

# THE WARSAW WEEKLY

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## GENERAL RYDZ-SMIGLY'S SPEECH

On Sunday the 24-th May the 13-th annual Congress of the Association of Legionaries assembled in Warsaw. The Association has now been amalgamated with the Regimental Clubs,—an organisation which grouped former soldiers of certain regiments of the Marshal Pilsudski Legion and which was very influential, especially in view of the fact that most of the leading personalities of the Government are members of one of the clubs.

The fusion, which has given to both the Association and the Clubs a common Chief, Colonel Koc, former Governor of the Bank of Poland, was effected at the wish of Gen. Rydz-Smigly, the Inspector-General of the Armed Forces.

His speech to the Congress of Legionaries has been described as the most important political utterance heard in Poland since Marshal Pilsudski last spoke in public.

Referring to the aims of the Association, he said that they had also a political side, but that he did not wish soldiers in active service to take any part in political work. "If there should be any need for us to take a hand in politics, I shall do it myself" said Gen. Rydz-Smigly.

This statement proves that Marshal Pilsudski's successor in the office of Inspector General means to take his place also as a man with a dominating influence over the whole life of the country. What is more, he has every chance of achieving this aim, for his popularity stands very high among the public, even though it does not reach the worship inspired by the person of Marshal Pilsudski.

Speaking of the duties of legionaries to their country, he said "Comrades! Look beyond our Eastern and Western frontiers and compare what you see there with what you can see here at home. In this comparison I do not wish to dwell on statistics, on natural wealth, or armaments, or on figures. I only want to point out to you a sphere in which we surely can equal our neighbours. It is the organisation and directing of human will."

Continuing, Gen. Rydz-Smigly said that the aim which should dominate all others is the defence of Poland. He explained that this aim should not be regarded onesidedly as a question of armament only. It should be rather a means of achieving a greater unity of national life and greater devotion to its cause.

He compared the task of Poland's defence to pulling the country up by a chain, so that although the effort is applied only to one point, the whole is lifted to a higher level. "All hands must haul it,—and you must put your backs into it, pulling all your weight. Then we will lift Poland higher up, Comrades: If we thought that our

country can rely only on us here, with thirty odd million other citizens, it would be a tragical thought. You must get hold of the chain first, with your strong and trained hands, but all the others must also be there and you must try to get beside you all those who have strength and want to use it for their country."

Then, speaking of the relation of the former legionaries, who have been governing Poland since 1926, to other citizens, Gen. Rydz-Smigly said "Unless you will give up your little businesses and shops, unless you will submit to discipline and forget personal whims in all respects and work along the lines which I have traced for you, you may tell yourselves that you are soldiers who fought for independence, who have right to pride and glory on this account, but who should have no say in the Poland of to-day and must leave its government to others."

The speech of the General Inspector was received with enthusiasm by the Legionaries; and the general public, together with the press, have also commented favourably both on the contents of the speech and on the vigour with which the General expounded his views.

The nationalist and governmental conservative opinion have taken the speech of Gen. Rydz-Smigly as an invitation for all the parties to collaborate in the work of strengthening Poland with a view to assuring her adequate defence and they have welcomed it.

Generally speaking, the pronouncement of the Inspector General, who is the Commander in Chief in case of war, is understood to mean the beginning of certain changes in the relation of the former Legionaries to problems of government. They hold already most of the official positions of any importance, but the Inspector General seems to wish to change not the men, in whom he has complete trust, being one of them himself, but their relation to the problem of governing the country—from the conception of a right to that of a duty. The present Premier, General Skladkowski stated himself recently that he accepted his office with its high responsibility and many duties under an order from the Inspector General. Of course such an attitude rules out completely the notion of a political competition for governmental power, and this may be probably its best attribute, particularly as far as Poland is concerned.

The governmental press has found little to add to what the Inspector General has said, except an appeal to follow his call and his orders. The right wing opinion, represented by the "Warszawski Dziennik 'Narodowy'" expressed full approval for the general's intention of concentra-

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## CHANCELLOR DR. SCHUSCHNIGG gives exclusive statement to Warsaw Weekly on reconstruction of Austrian Government.

The principal aim of the reconstruction of the Cabinet was to terminate the dualism in the leadership of the State which, since the death of Dr. Dollfuss, has existed as a result of the historic development of new Austria. This unification was necessary not because perhaps Prince Starhemberg and disagreed on the fundamental principles, but on account of differences between us in small matters which nevertheless threatened to disturb the work of construction of corporative Austria.

My new Government will quicken the pace of the work of reconstruction along Dollfuss's lines. The spirit and aim of this new Government are unchangeably the same as those of my previous Governments. It is based on the same forces as before and includes all the true Austrians who stand for a free and independent country.

I have emphasised repeatedly that an authoritarian régime is not synonymous with an arbitrary government. Our constitution includes efficient safeguards against it. One of these is election within the various corporations, the first of which has already been held in the province of Vorarlberg with the result that 80 per cent of all votes were given to candidates of the Patriotic Front. May I add that in this province, the cradle of real peasant democracy, 80 per cent of the voting population went to the polls? I have the firm intention to hold similar elections in all the other provinces as soon as possible. I am fully convinced that it is quite wrong to use such definit-

ions when discussing Austria's domestic problems as are customary in other countries and are there fully justified, but which only partially correspond with the development of Austria. What we do want is a Christian, German Austria on a corporative basis, a purely Austrian construction which is in accord with the mentality of the Austrian people.

I have already pointed out in my despatches to the Premiers of Italy and Hungary that my new Government will continue to adhere to the proved policy of the Rome Protocol. The foreign policy of the country will remain as heretofore. At the same time we will continue with our endeavours to come to a closer economic co-operation with all our other neighbours. We want friendship with everybody under the sole condition that our independence should be respected and no attempt should be made to interfere with our domestic affairs.

Austria is well aware of the gratitude she owes to the League of Nations for repeated support in economic distress. We are all the more grieved therefore at the present crisis of this institution which we all hope will finally surmount the difficulties and become what President Wilson thought it should be: the guarantee for justice and peace through the full co-operation of all those who seek to secure these high aims.

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## Foreign Minister visits Belgrade.

The Polish Foreign Secretary, Mr. Beck, left Warsaw on the 26-th May for Belgrade, accompanied by his wife and by officials of the Foreign Office.

One of the principal purposes of this visit is an exploration of the attitude of Yugoslavia with regard to the possible reform of the League of Nations.

Besides, Poland has always been keenly interested in the conditions prevailing in the Danube countries, and a previous visit to Budapest had to be completed by a closer contact with a representative of the other camp. The rumours of Polish mediation between Hungary and Yugoslavia seem, however, to be unfounded or at any rate grossly exaggerated. Good relations between these two powers are certainly in the interests of Poland, but she would probably avoid mixing herself up in disputes of a territorial character, especially when their focus is

many hundred miles distant from her own frontiers.

The relations between Poland and Yugoslavia have been friendly ever since 1918, and although their political orientation has not always been identical, there have never, been any hitches between them.

Yugoslavia can be described as one of the powers with limited interests, to which Mr. Beck has lately so often referred. She is as interested in a satisfactory organisation of the League as is Poland. The Abyssinian venture of Italy has very much eased off the tension in the Adriatic, but even so Yugoslavia has quite a sufficient dose of actual and latent problems to solve.

Both Poland and Yugoslavia are allies of France and this fact constitutes a powerful political

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## LONDON LETTER

By Gregory Macdonald

Popular interest in foreign affairs has noticeably died down since the close of the Abyssinian campaign and the apparent collapse of the League of Nations. There is a calm after the storm. This is in keeping with the national character, for the run of policies on the continent has never been a continued preoccupation, and in any case the opening of the summer season brings with it a succession of sporting events. The visit of the Emperor of Abyssinia may be counted upon to provoke demonstration of sympathy for him, but no one can say that he looms larger than the Derby.

This relaxation of tension is all to the good. The Italian-Abyssinian conflict cut deeper into English feelings than any previous crisis. Private discussion, public meetings and newspaper correspondence showed a quite unusual political passion, for it was realised that much more was in question than the covenant of the League or the independence of Abyssinia. The debate is now continuing at longer range between people who stand for internationalism and people who stand for nationalism. It can already be seen that in England the old political alignment of parties, conservative and Radical, is changing over to something more like continental grouping of Right and Left. Official politics are less important than they were. A fundamental examination of new ideas is well advanced.

Unfortunately the League of Nations crisis leaves on English minds a dislike for Italy which is as rooted as the opinion against Prussia during the War. That makes the choice of government policy a difficult one. Diplomatically, the present pause marks a period in which the lines of future alliances will have to be decided upon. It is clear that sanctions cannot be maintained indefinitely against Italy. Once they are out of the way, and now that the Abyssinian affair has been liquidated by the force of events, an armed truce with Italy in the Mediterranean is undesirable, from the strategic as well as from the diplomatic point of view. Nor is the diplomatic position as strong as it was last January, for if Italy is unfriendly and if German rearmament is dangerous (as Mr. Winston Churchill declares), there remains only the doubtful support of Russia and of a France at present weakly held by M. Blum. There is every likelihood that at least a *modus vivendi* will be reached with Italy and with Germany as well, while Great Britain restores her armed forces, as she is now doing. From the point of view of peace or war the situation is therefore a hopeful one, if the dictators are sincere in their professions that they do not want war in

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**The Economic Policy Of The Government.**

Mr. J. Rakowski, of the Ministry of Finance, outlined the main principles of the government's economic policy in a lecture to the Association of Trade Representatives.

He spoke of the improvement in the first quarter of 1936 in all spheres of business.

The sale of monopoly products (tobacco, alcohol, matches and salt) increased by about 10%. Employment increased during last year by more than 80,000, while the general turnover of foreign trade showed an increase of 15.5%.

107 of the principal companies in Warsaw have had in 1934 a total profit of only 27 million zlotys, while nearly one half of them had losses. In 1935 the same 107 companies had a total profit of 45 million zlotys and not one registered a loss.

These figures were quoted by the speaker in support of his theory that lack of confidence was the principal danger threatening Polish prosperity and that the recent outflow of gold from the Bank of Poland was not due to any actual economic reasons but only to speculation and to an orgy of rumours.

Speaking of the rumours about devaluation Mr. Rakowski said that if the value of the zloty were to be reduced by one third, there would immediately appear a budget deficit of 150 million zlotys. The cost of living would then increase by 15%, which fact would affect adversely not only the working classes but also the budget, while the service of foreign loans would become more expensive.

Referring to the recent decrees on the control of imports, the lecturer stated that the government will be liberal in granting permits for the import of raw material.

Finally Mr. Rakowski summed up the economic policy of the government in the following seven points.

- 1 - Maintaining a balanced budget.
- 2 - Organising the control of foreign exchange and of imports in the manner that will benefit the national economy most.
- 3 - Building up the producing apparatus of the country, but without recourse to inflation or to methods of controlled currency.
- 4 - Stimulating private enterprise, which must, however, conform to the needs of national defence when necessary.
- 5 - Gradual drawing out of hidden capital by increasing confidence.
- 6 - Controlling prices, particularly in order to prevent the rise of the prices of foreign goods, or of goods produced from foreign raw materials.
- 7 - Fighting false rumours which undermine public confidence.

The maintenance of the stability of the zloty was not included in the list only because it was understood to be the basis of the whole plan.

(A. T. E.)

**International Congress**

The International Congress of Physics was opened on the 21st of May. More than 50 eminent physicists from foreign countries are participating.

The Congress is devoted to the study of the phenomena of photo-luminescence, which include fluorescence and phosphorescence. The Polish Minister of Education, professor Swietoslowski, himself a chemist of repute, performed the opening ceremony.

(A. T. E.)

**MAY SESSION OF THE LEAGUE.**

It was not expected that the May session of the Council of the League of Nations would include any discussions on principle, an anticipation which has been fully realised, as contrary to the extra session held in London, the Council's activities have been solely administrative, a whole series of matters of minor importance - the conclusion of which did not present any difficulties - figuring on the agenda.

Among the political problems which have so heavily weighed on International relations only the question of the Abyssinian conflict was considered by the Council and even that was only touched upon formally and without raising any question of principle.

The remilitarisation of the Rhineland was not discussed, neither was the reform of the League, the latter point not even being provided for in the May programme. Profound reasons have prevented any serious political debate during the official session of the League, as the three above mentioned problems are strongly linked to one other politically. The manner in which Germany proceeded to the remilitarisation of the Rhine and the course of the Abyssinian conflict are closely related to each other. The attitude taken by the member of States of the League, as the result of either of these questions must also have a certain influence on that to be adopted towards the other.

What is more the generally felt need of a reform of the existing system of International relations is as much an effect of the Italian-Abyssinian dispute as of the Rhineland affair. Any consideration of these matters shows the manifest incapacity of the League, in its present form, to prevent any action, contrary to International obligations, undertaken by one of the great powers.

It is not surprising if, under these conditions, the Council of the League did not feel disposed to initiate a debate on the subject of one of these problems of International policy. A discussion of this type on any one of these questions, difficult enough to start would by the force of circumstances, have had political repercussions on the others.

The Rhineland question was, as already mentioned, on the agenda, for the May session, as apart from the general question indicated above, considerations of a special nature also came into

play. France is the power most interested in this question; on the eve of an election, the French Government was not in a position to take serious steps in matters of foreign policy. It should also not be forgotten that the left swing taken recently by the electorate has enfeebled the resistance of France to English policy, which as is well known, demands firstly the solution of Ethiopian question, while inclining Italy to compromise about the Rhineland.

Although the Abyssinian dispute had been included in the programme, it was adjourned until June. The declarations and gestures which accompanied this procedure were mainly for effect, for, as the Italian delegate was not present, they could not signify definite decisions of any importance.

The Ethiopian question, although struck out from the discussion from the moment, will however, remain in the spot light of European politics. The problem is becoming more and more one with the general dispute between Italy and Great Britain. The attitude of the United Kingdom towards European problems and even towards the evolutions of the political situation will depend to a large extent on her relations with Italy, a factor which may influence the future of the League.

The Abyssinian conflict has shown the weakness of the existing idea of security based on economic sanctions, which were insufficient to prevent Italy from becoming the master of Ethiopia. Conscious of their inefficiency the sanctionist countries are fatigued and deceived and two of them, Chile and Ecuador have openly broken away. As to the other Governments they probably will be kept in the ring by the conviction that sanctions would be liquidated at the end of June, since they could no longer assist in the preserving of the sanctity of Abyssinian territory. The suggestion put forward by certain English circles that sanctions would be tightened up was, therefore, received sceptically.

However, the British Government is too strongly tied up with the collectivism of Geneva to allow of the assumption that its attitude towards collective security would undergo any essential modification. This system having failed in its present form, it is expected that Great Britain will endeavour to revise

the pact. The maintenance of the League in its present form suits the interests of Great Britain, one of the powers which is perhaps the most interested in the prevention of large international conflicts which might seriously disturb the present balance of power.

The question of the reform of the League of Nations having in fact been brought up, it is easy to understand the interest which certain smaller states have had in the recent proceedings at Geneva, and their increased desire to defend the League against possible plans which would give it a character conforming only to the interests of the great powers.

The meeting at Geneva, on the eve of the session of the Council of the Foreign Ministers of Sweden, Norway, Holland and Denmark caused numerous comments as, from the political point of view, it was far more interesting than the session. It stands to reason that these powers, like others, do not desire at the moment of the opening of the discussion on the Reform of the League of Nations to find themselves faced with a scheme prepared in advance, which might be unacceptable to them. For this reason any tentative to impose such conceptions, could provoke the most disastrous effect, not only for the work of reform, but also for the universal character of the reconstituted League of Nations.

(P. I. P.)

**London Letter.**

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Europe. The general increase of prosperity all over the world is another important factor making for peace, in so far as it relieves the economic tension and reduces the possibilities of social revolution in European countries.

At home, the political sensation of the moment is the resignation of Mr. J. W. Thomas from the Cabinet. It cannot be said for certain whether this involves a reconstruction of the Government. Mr. Baldwin keeps his own counsel. The present administration is just one year old, for the General Election was followed by slight ministerial changes, and a reconstruction at Whitsun has long been forecast. There are many reasons why it should be carried out. The Government has suffered a number of reverses as home and abroad. In the House of Commons the Whips are controlling with difficulty a restive majority. Mr. Baldwin himself is the target of many attacks. But he strained the loyalty of his supporters last week by one of his speeches, at a private parliamentary dinner, and a reconstruction of the Cabinet would at this moment perhaps weaken once more his personal ascendancy by bringing the form and leadership of the National Government into question. There may be no other changes than to appointment of a successor to Mr. J. H. Thomas (since Sir Samuel Hoare comes to mind) and the choice of a new First Lord of the Admiralty, for Lord Monsell has long contemplated resignation.

Preparations for rearmament are well advanced, as Sir Thomas Inskip showed by his survey of his activities among the firms able to produce the necessary material. So far, no large appropriations of money have been made, and recruiting will be on a voluntary basis. Every effort is being made to strengthen the Territorial Army, although this involves a contest with some local authorities of Labour complexion who refuse to encourage the volunteers. Rearmament will not, however, be regarded as a programme of public works for putting money into the home market. The Chancellor of the Exchequer demonstrated once more his care for a balanced budget when he hinted at the possibilities of increased taxation and at his inability to add to the burdens of the state by added expenditure on social services.

Perhaps the most important news of last week, a technical matter discussed only in city columns and in financial papers, was the "request" made by the Bank of England to the bullion brokers and the banks to refrain from dealing in gold coins at a premium. Almost exactly a year ago the Bank made a similar request (which is as good as a command) to cease dealing in the forward price of gold. The present action

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relieves the strain on the franc to a considerable degree, showing that the Bank of England is no more anxious than M. Blum for devaluation, as it would leave the control of the gold price in the hands of President Roosevelt. But it is a severe blow to the City of London bullion market, and in general to financial interests which resent the constant interference of the Bank. The suggestion is already put out that, if this sort of obstruction continues, the business lost by London will be picked up by Amsterdam or by some other financial centre.

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## CHELSEA TEAM'S VISIT

The visit of the Chelsea team to Poland was to be the greatest sensation of the current football season. If it failed to be that, this was by no means the fault of the British team which, in different circumstances, would certainly have shown the Polish "fans" such football as they had never seen before.

Chelsea arrived in Poland at the invitation of the club "Wistla" (Cracow) which celebrates their thirtieth anniversary this year. One of the oldest clubs in Poland, "Wistla" decided to give the Polish public a super-attraction in football, and they could not have done better than to choose a first-class English team, seeing that English football is justly considered to be the finest in the world, and that since pre-war days no British team has ever played in Poland.

In spite of the defeats of the British national eleven on the Continent, in spite of the much-maligned fitness and sciences of best Austrian, Hungarian and Czech teams, there is no doubt but that British football represents the very highest standard. No wonder that the visit of the Chelsea team aroused tremendous interest among the local "soccer fans" who were looking forward keenly to the English team's first meetings in Warsaw and in Cracow. A large crowd came to the station to meet the Chelsea players who were pestered for their autographs and gazed at in dumb admiration by many youthful worshippers.

The team was accompanied on their tour by the Chairman of the Chelsea F. C., Col. C. D. Crisp, the Secretary - Manager Mr. A. Leslie Knighton, the trainer Jack Whitley and Mr. J. H. Mears, one of Chelsea's most enthusiastic supporters and son of the proprietor of the Stamford Bridge ground. There were fifteen players; the first team and reserves. It was the same team which did so well in this year's Championship of the League, with the exception of Joe Bambrick who, owing to a serious knee injury, was unable to play for the last two months, and the famous full-back Tommy Law who is getting on in years and probably finds it difficult to keep the pace of a long Continental tour on top of a busy home season. The composition of the team was as follows: Woodley (goal), O'Hare and Barber; Mitchell, Craig (captain) and Miller; Spencer, Burgess, Mills, Gibson and Barraclough. Reserves: Allun, Argue, Chitty and Cheyne.

Chelsea came to Poland covered with glory, as it had previously defeated the representative Dutch team Zwaawellen (Bluebirds) 3:2, the well known Swedish team A.I.K. (Stockholm) 6:0 (1) to end up with a victory over the Swedish Alliance team Goteborg 4:0. The manager, Mr. Knighton admitted that he attached a great importance to the Chelsea's results in Poland, in view of the past performances of the Polish national eleven last winter. The victory of Chelsea over the Polish team would mean that the London team was better than the English national eleven which went to Belgium; a fact which Mr. Knighton was most anxious to establish.

Unavoidable as it was, it is to be regretted that the Polish team in Warsaw obviously wanted to win the match at any price, disregarding the advantages which might have been the result of a game played in a more friendly spirit. It is understood that the victory of the Polish eleven over a first-class English professional team would considerably add to the prestige of the former on the other hand, it is a pity that the Polish players

methods in the first place made it impossible for Chelsea to display their skill and technique.

In the first few minutes Chelsea made a creditable effort to show the Warsaw public better football, all the more interesting because of the fact that English football is altogether different from the best Continental teams. The Polish defence, however, stopped the Chelsea players often by disregarding the rules of the game and eventually the game became rough. In the circumstances it was hopeless to expect more from the English team which was forced to adopt the methods similar to those used by local players. It should be pointed out that as a rule Central-European football does not tolerate certain perfectly regular charges which no English referee would qualify as "dangerous playing". The public, unfamiliar with the international rules, voiced their disgust at the alleged brutality of the English players; the atmosphere was heated and the visiting team found themselves unable to show what they could do.

Chelsea won by 2-0, the scorers being Gibson and Mitchell. The Polish team lost several opportunities to score and it was obvious that, although the eleven consisted of the best players available at the moment they were cramped to play together. There was a lack of understanding between the players and an almost total absence of team work. The match was rather disappointing from many points of view. The Chelsea team failed to impress us; probably because too much was expected from them. On the other hand, the Polish team was not good enough to favourably compare with Chelsea. The latter showed us a kind of football more "virile" and less scientific than the sort of game played by the famous Central-European teams, but the comparison would have been much more interesting were the English players in a position to do their best. As it was, they were heavily handicapped by the misinterpretation of the rules and by the hostile attitude of the public.

On Sunday Chelsea was beaten for the first time during their tour by the Cracow team Wistla, at whose invitation the visit of the English team has materialised. Wistla won 1-0, getting their winning goal from a penalty kick. The referee's decision was a doubtful one, as the Chelsea player used hands unintentionally. The English players impressed us with their fitness and marvellous condition, their speed and control of the ball. The Wistla team were dangerous opponents and they won the valued approval of the Chelsea manager Mr. Knighton, who freely admitted that he did not expect to find so many good players in this country and that he would strongly advise other English teams to visit Poland.

Apart from football, the officials as well as the boys found their trip to Poland an interesting and entertaining one, and it is hoped that the first visit of an English professional football team in Poland will lead the way for other famous British clubs. Even if the visit of Chelsea did not have the "educational" value for our players, as anticipated, it certainly increased the prestige of Polish football. Hundreds of thousands of Chelsea supporters will know that the only team which succeeded in beating the Londoners during their tour, was a Polish one. It will be enough to put Poland on the map in the minds of many people who have never heard of Poland before.

J. R.

## General Rydz Smigly's Speech

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ting all the efforts on the problem of national defence. It also has called attention to the passage in his speech in which he said that the former soldiers of Pilsudski cannot be the only patriotic citizens of Poland. The nationalist organ stated that it would be glad to collaborate in the task of preparing the defence and generally organising the national life of Poland if former dissensions were forgotten. The governmental conservatives have also dwelt on this aspect of the speech, insisting on the need of enlisting the collaboration of as many citizens as possible, instead of relying on the relatively scarce but well tried men of the Legions.

Another point of Gen. Rydz Smigly's speech which was picked up by nationalist opinion was his comparison between the disciplined organisation of the German and Russian nations and the individualism still prevailing in Poland. The nationalist organs have openly stated that unless Poland will join the ranks of the nations with a political system which manifests enthusiasm into a conscious and organised activity with well defined aims, she cannot hope to achieve either the realisation of her national ideals or material prosperity.

The general impression was that Gen. Rydz Smigly's pronouncement has to be regarded as the beginning of a period in which he will take in his hands not only the official duties in which he has succeeded the late Marshal, but also the dominating guidance which his predecessor exercised over the political life of Poland.

This fact was accepted by practically the whole of Polish opinion with considerable satisfaction-for not even the socialists have raised any criticism against the principles laid down by Gen. Rydz Smigly. Another significant silence was that of the "Gazeta Polska", the organ of the so called "colonels" which did not comment on the General Inspector's speech. (A. T. E.)

## INSURANCE NOTES

Although big industrial concerns in Poland as elsewhere take every precaution to protect their property against risks of all kinds, and therefore insure against fire, third party risk, burglary and all the usual perils, the benefits of insurance are not so widely appreciated in Poland as in the west of Europe and the United States.

Nevertheless great progress in this direction has been made of recent years and practically every insurance requirement is now catered for here. For several years two of the largest British insurance companies have had concession from the Polish government to operate in Poland, and their services in this country have generally been recognized as extending a strengthening influence on the insurance market.

Last year the Polish Government adopted the practice of granting concessions also to insurance brokers. This is a just recognition of a very important branch of the insurance business, the significance of which has hitherto not been fully recognized here. With the great development of insurance since the war, and the immense variety of policies which have been devised to meet the requirements of varying cases, it is rare that a layman possesses the knowledge requisite to enable him to choose the greatest advantage at the lowest cost. Here the broker renders invaluable assistance; as an expert in insurance he can give full advice both as to the best forms of insurance for particular pur-

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## Foreign Minister's Visit.

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link between them, although the recent change of government in France may have an influence on her relations with a country like Yugoslavia, where socialism has never been much in favour. In the earlier post war years, the fact of being allies of France was responsible for a parallelism between Poland and Yugoslavia, which was bound to become less marked as they both grew stronger and worked out their own individual foreign policies. There always has been a community of interests between these two powers, although they have not been allied directly to each other, and hardly could be, in view of the geographical conditions and of the complex obligations of Yugoslavia in the Balkans and in Central Europe.

Collaboration within an international institution such as the League of Nations is, however, an obvious necessity for two nations which are situated among strong neighbours and which are intensely peaceful in their intentions, but wish to safeguard their independence at all cost.

The visit of Mr. Beck to Belgrade will perhaps bring nearer the realisation of a front of powers with limited interests, which must be strong, although purely defensive in character. Some have ascribed to the Polish Minister the idea of a North-South front, in which Poland would be the middle link, but it appears more probable that such geographical limitations are not of primary importance in this case, although naturally the collaboration of very distant countries could be of little use either to their partners or to themselves. (A. T. E.)

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(Continued from previous column)

poses and the most satisfactory companies for different types of insurance.

The insurance broker in fact fulfils a very admirable function. Thanks to his efforts the insured is satisfied with the terms of his policy, the company avoids dissatisfaction on the part of its client and thus the idea of insurance is benefited generally.

Moreover, and this is not the least important, the services of an insurance broker cost the insured nothing; add nothing to the premium. No insurance is too small for him to handle—if he handles it to the insured's satisfaction some day bigger business will come to him. No insurance is too difficult for him to negotiate—if he cannot place it satisfactorily in the Polish market he can search the world's markets for cover.

It will thus be seen that the insurance business is not standing still in Poland. New requirements are bringing about new methods of approach and it is welcome to see that the government authorities here take in this important branch of business that they are helping its development by ensuring that those who take on themselves the role of expert advisers and intermediaries are competent and experienced. N. L.

## Polish-British Chamber of Commerce.

The annual general meeting of the Polish-British Chamber of Commerce was held in the Boardroom of the Prudential Building on the 14th., of May.

In his report for the preceding two years the Chairman, Mr. Falter dealt with the changes which had occurred during that period. Following his appointment as Vice-Minister of Finance the former Chairman, Mr. Staniszewski resigned on the 11th. February 1935; Mr. Sykes, the British Vice Chairman was accordingly entrusted by the executive committee with the task of initiating such negotiations as he thought necessary in order to appoint a new Chairman.

Thanks to kind assistance given by Mr. Minkowski and others, a meeting was called on the 11th. December 1935 at which Mr. Alfred Falter was elected Chairman, Mr. Egerton Sykes, British Vice Chairman, Mr. Edmund Treпка, Polish Vice Chairman and Mr. Wiktor Przedpejski, Mr. M. McLaren, and Mr. Norman Leggett members of the executive committee. Mr. Minkowski and Mr. Jeram both attended this meeting in the capacity of observers.

On the 1st of February the offices of the Chamber were moved to Place Napoleon 9, where the task of reorganisation was seriously put in hand. It was felt that the original statutes of the Chamber, which provided for sole power being in the hands of the director, were not suited to present day conditions and accordingly Mr. Falter kindly undertook the task of revising, on the altered statutes, being duly approved at the meeting.

At the election the following authorities were appointed.

Chairman  
Mr. Alfred Falter  
British Vice Chairman  
Mr. Egerton Sykes  
Polish Vice Chairman  
Mr. Edmund Treпка  
Members of the Executive Committee

Minister Waclaw Staniszewski  
Mr. Wiktor Przedpejski  
Mr. Malcolm McLaren  
Mr. Norman Leggett  
Mr. Szerman Landau  
Mr. Boleslaw Mikulski  
Mr. Mieczyslaw Broniewski  
Mr. Harris Burland

Members of the Council  
Mr. Donald De Lara  
Minister Jerzy Gosciński  
Mr. Oscar Guhl  
Mr. Marek Myslakowski  
Dr. M. Wasserberg  
Mr. Wladyslaw Zamorski  
Mr. Jozef Zychlinski  
Count Krystyn Ostrowski  
Mr. Ernest Gilbert

Members of the Audit Committee  
Mr. Witold Czermwinski  
Mr. Jerzy Pawlikowski  
Mr. Zbigniew Rozanmit

Secretary  
Mr. Feliks Rzewuski

The budget of the Chamber for the period June 1934 to May 1936 was established at 57,000 zlotys; while the budget for the year 1936-7 has been tentatively fixed at 25,000 zlotys.

In his concluding remarks the Chairman drew attention to the important services rendered by the Chamber towards the furthering of Polish-British trade relations and expressed the hope that it would be possible in the near future to greatly extend its field of operations.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks for the Chairman for his labours on behalf of the Chamber.

E. S.

## PRESS REVIEW

Kurjer Poranny writes in terms of great praise of the speech made by General Rydz-Smigly at the meeting of legionists on Sunday last. Among other things it says — "Poland has not heard a speech of such great importance since Marshal Piłsudski ceased to speak in public. This speech was a great civic deed — its political contents are unusually serious and profound. It will be an essential contribution to our national life — will give it without doubt a new, invigorating, harmonising and elevated impulse and through this a creative influence. It wrests life from the chaos of national disputes and gives it back the consciousness of a reason for existence.

Warszawski Dziennik Narodowy compares the meeting of legionists with the simultaneous great assemblage of the university youth at Częstochowa. Reflecting on the summons of General Rydz-Smigly to concentrate the forces of the nation for the "defence of the country" the Dziennik writes "the indispensable condition for the nation's readiness to rise to great efforts is a good policy". It then continues that it is not enough that all should concentrate together for the country's defence bestowing confidence in those who at the moment hold the helm of government in their hands, that if they leave the management of affairs in the hands of experts and specialists all will be well. For, according to the Dziennik a good policy must be created in the state, must be organised in such a way as to arouse confidence in the community "to awaken universal enthusiasm, and to arouse an answering moral attitude in the nation". "This list is a difficult and complicated matter demanding of those who claim authority not only great understanding and diplomatic art but also a spiritual co-existence with the community, that they should be the voices of the most secret throbbings of the nation's soul".

Nasz Przegląd writing on the situation of vice-premier Kwiatkowski in the present cabinet says that much depends on his programme. "The man in the street" whether in the town or the country wants to know how the programme of increased investments is carried out, how the plan of increasing funds for the defence of the country is realised". Further the Przegląd writes that the vice-premier can do the best of all celebrate the 10 years jubilee of the President at the Castle. His programme really carried out will be the finest present for the Head of the State.

Gazeta Polska is alarmed at the results of the meeting of the Union of Intellectual Workers in

Lwów, which it characterises as a "typical demonstration of what the Germans call Kultur-Bolschewismus". The Gazeta finds that "if the meeting itself was a proof of the irresponsibility of intellectuals, politically it was one of the characteristic results of a certain method applied during several months by governing factors, methods loosening the ties of social discipline".

J. K. C. writes that the speech of General Rydz-Smigly to the legionists was directed to the nation at large and may be considered "a political act of the first importance". It continues further "The speech has such a strong summons to all spheres and all groups of the community that it meets with a very strong echo in the country and in every case constitutes a new stage in our home policy". "As we see" writes J. K. C. "the speech of the Commander in Chief is a political one of highest calibre, for it is enunciated by the highest authority in the state. This authority has stepped in and taken over responsibility for the fate of the country. The political situation has been cleared up, has become more transparent and brighter. A great step forward has been taken in the direction of consolidating the community and the State.

Robotnik discusses the resolutions of the executive of the Second International regarding the international situation and the League of Nations. In so far as Polish policy is concerned writes the author—"The interests of Poland are distinct. In her interest is the strengthening of the League, the weakening of Fascist states." He also contends that the central problem is the struggle with Fascism, the disturber of peace, destructor of the League, the destroyer of collective security".

Kurjer Polski expresses anxiety at the symptoms exhibited in Lwów of provocative agitation having far different purposes to the betterment of the condition of the workers and evidently aiming at fermenting discord. The Kurjer however, is hopeful that "the new government will enable the citizens of the state to feel again that the authorities and the state have power".

"That which is happening in Lwów and in less obvious forms also elsewhere should be very serious warning pointing out the necessity of desisting from a type of policy which has not unreasonably been called "Kierieńskiism".

Concerning the visit of Minister Beck to Belgrade the Gazeta Polska writes, "that the present situation in Europe inclines us to suppose that the re-visit of the leader of Polish foreign policy to Belgrade is not limited only to one of courtesy". And further it says "the present visit will be not an expression of unchanged feelings which unite the two states, not only a manifestation of the friendship of the two nations, but will draw them nearer together on international ground for the good of peace at the turning point through which Europe is now passing". The Gazeta Polska points out to this visit as one more link in the chain of friendship between Poland and other states whose position bears a certain similarity.

K. M.

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## Witchcraft Today

By Joan Littlefield.

The belief in witchcraft is a widely prevalent in the modern world as ever it was, according to Mr. W. H. Paynter, who lives in Cornwall and whose hobby is witchcraft.

"Witches still flourish," he said, "who for a small fee will trace the effects of the evil eye to the ill-wisher, remove and cast evil spells, charm various ailments and 'look into the future'."

"My witch-hunting has not been an easy task," continued Mr. Paynter. "I have difficulty in getting behind the scenes to find it out. Spells and magic, evil wishes and sudden cures, are near and potent things, and to question their existence would be flying in the face of Providence. Ordinary people do not hear about such things. One needs an enquiring mind and sympathetic temperament to elicit confession of belief in witchcraft, though to many people it is as real as it was to those living in the Dark Ages.

"Children in delicate health are still taken to 'wise' men and women to be charmed. Bits of yarn soaked in ale, dried frogs' legs, coffin rings and nails, water from holy wells, curiously written signs and words, pieces of rope with which people have been hanged, holed stones, nuts and spiders, all said to possess healing properties are still used with success. I have interviewed scores of people who say they have been successfully charmed, and those who have had evil spells lifted from themselves, their crops or their milk. In each case I have been told that a White Witch never fails, except for want of faith by the person in trouble."

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Mr. R. Pietruszewski

### The Resignation of Mr. Pietruszewski

Since 1920 the ownership of the Tomaszów Worsted Spinning Company has been in the hands of English capitalists.

At a period of difficulties in the history of the Concern which occurred in 1929 the Board requested Mr. Pietruszewski to take over the running of the Company. During the last 8 years Mr. Pietruszewski, thanks to his great energy, has brought the Company back to a healthy state and it can now be counted as being one of the leading institutions in its line.

The control of the Tomaszów Worsted Spinning Company has now been sold by the English owners and Mr. Pietruszewski has accordingly resigned his position together with and at the same time as the English Board. Commander Robert C. Lee.

Commander Robert C. Lee, President of the American Seafair Line, was decorated with the officers order of the Polonia Restituta on May 25th, at the Ministry of Industry and Commerce in Warsaw, in consideration of his marked services in promoting Polish-American friendship.



The newly opened piece goods shop of Messrs Wernik & Co is one of the smartest shops of this type in Warsaw.

## Messrs M. Wernik & Co

Marszałkowska 138

have a large display of English and Bielsk materials, the former from the mills of Messrs Ubring the well known manufacturers. Lowest prices always.

## Exhibition of Table Setting, at I. P. S.

The Propaganda Committee of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, under the chairmanship of Madame Beck, has arranged a competition between the various foreign Missions in Warsaw for the best set out table for eight people. A number of entries were received, although to everybody's regret the British Embassy were unable to participate owing to the fact that they were still in mourning for the late King George.

Two first prizes were awarded, one to Sweden for a beautiful table in gold, yellow and brown shades, with delightful crystal glass; the whole being decorated with similar shaded fruits. The other first prize was awarded to China for a table with a wonderful service of old Chinese porcelain; the multitude of small dishes for spices and condiments was somewhat of a surprise to Western eyes. The black polished table was an excellent background for the white and blue porcelain.

Of the several tables which won second prizes, the best by far was the French exhibit, very modernistic in style and colour and aesthetic in line and materials. The rectangular metal coated china plates with their circular insets were especially attractive. The whole was harmoniously set off by a picture by Marie Laurencin hanging on the wall.

The next in order was the German table, with a fine table cloth in plain white and shining cream, everything being very simple and most effective. Another second prize was won by Finland for a festive and original arrangement of navy blue china and snow white linen. Other interesting tables were shown by Austria, Italy and Holland. Poland submitted three tables hors de concours, of which the most interesting was the hunter's dinner table, with its peasant ceramic plates with harespun table cloths and decorations. C. H.

## POLISH AND FOREIGN ART

Reproductions Graphics  
English Book  
J. MORTKOWICZ  
Warsaw — Mazowiecka 12

## A Gift of Aircraft

Warsaw. The non-commissioned officers of the army have subscribed the cost of eight light airplanes of the RWD 8 type and offered them to the new school for civil pilots in Bielsko, which will be opened on the 1st of June. Besides the eight RWD 8's, they have also offered one RWD-13, for higher training, thus providing the new school with a very comprehensive flying material. (A.T.E.)

## Warsaw Amusements.

### THEATRES

ATENEUM Closed.  
KAMERALNY "Matrua." Daily  
LETNI "Nieusprawiedliwiona Godzina" Daily  
MALICKI "Trafika Pani Generałowej" Daily  
MAY "Lord i Hieznpani" Daily  
NAROWY "Glupi Jakob" Daily  
NOWY "Tessa." Daily  
POLSKI "Milionerka" Daily  
REDUTA "Pierścień Wielkiej Dany." Daily

### MUSICAL SHOWS

WIELKA RĘWA. Closed until 16th June  
CYRULK WARSZAWSKI "Kot w Worku" "Cat in the Bag" Daily at 8.  
TEATR WIELKI. Closed

### CINEMAS

APOLLO "Straszny Dwór." Polish.  
\*\*\* ALLANTIC "Ghost Goes West" English.  
\*\*\* BALETYK "The Dabryni" American.  
\*\*\* CAPITOL "Doctor X" American.  
\*\*\* CASINO "Modern Times" Charlie Chaplin. American.  
\*\*\* EUROPA "Song of Love" Jan Kiepura. American.  
\*\*\* FILHARMONJA "Beloved Hasecal" Czech. (in German)  
\*\*\* MAJESTIC "Roberta" American.  
\*\*\* PAN "General Sutter" American.  
\*\*\* RIALTO "Trial of the Lonesome Pine" American.  
ROMA "Heroic Brigade"  
\*\*\* STYLWY "L'Équipage." French.  
\*\*\* SWIATOWID "Desire" Marlene Dietrich. American.

\*\*\*\*excellent. \*\*\*good. \*\*fair. \*average. Unstarred not yet visited.

### MUSIC

FILHARMONJA:  
29th May at 8 "Samson" Oratorio by Handel  
OPERA. Closed

### SPORTS

RACES.  
May 30th, 31st June 1st. 4th.  
INTERNATIONAL HORSE SHOW at Łazienki Park. May 30th onwards.

### ART AND OTHER EXHIBITIONS

I. P. S. 20th May St. Szaniński-sculptures, and "Rogate Serce" Group.  
ZACHETA, 10 From Krakow, 10 till 6. Admission 2ł. 1.50.  
SMALL ZACHETA, Krakowska 13. Landscapes of Biłowiec and Polesie by Siwierski. Admission free. 10 to 6. Closed 30th  
SALON OTWARA. Closed  
ZWIĄZEK PLASTYKOW. Al. Ujazdowski 37. Diploma entries from candidates. Admission free 10 to 3. Closed 31st.  
NATIONAL MUSEUM. Warsaw in the Future. 9 till 7. Admission 50 gr. Closed 4th.  
MAZOWIECKA 7. Display of Beautiful Polish Books. 9 till 6. Admission 50 gr.  
OFFICERS CASINO. "The War History of Piłsudski's Legions." 9 till 7. Admission 50 gr.

### Small Advertisements

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Lord Marley speaking in Warsaw last week.