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## THE PHARMACY IN THE WARSAW ROYAL CASTLE — A MONUMENT OF PHARMACEUTICAL CULTURE

### 1. ON THE HISTORY OF THE PHARMACY IN THE ROYAL CASTLE

In the history of the European Pharmacy, royal apothecaries occupy a special position. In Tudor England, for example, royal apothecaries had a privileged position among courtiers. Equally high position they enjoyed at French Court; Louis XIV had four chemists, two of which belonged to his personal suite and the other two were so called destillators. At European courts of XVI—XVIII c. which belong to the circle of influence of German language and culture the position of apothecaries was similar. Most often, beside his duty to prepare medicines for the court, Hof-Apotheker had to accompany the princes in their war expeditions.

It is clear that the owners of Royal Pharmacies were selected between the best specialists who distinguished themselves through knowledge and skills and were under the influence of intellectual elite of the court. The pharmacies were often centres of progress in the materia medica and professional culture. The pharmacy usually consisted of the main chamber, i.e. the dispensary, and the laboratory (L. G. Matthews: *The Royal Apothecaries*. London 1967).

In Poland, beginning from the XVI c. royal apothecaries belonged to king's suite. They accompanied monarchs in their war expeditions, enjoyed various privileges, received titles and obtained donations, a special advantage of the apothecaries was that they were released from the toilsome guild duties. The standing of the Polish royal apothecaries had a strong influence upon the social recognition of the pharmaceutical profession.

The first reference to the pharmacy in the Royal Castle in Warsaw comes from the year 1602 when the court of King Sigismund III Waza was transferred to Warsaw and then the extension of the Warsaw Castle started. The works were carried on from 1597/98 to 1619; during this period the Front Courtyard was built; among the various buildings that were then constructed there was a two-storey house designed for the Royal Pharmacy.

The history of the Royal Pharmacy in Warsaw in the years 1602—1818 has not so far been described in an extensive way. The only short work written by K. Wenda and published in 1917 (*The Pharmacy in the Royal Castle and the Royal Apothecaries. A page from the History of Warsaw*).

Warsaw 1917); concerns mostly the apothecaries and not the history of the Pharmacy. It is unfortunate that Wenda did not manage to publish the earlier announced more extensive version of this work; the extensive version might contain the sources and the references to the existence of the Royal Pharmacy before the year 1619. The official date — according to Wenda to mark the beginning in the Warsaw Royal Castle Pharmacy — is 12th January 1619 when Paweł Caterla was given a charter granting him a right of lifelong maintenance of the Pharmacy and a licence to sell medicines to citizens of Warsaw.

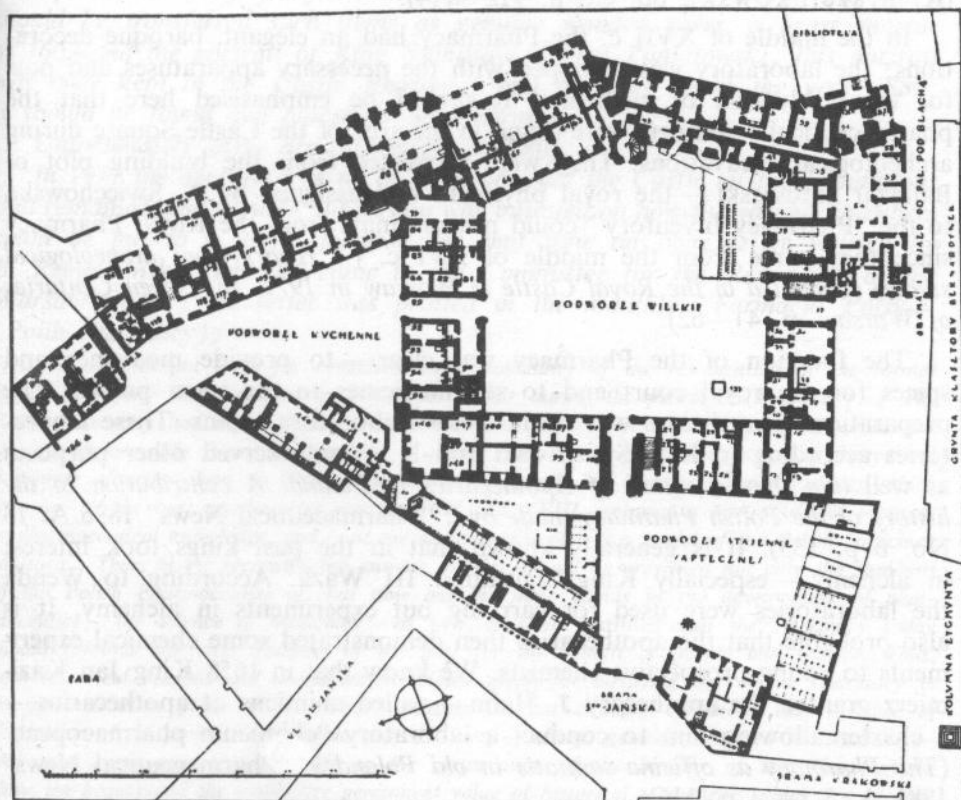
The charter was granted to Caterla upon the completion of the extension of the Castle; however, he must have been accepted earlier to the Royal Court as already in 1613, on the 2nd of May, he was given some rooms for the preparation of medicaments.

The apothecaries who provided medicines for the Court before Caterla were: Florian Caborti, Angelo Caborti, Kacper Karaba, Jan Jakub Mariani and Mikołaj Mariani. A. Król's publication contains some relevant information concerning the Royal Pharmacy. He says that in 1602, during the reconstruction of the northern wing of the Castle — (i.e. from the side of the Old Town) — a mason team with Jakub Rodondo worked in the Pharmacy quarters (A. Król: *The Royal Castle in Warsaw. From the end of XIIIc. until 1944*. Second edition. Warsaw 1971 p. 40). Thus, the Pharmacy was in the Royal Castle already in 1602. Wenda probably knew this data when he wrote about the existence of the Pharmacy before 1619 (AGAD, *Treasury Archives III* no 5, Royal income accounts for the army and travels, 438. Cit. after A. Król; *The Royal Castle in Warsaw*, s. 40 and 215).

During the reconstruction of the Castle in the years 1597/98—1619 — at the time of the Waza Dynasty — the West Wing of the Castle was built. It was designed to have a representation function; however, the yard in front of the West Wing was later built up with household buildings and the Front Courtyard was created it occupied a part of the present day Castle Square (A. Gieysztor, S. Herbst, S. Lorentz, W. Tomkiewicz and J. Zachwatowicz: *The Royal Castle in Warsaw. Architecture, people, history*. Warsaw 1972 s. 70). According to the authors of this publication, the buildings had a wooden construction; however, they survived till the beginning of XIX c. covering the front elevation of the Castle. Also W. Tomkiewicz mentions similar location of the Pharmacy building: (*on the construction of the Royal Castle in Warsaw under the reign of Sigismund III "Warsaw Annals"* V. 2 1961 p. 28, as well as J. Lileyko: *The Royal Castle in Warsaw. A. Catalogue of architectural designs from the State Archive in Drezno*. Warsaw 1971 p. 116 and 118). A misleading information is given in the work of Z. Bieniecki who assigns the construction of the building of the Royal Pharmacy in the Front Courtyard to C. F. Pöppelmann; Bieniecki also states time that the shape of the building is not known. (*Unsolved questions from the history of the Royal Castle under the reign of Augustus II and Augustus III*. In: *Seven centuries of the Royal Castle in Warsaw*. Warsaw 1972. Materials for a session of the Science Sub committee by the Civil Committee for the Reconstruction of the Royal Castle in

Warsaw which was held at the Historical Museum of Warsaw on 16—17 Feb. 1972 p. 153).

In the Front Courtyard there was a two-storey pharmacy building situated on the right hand side of the Świętojańska Gate which opened into the Yard. Fig. 1. According to K. Skórewicz's (*The Royal Castle in Warsaw "Architect"* 1924 V. 19 f. 1—7 p. 26) location plan there were several quarters in the building: 1. The Pharmacy, then owned by Heissing; 2. a chamber; 3. a consulting room; 4. infirmary; 5. laboratory; 6. vestibule; 7. laboratory. Such design was probably made at the beginning of XIX c. as W. G. Heissing was the last royal apothecaries to be mentioned in the Archives of the Medical Council of 1815 (K. Wenda, *The Castle Pharmacy...*, p. 19).



Zamek Król. w Warszawie

Przyziemie

Epoka kr. Stanisława Augusta

Phot. 1. Location plan of the Pharmacy courtyard — \* indication of an old building of Pharmacy

References to the existence of the Royal Pharmacy in the second half of XVIII c. are made in two inventories. The first one was made in 1763 (after the death of King Augustus III Sas in Drezno) and the described by W. Tomkiewicz; according to this source, in the courtyard in front of the deputy chamber there were two buildings in one of them was housed the Royal Pharmacy (W. Tomkiewicz; *Two inspection of the Warsaw Castle*, "Bul. Hist. Art." 1954 v. 16 no 3 p. 313).

The inventory of 1769 was made by E. J. Młyński and presented for publishing by K. Marcinkowski (*Inventory of the Warsaw Castle made in 1769*. "Historical Review" 1907: Vol. 5 p. 100—138, f. 2. 259—273, f. 3 p. 400—410; 1908: Vol. 6 f. 1 p. 140—142, f. 2 p. 286—291, f. 3 p. 406—407). It provides a detailed description of what the Pharmacy looked like. Here are some excerpts description: "...Entering through the gate (Świętojańska Gate), on the right hand side, there is an outbuilding which houses the Pharmacy of His Royal Highness; the Pharmacy occupies a two-storey building, made of bricks, with a roof of red tiles. The crimson interior of the Pharmacy shows many drawers and beautiful ornamentation, i.g. blue and gilded ledges...: all this is under the care of Mr. Rode — the apothecaries of His Royal Highness — to whom also the attic of this outbuilding belongs..." (K. Marcinkowski, op. cit. p. 112—114).

In the middle of XVII c. the Pharmacy had an elegant, baroque decorations; the laboratory was equipped with the necessary apparatuses and pots for the production of medicines. It should be emphasised here that the pharmaceutical containers were found in the area of the Castle Square during archeological excavations. They were excavated from the building plot of Baltazar Smosarski — the royal physician and assigned by A. Świechowska to the "Pharmacy Inventory" could not originate from the Royal Pharmacy since they come from the middle of XVI c. (*A report from archeological studies conducted in the Royal Castle in Warsaw in 1971*. In: *Seven Centuries of Warsaw*. p. 41—62).

The function of the Pharmacy was clear — to provide medicines and spices for the royal court and to sell medicines to the town people. The preparation of medicines was made in two laboratory rooms. These laboratories according to E. S. Świeżawski and K. Wenda served other purposes as well (*On the education of Apothecaries in Poland. A contribution to the history of the Polish Pharmacy made by...* "Pharmaceutical News" 1886 A. 13 No. 6 p. 133). It is generally known that in the past kings took interest in alchemy — especially King Sigismund III Waza. According to Wenda the laboratories were used for carrying out experiments in alchemy. It is also probable that the apothecaries then demonstrated some chemical experiments to young prospective chemists. We know that in 1658 King Jan Kazimierz granted the apothecary J. Hahn — called chimicus at apothecarius — a charter allowing him to conduct a laboratory "chimicum pharmacopeae" (*The Pharmacy as officina sanitatis in old Poland...*, "Pharmaceutical News" 1881 A. 8 no 3 p. 116).

The role of the Pharmacy as an institution that served the king ended with the IIIrd Partition of Poland (1795). With the liquidation of the Front Courtyard in 1818, the Pharmacy was transferred to Trębacka street; the previous building which housed the Pharmacy was destroyed. (E. Szwanowski: *The environment of the Royal Castle in Warsaw in XIX c.* In: *Seven centuries of the Castle...*, p. 218—221).

The information about the Royal Pharmacy presented here does not exhaust its history from the point of view of its social role as a centre of progress in pharmaceutical knowledge. The pharmacy which is now being



reconstructed in the Royal Castle in Warsaw should receive a genuine historical documentation; it should have the character of an experimental and production centre and not just a museum.

## 2. ON THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE ROYAL PHARMACY

A year after Poland regained independence in 1918 and the Royal Castle became the seat of the President, K. Wenda published an article. Should the former Warsaw Castle Pharmacy return to the Royal Castle? (*"Pharmaceutical News"* 1919 a. 46. no 5 pp. 78—79), in which he made an appeal in that direction. The author of the article was convinced that his conception was fully justified; he suggested that into the Royal Pharmacy should be transferred such items as genuine wooden cases, a brass mortar of 1602 and the portrait of King Stanisław August Poniatowski; this portrait was once kept in the Castle Pharmacy and got lost about the year 1880; it should be found and placed in the Pharmacy.

Unfortunately these are no longer available.

In 1971 the decision was taken to reconstruct the Castle on the foundations that remained, and a public discussion was initiated on how the various chambers could be put to a useful purpose. At that time an open letter written by B. RembIELińska-Kuźnicka came to the Committee for the Rebuilding of the Warsaw Castle; the letter was printed in the monthly *"Farmacja Polska"* (*Polish Pharmacy*):

"[...] I herewith put forth for consideration a possibility of the restauration of the former Royal Pharmacy which existed in the Royal Castle during the period 1619—1918 [...] The Royal Pharmacy had never been a closed centre at the service of the King, the court and war expeditions. The Royal Apothecaries — among their numerous privileges — had always had a charter allowing them to dispense medicines to people of Warsaw. The Pharmacy which was run by the best apothecaries was in XVII and XVIII centuries a centre of the progress in pharmaceutical knowledge, and — at the same time — it was a model of the Polish *"officinae sanitatis"*. Thus, in the reconstructed antique interior should be presented not only the standard of the Polish Pharmaceutics of that time but the main trends in the development of pharmaceutics — the science of medicines — as well. It seems justified that the Pharmacy today should continue the rich tradition of the past for the benefit of people and science. Thus, both historical reasons and utilitarian principles speak for including the Royal Pharmacy in the reconstruction plans of the Warsaw Castle. In am strongly convinced that in case of realization of the project our pharmaceutical society — always genuinely true to the tradition — will take every care to contribute to the restauration of the interior of the Pharmacy to show the beauty and the emphasize permanent value of historical monuments which are so dear to our hearts and memory..." (B. RembIELińska-Kuźnicka: *On the restauration of the Royal Pharmacy in Warsaw Castle*, *"Polish Pharmacy"* 1971 V, 27 no 9 p. 726).

At first the idea presented by the author of the letter did not meet with approval; however, owing to later attempts made by some pharmaceutical specialists it was possible to carry the project into effect.

It is an unquestionable fact now that the Royal Pharmacy will be reconstructed. It will be located on the ground floor of the West Wing of the Castle, from the side of the Castle Square, on the right hand side of the Sigismund Tower, near the armoury (L. Wyszacki: *The Royal Castle. History, Fact, People, reconstruction*, Warsaw 1978 p. 230. Fig. representing

the design of the Castle). The period interior will go well with antique pots and other pharmacy utensils.

Our understanding and deepest conviction is that the reconstructed Pharmacy should be a place for the exposition of various items and materials left by outstanding Warsaw pharmacutists.

With this idea in mind, the second part of the article describes the materials that have been collected. We hope that our appeal will not remain unanswered and that it will gain support and bring out a positive response both at home and abroad.

### 3. SOME WARSAW CHEMISTS AND PROFESSORS OF PHARMACY

In the history of Warsaw Pharmaceutics, Łukasz Drewno — an Old Town apothecary at the beginning of XVII c. — became especially famous. He opened a series of outstanding Warsaw apothecaries; they all deserve the memory of future generations, that is why their names and activities are described in this paper. They all left to us precious materials of archival value which should be carefully collected and preserved in the newly reconstructed Pharmacy in the Royal Castle in Warsaw.

#### CHEMISTS

##### **Łukasz Drewno: 1565—1652**

The Drewno family who had the "Ram" in their coat-of-arms was one of Warsaw patrician families. Stanisław Drewno, the father of Łukasz, was the town councillor; his marble bust was preserved in St. John's Cathedral in Warsaw until World War II. Łukasz received a careful education; he had a literary talent and a gift of painting. Some of his works are still to be found at the Czartoryski's Museum in Cracow, e.g. a manuscript volume of 1626 containing a *Register of the dead anni praeteriti of my mayorship*, a poem *Some fun for melancholy*, and his self portrait. The "Register of the dead..." was a chronicle of the plague which afflicted Warsaw for two years. The Chronicle was probably prepared for publishing but was preserved only in the form of a manuscript. In his Register Łukasz Drewno gives an account for 5600 Polish zlotys which he obtained from the King Sigismund III; the fund was given to him on the occasion of his appointment as a "plague mayor" in charge of the plague control. Drewno had an understanding that he was performing his duties properly; this is what he said about it: "*Feci quod potui, potui quod Christe dedisti. Improba fac melius, si potes. invidia*". A part of the family of the "plague mayor" died of the plague, he himself was saved and remained active till the end.

The volume of Drewno's Chronicle contains two original prescriptions for medicines against the plague — "contra pestem". There is Electuarium (electuary) which contained the following ingredients: *Ficus carica*, *Juglans*, *Juniperus*, *Ruta*, *Laurus*, roots of five species of herbs, e.g. *Aristolochia*, *Inula Pimpinella*, *Valeriana*, *Archangelica*, as well as *myrrha* and *mel*; all

sprinkled with rose vinegar. Electuarium was applied in doses of the size of *Corylus avellana*.

Another prescription was for a sweating powder, "Pulvis sudorificus", which was served with beer or wine. The powder contained pulverised roots of seven kinds of herbs: *Archangelica*, *Gentiana*, *Potentilla*, *Zedoaria*, *Dic-tamnus*, *Aristolochia* and *Inula*. It also contained lemon skin, Cinnamon and saffron (*Crocus*). Drewno distributed the powder in ca 2.5 g doses which were served to patients in paper bags. The "Plague mayor" wrote about it: "I have distributed about a thousand paper bags of the powder and — with the help of God — it helped a great many."

What are the archival materials left by Łukasz Drewno? First of all, the original manuscript of the 1626 Chronicle kept in the Czartoryski's Museum in Cracow; a perfect photographic copy of the Chronicle in the Warsaw Historical Museum; and, an autograph — a family document kept in the National Library in Krasinski's Square in Warsaw.

### Ferdynand Karo: 1845—1927

Ferdynand Karo was a born naturalist. Already at the age of twelve he collected plants in a herbarium under the auspices of his teacher Milde. At the Department of Taxonomy and Geography of Plants of Warsaw University there is a specimen of orchid, *Liparis loeselli*, and a label written by the boy's hand: "On the peat meadows in the area of Wrocław, D. Milde and I have discovered this specimen."

Karo came to Warsaw in 1861. He had a practical training in Henry Spiess's Pharmacy, he studied at the Central Agricultural School (Józef Ros-tafiński who later became a famous professor was his friend), and was imprisoned in the Warsaw Citadel for the participation in the underground movement. Karo's first floristics work published in 1867 in "Oesterreichische Botanische Zeitschrift" described the materials from the Warsaw area. He complains in it about the Cossach reconnaissance patrol which stopped him at the toll-gates of Grochów — a part of Warsaw. His later works were published in ("Pamiętnik Fizjograficzny") the "Physiographic Diary", in "Pharmaceutical News" and in "Cosmos". Ferdynand Karo worked in pharmacies of Częstochowa and Lublin, where he continues his floristic interests collected, described and published lists of plants. As an experienced florists, at the age of 42, Ferdynand Karo went to Siberia — to Irkuck and Nerczyńsk — where he worked in military pharmacies and at the same time developed his floristic interests. He collected thousands of specimens and sent them to Budapest to his friend who described them and then published in "Oesterreichische Botanische Zeitschrift" under the common title "Plantae Karoanae". This friend was J. F. Freyn (1845—1903).

Four years after his return to Poland in 1893 Karo set off for Siberia again, this time to Błagowieszczeńsk and Zejska Przysań. He wrote at that time: "I may take my trips only on the Russian side as behind Amur up to the Chinese territories is not entirely safe."

The new species described by Ferdynand Karo belong to family COMPOSITAE (9 species), to CYPERACEAE (3), to ROSACEAE (2), to SCROPHULARIACEAE (2) and to ORCHIDACEAE (2); beside these,

one species to each of the following families: Crassulaceae, Leguminosae, Geraniaceae, Linaceae, Euphorbiaceae, Pyrolaceae, Asclepiadaceae, Labiatae and Liliaceae.

Together with Dr. B. Beldowska, the author of this paper described the specimens collected by Ferdynand Karo; they belong to 493 Siberian species and are now kept in Herbarium Generale of Warsaw University.

I can still remember this outstanding florist as I saw him in 1925 in his uniform of a veteran of the January Uprising. It was on the occasion of Ferdinand Karo Jubilee which was celebrated in Warsaw; on the same occasion the Polish Botanical Society distinguished Ferdinand Karo with its honorary membership.

### **Kazimierz Wenda: 1852—1932**

Today, a hundred years after their publication, historical works of Kazimierz Wenda — especially the work written in cooperation with E. Świeżawski, i.e. "Pharmacy in Poland: A Historical Outline" — are a rich source of information for any historian of Pharmacy in Poland. It was this work for which Kazimierz Wenda was awarded golden medals at the international pharmaceutical conventions in Vienna and Prague. For the monograph on Wojciech Oczko — also written with E. Świeżawski — he obtained a silver medal. In 1923 he was awarded a *honoris causa* PhD in Pharmacy.

Kazimierz Wenda was a well educated man who studied not only in Poland but also in Paris and Genève. His pharmacy was a number 45 Krakowskie Przedmieście street in Warsaw. There, he had an opportunity to meet a Doctor of Pharmaceutics from Nancy; among the many museum specimens that he showed to his visitor there was an immense mortar from the Royal Pharmacy which attracted special attention. In 1917 Kazimierz Wenda published his work on *The Pharmacy at the Royal Castle and the Royal Apothecaries*. This publication has a great significance, specially today when designs are made for the reconstruct of the Royal Pharmacy.

### **Józef Szymański: 1878—1961**

Józef Szymański, the President of the Warsaw Pharmaceutical Society indeed was the man of Providence for the Polish Pharmaceutics in the years 1939—1949. He truly earned and in fact was given three titles, that of a nourisher, — defender and constructor. As a courageous man and excellent organizer he created during the German occupation numerous groups which were taking care of the colleagues expatriated from the occupied western territories of Poland. Thus, Józef Szymański first created a Committee for Pharmaceutical Works; next, when this organization was liquidated by the Germans, he created a "Temporary pharmacy Chamber"; when this body had to be dissolved, he founded a "Pharmacy Assistance Association" of the "Polish Red Cross." The funds for a few hundred dinners provided daily for campatriots Szymański obtained through taxi the rationed spirits and sugar — obviously under strict conspiracy conditions. Apart from dinners, small funds were distributed for everyday existence. In February 1941 the German authorities issued a regulation forbidding the Polish Red Cross its activities through Assistance Associations. Then, the inexhausted President



came out with another fresh idea and created a new association "Pharmaceutical Family"; the new association produced chemical utensils, prepared and distributed meals and provided small grants for those who most needed help. The Pharmaceutical Family functioned until the Uprising of 1944.

From August 1st until September 7th, 1944, i.e. for 38 days, Szymański administered his own pharmacy; the building was located on the line of shooting and was under constant gun fire from the nearby National Economy Bank. The pharmacy provided medicines for the local people and for Polish military hospitals. One day the Germans broke into the pharmacy, killed an old laboratory assistant and drove out the apothecaries. After leaving the town Szymański went to Łowicz and there, under the German supervision, organized a Pharmacy Store where medicines from the burning Warsaw were collected. A few days before their escape, the occupants ordered evacuation of the Pharmacy Store in Germany. In response to this, Szymański had bricks instead of medicines packed into pharmaceutical containers and sent to Germany. Szymański showed great toughness and bravery even earlier when he opposed the German occupants and managed not to send any of his apothecaries to work in German pharmacies; he simply warned the German pharmaceutical adviser that he should not trust Poles working in the enemy's pharmacies. The writer of these lines was also threatened with deportation to Germany, but Szymański came to his rescue and prevented him from being deported. That is why I called Szymański a defender of the oppressed.

After the liberation of Warsaw, Szymański immediately got involved in the reconstruction of the pharmaceutical buildings. As soon as February 1946 he handed down a lecture hall in number 7 Kniewskiego street to the Pharmaceutical Faculty of Warsaw University; a little later the Faculty obtained the buildings in 25 Przemysłowa street and number 3 Oczki street. Szymański's 5-years' efforts ended with a beautiful success, i.e. complete reconstruction of the seat of the Warsaw Pharmaceutical Society — today, the Polish Pharmaceutical Society — in 16 Długa street. We owe our gratitude to the President for the reconstruction of our historical Old-Town seat.

#### PROFESSORS OF PHARMACY

##### **Władysław Mazurkiewicz: 1871—1933**

Professor Mazurkiewicz was not an apothecary but a professor of pharmacy; strictly speaking — of pharmacognosis and pharmaceutical botany. His chief achievement was the foundation of the Pharmaceutical Faculty of Warsaw University — the first one in the history of this country; he was the first Dean of the Faculty.

The main subject of Mazurkiewicz's research work were oilbearing plants. His habilitation treatise *Anatomical Types of Cinnamon Bark* published in the Proceedings of the Faculty of Mathematical and Natural Sciences of the Academy of Sciences in 1911 concerned this topic. In connection with the topic of his treatise I would like to mention a conversation between Mazurkiewicz and the future Marshal Piłsudski which turned out to be unpleasant for the former. Piłsudski and Mazurkiewicz became close friends

after Piłsudski's release by Mazurkiewicz from the prison hospital in Petersburg in 1901. One day, to Piłsudski's question about what Mazurkiewicz was working on, the latter answered "on cinnamon"; this made Piłsudski laugh and sneer at his comrade from the revolutionary times. As a result of this incident, Mazurkiewicz lost interest in the subject of his research. He used to say that each work should have "wings" with which it could reach the summits of theory. Two faculties of Warsaw University took advantage of Piłsudski's and Mazurkiewicz's friendship and obtained building plots from the military authorities in the area of Koszykowa street.

Professor Mazurkiewicz was sometimes too spontaneous in his behaviour. Once, when he presented to the University Senate a proposal to create the Chair of Pharmaceutical Chemistry and met with opposition on the part of a well known mineralogist Professor Thugutt, he simply accused his opponent of ignorance. Professor Thugutt took offence and claimed satisfaction. Fortunately the duel did not take place. It is not surprising that the Polish Pharmaceutical Association founded a monument for the defender of pharmacy.

### **Bronisław Koskowski: 1863—1946**

Professor Koskowski together with Professor Mazurkiewicz was a co-creator of the Pharmaceutical Faculty of Warsaw University. He became the second, after Mazurkiewicz, Dean of the Faculty. His contribution to the development of the Faculty were, among other things, two university buildings constructed with the funds granted by the Committee created by himself. Soon, however, he had to retire and leave the beautifully organized Department of Applied Pharmacy. Ten years later, after the outbreak of World War II, Professor Koskowski was called back from his retirement to become dean of the Underground Faculty of Pharmacy. After the war he was appointed professor of Warsaw University. He worked intensively till the end of his rich and busy life. No other professor lived to such a ripe old age. Professor Koskowski was the first chairman of the Chief Pharmacy Chamber.

Professor Koskowski was highly appreciated both at home and abroad. Professor Stefan Pieńkowski, Rector of Warsaw University paid tribute to Professor Koskowski thanking him for "the miraculous extravagance of the soul of the great man". In 1923 he was granted a *honoris causa* degree by the University of Nancy, and the Parisian Pharmaceutical Society elected him its corresponding member. He was also a honorary member of the Czechoslovakian Pharmaceutical Society.

Bronisław Koskowski began his social activities early in his life in the family village Łaszczów; he had a pharmacy there and published his first work *On the Living Conditions and Nutrition Level in the Jewish Communities*. He participated in the organization of an exhibition of hygiene in Warsaw and there he attracted attention of the famous Polish writer Bolesław Prus.

Professor Koskowski participated in the underground movement; in connection with this he went to Lwów for a few years and published "Pharmacy Periodical." He came back to Warsaw after the outbreak of World War II and lived there till the end of his days.

The output of Professor Koskowski's research and social activities is exceptionally rich. It should be mentioned here that Professor Koskowski worked for the Commission of the History of Medicine and Mathematical and Natural Sciences of the Polish Academy of Sciences. This Commission can be considered a precursor of the present-day Section of the History of Pharmacy. Having in mind the Faculty of Pharmacy Bronisław Koskowski could say about himself "*Exegi monumentum aere perennius*" — as Professor Stanisław Biniński has rightly put it recently.

### **Antoni Ossowski: 1889—1939**

My master and teacher Antoni Ossowski succeeded Professor Mazurkiewicz as Head of the Department of Pharmacognosis and Pharmaceutical Botany at Warsaw University. He lectured in botany for six years (1927—1933) and in pharmacognosis for six years (1933—1939). Professor Mazurkiewicz was killed in an air raid on 9th September 1939. In his early professional days he worked in pharmacies in Żuromin, Żarki, Slawuta and Warsaw. Professor Ossowski often remembered his happy Slawuta days. In the pharmacy where he worked Prince Sanguszkowski was a frequent guest; he always shook hands with everybody there except Ossowski. One day Ossowski asked the apothecary why the Prince discriminated him. It turned out that it was the apothecary's fault as he had not introduced the young man to the Prince. But let us come back to Professor Ossowski's biography. He was immatriculated as a student of Warsaw University on 5th December 1915 and graduated from the Faculty of Pharmacy in 1920. In 1927 he obtained a PhD as the first of the Polish Faculty of Pharmacy; he was also the first one to complete his habilitation treatise and become professor at the Faculty of Pharmacy. He was on two long research visits, one at Kew, near London, at Professor Arthur Hill's, and another one in Vienna at Professor R. Wettstein's. Soon after his succession as Head of the Department he made his Department thrive.

Two of his then disciples and co-workers were offered Departments of Pharmacognosis (Professors Jakub Deryng and Bogusław Borkowski), and the other two — Departments of Pharmaceutical Botany (Professors Henryk Bukowiecki and Bolesław Broda). Professor Ossowski was a charter member of the Trade Union of Pharmacy Workers, its vice-president and honorary member; he also was editor of "*Pharmacy Annals*", of "*Polish Pharmacopeia*", and a charter member and editor of "*Acta Poloniae Pharmaceutica*". Professor Ossowski's early death during the war mercilessly stopped his further activities.

### **Bolesław Olszewski: 1889—1925**

The most dramatic in the history of Polish Pharmacy was the year 1946 when, after the death of Professors Bronisław Koskowski and Adam Koss and the earlier death — during the war — of Professors Antoni Ossowski, Stanisław Weil and Witold Rawita-Witanowski, the Faculty remained without

professors. It survived thanks to the unusual energy of Docent Bolesław Olszewski and the support of the Rector of the University. During the period between 26th August (the date of death of Professor A. Koss) and 9th October 1946 (the date of nomination of Professor Olszewski as Professor) there was interregnum... and Docent Olszewski was in charge of seven Departments at the Faculty of Pharmacy. No other dean at our Faculty worked in such difficult conditions. It was the personal merit of Professor Olszewski that the Faculty survived the crisis; six docents completed their habilitation treatises and were appointed heads of the various Departments, the old and the newly created.

Bolesław Olszewski was born on 27th March 1889. After the completion of the secondary school in Płock he went to Dorpat where he completed his pharmaceutical studies. Next he went to Moscow and there he supplemented his studies in the area of chemistry and bacteriology. During World War I he was in Kazań on the Wołga river. He was in charge of the Kazań pharmacies nationalized by the revolution. He took part in the preparation of the programme of pharmaceutical studies in the Soviet Union. In 1920 he returned to Poland and started his work at the Department of Pharmaceutical and Toxicological Chemistry of Warsaw University. In 1931, B. Olszewski obtained a PhD at the newly created Faculty of Pharmacy. In the years 1931—2 he was in France and Belgium as a grantee of the Fund of the National Culture; he specialised there in forensic medicine. After his return to Poland he wrote his habilitation treatise. B. Olszewski participated in a number of international pharmaceutical congresses. During the German occupation Olszewski conducted classes at the underground university. After the liberation of Warsaw he organized the Faculty of Pharmacy at Warsaw University and conducted the reconstruction works. He deserves permanent memory of the Polish chemists.

### **Stanisław Krauze: 1902—1977**

Similarly as Professor Antoni Ossowski, Professor Stanisław Krauze was an alumnus of the Faculty of Pharmacy of Warsaw University. There he obtained a M.Sc. degree in 1924, a PhD, in 1931, and he completed the habilitation treatise in 1937. In 1945 Professor Krauze was appointed Head of the Department of bromatology of the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Łódź. In 1947 he returned to Warsaw to take over the Department after the late Professor W. Rawita-Witanowski. At the same time Professor Krauze worked at the State Institute of Hygiene as director of the Department of Food and Usable Products Analysis.

Phot. 2. The water colour of Łukasz Drewno — reproduction

Phot. 3. Two prescriptions against black death of Łukasz Drewno — reproduction

Phot. 4. Autograph of Łukasz Drewno

Phot. 5. Act of buying pharmacy's for Łukasz Drewno





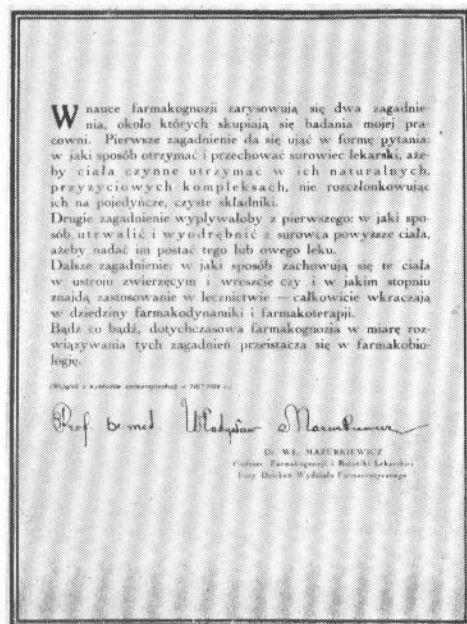


Phot. 6. Ferdynand Karo as a student of Warsaw Main School (University)

Phot. 7. Ferdynand Karo in a veteran service dress of January Uprising

Phot. 8. Józef Szymański

Phot. 9. Władysław Mazurkiewicz



Phot. 10. Władysław Mazurkiewicz — introduction of the lectures

Phot. 11. The tomb of Professor Władysław Mazurkiewicz in Warsaw Cemetery Powązki



UNIWERSYTET WARSZAWSKI

DYREKTOR

Oddziału Farmaceutycznego

Wydziału Lekarskiego.

8/11

1922

Wielce szanowny Pan Dyktator

Mam zaszczyt donieść do Pana Dyktatora, że na doręczenie  
prezentowałem honorowi stowarzyszenia i prof. Biłogłowski, Osiński, Kucharski  
i Lechowski, jak również przedstawicieli sądu i gminy, którzy  
przekazali Panu Dyktatorowi pismo z dnia 10.10.1922, w którym  
profesor w imieniu technologicznych i lekarskich i dnia 1.10.1922.

W powyższym piśmie w sprawie ustawy o wyłączeniu z wykazu  
leczniczych i leczniczych, a następnie podlegających nowemu  
Sądowi i Ministerstwu. Należy więc, aby w sprawie ustawy  
dyktator i prezydent wyrażali swoją zgodę i  
wskazywali Panu Dyktatorowi, że pismo zostało przesłane i  
wskazywane.

W tym celu

Władysław Mazurkiewicz

Szanowna Pani

W odpowiedzi na zażyczenie Komunitacji,  
że Pani jako magister farmacji obowiązująca  
jest odbyć 3-letnią praktykę, aby uzyskać  
pełne prawa zawodowe.

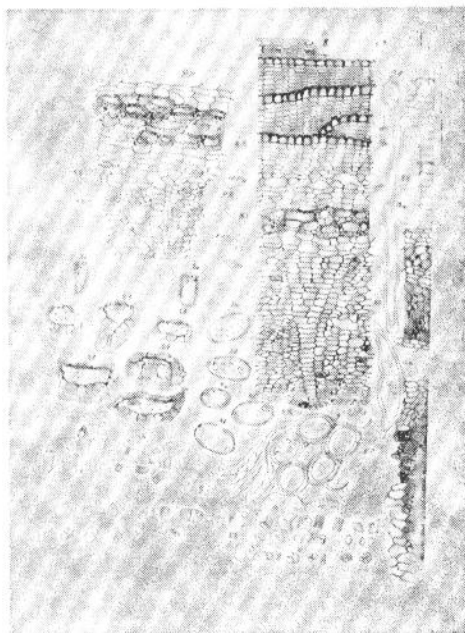
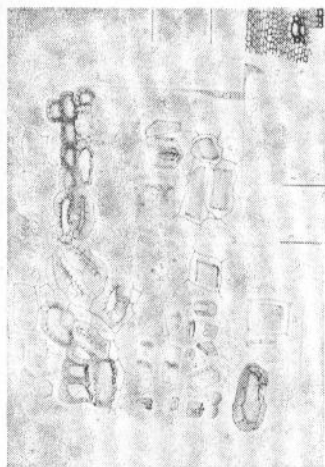
Z poważaniem

Dr J. Pionowski

Do Pani  
magistra farmacji  
Miroslawy Półackiej

Phot. 12. Autographs of  
Professor Władysław  
Mazurkiewicz





Phot. 13. Władysław Mazurkiewicz — illustrations to the text *Anatomy of the cinnamon bark*



Prof. Bronisław Koskowski

Phot. 14. Bronisław Koskowski



Phot. 15. Antoni Ossowski

Phot. 16. The tomb of Professor Antoni Ossowski on the Lublin cemetery

Phot. 17. Bolesław Olszewski

Phot. 18. Stanisław Krauze

Professor Stanisław Krauze was born in Łódź on 11th November 1902; in 1972 we celebrated a jubilee of his 70th birth anniversary.

In 1973 he retired from his post as Director of the Institute of Biopharmacy and Head of the Department of Bromatology of the Faculty of Pharmacy, Medical Academy in Warsaw. Four years later he left us for ever.

Professor Krauze left a rich scientific output; it is hard to present it in an outline. I will only mention his merits as an organizer of research contacts with international bromatology and pharmacy.

In 1958 Professor Krauze was elected member of the European Council for Nutrition Code. He was also vice-president of the International Society for Civilization Disease Control and an expert of World Health Organization in the field of foreign substances in food.

Stanisław Krauze was a charter member and an honorary member of the Polish Pharmaceutical Society. On his suggestion the Society of Friends of the Pharmaceutical Faculty was transformed in 1947 into the Polish Pharmaceutical Society. It was also his initiative that the Society joined the International Pharmaceutical Federation.

Scientific and organizational achievements of Prof. Krauze, both in Polish bromatology and pharmaceuticals are immense. Among the Warsaw apothecaries described here Prof. Stanisław Krauze has an outstanding position.

Throughout the centuries Warsaw Pharmaceutics has had a great number of outstanding apothecaries. Obviously it is not possible to include all of them in this short paper. It is the author's desire to at least mention the names of the Warsaw apothecaries *de pharmacia varsaviensis bene meritis*, such as: Marian Rostafiński, M.Sc., Konstanty Potocki, M.Sc., Felicjan Miller, M. Sc., Prof. Witold Rawita-Witanowski, Prof. Stanisław Weil, Prof. Władysław Wiśniewski and Prof. Jakub Deryng.