

SAN FRANCISCAN TELLS STORY OF POLISH FREEDOM

John Zachert Describes Restoration Ceremonies at Baltic Seaport

WHITE EAGLE IS HOISTED

General Haller and Military Forces Participate in Celebration

San Francisco residents of Polish nationality have been celebrating the revival of their nation and the news that has just reached them of the ceremonies that attended the return of Poland, as a nation, to her ancient sea at Dantzic on the shores of the Baltic.

Under the terms of the treaty of Versailles, writes Professor John Zachert of 120 Shrader street, Poland was given a small strip of sea coast above Dantzic. It forms but a tiny part of her old maritime possessions, but it has satisfied the Poles as a measure of temporary justice, after a lapse of 148 years.

On February 14 the representatives of the Polish Government, under General Haller, formally took possession of the restored territory with fitting patriotic ceremonies and amid demonstrations of great enthusiasm.

That section of the Baltic coast is inhabited by an ancient Polish race known as the Kashubes, who, during all the years of German oppression, never lost their spirit of patriotism; and the enthusiasm with which they learned of their liberation and celebrated the ceremony of Poland's new marriage to the sea baffles description.

General Haller, with a body of Polish soldiers, came to Dantzic and thence proceeded to Puck on the coast, where the formal ceremony took place. Close to the water's edge they hoisted the old Polish flag with its white eagle, which was first dipped in the waves in recognition of the treaty of Versailles and the return of Poland to the sea.

Then, like the Doges of old Venice in ancient times at the ceremony of the Wedding of the Adriatic, General Haller dropped a wedding ring into the Baltic while religious exercises were held on shore. A great patriotic demonstration formed part of the ceremony.