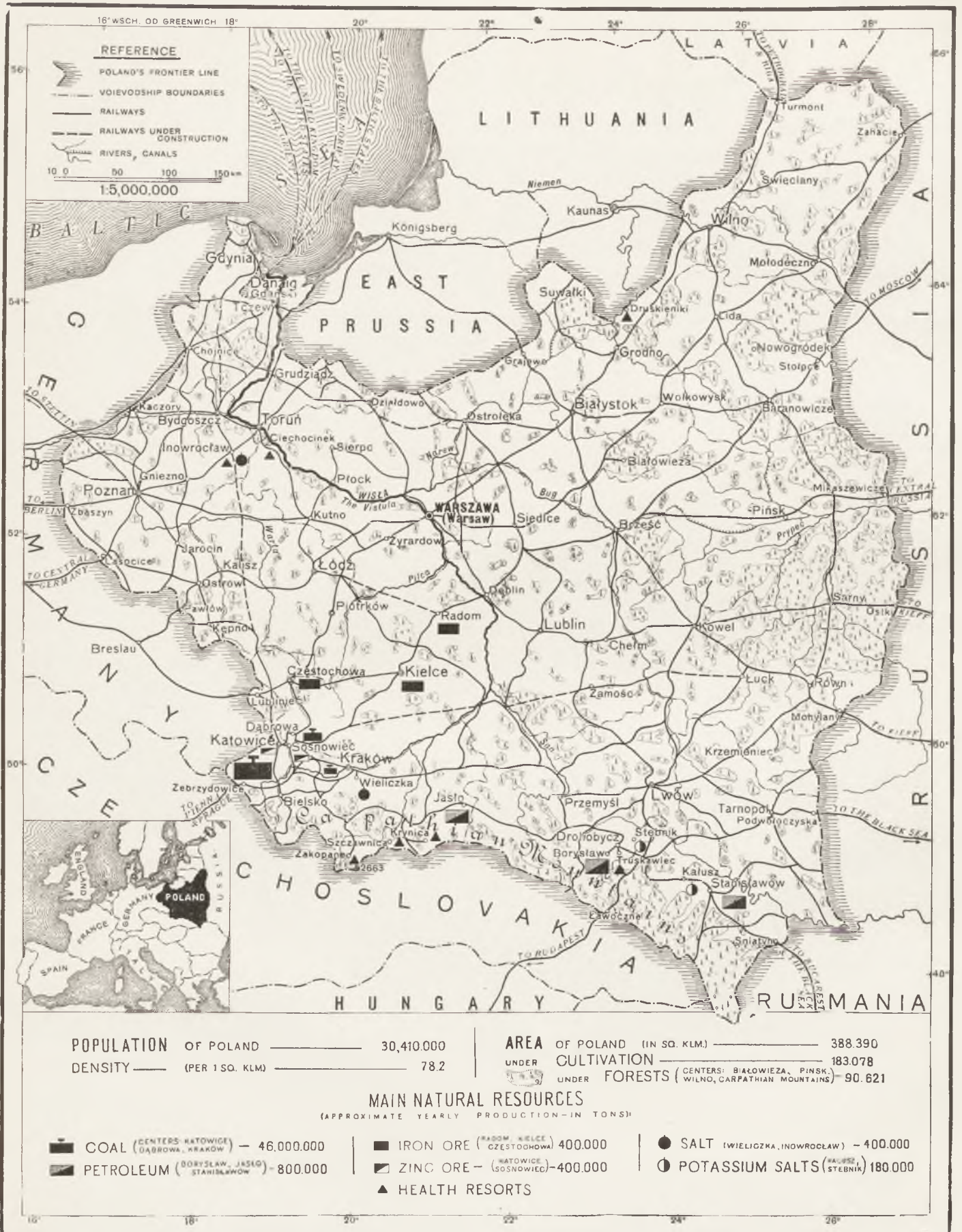


THE POLISH ECONOMIST





THE POLISH ECONOMIST

A MONTHLY REVIEW OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND ECONOMICS IN POLAND
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N O T I C E

The next issue of "The Polish Economist"
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C O N T E N T S

COVER ILLUSTRATION: THRESHING GRAIN IN EASTERN POLAND (PHOT. S. PLATER)	
REVIEW OF THE ECONOMIC SITUATION IN JUNE	207
POLAND AND THE ECONOMIC CRISIS	209
GERMAN EVENTS AND POLISH REACTIONS	210
PRODUCTION AND TRADE:	
STATE OF EMPLOYMENT	213
GRAIN	214
BUTTER	215
EGGS	215
HOGS, BACON AND HAMS	215
TIMBER	216
SAWN SOFTWOOD EXPORTS TO ENGLAND	216
COAL	216
PETROLEUM	217
IRON	217
ZINC & LEAD	219
MOVEMENT OF PRICES	219
VARIOUS	220
FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS	220
FOREIGN TRADE	220
POLISH CORN EXPORT BUREAU	222
HOG EXPORTS TO AUSTRIA	222
CUSTOMS DUTIES	223
TRANSPORTS	223
FINANCE AND BANKING:	
BUDGET	224
TAXES	225
CORN COLLATERAL SECURITY LOAN	225
STOCK EXCHANGE	225
BANK OF POLAND	227
LATEST NEWS	228
ADVERTISEMENTS	I—VI
	and cover

* * *

CONDITIONS IN JUNE were marked by the very obvious connection between the development of the economic cycle in Poland and the shaping of the situation in other countries, primarily as regards political events of an international character. At the same time, it became evident in that month and was confirmed during July, that the events in Germany and Austria had no specially serious effect on the Polish money market. The general public showed great independence of the panicky trends in Germany. Numerous symptoms exist indicating that business conditions in Poland are nearing the phase where a turn for the better can be expected; one of the most significant is the considerable adaption of production to consumption. The general crisis in confidence (also felt in Poland) does not, however, lend itself to further improvement of conditions and appears to be likely to cause a loss of the gains already attained.

The Money Market reported an enhanced demand for ready-cash and a further tightness of money. This was due to the usual demands of agriculture, to the seasonal needs of many branches of industry, and to the extreme caution of the banks, which, in the face of events abroad and a slackening in the flow of deposits, aimed at the maximum fluidity of their funds. Solvency however, remained firm and even improved somewhat.

Agriculture found its situation rather better: its financial state was more satisfactory and the number of protests declined. Corn-prices tended to drop in view of the approaching harvests but remained at a higher level than last year. The breeding industry reported relatively good conditions of work. The state of the crops improved but the harvests will be smaller than in 1930 and this, in conjunction with a suitable policy, should bring relief to the corn market.

Industry was fairly well occupied and production remained at a more or less unchanged figure. Those branches of output producing consumers' commodities reported an increase in turnovers. Unemployment figures dropped considerably in volume during June and the first two weeks of July.

Commerce was marked by a decrease in turnovers during June and the beginning of July. Foreign trade turnovers tended to increase, however, with export growing more than import. The

Transports of coal and raw materials, industrial commodities, etc. all showed a distinct upward trend. Port traffic remained at the same level as in May.

State revenue during June yielded a deficit as against disbursements which exceeded the figure returned in previous months. This was due to a growth in expenditure and not to a further drop in receipts.

The Bank of Poland reported an excess of

REVIEW OF THE GENERAL ECONOMIC SITUATION IN POLAND

JUNE 1931

	UNIT	JUNE 1930	MAY 1931	JUNE 1931 *)
STATE OF EMPLOYMENT:				
UNEMPLOYED		207,250	320,109	276,378
PRODUCTION:				
COAL	} thousand tons	2,577·0	2,677·0	2,784·0
OIL		53·2	53·2	52·5
PIG IRON		36·6	33·7	23·6
AGRICULTURAL INDICES:				
(CROP ESTIMATES)				
RYE	} 5 points system	3·7	2·9	3·1
WHEAT		3·9	3·4	3·6
BARLEY		3·3	3·3	3·2
OATS		2·5	3·3	3·1
PRICES:				
WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX	} (1914 = 100)	98·8	88·4	86·9
INDEX OF COST OF LIVING IN WARSAW		115·8	108·8	107·3
FOREIGN TRADE:				
IMPORTS	} million zł	177·4	137·1	129·4
EXPORTS		169·3	168·5	161·6
EXCESS OF EXPORTS (+) OR IMPORTS (-)		-8·1	+31·4	+32·2
TRANSPORTS:				
RAILWAY TRAFFIC	} wagon loaded (15 tons) reg. ton	412,380	391,375	405,030
PORT TRAFFIC (DANZIG AND GDYNIA)		501,664	600,112	590,046
BUDGET:				
RECEIPTS	} million zł	216·2	199·6	175·8
EXPENDITURE		215·6	211·7	219·5
MONEY CIRCULATION:				
BANK OF POLAND NOTES	million zł	1,317·4	1,222·4	1,230·0
COVER IN GOLD AND FOREIGN CURRENCIES	% %	60·74	57·67	53·22
TOKEN MONEY	million zł	221·7	236·7	238·5
CREDIT:				
(BANK OF POLAND)				
BILLS DISCOUNTED	million zł	581·4	541·2	553·9
OFFICIAL DISCOUNT RATE	% %	6·5	7·5	7·5
FOREIGN CURRENCIES:				
(WARSAW STOCK EXCHANGE AVERAGE RATES)				
U. S. A. DOLLAR	} zł	8·91	8·88	8·91
POUND STERLING		43·34	43·34	43·39

balance of trade therefore showed a further favourable upward movement.

Prices yielded a decrease in almost all divisions, chiefly under the influence of a drop in corn-prices and in those of timber products.

Railway freights, in spite of a seasonal drop in agricultural consignments, increased in volume during June and the first half of July.

foreign exchange purchases over sales during June, this having been due to the receipt of the second instalment of the Match Monopoly Loan from Sweden. The first two decades of July resulted in an adverse balance of foreign exchange trading by the Bank.

*) Provisional figures.

POLAND AND THE ECONOMIC CRISIS

THE ECONOMIC crisis which has so universally affected the economic structure of the whole world and which has evoked such serious international upheavals, in finance especially, has been sharply felt in Poland for some considerable time past. In many respects the country was lacking in resources and experience for effectively combating the evil effects of the crisis. Poland, — post-War Poland, was

path of Poland's progress independently of any efforts which she may make to remove them: we allude to Germany's failure to ratify her commercial treaty with Poland, although the Polish Republic has long ago ratified that document, to the lack of commercial treaties or understandings with Lithuania and with the U.S.S.R. The lack of normally regulated trade relations with three of Poland's directly neighbouring states must be of necessity a great handicap for the country; this



TIMBER-YARDS AT THE PORT OF GDYNIA

Poland is an important exporter of timber, much of which goes to Great Britain. Gdynia will probably never develop a large traffic in round-wood, since Danzig, being at the mouth of the Vistula, is more suited for that trade, but the new port should quickly become an important centre for sawn and semi-manufactured timber products transported to the sea-board by rail. Volhynian oak, Polish aspen and alder-wood are unrivalled for their high quality and are in great demand in the export trade. Oak staves, pit-props, plywood, match splints, boards, packing-cases, bentwood furniture, etc. are exported from Poland in large quantities.

from the point of view of economic unity and organisation a new organism,—one which had not yet concluded the task of building from the foundations upwards and which had fewer and smaller reserves of economic and financial nature than the countries which had not suffered a hundred years of alien government and misrule. It would seem that such a country should feel the effects of the crisis much more keenly than the other countries, rich in wealth and in centuries of experience and tradition. To this day, Poland must not only proceed with the completion of her economic structure and internal organisation, doing all possible to clear out arrears and catch up with other states, but must also cope with and effectively combat the general economic depression.

To these serious difficulties should be added other obstacles and hindrances which block the

is well realised by the Polish Government and the continuance of that state is due to no fault of the Republic of Poland or its representatives.

Another most potent factor which has in the past placed Poland at a serious disadvantage is the fact that the country was but ten years ago a conglomerate of three alien economic and legislative systems and that the process of unification has but recently been more or less satisfactorily concluded. It should be remembered that in the very recent past, Poland had been the scene of unparalleled devastation by three foreign armies, of the most extreme exploitation and confiscation, of the most ruthless destruction and waste at the hands of alien peoples harbouring the most unreasonable and vindictive hate of all that was Polish. Barely had the Great War ended and Poland had emerged unified and independent,

when she was forced to withstand the Bolshevik invasion and the enormous destruction which it brought in its train. Poland successfully defended herself and incidentally the rest of Europe, but the cost was great, not only in human material, but also in economic sacrifices and losses.

The foregoing will give some idea of the exceptional difficulties which aggravate the troubles met by Poland in combating the present economic crisis. It will be asked: How is it then that the fundamental structure of Poland's economic life has endured so well and with such good chances of weathering a crisis which seems likely to submerge more than one apparently stronger and richer state? The answer is simple. The foundations of Poland's economy have been built quickly but surely; the population of the Republic has confidence in the State and in the Government's measures for withstanding and overcoming the current depression.

During this year, the Polish Government has conducted a firm and independent policy directed almost entirely towards full and certain control of the situation of the Treasury. Forced by the exigencies of the budget, this policy has been maintained unchanged by the Government in the interests of the nation and not only of classes or groups of individuals. It has been universally admitted that these firm measures were essential and their results very gratifying.

A cardinal move has been the Government's absolute decision to maintain budgetary equilibrium at all costs; revenue has shrunk but the decrease has been amply compensated for by radically reduced disbursements. The cut in expenditure has been attained by two general measures: the salaries of all categories of civil servants and employees have been lowered and other expenditure, especially of a capital investment type, has been decreased. In addition to these direct methods of attaining economies, work on the re-organisation of the machinery of government has been steadily conducted with a view to attaining enhanced efficiency and lower costs.

Budgetary equilibrium in Poland is today an assured fact and there are grounds for affirming that this position will be fully maintained in the future. The threatening shadow of budgetary inflation has been definitely dispelled and confidence in Poland's financial strength is not only unimpaired but even reinforced. The existence of budgetary equilibrium is closely tied up with the stabilisation of the Polish currency. The Zloty has maintained its quotations at a constant level and has proved that its stabilisation is of a more permanent nature than that of many other currencies. A further valuable symptom is afforded by the quotations of Polish securities on the New York Stock Exchange: these have been kept at an unchanged and even firmer figure during the slump in German scrip during July. Poland's success in maintaining budgetary and currency stabilisation has yielded definite results which are of the greatest utility in combating the crisis. With the currency firm as a rock, confidence is more easily maintained and strengthened whilst the level of savings is kept constant.

One of the most serious symptoms of the crisis and, at the same time, one of its most distressing results is the increase in unemployment. Compared with other countries, the figure of out-of-work labour is small, but the Government has undertaken the combating of this evil with great energy and is working with an eye to the future; it is realised that unemployment must increase during the autumn and winter and a special commission, composed of representatives of the various economic ministries, has been formed with the purpose of drawing up positive plans for reducing unemployment. The commission proposes to concentrate its efforts on maintaining the bread-winners of families at work and will present its recommendations to the Government by the end of August.

In its efforts to weaken the working of the crisis, the Government has known how to secure the co-operation of the general public. The nation is exerting itself to the utmost in order to attain economies and, at the same time, to keep the wheels of production in motion if only at a slackened pace. The task is not an easy one in these times of general slackness, economic stress and unemployment, but the maintenance of industrial production and activity shows that these efforts have not been in vain.

It is well realised in Poland that the successful weathering of the crisis on her part is closely connected with the general situation of international economy and that the restoration of prosperity should be as quick and as complete as possible. Admitting the existence of modern economic interdependence, the fullest measure of international co-operation becomes categorically imperative. Poland is therefore keeping a close watch on any projects brought up which might adversely affect her economic or political situation onesidedly and thus defeat their ostensible aims. In the interests of Poland and in the interests of the whole world the restoration of general confidence is of prime importance as a factor in overcoming the present economic crisis.

GERMAN EVENTS AND POLISH REACTIONS

THE COURSE of events in Germany has been observed by the Polish public with the same disquiet as by the rest of the world in view of the possible repercussions on world economy and therefore also on that of Poland. Poland's action in international economic co-operation has always been marked by its wholehearted loyalty: for that reason, the motives which prompted the formulation of a plan for aiding Germany have found full understanding and ready acceptance in the Polish Republic. This attitude is quite in line with Poland's general economic policies, which are uniformly and consistently directed towards the attainment of European appeasement and stabilisation. Proof of this is furnished by Poland's ratification of her commercial treaty with Germany in spite of the latter country's openly aggressive policies towards the former.

The German breakdown, undesirable as it is from every point of view, has, nevertheless, certain

didactic and symptomatic uses. We have in mind, not an examination of the causes of the German crisis (since this article is not concerned with them), but of Poland's economic progress and present situation. Poland is far from the malicious joy which certain voices in the German press ascribe to her, but Polish public opinion has viewed the testing and strength of the country's economic structure with satisfaction and gratification. The two feelings have nothing in common. Deploring the German breakdown, Poland still has cause for congratulation that such an external danger has been successfully repelled by her as also that the test has shown Poland's economic system to be well and strongly built beyond all expectation, and that it is working fully independently of other politico-economic organisms. Events in Germany have of course affected Polish conditions to some extent—there is probably not a country in Europe which has not been affected—but the striking feature of that influence has been the very weak and even insignificant reaction evoked in the case of the Polish Republic.

It is a matter of common knowledge that a number of Central European countries have been seriously affected by the German crisis and infinitely more so than Poland. This was caused by the existence of very numerous and close economic contacts with Germany, which, by making the economic structures of those states very directly dependent on conditions in Germany, naturally and speedily facilitated the spread of the crisis within their boundaries. The same symptoms appeared in these Central European countries as in Germany: the flight of capital abroad, the hoarding of foreign exchanges, shrinkage of note-circulation, a rising central-bank rate inconsistent with reigning conditions, a slump in stock exchange prices, the banking system in difficulties, the declaration of moratoria and a drop in confidence, etc.

It can be stated, on the other hand, and without the shadow of a doubt, that none of these symptoms appeared in Poland. The Bank of Poland maintained full control of the situation from the very first and was at no time forced to resort to exceptional measures: in fact, in a statement issued to the private banks, the Polish central bank informed that it saw no reason for considering a rise in the discount rate. No evidence has been forthcoming that capital is leaving the country. The quotations of foreign drafts and transfers as also of domestic securities have been shaping normally. The Polish banks have had no trouble in meeting their obligations and a moratorium has never even been suggested. The list of symptoms which were conspicuous by their absence could be extended at great length but it will suffice to state that no perturbations were noted on the Polish money market and, as will be shown later, the results of the German crisis were if anything rather favourable to Polish conditions in many respects.

These gratifying factors, apart from the purely negative observations they furnish, afford striking proof of the important changes which had taken place in the structure of Poland's economy and which had been in the past either insufficiently appraised or difficult of perception. These changes

affected the entirety of Poland's economy but their influence was primarily felt in the shaping of Polish-German economic relations. In order the better to realise and understand these relations, it would be well to summarise their nature.

It must be stated first of all that Germany's attitude towards Poland has been always marked by its consistent and extremely unfriendly aggression. This aggressive standpoint reveals itself in every division of interstate relations and appears with especial force in the domain of economic intercourse: we believe this to be so self-evident that the furnishing of instances would seem to be superfluous. Such an atmosphere in the relations between neighbouring states is, naturally, unpleasant and dangerous; the closer and the more universal these relations are, the more dangerous they are in such conditions and, in the event of one of the countries being economically dependent upon the other, special caution and watchfulness must be exercised. During the first few post-War years, Poland was undoubtedly to a great extent economically dependent upon Germany; this dependence was not so great as the Germans had believed it to be, but it existed and, in the light of the above, had to be considered as highly undesirable.

We emphasise that Poland's economic dependence on Germany in former years—to-day it no longer exists—should not be too highly appraised, but it would be well to examine the conditions which reigned ten or twelve years ago. Then, Poland had just regained her independence, was faced by enormous war-destruction and loss of capital, and neighboured with Germany along a long and busy frontier,—with a Germany which had suffered no material destruction, which was developing a very active economic policy and which enjoyed the benefits of an enormous influx of foreign capital. These differences had of necessity to evoke a certain onesidedness in the relations between the two republics. Poland had been wiped off the map for so many years that as an economic entity she had very little direct commercial contact with the rest of the world, having been tied by numerous bonds to pre-War Russia, Austria and Germany. Russia and Austria disappeared as such from the economic structure of the world and the pre-War traditions of trade with Germany appeared with redoubled force. Those parts of Poland which had been occupied by the Germans before the War had been economically knit up with the Reich and during the first few post-War years, this dependence continued to exist in a great measure.

Up to 1925, Germany's share in Polish foreign trade was very large and varied from 43·6 -- 31·0 per cent. in import and from 50·6 — 41·3 per cent. in export. In addition, a considerable part of Poland's trade with other countries was also effected through German middlemen. Taking advantage of this situation, Germany declared a Customs war on Poland in 1925, stating quite frankly that it was intended to crush Polish economy. As will be shown later, the Germans over-estimated their strength and the weakness of the young republic. The outbreak of the Customs war led to a shrinkage in commercial turnovers and to the withdrawal of

German short-term credits, to the collapse of the Zloty, and finally to a fairly severe economic depression. These facts showed that in 1925 Poland was still dependent on Germany. The further course of events showed that Germany's action in that year marked the commencement of a weakening in that dependence and its ultimate undermining.

Poland emerged successfully from the depression of 1925, more than replaced the lost German market by gains in other countries and stabilised political and economic conditions in the land to such an extent that a period of prosperity soon ensued, leading in turn to the reconstruction and

Germany's share in Polish foreign trade accounted for about 25 per cent. of the total turnovers; about 25 per cent. of the foreign capital in Polish joint-stock companies is German (about $\text{z}305$ million), and so on. In the light of these figures it might appear that Polish-German interdependence is still considerable and could be dangerous at the present juncture. It had long been suspected by Polish economists that this apparently considerable interdependence was not so great as had been supposed even in the domain of stock exchange transactions where geographical proximity had been thought to be of prime significance.

The German breakdown, however, has removed



RYE-STACKS AWAITING THE THRESHING MACHINE

Poland was called the granary of Europe in the XVII century. She is still an important producer of corn and exports much grain to other countries. About one-sixth of the world rye crop is raised in Poland, i.e. 6,200,000 metric tons of which 383,000 metric tons were exported last year. In point of foodstuffs, Poland is more than self-sufficient and exports important quantities of plant and animal produce to many countries: this trade should develop since improved methods of production, standardisation and marketing are consistently being applied and extended.

consolidation of the Republic and to the attainment of direct contacts with the rest of the world. In a word, Poland gained her actual economic independence during the years following 1925: relations with Germany dropped off enormously and those with other countries increased quantitatively and qualitatively.

Strange to say, Germany's Customs war against Poland is still being conducted, if anything, with increased vigour and determination. This state of affairs, as has been shown, can be considered as a blessing in disguise in many respects as far as Poland is concerned, if only for the reason that it has facilitated Poland's economic independence. Germany's share in Polish trade and production is, however, still quite large: in 1929, German goods-credits to Poland came to $\text{z}247$ million;

these questions from the narrow limits of theoretical speculation and has proved under practical conditions and beyond all doubt that Germany's economic influence on Poland is a thing of the past. The test has not been an easy one but the absolute calm in Poland furnishes indisputable proof that Polish economy is living its own life, free at last of its traditional dependence upon the Reich.

It might be supposed that this radical change in the effect of Polish-German economic relations was due to some special measures or policies undertaken by Poland in order to safeguard her economic system from contamination by the German crisis. It can be stated, however, that no special measures were taken. The only cause of this state of affairs in Poland is to be found in the healthy state of Polish economy. It is true that when in

June, the first signs of a flight of capital from Germany became apparent, an enhanced demand for dollar bank-notes was noted in Poland evoked by German buying and by domestic hoarding. This movement was courageously and radically checked by the Bank of Poland which maintained the prices of foreign drafts and transfers at an unchanged figure and promptly met all demands, but permitted a higher price for dollar notes. The result was that speculation was quickly stifled by its losses and renewed confidence in the Zloty arose as a net result.

This favourable outcome was further enhanced by events in Polish Upper Silesia and in Danzig where several of the German banks had their branches, or, as in the Free City, were in close connection with the German banking system. The moratorium proclaimed by the German Government has yielded the exceedingly striking picture of crowds of anxious creditors storming the doors of German banks in Silesia and in Danzig, whilst only next door on the same street Polish banks are functioning quietly and normally without any restrictions whatsoever.

To many close observers it has appeared that whilst the outbreak of the German Customs war in 1925 against Poland marked the first stage in the building up of Polish economic independence, the present events in Germany may well be a landmark dating the conclusion of a certain constructive period in Poland's history. For these times of stress have shown that even such a powerful, albeit external adverse influence as the German *débacle* has passed virtually without affecting the economic life of Poland, although, as already stated, Germany is still Poland's most important foreign market.

At the present juncture of world economy, at a time when the psychological factor is playing

such an important role, Poland's manifestation of economic strength and stability cannot but have a far-reaching effect upon her internal economic situation. As regards the foreign observer, it affords evidence of the progress Poland has made during the last five or six years: it furnishes proof that Poland has reached the stage where she must be regarded as a market ripe for direct trade relations, — with which it is possible to deal without foreign middlemen and unnecessary *del credere*.

Although the order of the Reichsbank excluding Polish Zloty holdings from compulsory registration and restrictions in sale was issued for totally different reasons, it had the effect of making the Zloty a privileged currency in Germany and is eagerly sought for by those who wish to keep their money in a safe and stabilised currency and not in German marks. Another most noteworthy fact is afforded by the change in policy on the part of German firms importing into Poland: where these had formerly invoiced their goods in German marks they are now demanding Polish Zlotys. The same holds good with regard to transactions in which the German merchants act as middlemen in respect of third countries. The number of German depositors in Polish banks has increased greatly and thereby affords evidence of the confidence shown as regards Poland and her currency.

An influential organ of the U. S. press has stated: "Poland is an important element for order and normalisation in Europe"; this observation is a most characteristic and apt one at the present moment. It confirms the old adage, that in economy, quality dominates quantity, and that a large, wealthy and universally developed unit can often turn out to be less efficient than others which are only apparently weaker.

PRODUCTION AND TRADE

STATE OF EMPLOYMENT. — Conditions continued to improve on the Polish labour market during June. The number of registered unemployed persons according to the State Labour Exchanges fell from 320,109 on June 1st. to 276,378 on July 1st. The number of short-time workers, however, decreased to a much lesser extent. There can be no doubt that the increase in employment was chiefly due to factors of a seasonal nature such as the construction of roads and enhanced building activity generally, although it must be added that in certain industries, conditions showed improvement independently of any seasonal changes. Unemployment amongst the ranks of office and mental workers continued to make progress and no change for the better took place.

The following table quotes absolute figures of total and partial unemployment as on the first day of every month in 1930 and 1931:

	Totally unemployed		Short-time workers	
	1930	1931	1930	1931
January	186,427	303,148	36,663	103,707
February	249,462	345,295	88,722	94,434
March	282,568	365,648	117,973	94,148
April	295,612	379,021	109,519	118,753
May	273,351	355,102	142,647	109,442
June	228,321	320,109	127,511	153,991
July	207,258	276,378	94,065	151,077
August	194,279		78,117	
September	176,810		89,811	
October	167,454		63,183	
November	167,349		119,498	
December	211,918		97,127	

Amongst those who were partially employed as on July 1st., 2,888 were occupied one day a week, 9,778 two days, 37,900 three days, 33,280 four days and 67,232 were employed on five

days in the week. The average number of days worked by persons in this category during June was four days, i.e. the same as in May.

The following table affords absolute data of totally unemployed persons by trade-groups as on June 1st. and July 1st. this year:

	June	July	+ Increase — decrease
	1931	1931	
mining	13,880	13,610	— 270
foundry	2,522	2,571	+ 49
metal	26,318	22,766	— 3,552
textile	24,037	23,094	— 943
building	30,195	21,130	— 9,065
clerical	27,344	28,281	+ 937
miscellaneous	195,813	164,926	—30,887
Total:	320,109	276,378	—43,731

Increased extraction of coal was reported during June in connexion with the enhanced demand from home and foreign markets. Petroleum output

also tended to increase. As a result of this livelier trend, the number of persons employed in mining tended to increase as a whole and the unemployed miners constituted only 9 per cent. of those at work.

Unemployment in the iron founding industry tended to drop during June this year in view of a growth in production in the rolling mills and iron foundries. The situation in the zinc and lead foundries remained unchanged. Unemployed foundry workers came to 5 per cent. of those on the pay-rolls.

Labour conditions in the metal and machine industries showed little change as against May returns. Employment in the agricultural machine and tool division improved in the larger plants in view of the expected livelier trade in the autumn, although orders were still relatively very scarce. Plants engaged in the production of bridge-building material, electrical equipment, steam boilers, textile machinery, weighing scales and precision products reported no change. Metal-working machine-tool plants were well occupied in connection with the execution of orders for the U.S.S.R. The locomotive plants reported a slight drop in employment due to smaller orders from the State railways. The wire and nail factories were fairly busy. An improvement was reported by the Radom casting foundries and certain of the inactive factories resumed production. The number of unemployed metal workers came to 30 per cent. of those at work.

In the textile industries, considerable fluctuations were noted in the state of employment and in production as against the previous month. On the whole, however, conditions improved, and the Łódź factories commenced work on winter goods fairly normally. The number of operatives employed by the larger mills decreased by about 2 per cent. and more short-time was introduced. Production of cotton goods remained at the May level without change. The woollen industry of Łódź was busily engaged in working for the winter season but, in spite of a slight drop in unemployment, production was maintained without growth due to the granting of vacations to numerous hands. The production of winter woollen goods in the Bielsk region was already in full swing during June and great efforts were made to catch up the arrears caused by the lock-out in May. Labour conditions in the Białystok textile industries remained unchanged; production continued to be mainly for export. The knitted-goods trade finished

its production for the summer season and reported sales to be very slack. No reductions in the personnel employed were reported by the hosiery trade during June. Unemployment in the textile trades rose slightly during June, out-of-work operatives having been 20 per cent. of those employed.

The largest drop in unemployment was reported by the building trade. The number of unemployed unskilled workers decreased considerably during June, this being a seasonal feature every year.

Wages and salaries continued to exhibit a downward trend throughout June and July. As on July 18th., there were 268,578 totally and 111,179 partially unemployed workers reported by the State Labour Exchanges.

GRAIN

— According to the calculations of the Chief Bureau of Statistics, the state of corn sowings in Poland as on July 1st.

showed a marked improvement in winter wheat and rye as against the reports for June 1st. and a slight deterioration as regards barley and oats sowings. The following table affords data covering June and July this year as against July last year (five-point system used):

	June 1930	May 1931	June 1931
wheat (winter sowings)	3·9	3·3	3·6
rye	3·7	2·9	3·1
barley (spring sowings)	2·8	3·3	3·2
oats	5·5	3·3	3·1

As the harvest-time came closer, the prices of corn on the Polish Corn Exchanges showed an unbroken downward trend during the whole of June. In spite of this natural movement, the prices of rye, barley and oats continued to remain well above last year's levels for the corresponding month.

The following table gives average weekly prices for the Polish corn exchanges during the period June 16 — July 15 compared with the quotations reported from Chicago and Berlin (in \mathcal{Z} and U. S. dollars per 100 kg.):

AVERAGE HOME AND FOREIGN CORN QUOTATIONS (Per 100 Kg)

1931	H O M E E X C H A N G E S					Berlin	Chicago
	Warsaw	Poznań	Lwów	Average			
	\mathcal{Z}	\mathcal{Z}	\mathcal{Z}	\mathcal{Z}	\$	\$	\$
W H E A T							
June 16-22 . . .	32·43	29·25	27·68	29·79	3·34	6·48	3·01
23-30 . . .	30·87	27·41	26·00	28·09	3·15	6·52	—
July 1-8 . . .	30·50	27·17	26·75	28·14	3·16	6·07	—
9-15 . . .	30·50	25·08	25·00	26·86	3·01	5·96	2·00
R Y E							
June 16-22 . . .	29·22	26·66	25·35	27·07	3·04	4·92	—
23-30 . . .	28·03	25·72	25·12	26·29	2·95	5·06	—
July 1-8 . . .	28·33	26·00	26·42	26·92	3·02	4·91	1·46
9-15 . . .	27·03	24·33	23·12	24·83	2·79	4·47	1·38
B A R L E Y (brewing)							
June 16-22 . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	2·10
23-30 . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	2·11
July 1-8 . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	2·09
9-15 . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	2·09
B A R L E Y (ordinary)							
June 16-22 . . .	28·25	27·50	25·50	27·08	3·04	4·75	—
23-30 . . .	28·25	27·16	—	—	—	4·57	—
July 1-8 . . .	28·25	27·00	26·00	22·08	3·04	4·35	—
9-15 . . .	24·25	19·50	24·50	22·75	2·55	3·71	—
O A T S							
June 16-22 . . .	30·25	30·00	31·25	30·50	3·42	4·15	1·86
23-30 . . .	28·87	28·66	30·50	29·34	3·29	4·07	1·98
July 9-8 . . .	28·50	28·50	31·25	29·42	3·30	3·72	2·07
1-15 . . .	30·00	28·00	30·25	29·41	3·30	3·88	1·96

The quotations for Polish wheat slumped rather heavily due to the greatly reduced consumption of white-bread. The divergency between wheat and rye prices dropped to a minimum owing to this movement in wheat prices and to the almost complete exhaustion

of rye stocks. With the approach of the harvests, rye-prices fell considerably and transactions in new rye were put through for \mathcal{Z} 19·59 per metric quintal.

Barley prices ruled high owing to a shortage of the fodder types of this

cereal. During the second week of July, new barley appeared on the market and this evoked an important drop in quotations as a natural result. Oats were quoted very firmly during the period under review.

Total imports of cereals in June this year came to only 119 tons of American wheat. Exports totalled 12,344 metric tons (valued at £3,538,000) during July this year as against 35,794 m. tons a year ago. The following table affords data in respect of this trade (in tons):

	June 1930	May 1931	June 1931
<i>E x p o r t s</i>			
wheat	1,875	4,429	5,424
rye	18,026	6,204	6,056
barley	6,642	765	666
oats	9,251	289	198

Poland's chief customer for wheat was Germany (67.7 per cent. of the total export), Holland following with 32.1 per cent. Over 66 per cent of Poland's rye exports went to Czechoslovakia, 26.2 per cent. to Germany and smaller batches to Denmark. Most of the barley exported went to Belgium (80.8 per cent.), whilst all the outgoing oats shipments were destined for the German market.

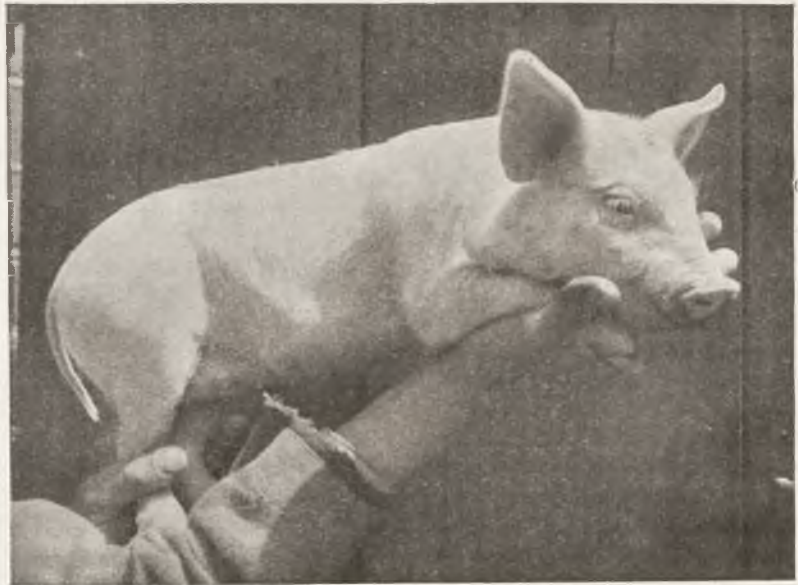
BUTTER

— During the second half of June the production of butter rose considerably with the result that supplies showed an increase. The demand was on a small scale and the amount of butter available for export was rather large. On the other hand, the first half of July was characterised by small supplies as is usual at the beginning of harvest-time. The demand was good and the prices showed an upward tendency. Towards the middle of the month uncertainty was felt as regards the German market owing to the financial situation in that country and several consignments previously destined to Germany were directed to other markets. In connection with the holding up of payments by the German banks there were difficulties in concluding transactions.

Prices ruling on the chief Polish butter markets during the period under review were as follows (in £ per 1 kg. of first quality butter):

	June 15th—30th	July 1st—15th
Warsaw	3.60—3.40	3.80
Łódź	3.90—3.50	3.90
Poznań	4.10—4.40	4.40
Grudziądz	4.40—4.00	—
Katowice	4.40—4.00	4.10

During June the chief consuming markets for Polish butter were: Great



A NEW-FARROWED PIG OF PEDIGREE STOCK

There were over 6,000,000 pigs in Poland towards the end of 1930, excluding head below the age of six-months. They form the basis of an important industry which specialises in the production of bacon and hams for domestic and foreign consumption; about 116,000 cwt. of bacon and hams are sent to England alone every month from Poland, and smaller shipments are consigned to other countries in Western Europe in a regular and steady traffic.

Britain, which took 124 m. tons, Germany (821 tons), Switzerland (553 tons) Belgium (65 tons), etc. for the total amount of 1,664 tons, valued at £7,431,000.

936 tons, France 266 tons, Switzerland — 223 tons, and smaller quantities went to Italy, Hungary, Latvia, etc.

E G G S

— During the second half of June the egg market was rather active. The weak tone which prevailed at the beginning of the month improved considerably, due principally to the better demand. During the first half of June, prices remained at their previous level due to the good demand on the part of foreign markets, especially of the Austrian market where importers accumulated big stocks in anticipation of the introduction of new customs duties. The demand for Polish eggs on the part of the English market continued to be good.

Prices of eggs on the chief Polish markets were as follows (in £ per case of 1,440 eggs):

	June 15th—30th	July 1st—15th
Bochnia	130	120
Katowice	112—115	—
Łódź	120—140	—
Lublin	110—115	—

During June, exports of Polish eggs came to 5,059 m. tons valued at £8,908,000 and were distributed as follows: Great Britain — 1,650 tons, Austria — 1,113 tons, Czechoslovakia — 663 tons, Germany

HOGS, BACON AND HAMS

— The price of live-weight pork rose somewhat towards the end of June and this naturally caused a deterioration in export conditions. This rise in price was caused by a shrinkage in supply as a natural reaction following the great volume of offerings when fodder and corn were still relatively cheap. As a result of these movements, the volume of export in this trade was reduced during June.

For example, the price of *gr* 72 — £1.04 had been paid in Poznań per kg. live-weight at the end of May, by the middle of June the price had risen to *gr* 84 — £1.18 and June closed with prices varying between £1.00 and £1.38 per kg. live-weight.

The export of hogs in June included 37,738 head of live and 8,774 head of slaughtered pigs, whilst exports to Czechoslovakia included 278 head of live and 1,829 head of slaughtered hogs. In addition 1,400 pedigree pigs were sent to the U.S.S.R. for breeding purposes. Prices in Austria rose during June from Schillings 0.90 — 1.15 per kg. live-weight to Schillings 1.25 — 1.60 per kg. at the end of that month. Czechoslovakian

prices for Polish imported hogs rose from Kc. 5'50 — 8'50 at the beginning of the month to Kc. 7'00 — 7'80. Slaughtered hogs were bought at Kc. 8'00 — 10'00 per kg.

Bacon exports were rather low during June owing to the rise in price of pork and the drop in prices paid in England. The number of killings in the bacon plants during June came to 81,969 head, thus occupying third place in Europe after Denmark and Holland. Although the number of killings in Poland was lower than in Holland, nevertheless the former country exported a greater volume of bacon to Great Britain during the month in question, the total number of bales sent to England from Poland in June having been 50,818. Polish bacon appears to be holding its own very well on the English market and has for some months past been the most important supplier in that produce after Denmark. The London prices for Polish bacon rose from 38s.0d — 44s.0d. on June 5th. to 38s.0d. — 45s.0d. on June 26th. and to 42s.0d. — 47s.0d. on July 3rd. It is worthy of note that the Polish product yielded better prices than Latvian, Lithuanian and Russian bacons, and that the sales of Polish bacon were much easier to effect than those of the higher priced brands.

Polish bacon exports to Great Britain showed a preponderance of light material, 13'8 per cent. of the export having been sixes, 66'4 per cent. sizeable, 14'3 per cent. heavy, 0'9 per cent. extra heavy, and 4'6 per cent. seconds.

The export of hams to England was not very profitable at the current prices. Over 2,100 metric tons were forwarded, the average price received having been 50s.0d. per cwt. Since July 1st. the Polish Bacon Producers' Union has introduced the standardisation of hams for most of the products in that division. Detailed and exhaustive studies as to production methods are, however, still necessary and these are being carried through; when the research stage is passed, standardisation will be fully and strictly applied, — it is to be hoped with satisfactory results.

TIMBER

— In line with the usual trend at this period of the year, prices in June continued to decline. The situation which resulted could therefore be called normal, were it not for the fact that for the past two years. this seasonal drop has not been compensated for by an appropriate rise under normal conditions during the autumn. Since

1928, therefore, the curve of timber prices has been dipping steadily, only slightly rising during the opening periods of every felling season.

June prices were marked by the drop specially apparent in the sawn pine-wood division. The downward movement was represented by a drop from $\text{z}30$ to $\text{z}29$ per cub. m. ex wagon at loading station in the Warsaw Forest Directorate, from $\text{z}27$ to $\text{z}24'50$ in the Bydgoszcz area, and from $\text{z}28$ to $\text{z}27$ in the Torun Forest Directorate zone. Prices remained stable in the Siedlce area ($\text{z}22'00$) in Białowieża ($\text{z}22'50$) and in the Poznań district ($\text{z}28'50$).

The prices of pit-props showed no change during June and remained at the level of $\text{z}21'00$ in the Warsaw Directorate, $\text{z}15$ in the Siedlce and $\text{z}19'00$ in the Bydgoszcz and Torun areas.

In the pulpwood division, the shortage of transactions makes it difficult to appraise the actual level of prices. Export accounted for barely 20 — 25 per cent. of last year's turnovers, whilst domestic sales were far from satisfactory owing to the uncertain situation and to the stagnation in the paper industry.

Sawn spruce material, on the other hand, continued to be quoted at $\text{z}18'00$ in the Siedlce zone, whilst the prices of oak also remained firm.

Sales, both domestic and foreign, were still at a low ebb in spite of the fact that the reduction in felling appeared to make chances for an inconsiderable unsold stock of timber to be fairly good. Measures taken by the Government to encourage the construction of wooden dwelling houses in the suburbs of Warsaw, Łódz and in the mining districts afford ground for belief that the unsold stocks of sawn materials in the State-owned forests should now be quickly liquidated.

On the whole the proprietors of forests worked very hard to get rid of the stocks and even some of the State Forest Directorates felt compelled to reduce their prices to a minimum.

SAWN SOFTWOOD EXPORTS TO ENGLAND. — British imports of sawn softwood during the first five months of the current year fell by 36 per cent. to 605 loads. Poland's exports of this material to England rose from 60 loads in 1930 to 99 loads during the period mentioned above, thus rising in volume by over 40 per cent. As a result, Poland occupies together with the U.S.A. the leading place as an exporter of this type of timber to England and has outstripped the competition of the U. S. S. R., Latvia, Sweden and Finland: all of these countries had in 1930 exceeded the volume of Polish trade with England in this branch of the timber trade.

COAL

— Conditions in the Polish coal-mining industry remained on more or less the same level in June as in May. The demand for household fuel naturally continued to decline but the iron and sugar industries increased their consumption fairly greatly and the manufacturing industries to a lesser extent. Home sales fell off but were more than compensated for by enhanced export which grew by 2'34 per cent. As a result of these fairly satisfactory conditions, the extraction of coal increased somewhat.

The following table affords data in respect of extraction, sales and pit-head stocks in June (in thous. of metric tons):

Coal mining districts	Output	Home consumption	Exports	Stocks at pit-heads
Upper Silesia	2,163	874	1,034	1,421
Dąbrowa	470	260	147	597
Kraków	151	133	1	67
Total:	2,784	1,267	1,182	2,085
May	2,677	1,273	1,155	2,019
May in relation to June	+ 107	— 6	+ 27	+ 66

As can be seen from the foregoing, total sales increased by 107,000 tons and came to 2,449,000 m. tons, of which domestic sales accounted for 1,267,00 m. tons.

The total extraction of coal in Poland during the first half-year of 1931 came to 17,605,000 m. tons, i.e. 92,000 m. tons more than in the corresponding period of last year. A comparison of the total sales over the two periods in question shows an increase of 703,000 m. tons in favour of the current year, chiefly caused by enhanced exports.

Employment in the coal-mining industry remained virtually without change at the figure of 105,559 persons as on July 1st., on which day too there were 13,610 persons registered as unemployed in the mining industry. The average output per man-shift came to 1,330 kg. for the whole of Poland and to 1,458 kg. in Polish Upper Silesia during June. Miners' wages remained unchanged at the May level.

Domestic and export coal-prices remained unchanged during June as against the May quotations. Rail transport tariffs likewise stayed at the May level. Marine freights to Sweden, Norway and the French Channel ports from Gdynia or Danzig tended to rise, but rates to Italian ports remained constant.

Data in respect of coal exports from Poland are afforded by the following table (in thous. of metric tons):

Countries	1928			1929			1930			1931	Increase (+) or decrease (-) in relation to May
	June	May	June	June	May	June	May	June			
1. Convention markets:	432	369	259	231	250	+ 29					
a) Central European markets:											
Austria	377	323	224	198	226	+ 28					
Hungary	239	184	134	117	115	- 2					
Czechoslovakia	54	70	39	18	33	+ 15					
b) Other markets:											
Danzig	55	46	35	23	24	+ 1					
Yugoslavia	25	25	22	16	15	- 1					
	30	21	13	7	9	+ 2					
2. Non-Convention markets:	677	781	605	646	853	+ 7					
a) Northern European markets:											
Sweden	547	666	485	618	582	- 36					
Norway	262	285	259	272	260	- 12					
Denmark	49	66	27	83	37	- 46					
Finland	106	185	98	140	133	- 7					
Latvia	55	56	54	62	36	- 24					
Lithuania	43	47	31	33	38	+ 5					
Estonia	7	12	10	3	3	-					
Memel	—	2	—	4	4	-					
Russia	3	6	3	8	4	- 4					
Iceland	4	3	—	10	15	+ 5					
	—	2	3	3	2	- 1					
b) Other Europ markets:											
France	123	115	114	222	265	+ 43					
Italy	29	63	51	108	129	+ 21					
Rumania	60	23	35	64	90	+ 26					
Switzerland	15	11	8	4	3	- 1					
Holland	12	11	11	11	9	- 2					
Belgium	4	5	5	13	14	+ 1					
Spain	5	2	3	20	20	-					
	—	—	—	2	—	- 2					
c) Non-European markets:											
Algeria	7	—	6	6	6	-					
Brazil	—	—	—	6	3	- 3					
Turkey	7	—	6	—	5	+ 5					
	—	—	—	—	—	-					
3. Bunker coal:	47	83	86	88	79	- 9					
Total:	1,156	1,255	950	1,155	1,182	+ 27					

Coke production in June was lower than in May by 7,400 m. tons and came to 102,098 m. tons. Sales were well maintained at the figure of 83,077 m. tons. The briquetting industry produced 17,619 m. tons of its product in June this being almost the same figure as in May; sales dropped to 16,546 m. tons, this representing a decrease of 2,948 m. tons. The output of lignite during June came to only 2,423 m. tons.

It is expected that sales will have increased during July due to the exhaustion of industrial and household fuel stocks and the need for replenishing the stocks on hand before the arrival of autumn and winter. Foreign sales should increase during the pre-autumn period the more so as important contracts have been concluded with the Swedish and Finnish railway lines. It is not known at the time of writing just what influence the German crash will have on the Convention markets in view of the possibility of the Reich dumping large consignments of coal on those markets in order to secure badly needed foreign

exchanges. It is not out of the question that German coal will appear on other markets at dumping prices for the same cause. All these factors should lead to an increased volume of sales but to somewhat worse prices and sales-terms.

PETROLEUM

— Production in the petroleum industry was well maintained during June this year, the total output of crude oil having been 52,507 metric tons as against 53,165 and 53,138 m. tons in May this year and in June last year respectively. The output of Borysław Standard Crude during the month under review came to 32,964 m. tons as against 35,306 m. tons a year ago.

Wages in the petroleum industry were raised by 1,59 per cent. in accordance with the collective agreement of March 5th., 1931. No disputes of any importance were reported from the oil-fields, whilst the number of men at work came to 9,494 as on June 30th. as against 9,527 men employed on May 31st.

Boring operations were marked by their slackness during June. No new drilling was commenced during the month in the Borysław area and no new oil-fields were registered. Three new wells were commenced at Schodnica, and three temporarily abandoned borings were resumed at Borysław, whilst six new derricks were erected in the Rypno and Brelikowo region.

The price of Borysław Standard Crude as fixed by the Polmin Co. came to zł 1,611 per 10-ton cistern as against zł 1,825 in May this year. Prices of crude oil tended to drop in view of the little interest shown by the refineries and this factor affected those oil companies not possessing their own refineries rather adversely. Retail prices remained without change on the home market, and export transactions continued to be put through on most unfavourable terms and at cut-prices.

The natural gas industry's situation is shown by the data contained in the following table:

	May	June
output of gas (in thous. of cub. m.)	41,100	39,800
throughput of gas (in thous. of cub. m.)	24,066	22,803
output of gasoline (in tons)	3,266	3,200
home consumption	3,063	3,255
number of workmen employed	279	283

The number of gasoline (petrol) plants remained constant at 22, but the price of natural gas for fuel purposes was decreased from zł 5.08 in May to zł 4.89 in June by the Lwów Chamber of Commerce. Gasoline prices per 10-ton

cistern were quoted at \$550 with buyers showing little interest.

The output of earth-wax (ozokerite) in June came to 18.7 tons, pit-head stocks were returned at 35.6 tons whilst export was for 39.2 m. tons, all of which went to Germany. Prices remained firm at the former critically low level reported for May.

The output of the chief products of the Polish refineries is shown in the following table (in metric tons):

	Gasoline	Kerosene	Gas oil	Lubricating oil	Paraffine wax	Total
output	8,821	14,775	8,734	5,650	2,297	48,142
home consumption	8,054	5,124	4,189	3,117	421	24,527
exports	5,504	1,942	3,919	3,762	1,245	17,939
stocks on June 30th	38,405	35,784	21,927	39,667	6,037	244,718

The petroleum refining industry was fairly well engaged and its production was on a par with the average monthly figure for last year. The following table affords data covering production, throughput, home and domestic sales, stocks (in metric tons):

	May	June
throughput of crude oil	42,628	52,070
output of petroleum products	37,967	48,142
home consumption	24,017	24,527
exports	16,231	17,939
stocks of petroleum products at the end of month	237,095	244,718
number of workmen employed	3,706	3,680

Domestic sales declined somewhat in June as against May (by over 1,200 m. tons) but export consignments grew in volume from 16,015 m. tons in May to 17,939 m. tons in June. Petroleum products were sent to the following countries during June (in metric tons):

Country	Gasoline	Kerosene	Gas oil	Lubric. oil	Other prod.	Total
Austria	714	11	401	75	228	1,429
Czechoslovakia	2,485	914	21	677	175	4,271
France	154	—	198	15	41	408
Germany	—	—	36	15	616	667
Switzerland	88	—	883	15	76	1,062
Other countries	1,041	124	139	766	764	2,774
Danzig	1,023	893	2,241	2,199	972	7,328
Total:	5,504	1,942	3,919	3,762	2,812	17,939

IRON

— Conditions during June were the best noted so far this year in the iron and steel trades of Poland. Although the volume of orders received in June was below the May level, output and sales (both home and foreign) increased quite considerably. About 90 per cent. of the exports went to the U. S. S. R. The only product to show decreased output figures was pig-iron, this having



UTILITY AND ART IN A NEW RESIDENTIAL SECTION OF WARSAW

The housing problem in Poland is just as acute if not more so as in other European countries. Much help is afforded to private builders by the State, but the arrears of building are too great to permit of a satisfactory programme with Poland's present financial resources. The severe simplicity of modern architecture is therefore in Poland not only an aesthetic trend but also an exigency of the material resources available. Excluding rural and small-town building, 20,849 houses were erected in Poland during the period 1925 — 30.

been due to the existence of large stocks on hand, equivalent to six weeks production: as a result of the lower output, these stocks decreased in size. The following table affords data for the period March-June this year in percentages of the average monthly output in 1913:

	March	April	May	June
	1	9	3	1
blast furnaces	43.0	39.3	39.2	27.6
steel works	71.6	62.6	76.4	74.7
rolling mills	64.2	60.4	69.1	74.8

The amelioration of conditions in June, however, was relatively weaker than in past years: this was due to the continued adverse conditions in agriculture and to the difficulty in the wholesalers selling for cash since the extreme caution necessary when granting credit has done much to depress sales during these times of economic crisis.

As usual, the difficult position of the foundries had its repercussion on the mines extracting iron-ore. During June, however, all the mines kept working and even increased their output, but there are signs that the near future will bring a serious deterioration in conditions. The following table gives foreign trade and extraction figures for May and June this year and for June last year (in metric tons):

		Extraction	Imports	Exports
May	1931 ¹⁾	25,800	37,303	4,157
June	1931 ²⁾	28,063	17,792	4,000
	1930	35,804	22,922	4,482

A noteworthy feature is the great drop in imported ore, amounting to over 52 per cent. Extraction in June this year was 21.8 per cent. lower than a year ago. The export figures play hardly any rôle in the iron-ore mining

¹⁾ Corrected figures.

²⁾ Provisional figures.

industry of Poland, since they affect only one of the mines and that to an inconsiderable extent. The number of men at work in the mines remained more or less at the May figure but was a third less than a year ago.

Absolute figures of iron and steel foundry production as also of the rolling mills are quoted in the following table (in metric tons):

		Pig Iron	Steel Ingots	Rolled products	Pipes
May	1931 ¹⁾	33,637	105,725	72,149	5,956
June	1931 ²⁾	23,635	103,414	78,044	6,715
	1930	36,618	90,917	69,809	6,303

The drop in pig-iron production has already been mentioned. Domestic sales increased to about 16,000 m. tons and this caused a drop of 22 per cent. in the stocks on hand. During June seven furnaces were in blast as against eleven in June last year.

The production of steel dropped relatively little and remained well above the figures for June last year. Sales in this division of production were also well maintained and stocks on hand remained firm at their May level.

Rolling mill production surpassed the May figures by 5,895 m. tons, and those for June 1930 by 8,235 m. tons. Domestic and foreign sales also increased in volume to 40,000 m. tons and 43,700 m. tons respectively, while stocks on hand dropped by 20 per cent. to a level representing less than a month's production.

The output of pipes and tubes in June increased by 12.8 per cent as against May and by 6.5 per cent. as against June last year. Both home and foreign sales increased by about 7 per cent. Stocks on hand decreased during the month by 6 per cent.

The number of workpeople employed as on July 1st. came to 37,894 as against 37,732 on June 1st and 45,586 on July 1st, 1930.

The following table presents data in respect of foreign trade in iron and steel foundry products (in metric tons):

	Imports			Exports		
	May 1931	June 1931	June 1930	May 1931	June 1931	June 1930
pig iron	356	282	126	161	243	100
rails, iron and steel articles	1,292	1,869	1,709	24,348	31,867	14,484
iron and steel sheets	221	739	1,043	10,795	11,837	6,302
pipes	71	88	102	3,921	4,115	3,046
Total:	1,940	2,978	2,980	39,225	48,062	23,932

¹⁾ Corrected figures.

²⁾ Provisional figures.

As can be seen, exports increased in volume during June and were over 22 per cent. higher than in May. The total value of the export was £16,223,000, this sum being 21·2 per cent. higher than the one returned in May this year: it is worthy of note that the corresponding figure for June last year came to only £9,543,000, in spite of the fact that the average value per ton exported came to £400 as against £338 in June this year.

Conditions in July up to the middle of the month were well maintained in spite of the drop in orders received in June, and probably as a result of orders received during the month. Domestic and foreign sales showed no weakening and export continued to be directed chiefly to the U.S.S.R.

ZINC AND LEAD

— No fundamental changes took place in the condition of the zinc and lead industries of the world in June. The Polish founding industry continued to find production unprofitable at the low prices current and a change in policy appears to be imminent. During the second half of the month a world conference of the zinc industry was arranged with a view to creating a cartel, resulting in the fact that before the end of the month the prices of zinc had risen from 50s. 0d. to 60s. 0d. This rise in prices, although not sufficient to solve all the difficulties encountered by the industry was nevertheless of great benefit and brought considerable relief to the foundries. As usual, conditions in the lead industry were very similar to those reigning in the zinc founding industry.

The following table affords percentage

data of production as against the average monthly output in 1913:

	March	April	May ¹⁾	June ²⁾
		1 9	3 1	
raw zinc	82·8	75·2	74·4	69·8
lead	80·2	83·8	81·8	61·0

The zinc and lead ore mines in Polish Upper Silesia were the only ones to maintain extraction and the remaining mines, which produce a low-grade type of the ore, stopped active production and contented themselves with maintenance work in order to be ready to resume extraction at a moment's notice. The extraction of zinc and lead ore during June this year came to 50,000 m. tons as against 54,091 m. tons in May. Imports of zinc and lead ores totalled 15,846 m. tons in June as against 16,103 m. tons in June last year.

The output of the zinc and lead foundries is given in the following table (in metric tons):

	Sulphuric acid 50° Bé	Zinc	Zinc sheets	Raw lead	Sheet (kg)
May 1931 ¹⁾	12,334	11,894	1,576	2,923	1,434
June 1930 ²⁾	14,414	11,176	1,966	2,183	402
June 1931	17,236	14,224	2,103	3,540	771

Zinc production was slightly lower than in May and about 21·6 per cent. lower than in June 1930. Zinc sales increased in volume thanks mostly to a better domestic market since export sales increased only very slightly. In view of the caution exercised in production, stocks on hand have now dropped in volume to the equivalent of less than a month's production.

Sales and production of lead showed little change in June as against May although foreign sales rose relatively

¹⁾ Corrected figures.

²⁾ Provisional figures.

greatly in volume: thanks to this and to reduced output, stocks on hand were smaller.

The number of workpeople employed as on July 1st. came to 8,718 as against 10,962 a year ago and 9,037 in May this year. Wage rates remained unchanged and no labour disputes were reported during the month.

Exports of zinc and lead products during May and June this year are compared with June 1930 figures in the following table:

		Zinc (dust incl.)	Zinc sheets	Refined lead	Total
May 1931	tons	11,920	687	1,162	13,769
	thous. of £	6,136	501	649	7,286
June 1930	tons	12,002	1,002	3,158	16,162
	thous. of £	5,935	726	1,658	8,319
June 1931	tons	9,712	1,146	1,269	12,127
	thous. of £	7,342	1,155	1,061	9,558

Exports in June this year, it will be noted, rose quantitatively by 4,035 m. tons as against the corresponding month of last year, but fell in point of value by £1,239,000, i.e. by 13 per cent. The average value per ton exported in June this year was £515 as against £785 a year ago.

Conditions in July differed little from those noted in June. The most outstanding feature of the month was the successful floating of the zinc cartel which includes the Polish industry likewise. Since it was decided to reduce production by 45 per cent. and the Polish foundries had only cut output by 20 per cent. in June, a further drop of 25 per cent. must be put through by the Polish establishments. This will naturally result in a reduced personnel being engaged and in some of the furnaces being damped out. According to provisional data, the production of zinc and lead during July was only slightly lower in volume than in June but sales (both domestic and foreign) were well maintained at the June level.

MOVEMENT OF PRICES. — The acute shortage of money, at a time when the supply of commodities is on the increase (especially as regards farm produce from the current harvests), caused prices to exhibit a downward trend during June this year. The drop was a general one, i.e., it affected not only those articles which have been consistently dropping in price such as industrial goods, but also agricultural produce for the reason given above.

The movement of price indices during the period June, 1930 — June, 1931 is

shown in the following table (the basic 100 representing the levels in the year 1913):

	Wholesale price index	Retail price index	Cost of living index
June 1930	98·8	149·2	115·8
July	99·4	154·0	118·8
August	97·0	150·7	116·7
September	94·5	148·4	116·8
October	92·9	147·3	117·2
November	93·1	149·4	119·2
December	90·7	145·2	117·7
January 1931	84·8	135·9	109·6
February	85·8	135·5	109·4
March	86·6	135·2	108·6
April	88·9	137·4	108·7
May	88·4	137·8	108·8
June	86·9	136·3	107·3

As can be seen from the foregoing data, the index of wholesale prices fell by 1·9 per cent., that of retail prices by 1·1 per cent. and that of the cost of living by 1·5 per cent.

The drop in the wholesale-price index was mainly caused by a drop of 4·3 per cent. in the index for farm produce, of 0·1 per cent. in that for industrial commodities and of 0·1 per cent. in the autonomous groceries group. The decrease in the index of plant produce was evoked chiefly by the usual drop in prices during the harvest season and

came to 6.6 per cent. whilst the drop in the index of animal products came to 1.2 per cent.

The growth in the index of industrial goods took place in spite of a slight rise in textile prices (0.5 per cent.) and in metals (1.1 per cent.) due to a rise in zinc-prices, as a result of the drop in timber prices (2.4 per cent.) and in the miscellaneous articles division (1.1 per cent.). The prices of coal remained without change.

The drop in the index of retail-prices took place as a result of a decrease in the prices of farm produce (1.9 per cent.) and in industrial commodities (0.5 per cent.). The cost-of living index dropped due to a decrease of 1.7 per cent. in the price of food, with clothing, fuel and rent unchanged but with a drop of 4.7 per cent. recorded as regards the miscellaneous remaining group.

VARIOUS

— Train-ferry service from Gdynia to Sweden is being planned by Swedish interests who hope thereby to speed up transport and reduce costs in Polish-Swedish trade turnovers.

— A Polish bank will shortly be opened in the Argentine; the main office will be in Buenos Aires and provincial branches will be opened as the need arises.

— The XIII session of the International River Oder Commission was held in Krakow during July. Many important technical and administrative measures affecting the internationalised section of the River Oder were decided upon.

— Polish-made locomotives for the Bulgarian State Railways made over 90 km. per hour during a recent trial run upon delivery: the machines proved satisfactory in every respect and further orders are expected.

— Hat-cones were exported by Polish factories in June to the United States, Austria, Germany, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Switzerland, Belgium and Italy.

— Motor-trains are to be tried out on the Warsaw—Gdynia line by the Polish State Railways. The motors will use crude-oil and will make the run in 16 hours. If the experiment proves successful this innovation will be extended to other lines.

— The Standard Steel Corp. of America paid in a further \$1,200,000 to the Lilpop, Rau and Lowenstein Car-works in Warsaw on July 2nd. in connection with the \$40,000,000 credit granted to that company for the execution of a large order for the Polish railways.

— The National Debt of Poland as on December 31, 1930 came to almost exactly \$5,000 million. Of this sum, about \$304,800,000 represent monies

due to the U. S. A. and £168,000 due to Great Britain.

— An order for 1,000 cases of brandy and vodka has been received by the Polish Spirits Monopoly from the French colony of St. Pierre and Miquelon in America.

— Messrs. Oscar Robinson & Co. of Bydgoszcz are arranging to construct a large bacon curing plant at Złoczów; it is expected that by the end of September a throughput of about 2,000 hogs will have been attained.

— Polish iron foundries have received an order for 20,000 tons of rails from the Dutch railways in spite of the sharp competition of Belgian foundries backed up by the International Iron Foundry Cartel.

— The Australia-Poland Trade Development Association, recently founded at Sidney, is to send an investigatory delegation to Poland. Should its report be favourable, a company with a minimum capital of £1,000,000 will be formed for direct trade between the two countries. (P. A. T.)

FAIRS AND EXHIBITIONS

POLISH SAMPLE FAIR AT HARBIN. — The first Polish Sample Fair to be held in Manchuria was duly opened on July 15th., this year under the auspices of the Polish Consulate at Harbin. According to reports received, the fair was a great success from every point of view. The products of over a hundred Polish firms were exhibited and covered the following: textiles, haberdashery and leather goods, peasant products, paper goods, timber wares, sugar, spirits, salt, tobacco products, metallurgical and chemical products.

The Fair was well advertised and the attendance was quite satisfactory. It was also very favourably commented upon by the local English and Russian press and by the Chinese daily and trade periodicals throughout the whole country. The Chinese merchants visiting the Fair showed great interest in the exhibits, inquiries regarding textiles being especially numerous. The Chinese Chamber of Commerce at Mukden, in view of the great interest shown in the enterprise, has asked that the exhibits be placed on view in that city after the closing of the Fair in Harbin. It is further reported that the success of the Fair has caused British interests to contemplate the organisation of a similar exhibition at some time in the future.

FOREIGN TRADE

— The trade returns for the month of June show a drop in the volume and value of imports and in the value but not in the tonnage of exports. Goods entering the Polish Customs area (which

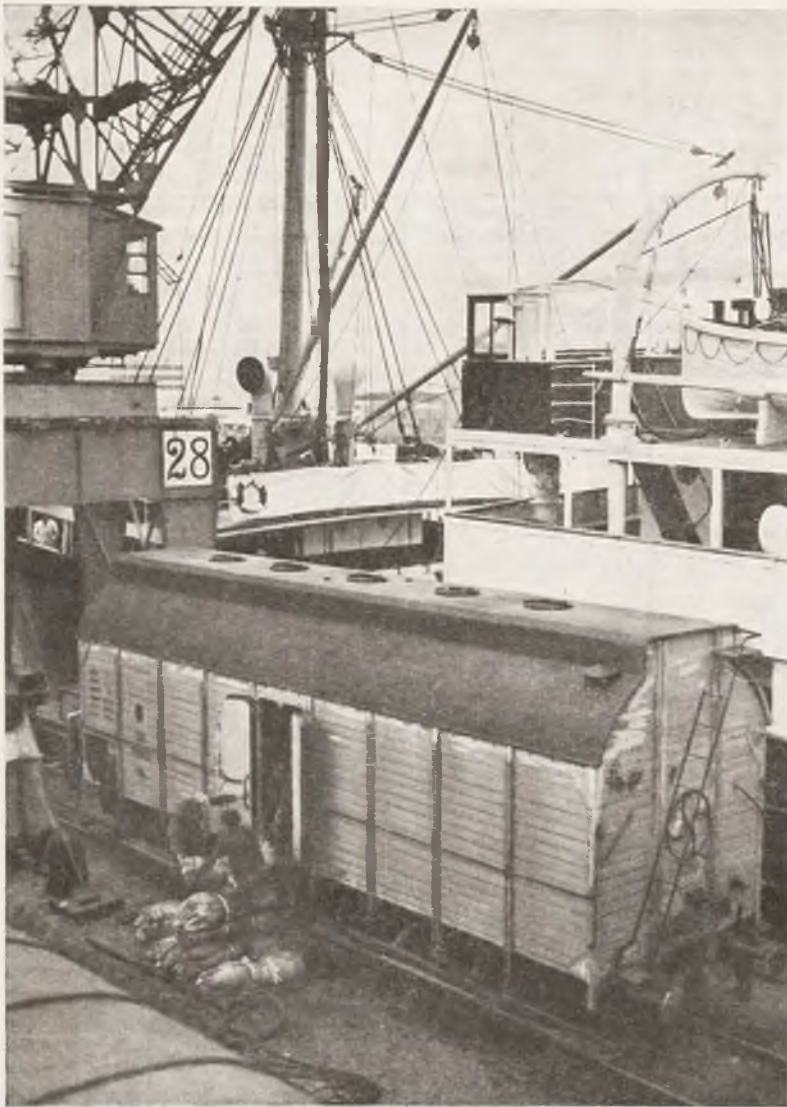
includes the Free City of Danzig) totalled 239,793 metric tons having a declared value of \$129,437,000; exports were for a volume of 1,577,553 metric tons valued at \$161,627,000. The balance of trade was therefore favourable and came to \$32,190,000. In spite of the large and universal fall in prices (shown by the higher tonnage but lower value figures), Poland's balance of trade continues to be favourable, the excess of exports over imports for the period January-June this year having been \$145,316,000.

Imports were marked by a drop of \$6.5 million in the foodstuffs division in June as against May returns. This fairly large drop was, however, caused by a natural drop in rice imports (by \$4.6 million) since cargoes from Burma rarely come two months in succession. Oil-bearing seeds declined in value by \$2.5 million and technical plant oils by \$2.6 million. Technical animal fats and greases dropped by \$1.5 million. The slackness in the metallurgical industries was shown by a drop of \$1.1 million in the import of mineral ores. The import of machinery rose on the other hand by \$4.2 million, this affecting especially textile equipment and power-engines. Imports of textile raw materials slumped by \$5.2 million, the drop being chiefly due to lower volume of wool and woollen waste imports (\$4.2 million).

Import of tobacco showed a drop (\$1.3 million) due to larger shipments having arrived in May as was the case with rice: the imports of both these commodities and of herrings this year were but half the 1930 figure. The only commodities to show no loss when compared with last year's returns in this group were coffee, cocoa and Mediterranean fruit.

The growth in machinery referred to above was due to capital investment for productive purposes and is therefore a good sign. Imports of power engines rose by \$1.0 million, of electrical equipment by \$0.8 million, of textile machinery by \$2.0 million, etc. The import of automobiles continued to decline during June, falling by a further half million zlotys.

Exports were marked by a drop of \$15.9 million in the foodstuffs division, chiefly due to lower out-going shipments of sugar (which slumped by \$5.3 million) of bacon (which dropped by \$5.7 million in value) and eggs with a fall of as much as \$7.0 million. Butter exports on the other hand rose in value by \$4.4 million. Increased export figures were returned for wheat and rye shipments which gained together about \$800,000 as against May data.



ULTRA-MODERN COLD-STORAGE TRANSPORT AT GDYNIA

Transloading Polish bacon from an up-to-date refrigerator-car to a fast regular-service steamer plying between Gdynia and British ports and equipped with superlative cold-storage facilities and refrigerators. Poland's exports of foodstuffs to England are steadily growing and comprise butter, eggs, meat, bacon, poultry, game, etc. Gdynia has the second-largest and the most modern cold storage and refrigerator warehouse on the Continent. Perishable goods sent to other countries through Gdynia reach their destinations in the best of condition due to the excellent transport and storage facilities afforded by the Polish State Railways, by the Port of Gdynia and by the steamers engaged in the Gdynia-England trade.

The export of live animals and poultry remained fairly firm. Out-going trade in raw-hides, feathers and down declined by less than a million zlotys.

Timber exports increased in value by $\text{z}21$ million but continued to remain at an unsatisfactorily low level as compared with last year's results. The export of pulpwood, roundwood and logs increased in value by a million zlotys, and railway sleepers by a like amount. The export of furniture, plywood and its products also rose in value albeit very slightly.

Coal exports grew during June by $\text{z}20$ million as against the May figures. Out-going trade in gasoline (petrol), however, dropped in value by $\text{z}03$ million, that in benzol by a like sum, and artificial fertilisers by half a million zlotys. The export of paints, dyes and lacquers rose slightly in value.

The metallurgical industries showed increased export activity, especially in connection with the Russian market. Iron and steel exports showed an increase of $\text{z}22$ million in value, whilst exports of iron and steel plate, of pipes

and zinc-plated sheets rose for smaller amounts.

The export of textiles was marked by varying features in the various divisions. Cotton yarn and fabrics were very slack but the woollen trade was rather more lively in both the spinning and weaving branches. The export of cheap ready-made clothing, chiefly to England, made good progress in view of the competitive prices made possible by low-priced labour and by a high degree of specialisation in the tailoring trade in certain parts of Poland.

POLISH CORN EXPORT BUREAU.

In view of the German refusal to prolong the Polish-German Rye Agreement and the liquidation of the common selling organisation for the sale of Polish and German rye, Polish interests have formed a special organisation to continue the work as regards their own rye.

The experience gained during the life of the Polish-German Rye Commission has shown that the concentration of rye export sales can yield valuable and important results. The new Polish bureau will work on the same lines, i. e., it will work towards the elimination of unnecessary competition amongst the Polish exporters of corn. The new bureau will function in Poznan and will open a branch-office at Danzig in order the better to control the corn export trade. The bureau will extend its activities to embrace not only rye transactions but also turnovers in wheat.

HOG EXPORTS TO AUSTRIA.

Up to July 18th., Polish exports of hogs to Austria had been permitted to enter that country upon payment of the moderate import duties on hogs fixed in the Austro-Yugoslav Commercial Treaty and extended to Poland by the most-favoured-nation clause. The Treaty in question lapsed on June 30th. and thereafter prohibitive duties were enforced by the Austrian Customs Administration amounting to 45 gold kronen per m. quintal live-weight of hogs weighing up to 150 kg. and to 70 gold kronen per kg. for slaughtered hogs.

A commercial treaty was concluded between Hungary and Austria almost simultaneously whereby an annual import quota of 84,000 live hogs and of 30,000 cwt. of slaughtered pigs was assured the former country. On the basis of most-favoured-nation treatment, Poland received a like quota for her Austrian trade. Live or slaughtered hogs imported under this scheme are permitted to enter Austria on payment of the duty in force hithertofore but the quota has proved so low in comparison with Poland's hog trade with the Austrian Republic that negotiations were commenced at Vienna in order to increase the quota figure.

These negotiations have been successfully concluded insofar as the Polish quota at the lower Customs tariff rate has been increased to 2,500 live and about 4,000 slaughtered hogs weekly.

CUSTOMS DUTIES AND FOREIGN TRADE REGULATIONS

EMBARGO ON NITRATE MANURE IMPORTS. — An embargo has been announced on the import of the following artificial manures: ammonium nitrate, ammonium sulphate, Chili saltpetre, sodium nitrate (purified and synthetic), calcium nitrate and calcium cyanamide as also mixtures of all or any of these chemicals with other bodies. The decree enacting this embargo appeared in the Official Journal of Laws ("Dz. Ust. R. P.", No. 62, item 105) on July 21st. and is effective from that date. In certain cases the Ministry of Industry and Commerce can raise the embargo on application.

This move by the Polish Government is a direct result of the failure of the Nitrogen Products Conference which was held in Switzerland in June this year Poland has fallen in line with a number of other countries such as Italy, France and Germany, which have announced embargoes or fixed prohibitive import duties on nitrogen products in order to safeguard their own industries in the absence of an international understanding which would eliminate ruinous dumping.

REDUCED IMPORT DUTIES. — The reductions in import duties to be applied to machinery, apparatus and semi-manufactures were to have expired on June 30th., 1931 but have been prolonged until the end of the current year.

The decision in question was published in the Official Journal of Laws and Executive Decrees ("Dz. Ust. R. P.", No. 57, item 467). Certain changes were also introduced into the Customs tariff as regards import duties. Reduced duties will henceforth be applied to all graphite imported for productive purposes. Reduced rates had been allowed hitherto only on graphite imported for founding purposes and for the manufacture of crucibles: the change now envisaged allows a lower tariff in favour of the graphite plate industry.

The reduction in import duty on potassium nitrate has been abolished in view of the fact that the Decree of March 30th., 1931 ("Dz. Ust. R. P." No. 34, item 255) foresees the possibility of permitting the duty-free import of the product if destined for industrial purposes.

The import duty on steel strips for the file industry has been reduced in order to assist the plants and to lower their costs. In view of the fact that sports boats are now being manufactured in Poland in sufficient quantities, the reduced tariff rate hitherto applied to imported craft will no longer be granted.

TRANSPORTS

RAILWAY TRAFFIC showed a further increase in volume during June. The average daily loadings of 15-ton wagons came to 13,501 in that month as against 12,625 in May. This increase in goods traffic was due without any doubt to enhanced liveliness

in business in general and in the basic raw materials especially, coal being the most important commodity in this respect. In addition many other industrial products accounted for larger traffic figures. The increase in goods traffic is the more noteworthy since June is usually a fairly slack period due to that month being an inter-seasonal one with smaller volume of farm produce being shipped and a smaller demand for industrial commodities on the part of the rural population.

Data of average daily loadings of 15-ton wagons are afforded by the following table as regards May and June figures for this year and for June last year:

	June 1930	May 1931	June 1931
Loaded for home stations	9,213	8,087	8,488
" " abroad	2,919	3,102	3,421
Total:	12,232	11,189	11,909
received from abroad	417	337	364
transit via Poland	1,197	1,099	1,228
Total:	13,746	12,625	13,501

All types of goods traffic show an increase in June as against May figures, the total gain having been one of 720 average wagons per day of which 401 wagon-loads represented the increase in loadings to Polish stations whilst consignments to foreign points grew by 319 average wagon-loads per day. Loaded wagons received from abroad for Polish stations and for transit likewise yielded an increase during the month.

The average daily number of railway freight consignments by commodity groups destined for home stations are given by the following table (in 15-ton wagons):

	June 1930	May 1931	June 1931
coal	2,495	2,128	2,177
crude oil	167	155	171
timber	689	613	633
farm produce	635	747	671
manuf. prod.	1,930	1,611	1,758
various	3,297	2,839	3,078
Total:	9,213	8,087	8,488

The increase in shipments to Polish stations was evoked by a growth in industrial production and sales. This is indicated by the gain shown by coal freights, petroleum products and miscellaneous commodities embracing industrial articles for the most part. The following table gives data of export goods transported during the month under review, in May and in June last year (in 15-ton wagons):

	June 1930	May 1931	June 1931
coal	2,110	2,450	2,679
crude oil	36	38	50
timber	516	343	403
farm prod.	63	29	54
various	194	242	235
Total:	2,919	3,102	3,421

REDUCED RAILWAY TARIFF BETWEEN POLAND AND DANUBE PORTS. — As from July 15th., a lower railway goods-tariff tariff has been applied to transports between Poland and the Danube ports. The changes have been brought about after prolonged negotiations among the Polish State Railways, the Czechoslovakian lines and the Danube shipping lines.

The new tariff is especially favourable for Polish goods-traffic and should prove of considerable aid in extending Poland's foreign trade in the Danube states since the river transport rates will now considerably reduce forwarding charges. The tariff covers such important basic articles of Polish export as coal, coke, petroleum products, cement, artificial fertilisers, zinc, salt, iron and steel (and their products) and also ores, tobacco and fruit in the import trade. In addition, through tariff rates to Gdynia and Danzig have been prepared with a view to attracting marine shipments to those ports to or from Central Europe.

PORT TRAFFIC. — Ship traffic in the Port of Danzig during June differed only very slightly from the returns reported for May this year and for June last year. This high level is the more striking in view of the continual deepening of the economic depression all over the world. The vessels entering the Port came to 484 in number with a total tonnage of 360,216 net reg. tons (358,856 net reg. tons), whilst clearances aggregated 492 ships totalling 356,039 net reg. tons (357,596 net reg. tons). The total volume of ship traffic in the Port of Danzig during the first half of this year came to 3,846,752 net reg. tons as against 3,932,651 net reg. tons during the corresponding period of last year.

The flags of the following countries were represented in the ship traffic of the Port during June this year:

	Arrivals: net		Departures: net	
	ships	reg. tons	ships	reg. tons
Poland & Danzig	25	26,552	45	27,240
Germany	143	80,324	144	77,598
Finland	10	10,600	10	10,600
Russia	3	3,965	4	3,092
Estonia	16	5,367	16	5,419
Latvia	21	17,803	21	19,744
Lithuania	4	2,170	4	1,851
Sweden	95	52,607	97	47,149
Norway	22	12,975	21	13,009
Denmark	91	71,424	96	75,901
Great Britain	17	22,546	15	20,203
Holland	12	9,493	13	9,659
Belgium	1	2,529	1	2,529
France	13	13,124	13	12,701
Spain	3	5,996	2	4,406
Italy	2	6,570	4	11,393
Yugoslavia	1	3,587	—	—
Greece	5	12,584	6	13,545
Total:	484	360,216	492	356,039

According to provisional data, the good traffic of the Port in June came to 772,745 m. tons, — a gain of about 70,000 m. tons over May returns. Both the export and import traffic grew in volume, the former rising from 666,462 m. tons in May to 714,352 m. tons in June, and the latter from 37,284 m. tons to 58,393 m. tons.



THE POLISH STATE TOBACCO MONOPOLY WAREHOUSE
AT GDYNIA

The State Tobacco Monopoly in Poland is run on very efficient lines and yields a steady profit to the Treasury, in that way helping to reduce taxation. Over 16 per cent. of the tobacco used is home-grown and the remainder (about 18,000 tons) has to be imported; it was in order to handle this large volume of the delicate leaves that the warehouse shown above have been specially constructed by the Monopoly at Gdynia. The building itself is almost ready and will be turned over for use directly the bridge-cranes on the adjacent quays are erected in place.

Coal was as usual the chief export article passing through Danzig and accounted for 542,515 m. tons. The fuel was exported to fourteen countries in various parts of Europe, with France occupying first place and Denmark and Sweden second and third. Timber exports continued to grow in volume and attained the figure of 137,775 m. tons in June; 4,380 m. tons of petroleum products left the port, 2,587 m. tons of corn, 1,748 m. tons of sugar and 24,897 m. tons of general cargo.

The chief items of import were ores (37,553 m. tons as against 22,803 m. tons in May); then followed artificial manures with 9,966 m. tons, scrap iron with only 257 m. tons and general cargo with 10,617 m. tons.

Passenger traffic through the port was returned in June at 5,907 arrivals and 5,795 departures, mostly accounted for by coast-wise and gulf traffic.

In Gdynia the number of ships which entered the Port in June came

to 272 entrances totalling 225,929 net. reg. tons (286 entrances of 240,585 net reg. tons in May) whilst clearances came to 266 aggregating 234,007 net reg. tons (as against 289 vessels of 242,516 net reg. tons in May).

The flags of the following countries were represented in the traffic of the Port during June:

	Arrivals:		Departures	
	May	June	May	June
	1931	1931	1931	1931
Poland & Danzig	35	31	37	29
Denmark	25	26	26	24
Estonia	9	12	6	14
Finland	6	10	9	8
France	3	3	3	3
Germany	66	63	70	70
Great Britain	7	13	7	12
Holland	2	2	3	2
Latvia	16	14	17	10
Norway	27	14	23	20
Sweden	83	78	80	79
U.S.A.	4	4	4	4
Yugoslavia	1	1	—	1

The goods turnover of the Port in June came to 446,523 m. tons as against 490,654 m. tons in May. It included

8,278 m. tons of rice, 11,100 m. tons of Thomas slag, 38,679 m. tons of scrap-iron, 34 tons of automobiles and spare-parts, 457 tons of raw cotton, 157 tons of tobacco and 479 m. tons of asphalt imported through the Port. Exports through the Port included 2,085 m. tons of husked rice, 4,233 m. tons of beet-sugar, 3,936 m. tons of bacon and 668 m. tons of hams, besides 696 m. tons of butter and 465 m. tons of eggs. In addition, 3,351 m. tons of timber were exported through Gdynia, 333,201 m. tons of coal and 17,395 m. tons of bunker coal, 5,550 m. tons of potassium salt, 1,934 m. tons of zinc, 1,207 m. tons of cement, etc.

Passenger traffic included 559 arrivals and 425 persons embarking at the port of which 451 passengers were from the U. S. and 267 persons to that country.

During the first three weeks of July, the number of vessels entering the port came to 203, totalling 183,272 net reg. tons whilst clearances were 187 ships with a total of 178,314 net. reg. tons. Goods traffic turnovers came to 338,949 m. tons and passenger traffic to 1,135 arrivals and 713 departures.

AERIAL COMMUNICATION IN JUNE.

— Owing to favourable weather conditions during the period under review and the slight improvement in business conditions, at least in some of the seasonal branches of trade and industry, the aerial traffic in Poland showed an increase as compared with the preceding month.

The number of scheduled and extra flights amounted to 548 as against 525 in May and it is worthy of note that the regularity of flights is very high, being 99.6 per cent. The distance covered rose from 146,689 km. in May to 156,519 km. in June. The number of passengers carried was on about the same level as in the preceding month (1,260 as against 1,425 in May). The amount of goods carried increased slightly from 35,067 kg. to 35,528 kg., whereas that of mail remained unchanged.

FINANCE AND BANKING

STATE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.—The total of all State receipts in June 1931 fell below the May figure by £23.8 million and failed to reach the June 1930 level by £40.4 million. During the first quarter of the current fiscal year, total receipts came to £604.5 million, this being about 21 per

cent. of the amount estimated for the whole year.

Disbursements in June 1931 exceeded the May amount by £7.8 million and the June 1930 figure by £3.8 million. The aggregate sum of all expenditure in the first quarter of the current fiscal year came to £681.3 million, i.e. about

24 per cent. of the estimated amount in the Budget for 1931/32 and 24.3 per cent. of the actual sum spent in 1930/31 (excluding the relief period). It should be noted that the above total figure of disbursements in 1931/32 includes the item of £112.7 million representing the service of the National Debt.

STATE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

	Revenue (in millions of z)		Expenditure (in millions of z)	
	actual June 1931	annual 1931/32 budget estimates	actual June 1931	annual 1931/32 budget estimates
A) Civil service	118.6	1,848.1	219.4	2,851.9
including:				
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	0.5	11.4	3.2	51.1
" " War.	0.3	5.2	63.4	836.2
" " the Interior	1.6	12.7	16.4	253.3
" " Finance	106.4	1,692.7	8.7	137.3
" " Justice	4.2	44.5	8.5	129.8
" " Industry and Commerce	0.9	14.4	2.8	33.8
" " Agriculture	0.5	9.7	2.3	48.8
" " Education and Religions	0.1	4.9	30.4	445.2
" " Public Works	1.1	18.6	5.7	118.6
" " Labour and Social Wel- fare	0.0	1.0	15.7	104.3
" " Land Reform	0.1	6.8	1.9	51.1
Pensions	2.9	24.9	13.1	131.4
Grants to disabled soldiers	—	—	15.8	163.5
State liabilities	—	—	29.2	315.1
B) State enterprises	8.6	136.6	0.0	14.0
C) Monopolies	48.6	882.0	—	—
Total A + B + C:	175.8	2,866.7	219.4	2,865.9

TAXES. — Public levies yielded z 99 million during June this year, i.e. z 16 million less than in May and z 13.7 million less than in June last year. A considerable drop in the receipts from the Land Tax, the Industrial Tax and from the Income Tax was reported in June as against May figures. Quite naturally, too, incoming sums from the 10 per cent. Extraordinary Supplementary Tax had as a consequence likewise to be lower. Compared with June last year, the greatest differences in receipts noted, were in monies paid in by the Customs Administration, with the Industrial Tax and stamp fees following closely after.

In June 1930, public levies made a worse showing as against the month before than was the case in the corresponding months of the current year. A year ago, the difference came to z 28.5 million, the drop in direct taxation having been z 24.3 million. An examination of state revenue in previous years confirms that June receipts are always lower than those for the month of May.

The Polish Treasury received z 48.6 million from the Monopolies in June 1931, this sum being below the May figure by z 7 million and z 16.5 million short of the June 1930 level.

The first quarter of the current fiscal year 1931/32 (April, May and June) yielded a total of z 327.4 million from public levies, of z 157.1 million from the Monopolies, i.e. a total of z 484.5

million or 20 per cent. of the estimated amount foreseen by the Budget and 21.36 per cent. of the actual figures of receipts in 1930/31.

The revenue from public levies and monopolies in June as compared with May 1931, June of last year and the monthly average for the 1931/32 budget is given in the following table (in millions of z):

	Actual revenue:			1/10 th of the annual budget for 1931/32
	May 1931	1930	1931	
Direct taxes	59.3	42.2	47.9	58.8
Indirect taxes	14.8	16.0	17.4	15.5
Customs duties	15.6	14.3	21.3	29.2
Stamp fees	13.8	13.0	16.5	15.1
Property Tax	1.4	5.8	1.5	3.6
10 per cent Extra- ordinary Tax	10.1	7.7	8.1	9.4
Total of public levies:	115.0	99.0	112.7	131.6
Monopolies	55.6	48.6	65.1	73.5
Total of public levies and mo- nopolies:	170.6	147.6	177.8	205.1

CORN COLLATERAL SECURITY

LOAN. — The Bank of Poland has recently concluded an agreement with a French consortium whereby a short-term loan of 150,000,000 francs will be granted to Poland against the security of pro forma bills of exchange issued by Polish banks which in turn will be secured by lombarding the corn as it is harvested. A third of the credit will be paid in before the end of August and the remainder in September and October. The loan will be amortised in monthly instalments of z 25,000,000 as the grain is sold during the coming calendar year.

The introduction of this form of chattel mortgage by the Polish Govern-

ment is in line with its policy of extending the greatest possible relief to the farmers. Thanks to this new form of credit, the corn-producers will not have to sell all their corn stocks immediately after the harvests, i.e. at a time when prices are lowest, but will be able to dispose of their stocks gradually and at later periods thus attaining a higher mean price than in the past.

The granting of the loan by French interests so soon after the milliard franc railway loan is a striking testimony to Poland's economic strength and to her peaceful and moderate policy in the European concert.

STOCK EXCHANGE

— Speculation on the Warsaw Stock Exchange was responsible for certain fluctuations in the rate for actual dollar currency during June, and it must be admitted that the methods used to influence the market hardly brought credit to those responsible for them. Various baseless rumours were spread in connexion with that exchange with a view to causing an artificially created bull market. During the summer months, dealing in stock and securities is much reduced and it is consequently difficult to manipulate the market in that direction.

As a result of these operations, the demand for actual U. S. currency was enhanced and the rate rose by a further z 3½ per dollar, in spite of the fact that drafts and transfers, on New York especially, showed only slight fluctuations from day to day.

The demand for foreign exchanges, as is usual during the middle of the year, increased and quotations tended to rise in sympathy with the rates reported from other money markets. London exchange rose by z 2½ per pound sterling, New York by z 0.7 per dollar, Paris by z ½, Brussels by z 16, Zurich by z 18, Milan over z 6, Amsterdam by z 67½, Vienna z 7, Prague z 2 and Stockholm rose by z 37½ per hundred.

Zloty quotations on the money markets of the world yielded insignificant fluctuations. In Zurich the Zloty maintained its level of May, Berlin reported a higher rate, and slight drops took place in the other financial centres.

S H A R E S

A rather uncertain trend was noted during the meetings of the Warsaw Stock Exchange during June as regards the stocks and shares division. This affected not only purchases but also realising and selling. The offerings on

HOME AND FOREIGN ZLOTY QUOTATIONS (in zł)

	May 30	June 1-6	June 8-13	June 15-20	June 22-26	June 30	par value
Warsaw Exchange							
London £ 1	43.36	43.35 ¹⁹ / ₂₀	43.36 ⁹ / ₁₀	43.40	43.41 ² / ₅	43.38 ¹ / ₂	43.38
New York \$ 1	8.91	8.908 ⁴ / ₅	8.912 ⁴ / ₅	8.917 ² / ₃	8.917	8.918	8.90
New York Cable \$ 1	8.914	8.914 ² / ₅	8.916 ⁵ / ₆	8.922 ² / ₃	8.922	8.922	—
Paris Fr. Fr. 100	34.90 ¹ / ₂	34.90 ⁹ / ₂₀	34.91 ³ / ₁₀	34.94 ³ / ₁₀	34.93 ¹ / ₁₀	34.91	172.00
Brussels Belg. 100	124.12	124.13	124.17 ² / ₃	124.20	124.23 ³ / ₄	124.28	123.95
Zurich Sw. Fr 100	172.45	172.78 ⁴ / ₅	173.08 ¹ / ₅	173.28	173.02 ¹ / ₅	172.67	172.00
Milan Lire 100	46.66 ¹ / ₂	46.64 ⁹ / ₁₀	46.68 ³ / ₂₀	46.72 ³ / ₁₀	46.72 ³ / ₃	—	172.00
Amsterdam Fl. 100	358.50	358.67 ¹ / ₂	358.84 ¹ / ₂	359.21 ⁴ / ₅	359.17 ¹ / ₂	—	358.31
Vienna Sh. 100	125.28	125.25	125.30 ⁵ / ₆	125.40 ² / ₃	125.40 ⁵ / ₅	125.35	125.43
Prague Kc. 100	26.41	26.40 ¹ / ₂	26.41 ¹ / ₂	26.42 ² / ₃	26.42 ³ / ₄	26.43	180.62
Stockholm Kr. 100	—	238.95 ¹ / ₂	238.95	239.12 ³ / ₄	239.33	—	238.89
Foreign Exchanges							
London £ 1	—	43.40 ⁴ / ₅	43.37 ⁵ / ₆	43.39 ¹ / ₂	43.42 ³ / ₅	43.40	43.38
New York zł 100	—	11.22	11.22	11.22	11.21 ⁹ / ₁₀	11.21 ¹ / ₂	11.22
Zurich zł 100	57.90	57.88 ³ / ₁₀	57.80 ¹ / ₂	57.71 ² / ₃	57.77 ⁴ / ₅	57.90	58.14
Vienna zł 100	79.66 ¹ / ₂	79.70 ³ / ₅	79.71 ¹ / ₂	79.68	79.65 ⁷ / ₁₀	79.65	79.55
Prague zł 100	—	377.52 ¹ / ₂	377.1 ¹ / ₈	377.4 ¹ / ₅	377.58 ⁷ / ₁₀	377.50	55.36
Berlin zł 100	47.15	47.24 ¹ / ₂	47.24 ⁵ / ₆	47.22 ¹ / ₆	47.16	47.22 ¹ / ₂	47.09
Danzig zł 100	57.64	57.67 ³ / ₅	57.67 ⁹ / ₁₀	57.62 ³ / ₁₀	57.57 ¹ / ₄	57.63 ¹ / ₂	57.63

the Floor were so small in volume that it proved impossible in the majority of cases to announce official quotations as the individual transactions concluded were below the required minimum of zł1,000 and ten shares. The business done, however, was quite large in the aggregate in spite of the lack of larger transactions. The larger operators held up their unloading of stock and assumed a waiting attitude in the expectation of better selling conditions. There can be no doubt that the present low prices are hardly conducive to selling, especially in cases where the stock had been acquired for much higher prices. Shareholders appeared to believe that the political situation in Europe would soon clear up and that prices would then become firmer, especially in the case of gilt-edged stock issues, and would more nearly approach actual intrinsic values. The summer vacational

period had a potent influence on business in the Warsaw Stock Exchange during June. The volume of turnovers declined as usual during that month.

The trend of prices was on the whole marked by a lack of uniformity. Bank of Poland stock, Warsaw Coal-mining and Warsaw Locomotive Works were sold at rather lower prices. Bank Handlowy and Siła & Światło Electric retained their May levels, but Starachowice Steel, Lilpop Car-works and Modrzejów Steel tended upwards and were quite strong. Wysoka Cement continued to be quoted above par although transactions were few in this stock and in spite of the fact that it was dealt in ex dividend coupon for 1930; this coupon represents a payment of 10 per cent. dividends and a larger drop in quotation might have been expected.

Towards the very end of the month, conditions improved somewhat, but the

lack of material still made it impossible officially to quote many shares.

STATE, MUNICIPAL AND LAND LOANS

The bond market was marked by varying tendencies for Government scrip with only medium turnovers put through. In sympathy with higher quotations on foreign money markets, the rate of the 6 per cent. Dollar Loan rose somewhat causing an enhanced demand for the bonds of that issue. The same can be reported as regards the 7 per cent. Stabilisation Loan. A gain was also reported for the 4 per cent. Premium Investment Loan. The remaining Government bond issues (5 per cent. Conversion Loan, 3 per cent. Premium Building Loan and the 10 per cent. Railway Loan) were weak and tended downwards.

WARSAW STOCK EXCHANGE SHARE QUOTATIONS (in zł)

S H A R E S	May 30	June 1-6	June 8-13	June 15-20	June 22-26	June 30	N o m i n a l
Bank of Poland ...	123.—	122.70	121.40	116.35	117.—	117.50	zł 100.—
Bank Handlowy w Warszawie ...	100.—	100.—	100.—	100.—	100.—	—	zł 100.—
Warsaw Coal Mining Co. ...	—	—	23.—	20.—	—	—	zł 100.—
Starachowice Steel ...	—	8.—	8.—	8.—	9.10	8.50	zł 50.—
Lilpop, Rau & Loewenstein ...	16.75	17.—	15.55	14.45	16.80	17.75	zł 25.—
Ostrowiec ("B" series) ...	—	37.—	—	—	—	—	zł 50.—
Modrzejów Steel ...	5.50—	—	—	—	5.65	—	zł 50.—
Warsaw Parowozy Locomotives ...	—	—	—	—	10.—	—	zł 25.—
Wysoka Cement ...	—	—	—	90.—	—	—	zł 100.—
Siła i Światło Electric ...	40.50	—	—	—	—	—	zł 50.—

AVERAGE BOND QUOTATIONS (in zł)

State, Municipal & Land Loans	May 30	June 1—6	June 8—13	June 15—20	June 22—26	June 30	Nominal
5% Conversion Loan	48.—	47.85	47.55	46.90	46.60	—	zł 100.—
7% Stabilisation Loan	—	78.15	78.—	77.80	79.10	—	\$ 100.—
6% External Dollar Loan 1920	—	70.10	71.70	72.70	74.35	74.—	\$ 100.—
3% Premium Building Loan	—	40.35	38.85	38.30	38.75	—	gold zł 50.—
4% Premium Investment Loan	82.—	84.95	82.75	82.20	84.70	—	gold zł 100.—
10% Railway Loan (1st series)	—	105.25	104.—	104.—	104.—	—	gold fr. 100.—
8% National Economic Bank Bonds	94.—	94.—	94.—	94.—	94.—	94.—	gold zł 100.—
8% State Land Bank Bonds	94.—	94.—	94.—	94.—	94.—	94.—	gold zł 100.—
8% National Economic Bank Communal Bonds	94.—	94.—	94.—	94.—	94.—	94.—	gold zł 100.—
8% Land Credit Association Bonds	—	—	71.—	—	—	—	zł 100.—
4% Land Credit Association Bonds	—	40.50	40.25	39.50	39.40	—	zł 100.—
4½% Land Credit Association Bonds	51.50	51.10	50.—	48.15	49.40	49.—	zł 100.—
8% City of Warsaw Credit Association Bonds	72.60	72.25	71.40	69.55	71.45	71.—	zł 100.—
5% City of Warsaw Credit Association Bonds	—	57.10	56.05	54.70	54.40	—	zł 100.—
4½% City of Warsaw Credit Association Bonds	—	52.50	—	49.—	50.20	50.—	zł 100.—

As usual, the 8 per cent. bonds of the National Economic Bank and of the State Land Bank were very firm and showed no change in quotations.

Private bond issues were somewhat weaker during June. The supply was often much in excess of the demand and prices evinced a downward trend. This observation is, however, made year by year during the month under review and the bearish trend is doubtless due to the summer slackness and the vacation period.

BANK OF POLAND

—During June the influx of foreign exchanges to the Bank of Poland exceeded the out-going sums by zł 4.1 million. The balance for the first six months of the current year shows an excess of sales over purchases amounting to zł 63.8 million, the only other month to have yielded an excess of incoming over out-going foreign exchanges having been March (a surplus of zł 45.7 million), whilst all the rest showed adverse balances in this respect.

The June surplus arose for the same reason as the one in March: State loan receipts accounted for zł 73.5 million (the first instalment of the Match Loan) in March, whilst in June a second instalment of the Match Loan amounting to zł 138 million as also the first instalment of the French railway loan (zł 21 million) were received. In spite of this rise in the total of foreign exchanges bought by the Bank, the surplus left after deducting sales was relatively small due to great increase in the demand for foreign currencies and assets.

June sales of foreign exchanges by the Bank reached a record figure and aggregated zł 265.4 million, as against zł 129.7 million in May and zł 145.6 million in June a year ago. The increase was chiefly due to the demands of the Treasury in connection with the service of the National Debt, sales to the Government having risen from zł 35.1 million in May to zł 80.8 million in June this year (zł 44.8 million in June 1930).

The general lack of confidence in the whole world, caused in a great measure by the upheavals on the German money market, had, it must be stated, only a very small influence on the Polish public. A certain rise in the demand for foreign exchanges was observed but, on the whole, the country remained cool and steady. The Bank's sales to its clients, on the Stock Exchange and to foreign buyers rose from zł 93.5 million in May to zł 145 million in June (zł 90.3 million in June 1930).

The foreign exchange reserves of the Bank of Poland in June showed no more important change in status and stood at zł 349.6 million as against zł 355.5 million in May. That part of the reserve earmarked as cover for sight liabilities and note-circulation decreased by only zł 25.9 million to zł 230.5 million; the rest of the reserves rose by zł 10.0 million to zł 119.1 million.

The gold reserve of the Bank increased during June by zł 200,000 as a result of the usual over-the-counter purchases by the provincial branches of the Bank from the general public in the form of pre-War coins and specie.

These fluctuations in the component parts of the gold-stock-foreign-exchange cover of sight liabilities and notes issued caused the following changes in the

total cover as on the dates indicated (in million of zł):

	January 1st	May 31st	June 30th
	1	9	3
	1		1
gold foreign currencies and assets	562.2	567.6	567.8
	288.4	256.4	230.5
Total:	850.7	824.0	798.2

The aggregate figures quoted above represented 55.29 per cent. cover of sight liabilities and notes issued on January 1st., 57.67 per cent. cover on May 31st. and 53.22 per cent. cover on June 30th. the statutory minimum being 40 per cent. The ratio of gold cover alone on the same dates was 36.54, 39.72 and 37.85 per cent., the minimum being 30 per cent. according to the Bank's statutes.

The fairly large drop in the ratio of cover noted in June in spite of the relatively small drop in the absolute figure was evoked by an important growth in the combined position of notes in circulation and sight liabilities. Whilst these grew in the aggregate from zł 1,428.8 million to zł 1,500 million, the increase can be mostly ascribed to an enhanced figure of sight liabilities which rose from zł 206.4 million to zł 270 million, since the circulation rose by only zł 7.6 million to zł 1,230.0 million.

The rise in the total of sight liabilities was caused by a growth in the miscellaneous accounts item which rose from zł 8.5 million to zł 62.2 million (due to the Match instalment payment for the account of the Treasury), current cheque account credit balances rose from zł 184.2 million to zł 191.6 million (of which, zł 7.2 million represented Treasury funds). The growth in the

BALANCE SHEET OF THE BANK OF POLAND (in zł)

	May 31st 1931		June 10th 1931		June 20th 1931		June 30th 1931	
Assets:								
Bullion:								
gold in vaults - - - - -	485,869,482.71		485,933,789.04		485,986,328.20		486,034,905.27	
„ abroad - - - - -	81,715,741.90		81,715,741.90		81,715,741.90		81,715,741.90	
silver (gold value) - - - - -	—		—		—		—	
	567,585,224.61		567,649,530.94		567,701,980.10		567,750,647.17	
Foreign currency, drafts and assets - - - - -	256,438,345.79	824,032,570.40	283,170,968.01	850,820,498.95	228,179,981.27	795,881,961.37	230,489,180.42	798,239,827.59
Foreign currency, drafts and assets not included in the cover - - - - -		99,092,874.98		99,934,003.84		104,579,717.52		119,136,797.02
Silver and token coins - - - - -		22,997,173.49		22,975,054.75		22,921,496.3		22,996,653.22
Bills of exchange - - - - -		541,209,388.18		524,380,962.22		536,044,978.2		553,927,777.94
Loans against securities - - - - -		76,690,991.39		73,258,946.39		75,570,886.39		83,293,991.—
Own interest-bearing securities - - - - -		12,170,302.19		12,330,014.55		12,421,322.75		13,326,320.39
Reserve funds invested in securities - - - - -		93,595,281.33		93,595,281.33		93,595,281.33		93,534,327.52
Loans to Government - - - - -		20,000,000.—		20,000,000.—		20,000,000.—		20,000,000.—
Property - - - - -		20,000,000.—		20,000,000.—		20,000,000.—		20,000,000.—
Other assets - - - - -		121,550,737.63		148,715,686.91		148,035,162.43		142,889,494.68
		1,831,330,319.59		1,866,010,448.94		1,829,050,806.32		1,867,345,189.36
Liabilities:								
Capital - - - - -								
Reserve fund - - - - -		150,000,000.—		150,000,000.—		150,000,000.—		150,000,000.—
Other capital - - - - -		114,000,000.—		114,000,000.—		114,000,000.—		114,000,000.—
Sight liabilities:								
current accounts of State institutions - - - - -	29,402,492.49		19,958,922.51		39,435,250.30		36,565,133.76	
outstanding current accounts - - - - -	154,760,114.93		183,015,828.59		192,863,641.86		155,049,120.29	
silver purchases a/c - - - - -	11,813,907.57		11,813,907.57		11,813,907.57		11,813,907.57	
State credit fund a/c - - - - -	1,956,465.39		956,455.39		956,455.39		4,299,709.41	
various accounts - - - - -	8,509,393.70		99,382,904.06		88,997,939.11		62,226,718.44	
	206,442,364.08		315,128,018.12		334,067,197.23		269,954,589.47	
Notes in circulation - - - - -	1,222,389,600.—	1,428,831,964.08	1,177,181,160.—	1,492,309,178.12	1,127,447,640.—	1,461,514,837.23	1,230,044,230.—	1,499,998,819.47
Special account of the Treasury - - - - -		—		—		—		—
Other liabilities - - - - -		138,498,355.51		1,970,270.82		103,535,969.09		103,346,369.89
		1,831,330,319.59		1,866,010,448.94		1,829,050,806.32		1,867,345,189.36

figure of notes issued took place, in spite of the increased deposits and as a result of a growth in credits granted by the Bank. The pressure on the Bank for credits was somewhat stronger during June than in preceding months and the bill portfolio rose in value by $\text{zł} 12.7$ million to $\text{zł} 553.9$ million (as against $\text{zł} 73.0$ million on June 30th., 1930).

The whole bank cover of the note-circulation presented itself as follows on the dates indicated (in millions of zł):

	January 1st	May 31st 1931	June 30th
bills	672.0	541.2	553.9
foreign bills of exchange	107.1	81.8	98.3
Polish silver coins and token money	12.2	23.0	23.0
loans against securities	86.3	76.7	83.3
own interest-bearing securities	8.8	12.2	13.3
liability of the Treasury	—	20.0	20.0
Total:	886.5	754.8	791.9

According to the balance-sheets of the Bank for the first two decades of July, the demand for foreign exchanges was maintained on more or less the

same level as in June. There can be no doubt that this was due in some measure to the nervousness caused by the German crisis. That the situation was far from serious is shown by the fact that the foreign exchange stocks of the Bank decreased by only $\text{zł} 24.4$ million during the first decade of the month and by $\text{zł} 26.6$ million during the second. These figures show that the Polish money market, loosely connected as it is with the German, has maintained its independence surprisingly well. Another indication which is afforded is the strength of the Polish currency and of Polish credit. The discount credits of the Bank of Poland rose during the first two decades of July by $\text{zł} 24.9$ million, whilst the note-issue shrank by $\text{zł} 59.7$ million.

CONCISE STATISTICAL YEAR-BOOK OF POLAND. — The second issue of this handy little work covering the year 1930 has just left the press and is now on the market. The first issue, which appeared last year, created quite a sensation at the International Congress of Statisticians held at Tokio and was sold out within the space of a few months. Within the

narrow compass of 157 small pages of pocket size 308 tables have been inserted covering every conceivable aspect of economic, political, educational, cultural and public life in Poland. Numerous special tables afford comparative international data which show in vivid relief just what Poland's role is among the countries of the world. The material given also quotes data for past years and enables the reader to judge for himself what progress Poland has made since her restoration and more particularly during the past five years. Excellently printed, in perfect English, with a small map of Poland included, well-bound, moderately priced and readily comprehensible to the man in the street, the Year-book should be in the hands of everyone interested in Poland, in economic matters or in the science of statistics.

LATEST NEWS — Warsaw Exchange:

	July 10, 1931	July 20, 1931
\$ = zł	8.922	8.925
£ = „	43.41 $\frac{1}{2}$	43.41 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank of Poland:		
Assets:		
Gold reserve	486,079,903.06	486,114,428.37
Foreign balances	205,275,816.95	167,217,031.82
Foreign balances (not included in the cover)	119,951,316.60	131,349,400.45
Bills of exchange	570,863,458.44	578,786,931.57
Loans against securities	78,950,657.17	81,905,422.17
Liabilities:		
Notes in circulation	1,187,400,000.—	1,170,375,160.—
Current accounts	232,749,772.10	235,304,959.63
Other sight liabilities	60,907,023.53	61,795,721.70
Bank note cover (gold & foreign currencies)	50.09%	

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