

THE WARSAW WEEKLY

Editorial and Business Offices Mokotowska 12/4, Warsaw, Poland, Telephone 884-30.

Subscription rates—zl. 3.50 quarterly, zl. 13.00 yearly. Foreign 4/ or \$ 1. quarterly, 15/- or \$ 3.75 yearly.

Safe member for Poland of the North American Newspaper Alliance P. K. O. 29898.

FRIDAY

MAY 8

1936

THE SCOPE OF THE FOREIGN EXCHANGE CONTROL IN POLAND

The knowledge of the pertinent provisions of the exchange restrictions in Poland effective as of April 27 is essential not only to the business community but to the public at large. In absence of any authoritative translation of the provisions already issued, the following might be of interest.

The foreign exchange control is broadly regulated by the Presidential Decree of April 26 published in the Official Gazette (Dziennik Ustaw No. 32). It would be misleading, however, to read the above decree literally. This is to say, its provisions are in many instances subject to the subsequent regulations of the Treasury and the Bank of Poland. Such regulations as thus far have been issued, namely the regulations of the Treasury dated April 26 (Dziennik Ustaw No. 32) and instructions of the Bank of Poland to the exchange banks, have by no means exhausted the possibilities still left in the Presidential Decree. This is to say that the exchange control in Poland is still much more liberal than the Decree would indicate. This liberal feature is further emphasized by the regulations which are presently being issued allowing a number of exceptions from the restrictions generally invoked.

Assets Abroad

The most glaring example of the above may be found in Paragraph No. 10 of the Presidential Decree, instructing all the residents of Poland to offer to the Bank of Poland all their claims against foreigners in any form. The subsequent subparagraph, however, mentions, that the above obligation is subject to subsequent regulations. Such regulations issued by the Treasury provide only for compulsory offering of the proceeds from merchandise sold abroad by Polish exporters. This is to say that all other assets abroad like bank accounts, securities etc, do not need to be offered by the public to the Bank of Poland, although the Treasury is empowered at any time to change this situation should the present measures turn out to be inadequate.

Generally speaking, it is the objective of the Exchange Commission that all legitimate trade and financial requirements be satisfied with a minimum of inconvenience. To this end all individuals and firms wishing to effect any transaction in foreign exchange should apply to any of the so called exchange banks where they should file an application on a special form for which a fee of 50 groszy is charged. There should be attached to the application the pertinent documents evidencing the necessity of buying the exchange or making a payment to the local account of a foreigner

residing abroad etc. as the case might be. Such documents may be represented by commercial invoices and shipping documents, bills, etc. Whereupon, depending on the nature of the transaction, the client may be given immediately a permission by the exchange bank of putting through the deal, otherwise the application must be referred to the Exchange Commission by the bank in question where it will be acted upon within two to three days.

Privileges

In this connection it is of importance to know just what sort of business may be put through immediately without the necessity of obtaining the permission of the Commission. In the first place the sale of foreign exchange or gold in any form to the exchange banks does not require any permission. Secondly, Polish residents going abroad may buy foreign exchanges up to an equivalent of Zl. 500 per month on one passport, those going to Danzig up to Zl. 500 per month, but no more than 100 zl. at one time, and those crossing the frontier on a frontier pass, no more than 250 zl. per month, but no more than 50 zl. at a time. Furthermore, the remittance of funds abroad to cover tuition, cost of living of persons abroad, costs of treatment etc. may be arranged at one up to an equivalent of Zl. 250. in any one month for each such person, provided that the respective documents evidencing the eligibility of the transaction are presented to the exchange bank, to wit: consular certificate, bills etc.

Insofar as the importation of merchandise from abroad goes and payment of claims to for-

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LONDON LETTER

By Gregory MacDonald

Like so many recent sensations, the Emperor of Abyssinia became news on a Saturday morning, leaving on a week-end of confusion before any prediction could be made as to the next turn of events. But the week-end coincided also with the French elections. Now that the composition of the French Chamber is known, and negotiations having been started to explore the German and the French proposals, the British Government must crystallize new lines of policy within the next few days.

It would be difficult to say what are the popular reactions to the latest events. The official, or journalistically official, attitude is one of intense sympathy for Abyssinia and for the Negus, with a disposition to discount Italian successes obtained by the use of poison gas, and even (in the Left Wing papers) to demand a more vigorous League policy to the point of military sanctions. Among more sceptical newspaper readers there are varying degrees of sympathy for the Negus, and a division of opinion for or against Italy; but the use of gas is widely held to have sullied the Italian victory, and from the standpoint of "imponderables" its employment was a great mistake. Yet what has to be faced now is political reality. That the Geneva policy has failed is evident to everybody. That the failure of Geneva means a race in armaments and a general war is an opinion encouraged by many writers.

There is, however, another side to the question, less frequently put forward. The assumption in recent months has been that the League Powers were all peace-loving nations and that the countries outside the League or

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THE VOYAGE OF THE "GRAF HINDENBURG" ACROSS THE NORTH-ATLANTIC

Lady Drummond-Hay, the well-known English writer and traveller, will fly the North Atlantic on board the "Graf Hindenburg." During the voyage she will send daily despatches exclusively to the Warsaw Weekly and the North American Newspaper Alliance. A preliminary despatch from Lady Drummond-Hay is given below.

By Lady Drummond-Hay

The Zeppelin "Graf Hindenburg," with motors overhauled, tested and reinstalled, is ready for her first North Transatlantic flight, and prepared to depart on schedule. Passengers, thrilled with anticipation, are beginning to arrive, provisioning of the giant airship proceeds apace. Altogether there will be 104 souls aboard, 54 crew including ten learners, three cooks and seven stewards and the 50 passengers.

A Special Plane

A special plane with passengers and final mails will leave Berlin on Tuesday night or Wednesday morning. Dr. Eckener who is again persona grata with the Nazi Government, will be in charge, with Captain Ernst Lehmann in command under him. There will be no attempt to establish a record, for both Dr. Eckener and Captain Lehmann are prepared to delay the actual arrival, if that should be necessary, for a daytime flight over Washington and Philadelphia and arrival in New York.

When the "Graf Hindenburg" lifts her 220 tons from the Loewenthal aerodrome here, it will not be "just another Zeppelin," but the Phoenix rising from the ashes of the ill-fated R 101, the Akron and the "Macon" to confront a sceptical world with Germany's bid for the North Transatlantic commercial air traffic. The 603 feet-long airship carrying mail, freight, which may easily include a light aeroplane or two, a motorcar or two, if anyone wants them along,

will be the arbitrator of the fate of lighter-than-air craft for a long time to come. In making her own way through the sky, the Hindenburg will trail from her tail the shades of unborn Zeppelins for future Transatlantic, Transpacific and Far Eastern service. In its way, the Hindenburg is just as great an experiment as the Graf Zeppelin, because there is concrete commercial competition at stake. The Graf Zeppelin has remained unique and unchallenged. As far as the Europe to New York service is concerned, the Hindenburg and its successors challenge and will be challenged. Colossal liners of fantastic luxury like the "Queen Mary," the "Normandie," even the "Bremen" and "Europa," embark passengers at conveniently accessible ports, permit almost unlimited baggage, speed to New York during four or five days of incessant entertainment and epicurean hospitality. So long as the Zeppelins demand trained and numerous landing-crews on the ground, departure and arrival must be limited. There is still a certain amount of risk attached to, and prejudice against air-travel; air-transport of baggage in excess of the minimum is costly and there can be no doubt that airship schedules are more dependant upon the weather than steamers. A Zeppelin service has to compete against facts which still appeal to the majority as definite advantages. The sporting Graf Zeppelin is hardly a criterion, so the whole interest is centred on how will the Hindenburg do it? Aboard we are going to have a sufficiently varied passenger-list. Explorers, aviation experts, seasoned travellers, the luxury-conscious, and most valuable of all, the bona fide "commuter" between the Old World and the New. The result should be highly illuminating.

Flying Boat No Rival

Dr. Eckener has never admitted the flying-boat as a rival of the Zeppelin for trans-ocean commercial air traffic, therefore he does not envisage the 29 Short Flying-boats ordered by Imperial Airways to carry all first-class Empire mail by air, as serious competition on the North Transatlantic route. He told me that flying-boats and airships are as complementary to each other as express trains and steamers, and seems very pleased to welcome them. The success of the "Graf Hindenburg" can wait several decades ahead, with the classical choice of "super-luxury, let us say the "Queen

(Continued on page 4, col. 4)

We announce the sale of the Warsaw Weekly, and as of May 15, this paper will appear under the auspices of the new management. We print a statement from the new publisher below.

A MESSAGE TO READERS

With its next issue The Warsaw Weekly will enter into a new phase of its existence under the editorship of Mr. Egerton Sykes, Polish Correspondent for The Morning Post.

Among the changes which will be introduced will be a series of articles reflecting on the political, economic and cultural existence of Poland and her neighbors, an increased amount of space to be devoted to those amenities of daily life affecting the American and English colonies in Poland, a special section for children, and, finally, numerous leaders on American and European reactions to current political events.

It will only be possible to introduce these changes gradually over a period of several weeks, during which it is hoped that old readers will continue their support not only by buying The Warsaw Weekly and recommending it to their friends, but also by advising the editor of any suggestions regarding the policy of the paper which they think might assist in its development.

LONDON LETTER

(Continued from page 1, col. 3)

disobedient to the League were factors of aggression. In accordance with this assumption, Soviet Russia was allowed to exert an increasing influence in European affairs, not only in Spain and France, but even with the suggestion that she should guarantee Austria. Pro-Russian propaganda is also very active at this moment in Great Britain. But it takes two to make a quarrel.

If in fact the Powers outside the Geneva policy—the United States, Japan, Germany and Italy—have no intention at all of allowing a universal cataclysm, then the Geneva policy will prove to have been the provocative one because it all but transformed an isolated conflict into a general war; and the only cause likely to benefit by that was the cause of World Revolution. Because the British people are as anxious for peace as the French people, the Germans and the Poles, and because there are realistic groups in England demanding an imaginative reconstruction of foreign policy, it may be after all that the failure of the attempt to implement the Covenant will prove a blessing in disguise. If only it strengthens open national rule at the expense of secret international rule. Certainly the period of Geneva was an inextricable tangle of national and international policies, with no indication that the statesmen of any country knew where one element began or where the other element ended. The confusion is associated with the breakdown of international trade; peace will be in sight when an economic and financial settlement is achieved.

Attitude of the House.

Some of these questions are likely to be ventilated in the House of Commons, where already a tense atmosphere has been created by the allegations that secrets of the Budget were used for speculation in the City. The debates on foreign and home affairs promise to be stormy, but there can be no great victory for the official Opposition because all along it has urged an aggressive Geneva policy and no one can claim that the Government, especially during Mr. Eden's period of office, was second to another nation in the defense of the Covenant. The real danger for the Government now lies in the criticisms of its own supporters. The very size of its majority implies a possibility of rebellious groups and a weakness of control over individual members. Again, more and more of the Government's supporters, especially among the traditional conservatives, are anxious to see more attention paid to affairs at home, and less attention paid to affairs abroad. Not that Lord Beveridge's gospel, that Great Britain should upon her Empire, has such sup-

The Press of all shades of opinion expresses satisfaction that the May 1 demonstrations went off so quietly, and that though a larger number of persons than is usual took part, the peace was nowhere seriously disturbed.

Kurjer Poranny writes:

The working world celebrated the May 1 holiday in an atmosphere of tranquillity and seriousness. The chief burden of keeping order in the town rested with the workman's militia. Slight disturbances here and there in the early hours called forth by irresponsible factors mostly belonging to the national democratic artisan sphere, were quashed literally within a few seconds by the workmen. No police were seen in the streets.

Every politician realizes that the defence of the Empire necessitates European relations. But the malcontents demand that at least there should be good European relations, instead of a quarrel with Italy one day and perhaps a quarrel with Germany the next, and that a vigorous policy should be initiated at home to strengthen the national economic recovery in favour of the very poor in the industrial centres.

Housman the Poet.

Amidst all the upheavals of the twentieth century, which reflect the changing of civilisation into some new form, few aspects of British life are more striking than the profusion of genius and talent which continues to testify the greatness of the people. Professor A. E. Housman may not have been so famous abroad as Bernard Shaw and Rudyard Kipling. At home he was best known among lovers of literature, for a lyric poet who lived quietly at Cambridge as a professor and editor of the classics had no desire to see himself a public figure. Housman published in his long life only two slim volumes of lyrics (apart from his lectures and editorial labours) but what he published was memorable and perfect. "A Shropshire Lad" and "Last Poems" invited parody (one sign of good work) because of their apparent simplicity and because of their gloomy insistence upon death. But the simplicity belied a mastery of metre and sound which few English lyricists have equalled. The use of Shropshire names and Shropshire scenes put Housman in the first rank of writers who immortalize English counties. And the apparent pessimism of his insistence upon death was turned against his critics when he wrote on the army of the Great War as "An Army of Mercenaries", with his magnificent challenge that "They saved the sum of things for pay." Housman will be numbered among the immortals of English literature.

This journal also calls attention to the fact that a disciplined section of the newly formed Front of the Young Polish Left walked in the procession.

Robotnik, writing on the same subject, sees in the atmosphere of the manifestation that "Warsaw is and has remained red," and, further, that in contradistinction to former years, the various socialistic groups were in agreement.

In all the working peoples' processions there reigned an atmosphere of sincere solidarity. There was no hostile cry against any working men's party. This is a significant feature of the present moment, deserving of attention.

In the opinion of the *Robotnik*, which to the outsider seems perhaps a bit strained, the fact that a squadron of the air fleet appeared over the heads of the manifestants on Pilsudski Square "gave the impression that the whole authority is in the hands of the proletariat." ("Over the heads of" would be nearer the mark.)

Kurjer Polski discusses the question of the effect on the community of the new exchange regulations, which above were all evoked by comments of a political nature. This, it finds, is not strange as financial policy is in large measure dependent on the moods of society. Political events act on finances, which again react upon society. This was the fact last week in Poland.

We may, however, affirm with satisfaction that the high tide of unrest has already fallen. The proof of this is, that most sensitive of barometers, the money exchange.

Further, the *Kurjer* notes

a desire for cooperation among the masses of the community, and, on the other hand, a demand for a distinct attitude and policy from the Government in its struggles with economic difficulties. So, exchange restrictions have been introduced that are to constitute a certain transitory immobilization of one of the sectors of the battle front.

Goniec Warszawski foretells changes in the Government after May 12 which, it says, will take place in three different directions.

- 1) A further dissolution of the so-called "Colonia";
- 2) The formation of a Left Party;
- 3) A desire to contact the opposition Left.

There is a growing conviction of the need to open the ventilator in the shape of a more democratic and liberal course.

Nasz Przegląd also foresees changes in the cabinet, but with the resignation on the part of the Premier. It sees in the May 1 manifestations, a spirit of conciliation towards the Government. It writes,

The authorities were sure that the leaders would be loyal, that they would do all they could and use the old devices of the democrats, not to reply to provocation.

Referring to the question of the exchange regulations, *Kurjer Poranny* enumerates the advan-

tages deriving therefrom, such as:

The restraint and reduction in the outflow of gold to dimensions defined by the actual needs of Polish economy, so that the danger is averted of the breakdown of the złoty in consequence of the melting away of the metal reserves guaranteeing it.

From the economic point of view

the endowment of the Government with an instrument enabling it to control such an equilibrium of goods as is indispensable for the maintenance of the payment balance. Advantages, in general, of economic policy are the creation of conditions for a large industrial action without endangering the stability of the national currency.

These are the good sides of the regulations. The bad ones are that the prohibition of sending gold and bills abroad may cause people possessing these means of payment to hold them. In fact, they will be frozen. The only way to avoid this would be to insist on the exchange of all foreign bills and monies for the money of the country.

The *Witno Stowis* is doubtful of the present Government. It writes,

At present, Premier Kościelkowski represents only a stage, after which will come, probably, the "reform."

The author is pessimistically inclined, and foresees a continued struggle between parties, tending towards communism.

Czas discusses the political divisions in the community. It finds that the Left camp is consolidating and that the Nationalist camp is falling into two parts, a revolutionary and a moderate one.

Revolutionary nationalism plays on the national tendencies of the Polish people, and above all, on anti-semitism. In the so-called national camp, which up till now has preserved the appearance of uniformity, an essential contradiction is taking place. The moderate side will no longer be able to work together with the revolutionary elements. They will differ always more and more. Such an evolution is necessary and useful. The situation will clear up.

The moderate elements, says *Czas*, will soon find themselves in front of two clearly defined revolutionary tendencies, — one a socialistic, and the other a national. These will fight each other fiercely, but both will fight on the principle of a moderate programme, political, social, and economic.

Both sides will show in the fight, ruthlessness, much energy, and much enthusiasm.

The *Diennik Narodowy* answers this supposition of *Czas* with the assertion that

nationalism is neither left nor right, either in aims or methods (though this does not exclude on principle revolutionary methods). While preserving former foundations, such as religion, private property and freedom, its economic and political programme is based on hanging reforms, and shows new, original conceptions.

The so-called reformers (*naprawiaczy*) in their organ *Naród i Państwo*, propose forming a new political group which should include 1) a left group of the Government, called the Parliamentary Group of Social Workers, 2) the Federation of Defenders of the Fatherland, 3) the united organizations of the Youth Legion and the Democratic Youth, 4) the Z.Z.Z.

This proposal is severely criticized by the *I.K.C.*, which says that the above groups, which are to be supported by the P. P. S. and the People's Party,

possess such a variegated structure that it is doubtful if they could be welded into one organic whole.

The Federation, for instance, is a non-political group. The so-called reformers are extreme radicals, but constitute something akin to "leaders without an army," the Youth Legion stands out as a sort of foremost of the P.P.S., while Z.Z.Z., tries to gain popularity by enunciating even more radical watchwords than the P.P.S.

The Union of Democratic Youth has only taken that name from the former Liberal Party, remembered by the older generation as grouped around the "new reform."

Hence, the *I.K.C.* does not foretell a long duration for such a heterogeneous organization.

I.K.C. also finds that the new exchange restrictions

have as their aim the protection of the valuta, and not an economic plan.

The economist of the *Kraków* paper is of the opinion that

Polish exchange regulations are not intended to be the foundation for an investment programme on a large scale according to the Italian-German model. They are not an introduction to bureaucratic changes in the general economy. Our exchange regulations are rather akin to the type on the Danube, the only aim of which is protection of the valuta.

The report of the Bank of Poland for the third decade in April only too clearly shows the reason for the exchange restrictions imposed last week. The gold reserve of the Bank was reduced by over thirty-six million złotych, and is now 380 million złotych. The ratio of gold reserve to currency is 36.82 per cent., or 7 per cent. over the statutory requirement.

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Art, Music & Literature

IN MEMORY OF HENRYK SIENKIEWICZ

By Jerzy Macierakowski

On May 5 we passed the 90th anniversary of the birth of Henryk Sienkiewicz, one of the titans of Polish literature, a prophet and teacher of the Polish nation and name forever bound with patriotism, love of Poland's glorious past, and faith in her future.

Sienkiewicz was born in Wola Okrzejska in 1846. After finishing his higher studies in the University of Warsaw, then called The Main School, he began his literary career in 1872 with the novel *In Vain (Na Marne)*, a work betraying strong influence of the Positivism then developing fast in Poland.

This first book and those immediately following it focused attention on him as an interesting narrator with a flair for spinning a good yarn while remaining extremely sensitive to natural beauty. His great work for the Polish nation, however, his re-animating of the Polish spirit and re-kindling of patriotic enthusiasm among his countrymen, came later in his stirring historical novels *With Fire and Sword (Ogniem i Mieczem - 1847)*, *The Deluge (Potop - 1886)*, *Pan Michael (Pan Wołodyjowski - 1888)*, and *The Knights of the Cross (Krzyżacy - 1900)*.

To appreciate the real historical mission of these books one must first understand the attitude toward life which had at that time gained a strong foothold in the Polish mentality.

The Tragedy of 1863

It was just after the year 1863 and the tragic failure of the January Insurrection, that heroic but fruitless effort to win back the lost freedom of Poland. This was such a bitter experience that the Polish people almost began to recoil from the thought of trying armed resistance and had practically abandoned the hope of ever delivering the country from the yoke of the partitioning powers. Positivism dominated their outlook, a complete divorce from all feeling and sentiment, a conviction of the futility of all sacrifice, and a faith only in pure materialistic well-being and resignation to fate. Such an attitude was fast leading Poland to the loss of her noble ideals and into the rut of satisfaction with the existing state of things. It would have spread wider and wider, atrophying the national spirit, and condemning it to eventual death had it not been for the sudden appearance on the literary horizon of him who at his life was directed by the love of his country and the desire to serve it — Henryk Sienkiewicz.

Recognizing the danger of this growing lethargy, Sienkiewicz took upon himself the task of awakening his countrymen out of his ardent love; by calling back the great deeds of the old and glorious Poland. He wanted to unite the hearts of all Poles in the in the unwavering faith that the day would come when Poland would be free; she had been rocked to the foundations by cataclysms in the past and had come out of them triumphant; she would still raise her head high again if her sons would only not lose faith.

It may easily be imagined what a literary event, what a sensation the appearance in quick succession of *With Fire and Sword*, *The Deluge*, *Pan Michael* and *The Knights of the Cross* must have made. They penetrated into every house, were as well

known in the cottages as in the palaces, and roused the national spirit to such a pitch that it could not again die out. People spoke of nothing else but these novels; they became the property of the whole Polish nation, and to this day they have not grown stale, nor have they lost any of their popularity or beauty.

Novelist Of Rare Genius

They must indeed have been the works of a novelist of rare genius. It would be idle to deny this quality to Sienkiewicz. To be sure he did not create a new style, for he had fore-runners abroad like Sir Walter Scott and Dumas, and Kraszewski at Rzewusk at home in Poland, but he poured new matter into these ready forms with such tremendous talent that he swept the whole country like a forest fire. Sienkiewicz, besides his splendid painter imagination in nature sketching, his impressive sweep in battlescene, and his incomparable skill in maintaining interest in his story is above all a character painter of infinite variety. All this in truly Polish form, in language simple and sincere, and is presented with dynamic force and clarity.

He never loses that balance, so difficult to strike, between the world of reality and ideals, and so without detracting the elements of the highest beauty from his novels he makes them inexpressibly real. He is a perfect realist, yet never degenerates to mere naturalism for he never lacks the many coloured splendour of literary imagination so essential to a novelist of the first water.

Such masterpieces of creation as the death of *Podbiępieta* in *With Fire and Sword*, or Nero's banquet in *Quo Vadis*, are things that one reads and never forgets.

All these qualities are quite summed up in Sienkiewicz, one of the titans of European novel writing; but for Poland his pages emanate something far more significant than just literary perfection; they breathe love of country, faith in her greatness, and inspiration that kindled and still can kindle the most inert to profound sacrifice in Poland. The successful conclusion of the conflict with the Cossacks and Tartars, the stemming of the seemingly irresistible Swedish tide, the heroic defence of Czesochowa, the noble deed of Wołodyjowski, the defence of Zbaraż, or the epochal victory of Polish arms at Grunwald, all presented by Sienkiewicz with such freshness and vitality, awakened anew the old spirit of knighthood in Poland, filled Polish hearts with courage and hope, and were the spark which grew into a flame of enthusiasm to lead at last through heroic deeds and sacrifices of blood to a free and independent Poland.

Side by side with all these inspiring deeds, he showed no small number of historical characters who set their own welfare and privileges above all other duties, raised themselves above others at the cost of the state, revealed the fatal Polish tendency toward party strife and quarrels which has always been a national vice.

Quite apart from these patriotic elements, Sienkiewicz distinguished himself as the author of a number of psychological novels. But his greatest triumph was the famous *Quo Vadis*, that masterly picture of the conflict between two worlds, the Christian and

the Pagan. This novel won him the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1905, honorary membership in many of the most important scientific societies of Europe, the blessing of Pope Leo XIII, and the esteem and admiration of the cultured world.

He invariably used his influence and fame to forward the Polish cause, and in the beginning of our century at the outbreak of the World War, together with Ignacy Paderewski and Antoni Osuchowski, he founded in Switzerland the Committee of Relief for Poland which contributed no little to the march of events toward the new Poland.

He died at Vevey in Switzerland in November 13, 1916 where he remained buried until on October 25, 1934 his ashes were transferred to his native land to be interred in the Cathedral of St. John in Warsaw.

Although time may fade the colours of many of his works, and dim the glory of his name in world literature, still to Poles those flaming historical visions burning with love for Poland will remain in their hearts forever, not only as the prints of literary genius, but as the high-culture mark of a patriot laid on the altar of his suffering country.

The Symphony of Love.

THE HOUSE OF THE THREE MAIDENS.

As a finale to the present season, which even with the greatest good will and generosity toward the management can hardly be called a successful one for our opera, the *Teatr Wielki* presented the popular operetta based on Franz Schubert's music, *The House of the Three Maidens (Das Dreimädlerhaus)* under the altered title of *The Symphony of Love*. Of course this is no masterpiece of operatic composition, but thanks to its number of very beautiful songs, among them the famous *Serenade*, *The House of the Three Maidens* is quite acceptable on the stage of an opera, for it popularizes in very charming fashion those exquisite pearls of music that the songs of Franz Schubert always are and will be.

Only at the end of its second season, however, did the management of the *Teatr Wielki* eventually find it possible to choose the kind of operetta that really has a place beside serious opera on the boards of a stage devoted entirely to music, and to reinforce its box office receipts without risking the degradation of the artistic and musical level of its performances as was the case in the presentation of such works as *Trass* and *The Flower of Hawaii*.

Perhaps fanatic admirers and connoisseurs of Schubert's music may regard *The House of the Three Maidens* as a profanation of this romantic composer's beautiful songs and melodies which are adapted here to the exigencies of a stage show; still, one must admit that the music lover no less than the musical comedy fan may both enjoy themselves fully at this treasure house of Schubert melodies breathing sincere feeling and romance in simple, readily understandable, yet exquisite music.

The House of the Three Maidens, therefore does well its pleasant task of popularizing Schubert's music and its skillfully designed libretto adds no little to making it a charming and delightful Viennese spectacle. But lightness, verve, and wit in a play must be accompanied by the same qualities in decoration and stage direction for the artistic success of such a thing.

Meanwhile, the Warsaw execution leaves much to be desired on this score. It seems that the change of the title into the bathetic and pompous *Symphony of Love* weighed heavily on the performance which had nothing in common with the necessary verve or wit that dragged so ponderously *ad infinitum* that the hearer was wearied to death especially as the vocal side was insufficiently prepared. Nothing came out well, neither the directing, nor the decoration, nor the cast.

Utter Lack Of Invention

Mr. Zdzitowiecki, to be sure, has already accustomed us to his utter lack of invention in the performances prepared by him. But this time he exceeded our expectations and gave us such a ghastly concept of what we were hardly certain we were at a performance in Warsaw and not in some provincial "opery". Duets and quartets strolling along without any sense or reason in time to the music have long been rejected to the rubbish heap in operetta insensibility, but such are among Zdzitowiecki's brightest ideas. Besides, the artists did these steps so lightly and gracefully that they resembled so many gambling elephants at play. As for finesse in dialogue or for bringing out a "point", the players, without capable direction, could do no more than fall into hopeless exaggeration and unnaturalness. The group scene likewise resembled family photographs of the gay nineties or tableaux put on in former days at charity balls to resemble living statues. And the whole performance was marred by Mr. Zdzitowiecki into a sort of slow-motion film lasting some three hours.

The second person who contributed to the general flop was Mrs. Jewniczówna. Her decorations were not only destitute of talent or ideas but were even a denial of the most average correctness or artistic culture. As she like that in the first act when Mrs. Jewniczówna charmingly joined the roofs of the house with a dirty and much rumpled sky excites a terrifyingly sad feeling. She does not seem to be able to handle such a splendid stage; in consequence her acting has since capitalized the spacious depth of the *Teatr Wielki* stage to give us a decent perspective.

And finally, a few words about the cast. First of all, none knew their parts well enough, and the voice of the prompter dominated the whole performance as he to reach our ears at times more clearly even than the words of the players. The impression made by such a duet between the prompter and the actor, each line reaching our ears in a double version is beyond the power of description. Then again, no one was properly cast.

To appreciate the talent of Miss Zofia Fedyczkowska, but the dramatic expression of her voice and her playing makes her a pure sang opera singer, but hardly fits her for the role of a naive little lyric heroine of an operetta, Miss Fedyczkowska, being an artist of experience and of an inappropriate role made her seem impossibly artificial at times. This takes all the conviction out of her experience as the heroine and defaces the whole charm of the character. Her voice lacks the soft sweet lyricism that is called for and too strongly dramatizes many parts of the role. Of all her songs the *Serenade* came out best.

The only interesting moment was the ballet in the third act. The dances arranged by Mr. Pianoski had charm and lightness in spite of their choreographic triviality. The ballet company performed creditably and the excellent work of the prima baller-

EXCHANGE RESTRICTIONS

(Continued from page 1, col. 2)

foreigners, the following most recent provisions have been issued enabling the businessman to obtain immediately the necessary exchange, provided the respective documents are presented to the exchange banks. First, funds may be remitted abroad in payment for imported goods, costs of transport and insurance up to an equivalent of Zł. 5,000 per day for each importer, up to Zł. 1,000 per day for remittance of funds as an advance for the contracted importand, up to Zł. 1,000 per day for remittance of insurance fees.

Exporters are empowered to continue extending to foreigners credit on usual terms in connection with the exportation of the merchandise from Poland under condition they will offer the proceeds at maturity for sale to the Bank of Poland or to the exchange banks.

Payment into the local account of foreigners residing abroad of any sums of money requires permission of the Commission, unless such payment is made to the blocked account. The only exception is Zł. 1,000 per day any one person paying in for goods imported or incidental expenses connected thereto.

A. B.

The purchase price of an automobile may be deducted from income tax returns according to a recent decree. The maximum deduction allowed, however, is Zł. 12,000.

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rina, Barbara Karczmarska, in the more difficult figures roused enthusiasm.

Taken all in all, it would be a mistake to say this performance in the opera had no uniform style. It had a style — a very specific style — the style of a performance in a country village. It was a model of how to make a pleasant melodic operetta an unbearably dull saw buzzing away continually.

The only joy we felt at this performance was the thought that it was the last achievement of Mrs. Korolewicz-Waydowa on the boards of our opera, and so the end of her sad activity. Our hope and sincerest wish is that under its new management, the Warsaw Opera will shed its present character together with the shabbiness of its exterior.

(—) Arno.

Will Manchukuo Clashes Provoke War?

By Frank H. Hedges.

Tokio, April (By mail)

The fear that the Tokio Government has entertained for some time that a major incident on the borders of Manchukuo might precipitate a war between Soviet Russia and Japan, is spreading among the general populace of this country. Not a week goes by that does not bring reports of fresh incidents along the boundary between Manchukuo and the Chinese provinces of Heilong and Outer Mongolia, in which at least a few lives are lost.

These border clashes are steadily increasing in number, in magnitude and in seriousness. They have ceased to be pinpricks, as a matter of fact, and have reached the status of sword thrusts and bullet wounds. In many of them aeroplanes figure prominently and it must be remembered that Japan is quite as anxious about aeroplanes as the United Kingdom is about submarines.

The Japanese people feel that Russia is growing more ambitious in the Far East. The military alliance with Outer Mongolia, which has been announced by the Moscow Government, is regarded very seriously here. The Foreign Office is quite evidently nervous concerning it and must at least suspect that China is cognizant of its terms and has acquiesced in them.

Secret Alliance

Shanghai dispatches report also the conclusion of a secret alliance between China itself and the Soviet State, an alliance officially denied by Nanking; Japan cannot forget, however, that the Lilobanoff Treaty was in existence all through the Russo-Japanese War and that Japan was completely ignorant thereof. If Tokio had know of the existence of that Treaty, it is likely there would be no Manchurian question to-day, for Japan would probably have taken over that entire country then.

Moreover, there is not the secondary attack on the part of Moscow which existed a year and more ago. The Soviet army strength in the Far East has been greatly increased; the aeroplanes assembled there have reached a substantial number; there is a fleet of Russian submarines of unknown strength in the harbour at Vladivostok; border fortifications have been greatly strengthened, and means of communication, particularly by rail, between European Russia and the Pacific have been greatly improved. When Moscow speaks to Tokio now, it speaks with a very considerable army stationed on the borders of Japan and its continental ally, Manchukuo, behind it, and the voice is different from what it was when the road to Lake Baikal in mid-Siberia, lay open to an invading Japanese Army.

Outer Mongolia, now that its military alliance with the Soviet has been proclaimed, speaks and acts with assurance formerly lacking, with an assurance that approaches perilously close to arrogance. Moscow itself well knows the cost of a war with Japan and will not embark upon it unless the end seems to justify such action, but the Mongols of Ulanbator are but children in knowledge of the world and present-day world forces, and

might easily and lightly undertake to start such a war.

Knowledge of all this becoming widespread throughout Japan and among all classes of Japanese. When an incident occurs on the border, the Government is careful to see that only the joint Japanese-Manchukuan version thereof is given publicly in Japan. In that version the incident always takes place on Manchukuan soil by invading Mongols or Russians, who are invariably the aggressors. Moscow's version (which is not published in Japan but is in China) is just as certainly the exact opposite.

The February 26 Army rebellion in Tokio, in which a handful of radical junior officers sought to overthrow the existing machinery of Government by assassination and force, shook Japan's confidence in itself and in its army. Psychologically, the Japanese people are in a state at present where rumours and reports of impending war are taken much more seriously and are far more disturbing than was the case even a few months ago.

Office clerks and waiters, farmer lands and workers in Japan's modern factories and mills anxiously scan the papers for the latest news of Manchurian border developments and for what Moscow and Tokio are saying to each other. They do not want war—far from it. But they do fear that it is approaching, and approaching rapidly. There is no sentiment in favour of rushing on to the field of battle for the glory of the Empire, but there is a growing conviction that Japan will be forced to resort to sword and rifle to defend itself and the programme on the Asiatic Continent which it considers vital to its life and progress.

One hears no joking about the possibility of war, and one hears no bragging that one Japanese soldier is worth ten Russians. The talk and the countenances of the speakers are serious when they refer to the Russo Mongol versus Japanese-Manchukuan clashes. Many Japanese ask each other when the war will break out, and many predict that it will come within a month.

Such predictions are worthless, of course, but they cannot be discounted as impossible. If war should come at this time, it will be precipitated by some incident along Manchukuo's borders of such a nature and magnitude that it cannot be averted with honour.

The number of registered unemployed as of May 1 was 414,165 persons. Within the last two weeks, that is from April 15 to May 1, the number of unemployed decreased by 44,890 persons. This figure is less by 49,914 than the corresponding figure one year ago.

According to an official ruling, any amber found cast up on the seashore is the property of the State. It seems that a monopoly has been granted several Gdynia firms, and these firms are permitted to receive the amber found. The personal use of such "rescued" amber or the sale of it is prohibited under penalty of heavy fines.

A. FRENDLER

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Two Holidays.

After recent labour disturbances in the south of Poland, the timid feared that the unrest would spread to the capital city and that May 1 would be chosen as the appropriate time by agitators to provoke street disturbances. It was even reported that the less brave were buying foodstuffs in larger quantities so as to be prepared for every eventuality. Their expectations, however, were happily disappointed as the police, with their usual foresight, had looked up the better known communist agitators, and the day passed quiet except for an over turned taxicab and minor scuffles before the University, where Nationalists tried to provoke the passing socialist parade.

More interest than usual, however, was manifest in the demonstrations of the various socialist groups. Contrary to press reports in most Polish papers, over 25,000 persons gathered in Piłsudski Place, and their vocal efforts were confined to the Third Internationale exclusively. The socialists supporting the Government were also numerous. Jewish organizations also held their demonstrations, but they were confined to the Jewish quarter, as usually the trouble is caused by fights between Communists and Socialists rather than by differences between the urban population and the Left representatives.

May 3, or Constitution Day, was celebrated, as usual, as a national holiday. The Fifteenth Anniversary of the Silesian Uprising (against the Germans) was also commemorated on this day.

In Warsaw, the ceremonies were confined to a military parade on Mokotowska Field in the morning and to numerous gatherings of patriotic organizations in the afternoon. Due to the fact first anniversary of the death of Marshal Piłsudski comes on May 12 less emphasis was placed on this holiday than formerly.

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HORIZONTAL

1—A fruit, 6—Piece of furniture, 11—An isthmus, 12—Having more heat, 14—To give out, 15—Possessive pronoun, 17—Exalt, 18—To free, 19—Undressed kid, 20—Vessel, 21—Within, 22—Wild time, 23—Sweet bakery product, 24—Pertaining to side, 26—Animal, 27—Gem, 28—Responsibility, 29—To wait, 31—Presence, 32—Room in prison, 35—Moistens, 36—Forward, 37—Owens, 38—Locks, 39—Undeveloped flower, 40—Half an em, 41—Asiatic country, 42—Fruit, 43—To quit, 45—Boxed, 47—Is food, 48—Domesticated.

VERTICAL

1—Layer, 2—Girl's name, 3—Ring, 4—Hindu sacred word, 5—Normal, 6—To rebuke, 7—To sharpen, 8—Devooured, 9—Pronoun, 10—To chide, 11—Danger, 13—To throw back, 16—Part of shoe, 19—To sprinkle, 20—Carved stone, 22—Part of flower, 23—Criticism, 25—Rings, 26—Temporary dwellings, 28—Covenant, 29—Pained, 30—Admired, 31—Presence, Recommended, 33—Concluded, 35—Arrows, 38—Stockings, 39—To lessen, 41—Asiatic country, 42—Fruit, 43—To quit, 45—Boxed, 47—Is food, 48—Domesticated.

"Graf Hindenburg".

(Continued from page 1, col. 5)

Mary"; luxury, the Graf Hindenburg, and speed — when and if the Transatlantic flying-boat service inaugurates.

The "Queen Mary" will not race the "Queen Mary" across the Atlantic as has been rumoured, both Dr. Eckener and Captain Lehmann assured me.

"The maiden voyage of the 'Queen Mary' is what you journalists call front page news" and deservedly so," said Captain Lehmann. "We shall not divert public attention from the 'Queen Mary' on that voyage. It would not be sportsmanlike. It is true that the suggestion was made to us to race the 'Queen Mary' to New York. The suggestion came from the other side of the Atlantic. It would make news we were told. We vetoed it immediately. It was not considered for a moment. At some time later, we might race the 'Queen Mary' with the 'Graf Hindenburg' to show the difference of time in crossing the Atlantic, between Britain's crack ocean liner and Germany's pride of the air, but not on the 'Queen Mary' maiden voyage."

Dr. Eckener sent his regrets to the Mayors of San Francisco, Los Angeles and San Diego, who cabled him invitations to bring the "Graf Hindenburg" to California. "Unfortunately, the 'Hindenburg' is not a private yacht, but a commercial craft that has to earn money and make our living," remarked Dr. Eckener.

Including insurance, depreciation, crude oil fuel, hydrogen gas for the lift, wages of the crew and food, the round trip flight from Friedrichshafen to Lakehurst and back, costs approximately 200,000 Marks. With all cabins sold out, and heavy mail, it is expected that the "Graf Hindenburg" will do a little better than break even on the first flight.

As it costs just as much to man a crew for 50 passengers as for a hundred, the Zeppelin Company plan to make the next Zeppelin, but one, for a hundred passengers instead of only fifty.

Copied by the Warsaw Weekly and N. A. N. A.)

The Polytechnic has again been disturbed until further notice due to disturbances among the students. In all probability, the school will not be reopened this year, which means that this academic year is lost.

Warsaw Amusements

THEATRES

ATENEUM "Zamach" Jaracz. Daily
KAMERALNY "Matura." Daily
LETNI "Niesuprawiedliwna Godzina" Daily
MALICKIEJ "Trafika Pani Generalowej." Daily
MALY "Adwokat i Róże." Daily
NARODOWY "Spadkobierca." Daily
NOWY "Tessa." Daily
POLSKI "Gustaw Nowosi." Daily
REDUTA "Pierścień Wielkiej Damy." Daily

MUSICAL SHOWS

CYRULIK WARSZAWSKI "Kot w Worku" "Cat in the Bag" Daily at 8.
TEATR WIELKI "Symfonia Miłości" "Love Symphony." Daily at 8.

CINEMAS

APOLLO "Straszny Dwór." Polish.
ATLANTIC "Caliente" Dolores del Rio. American.
BALTYK "Róża." Polish.
CAPITOL "Bokatorow Sibiru." Polish.
CASINO "Moderna Times" Charlie Chaplin. American.
EUROPA "Song of Love" Jan Kiepura. American.
FILHARMONIA "Dont Forget Me" Beniamino Gigli. German.
MAJESTIC "Informor" Victor Me Lagon. American.
PAN "Invisible Ray" Boris Karloff. American.
RIALTO "Eccentric Lady." American.
ROMA "Oxford Boys" English.
SPYLOWY "Bonny" Charles Laughton. American.
SWIATOWID "Desire" Marlene Dietrich. American.

4) stars, excellent. 3) stars, good. 2) stars, fair. 1) star, average. Unstarred, not yet visited.

MUSIC

FILHARMONIA Friday, Symphony Concert. Clemens Kraus, Violica Ursuleac. Nowy 12 Piano Recital Konrad Hausel. 15 Piano Recital J. Turczyński.

SPORTS

RACES 9th. 10th. May.
GOLF Spring Competition. Warsaw Golf Club.

ART AND OTHER EXHIBITIONS

IPS NATIONAL MUSEUM. The Polish Art Collection "Warsaw in the Future" Daily except Mondays.
ZACHETA Warsaw in Pictures. Daily 10 till dusk.

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