

# TEARS ADD FERVOR IN PLEA FOR HELP

## For First Time in Fifty Years, Poles Ask the Public for Money for Helpless.

With tears dimming her eyes and so overcome with emotion that she spoke with difficulty, Mme. Felicia Romanowska, the Polish prima donna, yesterday afternoon pleaded with her fellow countrymen and all patriotic citizens to contribute to the Polish war fund.

Mme. Romanowska was one of the principal speakers at the mass meeting of Polska Powarzystwo Obrony Narodowej (Polish National Protective Society), which met at the Bohemian Sokol hall, 733 Page street. The prima donna announced that on the evening of August 30th, at the Golden Gate Commandery hall, she would give a concert for the benefit of the fund for the relief of Russian Poles.

Yesterday's meeting, which was largely attended and resulted in a collection of several hundred dollars and pledges of an equal number of thousands, was presided over by F. Kirkielewski. After calling attention to the fact that there are few Russian Poles in this city who are either subject to military duty or can return to take up arms against Russia, he said it was incumbent upon the local colony to raise as large a fund as possible for families in cities on the frontier, that will be rendered penniless and homeless by the war.

W. Jezewicz, president of the society, was the first speaker, and was followed by A. Zinudowicz and C. Szymanski. Following the passionate appeal by Mme. Romanowska, the collection was taken up and the meeting adjourned.

The announcement was made that a benefit entertainment, to raise additional funds for the amelioration of suffering among the poor in Russian Poland will be given on Sunday evening, September 6th, in Workers' hall, 20 Flint street, under the management of the J. Dabrowski Society.

A feature of yesterday's mass meeting was that it was the first time in fifty years that the local Russian Poles have appealed to the general public to contribute money to a general relief fund.