

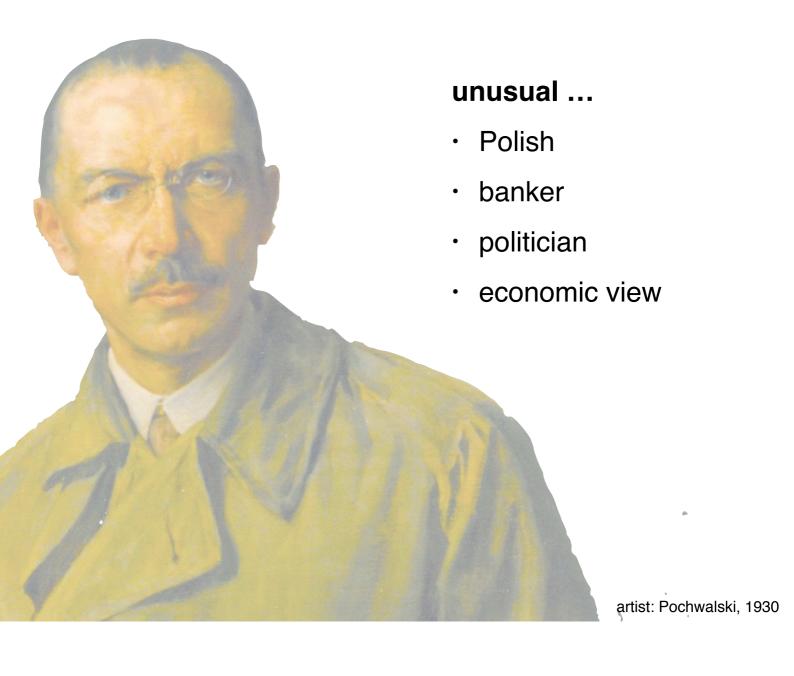


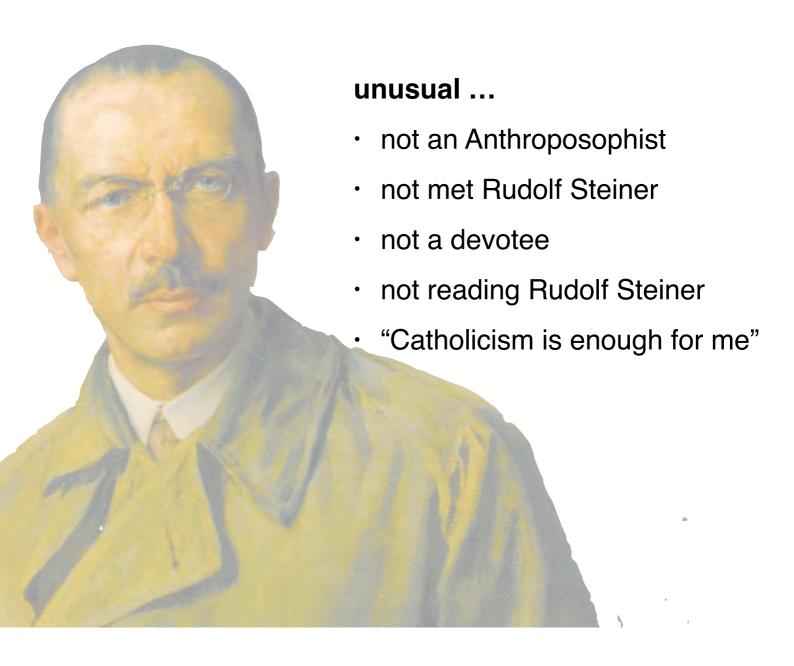
Stanisław Karłowski: an unlikely BD pioneer, opportunity to calamity

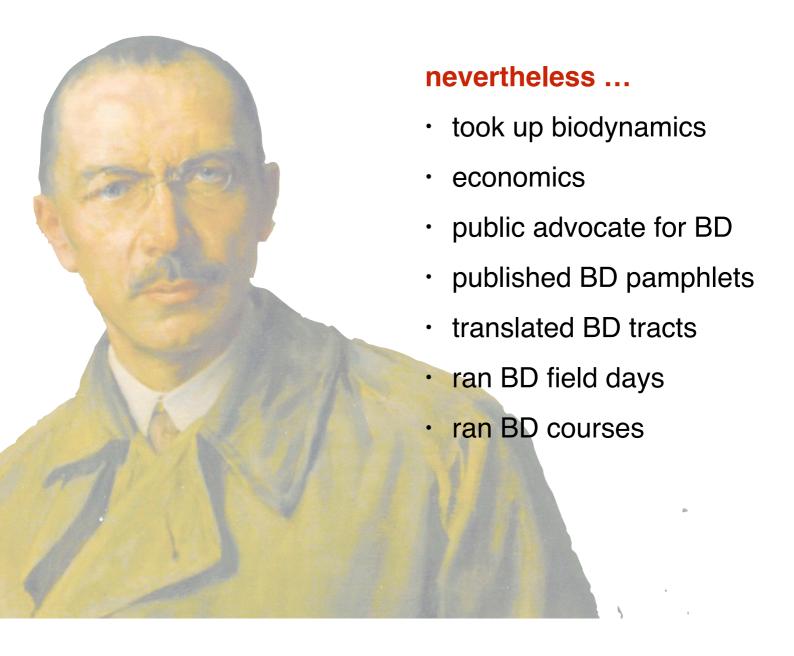
Dr John Paull & Pawel Bietkowski

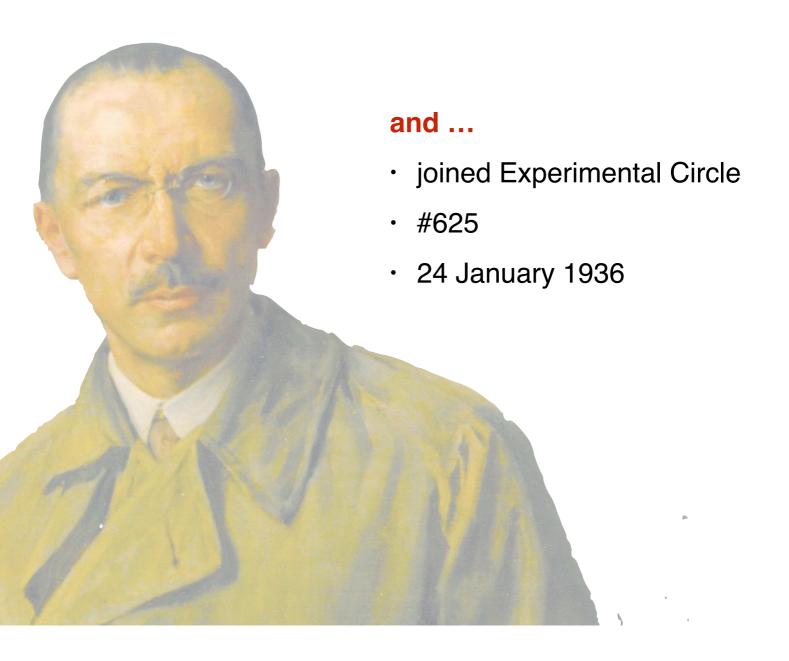
Biodynamic Federation Demeter International BFDI Members Assembly Demeter-Poland Juchowo Farm, Poland, 28 June 2024

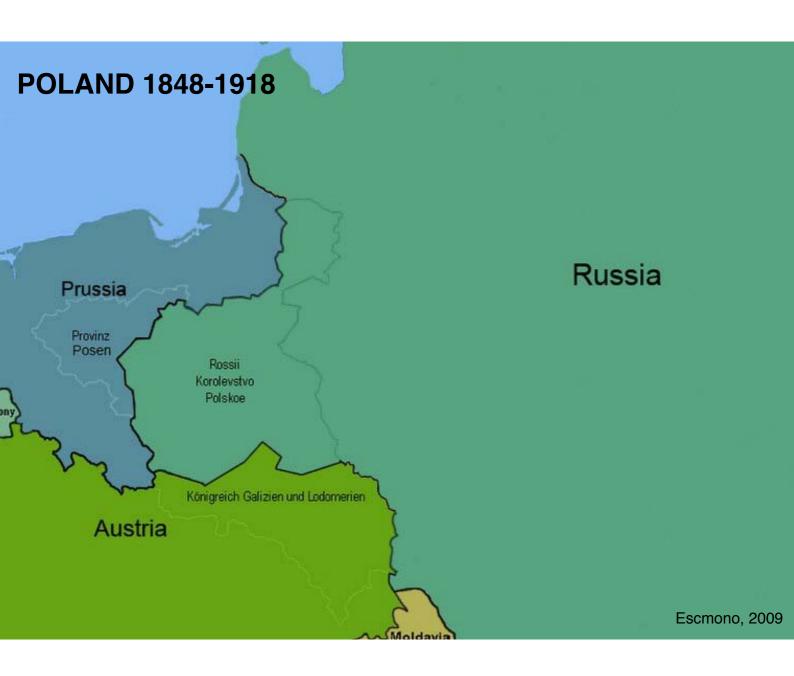
















Distress sales from 1918

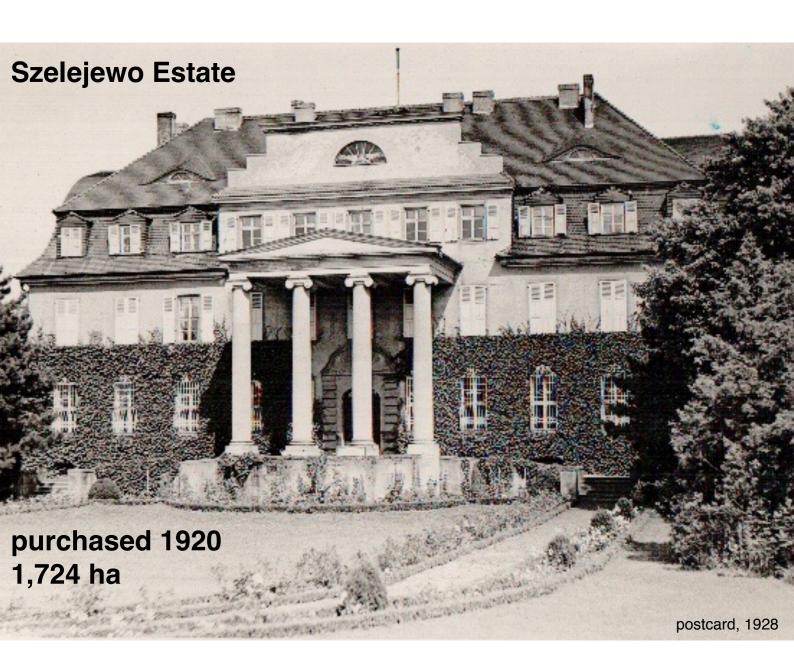
ethnic German land holders:

* Polish citizenship?

or

* leave?

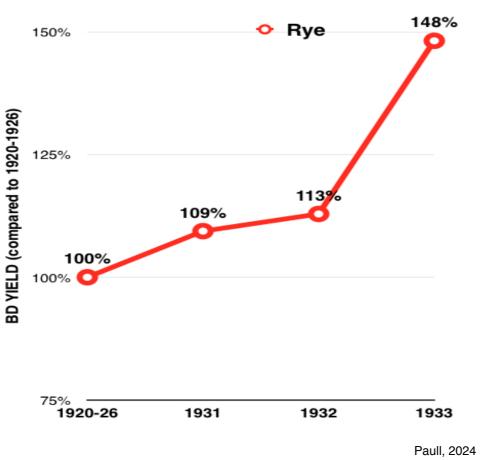








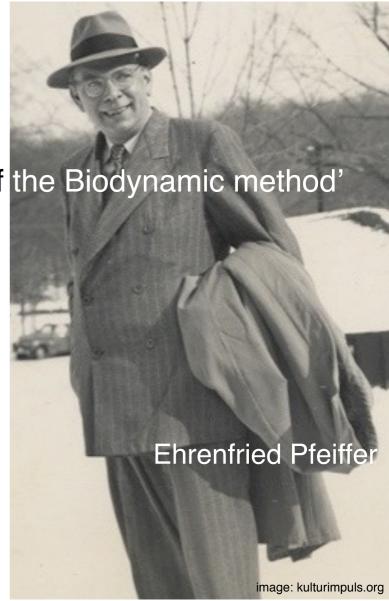
nearby Koberwitzer



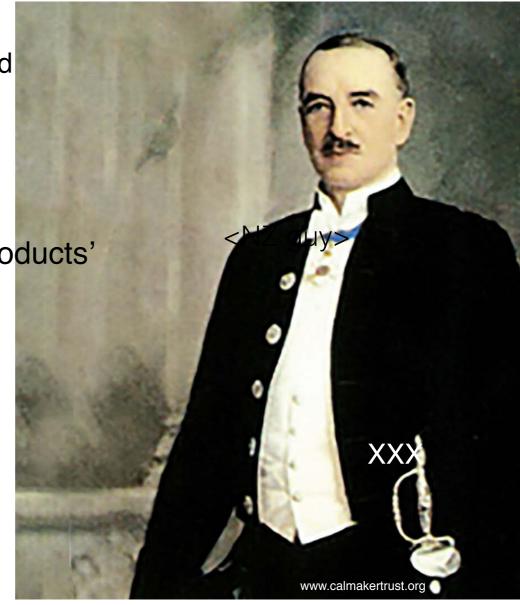


translated & published Pfeiffer in Polish

booklet #1
'Practical tips on the use of the Biodynamic method'
1934



translated & published
C Alma Baker
English to Polish
booklet #7
'The Soil and its Products'



Converted Szelejewo to BD from 1930

starting with 1930: 22.5 ha in 1930

&

progressively converting over next 4 years

Biggest BD farm in the world at the time?

1,724 ha

cf Loverendale, Netherlands 320 ha

Public advocacy of BD

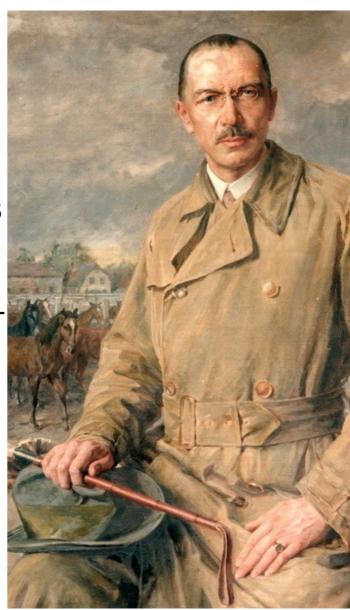
Poland's

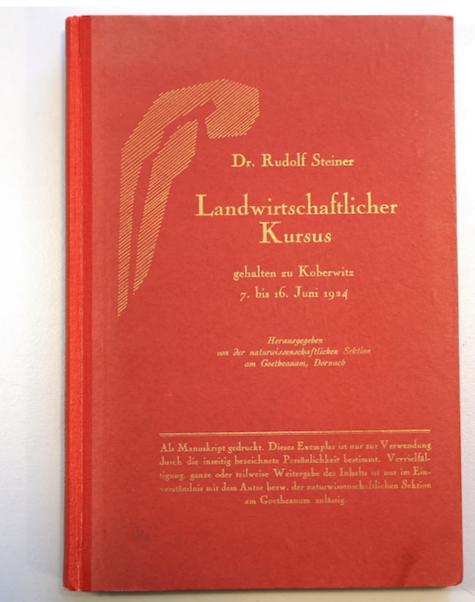
Agricultural Gazette (1935):

"Senator Karłowski tirelessly approaches the 'new faith' in agriculture, he can be heard everywhere, soon we will be listening to him on the radio"

Innovative & entrepreneurial

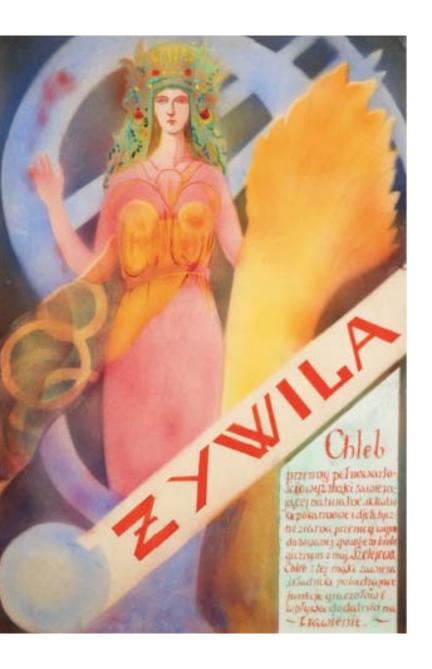
- Agricultural Conference:
 'proven not experimental', c.1933
- · BD pamphlets, 1934-1939
- BD Courses at Szelejewo, 1935+
- BD field days at Szelejewo
- Experimental Circle, 1936
- 'Demeter' results reported, 1937
- Society to promote BD, 1938





1936, 24 Jan joined Experimental Circle #625

Image: J Paull



Polish Demeter BD bread from Szelejewo

Art: Franciszek Siedlecki (Jagwiga Siedlecka)

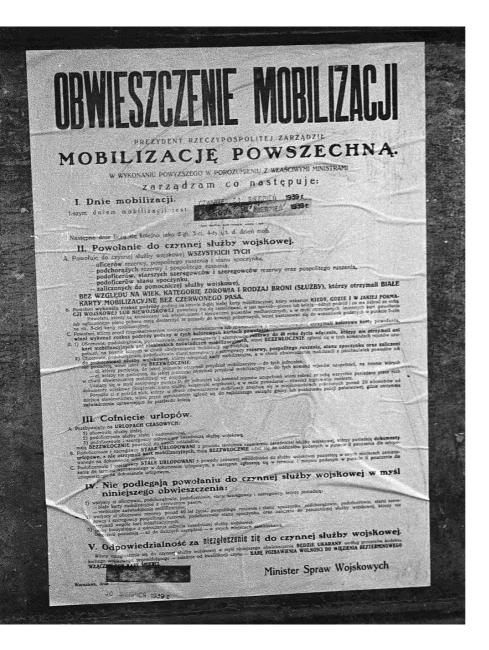
Society for the Promotion of the Principles of Life & Economy

1938 charter:

"only biological methods applied in all walks of life ...

can provide full guarantees of health ...

Artificial. non-biological methods sooner or later produce negative results"



30 August 1939
Poland
Order to Mobilise

1 September 1939: **Germany invades Poland**

German forces have invaded Poland and its planes have bombed Polish cities, including the capital, Warsaw.

The attack comes without any warning or declaration of war.

Britain and France have mobilised their forces and are preparing to wage war on Germany for the second time this century.

Just before dawn today, German tanks, infantry and cavalry penetrated Polish territory on several fronts with five armies, a total of 1.5 million troops.

BBC, 1 September 1939









Nazi Policy: Decapitate of the intelligentsia



21 October 1939 Gostyn Public Square 30 executed ... including Stanisław Karłowski Nazi SS death squad

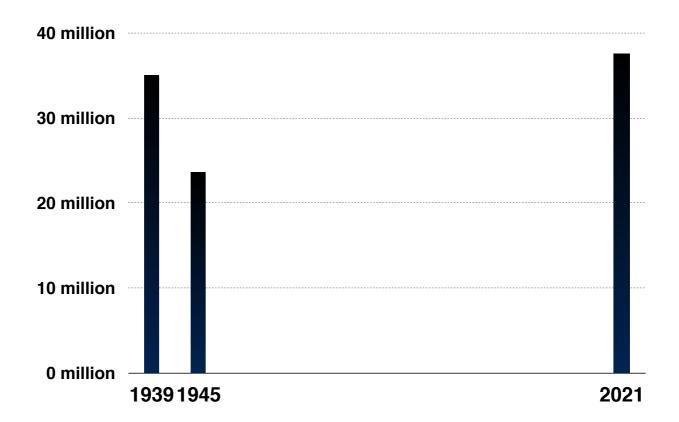
image: Czesław Gała

Paulette Karłowska
deported to Warsaw
rescued by
Dr Nicolaus Remer
German BD farmer



image: kulturimpuls.org

Population of Poland





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Stanisław Karłowski (1879-1939): Pioneer of Biodynamic Farming and Organic Agriculture in Poland

Free on the www

John Paull

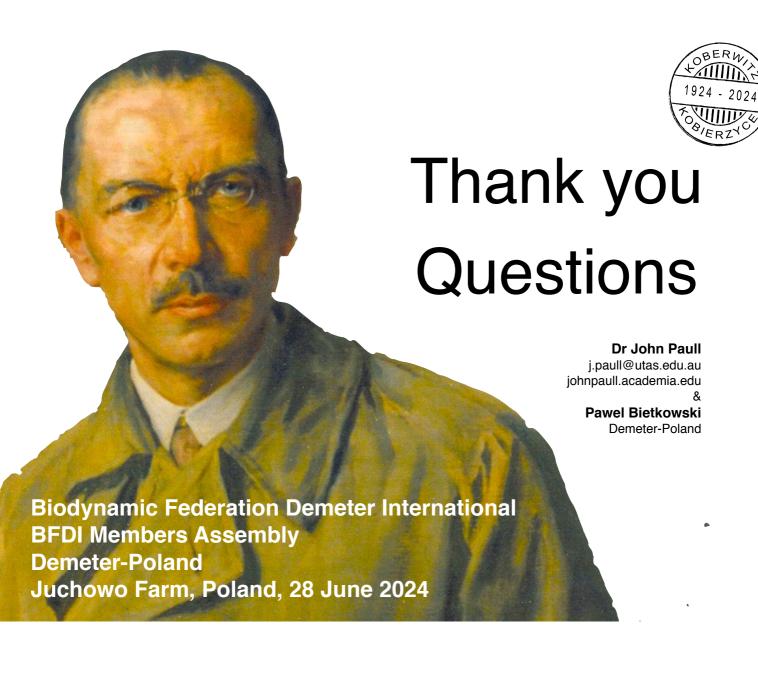
University of Tasmania, Hobart, Tasmania, Australia

Pawel Bietkowski

Stowarzyszenie Demeter-Polska, Silnowo, Poland

ABSTRACT

Stanisław Karłowski (1879-1939) was one of the great champions of Biodynamic farming during its formative years. After an illustrious career as an international banker, in 1920 he purchased the Szelejewo Estate in Poland comprising 1,724 hectares. Rudolf Steiner (1861-1925) presented his Agriculture Course at Koberwitz (now Kobierzyce, Poland) in the summer of 1924. Rudolf Steiner called for farming to be based on natural and biological principles and the farm to be considered as an organism. His seminal course laid the grounds for the subsequent development of Biodynamic and organic farming. Stanisław Karłowski encountered Biodynamics in 1929. He converted his Szelejewo Estate to Biodynamics, thereby creating what was, at the time, likely the largest Biodynamic (BD) farm in Europe, and perhaps the world (c.f. Ehrenfried Pfeiffer's farm, Loverendale, Netherlands, was 320 hectares). Stanisław Karłowski published a series of seven booklets (in Polish) promoting the practice of Biodynamics (including a translation of Ehrenfried Pfeiffer); these are believed to be the first Biodynamics publications in Polish. Stanisław Karłowski ran courses on Biodynamics at his Estate and made BD





Abstract

Stanisław Karłowski (1879-1939) was an unlikely pioneer of biodynamic agriculture. He was a banker and a politician. He was a Pole. He was not an Anthroposophist. He did not attend the Agriculture Course presented by Rudolf Steiner at Koberwitz in the summer of 1924. He never met Rudolf Steiner; and he did not read Steiner. Yet Stanisław Karłowski was an enthusiast for biodynamics (BD). He managed, what was at the time (the 1930s), almost certainly, the world's largest biodynamic farm (of 1724 hectares). He was a vocal public advocate for BD. He presented his estate as a showcase for BD practices. He ran BD courses at his Szelejewo Estate, and he translated and published BD pamphlets in Polish. He joined the Experimental Circle of Anthroposophical Farmers and Gardeners in 1936. Stanisław Karłowski spoke fluent German, he had worked as a banker in Germany, and he was described a 'Germanophile'. Germany invaded Poland, on 1 September, 1939. There was no declaration of war, and Germany was out to brutally plunder 'living space', at the expense of its neighbour. Nazi policy was: decapitate the Polish intelligentsia. In the public square of Gostyn (a town nearby to Szelejewo Estate), on 21 October, 1939, 30 civilians, prominent citizens of the area, including Stanisław Karłowski, were executed by firing squad by a Nazi SS Death Squad. The BD legacy of Stanisław Karłowski lives on in Juchowo Farm and Demeter-Poland.



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