland is sure and certain! Silesia must have an honourable share in the victory. We must not allow our percentage to be surpassed by any other part of Poland. The "thunderclap" tradition of Polish Silesia must make itself felt all along the line in this decisive election campaign. Let us give Poland a good working Seym! We must leave no stone unturned to enable Marshal Pilsudski to count us amongst those who "work closely" with him—that is to say, those who "cannot lose".

Let us make up our minds that we stand at the outset of a new and brilliant era of progress and prosperity for Poland. The Seym will work closely with the Government, if it has a Jedynka majority. It will give Poland a new and sound Constitution, assure peace and order, and make possible an increase of prosperity in all parts of the country, thus making of Poland a State which takes its place in the front rank of the great Powers of Europe.
Only a few more days of effort! We must not rest, beloved brothers and sisters, not for a single moment. The Volksbund people must be wiped out and the Opposition crushed. We must always be ready to defend our cause. We must go forward resolutely to victory for the Jedyńka.

(Signed) Wiktor Skalski.

The result of the elections in Silesia is the crown of the victory which the national idea has won throughout the entire Republic. The idea sedulously spread by the Germans regarding the German character of this ancient Piast territory burst like a soap-bubble once and for all on November 16th. Treviranus has had his answer in the shape of the loss of half the German seats in Silesia! Instead of six representatives in the Warsaw Seym, the Volksbund will now have only three! The reduction of the German votes in all three electoral districts is in the nature of a genuine catastrophe for the partisans of revanche! It has been shown that a single decisive attack was sufficient to shatter to pieces this house built of the false cards of German revenge.

The Polish character of this ancient land of the Piasts is shown up in all its splendour. Seventy-seven per cent of Polish votes—that is such a triumph for the truth that even those who are most deluded by German propaganda must at length come to their senses!

Militant Germanism's Broken Back.

Before the elections, both the Korfantist Press and the other Opposition papers gave it to be understood again and again that the arrest of Korfanty, who (they maintained) was the symbol of the Polish idea in Silesia, would have an unfavourable effect on the Polish vote at the elections. The tin gods of the parties not only announced this to all the world, but did everything they could to help the election campaign of the Germans. It is sufficient to recall that, throughout the entire campaign, there was not a single article in the columns of the Polonia, the Kurier Śląski or the Gazeta Robotnicza against the Volksbund's designs; while paragraphs were actually published which were identical in every respect with the alarm comments of yesterday's Volksbund Press. Such a collection of imbecilities conceived as a result of "sore heads" we have never met before in the Volksbund Press, although the rags of the pro-Berlin agitators have often distinguished themselves before by remarkable pieces of stupidity. To show the kind of lucubrations to which yesterday's Volksbund Press is reduced, it is enough to say that the Oberschlesischer Kurier describes the result of yesterday's elections, which have given List No. 1 a crushing majority in the whole country and have brought up the number of Sanacja seats in Silesia from three to six, as a "defeat of the moral reform policy". Madness of this kind is such as can only have arisen out of a confusion of the senses due to a "sore head".

To explain the undoubtedly catastrophic defeat of the German list, the German Press repeats the traditional cry with regard to the terrorism of the Sanacja, and burbles irresponsibly about the disqualification of 20,000 (!?) German electors on the electoral lists. The Volksbund is, unfortunately, not able to say by what miracle the participation of the population in the voting, in spite of the alleged terrorism, was so great; for it was not only not less, but was even greater than at previous elections. Speaking of "terrorism", we have proof and enough of the exercise of another kind of terrorism—namely, the terrorism of German influence. At Sunday's elections we noted a circumstance which says much; and that was the fact that, in spite of the word passed to vote openly, more than half of the votes given for List No. 1 were given in the utmost secrecy. In a number of electoral areas the voters for List No. 1 concealed the No. 1 voting-papers and put them in the envelope folded in two or even in four. A number of cases came to our notice in which workmen voting for No. 1 concealed their votes out of fear of reprisals by their employers.

The Volksbund Press invents unheard-of stories of the alleged terrorism in the rural communes, but does not say how it explains the conspicuous fact of the enormous decline of the German votes, which is colossal even in Katowice itself, where the Germans brought old men and cripples to the polling stations.

The idiotic legend of election terrorism exercised by the Sanacja has burst like a soap-bubble, and the threat of the Volksbund Press that a protest will be made against the elections, which is likely to be extremely painful for the Government and for the Sanacja, leaves us entirely cold. These threats are mere froth and so ridiculous as not to merit a moment's
attention. At best the Volksbund Press can only make Herr Treviranus responsible for what has happened. It was he who awoke Poland's vigilance by his designs for revision of the Polish frontier, and it was his provocation and the provocations of the German party of revenge which induced our camp to undertake a decisive campaign against the element which is the "proof" in the eyes of men like Treviranus of the "German character" of Silesia and Pomérelia. It was enough for the Poles to shake off their lethargy and take somewhat firmer action for Treviranus to receive as an answer that, in Silesia, the Germans only got three seats instead of six, and in the whole of Poland only five instead of nineteen. The German "revisionists" are now free to boast of the German character of the lost German Eastern provinces.

Yes, yes, you Volksbund reptiles, our patience and lethargy were bound to come to an end soon. After the first minor offensives in March 1928 and May 1930, we have had the great "frontal attack" of the Sanacja in November 1930, which has inflicted a decisive defeat upon militant Germanism and the aspirations of Germany in the direction of revision and revenge!

Next Sunday there will be yet another "electoral reform". The defeat of the Volksbund rabble must and shall be made still more crushing.

We mean to make an end of the proud parade of the Volksbund in the Silesian Seym. Of all the former splendour and importance of the German club only pitiable relics are going to survive. Then we shall at length begin to see an element of sobriety find a place in the Prussian pride and circumstance. You have still to learn modesty, decent behaviour and reason. Yes, yes, you caterwauling gentlemen! The rabid utterances of your Press will be unavailing in face of the realities of to-day and to-morrow.

The Ministry of the Interior unmasks the Shameless German Lies as to Alleged Terrorism in Silesia.

(Polska Zachodnia. No. 297, of November 27th, 1930.)

In connection with the tendentious information appearing in the German Press in regard to the recent elections in Silesia, the Ministry of the Interior has made the following statement to the Polish Telegraph Agency:

The authorities assured peace and public safety at the elections throughout the entire election period as well as on the day of polling for the Senate of the Republic and the Silesian Seym. The only disturbances of the peace occurred in certain localities as a result of over-vigorous agitation by the electors. The worst disturbance of the elections was due to the provocative action of Pastor Harlfinger, who has been notorious for years past for his agitation against the Polish population. As a result, a police officer in uniform, Jan Sznapka, was murdered by a German militant organisation in the performance of his duties. Three Polish citizens of German nationality were also beaten and a number of houses destroyed in Brzezie. In Nowa Wies, a Polish workman named Stalmach was shot. No single Polish citizen of German nationality lost his life, as has been tendentiously reported. Apart from the incidents referred to, no serious occurrences disturbed the course of the elections. In all reported cases of disturbances of the peace an enquiry has been instituted, both in regard to those responsible for the disturbance and in regard to the authorities whose duty it is to make such disturbances impossible. A number of persons have already been arrested in connection with these incidents. The police authorities have independently opened enquiries with a view to identifying and punishing the guilty persons in a number of minor cases of breaking windows, fighting at meetings and the like. In this connection it cannot be denied that the work of the authorities is made more difficult by the systematic campaign of calumny in certain organs of the foreign Press, whose aim it apparently is to exacerbate the relations of Poles and Germans and to exploit the smallest incident in this connection to the detriment of harmonious relations between the two sections of the population. Nor is it possible to ignore the fact that the Polish public has been alarmed for some time past by the revolutionary campaign of certain German elements and by the news of the treatment of the Polish population on the other side of the frontier, where there have been various recent cases of attacks by militant bands on the Polish population, and schools and buildings have been destroyed.

Speech of the Voivode, Dr. Grazynski, at the Opening of the Third Silesian Seym on December 9th, 1930.

Gentlemen,

When I opened the Second Silesian Seym as representative of the Government I made the following remarks in my opening speech:

"In view of the great number of tasks awaiting us, it is absolutely essential that the Silesian Seym should provide a platform where all political parties, whatever their political convictions, can unite in loyal work, informed by a spirit of civic duty and penetrated by love of Silesia and Poland. In all sincerity I invite the Chamber to take as their watchword the desire to collaborate in the solution of all those questions which are connected with the prosperity of the Silesian people and the national interest."
I quote these words intentionally, since the fundamental situation, so far as watchwords are concerned, has undergone no change, and the future course of events is dependent on whether this united desire for the co-operation of all, which alone can yield positive results and prove the mainspring of creative work, is realised in the case of the Seym's activities. It is quite clear to me that the conditions with us in Silesia are rendered more difficult by the fact that the recent elections have not given any one political party a majority, as was the case in the national Seym and Senate; but they are at the same time helped by the knowledge that the Silesian Seym—according to my view of the position, which I have always put forward in this Chamber—should abandon the arena of political struggles, whose only effect on the community is to embitter relations, and should become the nucleus of initiative and action in connection with the great social, educational and economic problems which come within the scope of our provincial autonomy. I believe I am not only expressing my own personal view in this connection, but also the conviction of the great mass of the population which has had enough of political struggles and antagonisms and is waiting to see honest, peaceful work. I consider it my duty to draw the attention of this House with all possible emphasis to these considerations. The elections are barely over. They are still removed from us by too short an interval to prevent a certain atmosphere of tension being apparent, and for this reason I should like to say a few words on the subject on this occasion of opening the Seym. At all times and places elections are apt to some extent to intensify internal dissensions, for the simple reason that, at election times, programmes and watchwords, by which the future conditions in the State are to be decided, are in conflict with one another. The tension with us during the recent elections was greater than anywhere else. Two factors contributed to this, which I may distinguish as factors of internal and external politics. Amongst the former I count the following circumstances:

1. The synchronising of the elections to the national Seym and Senate with the elections to the Silesian Seym, resulting in an accumulation of programmes and party cries.

2. It should not be forgotten that the recent electoral struggle was not waged around the election of an ordinary Seym and Senate, but was directed towards the election of a legislature so composed as to ensure fundamental changes in the legal basis of our Constitution. The struggle was accordingly between issues of the highest significance, but, in addition, there are factors of external politics, factors of special significance for Silesia, which have contributed in very great measure to exacerbate the position. I am thinking of the revisionist ideas which have been so frequently and so openly put forward. These ideas are found, not only in the resolutions passed almost every day by the German social and political organisations, but also in the statements of the most eminent statesmen in Germany itself. Here is one of the principal reasons for the increased tension in Silesia; for it is obvious that we cannot allow this ancient Polish soil, this scene of Polish work and Polish efforts, to be violated by anyone in any shape or form. This is the land of our fathers, and we are the masters here in our own house in virtue of our irrefragable moral rights drawn from the past history of the land and the fact that we are an overwhelming national majority. The recollections of the hard times of our servitude and sufferings, and the magnitude of our national work and of our national struggles, are too fresh in our memories for revisionist efforts (irrespective of the kind of revision) not to stir us to the depths of our being. I speak of these things here and now for the reason that the revisionist ideas disturb to a great degree the atmosphere of peaceful co-operation of the majority with the minority on Silesian territory, and render difficult the task of allaying the passions aroused. They excite the majority and at the same time hamper the process of loyal recognition by the German minority of the Polish State, since that minority has been drawn into the German revisionist movement. I might give more than one example of this, but I propose to do so on another occasion. For all of us who live and work on Silesian soil it is an indisputable fact that the ideas of revision of the frontiers, which continue to be put forward, are a cause of permanent agitation, excitement and unrest.

For the reasons I have given, a greater tension than usual was apparent in the province, and the course of the elections led to more violence than previously between the various political parties taking part in them. I am forced at this point to make a further observation. Throughout the State, and consequently also in Silesia, the electoral struggle comprised, in addition to the Polish political parties, certain German political groups divided into two camps, each of them putting forward political tenets of a general character—that is to say, of an economic, social, cultural and political nature. They did not, therefore, appear as a single organisation championing only the cause of the national minority, but as political parties fighting for a general programme, which is perfectly natural. They have had, therefore, to submit at the elections to the same fate as all other political parties. In such circumstances it is difficult "to put anyone into a glass case" (i.e., to afford anyone special protection). I must state definitely that the incidents of the recent elections were of a general character and...
were not specially directed against the German minority; and I must add that the worst cases occurred in the camp of the majority. I consider that the authorities under these extremely difficult conditions fulfilled their task as far as was at all possible. I declare in this House, on behalf of the Government which I represent here, that the authorities will always proceed, and are now proceeding with the utmost rigour of the law against all persons responsible for incidents of whatever kind which prejudice anyone's rights, irrespective of nationality. It is in this spirit that they will deal with all the incidents which occurred at the recent elections. At the same time I repeat, as representative of the Government, in continuation of what I said before in this House, that the rights of the German minority, guaranteed by the Constitution, the laws of the land and the international treaties, are, and will in the future be, the object of the Government's solicitude; and that not according to the dead letter of the law, but in a wide and liberal spirit. I must, however, at the same time emphasise that all symptoms of disloyalty in connection with revisionist ideas in the matter of our frontiers will be combated by the Government with all the means at its disposal.

I return to the point from which I started. We cannot afford the luxury of permanent party struggles. There are too many tasks in Silesia calling for the united work of Seym and Government. The legal position requires regulation; the great educational programme must be put through; and the rate of our programme of capital improvements must not be slowed down but rather speeded up on the basis of the new financial scheme. Urgent relief is required for unemployed and disabled persons, and the housing shortage still awaits solution. Further, there is the programme of credit for the middle-classes and workers, the question of agricultural improvements and of the splitting up of estates, together with a number of other tasks, the new aspect of which I shall have occasion to put before the House at length in my budget speech. We hear much of the autonomy of Silesia; but the real value of that autonomy does not consist in unlimited freedom of speech, or in the immunity of the deputies or the monthly remuneration which they receive, but in the fact that the Seym is entitled and enabled to co-operate with the Government in the rapid and effective settlement of questions touching the interests of the broad masses of the Silesian population, as I have already explained.

I therefore once more submit to the House, with a full sense of my responsibility, a sincere appeal for co-operation, and at the same time I express the hope that the third Silesian Seym will be able, in virtue of such co-operation, to fulfil all those tasks which devolve upon it under the terms of its organic statutes.
The Proportions of the Respective Nationalities in the Voivodie of Silesia in the Plebiscite and in the Elections to the Warsaw and Silesian Seyms.

### Election to Silesian Seym on September 27th, 1922

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### Election to Warsaw Seym on June 5th, 1922

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### Election to Warsaw Seym on March 4th, 1928

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<th>Votes</th>
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<tr>
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Voivodie: Silesia: 555,949 355,834 94.3% 355,499 1,069 100,817 253,223 29.2%
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<th>Electoral Area</th>
<th>Divisions</th>
<th>Enrolled to vote</th>
<th>Voted</th>
<th>Percentage actually voted</th>
<th>Votes</th>
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<th>Percentage of German votes</th>
<th>Polish votes</th>
<th>Percentage of Polish votes</th>
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### Election to the Silesian Seym on November 23rd, 1930

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<th>Polish votes</th>
<th>Percentage of Polish votes</th>
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<td>11,409</td>
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<td>64,345</td>
<td>8,462</td>
<td>7,098</td>
<td>55,267</td>
<td>11.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Rybnik</td>
<td>97,103</td>
<td>84,225</td>
<td>90.5</td>
<td>80,312</td>
<td>7,098</td>
<td>74,214</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cieszyn</strong></td>
<td>Polish Upper Silesia</td>
<td>584,723</td>
<td>536,842</td>
<td>96.2</td>
<td>483,654</td>
<td>53,188</td>
<td>41,809</td>
<td>301,845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bielko</strong></td>
<td>47,331</td>
<td>34,396</td>
<td>72.6</td>
<td>29,830</td>
<td>4,539</td>
<td>2,351</td>
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<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cieszyn</strong></td>
<td>42,101</td>
<td>33,491</td>
<td>79.5</td>
<td>30,391</td>
<td>3,100</td>
<td>1,499</td>
<td>27,892</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Voivodzie</strong></td>
<td>Silesia</td>
<td>674,155</td>
<td>604,702</td>
<td>85.3</td>
<td>534,875</td>
<td>60,827</td>
<td>100,156</td>
<td>443,719</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Column 3 includes 51,743 persons born in the plebiscite area but not resident there (the so-called "emigrants"). Assuming that 2.5 per cent of them voted, the 20,775 persons, must be deducted from column 6.4. If 8.5 per cent of these votes are taken to be German-Poland, then, to be 100 per cent German—the plebiscite result is 52.5 per cent German and 47.5 per cent Polish votes. These considerations are clearly those on which the conference of Ambassadors based their decision of September 1931, with regard to the division of Upper Silesia. The loss of the German minority since 1922, as a result of emigration, may be put at 15,000 persons over the age of 18.

* The figures in Column 9 apply to the district of Katowice after the incorporation of the suburbs in the municipality.

* The official material available is incomplete.

* The Katowice electoral area in 1922 included Katowic-Urban, Katowice-Rural and the Ruda division, which has since ceased to exist.

* At the elections to the Silesian Seym on November 16th, 1930, the commune of Ruda (Katowice-Rural division), with some 12,000 persons entitled to vote, was incorporated in the Królewski-Huta electoral area.

* At the elections to the Silesian Seym on November 16th, 1930, the commune of Pszczyna, Białołęka, Chodów, Gliwice, Przybyszew and Pszczyna (in the Rybnik division), with some 2,000 persons entitled to vote, were incorporated in the Katowice division.

* At the elections to the Silesian Seym on November 16th, 1930, the chiefs of Pszczyna, Białołęka, Chodów, Gliwice, Przybyszew, and Pszczyna (in the Rybnik division), with some 2,000 persons entitled to vote, were declared invalid. The German vote was up to the German Socialist Labor Party.
CASES OF TERRORISM.

KATOWICE DIVISION.

1. At about 10.30 a.m. on November 23rd, Vincent Kwapis, a collier, of Bielszowice, Damrotai 1, was set upon and thrashed in front of polling-booth No. 12 at Bielszowice by some thirty Insurgents in uniform. The voting-papers which he was about to distribute were snatched from him. The assailants were led by Sebastian Potyka. The police who were present in the polling-booth did not interfere in spite of Kwapis' calls for help.

2. At about 11.30 a.m. on November 23rd, Nicolas Kurpanek, 67 years of age, a distributor of voting-papers for the Association of German Electors, residing at Bielszowice, ul. Piaskowa 23, was struck in the face by uniformed Insurgents in front of the Ciopik polling-booth at Bielszowice.

3. At 4.20 p.m. on November 23rd, the uniformed Insurgent John Potyka of Bielszowice entered the Ciopik polling-booth at Bielszowice and dragged Valentine Scholtissette, a collier, resident at Bielszowice, Glówna 115, out of the polling-booth. In the front room Scholtissette was brutally assaulted by Potyka and 5 civilians with rubber truncheons. Among the assailants were, besides John Potyka, Sebastian Potyka and Nawrat.

4. At about 3 p.m. on November 23rd, some fifteen or twenty Insurgents entered polling-booth No. 14 at Bielszowice. After exchanging a few words with the Chairman of the Election Committee, Wallasch, they set upon the German election agent, Ferdinand Machnik, resident at Bielszowice, Gorna 70, who was sitting behind the committee table, hauled him out and dragged him in front of the polling-place where they grievously assaulted him with truncheons and sticks. This attack took place in the presence of Head Constable Kluba and Sergeant Spratek. Machnik in vain asked the Head Constable for protection. The local police refused to accept a complaint and directed Machnik to take civil proceedings. Among the Insurgents were Sebastian Potyka, John Potyka, Smaja and Pokorny.

5. During the night of November 22nd-23rd, towards midnight, some 160 persons gathered in front of the house of Karl Szyrbowski, machine superintendent at Bielszowice, ul. sw. Barby 18, and broke his windows with stones. Sebastian Potyka and his brother were recognised as the ringleaders.

6. At about 1 a.m. on November 12th, the hawker Theodore Raiwa at Dabrowa-Mala, ul. Narutowicza 12, had his windows broken.

7. At about 8.30 p.m. on November 13th, a numerous band armed with rubber truncheons and revolvers appeared in front of Theodore Raiwa's house at Dabrowa-Mala. Some of them wore Insurgents' uniforms. They demanded entrance on the pretext that they were the police, and when Raiwa failed to open, they broke down the door. Among them were recognised John Swierczynsky, who was the first to enter the house with a revolver in his hand, his brothers Kasimir and Joseph, Sladek, Budarczyk, Rzeznicek (railway employee), Gaida (railway employee), Czora, Halama, and the brothers Marccez and Sieron, all of Dabrowa-Mala. Raiwa had hidden himself. His wife and children cried out for help. When Raiwa's sister, Mme. Anna Labus, ran up in reply to the cries for help, she was several times hit by Josef Gaida with a rubber truncheon. The gang stole the whole election papers, etc., of List 3. Raiwa is a German socialist. Kasimir Swierczynsky said that Raiwa would be shot like a dog if he complained about the removal of the election papers.

8. On November 14th, at about 1.15 a.m., two big pieces of granite were thrown through the window into the dwelling of Sophy Beldzik at Dabrowa-Mala, ul. Siemianowicka 35. Three window-panes were broken and a curtain was damaged. One of the stones struck the upper end of the bed in which Mme. Beldzik was sleeping. The bed was broken. Mme. Beldzik had been confined on October 17th last and had suffered complications which had made it necessary to call in the doctor. She was so terrified by the attack that she remained unconscious for three hours. At about 4 o'clock a haemorrhage began for which she is still receiving medical attention. After that night she remained a long time away from home as she was afraid of further attacks.

9. On the night of November 10th, window-panes were broken in the house of Florian Stein, master tailor, at Dabrowa-Wielka.

10. At 11.20 p.m. on November 22nd, window-panes were broken with fence-palings in the house of Emil Jesz at Janów, ul. Zambkowa 27. Half a stake and a piece of slag the size of a man's fist were thrown into the room. As Jesz stepped out of the house he was struck on the left side of the face and threatened with a fire-arm. One of the assailants is named Zerbonczyk.

11. At about 1 p.m. on November 11th, Max Sassin, municipal commissioner, living at Katowice-Zaleze, Kolonia obroki, and Grützer, master tailor, living at Katowice-Zaleze, ul. Wojciechowski, were threatened by a group of uniformed Insurgents who ran after them shouting. They jumped on to a passing tram and thus escaped their pursuers. Among the ten or twelve Insurgents were Schuster, porter at the Municipal School, and the pensioner Jaworski.

12. On November 12th, between 6 and 6:30 p.m., several men broke forcibly into the house of Boleslaw Rumpel, an unemployed workman, at Katowice II, Czecha 4. The police, called in by his wife, expelled the assailants. At about 10.15 p.m., ten or fifteen men suddenly broke into the passage and threatened the inmates with death. Granite paving-stones were
thrown into the house. When the inmates tried to escape through the windows, stones were thrown at them from the courtyard. Rumpel's brother-in-law, the butcher, Peter Skrzypietz, living at Katowice II, Czecha 42, was badly injured by a stone. The furniture was demolished. Shots were fired. Finally the inmates succeeded in escaping and Mme. Rumpel went to fetch the police, but the police commissioner only said: “You are getting tit for tat.” Skrzypietz was searched by the police for arms.

At about 12.15 a.m. on November 13th, windows were broken in the house of Vincent Dudek at Katowice III.

At about 4 p.m. on November 16th, Ludwig Lippa, a locksmith, 41 years of age, living at Katowice II, ul. Szeroka 29, was sitting in Barnert’s public-house at Katowice, ul. Pocztowa 12, and was speaking German with some friends. Several persons at the neighbouring table, including two Insurgents in uniform, forbade them to speak German. When Lippa said that one of the people at the table did not understand Polish, one of the uniformed Insurgents said “Kill the ‘Pieron’!” The Insurgents caught hold of Lippa, threw him to the ground, kicked him and hit him in the head with a sharp object. He lay in the street, leaving behind him his portfolio and his hat. Meeting a policeman in the street, he asked for protection. The officer went with him to the inn and talked for a short time with the Insurgents, who told him that Lippa had spoken German. The policeman thereupon told Lippa to be gone. When he got into the street, Lippa fell down unconscious.

At 9.30 a.m. on November 21st August Galuschka, a shoemaker, living at Katowice II, Rawy 4, was attacked and ill-used by six men in the hall of Markieka 69, his clothes being torn. One of the assailants was the Insurgent Fielerz. Galuschka had distributed German voting-papers.

In the afternoon of November 22nd, a public procession took place at Katowice in which railway officials and Insurgents in uniform took part. Banners were carried with the inscription “Down with the Germans; down with the Volksbund,” as well as a dummy dressed in a German soldier’s uniform.

At about 1 a.m. on November 23rd the shop window of the shoemaker Michael Jelitta, at Katowice III, Wojciechowskiego 58, was broken by some ten to twelve unknown individuals.

Between 11 and 12 p.m. on November 23rd, an employee of the Cleophas Mine, Frederic Hoinkis, living at Katowice-Zaleze, ul. Wojciechowskiego 147, was attacked on his way home from work, just before reaching his house, by two unknown men, who cried out: “Clear out, you damned ‘Orgesch’,” and struck him on the head, arms and legs with sticks.

In the night of November 22nd-23rd, Herman Klaschka, a weigher, living at Katowice-Zaleze, ul. Wojciechowskiego 162, was attacked on his way home from work by eight persons and beaten with rubber truncheons. The assailants yelled “Lay the Hun out!” Klaschka was obliged to go to hospital for treatment.

In the afternoon of November 30th, Albert Hoheisel, joiner, 63 years of age, of Katowice, ul. Zabrzecka 3, was sitting in Rduch inn, Katowice, ul. Sowackiego and was talking to a friend in German. The reserve officer Palla, who was also in the inn, fetched four uniformed Insurgents and pointed Hoheisel out to them. The Insurgents rushed upon Hoheisel, struck him over the head with beer glasses, kicked him several times in the back, and threw him down the stairs into the street. When passers-by asked what was the matter, one of the assailants said “He is a damned German.” Several passers-by having come up, the Insurgents went away. The passers-by followed them and asked the policeman at the postal cheque office to ascertain the identity of the aggressors. The constable at first refused to do so, and asked the witness what he meant by following Insurgents in uniform. Eventually the policeman arrested the assailants.

At about 2 o’clock on November 22nd, three panes in the kitchen window were broken by stones in the first-floor dwelling of Alois Smuda, 35 years of age, living at Koclowice, ul. Górna 42. Smuda went out with his brother-in-law, Adolf Ksiuk, 26 years of age, same address. At this moment three men in civilian clothes were passing in front of the house. One of them threw a stone in the direction of the door. Adolf Ksiuk and Smuda sprang towards them and said “Do you mean to break some more windows?” One of the men cried out “Help!”, and some fifteen shots were immediately fired. Ksiuk received a bullet wound in the left shoulder, a shot through his cap, which grazed his head, and some small shot in the face. Four Insurgents endeavoured to force their way into the house. The door at first did not give way. They fired eight or ten times at the door and then broke it down, the bolts being torn off.

The pensioner John Ksiuk, 59 years of age, was in the hall and was just going to open the door when it was broken down. One of the assailants gave John Ksiuk a kick on the left hip and said “You damned ‘Pieron’; we will kill you all, you damned ‘Orgesch’!” The leader of the Insurgents, John Skrzipietz, living at Koclowice, Górna 34, asked John Ksiuk, “Where are your son and your sons-in-law? If you do not tell us we will shoot you!” Three of the assailants, among them Skrzipietz, pushed into John Ksiuk’s kitchen. The other two wore Insurgents’ uniform. One of the uniformed Insurgents held a pistol to the breast of John Ksiuk’s son-in-law, Theodor Kowollik, 27 years of age. Kowollik’s wife, Agnes, née Ksiuk, 21 years of age, was sitting in Rduch inn, Katowice, ul. Zalezê, ul. Wojciechowskiego 162, was attacked on his way home from work, just before reaching his house, by two unknown men, who cried out: “Clear out, you damned ‘Orgesch’,” and struck him on the head, arms and legs with sticks.

The officer went with him to the inn and talked for a short time with the Insurgents, who told him what he meant by following Insurgents in uniform. Eventually the policeman arrested the assailants.

In the afternoon of November 22nd, three persons, brandishing pistols, forced their way into the house of Henry Meinusch, collier, living at Koclowice, ul. Górna, 40. Their leader was John Skrzipietz, living at Koclowice, ul. Górna 34, who was in civilian clothes, while
At about 2 p.m. on November 11th, three men entered Edward Bury's shop at Myslowice, and to live at Swietochlowice. Meinusch was dragged into the corridor, was struck in the face, was put up against the wall and was threatened with shooting. One of the uniformed Insurgents struck Meinusch several heavy blows on the head with the butt of a pistol until he lost consciousness. The assailants then dragged him into Raiwa's inn, ul. Górná 38. In the inn, Meinusch was maltreated by the three assailants and several other persons. Two police officers, Ostrowski and Mieszany, were present during this assault. Ostrowski only intervened when Meinusch, covered with blood, seemed on the point of collapsing, whereupon he said to the assailants: "That's enough now, gentlemen". The two policemen then carried Meinusch to the police station. On the way Mieszany struck Meinusch with his fist three times on the back of the neck, saying "I will cut off your head, you damned Hun". On the way they were met by the railway official Lubianski of Kóchlowice who assaulted Meinusch in the presence of the two policemen, crying out "I know you, you damned Huns, you and your brother!". It was not until Meinusch had received six blows in the face and a blow with a stone on the left temple that Ostrowski intervened. After having his injuries dressed by Dr. Wawrzinek of Kóchlowice, Meinusch was brought back to the police-station and was examined by the Head Constable. When they were going to set him free he asked for police protection on the way home, but the Head Constable refused, saying he had no one to spare, and Meinusch stayed at the police-station until about 6 o'clock.

Meanwhile Skrzypiec, helped by other accomplices, made a search at Meinusch's house and threatened his 70-year-old mother with a pistol, among the expressions he used being "German swine!", "Orgesch!". When the house was broken into, Meinusch's dog was killed by two shots. Meinusch, refused, saying he had no one to spare, and Meinusch stayed at the police-station until about 6 o'clock.

At 2.30 p.m. on November 10th, Josef Schindler's shop window at Michalkowice was broken. At about 2 p.m. on November 17th, ten or fifteen uniformed Insurgents remained in the polling-booth of district 72 at Michalkowice during the whole of the poll. At 2 p.m. on November 21st, German newspapers were forcibly taken away with threats from the woman Hedwig Laska, newspaper carrier, of Katowice, ul. Gliwicka 41, by five men at the railway-station of Michalkowice; the men's names were Szafrańiec, Kostosz, Padzziernik, Nawrat and Swietek. Early in the morning of November 23rd, a dummy dressed in a German soldier's uniform was hung up on a tree in the neighbourhood of the communal hall of Michalkowice with a placard bearing the words: "Anyone who votes German on Sunday will meet with the same fate as this dummy". The dummy was not removed by the police until several hours later. At about 2 p.m. on November 11th, three men entered Edward Bury's shop at Myslowice, ul. Pszczyńska 22, and called upon him to hand over his German newspapers. They took away about ten newspapers and tore them to pieces in the street, and threatened to box the ears of the apprentice girls in the shop.
At about 7 a.m. on November 12th, railway employees in uniform took away newspapers from Bury's stall at Mysłowice railway-station and tore them up.

On November 12th, at the stopping-place at Bagno in the commune of Szopienice, a packet of newspapers and printed matter addressed to Bury was snatched away in the tram from Margaret Ochmann, living at Włónowiec, ul. Parkowa 26, by two uniformed Insurgents and destroyed. A policeman who was standing by the driver of the tram did not interfere.

At about 3 p.m. on November 14th, three men, among whom was the Insurgent Woitowitz, entered Bury's shop at Mysłowice and made him hand over German newspapers, which they tore up in the street.

At about 1 a.m. on November 23rd, window-panes were broken in the house of the pensioner Andrew Sklorz at Nikiszowiec, Kolejowa 6.

At about 3 a.m. on November 15th, seventeen window-panes were broken in the house of Otto Scheer, engineer, at Nowa-Wies, Laurastr. 3.

At 2.15 a.m. on November 20th, window-panes were broken in the house of August Kossmann, employee, at Nowa-Wies.

In the night of November 15th-16th stones were thrown at the house of Theodor Dyrbusch at Pawłow, ul. Główna 70, and several window-panes were broken.

In the night of November 15th-16th, a window-pane was broken in the house of Pierzalla at Pawłow, ul. Główna 66.

On November 20th, Mme. Oblonczik, a seller of the Oberschlesischer Kurier, living at Pawłow, ul. Główna 40, was attacked by two Insurgents, who threw her to the ground and stole her newspapers.

In the night of November 22nd-23rd, several shots were fired and hand grenades exploded at Pawłow.

On November 23rd a distributor of voting-papers of the Association of German Electors, Alfred Pierzalla, living at Pawłow, ul. Główna 66, was kicked by the Insurgent Glówna in front of Pierzalla, and was driven away. At polling-booths 81 and 82 at Pawłow the election agents Josef Schymura, ul. Główna 40, Victor Gniza, ul. Główna 15, Julius Landutzki, ul. Główna 92, Carl Owczarek, ul. Główna 104 and Theodor Dyrbusch, ul. Główna 70, the latter being a member of the committee of the Association of German Electors, were forcibly expelled from the polling-booth and assaulted by the Insurgents Krassek, Reicza, Klosa, Duda and Hurnisch. Paul Smolka, ul. Włosność 9, a distributor of voting-papers of the Association of German Electors, was threatened by the Insurgents and driven away.

At about 4 a.m. on November 23rd, the shop-sign of Francis Gattner's baker's shop at Rozale, ul. Hutnica 19, was broken to pieces by persons unknown.

In the night of October 11th-12th, the big plate-glass window of the innkeeper Kokott at Siemianowice was broken by the Insurgent Wrobel.

At 2.15 a.m. on November 12th, the plate-glass window of the shop of the German communal councillor, Cohn, at Siemianowice was broken.

At 2.30 a.m. on the same night, eight window-panes were broken in the German communal councillor, Knappik, at Siemianowice.

On October 18th, the Insurgent Wrobel tore down the newspapers displayed in the shop of the Kattowitzer und Laurahüller-Zeitung, at Siemianowice. When the newspapers were put up again he pulled down both them and the stands. The police were called and came immediately but did not arrest Wrobel. Wrobel remained in front of the shop, molesting the customers and snatching their newspapers out of their hands. An hour later, he broke the big plate-glass window with a brick, and the goods in the window were damaged.

On October 27th, the newspaper carrier Francis Sorowka and his wife Olga, living at Siemianowice, ul. Bocznia 15, were maltreated in Miixa's inn.

At 4 p.m. on October 27th, the newspaper carrier Flora Scigalla of Siemianowice, Kolonja 54, Richterka, was ill-treated on the Beuthen Road by several Insurgents.

In the night of October 29th-30th, the manager of the Siemianowice branch of the Kattowitzer Zeitung, Matyssek by name, living at Siemianowice, ul. Florjana 7, and his fiancée, Bertha Groll, living at Siemianowice, ul. Sobieskiego 32, were attacked and maltreated in the street, not far from the police-station, by seven Insurgents. Both received several blows in the face and Bertha Groll fainted and was only restored to consciousness at the police-station.

At 10 a.m. on November 5th, a band of Insurgents burst into the dwelling of Paul Jäger, Siemianowice, ul. Matejki 24, and assaulted him until he lost consciousness.
At about 3 a.m. on November 11th, the window of the door of John Niechoj’s boot-shop at Siemianowice was smashed by three individuals. The police arrested one of the assailants but later released him.

At 11 a.m. on November 11th, three Insurgents in uniform entered Grohall’s baker’s shop at Siemianowice, ul. Glowackiego 6, and ordered him to put up an election poster of the Government Party in his shop-window. This Grohall refused to do. The Insurgents went away uttering threats. In the evening, the shop door was smashed.

Just before 2 a.m. on November 12th, eight Insurgents, among whom were Brandys and Krafczyk, forced their way into Kandzia’s house at Siemianowice, ul. Myslowicka 341. They broke down the door with a bench which was standing in the corridor, burst into Kandzia’s dwelling and brutally assaulted him. The Insurgent Kopiec threatened him with a pistol. Kandzia’s sister was also maltreated. Kandzia tried to escape by jumping through the window but was further assaulted by two other Insurgents who were posted outside. Eventually he succeeded in escaping to the house of some friends, where he fainted owing to severe loss of blood.

At 2.30 p.m. on November 13th, the shoemaker John Borszcz of Siemianowice had his plate-glass window and the windows of his shop door broken. The offender, whose name was Grabka, was arrested by the police but was then released. Borszcz having lodged a complaint with a view to penal proceedings, the Public Prosecutor’s Office of the Katowice District Court informed Borszcz by an order IV.Ds.1076/30, dated November 28th, 1930, that no proceedings could be taken ex officio and that he must bring a civil action.

On November 14th, sixteen copies of the Kattowitzer Zeitung were snatched away from the newspaper woman Karmainski of Siemianowice, ul. Piastowska 17, by Insurgents.

At about midnight on November 16th-17th, the teacher Francis Goriwoda, living at Siemianowice, ul. Florjana 12, was set upon in the street by the Insurgent Krafczyk and two other men and was severely ill-treated with sticks and kicks. Krafczyk was in Insurgents’ uniform and the two others in civilian clothes. Before attacking him Krafczyk asked, “How is List 12 going in Laurahütte?”

At 8.15 p.m. on November 21st, some eight or ten men appeared at the door of John Reisch, baker, at Siemianowice, ul. Korfantego 6. Two of the men asked to speak to Reisch, saying that they had been told to come and fetch him so that he should answer for his propaganda in favour of List 12. They said that on November 23rd the poll would be controlled and that they would see to it that the bakery and the shop were closed. The name of one of these men was Kinzel.

At about 10 p.m. on November 23rd, several people were maltreated by about thirty or forty individuals in front of polling-booth No. 48 at Siemianowice. Julius Grzyb, wire-drawer, living at Siemianowice, ul. Korfantego 16, having complained to a policeman of these assaults, the latter answered that no one had yet been killed. Among the assailants were Kinzel, Kobielaki and Francis Burczyk as well as the policeman Bobiec, who was wearing Insurgents’ uniform.

At about 3 p.m. on November 23rd, ten or fifteen men got off a lorry in the ulica Stabika at Siemianowice, dragged Josef Struzyna, a workman, of Siemianowice, Karola Miarki 10, into the lorry and beat and kicked him, and then released him. Struzyna was arrested by the police at about 3.30 p.m. and kept in custody until about 10 p.m.

At about 1.00 p.m. on November 23rd, Josef Pollok, a distributor of voting-papers for the Association of German Electors, living at Siemianowice-Huta Jerzego, was attacked by the Insurgent Scheffczyk of Siemianowice, and was struck over the head and back with a heavy stick. He fled to the polling-booth and told two policemen who were there of the attack. They came out with him, and as Pollok was walking a few paces in front Scheffczyk struck him two more blows on the head. The policemen took down particulars as to Pollok’s identity. Scheffczyk had arrived at the polling-booth in a motor car with several Insurgents.

At 10.40 p.m. on November 23rd, William Schwietza, a workman, of Siemianowice, Cmentarna 6, was attacked in the hall of polling-booth No. 48 by about thirty Insurgents who had arrived in a lorry, and was thrashed with sticks and rubber truncheons until he bled. As he ran away, Schwietza collapsed and was then again struck by the policeman Bobiec, who was wearing Insurgents’ uniform, in the presence of four other policemen. Among the assailants were George Krafczyk, Francis Burczyk, Richard Kinzel and Kobielaki. At the same time, Hubert Kandziora, of Siemianowice, was also assaulted. Schwietza reported the matter at the Siemianowice police-station, but his evidence was not taken.

At 9 p.m. on November 26th, a band of some ten men burst into the dwelling of the widow Mathilda Ziaja, 64 years of age, living at Siemianowice, ul. Parkowa 9, and broke down her door with an axe. They took away Mathilda Ziaja’s furniture and replaced it by a few small pieces of furniture belonging to the Insurgent Jan Lipinski. Next day, Mme. Ziaja complained to the police, who ordered Lipinski to remove his belongings. Those of the assailants who were recognised were Insurgents.

At Szopienice, at 1 p.m. on November 15th, a man struck a ten year old girl, Elisabeth Rack, several times on the head with a folded portfolio because she had spoken German in the street.
proceeded to search. They took away German voting-papers and handbills, and threatened to kill Richter if he distributed any more German voting-papers. The leader of the assailants was the Insurgent Maciol.

On November 20th, the same individuals attacked Stephen Politai of Lipiny, Srednia 5 in the street and beat him so severely with rubber truncheons that he is still confined to his bed.

On the evening of November 22nd, a public procession took place at Piekary-Wielkie during which threats were uttered against the Germans. In front of the house of the minority schoolmaster Derballa, the ringleader asked the crowd what should be done with Derballa, and they answered: 'Hang him'.

At 3.50 p.m. on November 23rd, window-panes and window-frames were broken with stones in Theodor Kornke's house at Piekary-Wielkie, ul. Damrota 8. One stone fell upon Kornke's bed.

Towards 4.45 a.m. on November 23rd, a large stone was thrown into Franz Kittel's dwelling on the second floor at Piekary-Wielkie, ul. Marjacka 17, several window-panes being broken and the curtain damaged. The assailants had vainlyendeavoured at two o'clock and at 4 o'clock to force the door of the house.

On December 6th, the 18-year-old lad Schwarz came to Elizabeth Kornke's dwelling at Piekary-Wielkie, ul. Damrota 8, and warned her that she, as well as Derballa, Kittel and Pluta, all members of the minority, were going to be murdered during the night by two persons belonging to the locality and four from outside. He said he had discovered this from a letter he had found in his brother's house, and added that his brother had a firearm (the brother is the leader of the Insurgents at Piekary-Wielkie). Frau Kornke, Kittel and Pluta notified the police.

At about 1 p.m. on November 11th, some fifteen Insurgents wearing uniform and led by the workman Kruppa of Swietochlowice-Zgoda came to August Miklitz's house at Swietochlowice-Zgoda, ul. II Listopada 18, and asked for him. Miklitz was absent but Kruppa told Madam Miklitz that her husband was going to be killed.

At about 10 o'clock, November 15th, windows were broken by a gang of some ten men in the house of Francis Schoppa, mine employee, of Swietochlowice-Zgoda, ul. II Listopada 34.

The assailants, who were not identified, were wearing the Insurgents' uniform and at 4 o'clock to force the door of the house.

At about 9 o'clock, November 22nd, Francis Bialas of Swietochlowice-Zgoda, Kolonja Drzymaly 6, was attacked and ill-treated by several men in the street in front of the police-station.

At about 9 p.m. on November 22nd, Paul Weiss, baker, of Swietochlowice-Zgoda, Kolonja Drzymaly 4, was attacked in the street in front of Alexa's inn by twenty or thirty men and beaten with pieces of cable. He fled but was followed and received further blows in the house in which he had taken refuge.

At about 9 p.m. on November 22nd, about twenty civilians entered the house at Swietochlowice-Zgoda, ul. II Listopada 17. Some of the men went into Josef Kolodziej's dwelling, but came out a few moments later. As they went down Robert Krotki heard the men say as they passed his apartment on the ground floor: "This is where that fellow Krotki lives".

At about 9.30 p.m. on November 22nd, August Miklitz of Swietochlowice-Zgoda, ul. II Listopada 18, heard knocks at his door. On his asking who was there he was told to open the door. Miklitz heard several men talking in the corridor. Then part of the panel of the door was broken down and Miklitz saw a policeman through the aperture, whereupon he opened the door. The policeman pushed back a civilian who tried to enter the apartment. Two policemen went in and asked what had happened. Miklitz stated that a gang had tried to force their way in and had already broken down the panel. He begged for protection and they reassured him and left the house. One of them was the chief of the police detachment.

At about 9.45 p.m. on November 22nd, three pistol shots were fired in front of the house at Swietochlowice-Zgoda, Kolonja Drzymaly 4. A gang of thirty or forty civilians burst into the house. They knocked at the door of Josef Woisch, fireman, and as he did not open they broke down the door. Woisch fled with his family into the bedroom. When his assailants threatened to break down the door, he opened it and six men entered the bedroom and called upon him to hand over German handbills and voting-papers. Woisch was hit across the back with a piece of cable (rubber tube with wire inside) and then, clad only in his trousers and shirt, was dragged into the street. Here there was a crowd of about fifty or sixty men, and Woisch was knocked about until he collapsed. Later he endeavoured to go to the foundry in order to get his injuries bound up, but was prevented by his assailants. Meanwhile three of the miscreants had remained in the house and searched it. Woisch's wife was obliged to open all the cupboards. German voting-papers and an axe were taken away and Mme. Woisch was molested. Woisch is a 50 per cent disabled ex-serviceman.

The attack lasted some twenty minutes.

On November 21st, the widow Mrosek had warned Mme. Woisch of an impending attack. At about 11 p.m. on November 22nd, a crowd of about forty men, some in Insurgents' uniform and some in civilian clothes, collected in front of the house of Andrew Kasparids, workman, at Swietochlowice, Zgoda quarter, Kolonja Klary 7, and threw stones at the house, while attempts were made to break down the door. When Kasparids opened he was beaten with rubber truncheons and ordered to give up his arms and voting-papers. The dwelling was searched and biblical pictures and texts with German inscriptions were torn off the walls and destroyed. The splinters of the broken window-panes flew as far as the beds of the children. A hatchet and toys with German inscriptions were stolen, the latter being broken and left in front of the house.
On November 22nd, at Caspar Schwarz’s house at Miasteczko, the policeman Rufert seized the Kattowitzer Zeitung, the handbills of the Association German of Electors, voting-papers and a portfolio. When Schwarz asked for a receipt the policeman answered that a horsewhip was a good enough receipt for him and that they would all be horsewhipped to Berlin. When Schwarz protested, he was threatened with arrest.

On November 23rd, the frontier official Isidor Nowak, who was in uniform, took away German voting-papers from Caspar Schwarz by force and with threats. The railway official, Dalibog, also joined in the threats.

The gang then went back to Stephanik’s house and tried to break down the door. Having failed to do this they broke some more window-panes with palings. The commotion lasted until 2 a.m.

On November 15th, a notice was put up on the fence of Paul Blochel at Opatowice, telling him that he could order a coffin if a single vote was cast for the German list.

At 8.15 a.m. on November 16th, Josef Patton, a collier, of Orzech, was stopped by the Insurgent Hugo Langosz in front of the polling-booth with the following remark: “So you are assembling already, you damned Germans, but you’re going to get hell to-day”. Patton was an agent of the Association of German Electors, and handed over his authorisation to the Chairman of the Electoral Committee, the revenue-official Stanislas Molik, who said that he could take no responsibility for Patton’s safety. At that moment, the Insurgents Hugo Langosz and Emmanuel Bujoecz cried out: “Clear out! We don’t want any Germans here. We can’t have any of Donnersmarck’s people voting here. Go and vote at Berlin.”

Then, under Molik’s eyes, Langosz struck Patton and ordered him to go away.

At about 10 a.m. on November 16th, the motor-van Sl. 11,444 was driven into Orzech by John Matejczyk, who works at the Starostie. Matejczyk attacked the workman Karl Patton, a distributor of German voting-papers, after whistling to the other occupants of the car for help. Patton was pursued to his dwelling and four men forced their way in.

On November 22nd, six men entered the courtyard of Josef Muschol at Orzech and broke the window-panes and window-frames with sticks. Muschol’s adopted child, Genovefa Renka, was threatened with a firearm.

At about 7.30 p.m. on November 14th, about 120 Insurgents, led by Muschelski and Gebrisek, of Piaczezna, marched into the village of Piaczezna and stopped in front of Francis Lipina’s farm. His house was surrounded and about 18 men entered the courtyard crying to Lipina to come out, and firing several shots into the air. The gang then continued on its way. Lipina having been warned that he would be fetched out in the night of November 22nd-23rd he left his house and took refuge elsewhere.

On November 16th the communal clerk Ulrich Halemba loudly complained in the polling-booth at Piaczezna communal hall that so many German votes were being given in. He said he would go from house to house and shoot down every German. The sheriff was present during these remarks, but made no observation.

At about 11.30 a.m. on November 23rd the “export” delivery-van from Tarnowskie-Góry drove up to the polling-booth at Piaczezna with twelve men, who got off and went into the police-station. On coming out again they fell upon the distributor of German voting-papers John Mosch and struck him with a stick. They rushed into the dwelling of John Mosch’s mother and struck the defenceless woman.

At about 3.30 p.m. on November 14th, about 120 Insurgents, led by Muschelski and Liblik, of Tarnowskie-Góry, drove up to the polling-booth at Piaczezna communal hall that so many German votes were being given in. They called to Lipina to come out, and fired several shots into the air. Lipina being threatened, he left his house and took refuge elsewhere.

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On November 8th, an election meeting called together by the head of the Commune, Hakuba, was held at Pniowice and the apostacy Gaida, of Radzionkow, made a speech in which he said, among other things, that his hearers must make a clean sweep of all the Germans. He added that he need not say more as his hearers knew quite well what they had to do.

At about 6.30 p.m. on November 15th, the Insurgent Anton Kalinowski, of Radzionkow, Husgona 2, appeared in a drunken condition at the dwelling of Alois Zientek, technician, who was absent, at Radzionkow, Kopalnia Anna 76, and demanded to be given all the papers of the Volksbund, of the German parties and of the Mixed Commission. Mme. Zientek called the policeman Gwosdz, who explained to Kaiinowski that he had no right to seize anything. Nevertheless Kaiinowski took the papers away, but brought them back at 10 p.m. and told Mme. Zientek that her husband must not show himself any more at Radzionkow.

At about 3 a.m. on November 12th, the windows of the landowner Morawietz at Repty-Nowy were broken.

At about 11 p.m. on November 16th, Josef Lobko, Josef Schrôter, Alois Soballa and Paul Konopka came in front of the house of the cottager Josef Stephanik at Repty-Nowy, and cried: “Stephanik, to-morrow is election day, and if you are going to vote wrong you had better not vote at all”. After breaking a window-pane they went away. When Stephanik came out of the door, stones were thrown at him and he received a severe injury on the head. When he went back into his house he was followed and, the assailants having fetched reinforcements, about twelve persons collected in front of the door and demanded admittance.

This being refused they broke three more window-panes.

The ruffians then went over to the house of Stephanik’s mother-in-law, Mme. Anna Wilsemek who lives opposite and one of them named Sossna said to her: “To-day we have a free hand, we can do what we like, and if we catch this Pieron we shall hang him to the nearest lamp-post”.

In the middle of the night of November 15th-16th, the windows of the house of the workman Francis Skrzipuletz, of Repty-Nowy, were broken with bottles and truncheons.
On the morning of November 16th, the chief of the Customs officials on duty in the Neuring at Tarnowskie-Góry struck Francis Schlenkos, unemployed workman, of Tarnowskie-Góry, Kacziniec 10, who was distributing German voting-papers, in the face and said: "You Hun! Why are you giving her a German paper?" Schlenkos had just handed a voting-paper to a woman.

On November 14th, the windows of John Pospiech, at Zygnlyn, were broken.

On November 23rd, the agents of the Association of German Electors, Josef Skopp, of Zygnlyn, near Miasteczko, and August Faschinka, living at Szyns, No. 3, near Miasteczko, were assaulted in front of the polling-booth by the Insurgents Stefan Horzella, of Gross-Zygnlyn, and Francis G nulla, Paul Dziewior and Emmanuel Gora, residents of Zygnlyn.

Pszczyyna Division.

1 At 1.30 p.m. on November 22nd, the children from the German private school at Golosowice rushed into the schoolroom shouting "The Insurgents are here!" At about 2 p.m., the classroom door burst open and some ten or fifteen men ordered the schoolmistress Fuchs to take them to her dwelling. The Insurgents entered all the rooms and asked after the porter Watzlawik, who was absent. The organist Bigalke was dragged out of the lodge and beaten. Fräulein Fuchs was threatened with having the school blown up as the children were brought up in a spirit of hostility to Poland. The incident lasted about half an hour, after which the Insurgents went off to the inn. At about 4 p.m., the Insurgents departed in a motor-lorry in the direction of Pielgrzymowice. Shots were heard in this direction. At about 8.30 p.m., the window-panes of the room occupied by Fräulein Fuchs were broken with stones and three stones fell into the room. The windows of the dwelling of the teacher Nerbas and of the porter, as well as a window in the corridor and in the nurse's room, were also broken.

2 At 9.30 p.m. on November 8th, three large windows were broken in the hall of the innkeeper Frederic Berger, of Holdunów. At the time, the Young Men's Evangelical Association were doing gymnastics in the hall and some of them were injured by splinters.

3 At 1.30 a.m. on the same night the windows of Biczysko, a foreman, of Holdunów, were broken.

4 At about 2 a.m. on October 15th, the windows of Josef Kowalski at Imieliń were broken with stones which flew into the room. Some of them were as large as bricks.

5 At 5 p.m. on November 15th, five window-panes were broken in the house of Josef Kowalski at Imieliń. When Kowalski notified the police, the commandant told him that if he weren't an agitator his windows would not be broken.

6 At 8 p.m. on October 14th, Paul Scheja's windows at Kosztowy were broken.

7 At 8 p.m. on November 14th, Josef Hornig's windows at Kosztowy were broken with stones. Stones as big as half a brick fell into the room and the table lamp was broken.

8 On October 18th, a meeting of the Association for the Western Marches was held at Kosztowy. On the way home, the crowd shouted insults against the Germans and Korfanty. Peter Palka was stabbed in the neck by a certain Tusinski.

9 At about 11 p.m. on November 14th, some three to five individuals bombarded John Zielosko's house at Kosztowy, Dzieckowska 15, with stones and broke seventeen window-panes and a gutter. As they left, they fired seven shots at the house, and later another twenty shots.

10 At about 6 p.m. on November 20th, Paul Ugłorz, a miner, of Ląziska-Srednia, had his house searched by three policemen named Brandy, Morawiec and Smietana. They seized all the election-papers, his correspondence as chairman of the Minority School Commission and three rolls of newspapers. Ugłorz himself was arrested and taken by the policeman Smietana to the police-station at Ląziska-Górne where, at about 7 p.m., he was put into a cell. In the cell, the policeman Hachula assaulted Ugłorz in the presence of Smietana and struck him in the face, asking "Are you a German or a Pole?". He also called Ugłorz a "Hun" and a "Bolshevik". As Ugłorz endeavoured to ward off further blows Smietana took Hachula out of the cell. On November 21st, Ugłorz was taken to Ląziska-Srednia and released, but the policeman Brandy told him that he was only being released on condition that he no longer worked for the minority school, the German Volksbund and the German Socialist party.

11 At 1.15 a.m. on October 17th, several windows were broken in the house of Carl Sodomann, town councillor, at Mikołów, ul. Koscielna 7.

12 At about midnight on the night of October 20th-21st, the big plate-glass window and four other windows were broken in Maximilian Koch's inn at Mikołów, ul. Lompy 10.

13 At about midnight on the same night, several windows were broken in the house of Herman Drechsler, chief accountant, Mikołów, ul. Bytomska 2.

14 Half an hour after midnight on October 21st, seven window-panes were broken in the inn of Paul Kurpas, Mikołów, ul. Zor ska 8.

15 In the night of October 20th-21st, windows were broken in the shop of the innkeeper Hadamek and of the baker Wita, at Mikołów.

16 At about 2.15 a.m. on October 23rd, the plate-glass window of the chocolate shop of Herbert Sodomain, Mikołów, ul. 3go maja (a son of the Karl Sodomann mentioned above) was broken with bricks. The miscreants, Stefan Lukaszczysz, Mikołów, ul. Pszczynska 4., and Francis Pichatzek, Mikołów, ul. Robotnicza 39, were caught red-handed by the policeman Valentine Marcoll, were arrested, but were released on the following day.
On the afternoon of October 25th, the meeting of the Mikolów group of the "Employees Trade Union" was disturbed by about twenty-five Insurgents who broke into the hall of the Hotel Polski at Mikolów, while others remained in the corridors. The Insurgents attacked those present with sticks and chairs, and several persons, among them the accountant Pelka, living at Mikolów, ul. Jammy 1, were seriously injured. A police commissioner and three police sergeants were in a neighbouring room during the attack, but did not intervene.

In the night of October 27th-28th, windows were broken in the house of the accountant Herman Drechsler at Mikolów.

On November 13th, George Brudny's windows, at Mikolów, Polna 16, were broken.

On November 14th, two civilians and two policemen, one of whom bore the number 212, entered the 1.25 train from Katowice at Mikolów and searched the luggage. Sixty-thousand German voting-papers were taken away from Roman Kuznik of Rybnik, Larysza 11. He was obliged to get out at Mokry, but was released after his identity had been ascertained.

Towards 8 p.m. on November 14th, a gang of about twenty men appeared in front of the house of John Dziewior, overseer, at Mikolów, Dworcowa 10, and loudly demanded admittance. The intruders searched every room for Dziewior but he was absent. Among them were recognised Franke and Stabb of Mikolów.

At about 10 p.m. on November 14th, a gang of some forty men entered the house inhabited by Brudny, and the door of his dwelling was forcibly broken down. Among the intruders were recognised the brothers John and Robert Franke and Francis Piechaczek, of Mikolów. Brudny and his wife took refuge in the living-room. Piechaczek took out a pistol and fired six times from the kitchen door in the direction of the room in which they were hiding. Piechaczek and Robert Franke flung several pails and baskets from the hall into the kitchen and shouted "Come out, old ' Pieron ', we are going to kill you !" Shortly afterwards, a policeman appeared, to whom Brudny reported the attack. He was told to come to the police-station next day. At about 11.45 p.m. the ruffians came back and again cried out that they wanted to kill Brudny, "the damned old ' Pieron '". This time a policeman was with them, who endeavoured to silence them and finally got them out of the house. He told Brudny and his wife and son to come with him to the police-station to spend the night. On November 15th, Brudny and his family sought refuge with relatives at Pszczyna. On November 16th, he went to Mikolów in order to vote but at the station was surrounded and threatened by four young men so was obliged to return to Pszczyna.

At 6.30 a.m. on November 15th, John Bainczyk of Mikolów, Polna 18, was set upon in the street by some ten to twelve Insurgents in civilian clothes and was so severely mishandled that he had to be taken to the Miners' Union Hospital at Orzesze. Among the assailants were Brozek and Piechaczek. The doctor who was called upon to give first-aid ordered him to be taken to hospital. The police, who had been asked by his wife to provide protection during his transport thither, refused to do so.

At about 9 p.m. on November 18th, eight or ten masked Insurgents demanded admittance to the house of the widow Frances Milaczewski, 51 years of age, living at Mikolów, Pszczynska 22. Among the Insurgents were Brozek and Franke, both residents of Mikolów. Brozek said to Mme. Milaczewski that the Insurgents had come to take her away because she had distributed German voting-papers. She was told to dress and come into the motor-car which was waiting. She refused to do this and the Insurgents thereupon went away. At about 3.15 a.m. on the same night, the gang once more came in front of the house where Mme. Milaczewski lives. Franke broke three of her windows with a stick, then the door was broken down and he entered the house. Meanwhile the other Insurgents were in the courtyard and cried out ' Kill the swine. Hang her up. Bring the ' Pieronna ' out !' After about three hours, Mme. Milaczewski was obliged to return to Pszczyna. The police, who had been asked by her to provide protection during his transport thither, refused to do so.

At about 3.30 a.m. on November 19th, a window-pane was broken with a stick in the house of Alexander Kolodziej, boiler-maker, at Mikolów, Pszczynska 17, and stones were thrown into his house. The Insurgents Franke, Brozek and Piechaczek were recognised among the assailants by their voices.

At about 5.30 p.m. on November 20th, a band of individuals armed with truncheons endeavoured to force their way into the dwelling of Dziewior, overseer, at Mikolów. Upon the inmates calling for help, they went away. At about 1 a.m. on the following night, the gang again surrounded the house, broke the windows and endeavoured to enter. Among the stones which were thrown into the house was one which weighed 6 kilogrammes and another 3 kilogrammes.

At about 4 a.m., the attempts to force an entrance were renewed. Dziewior ran to Brada station and on the morning of November 21st informed the police. When he returned home at midday he was recognised and pursued by four Insurgents. Dziewior thereupon went to Katowice for safety.

At about 8 p.m. on November 21st, windows were broken in the house of Emil Dorda, worker, of Mizerów, and several shots were fired in front of the windows.

At about 10 p.m. on November 21st, windows were broken with truncheons in the house of Adolf Konietzny, worker, at Mizerów.
At 7 p.m. the procession formed in front of Proske’s inn and about seventy or eighty persons took part. In front, rode the Insurgent Francis Popella on a horse, wearing Insurgent uniform. Next came Josef Jambor carrying a lighted torch and then came the band. The front rank of the procession behind the band consisted of the policemen Czysyka, Konca, Kasprzyk and Pipiec, the shopkeeper Stanislas Wiese and the workman Francis Eckert.

The schoolmaster Szymanski and the above-mentioned persons from other localities also took part in the procession, carrying their sticks and horsewhips.

During the procession, there were shouts of: “Down with Neugebauer! To the gallows with him! Down with Kuska, the son of a whore! String him up to a tree! Down with the Katowitzer Zeitung! Kill the deputy Sollich! No mercy on the Germans! Down with the minority school! Down with Beracz! Down with Jambor! Down with Scholtys! Down with the Huns!”

The procession stopped at a corner of the street near the railway-station and an unknown individual made a speech in which he demanded a fresh public ballot on November 23rd. This speaker was said to be from Katowice. After that, the schoolmaster Szymanski made a speech in which he said, among other things: “We don’t want any minority school or pro-Germans here. If any of the Germans want to stay, they must do what they are told or cross the frontier to Ratibor.”

During these remarks several pistol shots and a flare were fired.

The procession then arrived in front of the communal hall, where the schoolmaster Szymanski made a speech thanking those who had taken part in the procession. At about 8.30 p.m. the procession broke up and the majority of the participants went to Proske’s inn including Josef Jambor, Francis Popella, the fifteen people from outside, the schoolmaster Szymanski and the frontier officials Leszczynski and Szepanski.

Josef Jambor, Francis Popella and the fifteen strangers went away about half an hour later.

At 9.30 p.m. on the same day, seventy-seven window-panes were broken in Paul Scholtys’ house at Brzezie, No. 94, and at the same time several shots were fired. One shot went into the bedroom about 10 centimetres above the bed into a cupboard, and another five shots were fired through the hall window towards the kitchen, but embedded themselves in the wall near the kitchen door. Paul Scholtys was sleeping in the kitchen with his wife Sophy and his two children, aged 3 years and 4 weeks respectively.

In the room of Carl Scholtys, brother of Paul Scholtys, living in the same house, three windows were broken with brickbats. Carl Scholtys and his 53-year-old aunt, Johanna Scholtys, hid in the stables, where they remained until morning. Mme. Sophy Scholtys, who had recently been confined, fell seriously ill from the shock and is still undergoing medical treatment. The 3-year-old child is also showing symptoms of nervous shock.

At 9.40 p.m. on the same night, loud knocks were heard on the door of Carl Jambor, farmer, at Brzezie, No. 104. On Carl Jambor’s wife asking: “Who is there?” she was answered: “The police.” Mme. Jambor opened the door and eight or ten men entered the house. One of them went into the bedroom, and turned the room and the beds upside down while another asked Mme. Jambor: “Where is the ‘Pieron’? She answered that her husband was in the stables, whereupon the Insurgents went there, seized Carl Jambor, and dragged him into the kitchen. One of them shouted: “Bring the ‘Pieron’ outside and kill him”. The Insurgents broke the bed and horsewhips, and Jambor’s wife and his 0-year-old son, George, were also struck with sticks and horsewhips. The child received three blows with the horsewhip on the back. Mme. Jambor’s injuries were found upon medical examination to be of a serious nature. When Carl Jambor tried to defend himself a leather noose was thrown over his head. He succeeded, however, in freeing himself from the noose and struck one of his assailants a heavy blow in the face which knocked him down. Carl Jambor took the opportunity to escape into the garden. Two or three shots were fired after him. A short time afterwards he returned to his dwelling and spent the whole night in the stables with his family. Sixty-seven window-panes in the house were broken.

At 9.50 p.m. during the same night, knocks were heard at the bedroom window of Paul Sollich, locksmith, 40 years of age, at Brzezie, No. 114. Sollich thought that it must be a relative, got up, put on the light and opened the door. At this moment the electric lamp on the side of the yard was broken. Sollich locked the house door and the kitchen door and hid under a bed. Someone shouted outside: “Sollich, you have got to come to the school at once.” Almost at the same moment all the windows and doors were smashed with great violence and clamour. Outside someone shouted: “Is this really the Deputy Paul Sollich’s house?” Another voice answered: “Yes.” When the flower pots with window-panes in the house were thrown into the house, as well as two brickbats. Two of the assailants climbed through the window and one of them smashed all the kitchen utensils. Sollich’s 13-year-old daughter, Elfried, was struck in the chest with a horsewhip, and his 4-year-old son, Rudolf, received a blow on the head with a horsewhip. Sollich’s wife fled in her nightdress to Sollich’s mother, the 78-year old Caroline Sollich, who occupies a room in the same house. The other bandit carried a firearm, and wore a long blue coat with bright buttons, and patent leather top-boots. He shot a pocket-lamp into the bedroom, in which Sollich was hiding under the bed, and smashed everything up with the butt-end of his rifle; the bedclothes were torn until the
feathers came out. He threw all the bedclothes and mattresses out of the window and smashed up the bed frame. Sollich heard someone say in front of the house: ‘Have you got the Deputy, the German? If you catch him we will do him in.’ The ruffian in the bedroom answered: ‘He is not here.’ As he threw some pieces of the bed out of the window, Sollich crawled into the kitchen and from there escaped outside. He remained until 3 o’clock in the morning, dressed only in his nightshirt, in a wooden closet in the courtyard of a neighbour. Sollich is consumptive.

The ruffian then went into the room of old Caroline Sollich who, dressed only in her nightshirt, tremblingly begged him to spare her life and property, but he broke up all the furniture. As a result of the fright Mme. Caroline Sollich had a haemorrhage during the night, which was repeated twice on the following day. Sollich’s 4-year-old child had a fit during the night and the other children also displayed symptoms of nervous shock.

The gang then went on to the Lukasine quarter and at about 10.15 attacked a group of workers belonging to the Ceres factory. These workers, however, were not members of the miners’ association. A police officer then arrived and stopped the ruffian, who then shouted: ‘Are you the ruffian of the Kattowitzer Zeitung?’ Mme. Beracz, who had only her nightgown on, was asked where her husband was. She said he was not there. The gang stole a pair of earrings. One window in the house was broken and kitchen utensils were destroyed.

At 10.30 p.m. on the same night, August Neugebauer, accountant, of Brzezie-Lukasine, 58 years of age, was attacked in his dwelling by a gang of several men. They entered through a window which they had broken and completely demolished the furniture. He himself was brutally assaulted with sticks, rubber truncheons and horsewhips before the eyes of his 15-year-old daughter. His assailants shouted that he had voted for List 12, and must swear to vote for List 1.

As they beat him the miscreants gave cheers for Poland and forced him to cheer too. When he cried out to them in his pain whether they thought they were Christians, one of the ruffians brandished a revolver in his face. Finally Neugebauer fell into the garden and another man in Insurgent’s uniform standing in front of the door answered out ‘Stop him!’ The man in uniform, whom Neugebauer recognised as the Insurgent Francis Popella, stopped Neugebauer, and he was belaboured until he fainted. When he recovered consciousness, he ran back into his dwelling, pursued by the ruffians, who only left him when he collapsed a second time in his bedroom. A silver watch and chain and an alarm clock were stolen.

There is no doctor at Brzezie, Neugebauer’s daughter tried to go and fetch a doctor at Ratibor to attend to his injuries, but she was not allowed to cross the frontier.

At 11 p.m., the gang made its way to the house of William Kuska, workman, at 185 Brzezie-Lukasine. There was a loud knocking at the door. Kuska’s stepfather, Antony Gawliczek, 63 years of age, asked who was outside. Someone outside answered: ‘Police! Open at once!’ Gawliczek and William Kuska made their way through the kitchen into the stable, where Kuska took refuge in a manger full of fodder. Gawliczek, 63 years of age, was asked who was outside. Someone outside answered: ‘Police! Open at once!’ Gawliczek replied that Kuska was afraid and opened the latch. A man thrust his way in, caught him by the arms and cried: ‘That’s Beracz! ’ Beracz answered: ‘I’m not Beracz: I’m Pospiech. I’m courting Beracz’s sister.’ The bandit replied: ‘You wait a moment; we’ll soon see as to that!’ He then went out again, presumably to get information from some of the local Insurgents outside, and Beracz took advantage of the moment to escape by a window. Immediately afterwards some fifteen men penetrated into the house, and searched the rooms with their pocket-lamps. They took away with them voting-papers and election handbills of the Association of German Electors and a number of copies of the Kattowitzer Zeitung. Mme. Beracz, who had only her nightgown on, was asked where her husband was. She said he was not there. The gang stole a locked wooden box containing 30 zloty, Mme. Beracz’s wedding-ring, a watch-chain and a pair of earrings. One window in the house was broken and kitchen utensils were destroyed. Mme. Beracz recognised one of the Insurgents as Josef Jambor.

Beracz fled, clad only, in his shirt, drawers and socks, to the Ceres Factory, where he found William Kuska.

Kuska and Beracz sent the factory watchman, Paul Koziel, for the police. The police-sergeant, Kasprzyk, on duty, said he could not leave his post, and suggested that Koziel should go to Prosek’s public-house where the other constables were. Koziel went to Prosek and reported the matter to Police-Sergeants Gryszka and Konca. The two police-officers first went to the police-station to pick up their weapons. After an interval of forty-five minutes, they appeared at the Ceres Factory, and went with Beracz and Kuska to the house of Kuska, Beracz and Neugebauer. In Beracz’s house Sergeant Gryszka noticed voting-papers of the Association of German Electors lying on the floor, and said: ‘All List No. 12! You’ve only yourselves to blame for this!’ Konca said: ‘If you weren’t of that way of thinking, nothing would have happened to you!’ Upon which, the police-officers took themselves off.
The same night at 11.45 p.m., a gang of ten or twelve men made their way into the house of Francis Mandrysch in Brzezie. Mandrysch ran into the courtyard, but was caught by Insurgents who had been posted there. A leather halter was put round his neck, and he was beaten with rubber truncheons and horsewhips until he lost consciousness. He sustained grave injuries and had to lie up for weeks afterwards. Various articles of furniture and kitchen utensils were destroyed in his house, and the windows were smashed.

Towards midnight, Josef Jambor and Francis Popella, with twelve to fifteen persons from another district, appeared in Proske’s inn. Their sticks and parts of their clothing were splattered with blood. They brought with them a number of copies of the Kattowitzer Zeitung and election handbills of the Association of German Electors. Josef Jambor greeted Szymanski, headmaster of the school. The party then went into the inn-parlour, Szymanski following. They were shouting: “We’ve done it!” and threw the newspapers and election handbills on the table. Some of the police officials with Szymanski tore up the numbers of the Kattowitzer Zeitung and the handbills. The members of the gang from other localities told the maid, Sophy Mrowietz, to bring them warm water to wash with. They went off on their bicycles after midnight in the direction of Lubomia.

A certain number of clients remained in Proske’s inn until 3 a.m. with music playing all the while. The official closing hour is 10 p.m. The Public Prosecutor’s Office has instituted proceedings against the offenders. Francis Propella and Josef Jambor have been arrested. The identity of the others has not yet been established.

The day after these incidents Sollich was being questioned at the police-station, when the tradesman Wiese happened to be present. There were feathers from a feather-bed sticking to his coat, and the police-sergeant said to him: “You’re still covered with feathers and quite drunk”. No orders for Wiese’s arrest have yet been issued.

In the night of November 19th-20th, there was a wedding at Olza in the Rybnik division. The Sheriff and Head of the Commune, Blucha, of Brzezie, who was present at the wedding, said in the presence of a number of guests: “There’s going to be a show in Brzezie to-night and some are going to be beaten. Quite a few Germans are going to be laid out to-night.”

On November 22nd, at 10.30 p.m., in front of the house of Victor Scholtyssek, miner, at Chudów, House, 72a, the Insurgents John Kott and Francis Slabon shouted: “Come out, you Orgol, we’re going to settle up now; we’ve a free hand and can do what we like”.

In the night of November 15th-16th, at Czerwionka, Insurgents in a lorry rode through the village forwards and backwards from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. shooting continually from machine-guns. Some explosives were detonated.

In Czuchów, a list of sixty-seven persons known to have German sympathies was posted up on a number of houses in the village by unknown hands. The list was typed and multi-graphed.

In the night of November 15th-16th, a window was broken in the shop of Paul Langer, baker, at Gaszowice.

On November 4th, at 9 p.m., Alois Klotzek, of Godow, was attacked on his way home by unknown persons and roughly handled. The authors of the outrage had lain in wait behind a motor-car standing in the road.

On November 15th, at 1 p.m., four Insurgents in uniform appeared at Ludwig Lesniski’s house at Gogolów and demanded with threats the handing over of election papers, etc. They searched Lesniski’s person and then made off in motor-car.

On November 23rd, at 9.30 a.m., the police-constable Stronczyk, of Rybnik-Paruszowice, came up to Robert Oles, of Golejowy, who was distributing papers for the Association of German Electors, and said: “You’d better not stand here with those papers! Better disappear! There’ll be trouble for you if you go on standing here! I shan’t interfere if there’s trouble!”. Shortly before 11 o’clock, Police-Inspector Swiertnia came up to Oles and gave him a number of violent blows in the stomach and chest. Swiertnia was accompanied by three frontier officials in uniform, two assistant foresters and police-constable Stronczyk. Swiertnia threatened Oles in the following terms: “You’ll be shot before you’ve done, next week if not to-day, and then you’ll be buried in the woods! You won’t have your pension any longer, either—or potatoes, I’ll see to that—you cursed German dog!” Oles at this went off home. Witnesses of the threatening language used by Swiertnia are: Paul Klimek, Stefan Tkocean, Theodor Niera, Francis Kotulla, all of Golejowy.

On November 14th, the house of the mill-owner Francis Jordan, in Golokwice, was searched by the police. At 7 p.m., five Insurgents appeared at his house in a motor-car and demanded with threats the delivery of election-papers, etc.

On November 18th, at 9 p.m., masked men shot through the window into Francis Jordan’s house at Golokwice. The Jordan family was sitting at supper. After the shots, the windows and window-frames were smashed. Only two panes remained unbroken in the house. The gang forced their way into Jordan’s living room and broke all the china on the table to pieces. Francis Jordan tried to escape. Three Insurgents posted in the entry barred his way and beat him on the head with a stick. He escaped, however, in the end. The Insurgents broke down two of the doors of the rooms.

On November 14th, five Insurgents in uniform appeared in a motor-car at the house of the farmer, Josef Placzek, in Gorzyce. They threatened him and demanded that he should hand over voting-papers, etc. They made similar demands in the houses of Josef Widenka, Josef Pawlowsky and Anton Piprek, all of Gorzyce.
In the night of November 15th-16th, shortly before midnight, a gang destroyed fifteen window-panes in the house of Josef Kuballa, at Marklowice-Dolne. One window-frame was smashed. Several shots were fired into the house. Mme. Marie Kuballa is suffering in consequence of the fright from a nervous breakdown.

At 6.30 a.m., Fitzke went to the police-station, reported what had happened and asked for police protection. Police-Sergeant Piontek told him to come later when the police-officer Moskwa would be there. At 8.15 a.m., the commandant appeared in front of Fitzke's house with another policeman, and told Fitzke that there was no sign of anything having happened. He threatened Fitzke for having made false statements, because he had told Piontek that his house had been bombardmed, and said he would have to answer for that.

Shortly before 8.30 a.m., Fitzke went to the police-station in accordance with the orders of the police-commandant. His evidence was not taken. The commandant said: "All you are doing is to collect material for the Volksbund, and there is nothing doing here!" Fitzke replied that he had only come to the police to ask for protection. He was thereupon sent about his business.

Some three weeks later, Fitzke received notice of a fine of thirty zloty for disorderly conduct. He appealed to the courts against the fine. The Rybnik Urban Court sentenced him on January 3rd, 1931, to a fine of two hundred zloty.

In the night of November 22nd-23rd, about 1 a.m., a number of shots were fired in front of his house.

In the night of November 22nd-23rd, three windows were broken in the house of Theodor Pallarz, miner, at Leszczyny.

In the night of November 22nd-23rd, towards 10 p.m., there was loud and repeated knocking at the door of the Lojeks, at Łyski. Mme. Mathilde Lojek went down to the hall and asked who was outside. Someone shouted: "Open the door! Here are Kiesz and Pipecz from Zwonowice. We want to talk to Lojek." The woman answered: "You come to-morrow! I'll not open to you to-night." A voice replied from outside: "We'll open for ourselves, then!"

The party then endeavoured to force open the door, but without success. They broke the window-panes with stones and sticks, tore out the window-frames and endeavoured to get into the house through the windows. Lojek's daughter called from an upper window for help, and one of his sons blew an alarm-call on a trumpet. No police appeared. Police-constable Moskwa lives opposite Lojek's house. The gang was seventeen men strong, as the Lojeks were able to observe. When one of them endeavoured to get in by the window, Lojek's son gave him a blow on the back with an axe, so that he fell to the ground. When a second endeavoured to climb in through the window, Lojek's son gave him another blow with the axe. On this the gang made off.

In reply to the cries for help or the trumpet calls, Józef Lecznik, a neighbour, came from his house. As he was passing the house in which the police-officer Moskwa lives, someone called from the floor of the house, "Hullo, hullo:" and Lecznik could see that there was a police-constable there in uniform.

Lojek's wife went after the incident to the head of the commune, Skupin, and asked him to come and view the damage. The head of the commune accompanied her to the spot. On the way he said to her: "You people are not human. Perhaps you have done someone an injury and he's been taking his revenge on you." When they came to the spot they found the police-constable Moskwa. He looked at the damage, laughed, and went away.

Of the persons responsible for the outrage, Henry Grzenia and William Mandrysz, both railwaymen from Łyski, were recognised.

The farmer William Gaschka, of Łyski, told members of Lojek's family that the head of the commune had said the evening before the incident, in Bonk's public-house: "The Holy Ghost will come to Łyski to-night." Paul Gaschka, of Łyski, pig-merchant, is a witness to this remark having been made.

Some days before the incident, the frontier official Carl Bluszcz, of Łyski, told Mme. Bonk, the publican's wife: "We're going to pull old Lojek's grey beard out by the roots!"

In the night of November 22nd-23rd, two large window-panes were broken in the house of Josef Nowak, in Łyski, and two shutters and the house door were damaged.

In the night of November 22nd-23rd, two men appeared in a motor-car at Max Mainka's house. Mme. Marie Kuballa is suffering in consequence of the fright from a nervous breakdown.
In the night of November 22nd-23rd, a window was broken in the house of the innkeeper, Theodor Firla, of Maruszcz. In the same night, a number of shots were fired in front of his house.

On November 15th, four Insurgents in uniform appeared at the house of Edward Porwoll, in Mszczana, and, in threatening terms, called upon his wife to hand over voting-papers, etc. They stole Porwoll's silver watch from the glass-fronted cupboard in the kitchen.

On November 15th, four Insurgents appeared in a motor-car at John Mitko of Mszczana, and, with threats, demanded voting-papers, etc., from his wife.

On November 21st, at 2.30 a.m., the window-panes were broken in the house of John Mitko of Mszczana, and two shots were fired into the house through the window.

On November 23rd, at 2 p.m., the Insurgent Pietruschka, of Paniow, threatened Kryzstetzkz, who was distributing German voting-papers, with his knife. John Pyka, accountant, was attacked by Road-Labourer Peter Mikusz and thrown to the ground. Mikusz endeavoured to take the German voting-papers from him. When Pyka resisted he and Sylvester Masurek were threatened with a revolver by Mikusz. Masurek called for the police, at which Mikusz put his revolver in his pocket and went into the polling-station. Pyka had an epileptic fit as a result of the occurrence.

In Pszów, a notice was put up on a public notice-board with a skull and cross bones, above which were the names Donga, Lukas, Machnik and Nowak.

On November 15th, at Pszyszwice, threatening letters were sent to some 300 persons of German sympathies.

On November 22nd, at a quarter to one in the morning, the house of Theodor Kubitz in Pszyszwice, ul. Gieraltowska 1, was surrounded by five Insurgents and the window-panes in the house were broken with rubber truncheons. They threatened Kubitz in the following terms: "To-day or to-morrow—one day anyway—you will get a bullet through the head!"

On November 23rd, Kubitz's house was once again surrounded by Insurgents armed with knives and rubber truncheons at 7.30 p.m.

At 11.30 a.m. on November 16th, at Kopalnia Emia, Radlin, Theodor Mrowietz, distributing voting-papers for the Association of German Electors, was brutally assaulted with rubber truncheons and horsewhips by Insurgents who drove up in a lorry.

On November 15th, at Pszyszowice, ul. Gieraltowska 1, was surrounded by five Insurgents and the window-panes in the house were broken with rubber truncheons. They threatened Kubitz in the following terms: "To-day or to-morrow—one day anyway—you will get a bullet through the head!"

On November 19th, towards 9 p.m., nineteen window-panes were broken in Ignatz Pluta's house at Radlin-Glozyny. On the following day, Pluta complained to the police. The police officer in charge said: "Well! You voted for No. 12 list; if you had voted for No. 1 you would only have had one pane broken!"

On November 16th, half an hour after midnight, the windows were broken in the house of Josef Wadulla at Raszczyce and the fence was damaged. Witnesses saw four men leave the house of Paul Czekalla, head of the commune, some five minutes before the windows were broken.

On November 23rd, a gang of thirty-five Insurgents in uniform with rifles drove through the village of Raszczyce. Villagers who were known to have German sympathies were hailed as "Orgesch" and threatened. A number of shots were fired in the village.

In the night of November 11th-12th, two window-panes were broken in the house of Victor Schebesta, at Rogozna.

On November 16th, the agent of the German Electoral bloc, Emmanuel Konsek, was turned out of the polling-station at Roj (the Catholic school) by Chłodek, the Sheriff of Zory, with the threat that, if he did not go of his own accord, he would be turned out by Insurgents. Chłodek also said: "Anyone who votes for the German list ought to be given penal servitude."

On November 22nd at 3 p.m., Albert Kaczmarczyk, 17 years of age, of Rowien who was distributing voting-papers, was beaten by a railwayman, John Boenisch, on the high road between Wgoda and Rowien with a stake, so that he collapsed unconscious. Robert Solska, another railwayman, and Boenisch, an unemployed workman, who came on the scene, punched and kicked Kaczmarczyk. They knocked one of his teeth out.

In the night of November 20th-21st, at 1 a.m., a gang arrived in a motor-car and endeavoured to force their way into the house of John Maciejczyk, at Ruptawa. Shots were fired in the house and ten window-panes were broken.

On November 21st, at 10 p.m., a window was broken in the house of John Maciejczyk, at Ruptawa.

On November 16th, between 9 and 10 o'clock a.m., the Insurgent Adolf Jurczko, of Rydoltowo, came up to Conrad Skatulla, also of Rydoltowo, who was distributing voting-papers for the Association of German Electors, and told him to stop distributing papers. Skatulla continued, however, Jurczko hit him in the face; on which Skatulla ran away, but took up another position in front of the polling-station. Jurczko followed him, accompanied by Francis Burek, Pinjor and Francis Jurczko, so that he was driven from there also. At 11 o'clock, Skatulla was taken to task by the police-officer Piesatzki for distributing voting-papers. In the end, Piesatzki offered him 35 zloty to hand over the voting-papers and stop distributing them.
On November 14th, at 6.30 p.m., three Insurgents in uniform appeared at the house of Francis Smolorz, of Skrzyszów, and demanded with threats, that he should hand over voting-papers, etc.

On November 18th, at 9.30 p.m., four window-panes were broken in the house of Francis Smolorz, at Skrzyszów.

Josef Greitzke, farmer, of Wilcza Górna, 59 years of age, is an agent of the Association of German Electors.

On November 15th, the police searched his house but found nothing. About 7 p.m., the head of the commune, Ignaz Wiosna, with five or six others, came to Greitzke's house and called on him to hand over voting-papers, arms and ammunition and the money he had received from the Association. If he refused, he would be arrested and put into prison and his whole dwelling demolished. Greitzke handed over some voting-papers. As he could not hand over arms or munition or money, he was taken away by the party and at first left under guard in a room at the inn. Some time later the head of the commune appeared with the same party and told Greitzke that it was time for a move. The persons who were with the head of the commune said that they would soon make an end of the dirty Swabian swine. Greitzke was compelled to get into the car, and the Insurgents followed. The head of the commune remained behind and gave the order to the car to start. At the police-station the car stopped and some of the Insurgents got out, but shortly afterwards returned, and the car continued on its way.

On the way, Greitzke was threatened and again called upon to give particulars as to munitions, weapons and money. They told him that, if he refused, he would be shot. Shortly before they came to the forest, the car stopped. Greitzke was ordered to go fifteen paces in front of the car and then to halt. He did so, fully believing he was about to be shot. He was then called back to the car and again asked about weapons, munitions and money. In the end, one of the Insurgents took him into a field, some 200 to 300 metres away from the high-road. Once again he was called upon to give particulars about money, munitions and weapons, under threat of death. When he replied that he had neither the one nor the other, he was compelled to take off his boots and socks and was then beaten with a stick or some such object on the soles of his feet. After the ruffian had beaten him for a long time, he told him to swear that he and his family would vote for List No. 1 on November 16th in the presence of witnesses.

Of the Insurgents, Greitzke recognised Dzierzawa of Rybnik-Paruszowice. The car used by the Insurgents is the property of the "Rolnik", of Rybnik.

On October 22nd, at 9.30 p.m., Max Janotta of Marszalka Piłsudskiego 31, Katowice, banker; Bruno Thomas, of Bytomska 29, Mysłowice, banker; John Piskol, of Rzedówka, near Wodzisław, store manager, and Otto Henke, of Rudlin, overseer of building material, were attacked by Insurgents, threatened with firearms and severely ill-treated with dangerous tools. When Janotta took to flight, they fired after him.

The Public Prosecutor's Office has already (November 11th, 1930) suspended proceedings on the ground of insufficient proof.

On October 29th, at 8 p.m., German municipal councillors at Zory were attacked by a gang on leaving the town hall. Paul Hunold, printing-office proprietor, was badly beaten with rubber truncheons by six to eight ruffians. Francis Kutz, brick-kiln proprietor; Nicolas Hilla, master baker, and Josef Szczepanek, master butcher, were also beaten. When Kutz appealed to the burgomaster Rostek for protection, the latter told him to apply to the police. The police-station is in the town hall and it would have been easy to prevent the outrage or at any rate to arrest the culprits, as the whole incident took place close to the police-station.

From October 30th to November 22nd, Insurgents in uniform daily paraded the town of Zory. They were armed with daggers, pistols, sticks and rubber truncheons. The population with German sympathies did not venture to go out into the streets. All shops were shut at dark.

Insurgents in uniform went to the houses of:

- Hubert Tyrtania, ul. Murarska 41, Zory, master shoemaker;
- Max Gimmlik, ul. Murarska 37, Zory, master butcher;
- Valentine Hensel, ul. Drzewna 11, Zory, butcher;
- Gammon, ul. Szeroka, Zory, tradesman;

who had children at the minority school, and, with threats, demanded that they should sign an application for transference of their children from the minority to the majority school.

On November 14th, in the shop of Valeska Tyrtania, at Zory, the railwayman Theophil Bartosch threatened that Arthur Tyrtania, of Zory, a former teacher, would be beaten until he was crippled if he did not vote for List No. 1.

On November 21st, at 8 p.m., the house in which Ignaz Ludwig, municipal councillor, of Zory, lives was surrounded by a gang. The gang beat on the front door and Ludwig was threatened and several pistol shots were fired in front of his house. After about half an hour they made off. They then repaired to the house of the former teacher Arthur Tyrtania. Several shots were again fired in front of this house. When Tyrtania's wife appeared at a window, a pistol was pointed at her. After this the band returned to Ludwig's house and again beat on the front door, but went away after some five minutes. Ludwig's 72-year-old mother, Frances, had a heart attack as a result of the shock.
On November 22nd, at 6 in the morning, Carl Silber of ul. Szczepieckiego 12, Zory, master moulder, was attacked on the way to the Paulshütte in Zory and very roughly handled. He had to be taken to hospital. He is some 60 years of age.

On November 22nd, at 8.30 a.m., a gang of some seven Insurgents came to Ludwig's shop. The railway-station restaurant-keeper, Gwosdz, threatened to shoot Mme. Frances Ludwig's son. Seven other Insurgents were posted in front of the shop, some of them in uniform.

On November 22nd, at 9.30 o'clock, the house of Arthur Tyrtania former school-teacher, at ul. Ogrodowa 18, Zory, was surrounded by some fifteen Insurgents, some of them in uniform. When Tyrtania appeared at the window, two pistols were pointed at him. Tyrtania called up the local police and later the Starost of Rybnik on the telephone and asked for police protection. As no police appeared, his wife Edeltrud went to the burgomaster and implored him for protection. Two police-constables then appeared for the first time and accompanied Mme. Tyrtania to the spot. Some of the Insurgents had meanwhile made off. Tyrtania who had come downstairs himself drew the attention of the police officers to the Insurgent Cimala who was slowly moving off. This was the one who previously pointed his revolver at Tyrtania. Tyrtania drew the attention of the policemen to the fact that Cimala had a weapon in his possession. The policemen went up to Cimala and asked him if he had a weapon; which Cimala denied. Cimala was then brought to the police-station but immediately released.

In the night of November 22nd-23rd, the windows were broken in the house of the farmer Schweda of Zwonowice.

In the night of November 22nd-23rd, seven Insurgents armed with rubber truncheons and sticks endeavoured to force their way into the house of Emmanuel Bochenek of Zwonowice. Two windows were broken.

In the night of November 22nd-23rd, Wilczek, of Zwonowice, innkeeper, was roughly handled in his house by some fifteen Insurgents. Wilczek was in his kitchen. The kitchen door was broken in and the band beat him with a fence paling. He ran for refuge to the bedroom; but the bedroom door was broken open, and the whole gang then fell on him and beat him with dangerous tools. His injuries are of a serious nature. His wife and 10-year-old daughter were also ill-treated. In the bar-parlour, various articles of furniture were broken to pieces and a number of bottles of spirits were stolen. The assailants were armed with pistols. In the morning of November 25th, when Wilczek was about to go to the doctor, police-constable Sosna of Jejkowice came into his inn. He told the constable that he was on his way to the doctor in order to get a certificate with a view to the criminal action he intended to bring. The constable replied: "You'd better drop all that. Otherwise you'll have another attack from another gang and you might come off still worse next time."