

# THE WARSAW WEEKLY

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FRIDAY

SEPTEMBER 13

1935

## ELECTIONS

## ELECTION FIGURES

## THE LAND PROBLEM

On Sunday, September 7, elections to the Sejm were held throughout Poland. After weeks of preparation, official Opposition boycott, and Government propaganda having as its aim the cultivation of the largest possible vote, 206 deputies were elected to the Sejm.

The elections were conducted quietly, only a few sectors reporting anything like a public disturbance. In a few places, the election booths were destroyed, and, in Warsaw, several hundred Communists were dispersed when they attempted to parade.

Cold, windy, rainy weather had its share in the general pacification, and the most quiet election in years passed without special incident.

The election procedure, used for the first time, was rather complicated to the uninitiated. Each voting district had held before the elections a gathering composed of representatives from all classes of society divided according to their theoretical value in the structure of the state. (It was on this point that most of the Opposition fire was centred). This pre-election gathering nominated in each district from four to six candidates of which two were to be elected. Each voter, therefore, cast his ballot for two nominees, and the two receiving the highest number of votes were elected. An interesting sidelight was the fact that the law required that a candidate, to be chosen, must have at least ten thousand votes. In Łódź, for instance, in two districts only one deputy was chosen, the runners-up failing to receive the necessary ten thousand votes.

## Convention System

This theory or procedure might be called the "Non-Party Convention System," the idea being that the pre-election nominative conventions will choose those most capable of governing the country and the later "public" balloting will serve, more or less, to confirm the judgment of the nominating body.

This theory served to create a situation almost without parallel in elective history. First was the Opposition boycott, the extreme Right and the extreme Left, the National Democrats and the Socialist Party, the Peasant Party, and the Communists, respectively, for once agreeing; and the basis of their plan was that they had been deprived, by the election law, of any opportunity of being represented in the Sejm in proportion to their numerical strength.

The second peculiarity was the lack of "issues," each candidate confining his pre-election propaganda to press-interviews couched in highly ambiguous, idealistic terms, and pro-Government organs further aided the cause of the candidates by impartially printing

	Registered	Voting		Valid Votes	
		Numbers	Percentages	Numbers	Percentages
1 City of Warsaw	731,113	220,082	30	168,044	23
2 Województwo of Warsaw	1,238,664	505,285	41	438,606	36
3 " " Łódź	1,368,899	501,829	37	371,932	27
4 " " Kielce	1,423,804	526,140	37	411,810	29
5 " " Lublin	1,197,996	480,024	40	303,649	25
6 " " Białystok	846,684	482,856	57	376,266	44
7 " " Wilno	652,272	276,901	43	219,709	37
8 " " Nowogródek	522,989	336,693	65	290,607	56
9 " " Polesie	529,096	356,347	67	313,765	59
10 " " Wolyń	969,515	632,213	65	428,890	44
11 " " Tarnopol	838,613	491,107	59	473,579	57
12 " " Stanisławów	795,036	329,187	42	328,933	42
13 " " Łwów	1,617,529	701,344	43	518,663	32
14 " " Kraków	1,086,220	469,354	43	382,263	35
15 " " Silesia	750,547	577,333	77	317,444	42
16 " " Poznań	1,156,559	436,539	38	261,150	23
17 " " Pomorze	556,711	252,452	46	164,725	30
Totals:	16,282,347	7,576,686		5,770,035	

short biographical sketches. Public meetings were infrequently held, and more infrequently attended, and the cause for this probably was the extreme dryness of the subjects under discussion.

It is easy to see, therefore, that this sort of campaign resulted in the minimum of public interest and agitation, and has a bearing on the election statistics, which we shall discuss shortly.

The only point where the public might have been aroused if the authorities had allowed it, was on the question of the Opposition boycott. All leaflets and placards urging the boycott were confiscated, preventive arrests were frequent, so it cannot be said that the Opposition boycott received maximum publicity.

All Government organs carried long leaders impressing on the citizen his moral obligation to vote, and it was generally agreed that the success of the election from either point of view could be determined only by a comparison of the present election figures with those of former years.

In 1930, for instance, the nearest election to the present one, 15,791,278 people were privileged to vote. Of this number, 11,816,413 cast ballots, the percentage being 74.8. Of the number of votes cast, 5,292,725 were for List 1, or for the candidates of the Non-Party Bloc of Co-operation with the Government. This, it must be remembered, was after a campaign of unusual bitterness, and public interest and participation in the voting was the maximum to be expected under any conditions.

## 1935 Figures

The figures for 1935 are abundant, and open to various interpretations. (See complete figures in table on this page.) There were 16,282,347 registered voters. Of this number, 7,576,686 went to the polls, or 46.5 per cent. Using these figures, the Government press comes to the conclusion that the loss in per-

centage, due to such boycott propaganda as was allowed, bad weather, and public unfamiliarity with the election customs, was 28 per cent. By subtracting the number of votes cast for List 1 in 1930 from the number of total votes cast in 1935, Government organs conclude that there was an actual increase in pro-Government strength of 2,372,624, or nearly 45 per cent. In other words, the position has changed from a 50 — 50 proportion to nearly a 3—1 proportion.

The catch, however, is that the number of votes cast but defective is not taken into consideration.

## Opposition View

The Opposition point of view is that these defective votes are in a large measure votes of non-confidence, that many anti-government partisans, while in theory objecting to boycott and feeling that citizens should vote, voted defectively so that they could not be considered as supporting the new order of things. The large number of these defective votes, 1,806,651, considerably supports this point of view, but, again, there must be subtracted from this the normal number of defective votes. Just what this number should be no one has discussed, the pro-Government publications because they are not at all interested in the defective votes, while the Opposition organs shy away from anything liable to reduce this number. We may safely say that the normal percentage of defective ballots should not exceed five per cent. at the maximum. We may therefore conclude that this "defective protest" was 1,716,319.

If we subtract the total number of votes cast this year from the total cast in 1930, we get a difference of 4,240,727 votes which the Opposition press claims to represent the strength of the "boycott protest." We cannot, however, grant them the full use of this figure.

It is a well known adage that bad weather reduces the rural vote, and the weather on election day certainly played as prominent a part in reducing the total vote as assigned to it by the Government press. As we hinted previously, the lack of campaign agitation also served to reduce frequency, and unfamiliarity with election procedure must also be taken into account. We shall not be far wrong, although the whole thing is pure guesswork, if we reduce this four million odd "boycott protest" by one-quarter which would give us 3,174,545. To this we must add the "defective protest" and we get 4,981,196 as a more or less true index of Opposition strength. It can be stated, therefore, that the Government has really gained, not nearly the amount claimed, but substantially, and, also, that the Opposition has lost. With this conclusion, most impartial observers would agree.

## Composition

It is of interest to note the composition of the new Sejm according to occupation and profession. There are 71 farmers, but this word must not be used in the American or British sense. Gentleman farmer, or large landowner describes a great part of this majority section in the new Sejm. Then follow in numerical strength, "white collar" men in government, city, and private employ with 26. Thirteen represent the legal profession in all its branches, and eight, the scholastic world. There are also eight newspapermen, and seven each of industrial men, engineers, and mavers of cities and towns. There are six presidents of cities, a like number of merchants, the same number of doctors, five school directors, three notaries, two military men, two social workers, three priests, three workers, two artisans, one pharmacist, one rabbi, one literate and also only one economist.

From the Government, Premier Sławek was elected, three ministers, and two vice-ministers.

Over seventy per cent. of the Polish population gain their living from the land, and agricultural products account for about 50% of the exports. The total area of Poland is 379,000 square kilometres, of which 67.5% is devoted to agricultural purposes. Of the total area of Poland about one-half comprises arable land, 10% meadows, 7% pasture land and 1.5% orchards and gardens. Forests occupy 22% of the country, leaving for waste land and other purposes 10.5%.

Polish agricultural traditions reach far back into the past and the farmer knight is typical of the early centuries. For many centuries the farms containing the best land were worked by the labour of the village population who were bound to work for the owner. The old Republic failed to solve the acute social problem, namely this of peasant's bondage. The structure of the Polish countryside and its production, too, have been mainly affected by the fact that the great social reforms under taken in the 19th century were made by the Prussian, Austrian and Russian Government without the cooperation of the Polish element. This accounts for a considerable structural difference in agriculture in the three different parts of Poland, which is particularly evident in the division of the land and in the quality and intensity of its production. Only the provinces of Poznań and Pomerania, which were formerly under Prussian rule, have a sound basic structure. Only in these provinces was the liquidation of the old social system conducted rationally and for the question of inheritance and easements regulated. In other parts agricultural reforms were far from being systematic or complete and the relics of the old system were only finally abolished by the new Polish State. With no legal barriers to the subdivision of property and scanty outlets for absorption in industry and by emigration, the density of the rural population reached a figure unexceeded anywhere else in Europe, of 62 per square kilometre. Obviously this must lead to a minute division of the land. About two-thirds of all landed properties are less than 12 acres, the majority being diminutive holdings of less than 5 acres. As regards land used for the purpose of cultivation, peasant holdings (2 to 50 acres) account for two-fifths, medium holdings (50 to 125 acres) for one-third and the properties of more than 125 acres for one-quarter.

As we can see from the above, the agricultural situation in Poland is characterized by overpopulation and a minute subdivision of property.

Immediately upon the establishment of Polish independence, the basic problems of

(Continued on page 5, col. 1)

# THE SITUATION IN ETHIOPIA

ITALIAN ARMIES REPORTED ON THE MOVE

By Laurence Stallings

Addis Ababa, September 9.

Heavy rains still continue to fall on the great Abyssinian Plateau, and from personal experience I can say that the whole country is one great morass. I took a mule and travelled over 30 kilometres in the welter of mud and shuddered for those whose business as fighters will take them on foot through that wet desolation. We are only at the beginning of September and rains in this part of the world are not expected to cease until early in October. But even then the ground will remain difficult for some time. North-east on the Eritrean border, it will take longer for the region to dry than south-east along the frontier of Italian Somaliland.

The whole world is watching the Italian armies strung out along the Red Sea, but little is heard of the Ethiopian troops, primitive men, who in large quantities, or at all events in quantities large for Abyssinia, have been put to guard the frontiers. Stationed week after week on the border with little or nothing to do, these men through inaction run the risk of losing morale. This danger is a serious one from the Abyssinian point of view. But a greater danger in international eyes lies in the possibility that these troops, whose control from Addis Ababa is only slight, may make an attack on the Italians facing them before they can be restrained.

## Exodus of Civilians

The exodus of civilians from Addis Ababa continues, in spite of all that the Abyssinian Government may do to persuade them to remain. Commodities are becoming scarce, due to the fact that people have taken to hoarding rice, dry fruits and flour. The Government has sent messengers to the Gallas and other remote tribes asking them to sell the greatest possible quantity of foodstuffs to the Abyssinian troops stationed on the frontiers. It must be recorded that these men are not well supplied and, moreover, they are improvident by nature.

Column upon column of Ethiopian troops can be seen passing through and just outside the capital, and it would seem to be the policy of the Emperor to let Addis Ababa see as many of these soldiers as possible so as to let it be understood that the whole Ethiopian nation is involved in the defence of the country. The soldiers, who are pouring through the outskirts of the capital present a difficult problem as regards transport. They are kept together as far as possible and collected near the railway line where they are put into trains and thus cleared away from the region of Addis Ababa to make room for more men.

From the far south on the Kenya border reports are reaching us that the tribesmen are displaying a warlike spirit in defence of the country.

The general feeling here is that the Powers are incapable of averting war and the Negus would have been at the front with his troops but for the fact that he feels that the League of Nations considers his presence necessary at Addis Ababa while negotiations are still proceeding in Geneva.

There is an impression here that trouble, when it does begin, will start on the Somaliland frontier and heavy supplies of mules and camels are being sent by rail towards that region as it is utterly impossible during the

present rainy season to move them otherwise.

To sum up, I am saying that the whole nation is willing to go to war and is chafing at the present inaction. It cannot tolerate the menace of the Italians much longer.

Yesterday I went to the Palace with Mr. Engert, the U. S. Chargé d'Affaires, who was received in audience by the Negus to whom he gave notice of the withdrawal of the Development and Exploration Corporation from the concession which had been granted to it by the Ethiopian Government. I saw the Emperor who gave me the impression of being cool and cheerful in a time of trial.

## Grave News

Grave news has just come to hand. In spite of the rain which is still falling heavily and the state of the ground, which is no better than a bog, Italian armies are reported to be in advance. An official communiqué has just been issued announcing that in accordance with dispatches from the northern provinces, Italian divisions in Eritrea are moving towards the Abyssinian frontier in war formation and over a greatly extended front. The dispatches add that the Italians have occupied all the more important points for a serious advance.

The principal generals and officials of Ethiopia have been summoned to the Palace. Throughout the great region of Tigra in the north and north-east of the Empire, the situation is tense, and the Emperor is only succeeding with great difficulty in restraining the frontier guards from entering upon hostilities. The atmosphere is undoubtedly warlike.

Things have been working up to this for some days. The Italian Legation yesterday took a very significant step. In spite of the Five-Power conference which is debating Ethiopian affairs in Geneva, Count Vini, the Italian Minister, gave permission to such of the Consular staff of Italy as is stationed in the provincial towns of Ethiopia, to withdraw should these officials desire to do so. Eleven of them availed themselves of this permission; two at Magalo, three at Adreha, three at Gondar, one at Debre Markos, and two at Dessia.

A significant preparation for war is the fact that the Swedish instructors at the Artillery School 30 miles from the capital are sending their wives and children out of the country.

Four French army officers are about to begin the organisation and collection of a force to guard the railway and to protect foreigners. The force will have its headquarters at Dire Dawa on the Djibuti railway line. The senior of these officers is Major Durieux and he and his three colleagues had a conference with the Emperor yesterday.

An incident which I believe has never occurred before was witnessed yesterday at the time when the Emperor was returning to the Palace from the Coptic Cathedral where he had attended divine service. A crowd of Moslem merchants lined the route from the church to the Palace loudly cheering His Majesty. Around the church were gathered bands of warriors from the Abyssinian hinterland, wild-looking fellows but all of them Christians. They were singing and cheering accompanied by a battery of drums and cymbals.

In spite of the warlike fever in this country and the obvious Italian preparations on the other side of the frontier, there are still those here who believe that the present dangerous crisis may be solved by the adoption of the three traditional spheres of influence in Abyssinia—namely French, British and Italian spheres. I am mentioning the existence of these views for the purpose of record.

A number of foreign advisers including the American, Mr. Everett Colson, of the Abyssinian Government, who have been spending a few well-earned days of rest at a lake resort not far from the capital have been recalled over the week-end. Owing, no doubt, to the congestion caused by the movement of troops, foreigners have not been allowed to use the last three bi-weekly trains on the Addis Ababa-Djibuti railway, and this has caused a certain amount of discomfort, though the reason for the prohibition can be readily understood.

A curious incident occurred here in connection with the arrival of the company of British Indian troops sent to reinforce the British Legation guard. The Ethiopian Government had granted permission, quite exceptionally and as a matter of courtesy, but in order not to arouse public anxiety and in accordance with the well-known eastern policy of saving face, the men were brought into Addis Ababa secretly at night. They paraded, however, yesterday in full uniform for all the world to see.

Finally, as I said at the beginning of this dispatch, rain continues to fall incessantly and the country remains impassable away from the railway line, except for the fortunate possessors of mules, and even then only the best mules are of any use.

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## Warsaw Honours Mme.

Skłodowska-Curie

On Thursday last the statue of Madame Skłodowska-Curie, in front of the Radium Institute, was unveiled and at the same time the square on which it stands was renamed *Marja Skłodowska-Curie Plac*. Thus Warsaw paid homage to her greatest daughter, the world-famed scientist.

The members of the government, ministers, under-secretaries, and others were present and the statue was unveiled by Madame Moseicka, the wife of the President. Professor Pieńkowski, rector of the Warsaw University, made the opening speech in which he emphasized the ardent wish of the great founders of the Institute that it should fulfil its high mission and develop to its fullest possibilities. After him spoke Professor Jitkowska. The musical part of the ceremony was performed by the orchestra of the Municipal Tramways and the chorus *Harfa* under its conductor, Professor Lachman.

The statue by Madame Nitsch, a prominent Polish sculptress, is a fine presentation of the eminent scientist, in characteristic meditative pose, simple and noble, a worthy portrait of a great woman.

Next Sunday, September 15, is the date for elections to the Senate.

# NEWS IN BRIEF

Rumours of cabinet change, noticed some weeks ago in our columns, continue. It is not known who will head the new Government, but it is thought that not more than two or three of the present membership will be retained in their present or other posts. The guess is that an announcement will be made on or before September 22.

It is estimated that 13,000 persons daily are fed through the medium of the Work Fund in Warsaw alone.

Five secret tobacco plantations more than three thousand square metres in extent were discovered near Bródno. The plants were destroyed and the planters are liable to severe fines.

Anti-Polish events continue to take place in Czechoslovakia, and eight regiments have been transferred to those sections where Poles are in the majority. The authorities have confiscated all Polish publications issued in Czechoslovakia, and many arrests have been made among the people. No gatherings are allowed, and, on the slightest excuse, arrests are being made.

The Socialist Party asked for permission to organize a celebration in a small Pomeranian city on the occasion of its tenth anniversary. The permission was refused by the authorities on the grounds that the Party had existed in this city for nine years only.

A tennis match, Warsaw-Zagreb, begins today on the Legza courts. Wittman, Poplawski, and Toczyński will represent Warsaw.

A decision to build a mountain railway through the Tatras has been definitely reached. The length will be near 40 kilometres, and the completed railway will reach from Giewont to Kasprowy Wierch. The construction work will be done by the British Ropeway Engineering Company of London. The work will take three years to complete and more than one thousand workers will be continuously employed on the project.

The number of registered unemployed continues to fall. This week there were 268,860, a decrease of 6,801 from last week's figures. In comparison with last year is favourable as there are 18,252 less than at the same time in 1934.

The cost of living for a working family of four in Warsaw has risen by 0.24%, and is calculated at 2 zlotys and 56 groszy daily.

President Roosevelt has proclaimed October 11 as "Pulaski Memorial Day," and flags will be flown from all public buildings.

The next Congress of the International Veterans Association (FIDAC) will be held in Poland in 1936.

Rumours that the Minister of Treasury, Mr. Zawadzki, who is now in Geneva, would take the initiative in calling a conference to consider the stabilization of currencies are false according to the official news agency PAT.

Negotiations are now under way for the purchase of Greek tobacco in exchange for Polish coal. The value of the exchange would be around two million zlotys yearly.

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## N O R D K A P P

## P R E S S R E V I E W



ISLE OF BIRDS

The excursionist to the Norwegian fjords, at least after he crosses the Polar circle, is a wild-eyed trophy hunter. I saw a young woman knee-deep in the icy water at Nordkapp stumble and all but fall headlong over a meridian or some other strand of that big cobweb you see on maps. Then suddenly she straightened up all aglow with excitement and rushed to the bank squealing her shrill delight at a slithery bunch of black, nasty seaweed she held in her clutch. She had a souvenir! Others not so hardy as that young Amazon contented themselves with buying grubby looking paper knives from the Laplainers who had come to sell their home-made wares. I bought one, too; I have no use for seaweed though I heard that some people chew it. My treasure is a disagreeable yellowish thing of reindeer bone which I never take by the handle because that one is so repulsively raw and meaty looking. Still, it's a souvenir with Lapp writing on it and all the other attributes that make it valuable.

The aristocrat of trophy-hunters, however, is the amateur photographer. He scorns the crass cupidity of the plebeian for the things of the far North and the raw, and seeks to catch its stern beauty in his little black box. He is easy to recognize. He walks about all tangled up in a multitude of straps, and buckles, filters, light gauges and focus finders, and usually finds, if not the focus, then at least his way into all the no-man's-land where he buys endless packages of photographs just to make sure. If you ask him to show you some of his trophies that are already printed, he'll fish out a fistful and explain that this one is crooked because the ship rolled just as he snapped it, that one is spotted because the ship photographer hadn't got the proper equipment to bring out such a subtle reflection, etc. But he's a pleasant enthusiastic fellow, and you like him.

All together, these "hunters" make jolly company, and once safely ashore on the grim jagged rock whose one earthly use is to mark the northernmost tip of Europe, and, as such, to give the tenderfoot tourist a thrill, we all began scrambling up the zig-zag path to the hostel on Nordkapp promontory.

This hostel is way on the other side of the high plateau atop the precipitous rock, and is not visible from the ship; but we did see while still on board an ambitiously large, bold-lettered sign across the wall of one of the three shacks standing on the shore — "Café du Nord!" Some of the ladies seemed to have been taken in by this bit of Norwegian humour for they came tripping gaily along on French heels peering short-sightedly through their lorgnons at the little Lapp children that shyly wondered at them, too. The second shack was a temporary post-office which the philatelists and friends of philatelists stormed; while the

third, an institution found in all countries and climes, was a retiring little two-door structure at some distance from the others and nearer the water.

The proprietor, waiter and bar-tender of the "Café du Nord" stood hospitably at his open shopfront, leaning his elbows on the board that served for a counter, ready to meet all-comers with his stock of soda-water and musty chocolate. Out of regard for his enterprising sign we tried his wares, and then started up the cliff to the "half-way house" on the nearer side of the plateau which we reached in about half an hour, French heels and all.

This latter building was about the size of the "Café du Nord" some ten feet long by eight feet wide, doing its best to keep from being blown away by the fierce gusts of wind that beat upon it from all directions. The canvas lean-to on the lee side flapped, fluttered, strained, and creaked in all its patches and joints, but somehow held together and afforded a welcome shelter to the French heels who here reached their *Ultima Thule*.



LAPP WOMAN

The rest of us, buttoning ourselves up in all our buttons and pulling our hats and caps down over our ears, staggered off like children just learning to walk. It is impossible to describe that wind. If it found a thin flat rock lying edgewise anywhere, it would swoop screaming down in an arc, pick it up and throw it at you. When you took your foot off the ground to make a step forward, the wind caught it in its teeth and set it down to one side. Turn your back to it, and it would swirl around you, in a circle, pulling at your coat-tails and swishing handfuls of mist sharp as sand in your face.

But we had started, and wind or no wind, we were determined to get across that kilometre of Northland, throw the northernmost pebble of Europe into Barents Sea, and hear it plop. Finally we reached the cabin on the extreme promontory. Standing in the lee of its chunky walls, our knees and ankles weak as cotton and our faces smarting from the wind, we looked out, proud as a cock

This week the Press has been mostly occupied with election news; the Opposition Press agitating against the elections, calling on its readers to abstain from voting, the so-called "Sanitation" Press urging the population to go to the polls.

*Kurjer Polski* writes: "Pre-election action was of entirely different character than heretofore, the element of agitation being almost entirely eliminated." Premier Ślawek's open letter in which he protested against his name being mixed up in any pre-election agitation was the best proof of the characteristic change which has taken place. Election action was limited for the most part to preventing public opinion from being led astray, by those who tried to keep the citizens away from the poll in the name of false democratic watchwords. However, the writer concludes that these efforts were unavailing as events showed that interest was great although devoid of the excited character so significant for former pre-election action.

On the other hand *Warszawski Dziennik Narodowy* (National Liberal) incites its readers to abstain from voting as a proof that they have no confidence in those for whom alone they are



THE AUTHOR AND TWO LAPPS

atop a weather-vane, over the brink of the precipice. Its rough jagged outline against the misty sea was relieved by a slender iron post bearing a clean-cut letter "N" significantly splitting a bronze arrow.

As we stood there laughing and gaily triumphant, the sea began to merge with the sky. Before our very eyes the precipice disappeared! We stared at one another with unfinished words on our lips; one of the women instinctively put out her hand to touch the solid long wall behind her. In a moment, a cloud thick as milk had come upon us, blotting everything out of sight. It passed as suddenly as it came, but we were strangely quiet after it had gone. We stood with our eyes fixed on that simple letter "N" and that mute arrow cutting through the fog, pointing steadily over that grey ominous sea where Amundsen, Malmgren, and men like them of finer clay and stouter hearts than ours had gone and never returned. Suddenly we noticed that we were cold and that our clothes were damp, as we tumbled in through the cabin door into our own safe tourist world again.

What a surprise! After the "Café du Nord" and the "half-way house" we were once more in a typically Norwegian hostel, everything so comfortably solid, cosy and warm! White aproned and costumed ladies were cir-

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able to vote. By not voting the citizen says:

Some of the candidates are quite unknown to me, others on the contrary only too well known, adherents of opinions which are entirely opposite to those which I hold.

In the opinion of the writer it is insufficient that the future delegate is socially or economically related to him. He demands that the deputy whom he elects to represent him should take up a standpoint in all state matters, not excluding foreign policy, which agree with the convictions and opinions of his elector. Such an one he does not find on the list of candidates, therefore in abstaining from voting he announces that:

I and with me other citizens are not satisfied with this experiment of the new suffrage system and we demand that it be changed. I have no other way of expressing my dissatisfaction in voting against my conviction, I should be one of the upholders of the excellence of this system.

*Gazeta Polska* reproduces a lecture by Colonel Miedzinski, in which he emphasizes that the deputy to the Sejm elected under the new system will have freedom to vote as his conscience and conviction compel him not being under any obligation of solidarity to his party. He can therefore judge each new measure or proposal on its merits not from the angle of whether he is in the Opposition camp or the Government one.

Will the discussions not be much more interesting in which on every question there will be a different order of opinions and voting and another relation of for and against, depending only on the conviction and knowledge of affairs of the deputies and not from which side of the House he has stepped on to the tribune or given his vote.

In the lecturer's opinion a bad custom of party unions and obligations prevented the members of the legislative body from acting according to their conscience.

The distinction which the new constitution has clearly marked out between executive and legislative work, and on the other hand executive authority and responsibility for its carrying out — these are healthy and just principles within the limits of which we may prophesy for the new Polish parliament the raising of its dignity and the standard of its work — and never lowering.

Colonel Miedzinski explained at length the functions of the parliament as a control of the executive authority both in the domain of finance as in the entire administration of the State — but not the function of summoning or dismissing the executive which is according to the new constitution the prerogative of the President.

Now that the elections are over, the Press, according to the political convictions of the individual organs gives contradictory accounts of the results of the elections. *Gazeta Polska* writes:

Interest in the elections was varied in different districts of Warsaw. In the centre and suburbs, Lubecki, Stęsz and Zollbro — great interest. All attempts at agitation in the former style met with general dissatisfaction and evoked rather the contrary effect.

According to the writer all attempts at keeping back electors from voting failed. In other parts of the town, however, for instance Praga, there was noticeable agitation for abstention from polling.

In general it may be affirmed that where the level of culture and social understanding of working and artisan classes was higher there was a greater attendance at the polls.

The Kraków *Głos Narodu* finds that elections without agitation are impossible, that the public must know the programme and opinions of the candidates, that

four candidates for each district is too large a number and that the writer does not agree with "Premier Ślawek who it seems condemns pre-election agitation as severely as — party politics." The number of candidates must be reduced:

If we have entered on a way, let us say, of simplifying political life in Poland we ought not to hesitate at leading it to its consistent conclusion. This will be more practical than running the risk of destroying non-party discipline.

The reason that the *Głos Narodu* objects to the four candidates is that it disperses votes and leads to involuntary rivalry among the four, and therefore forces the candidates to solicit votes, the very thing the new system wishes to avoid.

*Czas* (Conservative) says: "We must look matters boldly in the face," and admits that the chief reason for the little interest evinced in the elections is the want of political training on the part of the community which does not yet understand the influence it might exercise on public affairs.

*Kurjer Polski* does not take matters too much to heart but declares that "it is obvious that as the essence of the new suffrage system enters into the political consciousness of the masses, so the frequency at the polls will increase. Obviously, however, this will depend on the work of the Sejm that has issued from the present elections."

*Robotnik* (Socialist) is triumphant "that the experiment has failed. The simple truth must be realized that the country does not wish it."

## New Projects for School Reform.

In connection with the new programme for lycées which is to be issued the second October *Głos Narodu*, a Kraków paper, publishes some remarks of educational circles. The new lycées are intended to satisfy the requirements of pupils who are to a certain extent specializing either in humanistic, technical or mathematical-natural science subjects. In elaborating the school programmes the question of the maturity examination has been taken into consideration.

Pedagogical spheres are anxious to take this opportunity of solving this question of the finishing of these lycées. It is possible that the *matura* in its present form will be abolished and another way of qualifying maturity will be applied. It is probable that pupils entering the lycées will be subjected to an entrance examination in the sphere of their speciality, either humanistic, technical or mathematical, according to the special type of lycées they intend to frequent.

It is considered that a period of two years is sufficient for the purpose of settling the programme of studies in all lycées and for solving other problems connected with the organization of the new lycées.

The first snow of the year fell in the Tatras last Saturday night. The temperature fell to one degree above zero Centigrade, and the snow, which remained on the ground through Sunday, gave a wintry look to the mountain peaks.

The Douglas D.C.2, purchased for use by the Polish Airforce, arrived in Warsaw last Saturday. Due to unfavourable atmospheric conditions, the second plane came from Berlin later.

**NORDKAPP**

(Continued from page 3 col. 3)

cling in and out among the tables like dancers at an old-time picnic with man-sized pots of coffee on trays above their heads. Invitingly wide benches ran along the smooth board walls stained a rich mahogany brown, all varnished and polished into a pleasant glow, but showing the grain of the honest wood beneath. We threw ourselves into these seats, luxuriating in their extra breadth and easy comfortable curve that let us sprawl in them and admire the raftered ceiling in a somewhat lighter tone of brown, gleaming like amber above the lighted lamps. A few draughts of the fragrant coffee that was immediately set before us and we just couldn't help stretching out and lighting a cigarette. It

was then that the thought struck us that there is nothing so comforting and reassuring in rough country as good, solid, well-kept woodwork around you, and piping hot coffee inside you. And this is typically Norwegian,—honest material, honest workmanship, honest food in a disarmingly honest country.

A person likes to talk when he feels that way, so I engaged our young Norwegian guide in conversation; he was sitting nearby, not understanding a word of the Polish being spoken around him but getting along quite well, reading the expressions on our faces.

"What is your impression of Poles as tourists?"

"The liveliest crowd I ever conducted, full of pepper and fun, like young children. I wish I could understand what everybody is saying."

We didn't get much further in our first conversation because when it was discovered that he spoke German as perfectly as English, a brightly chattering circle of feminine frailty hemmed him in, and after one or two fruitless attempts to get a word through over their heads he had to give up and retreated for the steady trip over the plateau and down the zig-zag trail to the ship.

Outside, the wind had risen even more and was roaring down from the North in shrieking blasts. You could feel it strike blows upon your back, drilling icy little holes through the fabric of your clothing. I went off to one side to get a look at our ship through my field glass, and on the way took off a glove in order to manipulate the focus adjustment better. The wind rushed upon me, whipped the glove out from under my arm,

and ran off with it over the cliffs' edge, waving it mockingly at me as if to say good-bye. I am not one to converse with inanimate objects, especially with such as seem to be jeering at me, so I limited myself to a short limbering-up exercise in profanity, and picked my way down the path to the landing wharf.

When all passengers were on board the ship once more, and the three blasts of the siren had echoed down to faint horns blowing far away in the mist Nordkapp became suddenly very dear to me, just as a sleepy old polar bear in the Zoo may become dear to a child. And just as an unthinking nurse-maid may pull away the child by the hand I, too, was being pulled away with all the ship's engines straining at the screws, but still firm in my belief that I would come

again, and that Nordkapp was a nice old bear for all his shag-giness and roughness.

— E. I. Z.

Conversations between the Free City of Danzig and Poland were finished last Friday. An agreement was reached concerning milk, butter, milk powder, eggs, cattle and meat products, lard, fish, vegetables, grain and hay. In addition two agreements were signed covering cheese, and the import of certain brands of fish from Danzig.

The National Treasury has cancelled advances made toward the building of schools, and loans amounting to nine million zlotys will not have to be repaid by city and county authorities.

**DEATH IS A TORY**

By Keats Patrick

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"I prefer not to be interrupted. The one interruption I'd welcome, will not occur, I'm sure. I took the liberty of telephoning Sally in your name, Tom. She was genuinely not in. I left a message and she'll be here before long. I was before. I know she did not come before then, because I have been watching, while waiting for Mr. Roach. However, I scarcely expected she would come."

Gill lit a cigarette, and almost as if he scraped of the match were a signal there came a rap on the door.

"Sally?" Gill exclaimed.

But Roach was on his feet and opened the door to give entrance to a tall bald man with gray-clipped mustache.

"This is Major Umber of the District Police," Roach said.

"Mr. Collins, whose office we are in, and Mr. Huddleston—and Representative Lightfoot."

The introductions were acknowledged, wondering on the part of Homer and Tom. Gill gave up his chair to the Major.

"I talk about on my feet," he said. "And I asked you gentlemen to come here to listen to a monologue. It is just as well the Major came. An oversight on my part, which I am happy to find remedied by Mr. Roach."

"Gentlemen, I want to take some of your time in reviewing the highlights of the murders and attempted murders in which we have found ourselves involved."

"Two weeks ago—Alleen Rich and Felix Starbuck were shot in the rear of the rich home. Some hours after the crimes Marshall Rich telephoned to Mr. Collins—I believe Mr. Huddleston received the call, however—and confessed the murders. He was subsequently arrested and repeated his confession to Mr. Roach and others in authority. He was indicted. Trial was set for yesterday. Day before yesterday his innocence was established to the satisfaction of the court. Mr. Roach and others in authority. Under examination, Alleen Rich repudiated his confession."

"Very good, Rich did not shoot his wife nor the man with her."

"I trust you did not call us here to tell us that, Mr. Congressman," Roach said with inverted smile.

"No, I asked you to come here to deliver the actual murder to you. I'll try to convince you that Rich didn't fire a single shot that night, not even the three that were fired into the big tub."

"Don't think this is a fantastic confession, Homer," Gill smiled. "You look terribly grim. I didn't kill Alleen or Felix. I killed a both of them. I don't intend to commit the same kind of my troubles. Miss Shafte can make a serious case against me, because she can produce the wrappings of a box I sent her by air mail. I returned a scarf to her inadvertently left in my pocket. By the way, however, the wrappings undoubtedly show traces of arsenic."

"To protect myself I am forced to prove that I did not send the poisoned candy. Because of the very warm affection I hold for the major victim, however, I don't intend to commit the same kind of my troubles. Time is short, evidence is scant. So I elected to poison the sororality of the theorem. Find the murderer—Alleen and Felix, and you'll have the poisoner of Katherine O'Day."

"This morning I visited a man who gave me the key to the problem. But first let us become retrospective for a few minutes. You, Tom, and you, Homer, I saw Sally develop most of the evidence which proved Rich did not shoot his wife. We were present at the time she announced the mysterious second weapon had provided her with a theory. Rich didn't commit the murder. We were present the next day when she alone, of the six of us, discovered the mangled goldfish in the pool. To us it was just a dead fish. To her it was the one visible link in a chain of evidence which would lead to the murderer in the pool. We saw the bullet marks on the bottom and in the tub brought to view."

"I never in my life witnessed such a display of deductive genius. Everywhere Sally looked, she found an actual evidence turned up that Rich was innocent. She never found a clue to the real murderer. In fact, she refused to look for them."

"Thus far so good, except inspiration. She led the way to the garage, where Homer and I, with Tom and all came to her aid pointing out and explaining the cuspidor on the floor. I think Sally would have deduced that Rich rushed in, snatched the gun, hid it in the tub, and then tried to implicate himself, if she had not received such gratuitous assistance."

"It was Sally's idea to look for possible witnesses—not witnesses to the murder, but witnesses to innocent. We were with her when Berger and the garage man were found. Am I right, Mr. Roach, that she suggested the laboratory would clinch proofs of innocence?"

"It is since my arrival here yesterday that the form and plan of the whole fantastic plot was revealed to me."

"I mapped the whole business out on paper. Only one piece is missing. I hope to hear from you in a few days."

"The poisoner is the murderer and is Sally Shafte!"

"What!"

Tom was on his feet, Roach's chair legs came down with a bang, and Homer sat at the foot of the bed, except his mustache, which sagged wider and wider. Only Major Umber sat unmoving, a quizzical smile under his mustache.

"Miss Shafte's breast was poisoned by the candy," Roach snorted. "Her pet dog which she loved died from eating it."

"Can you prove that?" Gill demanded. "What were the symptoms? And anyhow, a woman as coldbloodedly murderous

and as homieidally insane as Sally would not hesitate to give herself a mild case of poisoning to make her case appear perfect thereby, and she would not be deterred by the fact that she is a woman."

"I think this is screwy, Gill," said Tom sitting down again with a sidelong look at the open drawer. "I don't think you wanted the nurse to come in here. I don't think you want to go so far as to prove somebody else did them, let alone pinning it on Sally."

"Go on, let him tell his story," Roach said, with half a sneer.

"Sally and I love-affair with Rich. They carried on a secret affair. Alleen was the wife. And Sally, a crank and mysterious, and crime, was on the lookout for a victim anyhow. The perfect crime. You've all heard of the perfect crime. Of course, Sally knew how to conduct the crime. Sally was a crack electioneer. She was Honer Cummings famous, and work it backward. Simple!"

"I was the unexpected element. Sally suspected me. She worked two months to disguise my name. She was her confidant and ally, and she sent my congressional opponent long messages about my alleged misfeasances and malfeasances. That was to create a situation which would draw me from the scene. Rich, of course, did not know anything about it. The first attempt worked, the second succeeded."

"But there was Ka. Sally knew from me that I had given Ka the Biblical letter Rich had received. Something happened to make her suspect Ka more than ever. She suspected me of betraying her. I wish I knew what it was."

"What letter are you talking about?" Roach snapped.

"A letter in Biblical language, giving Bible references, sent to Rich in prison the Saturday after the crime. Sally had to let Rich know the plot was working, so she arranged to write him anonymous letters that looked like the work of a religious nut."

"Rich, of course, did not know anything about it. He had to let the murders. He was an accessory before and after the fact. He built up the alibi, while Sally did the shooting. She shot the man, the woman and the little tub. When Rich came home he knew what to do. He hid the plot in the telephone call to make. That was all. His shriveled little conscience was clear."

"But imagine his being able to sell the government the idea of breeding 'exotic' corn—a fruitful corn with the metabolism of a corn-cob and the vigor of a corn-cob. That was a job thereby. But the mail was censored by a man with a camera eye, who remembered every word of the letter. He wrote the whole thing down on an envelope, and here Fate stepped in on tiptoe and provided that the envelope the sheriff searched for was the original letter. Now its obviousness screams at me. Of course it was a code to let Rich know how the plot was progressing, to assure him that it was working as planned. The only turning point was the missing piece of the envelope, which was working as planned. 'The expectation shall not be taken away'—as planned. 'The hour of the redemption is of thine own making'—the real alibi has yet to be tested, but the Gentile and the Jew, Pete and Berger, will testify for her. Ka and you had tried to do up, we could make sense of the story then. 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## LAND PROBLEM

(Continued from page 1, col. 5.)

Polish agriculture came to the forefront. Thus in 1919 there was passed by the Legislative Bodies the Agricultural Reform Bill providing among other things for a compulsory parcelation of landowners' estates into small and medium sized farms to appease the land-hungry rural population. Since 1919 until 1934 there were parcelled pursuant to this law 2,247,000 hectares among about 605,000 small farmers. Of the above 38% was sold to already existing small farmers so that they might increase their areas of cultivation, while of the balance of the parcelled land, 54% was sold to the rural population that had not had thus far any land of its own, and 8% to special organizations for the promotion of model farms and agricultural schools.

In connection with the above Bill a Ministry of Agricultural Reforms was created as well as a State Land Bank, a Government institution, with a capital of 10,000,000 zlotys increased since to Zl. 140,000,000 for financing the reform through the extension of long and short term credits to the agricultural community at large. Since that time the State Land Bank has developed its manifold operations, growing in size and importance. It occupies at the present time the dominating position as chief banker for Polish agriculture. In addition to parcelation activities it has been lending millions of zlotys for commutation, this is, uniting small units of land into one or more economically justified units located in the same place. This can be achieved through exchange of parcels of land with other farmers, through a purchase or sale, for which money has been lent to the bank. Altogether since 1919 until 1934, 505,560 farmers resorted to the aid of the Bank

in consolidating their landed properties, comprising about 3,600,000 hectares. Parallel to such action, considerable funds have been lent by the bank for the purpose of rural land improvements schemes, irrigation, liquidation of landlords' royalties, purchase of implements, industrialization of agriculture, dairying, cattle raising, etc.

Such beneficial action, however, has been proceeding in the last few years on a much smaller scale than before owing to the lack of long term funds. In a majority of cases the above programme had to be financed by long term bonds of the State Land Bank, which however, in view of the situation in the capital markets could not be disposed of easily.

All in all from 1919 until 1934 about 1,700,000 zlotys has been expended by all agencies and private interests for land improvement reforms. Of the above total 830 millions had been contributed by the Government and the State Land Bank (likewise Government institution) 320,000,000 zlotys came from the sale of the long term bonds that had been issued by the State Land Bank and finally about 600,700,000 zlotys was contrib-

## HIGHWAY EXHIBITION

The exhibition of roadways opened on September eighth at the Warsaw Polytechnic is arranged by the League of Roadways in Poland and has as its first object the propaganda of road-building in Poland. The League considers rightly that the crying need in Poland is that of good roads, that with the solution of this problem also to a great extent the solution of unemployment goes hand in hand. In view of the fact that bureaucracy has not known how to deal with this vital need of the country, private factors, economic and social, have had to take it in hand, appealing to the public and such of the authorities who have come forward to help, as for instance, the Minister of Communication, Alexander Bobowski, the Vice-minister of the same Ministry and President of the Automobile Club, Julian Piasecki, and the Chairman of the Chief Board of the Road League, Count Stefan Tyszkiewicz.

These chief organizers have arranged a splendid object lesson which it is hoped will bear fruit for the economic future of Poland depends on the development of its means of communication.

The exhibition has been well planned in such a way as to interest and even amuse. There are several sections — historic, industrial, technical, touristic. In the vestibule we have at once an illustration of the projected *Highway of Marshal Piłsudski* running from Kraków via Kielce-Warsaw-Wilno to Żółów, the birthplace of the Marshal.

There are series of miniature models of roads, showing the progress of road-building in Poland, and in July, 1934, 156,000 tons of coal in Poland, and in August, 174,000 tons.

These models are prepared by the buyers and owners of the landed property, carry on the reforms financed only partially from the funds mentioned above.

Despite such a tremendous effort to overcome the disproportion existing in the Polish agricultural structure, the situation is yet far from satisfactory. According to 1931 population data, there is at least 7% of total rural population still waiting for the land. This is to say there is a shortage at the present time of about 250,000 farms. Adding a natural annual increase of 30 thousand rural families, we arrive at a figure of about 280,000 of new farms that are badly needed. Taking even the most moderate figure of five hectares to one farm it would require about 1,400,000 hectares of land. The above figure does not take as yet into consideration 2,500,000 hectares that are badly needed to round up the numerous small farms already existing and representing an average acreage of less than five hectares which is the very minimum for a rational farm.

The above figures may be contrasted with 2,247,000 hectares of land that had been parcelled thus far since 1919. — A. B.

colonies in which we have plastically presented the significance of roads as arteries of communication; miniature military rolling stock; model of masked road in case of air attack; models of bridges already erected or in course of construction. Very interesting is the historic department showing the historic roads of Polish leaders — Boleslaw the Brave, Stefan Batory, Sobieski.

At the entrance to this hall we have the symbolic figure of Piast, the wheelwright founder of the first dynasty of Polish kings, and gradually we are led up to the epoch of automobiles and super-highways. We are shown the progress made by the Polish motor industry which is now producing cars of Polish manufacture.

An amusing feature is the presentation of former modes of travel from the most primitive — by cart, carriage and coach gradually coming to our own days of motor cars.

Different Polish firms are exhibiting such industries as cement, petroleum and stone. Tourism in Poland has also its exponents. In the grounds of the institute are examples of roadmaking: asphalt, paving bricks etc., also models of autocars, carriages and so on.

Amusements are also provided in the way of a café, cinema, band and popular entertainments. The railways have provided special cheap tickets for visitors from the provinces.

— K. M.

## DIPLOMATIQUE

The German Ambassador, M. Hans Adolf von Moltke, left Warsaw last week. During his absence Dr. Martin Schliep will act as Chargé d'Affaires.

The French Ambassador, M. Leon Noel left Warsaw for a holiday. M. Pierre Bressy will act as Chargé d'Affaires during his absence.

The new Argentine Minister, M. Eduardo L. Colombres, arrived in Warsaw last week.

The Rumanian Minister, M. Victor Cadore, has returned to Warsaw after a holiday abroad.

Colonel von Studnitz has been appointed Military Attaché to the German Embassy.

The new Austrian Military Attaché, Colonel Longin, has arrived in Warsaw.

Mr. Arthur Francis Aveling left Warsaw last Thursday for a short holiday in Austria.

## ANGLO-AMERICAN COLONY

Mr. Charles S. Dewey was a prominent visitor in Warsaw last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Percy W. May of London are in Poland for a visit of several months.

Mr. and Mrs. Leigh Ballenberg returned to Warsaw on Tuesday after a two months' stay in Helsingfors.

Mr. S. L. Crosby arrived in Warsaw on Monday.

Mr. John Wharry left for England last week.

Mr. L. H. Hurlau arrived in Warsaw on Saturday to replace Mr. Edmund Dulanski in the American Embassy. Mr. Dulanski is leaving for Moscow on Sunday.

Since December 18, 1933, 2,542 beggars have been removed from the city streets. Some of these have received prison terms, but the majority have been placed in homes conducted by city or district authorities.

Negotiations will begin within a few days looking toward a trade treaty between Poland and Australia.

## ZAGREB

The new police regulations include proposals for taking the wind out of the tires of traffic transgressors in future. Noisy motorists, for example, will have their tires deflated by the traffic policeman and be made to blow them up on the spot under the stern eye of the law and to the amusement of the onlookers. The alternative will be a heavy fine.

## FASHION NOTES

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It's a very jolly fashion thought — this bringing the kimono out of its shy retreat and promoting it to the drawing room. Nothing more graceful to emphasize the West can be found than this languorous garment designed for a short lady of the East.

In Hollywood's hands all the charm of the kimono remains and some of its less convenient features are neatly forgotten. The kimono sleeve, modified in many ways, appears not only on hostess and cocktail gowns but may be seen at dinner parties as well.

Verree Teasdale wears this lovely hostess gown of black velvet which is on the new kimono lines. Of sheer velvet, it clings beautifully and the sombre black is broken only by the long silken fringe on the sash ends of the girdle and the white velvet lining of the kimono sleeves. The true touch of Japan comes in with the white conventionalized chrysanthemums embroidered just above the elbows of the gown.

Black and white prints carry the day. Everywhere they are seen in the luncheon places. Hedda Hopper has some of the cleverest of them.

And all the Hollywood stars are trying to find out what couturier planned the black and white frocks worn by Mrs. Olga Whitehaus in Hollywood this season. Their ingenuity is unbelievable — stripes so craftily and cunningly cut that they become exquisite studies in rhythms. All-over printed designs in conventional geometric forms, with the two colours so well balanced that the gown becomes a work of art. Mrs. Whitehaus tops them with all white hats, on warm days, and her white washable suede gloves are always so fresh and crisp I suspect her of taking out a new pair each morning.

Gloves this fall should be dyed to match one's ensemble, and are very attractive in the dark purple, blue, brown, wine and black-berry shades of the moment. Velvet gloves in black and bright contrasting colours are also worn.

Blacks stockings are worn with evening ensembles and also with smart day-time clothes. Very fine brown and green silk hosiery is much seen, as well as a thicker black silk with the old-fashioned clox.

Little ceremonious touches are introduced by Molineux for evening coiffures. Flowers, feathers and ribbons are set in little erections on top of the head and fastened by a band round it. This trend of ideas takes an amazing turn with Schiaparelli who combines a chenille net à la Charlotte Brontë with purple satin trousers under a long slim satin skirt. The net matches the clothes, of course.

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE COLLEGE

PLAC ZBAWICIELA

Registration begins this week for semester beginning September 27 and 28. Registration fee zl. 5.— Tuition zl. —50. TEL. 845-95

