

THE WARSAW WEEKLY

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FRIDAY

JUNE 5

1936

TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF PRESIDENT MOŚCICKI'S ELECTION.

On the 3rd of June Poland has celebrated the tenth anniversary of the election as President of the Polish State of Professor Dr. Ignacy Mościcki. The period from 1926 to 1936 has been remarkable for most vital changes in the internal life of Poland, as well as for the growth of her international importance. After the *May coup d'état* which was to become a turning point in the history of the country, when the late Marshal Piłsudski did not accept the proffered Presidentship, he then proposed as candidate for this post, a man with a name famous in science, with nobility of character, with a depth of intellect and with a great kindness of heart. The Marshal was aware that this man whom he knew for his ability and energy, for his warm patriotism and his real democracy, would be to him an invaluable collaborator in the reconstruction of Poland. All the high hopes which had been placed in Professor Mościcki, showed themselves, from the moment of his appointment, to be fully justified, thanks to the wholehearted and conscientious manner in which he set about his task. The difficult and responsible labour of watching over the whole entity of the problems and all the aspects of the life of the country, combined with the not less arduous task of representing his country, have both been carried on his shoulders for these long ten years.

From the first moment of taking over his high post President Mościcki has tried to maintain the closest contact will all classes of the population as well as with all parts of the country. During his journeys in the provinces he has been able to gain the affection of the large mass of the population. His sincere democracy and simplicity have won him the way to the hearts of the whole nation.

The same regal simplicity was manifest in the President's relations with the representatives of Foreign States, whether official or diplomatic, or of cultural, art, scientific, or social organisations. Each important foreign guest had the opportunity of paying his respects to the President and showing his feelings of sympathy for the country at the Zamek at Warsaw.

The name of President Mościcki was well known abroad before his taking over his present high post, as a prominent scientist and inventor. His scientific activities in Europe, outside his own country, which at that time was under alien rule, lasted some twenty years. His first stage was in London, where for a certain time he worked at the laboratory of the Technical



THE WARSAW WEEKLY DESIRES TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY OF ASSOCIATING ITSELF WITH THE HOMAGE AND CONGRATULATIONS OF THE WHOLE POLISH NATION TO PRESIDENT MOŚCICKI.

For some months general attention has been fixed on the questions arising directly out of European international politics. The Abyssinian conflict, the remilitarisation of the Rhine and the Reform of the League of Nations were quite enough material for the European Press.

In these circumstances it might appear natural that interest in Far Eastern affairs should diminish. This attitude, however, was not justified seeing that the extension of the conflict between the Soviet and the Japanese interests in Eastern Asia exercised a definite influence on the European political questions.

A glance at the map gives the reason why. A power, both European and Asiatic, at the same time, the U. S. S. R. finds itself mixed up in this conflict owing to the fact of its Far Eastern frontiers, while on the other hand its western frontiers touch the states of Central Europe. That one phase or another of the conflict with Japan would

directly influence the European policy of the Soviets may also be taken as certain.

In a less direct manner, owing to the Franco-Soviet Treaty the Far Eastern dispute affects French foreign policy and here the recent triumph of the Left at the French elections will also have considerable effect. In addition a portion of the French press has already linked up this relation in foreign affairs with the composition of the "Front Populaire". The Franco-Soviet Pact limits the obligation of mutual assistance to defence against aggression by a European power and does not touch the relations between Soviet Russia and Japan. On the other hand it is evident that for states linked by a mutual assistance pact, even though it is limited, the situation of the partner constitutes a factor of great political importance.

In as far as Great Britain is concerned, in view of its overseas possessions neither the increased power of Japan nor the possible

College at Finsbury and at the Patent Office Library. In 1897 Ignacy Mościcki went to Switzerland, and where he became Assistant Professor of Physics at the University of Freiburg. In 1901 he commenced to work on his own as a technological expert, and was granted the use of a large laboratory by the University, together with monetary assistance from a specially organised society called the "Société de l'Acide Nitrique à Fribourg", with the object of establishing his invention for the obtaining of nitrates from the air. In 1907, he started the building of a large nitric acid factory at Chippis, for the "Aluminium Industrie Aktiengesellschaft A.G." Neuhausen. In 1910 the first cistern of concentrated nitric acid was produced by the Mościcki electrochemical method. In 1912 Professor Mościcki was called to take over the Chair of Electrochemistry and Physical Chemistry at the Lwów Polytechnic. From this moment his scientific activities were developed in his own country, and were crowned by the reconstruction, after the war, of the German artificial nitrate factory at Chorzow, which had been destroyed by the retreating German army; and also by the building of the colossal new nitrate factory near Tarnow, and which, in his honour, has been named Mościce. It is worthy of note that this huge factory, together with the surrounding village was erected and put into operation in seventeen months.

C. H.

LONDON LETTER

By Gregory Macdonald

News that is cheering on the whole coincides with a cold and snowy Whitsun holiday. The "Queen Mary" forges its way across the Atlantic at record speed, although a fog on the Grand Banks may deprive her of a record for the crossing. The newspapers report conversations between Rome and London; the newspaper propaganda on both sides has died down; and delicate feelers are out for the lifting of sanctions, for some form of recognition of Italian Abyssinia, and for the preservation of British interests around Lake Tana. The Palestine trouble, prominent in the newspapers a week ago, is now regarded as a situation which is fairly well in hand.

Most cheering of all is the news that the coronation of King Edward VIII has been fixed for May 12th, 1937; with accustomed mediaeval pageantry the Proclamation was read last Friday by His Majesty's Officers of Arms at St. James' Palace, at Charing Cross, at Chancery-lane and at the Royal Exchange. In a troubled world the date gives an illusion of security, as though everything will be as peaceful for the coronation as it was for the Jubilee; and so indeed it may be. Also, the date is a reminder of the age and permanence of the British Monarchy, the oldest royal throne in Europe, with an influence which has increased immeasurably in recent years. Not will it be forgotten that the promised spectacle will bring visitors flocking to London from all over the world. If the Earl Marshal's staff and the Office of Works are busy over their preparations for the day, it may be imagined that the tourist agencies will plan for a record gathering.

Commentators have already noticed that the day chosen is the Feast of St. Joan of Arc, a happy augury for the principle of monarchy and for Anglo-French relations. It may still be doubted whether M. Blum and the Popular Front take the same consolation from the date. Nevertheless the English Kings do not choose their coronation date entirely from routine considerations. For example, Charles 2nd, James 2nd and Anne were crowned on St. George's Day. Queen Victoria chose the Vigil of St. Peter (the patron of Westminster Abbey), evidently oblivious of the fact that the day was not a feast but a fast.

The general increase of trade, and decline in unemployment, add to a sense of popular relief. The constantly rising note circulation is the highest on record. Some of the increase this week is attributed to withdrawals from the banks for Derby betting and for Whitsun Holidays; a large amount is attributed to French hoarding of pound notes, but even this is taken as a compliment to the stability of sterling. Employment

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THE FAR EASTERN PROBLEM.

The Far Eastern Problem

(Continued from page 1 col. 4)

it seek for colonisation. All these questions have long been envisaged by the Japanese as being solved by the nearby Asiatic continent. From this has arisen the continuous and persevering Japanese penetration in China, firstly in Korea and later in Manchuria, while at the same time these reasons caused the conflict between Russian and Japanese imperialism in 1905.

Since that date the situation has been modified by the fact that Japan's position on the Asiatic continent has become much stronger. To-day Japan dominates Manchuria and exercises direct influence on the Northern China and Central Mongolia. The continual Japanese expansion on the territories adjoining Soviet possessions and zones of influence has only increased the fears of the Bolshevik Government at the spectacle of the further progress, a fear which is well founded, seeing the difficulty of reconciling the contradictory influences.

The Soviets desire to place obstacles in the path of Japanese penetration in Asiatic territory, for example the recent publication of the mutual assistance pact between Soviet Russia and outer Mongolia, a country which for years has been under their influence, is a proof of this, as it menaces Japan with a war with Russia, if Japanese expansion continues towards the West. In addition communist propaganda in Manchuria proper, and elsewhere, according to the district, either communistic ideas or anti Japanese nationalistic propaganda — will probably absorb the attention in the south, of a large number of Japanese troops. In as far as the vital interests of Japan are concerned the necessity for being in the position to exploit the occupied territory in full security is one of the most important factors. However, the concentration of the 300 thousand troops of the Far Eastern Soviet Army, plus a very strong aviation base at Vladivostok prevents this being done in security and also constitutes a menace for the Japanese Empire and its cities. The whole problem of the safety of the Empire is therefore an actual one for Japan for the moment.

Japanese-Soviet relations are subjected to incessant oscillations, periods of relative peace being succeeded by those of the most extreme tension, however, it must be admitted that the vital interests of the states clash continually.

It is difficult to foresee at the present moment in which direction the conflict between Japanese and Soviet interests will develop. The attitude of Great Britain and the United States at the time of the formation of Manchukuo appears to show that if the situation in the Far East become worse, these powers will content themselves with protecting their interests by means of political action and financial and economic influence.

Bearing in mind that the Franco-Soviet treaty concerns itself with the European territory of the States concerned and that the Anglo-Japanese Alliance has ceased to engage either of the parties since the Washington agreement of 1922 came into force: a Japanese Soviet war should not bring into play the game of alliances such as that which in 1914 transformed a dispute between Austria and Serbia into a world wide conflagration. (P. I. P.)

POLISH and FOREIGN ART

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J. MORTKOWICZ

Warsaw — Mazowiecka 12

PRESS REVIEW

Gazeta Polska had an article dealing extensively with General Rydz-Smigly's speech which is characterised as marking a new political era. "On the 24th. May" it writes, by the appearance of Gen. Rydz-Smigly, not in the character of Inspector General of the nation's armed forces, but in that of an acknowledged moral authority, there began for the first time since Marshal Piłsudski's death the attempt to take up the burden of his enormous inheritance, not only by the organs of the state, but also by the "moral and creative forces of the nation" conscious of their aims and their tasks uniting voluntarily for action." The *Gazeta* also points to the General's speech summoning all who are aiming at the same purpose, not by creating a new party or trying to organise a privileged condition of the very meritorious (the elite). "Not a new party is arising, but an organisation open to all, capable of acting, not of irritating, of effort, not of quarrelling, of a friendly word for everyone who places the reality uniting all before differences of opinion and able to improve a hard command on such who oppose the realisation of their highest aims for any reasons whatsoever."

Kurjer Poranny writes also of the General's speech that after it "all doubts must disappear whether in the work that is purposed for the consolidation of the people on the platform of defence the social economic and cultural elements entering into the composition of the conception of the State, have been taken into consideration. There is no doubt that if in the past years some insufficiencies in this respect have existed they will be corrected."

The *Rural Youth*, akin to the party of "*Piast*" has published in its paper "*Znicz*" an article strongly criticising the attitude of the so-called People's Front. It writes "The countryside cannot feel confidence in the so-called People's Front as it is in reality led by communists, enemies not only of the republican constitution but of the peasants themselves".

Czas also in commenting the resolutions passed by the directing Board of the Rural Youth

Union "*Wici*" writes, "by these very resolutions the Board has pronounced against the formation of a peasant working men's front." But, continues — *Czas* "in spite of this resolution it is an undisputed fact that "*Wici*" are strongly undermined by communist propaganda. We shall see if the Board will be able to oppose this successfully."

I. K. C. has a leading article in which it discusses the question of realising the programme of General Rydz-Smigly in the economic sphere. "This speech" it writes, "has given a certain general direction for this programme. This is firstly: a directive to raise our industrial potentiality in a long distance action of industrialising the country, a directive of modernising the technical apparatus and electrification of the country, a directive of motorising the country on the principle of a broad programme of road building: — a programme of active fight with unemployment and a raising of the question of supplying the young generation with work — a programme of creating a productive capital for the new, quickly increasing population, by augmenting the productive energy. How are these fine aims to be attained?" The *I. K. C.* answers the question as follows: "In our opinion the effort of industrialising the country and modernising its technical apparatus ought to rest on the shoulders of private initiative for which suitable conditions of work and development ought to be created. On the other hand the effort of motorising the country, i. e. specially the effort of supplying the country with roads and other means of communication ought to rest on the shoulders of the State."

I. K. C. publishes an interesting calculation made by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry concerning the effect of sanctions in Polish foreign trade, it writes, "As it appears the influence of sanctions on the foreign trade of Poland shows a considerable lessening of imports from Italy and exports to that country." (In the course of 5 months period of sanctions we had about 7 1/2 million zlotys on the import side and 8 million zlotys on the export) the limitation of Polish

Italian turnover has caused a certain disturbance. The home market has suffered from a reduced supply of several articles which has caused a rise in the price of these goods and on the other hand the market for some important export articles from Poland has also diminished considerably. Hence the result of applying sanctions has proved unfavourable for Poland.

Kurjer discusses the visit of Minister Beck to Yugoslavia observing that such personal contacts are always useful leading to mutual understanding and bringing generally very desirable results which may not be immediately obvious but appear at times of greater international activity. The *Kurjer* writes "It is worth noticing that the foreign press above all the French and German give much attention to this visit, which, as is natural they comment in diametrically opposed fashion. The French press tends to present the difficulties of a Polish-Yugoslavian understanding in respect to any cooperation whereas in the German press there is an evident tendency to ascribe to this visit some mediation or other very concrete aims. *Kurjer* adds that as usual the truth lies in the middle."

Kurjer Polski writes also of the conference on the question of culture in the rural regions held lately in Warsaw. While fully appreciating the importance of raising the culture of the countryside in every particular and realising the great role played by the agriculturists in Polish life, the *Kurjer* emphasises that "beside the cultural and political point of view there is also the economic one. It is becoming always more universally understood that only the development of industry can solve the numerous essential problems of the rural districts — only this can solve the problem of its over population and over production." Hence the writer concludes that above all it is necessary to create, in such an important section of opinion as is represented by the countryside, an understanding of the question of industry. This is an important element and one of the aims of the action for raising the culture of rural Poland." K. M.

London Letter.

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in Great Britain reached a new record last month, showing an increase of 82,000 over March and of 371,000 over the corresponding month a year ago. Needless to say, unemployment still remains a problem, the damping up of emigration and the entrance of new age-groups into the labour market would ensure that. The merchant marine also presents a problem of inactivity—it is a striking fact that the large Russian timber imports are coming in almost entirely in foreign vessels and low prices for foodstuffs continue to spell bad times for agriculture.

Oddly enough, with all this activity, political life is confused and disturbed. The Cabinet is being changed piecemeal, now with the appointment of Mr. Ormsby Gore to succeed Mr. J. H. Thomas, later, it is believed, with the return of Sir Samuel Hoare to the accession of Lord De La Warr. But Mr. Baldwin's personal position remains a problem of politics. He recently strengthened the loyalty of his followers by a speech in which he is credited with having avoided all the points of policy at issue. The *Times* produced two editorials in his support, but with so many apologies for the National Government and with so many shrewd hits at the Prime Minister himself that they would have brought down most administrations. At country houses at week-ends politicians gather to discuss the situation; and attention focusses upon those parties who Mr. Winston Churchill is an honoured guest. It is admitted on all hands that the facade of National Government has worn thin.

The much-read "*Scrutator*" in the *Sunday Times* goes further with the comment that no criticism of the National Government redounds to the credit of the Opposition writers. "On the contrary," he writes, "the bankruptcy of the party system was never so evident as now, and it is a bankruptcy not of individual practice but of the whole intellectual basis of the party creeds... what we want is the creative force of new ideas, new methods of assessment, new ways of achievement. There is no reason why Fascism should have the monopoly of swift action, drastic change, and the driving force of the ideal, be this good or bad. The objects of National Government may be defined as to do in the service of democratic freedom all and more than Fascism has done in the service of tyranny and one man's will."

There is a great deal of truth to be recognised here, and the future of Great Britain will certainly depend upon less conventional rule. But in what form the change is to come, whether as best it can within the limits of the Constitution, like President Roosevelt's New Deal, or whether by a more drastic reorganisation—that is the problem of the moment. The party system is, after all, a comparatively new institution. There were no parties in the earlier Parliaments because the members were all King's men. The people of Great Britain are the King's men still, and an increase in the powers of the Monarchy may solve the dilemma.

INTERVIEW WITH EX-KING OF SPAIN

Alfonso XIII, deposed King of Spain, has broken a long silence in granting this interview to one of the best known journalists of Spain. The former ruler had steadfastly refused to give interviews to the press owing to the situation prevailing in Spain, where a strict censorship is in force and where publication of this interview would be prohibited.

By Cesar G. Ruano

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Rome, May 23 — "There are two countries in Europe which are loyal to the left, France and England," said ex-king Alfonso XIII of Spain in an exclusive interview granted this writer. "English politics are the most sublimely confused in the world. It is a formidable exertion to try to understand them. Now they are going left — a very English left, very special, where the word, 'Revolution' has another name, 'Evolution.'"

"Does Your Majesty feel that the result of the French elections will have a decisive influence upon the orientation of Spanish politics?"

"I believe exactly the opposite. Spanish developments are making themselves felt in France. The French press, almost in its entirety, uses the Spanish experience of these last months to endeavor to save its country from the excesses of the extreme left, which follows the plans of Moscow."

"With what words could I speak now of conditions in Spain?" he replied to a question. "I am perfectly aware of the fact that if I point out the atrocities of the Leftists, I shall be accused of defaming them from the outside, as I cannot prove the facts from within Spain. Imagine that, on the other hand, making an effort to be impartial and objective, I find something done by the Leftists reasonable or justifiable. That would be like throwing cold water on the Rightists, who are putting to a hard trial all the resistance of their moral values, of their love for their country."

"And what is your Majesty's attitude before the situation in Spain? Your Majesty's attitude in general after leaving Spain and in consequence of what happened there?"

Without a moment's hesitation, Don Alfonso replied, "You can say that I told you, without

beating about the bush, that Alfonso XIII is always at the disposal of Spain. That he neither intrigues nor hopes nor suspects, but simply waits. If I were called by my post I would accept, because now more than ever it is a place of honor, being one that calls for sacrifices."

When the reporter asked him his opinion of the regimes in Germany and Italy, he said:

"Public order in Italy and in Germany is perfect; the authority of the state has saved those countries. No doubt about it. But there is another Fascist regime, dictatorial and soft at the same time, to which the world pays very little attention and does not do the justice it deserves. Portugal's Apparenty obscure, but really modest and self-effacing, Oliveira Salazar (The Portuguese ruler) is in my opinion an admirable figure. He does everything without making a show of himself."

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The P. K. O. in 1935

During 1935 there was a further expansion in the operations of the P. K. O. Savings deposits increased by 58.1 million zł. to 679.3 million zł. on the 31st December, while during the same period the number of deposit books rose by 417,500 to 1,892,000.

The movement of savings deposits in the P. K. O. during the period under review was somewhat unevenly distributed over the months. January, February and July showed the largest deposits averaging 14.6 million zlotys; in March, April, June, August, November and December, the average was only 6 million zlotys, while in May, September, October the total of deposits was less than that of withdrawals.

The reason for these fluctuations was the great change in international political and economic conditions, the devaluation of the Belgian Franc and of the Danzig Guilder, the fear for the stability of other countries in the gold bloc, the Abyssinian conflict, and other causes, which combined to bring an atmosphere of unrest into the international money markets and, at the same time, to the Polish capital market as well.

Of the total sum of 679.3 million zł. in savings deposits, 617.3 million were ordinary, 8.3 million came from emigrants, 17.2 million were in gold, 16 million were premium deposits and 20 million valourised deposits. The turnover of the savings department rose during the year by 846.8 million to 1,585.8 million zł.

Cheque clearings during the year 1935 totalled 27,486.8 million zł. showing an increase of 243 million zł. over 1934. Of this sum 6,475.3 million zł. was in cash and the balance of 21,011.5 million zł. or 76.4%, in cheques, a figure which shows that the clients of the P. K. O. are using cheques and transfers to an ever increasing extent.

The total of deposits on the 76,501 cheque accounts was 202.4 million zlotys and at the end of 1935, the number of accounts increased by 1,739 while the total of deposits diminished by 31.3 million zlotys. The reduction in the sum of deposits was in connection with large withdrawals from the accounts of social and political bodies, while those of private persons showed a small increase.

Life insurance department recorded a considerable increase both in policies and in the total sums assured, the number of policies rising by 28,200 to 119,000 and the sum by 32.2 million zlotys to 178.7 million zlotys. Such an increase in life insurance — during a period of crisis — is a witness to the great popularity of this department of the work of the P. K. O.

Among the credit operations the largest place is taken by the purchase of securities, the total holdings on the 31st. December 1935 being 654.9 million zlotys an increase of 39.5 million zlotys for the year. Of the holdings of securities, mortgage bonds and debentures of State Banks account for 54%, State

securities for 39.6% and mortgage bonds and debentures of other long term credit institutions, together with shares, for 6.4%. The holdings of securities of the P. K. O. are made up of 86.3% issues of long term credits or State institutions for economic purposes, and 13.7% of state securities of a purely financial nature.

An important place in respect of amount is taken by deposits in State Banks for facilitating the building of tenements and dwellings, for combating unemployment, loans against savings books, etc. the total involved increasing during the year under review by 1 million zlotys to 55.1 million zlotys.

Credit operations, including loans on the deposits of securities, discounting of bills and acceptances, increased during the year under review by 4.3 million zlotys to a total of 24.7 million zlotys, the first item increased by 2.1 million zlotys and the second by 2.2 million zlotys to 10.6 million zlotys. Loans against bills diminished from 10.8 to 8.5 million zlotys, on the other hand loans on property increased by 173,000 zlotys to 41.4 million zlotys. On December 31st 1935, the total of credits was 785.7 million zlotys, an increase of 42.9 million zlotys over the previous year.

The commission business done by the P. K. O. also increased markedly during 1935. Remittances abroad increased by 12.4 million zlotys to 74 million zlotys. The number of bills taken for collection increased by 37,000 to 351,000, other transactions such as stock sales, deposits in kind and private safes also increased to a marked extent.

The liquid assets of the bank were 27% of the sight deposits, being on the level of 1934.

The balance sheet for 1935 was closed with a total of 586.24 million zł., being practically the same as in the preceding year (586.3 million zł.). The life insurance balance sheet was closed with 1,701,500 zł. as compared with 1,430,300 million zł. in 1934. The grand total of the balance sheet was 7,563.9 million zł. Finally, the turnover, for the first time exceeded a thousand million zł., being 1,016 million zł.

From this short description of the activities of the P. K. O. during the last year it may be asserted that in spite of the persistence of the international crisis which, as is known, has had considerable effect upon the Polish market, the expansion of the business of the Postal Savings institution is a testimony to the great faith reposed on it by the small capitalist.

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Professor Dyboski Replies

The Warsaw Weekly has received the kind permission of Professor Dyboski to print herewith his reply to an enquiry received from Professor Davis of Toledo regarding Polish American relations.

The Foreign Office in Warsaw has forwarded to me your letter of March 25th, and authorised me to draft a reply. It gives me particular pleasure to address myself to this task, as I cherish very pleasant recollections of the accident of hospital of Toledo University during my American lecture tour in 1928-29, when I lectured there under the chairmanship of the late President Doerman and had the privilege of being his guest.

In attempting to sum up the views and wishes which prevail in Poland with regard to relations between this country and the U.S.A., I am in the happy position of being able to make simple and noncontroversial statements on a question* on which public opinion in Poland, irrespective of party, is entirely united in itself, and solidly behind the consistent policy of all successive Polish Governments. The United States having no territorial interests of any kind in Europe, and having returned the services of Kościuszko and Pułaski in the American War of Independence by memorable historical acts of friendship towards the rising new Poland in the days of President Wilson and later, the maintenance of the most friendly relations with the great American Republic is a constant axiom of Polish foreign policy in the midst of all the changes and fluctuations of post-war international politics.

Since the drift of your question seems to be in that manner as to how these fundamentally friendly relations could be improved and perfected, I beg to submit some considerations on this point which have been taking shape in my mind in the course of my activities as a writer and lecturer on Britain and America in Poland, and on Poland in Britain and America.

To begin with, the re-emergence of Poland as an active factor in international affairs is still too new, for American public opinion and those responsible for the conduct of the foreign policy of the U.S.A. fully to realise both the magnitude of the fact in itself, and the peculiarities of Poland's position. Poland is not merely just another national State built up out of the wreckage of pre-war Austria, Germany and Russia, but she is a State three-fourths the area of France and nearly France's equal in population, occupying a large space of territory in a most important place of the European system, viz. on the confines of Central and Eastern Europe. Students of international problems, in fact, are only now beginning to realise that Napoleon's definition of Poland as the "keystone in the structure of Europe" was not merely a piece of deliberate exaggeration for temporary strategic purposes, but a plain statement of permanent geographical fact. Poland's situation, in particular, between the two great powers - Germany and Russia - which had once been her chief destructors, makes her more than a "buffer state", on a large scale, effective in preventing either a hostile clash or a dangerous alliance between these powers; it makes her one of the most important elements among the sundry "checks and balances" which must be maintained to guarantee European peace against the ambitions of one large state or another. The puzzling policy of Poland - surprising the world by the conclusion, within the last few years, of a Peace Pact first with Soviet Russia and then with Hitlerian Germany - is now seen to have been a master-stroke of genius on the part of Poland's late national leader,

Marshal Piłsudski; it established for Poland a sort of neutral position, which enables her to work against the consolidation of two definitely opposed groups of powers in Europe, facing each other in a spirit of readiness for conflict. Most, I think, be admitted by detached observers of European affairs to have shown considerable diplomatic skill lately in making use of this advantage of her position in the difficult quadrilateral situation now existing as between Great Britain, France Italy, and Germany. Such efforts of Poland's, aimed at the maintenance of peace in Europe, deserve, in my view, the intelligent sympathy and active support of American diplomacy with its naturally and necessarily pacifist and neutral attitude towards European affairs. The present diplomatic tactics of Poland, if successfully continued, may very well become an instrument of creating new forms of worldwide international co-operation, more efficient in their working than the present machinery of the League of Nations.

In the second place; it is an earnest wish widely entertained in Poland that the directing forces of America's foreign policy should take fuller account of the special character which relations between the U.S.A. and Poland must bear by virtue of the fact that something between four and five millions of the citizens of the U.S.A. are of Polish origin, and that they mostly form compact bodies of population filling large districts of America's great industrial cities. Thus, Chicago alone has three such "Polish districts", with a total of nearly half a million inhabitants; Milwaukee, Detroit, Toledo, Cleveland, Buffalo, Pittsburgh and Baltimore are other important Polish centers. These Polish groups grew up in the last forty or fifty years before the World War. They provided a desirable contingent of cheap labour in the period of the rapid growth of modern American industries. At the same time, their language, their Roman Catholic religion, their modest ways of life, and their collective habits, kept them very effectively from conforming to the general type of modern America's urban civilisation, and made them one of the difficult problems in the national life of the United States. In fact, their passive resistance to Americanisation and certainly the very best strongest arguments in favour of the post-war anti-immigration laws.

This situation has now undergone considerable change. A second and third generation of Americans of Polish ancestry are growing up, having been born in America and enjoyed the full advantage of American education, manners and more of them reaching the College and University stage, - they enter into America's public and social life to an extent undreamed of by their parents, and are in a position to contribute to the making of American public opinion. At the same time, an increasing number of them are certainly the very best elements among them, - are eagerly acquiring from books a knowledge of Poland's history and literature which their parents never possessed, and supplementing that knowledge by visits to Poland and periods of study in Polish Universities. These young people, acquiring the complete mentality of American citizens in the other hand, and cultivating an intelligent interest in Poland on the other, will not only do useful service to both countries by helping their American fellow-countryman to realise the historical greatness

and actual importance of Poland, but they will also constitute a valuable link between American and European civilisation, promoting spiritual harmony and beneficial mutual influences between those two worlds. The days are over when wholesale Americanisation was considered a practicable way out of Europe's post-war difficulties; and while the prevailing opinion in Europe now is in favour of discerning selection and adaptation of those features of America's achievements, understanding of the evolutionary connection between the European past and the American present can only add to the spiritual value of whatever American genius produces. In this process of re-establishing organic connection and unity between American and European civilisation, educated Americans with an intelligent interest in their European ancestry have a most important part to play; and the sons and grand-sons of Polish emigrants form a large section of that element. That is why we wish their opinion - which is becoming more and more articulate and vocal in American life - to be duly considered by those who are framing the policy of the U. S. A. in European affairs.

The above remarks containing nothing which, to my knowledge, is likely to be contradicted either from Polish official quarters or by organs of Polish public opinion, I shall not only be glad if you will utilise my views as a basis for discussion in your University, but I shall have no objection either if you should decide to give them publicity in some American periodical devoted to the study of international problems.

I am, dear Sir, yours very truly

R. Dyboski

Professor of English Literature
in the University of Kraków,
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Fencing

The Magyar Athletikai Club' Champion in the Hungarian National Sabre Team Competition, is coming to Warsaw at the invitation of the Polish Fencing Association, for a week's training with Polish fencers. On Sunday, June 7th, they will take part in a fencing display at the Kayano Officers Club (Al. Szucha 23). There will also be two or three individual matches of 10 hits each. Rejcsanyi, the European Sabre Champion, is a member of the visiting team.

The Polish National Fencing Championship will be held on June 12th, 13th, and 14th, at the "Warszawianka Club" ulica Wawelska.

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PLAYS AND FILMS

Foolish James

On the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the death of Tadeusz Rittner, that always interesting and penetrating playwright, the *Teatr Nowy* has revived one of his finest comedies, *Foolish James*.

On a well drawn background of the end of the last century, Rittner weaves the dramatic conflict of his three heroes. We see the dark, gloomy manor-house in which the Chamberlain lives, an embittered old man, a magnate, whose whole life was spent in building up his fortune to the exclusion of all else. Catering to his every wish and fawning upon him in the hope of inheriting his estates, are his sister and brother-in-law, a pair of penniless, and bootlicking bores. The one ray of sunshine in the manor-house is *Hanka*, the daughter of a teamster, but brought up by the neighbours and serving as the companion and secretary to the Chamberlain. All her efforts are directed toward lifting herself out of the class she was born in. Being deeply in love with James, the supposed love-child of the Chamberlain, she does her best to influence the latter to adopt him, in this way hoping to lift herself and her beloved into a position of power. The aged and egotistical mind of the Chamberlain is unable to perceive the feeling that is blossoming by his side, and so in his selfishness he first offers money and finally marriage to *Hanka*. The tragic conflict of the young girl is deepened by the news that James (called foolish for his frankness and truthfulness) is not the son of the Chamberlain. All her future plans crumble down at once, and *Hanka* throws away her love for James to win wealth and social position in the asthmatic passion of the old Chamberlain.

In theme, the play *Foolish James* is very painful, but none the less true for it views it from an artistic point of view it is a splendid piece of work. Rittner was able to draw the characters of James, *Hanka*, and especially the old Chamberlain with unerring insight, and made of them living, suffering people in a play full of dynamic rhythm, subtlety, and psychological truth. *Teatr Nowy* presents *Foolish James* in first rate style. Mr. Wierciński, who directed, accentuated with rare skill the mouldy atmosphere of the life in the Chamberlain's manor-house and brought out the full contrast of *Hanka's* and James's youthful radiance.

Janusza-Stepowski, as the Chamberlain gave another of his masterly performances. His portrayal both of the character and the appearance of this embittered old magnate was of such convincing force that the whole audience lost account of the difference between the stage and reality. This rôle may be regarded as a new triumph perhaps the finest of Janusza-Stepowski's character creations.

Mrs. Duleba and Mr. Maszyński were capital as the sister and brother-in-law; they were splendid in their skilful flutter of the remnants of their lost glory under the quailing abjectness of impoverished parasites. The rôle of James was played sincerely and convincingly by Mr. Indyżński while Miss Romanówna, as *Hanka*, displayed true intelligence and subtlety in her expression of the psychology of the ambitious peasant girl striving for social position through

the sacrifice of her love. It is impossible to omit the splendid comic work of Mrs. Buczyńska in the part of Katarzyna, a boisterous, laxton matron, the mother of James, and formerly the mistress of the Chamberlain and all the landed gentry in the neighbourhood. The work of Łapiński, Chmielewski and Michałek also, deserves mention. Decorations by Jarocki.

—Arno

"Tudor Rose"

A very attractive historical film which, though tenderer and more serious in character, has been compared by some critics to the now world famous, *Private Life of Henry VIII*, has begun a run at the New Gallery Cinema in London.

Called "Tudor Rose", it deals with the stormy ten days' reign of the sixteen-year-old Lady Jane Grey; of her early marriage of convenience, and of the plots that beset her and eventually brought her to the scaffold.

Nova Pilbeam, who is the exact age of Lady Jane, makes an appealing and very human figure of the heroine; Sir Cedric Hardwicke brings strength and forthrightness to the part of the chief plotter, the Earl of Warwick, and a sixteen-year-old boy, Desmond Tester who, though well-known on the stage, is a newcomer to films, is very good as the boy king, Edward VI.

The picture is directed by Robert Stevenson, who began his film career seven years ago, after he had graduated in mechanical science at Cambridge. He was given six weeks in which to find a job in films. Half way through the last week, when practically resigned to a career as an aeronautical engineer, he met Michael Balcon, then production chief of Gainsborough Films, who gave him a job making synopses of new novels at £2.10 a week. Since then he has learned his craft via script writing, camera work, assisting the director and assisting the producer. "Tudor Rose" is his first solo picture. He is married to blonde Anna Lee, a young Gaumont-British star.

Dartington Hall.

Dartington Hall, an Old Devon manor already famous for its ballet, is now to house a school of the spoken drama, directed by Michael Tchehov, nephew of the Russian dramatist. Mr. Tchehov aims at founding an entirely new school of drama, made in the country, but by no means isolated. Like his master, Stanislavsky, he will try to get the author's "creative inspiration" before worrying about external forms. He will also "struggle against the absence of an ideal in the contemporary theatre". He is a believer in heroism "modern conditions", he says, "have no room for the tender" and in healthy, unembittered humour. He will pay special attention to pastoral drama of all ages and nations. Dartington Hall has a beautiful open air theatre and also an old barn transformed into a playhouse.

SPALDING

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Simpsons of Piccadilly.

The biggest men's store in Europe has recently opened its doors in Piccadilly, on the site of the old Geological Museum. It is designed by a modernist architect and will make history in London shop architecture, for it is the first building of its kind with a frontage designed particularly for floor lighting effects.

The building is of Portland stone and has an interior ingeniously designed in crescented bays, which give an effect of spaciousness. The display tables are low and the counter tops extend several inches so that the customer can draw in his chair and be close to the goods he examines. Stiffened celophane shapes are used as stands for articles so that nothing distracts from their line and colour.

The shop has nine floors, each of 11,000 square feet, and a man can buy anything from a dog to an aeroplane. There is a snack bar, a liquor bar, a flower shop, tape machines to give the latest news, a barber's shop, and a department where you can buy a dart or shovehalfpenny board.

The Vistula River Transport Company.

On of the oldest companies providing transport along the Vistula is the Polski Żegluga Rzeczna "Vistula" of Warsaw who do freight and passenger services from Tarnobrzeg to Gdynia covering not only the Vistula itself, but also the Brda, the Bydgoszcz canal and the Noteć. Apart from this the Company also serves such far spaced towns as Poznań, Łódź, Warsaw, Toruń, Bydgoszcz, Kraków, Sandomierz, Płock, Wrocław, Grudziądz, Tczew and Danzig.

It may in fact be said that the Vistula Company with their 5 passenger boats, 29 mixed vessels, 5 river tugs, 3 canal tugs, their luxurious excursion boat "The Carmen" and their two sea-going freighters, occupy the most important position in the transport of passengers and cargo from the central Polish provinces to the coast. It is estimated that the transport from Poznań to the sea through Fordon - the Company's depot near Bydgoszcz - works out about 40% to 50% cheaper than by any other means.

The Bydgoszcz branch of the Company, perhaps the most important section of the organisation is in charge of Director Tadeusz Abramowicz, who thanks to his energy and enthusiasm has built up the business into one of the most important organisations in the whole of Poland.

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M. Wieslas Chlusky.

M. Wieslas Chlusky, the well known master tailor, has opened up a new tailoring establishment at Wilcza 12. M. Chlusky has managed several similar establishments in Berlin and, later on returning to Warsaw became head of the men's department of Messrs. Boguslaw Herse, where he remained for some years. His new venture has caused considerable interest in the world of masculine fashions.

Warsaw of The Future

Upwards of 50,000 people visited this exhibition at the National Museum. Numerous charts maps and models are displayed in the two large halls in the Eastern wing of the Museum gave an idea of what Warsaw of the Future will look like.

As explained by an obliging attendant, the city of Warsaw owes its development, past, present and future, to the fact that it is situated at the intersection of two important trade routes. The one, running from South to North, - as shown on the large model - is named the Intersa Route. The other, extending from East to West, is called the Transcontinental. Both form at the converging point a kind of cross and the city whose development will proceed along these routes, the one here, for instance, - Now he bends down, turns on one of the electric switches and the red streaks of light leap into view.

"These," he explains, "are the main arteries - streets, already existing or planned, which will run along the direction of both routes. The one here, for instance, - he points it out with a long stick - "will be extended farther North but the realisation of this project will require tearing down of about forty houses, and this" - he sighs regretfully - "can't be done at the present moment".

"Here" - he moves his stick along the red looping curves of the projected underground - "you may see the route of the future subway." He gives detailed explanations as to under what streets it will run and adds "The difficulties in bringing this project to life will be numerous. The property owners, you see, are apt to put up objections to digging tunnels under their property and as far as that is concerned, the law will be on their side".

We also learn from him that there will be a tendency to move all the industrial plants from the limits of Warsaw proper to Praga district, the object being, in view of the usual easterly direction of the winds, to banish smoke and soot from the city.

And the end of the second hall three is a model of a tram car. A few people stand clustered around the barrier and among them we notice a red haired boy.

We remember having seen him in the same place, one fine day entering the exhibition hall. He was standing there all interest and attention, looking fixedly at the miniature tram cars. The future development of the city, it seemed to us, did not interest him much. Apparently all he wanted to see were the cars. Suddenly his face lighted up. A man, an attendant of the place, pushed the wicket door and entered the space around the model. The boy grew restless. The man yawned, pushed the lever down and the miniature cars began moving round and round. The boy's face was aglow with enthusiasm. The cars entered one end of the tunnel, made a loop and emerged from another end. The boy's eyes seemed to pop of his head. The attendant looked boredly at his watch and pulled the lever back. The cars stopped. There was a look of disappointment in the boy's eyes. The attendant walked away and we followed him toward the exit. On leaving the place we turned and looked back. At the end of the hall we still could see the red-haired boy, his elbows propped on the barriers, his gaze fixed on the cars. In ten minutes there was to be another demonstration!

L. C.

Warsaw Amusements.

THEATRES

ATENEUM Closed.
KAMERALNY "Matura." Daily
LETNI "Niensprawiedliwiona Godzina"
DAILY
MALICKI "Trafika Pani Generalowej." Daily.
MALY "Lord i Hiszpanka" Daily
NARODOWY "Głupi Jakob" Daily
NOWY "Tessa." Daily
POLSKI "Milionerka" Daily
REBITA "Pierścień Wielkiej Dany." Daily

MUSICAL SHOWS

WIELKA RWIJA Gieslisa
CYRULIK WARSZAWSKI "Kot w Worku" "Cat in the Bag" Daily at 8.
TEATR WIELKI Closed

CINEMAS

APOLLO "Who kisses last." Austrian.
*** ATLANTIC "Ghost Goes West" English.
*** BAŁTYK "The Dubarry" American.
*** CAPITOL "Doctor X" American.
*** CASINO "Modern Times" Charlie Chaplin. American.
*** EUROPA "Song of Love" Jan Kiepura. American.
*** FILHARMONIA "Beloved Rascal" Czech. (in German)
*** MAJESTIC "Roberta" American.
*** PAN "Adieu" American.
*** RIALTO "Trial of the Lonesome Pine" American.
ROMA "Hendy Briggs"
*** STYLWOL "L'Equipage." French.
*** SŁAWIOWO "Destire" Marlene Dietrich. American.
*** excellent. *** good. *** fair. *** average. Unstarred not yet visited.

MUSIC

FILHARMONIA: Closed
OPERA: Closed

SPORTS

RACES.
June 4th, 6th, 7th, 9th, 10th.
INTERNATIONAL HORSE SHOW at Łazienki Park, May 30th onwards.
FENCING "The Magyar Atletikai Club" June 7th. Kasyno Oficerskie. At 8.00.

"The Polish National Fencing Championships" will be held on June 12th, 13th, 14th, at the "Warszawianski" Club, at Wawelska.

ART AND OTHER EXHIBITIONS

I.P.S. Closed
ZACHĘTA, 10 From Krakow, 10 till 6. Admission 2 L. 50.
BIBLIOTEKA PUBLICZNA Koszykowa 25. "Public Library Exhibition". Daily 11 to 3. Admission free.
NATIONAL MUSEUM, 8 Maja 13. 1st Block. Display of Italian Prints. Daily 11 to 3. Admission 25 gr.
NOWY ŚWIAT 67. Open 6th June. The Best Photograph of Marshal Pilsudski. Daily 10 to 8. Admission 50 gr.
MAZOWIECKA 9. Display of Unknown Works of Stanislas Wyspianski. Daily 10 to 8. Admission 2 L.
DOLINA SZWAJCARSKA. 7th June, at noon. Fashion display, car show, etc. It will be held on 14th June.
MAZOWIECKA. Display of Beautiful Polish Books. 9 till 6. Admission 50 gr.
OFFICERS CASINO. "The War History of Pilsudski's Legions". 9 till 7. Admission 50 gr.

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