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# THE

WARSAW WEEK

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MAY 1

1936

## HITLER ON THE TIGHT ROPE

The following important article has been specially continued to the North American Newspaper Alliance by the writer of German nationality who prefers to keep the article concealed behind the pseudonym "Pontifex". The writer has a wide experience of public sfairs in Germany and has been in the closest touch with many of those to whom he refers in his article.

## By "Pontifex"

There are three leaderships in There are three leaderships in present-day Germany: the uncontested general authority of the "Fuehrer", Adolf Hitler himself; that, increasingly overpowering, of the Reichswehr, the Army whose formal leader is General, now Field-Marshal, von Blomberg, but those leading from its more present the present th but whose leading force is a more or less anonymous body of high officers, and the economic and financial authority of Hjalmar Schacht, President of the Reichs bank and acting Minister of

conomy.
The somnabulistic security Economy.

The somnabulistic security of Hitler, adapting his policy to the alternative predominance of men and problems, produced, up to the present moment, the impression of his playing one of these Powers against the other, and both of them against his Party, or vice versa. And as it is absolutely impossible to express opinions or tendencies openly, either in speech or print, the rather strong undercurrents created or strengthened by Hitler's play are kept invisible — until some clash between those powers makes them appear.

#### **Bold Stroke**

Thus a few weeks ago, in fact immediately after the bold stroke of March 7th when the Reichswehr of March 7th when the Reichswehr marched triumphantly over the Rhine bridges, Dr. Schacht seemed fallen in disgrace. Or, as he might have termed it himself, decided to resign. Rumours, the unreliable but all the more popular means of public information in Fascist Germany and similar countries, would have it that Schacht, even more so than Blomberg, bad more so than Blomberg, had objected to the reoccupation of the Rhineland as he feared objected to the reoccupation of the Rhineland as he feared reactions abroad which might have led to a collapse of the already shaky economic structure. Of the Reich. There were other reasons besides this; he had got into such a deep rooted conflict with party authorities that there seemed no way out. A few days before he had given an order to to his lieutenants breaking up all connections with the dictator of raw materials. Herr Kepnler. of raw materials, Herr Kepple and his offices and had brough up acutely the question whether he himself or Keppler was to decide to what purpose the all too small influx of foreign currency was to be allotted. His adversaries was to be allotted. His adversaries were for a moment triumphant. Herr Keppler, Dr. Goebells and other big men of the Party believed that they "had" him this time and, for a moment, the Faehrer himself seemed dublous. But the Fuehrer knows that what little cast in the second of the control little confidence in the economic and financial foundations of the Reich still exists abroad, is uependent upon Dr. Schacht's

authority to such a degree that his withdrawal would mean a lost battle. And hard as it might be battle. And hard as it might be for him to defend that former democrat and free mason against democrat and tree mason against the fierce atlacks of the intrasi-gent hotheads of the Party — strong as Schacht's own desire night have become to shift his heavy responsibilities; Hitler cannot spare him yet.

So, after an interlude of a few weeks during which Schacht has ostensibly refrained from dealing with all matters outside the routine work of his office and taken some badly needed rest in the Black Forest mountains, all is settled again for the moment, that is for a couple of months. Herr Keppler had to give in, Herr Darre, the Minister of Agriculture has once more a couple of millions for foodstuffs, and the very complicated and clever system of Germany's "NRA" — in fact a renewal and evolution of the war - time economic dictatorship — is once more in the hands of its creator. For that is the clue to the economic conditions of the Reich: strengthened by the strict discipline of the Party, there has been evolved a combination of state-control, state - ownership and state - financing, by which all essential production is directed according to the present needs of an improvershed and hard - pressed So, after an interlude of a few production is directed according to the present needs of an impoverished and hard-pressed country and maybe to needs even more pressing in the case of a future war. Dr. Schacht himself, in a recent conversation, termed it so, that "he had put the country into the sanatorium of freezing autrence, restrictions in foreign currency - restrictions in order to stop the tuberculosis."

#### Afraid of Quacks

It is quacks he is afraid of. And there are only too many of them amongst the young and daring adventurers who have And there are only too many of them amongst the young and daring adventurers who have ridden to high rank and believe in the old German saying, according to which "God gives the understanding to those to whom he has given office." Even Hitler, with his God-like authority and the perpetual shouts of admiration of his entourage, can only protect his entourage, can only protect proposition of the entourage of the control of the cause" there is official status might be. And having opposed the glorious recuperation of the Fatherland's sovereign over both borders of the Rhine is not a very healthy proposition for anybody, to say (Continued on page 4, col. 2).

(Continued on page 4, col. 2),

On Monday, April 27, a decree of the President of the Republic was published in the Journal of Laws setting up a system re-Laws setting up a system re-gulating the purchase and sale of foreign exchange.

foreign exchange.

Briefly speaking, the provisions of the decree are as follows:

Prohibited is free trading in foreign banknotes, bills of exchange, cheques, drafts, except through the medium of the Bank of Poland or a list of designated decisen banks. Also forbidden is the publishing of quotations other than the official rates set by the Bank of Poland.

Obligatory is informing the

Obligatory is informing the Bank of Poland of sums receivable from abroad (this concerns exporters) and offering to this Bank or to the *devisen* banks, the right of purchase. The Bank of Poland must also be aware of any amounts borrowed abroad, from whom, and

Curtailed is the export of gold, except ornamental gold, and all means of exchange, such as except ornamental gold, and all means of exchange, such as drafts, money orders etc. Bonds and stocks also may not be exported without the permission of the Exchange Commission. Persons going abroad are allowed to take with them zl. 500, to Danzig zl. 100. If several trips are made within the month, only zl. 500 may be taken from the country during the period.

Curtailed is the import of gold.

country during the period.
Curtailed is the import of gold,
except ornamental gold, foreign
stocks and bonds and coupons
from them, and Polish stocks
and bonds purchased abroad.

Foreigners having accounts in foreign currencies in Polish banks may be allowed to retain them in foreign currencies subject to transfer restrictions.

transfer restrictions:
This, in short, is the foundation upon which, every day, further regulations are being built, and probably some days will elapse before the new system is fully installed and running smoothly.

smoothly.

The reason given for this radical change in Polish monetary policy was the large flow of capital out of the country during the last decade, and the decree was officially termed "temporary", which may be taken to mean that in the not distant future the restrictions will either be lifted or tightened.

The news of the decree, which had been communicated to banking circles previously, was received

circles previously, was received quietly, and, as the measures it set forth had been urged by some sections of the Press, was not unexpected. Speculation turned to local stocks and bonds,

turned to local stocks and bonds, and considerable advances were recorded in Polish Government dollar bonds. The shares of the Bank of Poland also advanced. In this connection it is of interest to note Polish indebtedness abroad. As of January 1, 1936, the United States is owed zl. 1,090,299,000, France, zl. 801,953,000, Great Britain, 120,143,000, Czechoslovakia, zl.

## EXCHANGE REGULATED ROOSEVELT STRONGER LONDON LETTER IN THE MID - WEST

By Jay G. Hayden.

President Roosevelt will be renominated virtually without op-position, and if the vote were taken now he would probably

be re-elected.

The Republican nominee President almost certainly will be Governor Alf M. Landon of Kansas, with an Easterner as his Vice-President, if a reasonably pro-gressive man can be found be in that section. Otherwise the vice-

gressive man can be found be in that section. Otherwise the vice-presidential nomination may be offered to Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg of Michigan or one of the Taft brothers of Ohio.

These are conclusion reached after three weeks of travelling through the Middle West, which most people believe will be the chief battleground of the coming campaign. The political current which was running against. President Roosevelt in the latter months of 1985 definitely has been checked, if not reversed. This is due partly to the more conservative lone the Administration has assumed in recent months and to the tendency of recalcitrant Democrats to climb back on the bandwagon in the interest of their local tickets.

#### Demoralization

Aiding Mr. Roosevelt even more at the moment, perhaps, is the demoralization in the Republican camp, caused by the scramble for the Presidential nomination and the struggles of conflicting groups in the States for control of the party. Republican leaders profess not to be greatly alarmed by this not to be greatly alarmed by this condition. This, they say, is the time when the outlook of the opposition party always is darkest, and the picture presented after the presidential candidates have been nominated and the platforms formulated will be very different. different.

different.
For the time, at least, President Roosevelt, appears to have been helped rather than damaged politically by the decisions of the United States Supreme Court nullifying the A. A. A, N. R. A. and other New Deal measures. By repeal of the processing taxes and the crop restriction feature of the A. A. A, for example, the Republicans contention that President Roosevelt is seeking to regiment agriculture and manufacturing industry falls.
Even without these issues, however, there is every indication

ever, there is every indication that the coming campaign will be the most bitter in American his-(Continued on page 2, col. 3)

29,463,000, Italy, zl. 16,274,000, Norway, zl. 15,590,000, Sweden, zl. 6,581,000, Holland, 1,164,000, Denmark, zl. 312,000, and Switzerland, zl. 97,000.

It has been estimated that Poland is due from abroad the sum of zl. 800,000,000.

By Gregory MacDonald

Mr. Chamberlain's Budget provided surprises in more than one sense. In most years there are innumerable journalistic forecasts of what it will contain, and in the days after its disclosure the House of Commons is in full cry with critician or correctables. House of Commons is in full cry with criticism or congratulation. On this occasion there was very little newspaper prophecy, the Chancellor's actual proposals aroused interest only by his intention to raise income tax and the tax on tea, and two nights, later the House of Commons hardly held enough members to make a debate possible. The criticism of the Labour Opposition was remarkably inert. was remarkably inert.

Yet the Budget was a sensational one. Through some channel or other there seems to have been a leakage of information into the City, with the result that insurance policies were taken out at high premiums against increases in income tax and tea duties. The movement was too determined to have been accidental, and it was purely speculative: neither the big tea firms nor the Fleet Street reporters appear to have had wind of it. Members of nave nad wind of it. Members of Parliament have already deman-ded a searching inquiry which will probably entail a Select Committee examining witnesses under oath.

This excitement has still furthis excitement has sun introduced the obscured more important aspects of the Budget Increased taxation to pay for rearmament gives the impression of patriotic sacrifice and of financial stringer. gency, so the point has been overlooked that the financial year provided a comfortable surplus and that the coming year promised to be even more buoyant. The new taxes deflate the market gency, so the The new taxes deflate the market in advance of a policy of public works necessitated by the European situation and by the low state of international trade. Just as in the United States both Roosevelt and the Republicans promise to balance the budget, but the Republicans want to balance it by orthodox means, whereas Roosevelt's taxation proposals are wildly heretical, so also in Great Britain the principles of "sound finance" dictate that prosperity must not come out of unorthodox financial practice.

The iminent prosperity of Great The iminent prosperity of Great Britain is due to a continuance of a stable price level and a cessation of foreign lending. These factors cannot immediately be repressed while America continues along her heretical path and while atong her heretical path and while the gold bloc refuses to be re-duced to the sterling level but they can be tempered by an add-ed tax burden which impresses upon the people the orthodox economic doctrines of scarcity and of sacrifice. There is, how-

(Continued on page 2, col. 1)

ever, another side to the picture. The added tax burden will incl

ever, another side to the picture. The added tax burden will incidentally hamper British trade in competition with the products of the United States, where a diminishing debt structure is giving the exporter a greater advantage month by month.

The lull in foreign affairs, necessitated by the French elections, had given opportunity for discussion about the League of Nations policy. The people who feel that the League of Nations alone provides a guarantee against war are still numerous and vocal. The League of Nations Union is even proposing that the Italian army should be cut off from its base by a closure of the Suez Canal. This interesting experiment, designed to ensure universal peace, will be advocated at an Albert Hall meeting in May, Perhaps an even larger body are by now convinced that the League of Nations policy was confused and unsuccessful, but they know of no other means to ensure the peace which most people in every country ardently desire. Rumours are therefore afoot that Mr. Eden will propose some

in every country ardently desire.
Rumours are therefore afoot that Mr. Eden will propose some reconstruction of the League on Mary 11, and if the scheme is an ingenious one, it should at least unite public opinion in this country once more. But it is difficuit to see how a reconstruction based on the solidarity of sanctionist states (this is the hint thrown out by The Times) can produce any more successful policies than those of last Autumn; and a new League founded on the exclusion of Italy would repeat the weakness of the present one, founded on the exclusion of German of the present one, founded on the exclusion of German of the present one, founded on the exclusion of German of the present one, founded on the exclusion of German of the present one, founded on the exclusion of German of the present one, founded on the exclusion of German of the present one, founded on the exclusion of German of the present one, founded on the exclusion of German of the present one, founded on the exclusion of German of German of the present one, founded on the exclusion of German of the present one, founded on the exclusion of German of German of the present one, founded on the exclusion of German of founded on the exclusion of Germany. There is nothing to be done but to wait for the proposals, which will presumably be hammered into shape after the full voting at the French elections is known. There is every likelihood, from past experience, that Mr. Eden's stand at Geneva will be more in line with the League of Nations Union than with the ideas of Baron Aloisi. founded on the exclusion of Ger-

## Prison Report

In a report issued for 1934 the Commissioners of Prisons include some remarkable figures of changes that took place during the twenty-five year reign of King George V. For example, committals to prison for drunkenness fell from 54,452 in 1910-11 to 6,838 in 1934. In the same period 6,838 in 1934. In the same period local prisons were reduced in number from fifty-six in 1910 to 26 at the present time, while the annual reception into prison-fell from 86,395 in 1910 to 56,425 in 1934. Of the latter figures, 50,349 were men and 6,076 were women.

were men and 6,076 were women.
These statistics are a tribute
to the orderly discipline of English life which is indeed famous
all over the world, and they reflect in one way or another a
number of social changes. Undoubtedly the Commissioners are
correct in attributing the change
rathly to improved prison condicorrect in attributing the change partly to improved prison condi-tions, for while a firm discipline is maintained the prisoner goes back to civil life less inclined to be the enemy of society and perhaps better equipped to follow a trade, or better educated in some useful branch of knowledge.

some useful branch of knowledge. The social changes are not, however, all in the prisoner's character or in the principles of prison management. Some part of the decrease must be due to the improvement of police methods for the prevention and discouragement of crime. The statistics of drunkenness have been affected by licensing laws, by reductions in the strength of beer and by the economic depresbeer and by the economic depresoper and by the economic depres-sion. The experience of army discipline and a collectivist trend of modern industrial society have also played their part; while an

#### PRESS REVIEW

The confiscation of the Gazeta Polska, for an article supposed to discuss the disturbances in Lwów has made a great impresin the Robotnik

Journalists maintain that this article was confiscated on account of "defentism." The author, creator of the theory of integral deflation, is said to have assured the community that it should prepare listelf for a long period of famishing, that be coppertunity of reading such an encouraging perspective of the government of "colonels." It would be useful for some people. It is also a pity that the author of the article does not wish to apply to himself this pipedid method of getting out of the crisis.

out of the crisis.

Naturally the Gazeta Polska defended itself, saying that the editor of the Robotnik, when that paper was confiscated, protested against the discussion about an article which had been censored, and now does this very thing himself. It then proceeds to say that the quotation made by Robotnik concerning the "period of famishing" is not only completely untrue, but also an ugly political trick.

criticizes the removal of Dr. Świtalski from his office as Governor of Kraków on the gro-und that it is undesirable to create appearance that the Govern-nt has yielded to the demands of the rioters for

of the riolers for

the strike which was recently carried out through the whole country by socialist elements put forward the demand of a change in the position of the Governor of Kraków. We are now in a period of ferment, this forment lost in a period of ferment, this forment lost before an organized action of a political character begun by the Left Parties and a revolutionary action begun by extremist elements. The creation of an appearance that, by means of street disturbances, political successes may be obtained is undesirable both for the State and the Government itself.

Warracanyshi Disjamily Navido-

Warszawski Dziennik Narodowarszawski Dziennik Narodo-wy is of entirely another opinion, saying that it is a question whether the said administrative organ was in fault or not.

If it was in fault then irrespective of the demands and agitation of one or another party the higher authorities must draw the consequences.

If it did not do this, continues the article, the Government would entirely lose its authority.

The re-calling of a Governor may be extremely unpleasant for the Government, but far greater unpleasantness would await it (the Government) if it left an erring dignitary in his position.

Concerning rumours attached to the recent visit of Professor Bartel to Warsaw, suggesting that he was proposed as Premier in place of Mr. Kościałkowski, the Kurjer Poranny writes that this is a manoeuvre to

suggest to the public the conclusion that this visit had a political significance. Hence a creation of gossipy rumours at a moment when it is desirble there should be the very least of them, especially in connection with the departure of Premier Roseialkowski to

Kurjer Polski writes that although during the past week nothing very important has happened in home policy, yet it was

inevitable comparison between the British statistics and those of America may be explained by of America may be explained by a less turbulent struggle for wealth and by the settled traditions of an older country. Yet these figures are remarkable in themselves, and perhaps they are not least a tribute to the promptness and firmness of the judiciary. an exceptionally animated week for the press.

The ne press.

The nostpoement of Premier Kościąłkowski's departure for Budapest, the
confiscation of an article in the Gazela
Polska, the dismissal of Governor
Switalski and Clonel Matszewski from
Switalski and Clonel Matszewski from
Switalski and Clonel Matszewski from
conomic cooference, all this gave the
opportunity for a quantity of rumours,
guesses, and combinations on the
them of supposed changes of one sort
or another. This aroused a certain panie
of gold, which, however, fell at the end
of fle weeks, fact pointing to a certain
calming in internal affairs.

The Sungku Dispatch has some

The Sunday Dispatch has some sensational news that the British Government intends shortly to make new proposals for the safety of Europe. The idea seems to be

a complex of regional pacts, one of the model of Locarno, others of the non-aggression type, and finally other based on the principle of mutual help. These pacts are to be united into on-system by the League of Nations.

In the opinion of this journal, the British government expects to throw a bridge between the German non-aggression treaties and the French plan for mutual

The Temps has a long article upon Polish-Hungarian relations, and Premier's Kościałkowski's visit to Budapest.

The policy of Polish-German rap-proachement as now conducted by Warsaw together with the preservation of the Polish-French Alliance ought to create in Hungary a field for the il-lusion that conditions may be favourable to a revisionist policy for Hungary.

The fdea of a German Polish, Hungarian Bloc with, perhaps, the support of Rome, is still active in certain political spheres in Hungary.

In Hungery.

But Poland is bound by her alliances with France and Roumania which preclude action against the Little Entente. Could be a care of the second of the second s

The Temps, however, finds it is a good sign that Minister Beck did not accompany Premier Ko-ściałkowski to Budapest, and sciałkowski to Budapest, and sees in this a proof that no poli-tical arrangement has been arrived at there.

Kurjer Poranny discusses the consequences of the new regulations for foreign exhange, and comes to the conclusion that, in order to attain the greatest advantages from these regulations, they must be accompanied by an order to exhange gold in private hands and all foreign exchange into zlotys.

Liberalism in monetary economy has failed. As in all spheres of economy so also in that of money it has shown its incapability to solve any of the problems that have been entrusted to it. Now we have entered a sphere of compulsory monetary economy, and must operate with the methods peculiar to it.

#### VIENNA

The latest beauty treatment sounds like transferring the dentist to another sphere of activity — it is the drilling out of freekles. Small freekles are frozen with a "hydrogen needle" to render the spot insensitive, while for large ones a local anaesthetic is used. The beauty doctor then takes a drill and bores the freekles away, but so lightly that the skin is not injured. It is claimed that the drilling does not leave scars and that the freekles will not reappear.

#### BUDAPEST

The "June Weeks" (June 7 to 21) will be marked this year by two interesting exhibitions. In the Salon, the old Hungarian masters belonging to private col-lectors will be shown and private-- owned objects connected with szt's life and music will be Liszt's life and music will be gathered together in the National Museum. A new ballet, "Mephisto", with

A new ballet, "Mephisto", with music by Liszt will be presented at the Opera House, and several of Verdi's operas will also be given. There will be two open-air performances at Count Esterhazy's estate in Tata on June 11 and 21; the first will incude Dohnanyi's "Holy Torch" and the ballet "Fanny Elseler" by Nador, Farago and Tüdös, and the third act of "Siegfried"; the second performance will be "Fidelio", conducted by Erich Kleiber. Another attraction will be the

Another attraction will be the open air representation of Ujhazv's "Missa Solemnis in Pecs". For this mystery play it is proposed to substitute Liszt's "Eastergom Mass" music for that of Beethoven. More than five hundred persons will take part in the performances, between June 11 and 14.

Interest in Hitler as a painter has increased since the opening of the exhibition of his war-time works in the Wurtenberg Library works in the wurtenberg Library at Stuttgart. It is estimated that between 70 and 80 water-colours executed by the Führer before the war are either in private hands or in the Nazi Party archves here. One Munich chemist is the proud possessor or five water-colours which he ordered from Hitler in 1912. It is, of course, well known that Hitler earned his living in Vienna and Munich for several years before the war as a free-lance painter. During his war experiences in France and Flanders he carried his paint-box in his knapsek and the here. One Munich chemist is the box in his knapsack and the Stuttgart exhibition reveals his fondness for architectural subjects in which he is still interested. People do not appear in the pictures; one dated November 1916 is a real warstudy, a devastated wood with the ruins of a stated wood with the ruins of a house and grim tree stumps; in the trenches near Ypres, in December 1917, Herr Hitler painted the ruins of a cloister at Messines with ruined houses nearby. Another picture is of a field dressing-station in a half-ruined house. The paintings are signed "A. Hitler" or "Adolf Hitler".

#### ROOSEVELT STRONGER IN MID-WEST

(Continued from page 1, col. 4).

tory. Not since the Bryan campaign of 1896, when the nation was threatened with bimetalism and a consequent reduction of 5 per cent. in property values and wages, has business been so aroused politically as it is to-day. Unless all signs fail, it is preparing to fight, just as it did under the leadership of Mark Hanna, and for essentially the same

The basic fear of business now. as in 1896, is inflation, which it regards as inevitable unless the

Roosevelt spending spree is summarily checked and the Federal Government turned definitely in Government turned definitely in the direction of a balanced budget. Existence of laws permitting the President by his own fiat further to depreciate the currency contributes to this same fear. The Republicans will demand that these laws be repealed and that every effort be made to achieve an international stabili-sation of currencies.

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The English Vocal Sextet At The Conservatory

Under the patronage of the British Embassy, the English Vocal Sextet gave a concert at at the Conservatory on Monday, April 27. This Sextet devotes itself to the performance of old English music dating even from the XIII Century, and they have penetrated so successfully into the spirit of the Elizabethan period that one really has the illusion that one is listening to a company of madrigal singers of the XV or XVI Century.

This is emphasized by their manner on the platform, where they perform while seated around a table. As the director (Cuthbert Kelly) explained, in older times at the manor house of an ordinary English gentleman the hosts and their guests sat around

at the manor house of an ordinary English gentleman the hosts and their guests sat around a table, the music books were brought out, the parts divided, and all joined in a madrigal. At that time it belonged to the education of every gentleman to be able to sing at sight a part song. Now this was not easy for, as we heard at the concert, the counterpoint was often very intricate, and would at the present day present no easy task to professional singers. "The times have changed," sighed Mr. Kelly.

As to the performance of the sextet, one can but speak in the highest terms of praise. Their voices are beautifully blended, their rhythm irreproachable, phrasing excellent. The whole is pervaded by an atmosphere of charm and refinement. Nor, where necessary, is humour failing as weakent events of some search of some or some presents.

of charm and refinement. Nor, where necessary, is bumour failing as we heard in some of the old folk songs.

The Sextet may be most warmly congratulated on its success, and we wish them a a speedy return to Warsaw.
Obviously a return to simplicity, and true feeling is becoming the demand of the concert public all over the world, and its fulfilment will perhaps bring back the audiences to the now empty concert halls.

—K. M. -K, M.

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# Art, Music & Literature

#### NORWID: THE RING OF A GREAT LADY

(Pierścień Wielkiej Damy.)

Cyprian Norwid is perhaps one of the most interesting of the Polish writers of the XIX Cen-Polish writers of the XIX Century. His deep mind, great poelic talent, his specific style, and the intense feeling emanating from every one of his works have given him a niche peculiarly his own in Polish literature. About Norwid there has always been and there still is a sharp conflict of opinion between his enthusiasts and opponents. The former of opinion between his enthusiasts and opponents. The former find under Norwid's undeniable sissts and opponents. The tormer find under Norwid's undeniable power a great poet and thinker; he latter accuse him of lack of artistic expression, of incoherence and needless complexity of style, and a hopelessly amorphous and muddled philosophy arising out of a too credulous acceptance of mutually incompatible systems of thought advanced by others. Although his critics may be right to a certain degree, still no one will deup him the genius and overflowing feeling of a true poet that in page after page strike home even to the most philogmatic reader. Though one must admit that Norwid's sentences and ideas are often tangled up into an almost incomprehenmust admit that Norway solutions and ideas are office I tangled up into an almost incomprehensible jumble,—something in the manner of Browning at his worst, nevertheless a keen and sensitive reader will find in a work like Promethidion an inexhaustible treasure house of new and weighty thoughts, of unerring judgements on art, and a deep understanding of the artist's burden. Particularly for artists may Promethidion serve as a catechism; for example, much can be learned of the true meaning of Chopin and of the inherently Polish folk elements at the bottom of his mustic from a familiarity with the sic from a familiarity with the judgements pronounced in this work. In fact, nowhere is Norwid's

work. He was a strong to the cleary expressed than here. Our great artist and man of the theatre, Juliusz Osterwa, was perhaps the first to appreciate the importance for an artist of Norwid's artistic creed, and has never tired of inculcating in his meals the principles of art expressions of the control o pupils the principles of art e pounded in Promethidion, in the way establishing a sound attitude toward art in a whole group of the coming theatrical generation. It is not to be wondered at, then, that the Reduta, that theatrical that the Reduta, that theatrical and cultural centre unique of its kind, directed by Osterwa, should assume the task of presenting The Ring of a Great Lady (Piersclein Wielkiej Damy) a work written by its spiritual leader, Cyprian Norwid.

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In the introduction to this play the author gives the two main reasons that led him to write it.

"I wanted in this work to attempt a new kind of tragedy,—
I wanted the tragic in it without resorting to death and bloodshed, to be, as it were, a white tragedy."

In a word. Norwid set himself

In a word, Norwid set himself the task of creating a genre of tragic conflicts unknown in Po-lish literature, according to his lish literature, according to his opinion a genre that was in France called la haute comédie owing to its happy end. There is still no Polish term for this sort of play and Norwid justifies his treating such a problem in play-form as follows: "for unlike in the buffoonish comedies (so ably written by Communifred on wherein one social with the public of the property of the propert

unt Fredro) wherein one social class observing another perceives all its foibles, here the whole civilised society sees itself as in a general awaking of its conscience. This is most difficult work for the reason that here only Serious-

ness, great and naked, takes the place of those sensitive mo-ments that tragedy can colour with blood, we and red. This kind of drama is called high comedy, for the same reason only that Dante calls his great work a comedy, that is, by reason of its pleasant ending, which, inci-dentally, demands all the more subtle dramatic shading in the

course of its development."
Such is Norwid's characterization of a work with which he
meant to enrich Polish dramatic

Ilterature.

The second gap in Polish literature that The Ring of a Great Lady was to fill was that of creating a full length figure of a woman, which in Norwid's opinion had never been done. He supports his opinion:

supports his opinion:

"Finally, there is a beautiful duly for a dramatist among us Poles, something which at the same time presents a deep question to social psychology,—and that is: Polish artistry has never yet acknowledged women!—Those great profiles and almost ideal heroines which (omitting the Ancients) are given us by Dante, Calderon, Shakespeare, Byron... with an exception for sake of decorum), are not to be found in it Wands, "who did not want to marry a German,"—we don't know what she did want!!—she is a woman with but one leg, beautiful though it may be. Teltmena (perhaps the most complete beautiful though it may be, leti-mena (perhaps the most complete as an artistic creation) is not spiritual enough ... Zosia is only a schoolgirl, and the beautiful Marya of Malezewski had no time to reach maturity, having been smothered to death in pillows, in other words, engulfed by the

In other words, changes bodg."
These are the two sims that Norwid had in writing The Ring of a Great Lady. What was their realization? It we are to treat this play as an example of a new form of dramatic expression and as the creation of a full feminine the result is acceptable. as the creation of a full reminine character, the result is acceptable, but of course not complete. Treated as an artistic phenomenon, however, it is a work of uncommon talent and beauty. The charm of romanticism pervades the whole play and invests it with a poetic atmosphere for the story of Co-untess Mary Harrys and her two suitors Mak-Yks and Graf Szeliga. suitors Mak-Yks and Graf Szeliga. The complicated style weighs on certain parts of the performance and clouds the meaning as does the rapid succession of deep ideas; perhaps the exposition of the play is over long-drawn-out, the first two acts are more of an introduction to, than a development of the plot; but in the third act when the dramatic conflict gets its full expression, and the situation indeed becomes tragic (without blood and death), then, when the heroine, Countess Mary when the heroine, Countess Mary Harrys, makes the supreme offer of her ring and hand to the stain-lessly noble Mak-Yks, then indeed we appreciate what Norwid intended white tragedy to be.

Mary Harrys, as the portrait of a woman, must yield the palm to many others in Polish literature; she does not fill the gap that Norwid meant her to, but nevertheless she is a character very whith days, and cultic growing. vertheless she is a character very subtly drawn and quite convincingly capable of the ridiculous and trivial no less than of the heroic. She stands as a great tribute by the author to women and to the power of their love which they give unselfishly and far more nobly than men. Side by side with Mary Harrys, Magdalena Tomir, too, is a very interlena Tomir, too, is a very inter-esting feminine character, sketch-ed by the author with great charm



and insight, showing how friend-ship may exist together with jeal-ousy, how reason may dictate to the heart. Her conquest of Graf Szeliga is a subtle bit of psychological painting by the author, and at the same time is a model of a truly elegant draw-ing the XIX. ing-room dialogue of

ing-room dialogue of the AIA Century.

The Reduta deserves our deepest gratitude for its presentation of The Ring of a Great Lady. First of all nothing can popularize an author and his aims more than the theatre; and if we remember that Norwid is known a war. limited circle of remember that Norwid is known to only a very limited circle of the public, the service of the Reduta in this endeavour is indeed great. Then again, The Ring of a Great Lady is one of the finest performances seen of late in Warsaw. Careful study and understanding of the text, the clean-cut manner of presenting each thought, and the utter naturalness and ease in handling Norwid's difficult language, these are the elements that the creative directing of Osterwa gave to the performance. There was not a single weak moment gave to the performance. There was not a single weak moment nor a false tone is it from beginning to end; this is what gave it such an atmosphere of complete reality. To fully appreciate Osterwa's work as a director and his influence and the artists under him it would be necessary to write a separate study of this great representative of directing art in Poland.

As Graf Szeliga, Osterwa played with incomparable sublety and penetration, surrounding this character with all the postic charm of the Romantic era. There is no one in Poland more able to do the heroes of the XIX Century than he.

able to do the heroes of the XIX Century than he. Countess Mary Harrys was very ably played by Marja Brydzińska (Countess Potocka), who with rare charm and dramatic expression brought out all the trivial as well as the noble elements of the feminine nature.

elements of the feminine nature.

Miss Hanna Parysiewicz was a very elegant and refined Magdalena Tomir, playing the rôle with the exotic charm so indispensible to it, and Mr. Kazimierz Wilamowski as Makyks struck the audience immediately with his sincere, convincing acting, All the rest of the cast, headed by Mr. Mr. Woltejko as Judge Dureykn, played their rôles in admirable fashion.

The Eling of a Great Lady does credit to the aims of the Reduta and to its artists no less, Juljusz Osterwa in his activities as director and theatre manager, has again done a deed of lasting value for the Polish theatre and for Polish art.

for Polish art.

ENGLISH BOOKS American and British Magazines
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The Lettish Exhibition does credit to the "Zachęta". The pictures bear the stamp of power-ful individualities. After the fut individualities. After the restoration of Latvia following centuries of foreign domination, the national spirit springs forth undaunted from the mass of the people, and it is vivified by people, people, and it is vivified by the great international art currents. The result is a produc-tion which might be said to stand on the best European level. These are mostly speci-mens of modern - contempo-rary trends with the prevalence of colour research, more or less in the impressionist manner.

of colour research, more or less in the impressionist manner.

Krzyżanowska's quiet, metallic shimmers of the grey sea or polished surfaces of ponds and varnished wood, shownint he Polish section, lose much by contrast with the marvelous sheens of the Lettish artists whose seas and skies especially glitter in endless melodies of dazzling silver (Kalnroze and Liebert with his rutilant church of St. Mark in Venice, similar to an enchanted sow castle). Other masters of the whites and greys are Skulund (the Shepherd Boy), Crelavs (Yawning Girl), a sturdy Workman smoking) etc. An interesting feature of the pictures is, in several instances, their original composition: the portrait of the writer Saulietis (by Bine) is seen three quarters from the back in a study behind the room depicted in the foreground, and the quaint perspective of the Drinking Workman makes. room depicted in the foreground, and the quaint perspective of the Drinking Workmen makes one of them seem to pounce out of the picture towards us (Miesniks). The landscapes are painted in vivid but harmonious shades - Skride's "Fishermen's Hamlet" being a beautiful symphony of greyish greens. A favourite theme is that of the farmers, peasants and the humble people at work. Eliass gives fine samples of the kind in colours dark and compact without heaviness.

colours dark and compact without heaviness.

They resort to different touches of the brush: Sveiks renders his peasants or still lives in gradations of one-tone yellow-browns or greys. Tone shows a sleeping girl half drowned in shadows and oddly cut across by rays of light; Skulme's "Mother and Child" are a flat image emerging in relief of colour stripes laid by the painter's knife and there are other interesting achievements. ing achievements.

A contrast to these impressionists is the unruffled nude of clear oulline on dark background of Skume, Kazak's portrait of himself, and the soft, smooth landscapes of Verdaunia.

smooth landscapes of Verdaunia. Vitoles presents delicate and savoury landscapes in water-colour while Hilda Vika handles the same medium albeit in an utterly different vein. She reminds us of Stryjenska with decorative folk in picturesque attire and background to match, but she shows perhaps more malicious humour and less poetic fancy than the Polish artist.

fancy than the Polish artist.

The engravings and drawings are striking by their variety in spite of the small number of exhibits. Suta suggests form in a masterly way by fragmentary curves of intense Indian ink whereas the same medium in Vidberg's hands comes out in fine designing resembling Japanese illustrations. The book illustrations of Strunke in grey, brown or light colour touches are most pleasing to behold, and Padge's notion of the "After are most pleasing to benote, and Padge's notion of the "After Derby" public in soft touches of light greys fantastically borders on the perverse.

to the Polish animalist section, it seems somewhat puerile to unite in an art exhibition the Animals (chiefly domestic ones or birds) just for

#### Exhibition Of Lettish Art, The Polish Artist's Union In Warsaw

The Union which was formerly located at Filtrowa, now has its headquarters at Ujazdowska 37/27. Drawings of all kinds, in pencil and various inks or the brush, were on show and their various inks. brush, were on show and their variety is not surprising if we consider that no one of these modern artists endeavours to copy nature servilely in a photographic way: theirs is an endless scope for fancy and indvidual expression. And so we have the muddied fuddled whirwind lines of Langerman opposed to the greyish compositions of Polanski, throbbing with light. Grabowski's very sober, plain line portrait, the delicate pure line of Stažewski's Nude and again the clout-thin and and again the clout-thin and elusive pen-point figure of Pekalski, the contrast of Feur-ring's brickish and blackish rough figures with the softness of Treffer's landscapes. Women seem to stand foremost if were seem to stand foremost if were are to judge by Karbowska's, picturesque nook of the old city in greys and pinks, Kuczbarska's delightfully clear water-colour landscape, Mrs. Centnerszwer's fine workmenship, etc. Their one common trait is a care of the synthetic, of the whole, undue detail being decidedly eliminated, M. G.

#### BUDAPEST

There has been a great slump in marriages in Hungay, 3,802 fewer being celebrated during the past year than in 1934. And so last year's birth rate proves to be the lowest ever recorded for the country. The low rate of 1934, when 194,279 children were born, has been reduced by 884

The library of the Italian Centre of American Studies, which has recently been transferred here from Turin, consists of, 16,000 books dealing with America and published in different periods. Originally, it belonged to Count Giordano, who presented it to the Centre. The object of the Centre is the scientific study of the American Continent and its inhabitants, for the promotion of cultural and economic relations between the two countries.

#### POLISH and FOREIGN ART

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the sake of the subject without particular value of interpretation, excepting, perhaps in the case of Rudzka's "Chang-Toy" a delicate decorative scheme, or of Molly Bukowska's sketches of pussies.

The animal sculptures are better (Miss Gross' birds and hogs and especially Kraszewski's well-set, synthetic figures).

Stratosphere flights at a fare of \$5,890 a mile apparently do not appeal to air-minded Americans. Dr. and Mrs. Jean Piccart resculy offered to take a passenger on a 17-mile Piccard reports in the following dispatch that they are still looking for a customer. The Piccards are now connected with the Department of Aeronautical Engineering at the University of Minesota.

#### **By Jeannette Piccard**

When I announced recently that Dr. Piccard and I would take anyone to the stratosphere who would pay \$100,000 for his ticket, I said it more or less as a joke. But either no one has taken me seriously (I rather hoped someone would) or else no one has \$100,000 that he cares to spend that way. There are no prospective customers at all, either tall or short, either fat or thin. fat or thin.

We never speak about our flight anywhere that someone does not say he or she would like to go along. I guess the price is too high. People would rather have security than knowledge. They would rather know the warm beauty of the earth than the austere beauty of limitless space.

Dr. Piccard says that we ware

less space.

Dr. Piccard says that we were only joking, that there would not be room in the gondola, that we should have to use our passenger for ballast and so forth. However, I think that if someone really offered to buy a ticket, I could persuade Dr. Piccard to consider the proposition seriously. Better a third in the gondola than no flight at all. Better a super-cargo than no cargo. thin no cargo.

flight at all. Better a super-cargo than no cargo.

A stratosphere flight actually costs \$75,000 to \$100,000 or more. The bigger the balloon, the higher you go and the more it costs. The better your luck, the less it costs. If you make two or three false altempts, if there are false alarms about the weather, then the cost rises and rises till dollars become as scare as air molecules on the outer edge of the earth's atmosphere.

Why go to the stratosphere? Just for the thrill? Someone may want to. Perhaps it would be worth it. I was asked the other day what I would do if someone gave me \$100,000 and told me to do what I liked with it — keep it, invest it, or go to the stratosphere with it. For a minute it took my breath away. Just the mere thought. Of course it was only make-believe. No one had really offered it but — \$100,000 means approximately \$5,000 a year. It would spell security for us and our children; not wealth, to be sure, but security.

Then my breath came back and

to be sure, but security.

Then my breath came back and
I knew I would spend it on the
stratosphere. Security is worth
nothing unless the life it secures
is worth something. So the thing
would secure would not be just
the life itself but the life's work, e stratosphere. Consequently it must be that

I see in a stratosphere flight something more than a thrill. What is that something? In simple something more than a trent. What is that something? In simple language, it is just to advance by even a little bit the sum total of human knowledge. I cannot see, I do not know to what use future generations will put the cosmic ray. I do know that the cosmic ray can pentrate an atom. I do know that men of ability can use the cosmic ray to see into an atom and find out what makes it tick. Why already by means of the cosmic ray, the positrons has been discovered. Metals have been bombarded with positrons and made radioactive. Common salts like sodium chloride have been like sodium chloride have been

made to act like radium salts. We all know the value of radium. Even more marvellous to me is the fact that when the sodium that has been made radio-active that has been made radio-active it is not sodium any more; it is something else. The artificial transmutation of the elements for which the ancients worked so hard has actually been accom-plished through the knowledge which the cosmic ray has

which the cosmic ray has brought us.

There is the real thrill of a stratosphere flight to me. Apparently, however, it is a thrill that is appreciated only by people without money.

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## TIGHT ROPE

(Continued from page 1, col. 2)

continued from page 1, cot. 21
nothing of such "sabotage" of national interests as the with-holding of the all too scarce foreign currency in the interests of economic necessities from the authorities wanting it for propaganda purposes abroad... "Schacht may well be, or at least may have been until the national defence force prevailed, the second in importance of all the "leaders" of Nazi Germany, but any little Brownshirt with the smallest official authority over half a dozen others might be able to put spokes into his over half a dozen others might be able to put spokes into his wheel or even start a general Nazi attack against him which might lay him low. The fact that Schacht has held fairly sound views about the Jewish question and interfered many times in the interact. of according necessities and interfered many times in the interest of economic necessities has emphasised this animosity. And Hitler himself, although officially assuring Schacht time and again of his unwavering confidence, is said to have become infected with that spirit of his Party-Lieutenants. So the split has only been patched up.

#### Rapid Recovery

Rapid Recovery

The rapid recovery and expansion of the army has given a strong impulse to the economic activity of practically the whole country. Machinery, building, wharves, armament firms, and many other industries indirectly dependent upon the army are working at full speed and, up to the present, the clever management of the very restriced financial resources of the country has made it possible to cover all demands. At a high price, however: more and more private fortunes and private management are being transformed into state-owned or state-controlled property. More and more individual economic activity is suppressed in favour of a new form of State Socialism. Most of the transactions involved, the handing over of controlling interests and margers of

ed, the handing over of con-trolling interests and mergers of old-established and newly created enterprises never become public. And the ingenious but fundamen-And the ingenious out fundamentally unsound system of producing enormous amounts of liquid money on the signatures of seemingly sound firms which have to sign drafts instead of their customers, the Government establishments having to do so, covers up a credit inflation of



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gigantic dimensions. If the machinery be kept running at the present speed there might be a slow consolidation. But any political adventure disturbing that development endangers the whole shaky structure and there is nobody who knows it better than Schacht.

Some of the industries, however, especially those depending on foreign raw materials and not indispensable for defence purposes, are suffering already to an extent hardly to be kept secret any more. Textile plants work at reduced shifts and other manufactures of every day com-

work at reduced shifts and other manufactures of every day com-modities are worse off than be-fore the crisis was "overcome" by Nazi methods- in such industries, wages have been cut down to hardly more than the dole and there is a strong, although concealed, undercurrent of discontant which cannot awa although concealed, undercurrent of discontent which cannot even be obsured by such crudely managed "Elections" as the last one. The old Roman method of giving the people "panem et circenses" has begun to work out more or less exclusively as far as circuses are concerned, and a certain leniency in accepting bad jokes and openicriticism through not in print - seems to have been adopted as a safety valve.

to have been adopted as a safety valve.

In the case of Dr. Erkner however, who is a country man of Dr. Schacht and is just as obstinate although not as diplomatic as this nordic fighter, he was too conspicuous to go scot free after some of the disobliging remarks he had made and after he took it upon himself to paint the name of Hindenburg instead of Adolf Hitler on his new airship, and this without any christening ceremony, on the eve of his first Transatlantic flight, thus depriving the authorities of a possibility of carrying their point against his merely commercial considerations.

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#### RIVIERA

Once again the fresh flower fashions are with us. Large muffs are made of fresh violets or gardenias, mounted on velvet or gardenias, mounted on velvet or tulle, for the evening. One fair visitor to the Sporting Club at Monte Carlo the other night had a green velvet dress with shoulder straps and muff made of fresh ivy leaves. It looked smart and unusual.

#### ROME

The new Italian tax on bachelors is graded so that those between the ages of 30 and 35 pay most. Between 25 and 30 the penalty for single blessedness is slightly less, while the bachelor of 35 - 55 pays still less and the oversixty-fives nothing at all All of 150 lire (about \$12) was at first levied on bachelors over 25 years old: then came an increase of click the came an increase of the state of the sta levied on bachelors over 25 years old; then came an increase of 25 per cent, on their income tax, which was subsequently raised to 50 per cent, and lately to 75 per cent. No Government official can remain a bachelor. Even the Duce's late personal secretary, Commander Chiavolini, had to resign his post a year ago because he refused to marry,

Strenghthened on the one hand by a certain diplomatic success due to the clever exploitation of a confused international situation, the Hitler régime is more than ever balancing on a tightrope.

It cannot afford to shift the weights represented by the Reichsbaha and the Reichsbaher on one side and the Party on the other and has to strengthen them alternately as soon as one of them appears to gain a point over the other. Up to now Hitler has been strong and considerate enough to fulfil that task, but nobody knows for how long he will be able to do so and what will come after. This is what gives the situation a feeling of general nervousness and is steadily increasing the stream of fugitives escaping from the Fatherland. It cannot afford to shift the

#### **CINEMA PROGRAMME**

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"Róża," Eichlerówna, Jaracz, Stępowski Polish Production

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CASINO

"Modern Times," Charlie Chaplin American Production

EUROPA

"Top Hat," Ginger Rogers, Fred Astaire American Production

FILHARMONJA

"Don't Forget Me," Benjamino Gigli Italian Production

MAJESTIC

"Condemned" Victor-Mc. Laglen American Production

"Invisible Ray" Boris Karloff American Production.

RIALTO

"Excentric Lady" Americian Production STYLOWY

"The Mutiny on the Bounty," Laughton, Gable, Tone American Production

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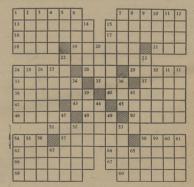
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