

THE WARSAW WEEKLY

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No. 40

THE DEVALUATION OF THE FRANC

By Sir Arthur Salter

Sir Arthur Salter was formerly Director of the Economic and Finance Section of the League of Nations and is now Professor of Political Theory and Institutions at Oxford. He is recognised as one of the principal experts in questions of international economic and finance.

The devaluation of the franc is the most important economic event since that of the dollar nearly three years ago. If it is carried through successfully it may prove the best thing that has happened of any kind in that period.

For the history of the post-war world, political as well as economic, might be written in terms of the changing values of currencies, first inflation and then deflation in turn spreading the economic distress which has brought inflammable political passions near the flash point of explosion. It was in 1930, after the onset of the world economic depression, that international relations, which had been improving since 1925, began to deteriorate, and it was in 1932/3, after the world financial crisis, that the more dangerous political forces developed their full strength. And in these events we are certainly right to see a relation of cause and effect.

It would indeed be true to say that "deflation" has been the principal agent in the most important events of recent years. It broke the banking system in the U. S. A., it transformed the political situation both there and in Great Britain, it brought German economic distress to the point at which it provided the material for the Nazi revolution. It has been the main cause not only of the economic troubles but the political stresses of France.

When, as an alternative to the chaos of wild fluctuation in exchange or the rigours of deflation, the great countries have chosen a new gold parity for their currencies, the choice of the new parity has not hitherto been well made. In 1925, the pound was certainly over-valued at 4.83, and the consequent deflation caused the general strike and in the end the fall of the pound in 1931. The franc was undervalued by Poincaré and new external dislocation followed. So, too, the dollar was certainly undervalued at the beginning of 1934, and all the "gold" countries were diversely affected, as they had been by the depreciation of sterling. The smaller countries, Czechoslovakia, and Belgium, were more successful. Their task was easier, and the results of their success on the rest of the world unhappily less important.

Will the present French operation be more successful? There are happily strong reasons for believing so. The range within which the new gold parity will be fixed has been indicated, though the exact point has not yet been fixed; and it is clear that the French Government have

very carefully decided upon a "corrective" devaluation which will merely remove the previous disharmony between prices and gold value, and are not attempting to snatch a competitive advantage in external trade by putting the new parity too low. Even more important is the fact that this has been recognised by the American and British Treasuries; and that the three equalisation funds will co-operate to mitigate, and if possible prevent, disturbances arising from operations inspired by either fear or greed.

The assurance of this co-operation will greatly assist Monsieur Blum in what is still the difficult task of bringing the franc safely to anchor at its new parity. Till a few months ago orthodox economic and financial opinion, the renters, and most of the forces constituting the Right, were bitterly opposed to devaluation. They have, however, been converted. More serious now are the fears of those who have recently secured improvements in their wages and hours of work that devaluation will rob them of their gains by causing an increase in the cost of living. These fears were at first reflected in a proposal to make a wage sliding-scale a legal obligation. This provision has been deleted, but renewed pressure must be expected if the cost of living does in fact rise greatly. Some prices, for example, those of manufactured articles for which the franc cost of the raw materials will be higher, must rise. But the Government has an effective instrument for keeping down the price of necessities, especially of food, in its power to reduce tariffs and increase quotas.

Co-operation in the use of the equalisation funds, of course, requires some understanding between the American and British authorities as to the ratio between dollar and pound to be aimed at though it may allow a certain elasticity and be subject to later variation. There may be some difficulty about this, although it should be incomparably less than it would have been some years ago. The pound has recently been pushed above its natural level because many who anticipated the devaluation of the franc used sterling to make a profit or avoid a loss. But for a very long period the actual rate has, with rare exceptions, been fairly stable. And happily the disastrous effects of competitive currency depreciation are now universally recognised.

If all goes well, the results to world recovery may be of the greatest importance. Uncertainty

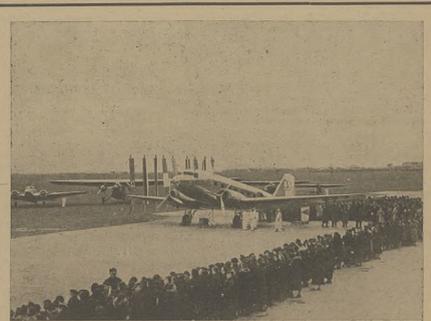
POLISH AIRWAYS EXTEND TO ATHENS

Warsaw. A new air line, operated by the "Lot" the Polish Air Transport Coy. was inaugurated on Saturday, the 3rd October between Warsaw and Athens. The start of the first air liner bound for Athens was attended by a ceremony at the Warsaw airport and speeches were made by the Polish Minister of Communications and by the Greek Minister Plenipotentiary in Warsaw.

The new line is an extension of the already existing Warsaw-Bucharest-Sofia-Salonica line, which has been operated by "Lot" with complete success for several years.

The air-liners of "Lot", flying at 300 m.p.h., will cover the distance between Warsaw and Athens in 8 hours, while the railway journey between these towns takes more than three days.

As to the franc has weighed upon the world for years. All the most important impediments to world trade, whether in the form of new tariffs, quotas or exchange restrictions, are mainly due to currency fears. It would be no impossible future step from the co-operation already announced to reach a form of conditional stabilisation, first between the great currencies and then including others, which would secure stable exchanges for long periods, while still allowing for a corrective change of ratio, if that should be necessary to save a country from being compelled to resort to a deflationary policy. And a recovery in foreign trade is what is now most needed. In all the more fortunate countries internal recovery based on expansion of the home market has made great strides. It is indeed reaching the point beyond which further advance will be much more difficult. But the volume of external trade, though showing some slight signs of improvement, has so far been almost stationary. Moreover, many of those who are still unemployed have a specialised experience in export trades which makes it a slow and difficult business to transfer them to industries which can live on the home market; and an increase of exports would both avert this difficulty and also give a new basis of expansion to the whole economy of each country. Many things are indeed required before world trade can recover its normal proportions. Tariffs and quotas and restrictions need to be removed or reduced, or so transformed as to permit an increase of imports; the machinery of foreign lending needs to be re-established on a more modest scale but upon a more secure basis than before; and above above all, international relations need to be improved and confidence that the world will not be plunged into another great war be restored. But in all



The inaugural ceremony at the opening of the new Warsaw — Athens service at the Okęcie Airport, near Warsaw.

Crops in Poland

The Polish Chief Bureau of Statistics has just published a provisional estimate of the current year's crops in Poland based on reports of about 4000 agricultural correspondents. The probable yield of the harvests (in million of metric quintals) is expected to be: wheat about 21.2, rye about 63.9, barley about 14.6, oats about 26.3 and potatoes about 320.7. The expected wheat crop is 5.6 per cent above last year's level, and 75 per cent over the annual average of the five years period 1931—35. The barley crop is also greater than last year's by 1.1 per cent, and by 4.3 per cent over the five-year annual average. The rye crop is expected to be 3.4 per cent smaller than in 1935 and 0.1 per cent less than the above mentioned average. The barley

yield is respectively 0.7 per cent and 0.8 per cent below the two levels, the potato crop 1.3 per cent below last year's, but 3.3 per cent over the five-year annual average. Harvest work was commenced earlier than usual and on the whole proceeded under favourable weather conditions except in the voivodships of Warsaw, Lodz, Kielce, Pomorze and Slask where conditions were rather less favourable.

Mrs. Joliot-Curie welcomed in Warsaw

Warsaw. Mrs. Joliot-Curie, daughter of the inventor of radium—Madame Curie Sklodowska, arrived in Warsaw accompanied by her husband, prof. Frederic Joliot.

She was received in Warsaw by the Vice-Minister of Education, prof. Ujejski, representatives of the municipality and of the learned bodies. Her visit is regarded as particularly important because the mother of Mrs. Curie-Joliot, the great Madame Curie, was born and educated in Warsaw, so that her daughter is a half Pole by birth.

Further extension of Land Parcellation

Warsaw. The Cabinet decided at its session of the 29th inst. to authorise the compulsory purchase by the government of 27,000 hectares of land, from estates enumerated in a list attached to the decree.

The land will be destined for distribution among small farmers or landless agricultural workers, on the principle of long term instalments. Naturally the compulsory purchase of that land will correspond roughly to transferring its ownership from the squires to the small farmers.

Books Reviewed

"Economic Conditions in Poland" — by C. B. Jerram, Commercial Secretary to H. M. Embassy at Warsaw

The report on Economic Conditions in Poland in 1935, published by H. M. Stationery Office, bears in full the stamp of a Board of Commissioners' disengagement coupled with remarkable acumen.

The review of the general economic situation in Poland gives a true picture of the facts, without attempting to unveil the future, which is sound policy for any official publication. Although the pamphlet is dated in March, some of the facts have been written a few months before that date — as is suggested by the doubt expressed by the author on account of the State revenue being inflated in its present level (p.2).

The prospective reader of the Report is presumably the British businessman, and it is from his point of view that it should be approached. If he happens to be in the bicycle or the film trade he will find in the current report little indication of any hopes Poland can hold for him. The same would apply if he thought of selling tyres, cameras or tennis rackets. People in these trades are advised to look up Mr. Jerram's report of 1935, although some of them would be wrong if they expected to find there more than a few lines about the chances they stand with their wares on the Polish market.

Another type of man who would do well to consult the 1935 Report rather than the last one is the commercial traveller from Aberdeen. He will find there information to the effect that you should spend a day in Warsaw in the moderate outlay of £ 115, whereas in 1935 the same pleasure could not be enjoyed for less than £ 2.

Remaining in the "Commercial Summary" section, we might remark on the information offered about "Languages." It seems surprising that Lithuanian is mentioned among them and Yiddish is not, although it would be a conservative estimate to say that there are fifty times as many Jews as Lithuanians in Poland, and they are again as many more commercially active than the latter. Another detail of no importance from the commercial point of view is the inclusion of "White Russian" language, along with the "Ruthenian". Surely, as the two names are derived from the same noun, it might be better to say "White Ruthenian".

These are, of course details of no consequence as far as the general trend of the Report is concerned, — as well as the pleasantly optimistic statement about the horse carb which is reported to be "gradually disappearing." The time which it takes in doing so is probably due to the inherent slowness of that form of conveyance.

One of the principal merits of the Report is its brevity — for even in Polish there is perhaps no other equally comprehensive and concise survey of the situation, although there are many ample sized volumes devoted to the same questions. The splendid detachment of the writer is also extremely valuable, and for this reason even natives of this country may find much that is interesting. Mr. Jerram's Report, most of them would like to hear some of his personal opinions on certain matters, trusting to his impartiality and experience, fully displayed in that short work. They are disappointed through no fault of Mr. Jerram's but simply because the character of the publication does not permit too many excursions outside the domain of the obvious.

A. L.

Polish Commercial Representative for South Africa

Warsaw. At the last meeting of the Union of Commerce it was decided to create a special Polish Commercial Office in Johannesburg to look after Polish commercial interests in the South African Union. Mr. J. M. Modrzyński, former Polish commercial agent in the Near East, will take on the duties of the Polish Commercial Delegate in Johannesburg.

It is increasingly realised in Warsaw that the development of trade between Poland and the Union would be in the interests of both countries, particularly as some Polish goods have been already exported to South Africa for a long time through the intermediary of German and other agents. Direct relations will naturally be more satisfactory, being both simpler and less expensive.

Swedish views on Polish timber

Stockholm. "Skogen" the organ of the Swedish timber trade, discussed in its last issue the competition of foreign timber producers with Sweden, which has established for itself a very high reputation in the world markets. Dr. G. Wieslander, the author of the article, writes: "The Baltic countries, Poland and Czechoslovakia are strong competitors in the British market. Most of the timber from Finland is inferior in quality, because of its knotted structure, and the same is also true of the Czech, Polish and Baltic timbers. It must be admitted, however, that the Polish State Forests supply a good quality, well worked and carefully marketed." The opinion of the expert testifies that good organisation and workmanship can make up for deficiencies caused by the climate and other natural conditions.

The Opening of the Polish-Dutch Chamber of Commerce

Warsaw. The Polish-Dutch Chamber of Commerce has been founded here. Mr. Sowinski was elected president of the Chamber, and Mr. Frederik Willem Walterscheid, the director of the Polish Philips Company, became vice-president. Dr. Roger Battaglia was nominated director of the Chamber of Commerce, which has its premises at Kredytowa 8, in Warsaw.

Canada wants to buy Wheat in Poland

The Poznan Chamber of Commerce has been approached by a large firm of Canadian grain merchants in view of a purchase of a transport of western-Polish wheat for Canada. It was the first offer of the kind ever received from Canada in Poland.

A Polish climbing expedition in the Andes

Warsaw. A climbing expedition of the Polish Tatra Society (corresponding to an Alpine Club) is due to leave Gdynia for South America on board the s. s. "Kosiuszko". The expedition, composed of four members, will explore certain mountain ranges on the Chití-Argentine frontier. Many high peaks in that country, particularly in the range of Nevado Pissis, have never yet been climbed by a white man, nor scientifically described.

The Polish climbing expedition of 1936 follows similar expeditions organised by the same Tatra Society, in the Andes in 1933-34, and later in the Atlas Mountains, in Spitzbergen and in Central Caucasus.

All these previous expeditions have proved eminently successful, both from the sporting and scientific point of view.

An attempt at scaling some inaccessible Himalayan peaks is considered by the Tatra Society as its next aim.

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Arabian Story Tellers.

The picturesque market places of Fez and Marrakesh, in Morocco, are daily alive with their crowds of Arabs bargaining around the goods spread out in heaps by the merchants. The air is filled with voices and ever and anon arms shoot upwards and fingers are stretched out and waved as the bargaining proceeds. In strange contrast is the silence of the crowd that presses round a man seated on a piece of highly coloured matting. He is the story teller, and the Arab has to be busy indeed who can resist the temptation to stop awhile and listen to the enchanting words.

The story teller knows many "tricks of the trade". He will speak in low tones to make his audience crowd closer. He will

PRESS REVIEW

In an article appearing in the weekly *Odnoda*, Dr. Felix Mlynski energetically protests against any idea of lowering the value of the zloty in imitation of the currency policy of France, Switzerland, etc. He argues that the world of work would lose by devaluation and that the present disproportion of prices is disappearing without devaluation. "As this disproportion disappears so our exporters will collect higher prices in gold i.e. he will get his export premium in gold from foreign sources and not in paper and from the pockets of his fellow citizens". In conclusion Dr. Mlynski reproaches the government for being insufficiently informed as to changes in preparation in Western Europe, saying that the Government had been taken by surprise "in spite of the large percentage of military experts appearing in the role of guests in a domain that properly belonged to civilians. And perhaps just for this reason they were not able to warn the government and give it time to prepare itself. There seems no doubt that the government was taken unawares".

L.K.C. quotes the opinion of the *Economist* on the increasing share taken by the State in Polish industry saying that it will soon be a bureaucratic monopoly. The author writes, "Poland will have to come to a decision whether she wishes or not to remain a capitalistic state and if so must act ruthlessly. The present undecided and fluctuating tendency may lead to state socialism. L.K.C. adds that it is the highest time for Poland to decide if it is to be a bureaucratic state or an industrial one, a country of State Monopoly and State Socialism, or one of private initiative. "For this reason all Poland is watching the work of the commission for fighting State Monopolies and therefore great responsibility rests with it."

In reference to Minister Beck's enunciation that Poland needs colonies, *Polska Zbrojna* appeals to the young "intelligentsia" to colonize the Eastern frontiers which are so much in need of pioneer work and which are waiting for the new generation to abolish the economic backwardness, to create industrial centres, to spread education, to awaken the minds and become the creators of new economic and social values in centres in which ignorance and backwardness, primitive conditions and the lack of civilised arrangements are that sad heritage from the usurpers government. "Czas" protests against the sending of several brick manufacturers to the isolation camp at Bereza for undue raising of prices, considering this kind of preventive measure should be applied

only to political cases, "We do not think that it is at all advisable to extend the sphere of transgressions punishable by isolation camp and especially we do not consider that transgressions of an economic nature should be suppressed by these means. If it has been proved that a conspiracy exists for bearing up prices the guilty should be brought to justice and judged according to art. 268 of the legal code".

Robotnik discussing the situation created in Danzig by the resignation of the High Commissioner Lester expresses fear that Danzig will be completely in the hands of Hitlerites. It writes: "If even Geneva selects a new Commissioner it will doubtless be a person who is favourably regarded by Hitlerites. It is very possible that Greiser will quickly introduce a plebiscite with a changing of the constitution to bring it on a par with the Reich and the new Commissioner will have no trouble in defending the new constitution as the Hitlerites will do it better than he. In this way Danzig will free itself of the League and will incorporate with the Reich! This will take place with the consent of the League itself and with the consent of Poland!"

Kurjer Warszawski writing on the subject quotes an article by van Ham in *L'Esprit International* in which he says "a settled ordered existence in Danzig will always be a chief factor in peaceful relations of Europe". He warns Poland against a legal political tête à tête with Danzig or with the Reich, accentuating on the other hand the importance of the League's protection of Danzig or rather the importance of the good offices of the great European powers. The *Kurjer* continues, "We may boldly say that till now Polish diplomatic preparation and the degree of Polish political foresight have not been submitted to so weighty a trial as the present one."

Kurjer Warszawski in its correspondence from Geneva writes that "not only verbally but by action the first breach has been made in the wall of European self-sufficiency. The spread of this breach depends upon the abolishing of the business of which the French-English proposal speaks in common as also upon those countries which will or will not follow the example shown at the discussions of the second commission". The *Kurjer* adds that even the greatest sceptics admit that something new has occurred in the history of the economic crisis and that the overcoming of the world crisis now depends only on the good or bad will of the two states i.e. England and France. "In other words economic disarmament has begun".

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place in his absence. The bird saw his master's wife take two eggs from the hen - roost and eat them.

"Wife," said the Arab, "thou hast eaten two eggs to-day, the bird has told me."

"The bird does not speak the truth", she replied, "and I will prove it."

Next day she shut the bird up in a dark room and turned a hand-mill to imitate thunder. Then she sprinkled water on the parrot's cage. As the hour for her master's return arrived she put the cage back in the living room.

When the parrot saw his master, he said "Where were you, my master, when it thundered and the rain fell?"

"There," interrupted the cunning wife, "thou seest that the parrot does not tell the truth".

Polski Teatr's Big Success



Scenes from "Pickwick". Aleksander Zelwerowicz as Pickwick and Helena Buczyńska as Mrs. Bardell.



A group scene from "The Pickwick Club". (Phot. Brzozowski) (Wilczowska, Picholski, Bukitewicz, Chodacki, Zukowski, Solarski, Kurylukówna, Zelwerowicz, Mystakowska and Matkowska)

POLISH ART ABROAD

STEFAN MROZEWSKI'S Success in America.

The most outstanding events of the past season in the field of the dissemination of Polish art in America, belongs the one-man show of one hundred wood-engravings by Stefan Mrozeński. This exhibition was circulated in the United States thanks to the common efforts of the Kosciuszko Foundation and of the Polish Art Service in New York.

The Mrozeński exhibition was shown at the following art institutions: the Albert Rouiller Art Galleries, Chicago, Ill. in October 1935; the Layton Art Gallery, Milwaukee, Wis. in November the Memorial Union Building, Madison, Wis. in December, the California State Library, Sacramento, Cal. in February 1936, and finally in April, at the Baltimore Museum of Art, Md. which acquired a number of his prints for its permanent collection.

The American art critics and art lovers have greeted Mrozeński's work with enthusiasm and full appreciation. Adelyn D. Bresskin, Curator of Prints and Drawings at the Baltimore Museum of Art, has devoted to Mrozeński a whole article which appeared in the April issue of the American Magazine of Art, 1936, published by the American Federation of Arts in Washington. The article is illustrated with five splendid cuts. The author gives us first a short outlook upon the development of the art of modern wood-engraving, she describes then the contributions of Mrozeński toward it. We read: "Compared to most of the contemporary English and American work, they (Mrozeński's wood-engravings) seem much more far-reaching in interest, richer in technical detail, and more comprehensive as pictures. His sense of intricate texture and pattern is especially noteworthy. There is a touch of orientalism and color in the variety of his detail. This is combined with a ponderousness of forms which seem more Nordic or Celtic—especially appropriate note to introduce into the "Parsifal" legend. This quality is maintained throughout, together with a grandiose, primeval strength which is accentuated by an unwavering sense of design and a brilliant feeling for light." And she concludes: "Mrozeński is a spirited, intelligent, imaginative designer, splendidly equipped as an illustrator, who should meet with an increasing number of friends and admirers as his work becomes better known. For he has something really original to contribute to the field of wood engraving and should with recognition for doing his share in bringing the medium so much nearer to glory."

The Polish Art Service in New York has added to the many recent offerings from American art galleries, has booked the Mrozeński collection for the Season 1936-7 in outstanding galleries of New Orleans, La., Albany, N.Y., Philadelphia, Pa., Jacksonville, Ill., San Antonio, Texas, and New York City.

Dr. Irena Piotrowska

THE PICKWICK CLUB of CHARLES DICKENS

Who among us does not know the famous book of Charles Dickens, and who has not borne company in the thousands of adventures and tribulations of Mr. Samuel Pickwick and his friends, in world popularity, this novel of Dickens can be compared with few other works for each of us reckons the reading of this book among the most agreeable souvenirs of his youth, recollecting many times the unusually sympathetic humour and the gentle sentiment with which the Victorian epoch was so wittily portrayed.

It is no wonder, then, that we greeted the announcement of a scenic realization of the *Pickwick Club* with great joy, being at the same time, a little anxious whether or not the stage version would properly reproduce the special atmosphere of the novel, whether the interpreters would be able to create convincingly all the heroes of Dickens, our old friends, already vivid in our imaginations. And we must say immediately that the audience at the *Teatr Polski*, the whole group of Dickens amateurs and admirers as well as the adherents of sincere and jovial humour, received the characterizations with pleasure and joy. For this presentation of the "*Pickwick Club*" a truly charming performance. The author of the scenic version, N. Wegierko, made the trials of Mr. Pickwick with the widow Bardell and Pickwick's meetings with

Mister Jingle the central motives of the action. At the same time he gave a perfect picture of English democracy, drew out very well the many-sided characteristics of the whole gallery of Dickens, heroes and heroines headed by Mr. Pickwick and Samuel Weller, whose paradoxes still have the same attractive power to excite audiences to mirth and glee.

The tempo, so different in a novel and on the stage, in this time well suited to the demands of the theatre and quite lacked that narrative tone which so often makes of the scenic recital of a novel a performance without colour or tempo, the presentation *Teatr Polski* of the *Pickwick Club* is one of rare artistic qualities, a true event of the current theatrical season in Warsaw.

The stage director, Mr. Alexander Wegierko, gave to the *Pickwick Club* the character of a series of colourful, burlesque but always sentimental pictures of the Victorian epoch, all the characters of Dickens and charm included in that epoch and in the masterpiece of Dickens were drawn out by Wegierko with intelligence and witicism. Each scene had its own plastic in word and gesture; all formed a beautiful, lovely performance.

The intentions of Wegierko were perfectly understood by the stage designer, Władysław Daszewski, and the

numerous cast of the play. Mr. Daszewski gave a series of ingenious and colourful decorations, forming a fresh and inviting background to the adventures of Mr. Pickwick and his friends. Daszewski also designed the excellent costumes in the celebrated XIX Century English fashion.

The leading role of Pickwick is played by Mr. Aleksander Zelwerowicz, who has all the physical qualities indispensable toward creating a convincing character in this role. To this he added a warm tone, true heartiness and cordiality, which make Pickwick one of the best roles of this excellent artist. His servant, Sam Weller, was portrayed by Mr. Józef Kondrat with rare ingenuity and humour.

The friends of Pickwick find good interpreters in Mr. Henryk Matkowski, who gave an excellent burlesque of the amorous Tracy Tupman, in Mr. Eugeniusz Sylarski as the "unpardonable" poet Augustus Snodgrass, and especially in the person of the very sympathetic and amusing Mr. Jerzy Picholski in the rôle of the unfortunate sportsman but fortunate lover, Nathaniel Winkle.

Miss Helena Buczyńska gave her great comic talents to make of the widow Bardell one of her finest burlesque characterizations. Her lawyers, Dolson and Pogge, could not have found better interpreters than in Jacek Woszczerowicz and Jolpa Krzywiński. These two

artists had such a ludicrous appearance that on their very entrance they were vigorously applauded. The speech of Woszczerowicz before the jury was a true jewel of caricature.

The Wardle family was perfectly represented in the comic achievements of Miss Zofia Mystakowska (Raech Wardle), in the sincere Miss Jadwiga Kurylukówna (Emily Wardle), in Mr. Bukitewicz (Wardle) and in Mrs. Stanisława Stobicka who portrayed the dear grandmother with scenic poise and aesthetic humour.

It is impossible to discuss the playing of all the artists forming the excellent cast, but we must at least mention the achievements of Miss Wilczowska (Arabella Allan), Miss Lidia Węzowska (Mary), Mr. Michałak (Ben Allen), Mr. Wypiański (Bob Sawyer), Mr. Dzikowski (capital in the rôle of sleepy Joe), Mr. Jerzy Chodacki and Mr. Janusz Ziejewski (in the rôle of Mister Jingle and his companion Trotter) and many others.

The Pickwick Club so presented by the *Teatr Polski* is undoubtedly a performance which could be shown in other countries of Europe, even without understanding Polish, an idea can be gained of the excellent plasticism of the setting up and of the acting of our artists. Polish historical art, of which unfortunately so little is known abroad, would hereby again a great triumph.

Aro.

HAPPY DAYS IN THE POLISH YMCA SUMMER CAMPS FOR BOYS

The Polish YMCA has just closed the most successful summer camp season in its 16 years of camping experience. A slight improvement in the economic condition in the Polish cities led to the three camps being fuller than they have ever been, in fact full to overflowing, and as to the program, it was the best ever, including all the older popular camp features, several new ones, and a dash of spice brought by guests from Germany, both German boys and Polish boys living in Germany or Danzig.

The three camps are so organized as to make camping possible for YMCA boys of every economic level. The Krakow YMCA promotes a camp in the Carpathian Mountains for the very poor boys who belong to the branch conducted by the Krakow Association for the poorest boys of that city; this camp was led this year by the YMCA veteran camper, Walter Sikorski, and was a happy success, 60 boys being in attendance for six weeks.

The Lodz YMCA conducted its beautiful 45 acre camp on the Pilica River in three periods; an opening period for working boys followed by two periods of a month each for school boys, the camp being full to its capacity of 100 boys at a time.

The National Camp at Mszana Dolna "Camp Beskid", had an

opening period of two weeks for 91 working boys followed by two periods of 4 weeks each for school boys, the periods enrolling respectively 123 boys and 16 leaders and 121 boys and 15 leaders. During the first period 11 "Hitler Jugend" and their leader spent a week in camp as part of their Polish tour. After the season for boys had closed a special camp was organized for 70 wrestlers from all parts of Poland who desired a special two weeks of open-air training before the beginning of their season.

A marble tablet was inserted in the border of the swimming pool naming the pool after Colonel Władysław Kilinski a friend in the "Hitler Jugend" and their director of the National Office of Physical Education, was instrumental in securing the \$2000 necessary for the building of this 25 metre open-air pool, a very popular feature of Camp Beskid.

Another interesting event during the second period for school boys was the visit of the distinguished Polish actor and literary man, Zygmunt Nowakowski, whose interest in the boys of the Polish YMCA has been an important feature in the development of YMCA work for boys in Krakow.

As part of their volunteer work, the working boys during their

NEW BOOK ON POLAND

Mr Super's popular little pamphlet "Elements of Polish Culture as Seen by a Resident Foreigner" is now to be printed by the Baltic Institute in its third edition.

The success of this encouraged him to write a rather longer booklet, "Events and Personalities in Polish History that Interest Foreigners", which the Baltic Institute is now printing, with a number of very well chosen illustrations, an artist and a professor of history cooperating in the selection. In 45 brief chapters of about 500 words each this latter booklet gives a bird's eye view of the who and what of Poland since its entry into recorded history in the 10th century.

SPALDING

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period replaced the council ring with a very much nicer one. Following the usual custom, the school boys took up a collection for the poorest family of the neighborhood and another collection to help build a cabin in the Estonian boys' camp as a present from the campers of the Polish YMCA.

From "News From Poland"

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Music, Plays and Films

Les Pattes de Mouche

(TEATR LETNI)

After seeing the plays of the old French masters we can not but wonder at their inexhaustible and perfect knowledge of attaining the maximum of scenic effect, graduating it very cleverly, from time to time dazzling the audience with the fireworks of the unexpected, directing the action of the play on new, interesting roads. At the same time, these plays have no problems, no profound idea or thought, but are founded solely on insignificant facts which is used as a pretext to show all the abilities of scenic technique, by these authors developed to perfection.

We can say that, in the hands of such authors as Scribe or Sardou, the talent of the playwright is not true art, but rather a very artistic and clever jeweller's work. The action is never rested on an affectionate impulse of the author, but always wishes to interest the theatre-goer by the most theatrical situations. The well-constructed scenic construction, the very plastic but always conventional figures, the vivid and elegant dialogue are even present in Scribe's or Sardou's plays, raising their values as performances, which are interesting even now so long after the period for which they were written.

Such a play opened the new season of the *Teatr Letni*, the famous "Les Pattes de Mouche" of Sardou, written in 1861, and from that time reappearing on every European stage.

The whole canvas of the play can be related in one word: a letter, discrediting a young wife before her jealous husband, can, but did not come into his hands. This letter is the matter of much tribulation before it ends its life in the flame of a candle.

INAUGURATION OF THE CONCERT SEASON

The winter concert season was inaugurated in Warsaw firstly on the 26th September by the audition of the Society for the Propaganda of Old Music-which, due to the renovation of the Conservatory, was held in the hall of the Deaf and Dumb School - and secondly by the performance of the Symphony Orchestra in the Philharmonic on Friday the 2nd of October. This latter concert was devoted, as is the custom on the introductory occasion, to Polish music. The programme contained works by Karłowicz, Szymanowski, Noskowski, Paderewski and Różycki.

The most interesting item was the Symphony-concertante by Szymanowski in which the piano part was performed with great temperament by Prof. Turczanski. This work has been heard before at the Philharmonic, with the composer himself at the piano, under the direction of Gregory Fitelberg. On Friday the Conductor was Zygmunt Łańcowski from Poznań who led his orchestra through the difficult and complicated score with certainty and musical understanding. In this work Szymanowski has reverted with great success to a form of the XVIII century in which the piano took an important part as one of the instruments of the Orchestra without actually being a solo part. The effect in Szymanowski's work was exciting and inspiring. The splendid rhythm was also

The Merry Widow

(TEATR OPERETKA)

The theatre on *Karowa Street* is now presenting the famous *Merry Widow* of Franz Lehár, one of the greatest successes of pre-war operetta as well as the theme of the charming comic film so incomparably realised by Jeanette MacDonald and Chevalier under the direction of Lubitsch.

The dazzling and fine melodiousness of the music, the stereotyped but well-solved theme of the tango, the famous waltz, the aria of Vilella still make of the *Merry Widow* a true masterpiece of Viennese music and elegance.

This time the *Teatr Operetka* has prepared a performance on a level which overshadows the last failures on this stage. The directing of Kuligowski has given a lively tempo to the *Merry Widow*, a tempo quite indispensable to operetta. The sets and costumes by Jarocki were very effective, colourful, and formed a dazzling background to the amusing story of the little heroine, Hanna Chybari and her beloved Count Danilo, which were graded very talented interpreters in Miss Janina Kulczycka and Mr. Witold Conti, both winning the audience by the freshness and originality of their voices and suitable scenic acting. The remaining roles were filled by good performers, such as Redo, well-known in operetta of pre-war vintage, in a capital burlesque of an old dignitary, as Miss Nowoczeń, a sympathetic player of Valencio, and especially, a young tenor, Mr. Mieczysław Zęglarski, who has all the necessary qualities to become an accomplished singer and actor.

The ballet, prepared by Mr. Papliński, was a very attractive side of the presentation. The group scenes were presented in the most original position and rhythmic form, and the solo dance of Mr. Papliński and Miss Kolkopkowna was a very agreeable and successful presentation of the stylized English waltz. The orchestra is conducted by Mr. Stanisław Nawrot.

The *Merry Widow* so presented, deserves success, the more so in that our capital has for some time lacked good operetta, which is unfailingly liked by the public for its light music, humour, and a good deal of scenic attraction.

MUSIC

OPERA Saturday (10) Schmitt Concert Thursday (10) Opening of the new season, "Straszny Dwór" Friday (10), "Straszny Dwór" Saturday (10), "Aida" SARMONIA Friday (9) Symphonic concert, Sol. Egon Petri (piano), Conductor. Issay Dobrowen. Friday (10) Symphonic concert

MUSICAL SHOWS

OPERETKA - "The Merry Widow", CYRULIK WARSZAWSKI - "Karjera Alfa Omegi"

ART AND OTHER

EXHIBITIONS

L.P.S. Autumn Show ZACHĘTA, Autumn Vernissage. WAR MUSEUM, Marshal Piłsudski in Sculpture and Głogłinski Exhibition

Warsaw Amusements.

THEATRES

NARODOWY "Fryderyk Wielki" POLESKI "Klub Piekwicki" NOWY "Dawód osobisty" MALY "Ryk Bytogo Lwa" LETNI "Cviaricka papieru" MALICKI "Profesia Pani Warrer" ATENEUM Thursday 15th October, opening of new season, "Szkoła Zon" REDUTA Closed. CHEVALIER KAMERALNY "Matura"

CINEMAS

***APOLLO "Jadzia" Polish. ***ATLANTIC "Anthony Adams" American. ***BALLYK "In the Sunlight" Austrian. ***CAPITOL "Credowalca" Polish. ***CASINO "The Lark" German. ***EUROPA "Mary Queen of Scots" American. ***FILHARMONJA "Room 17, Hotel Savoy" German. HOLLYWOOD "Divorce with Damages" American. ***MAJESTIC "The Last Pagan" American. PAN "Błok i Lolek" Polish. ***RIALTO "White versus Secretary" American. ROMA "Eye Teeth and Claws" ***STYLOWY "Miss LHM" Austrian. ***SWIATOWY "A Night at the Opera" American. ***STUDIO "Mayerling" French

What the asterisks mean - *** An outstanding feature! *** Very good. *** Good. *** Average entertainment.

New Exhibition at the I. P. S.

The newly opened exhibition at *IPS* (including the paintings of Mackiewicz, Janowski and Zawadowski, and the sculptures of Szymanowski and the engravings of Mroczewski and Tyrowicz) is worthy of attention. Full report in our next issue.

Readers are reminded that subscriptions for the fourth quarter are now due. Please remit to our P. K. O Account 29898, or to our Post Office Account 615.

BRITISH PASSPORT CONTROL OFFICE

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No 12

The following persons are entitled to receive visas or immigration certificates for Palestine:

No. of certificate	N A M E	Age	Category	Latest date for application	Address
99514	LIBLING Elja	17	B/3	27.12.36	Szczecin
99522	KŁAJMAN Liba	56	D	28.12.36	Warsaw, Nowolipki 65/10
	" Rachela	16	D		
99523	GÄRBER Perel	26	D	28.12.36	Białystok, Nadrzeczna 6/4
99527	BURDE Maria	36	D	28.12.36	Grodno, Napoleona 1
	Bella	5	D		
99546	RUBIN Chaja	5	D	31.12.36	Tarnow
99548	SEGALOWICZ Gitla	23	D	31.12.36	Pinsk, Dominikańska 6
99551	LENGA Chome	68	D	31.12.36	Warsaw, Przechodnia
99633	BŁOCH Soja	61	D	5. 1. 37	Kalisz, Jasná 3
99634	TRACZ Mirjam	74	D	4. 1. 37	Włodzimierz, Wołyński 2
99636	HOLTZMAN Hudel	24	D	5. 1. 37	Rudki, 3-go Maja 10
99643	TEJTEL Gusta	36	D	5. 1. 37	Wyszogrod, Wołyn
	" Samuel	14	D		
	" Wolf	5	D		
99644	JOSKOWITZ Herszel	56	D	5. 1. 37	Miechów, Piłsudskiego 1
	" Blima	53	D		
99647	SHEINFELD Isaac	56	D	6. 1. 37	Rowne Wol. Legionow 67
99648	POSTAN Hanna	14	D	6. 1. 37	Baranowice, Piłsudski 72
99649	PRESMAN Sara	39	D	6. 1. 37	Pinsk, Wiszniożkizh 16
99658	REICHERT Golda	75	D	10. 1. 37	Kacelaj
99660	FLEISZAKER Cyra	21	D	10. 1. 37	Opole
99660	BERSTEIN Ester	68	D	10. 1. 37	Koźle, Warszawa 77
99663	KRAKOWSKI Majer	80	D	10. 1. 37	Łódź, Kińskiego 13
99669	OLECH Ema	22	D	11. 1. 37	Lomza, Długa 20
99670	PERLMUTTER Mancia	62	D	11. 1. 37	Stanisławów, Rejtana 10
99672	GOTTESMAN Serke	58	D	11. 1. 37	Drohobycz, Bednarska 12
99674	WIELUNSKI Sara	28	D	11. 1. 37	Łódź, Bazarska 8
99675	REICHERT Ruchla	27	D	11. 1. 37	Radoszyce, Kieleckie
99675	WEINREB Gittel	58	D	10. 1. 37	Łwów, Żuliewska 42b
99657	MYLNEK Chawa	37	D	10. 1. 37	Wyszogrod, Rembowska 16
100322	ARONOWICZ Ita	38	D	18.12.36	Ozorkow
	" Szmul	7	D		
100418	BALBINER Mechel	82	D	16.12.36	Warsaw, Chłodna 18
	" Marjem	64	D		
100438	SCHIFF Estka	65	D	22.12.36	Radzylów, Piłsudski 29
100456	PRIEPER Helena	34	D	26.12.36	Stanisław, Bielowskiego 4
	" Towa	11	D		
	" Lasar	10	D		
100441	KARELITZ Meier	59	D	28.12.36	Lachowice
	" Mirjam	57	D		
100459	FRYSZ Gerszon	73	D	1. 1. 37	Bedzin
	" Ruchla	52	D		
100460	DERMNER Haja	13	D	1. 1. 37	Łódź, Nowa Sarcewska 20
	" Nattali	52	D		
F. 2313 f. 45	LIFSHYTZ Samson	38	G		Rowne, Poniatowskiego (Admission to Palestine not later than 20.1.37)
F. 2313 f. 44	LIPSHYTZ Aron	23	G		Koźle, Wołyn. (Admission to Palestine not later than 15.3.37)
F. 2345	LITMANOWICZ Margot	27	G		Katowice, Andrzeja 8 (Admission to Palestine not later than 24.3.37)
	" Ilona	5	G		

Following persons admitted to Palestine as students of Hebrew University, Jerusalem:
LUNGIN Chana - age 23
FREDU Jakob " 21

A Night At The Opera

(SWIATOWY)

Either you will enjoy this film immensely or you will sweep out in highbrow wrath, there is no half course. Personally I find the Marx brothers excruciatingly funny, their antics being sufficient to atone for the fact that the film has no plot worth while speaking of. The scene in the ship's cabin, about as big as a large telephone booth, into which are crowded the three brothers, plus a vast crowd of stewardesses, waiters, manicure girls and casual visitors, not to speak of a huge cabin trunk beggars description; while the staging of the first act of "Il Trovatore" showed possibilities which the original composer could never have thought of.

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