

EVENTS
AND
PERSONALITIES
IN
POLISH
HISTORY

BY
PAUL SUPER

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PAUL SUPER

GENERAL DIRECTOR OF THE POLISH Y. M. C. A.

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To

Margaret L. Super

*Co-operator, Research Worker and Translator of
Polish, Latin, German and French Materials
in our long and continuing study of
Polish History*

ON THE PRONUNCIATION OF POLISH NAMES

It has seemed best to the writer to give Polish names, with but few exceptions, in Polish spelling; hence a few suggestions as to pronunciation.

<p><i>a</i>—is the broad <i>a</i> as in <i>art</i> or <i>father</i>.</p> <p><i>c</i>—is <i>ts</i>, except as follows, but it is never <i>k</i>.</p> <p><i>c</i>—before <i>i</i> is <i>ch</i>.</p> <p><i>ch</i>—is a strongly aspirated <i>h</i>.</p> <p><i>cz</i>—is the English <i>ch</i>.</p> <p><i>dz</i>—is the English <i>j</i> as in <i>jump</i>.</p> <p><i>e</i>—is short as in <i>bed</i>.</p> <p><i>i</i>—is <i>ee</i>.</p> <p><i>j</i>—is our <i>y</i>, so <i>Jan</i> is pronounced <i>Yan</i>.</p> <p><i>l</i>—the Polish <i>l</i> is rounder and more liquid than ours, and when crossed like a <i>t</i> (<i>l</i>) it</p>	<p>resembles our <i>w</i>.</p> <p><i>o</i>—is between our <i>o</i> and <i>aw</i>.</p> <p><i>r</i>—is the English <i>r</i> as in <i>room</i>, but never as in <i>short</i>.</p> <p><i>rz</i>—is like the French <i>j</i> in <i>Jean</i> or English <i>si</i> in <i>vision</i>.</p> <p><i>s</i>—before <i>i</i> is <i>sh</i>.</p> <p><i>sz</i>—is <i>sh</i>.</p> <p><i>u</i>—is the English <i>oo</i> as in <i>moon</i>.</p> <p><i>w</i>—is <i>v</i>.</p> <p><i>y</i>—is a short <i>i</i>, never as in <i>sky</i>.</p> <p><i>z</i>—is as in the English alphabet. There are two other kinds of <i>z</i> but they do not occur in this booklet.</p>
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Each vowel is pronounced separately as a rule. Always accent the next to the last syllable.

<p><i>Boleslaw</i> is <i>Bo-le'-swav</i>. The 2nd <i>l</i> is crossed.</p> <p><i>Jadwiga</i> is <i>Yad-vee'-ga</i>.</p> <p><i>Jagiello</i> is <i>Ya-gee el'-wo</i>. Crossed <i>ls</i>, hard to get; better just call it <i>Ya-gee el'-lo</i>.</p> <p><i>Kazimierz</i> is <i>Ka-zhee'-mee erz</i>.</p> <p><i>Kosciuszko</i> is <i>Kos-tsiush'-ko</i>.</p> <p><i>Matejko</i> is <i>Ma-tay'-ko</i>.</p> <p><i>Mickiewicz</i> is <i>Mits-keey'-vich</i>.</p>	<p><i>Mieszko</i> is <i>Mee esh'-ko</i>.</p> <p><i>Pulaski</i> is <i>Poo-wa'-ski</i>.</p> <p><i>Sienkiewicz</i> is <i>Shee en-keey'-vich</i>.</p> <p><i>Sobieski</i> is <i>So-bee e'-ski</i>.</p> <p><i>Stanislaw</i> is <i>Sta-ni'-swav</i>; <i>i</i> as in <i>is</i>.</p> <p><i>Wilno</i> is <i>Veel'-no</i>.</p> <p><i>Wit Stwosz</i> is <i>Veet Stwosh</i>.</p> <p><i>Wladyslaw</i> is <i>Vwa-di'-swav</i>. Crossed <i>ls</i>; <i>i</i> as in <i>is</i>.</p> <p><i>Zygmunt</i> is <i>Zig'-munt</i>; <i>i</i> as in <i>is</i>.</p>
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The Polish *ski* ending family names means *of*, like the French *de* and the German *von*.

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