

POLES WILL COME TO RELIEF OF COUNTRYMEN

Mass Meeting to Raise Funds Has Been Called for Next Sunday Afternoon.

Concerted action toward the immediate relief of those Russian Poles who may be involved in the conflict between Russia and Germany is being taken by the newly-organized San Francisco chapter of the Polskie Powarzystwo Obrony Narodowej, or Polish National Protective Society, with the result that a mass meeting has been called for next Sunday afternoon.

This meeting, to be held at 8 o'clock Sunday at Bohemian Sokol Hall, 739 Page street, will have for its purpose the raising of a great fund for the amelioration of suffering in Russian and Prussian Poland as well as in Galicia. If it be found that the Galicians, subjects of Austria-Hungary, are endangered by the conflict now raging all about them.

WILL ASK SUBSCRIPTIONS.

For the first time in more than half a century, the Polish will ask American citizens to subscribe to a fund for the breaking of Poland's shackles. In 1862 the American citizens of San Francisco alone gave \$25,000 to aid in the Polish

uprising against their Russian oppressors, and this time they will be called upon to aid in freeing the Poles from the dangers of being ground underfoot by the forces of the opposing powers.

Sunday's meeting will be presided over by W. Jezewicz, president of the Polskie Powarzystwo Obrony Narodowej. Other officers of the society who are playing prominent parts in the movement to aid their fellow countrymen are Mme. Felicia Romanowska, vice-president; Ignacius Strychalaki, corresponding secretary; F. Macloch, financial secretary, and W. Salmonski, treasurer.

Casimir Konczalaki, another prominent member of the Polish organization, last night explained the motives that have led to the local Polish activities.

FROM OPPRESSION TO DEATH.

"It is our Christian duty," he said, "to raise funds for the relief of those unfortunate Poles about whose homes is being fought one of the greatest wars in history. Thousands of innocent and liberty loving Polanders, occupying territory held under the mailed fist of Russia, will be slaughtered by the opposing armies. Their estates will be devastated, their homes will be burned and they will face starvation for a cause in which they cannot feel an interest. From the cruelest sort of oppression their lot will be changed to a horrible death."

Funds raised here and elsewhere in California will be sent to the head committee of the Polish Protective Society at Chicago. From there they will be sent to a similar committee in Warsaw, Russian Poland, for distribution.

Among the plans of the Polish residents of San Francisco to raise the desired fund is a concert to be given the latter part of this month by Mme. Felicia Romanowska, the Polish prima donna.