

VISIT TO AMERICA, 1921

In 1920, Maria was visited by the American journalist and editor-in-chief of the women's weekly „The Delineator”, William Brown Meloney.

„The door opened and I saw a pale, timid little woman in a black cotton dress, with the saddest face I had ever looked upon. Her kind, patient, beautiful face had the detached expression of a scholar. Suddenly I felt like an intruder.

My timidity exceeded her own. I had been a trained interrogator for twenty years, but I could not ask a single question of this gentle woman in a black cotton dress. I tried to explain that American women were interested in her great work, and found myself apologizing for intruding upon her precious time. To put me at my ease Mme Curie began to talk about America.

‘America’, she said, ‘has about fifty grams of radium. Four of these are in Baltimore, six in Denver, seven in New York.’ She went on, naming the location of every grain.

‘And in France?’ I asked.

‘My laboratory has hardly more than a gram.’

‘You have only a gram?’

‘I? Oh, I have none. It belongs to my laboratory.’”

At that time, one gram cost 100,000 dollars, i.e. 1 million francs.



Mme. Curie, the discoverer of radium, worn and haggard after her voyage—she was not a “good sailor”—undergoes on the Olympic deck at Quarantine the ordeal of the cameras.

Press conference on the Olympic aboard which Maria and her daughters came to the United States in 1921



The scientists visits the radium factory in Pittsburgh



W. Meloney, Irene, Maria and Eve having arrived in the Unites States, 1921



Maria Skłodowska-Curie with the President of the USA, Warren Harding, 1921



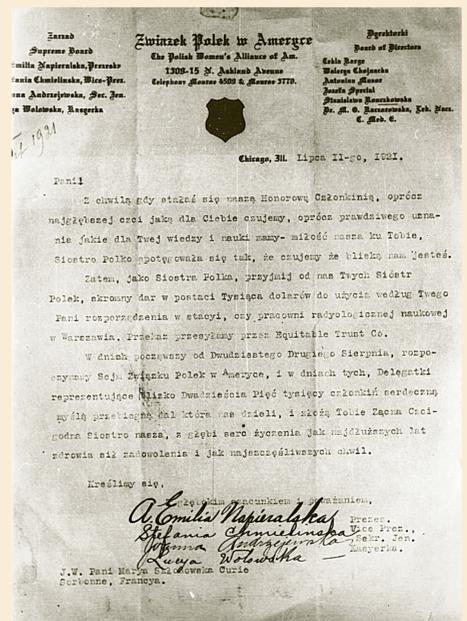
Maria Skłodowska-Curie in the White House, where she was given one gram of radium, 1921



Certificate



Golden key to the container with radium given to the scientist in the United States in, 1921



Letter of the Polish Women Union in America, which donated money for radium