

THE WARSZAWA WEEKLY

Offices Sto-Krzyska 13, Warsaw, Poland, Telephone 273-77.
 English Representative: P. H. Straw, London.
 English Distributors: W. H. Smith & Sons, London.
 Subscription rates—zl. 3.50 quarterly, zl. 13.00 yearly.
 Foreign 4/- or \$ 1. quarterly; 15/- or \$ 3.75 yearly.
 Sole member for Poland of the North American Newspaper Alliance
 Postal Cheque Account: 29898. Warszawa.
 Post Office Account: 615 Warszawa

2nd YEAR

WARSAW, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1936

No. 45

POLAND'S INDEPENDENCE CELEBRATIONS MARSHAL SMIGŁY RYDZ RECEIVES HIS BATON

LONDON LETTER

By Gregory Macdonald



The new Marshal speaking after receiving his Baton

Punctually at 3 p.m. on Tuesday the 10th. November, the ceremony of presenting General Smigly-Rydz with a Marshal's Baton took place in the courtyard of the Castle. Previous to the performance of this act the Baton lying in an ornamental case, was placed on a table covered with the National Flag under the bust of the Great Marshal.

The President of the Republic, Professor Ignacy Mościcki, made his appearance escorted by his suite, a few steps behind him the General Inspector of the Army Smigly-Rydz and his military aides. General Kasprzycki with drawn sword in hand made his report. Then in a few well chosen words the President made his presentation of the Baton saying, it is the symbol of the Marshal's

important rôle in the State, that he "together with the President of the Republic, respecting his constitutional duties, should lead Poland to its highest glory". Saying then that in cooperating with the Great Marshal Gen. Smigly-Rydz had always worked for the creation and establishment of the Independence and in recognition of his great merits, the President took out the silver Baton from its case and handed it to the General while the orchestra played the National Hymn. Marshal Smigly-Rydz bowed to the President who embraced him long and tenderly. Then the newly created Marshal, evidently deeply moved, in a few soldierly words expressed his deep gratitude and his firm resolve to prove himself worthy



President Mościcki handing the Marshal's Baton to General Smigly Rydz at the Zamek

of the great task laid on him. "There falls on me the difficult burden to hand down this Baton and this dignity, which have been surrounded by the glory and immeasurable merits of the first Marshal of Poland, undiminished to the following generation working in the service of our Fatherland". In concluding his speech Marshal Smigly-Rydz saluted the President by raising his Baton.

After speeches by Cardinal Hlond and the Premier, General Sławoj-Składkowski, the Marshal left the palace courtyard and accompanied by the enthusiastic cries of the assembled crowds returned to his residence.

This year's parade in celebration of the 11th. November, was a very special occasion, as it was held for the first time before Smigly-Rydz as Marshal of Poland. Long before the appointed time crowds of people lined the streets and the police found difficulty in keeping the order. Punctually at noon Marshal Smigly Rydz drove up to the tribune which was erected at the cross-roads between Aleje Ujazdowskie, Aleja Szuca and Koszykowa. After him came the various representatives of foreign countries, ambassadors etc., then the members of the government, the Sejm and Senate, and finally, the President of the Republic. The parade then began and as detachment after detachment filed past one could not but lose oneself in admiration, the ranks in perfect order and symmetry, the marching exemplary, the whole attitude exhibiting military efficiency, the cavalry horses looked proud and beautiful, but the greatest enthusiasm was excited by the air corps and the sailors. Evidently the Polish people are in love with their young navy. For the first time a motorised

machine gun regiment was represented. As company after company passed on, each one faultless in equipment, one's thoughts involuntarily turned to the man who had created all this, to Poland's great first Marshal to whom she owes her re-birth as an independent state and whose heart would have beaten with pride and love had he seen the results of his life-long devotion and self-sacrifice. One remembered with grateful affection and regret the bent figure in the grey uniform and the "Maciejówka" cap as for the last time the Polish troops, his children, passed before him, while at the same time our warmest wishes and congratulations went out towards his successor, Poland's present Marshal, whose manly, soldierly figure attracted all eyes. All know how tirelessly he cooperated with his beloved Chief and how greatly Piłsudski trusted the man whom he appointed his successor. The parade lasted a good two hours and presented delegations from every kind of Polish military force.

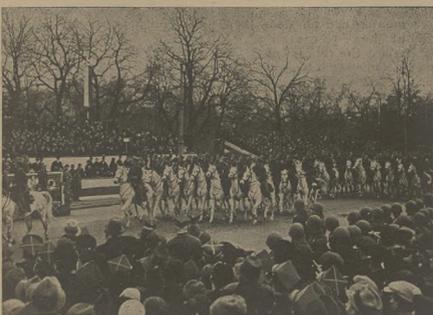
The Spanish Nationalists fight for the mastery of Madrid and Herr Hitler warns his hearers at Munich to prepare for the coming struggle against Bolshevism. If it were not for these undertones of war it would be possible to persuade oneself in England that the major problems of the past seven years were now well on their way to solution. And perhaps they are; but they can be solved only by an entire recasting of political and economic philosophies whereas most people expect to emerge from the depression into a world exactly as we left it in 1929. Heaven forbid. The salutary revolution against Capitalism (which includes Communism, the other face of Capitalism) has occurred in the meantime.

Colonel Beck's visit to London supplies more than one illustration of the changes that have taken place. True, there is no comment upon his arrival that does not stress the arbitral position of Poland between Germany and Russia, the dangers of war between the two militarised systems, the present difficulties in Danzig, the strategical position of Czechoslovakia and the European importance of the Franco-Polish alliance. But in all this comment Colonel Beck is seen to represent a strong and peaceful country which stands first of all for the

(Continued on page 2)

Afterwards various organisations and schools marched past and the girls schools made an exceptionally good show.

The clou of the whole parade was the seven kilometre long procession of the mechanised army, ranging from heavy and light artillery, anti aircraft guns and acoustic apparatus, portable wireless sets, etc. to several hundred tanks of all kinds and sizes starting with small two men Martels and finishing with heavy fifteen and twenty tonners. Such a display of mechanical might has never before been seen in Poland.



Cavalry marching past the saluting point.



Heavy tanks parading down the Ujazdowska

LONDON LETTER

(Continued from page 1).

preservation of European values in friendship with her neighbours. It is reassuring to contrast that with the comments of 1929 which were more often violent complaints about "the powder magazine of Europe", springing from a conception of Poland as a small and weak country. Moreover, the recognition that subjects possibly to be discussed include Poland's raw material difficulties and her problem of over-population is a recognition that Europe is not merely caught in a static deadlock from which the only outlet is war. The ice of the depression—which was really the climax of a universal economic war—has certainly broken, and Colonel Beck's visit to London coincides with the resumption of more hopeful negotiations on every side.

In Great Britain political activity is once more in full swing, and it is typical of the new spirit that easier relations with foreign countries are now expected. Mr. Eden's rather bleak reply to Signor Mussolini's Milan speech would not have been received with entire satisfaction if it had not coincided with the Italian trade agreement and the withdrawal of the Legation guard from Addis Ababa. In the same way there is more than a hint that new conceptions of the financing of foreign trade are being considered, so that the much discussed German credit—which one section of the City violently opposes—may be equivalent to a grant of sterling exchange to enable Germany to purchase raw materials in the interwar period.

The Times last Monday discussed agreements between complementary or even competitive countries for sharing and developing markets, with easier credits to enable financially weak countries to purchase raw materials. "It could hardly be expected," remarked The Times, "that others should make sacrifices for the support and endowment of closed and exclusive economic systems in their midst". From which it may perhaps be concluded that Herr von Ribbentrop's negotiations are making progress. And the sudden Rubber boom last week showed that how ever bitterly certain gentlemen in the City might oppose such a credit they were well aware of the importance of rubber as the first raw material that Germany would buy.

The opening of Parliament was a success for the Government on questions of foreign policy. The Spanish question, also, goes smoothly enough so far, though a satisfactory victory over the Press against the Nationalists since the storming of Madrid began can be interpreted as a sign that earlier conflicts will be renewed so as to ensure at least the supremacy of the Left in Catalonia. In home affairs the Government has crossed another stile with its announcement and the reception of a Bill to ban not only political uniforms but also political associations whose adherents are so organised that they may be used in usurpation of the functions of the police or of the armed forces of the Crown.

Skiing Excursions to the Carpathians

The great popularity of the skiing excursions to the Carpathians by the Polish State Railways in previous seasons, has led them to arrange, in cooperation with Messrs. Orbis, for two further excursions this winter.

The first excursion will start from Cracow on the 23rd. December, from whence the tourists will proceed to Krylnica, going on to Mysznice and then along their way to Cracow where they arrive on the 2nd. of January. Christmas will be spent at Krylnica and New Year's at Zakopane. The tour includes accommoda-

tion and food, transport where needed, and an amusing aerial-ropeway to Kasprowy Wierch and numerous local attractions at Wisla, which will also be visited.

The second excursion covering very nearly the same ground, will take place on the 11th. February and will finish on the 21st. In which case return railway accommodation to Warsaw from the starting point of the excursion is included in the price.

Full particulars may be obtained from Messrs. ORBIS, Ossolińskich 8, Warsaw.

Although the numbers of the various associations are not generally known it is highly probable that they are neither sufficiently numerous nor of a temper to offer any defiance to this measure.

President Roosevelt's remarkable victory in the American Presidential elections was undoubtedly the principal topic of discussion during the past week. It will be of major importance for Great Britain and for the world, not only because the American people doggedly voted against the weight of the Press and of the Trusts, but also because a full prosperity and an expansion in demand will now offer its example to Europe and its contrast to Russia. President Roosevelt is acknowledged in London to be incomparably the most powerful ruler in the world, although at the time of his nomination we were told that his intellectual reasoning was shallow and that he was squandering the public money. His support by the ordinary man is now seen at its true value, but the financial community in London and New York was evidently half-persuaded until the last moment that Governor Landon might carry away a narrow victory, and every preparation was made to celebrate the occasion with an immediate Wall Street boom which would have raised the dollar rate to the skies, nullified the stabilization agreement and destroyed the stability of the American price-level.

The offices of brokers in London and New York were open the day after the election and the markets since have reflected the volume of funds held in readiness. But London supplies a more significant example. The £1,500,000 Leicester Corporation Three per Cent. Loan was offered for subscription at 99½ on the eve of the election and as much as 76 per cent. of the issue was left on the hands of the underwriters: funds were being kept for other uses. Two days after the election however, the £1,250,000 Southampton Three per Cent. Loan was offered at 99½ and was fully subscribed in ten minutes.

The explanation that the terms of the Leicester Corporation Loan were unattractive was therefore shown to be false and the only meaning is that an important counter-attraction was awaiting on the eve of the election. From this and from other indications it can be concluded that the American peopled avers themselves and their nations from a renewal of financial and political crisis by rejecting the promises of Wall Street. But the total rejection of the old system was also one more sign that debt-finance is being liquidated all over the world; as the City Editor of The Times noted again last Saturday: "A remarkable feature of the trade recovery is that it has been accomplished so far without any appreciable borrowing from the banks by traders". That prime feature of the present day, the liquidation of debt-finance, is what gives ground for political hopes.

PRESS REVIEW

The Danzig incidents and anti-Polish attitude of the Danzig press still occupy a large place in the Polish daily press. The pro-government organs including also the Conservative *Czas* warn against too alarmist reports and writes, "we do not think it desirable or useful to make of this matter an affair of state and to give to it a greater importance than it due to it". Further *Czas* writes that whereas a clamour in the press is very necessary when it is a question of stirring public opinion, it is undesirable when it encroaches on a domain of official state policy. "For the present the initiative and the decision should be left to the responsible factors while at the same time not renouncing an analysis of the problem". *Gazeta Polska* and *Kurjer Poranny* write in the same spirit concerning this affair.

Kurjer Poranny in an article discussing the economic situation and the evident rising tendency writes on the policy of prices which must be adapted to the new conditions. "It is not only a question of fighting speculation. It is a question of active policy of the final levelling of the situation of prices in the interior and drawing in the countryside to economic turnover with the level. It is also a question of levelling our prices to those of the world and this is of fundamental importance in view of our decision to maintain the stability of the zloty". This policy, the writer continues, will demand a gradual transference of pressure on the policy of agricultural prices, it will at least in the first stages be necessary to halt the rise in prices for industrial articles in the same way as previously the fall in rural product prices was halted. A second point must be the reduction in the cost of trade intermediation and a third the trend towards lowering the price of foreign raw materials.

L'Œuvre writes in the visit of Minister Beck to London states that one of the subjects for discussion will be the question of Jewish emigration to Palestine. "The Polish government is of the opinion that in view of the excessive number of Jews inhabiting Poland, an excess which calls for antisemitic agitation in the country, England ought to facilitate the emigration of Jews from Poland to Palestine". This however according to the author is not to the taste of the British foreign office — "which will try to turn the conversation on to other matters, such as the explanation of the declarations made in Geneva of the right of the Polish nation to possess access to raw material and to dispose of colonies. Besides this the Danzig question will be discussed.

I. K. C. queries the statistics quoted by Mr. Joseph Poniatowski, author of a work on "Over population of the countryside and agriculture", which he states "that there exists in Poland an excess population of 9 million inhabitants in the rural districts. Apart from errors in the calculation the article quotes Prof. Grabski who says: "There is no excess population, there is only

a too low productiveness of work to the hectar and still worse low productiveness of each individual of the rural population". The conclusion is "the fight with over-population is" work at raising culture, education and the technique of agriculture. The rural districts need an influx of town intelligentsia and town capital. The agrarian problem in Poland is not a problem of lack of ground but above all lack of capital and lack of culture."

Kurjer Warszawski in an article on trade relations between Poland and Great Britain writes that Polish exports to that country equal nearly 1/5 of the whole Polish exports, even for 1933 it amounted to 19.6% of the whole. "The improvement in the situation, allowing us to conjecture that the rising tendency in Polish-English turnover, observable heretofore, will develop still more, we doubtless owe to a certain return to the equality of chances as has been created by our inner economic improvement, which has been visible since the beginning of the current year and is drawing us up again to the economic level of our foreign competitors."

Gazeta Polska discusses the visit of Minister Beck to London finding certain points of resemblance in British and Polish foreign policy. One of the points of similarity it finds is a certain optimism concerning the future development of the European situation "their common policy of both in avoiding international agreements directed against any state whatsoever and their common dislike to the creation of blocs of states hostile to each other; their unanimous combatting of the conception of blocs and contra-blocs based on community of ideas and structure, the political realism common to both, which preserves them from doctrinism and allows them elasticity of tactics adapted to a reality that seldom lets itself be arranged in an inflexible doctrine." Further the *Gazeta* writes that the fluidity of present affairs in Europe with the ever changing tensions in international life make every animated contact between states—even if only an informative one—extremely desirable and valuable.

Czas also emphasises that England is one of Poland's best purchasers and that within the last 10 years Polish trade balance with England (with the exception of the years 1925-28) has always been favourable. The last balance in favour of Poland amounted to over 61 million zloty. This is a position we must keep up and Minister Beck will doubtless profit by his stay in London to discuss these questions with the English Minister of Commerce.

The *Sunday Times* writes in connection with Colonel Beck's visit to London "that Poland plays such a big part in East Europe that nothing can be done there without her co-operation". It emphasises the realism of Polish foreign policy and the co-operation between Minister Beck and Eden in Geneva. The same attitude is taken up by *The Times*.

Danzig Matters

The Council of the Polish Naval and Colonial League has voted the following resolution: "The Executive Committee is requested to make suitable interventions with the Government, in order to: 1) Assure the fullest guarantee of the ancient historical rights of the Polish Republic in Danzig. 2) Assure the guarantee of complete and unrestricted freedom for Polish trade in

Polish Economic Policy

Mr. Rakowski, Director of the Cabinet of the Minister of Finance, published an article in the "Kurjer Poranny". His statement is considered to be representative of the government's plans. He entitled it "Rules of going up"—meaning that after a long period of going down, an up movement of trade has begun. He summed up the points of the official policy under 5 headings:

- 1) The prevention of the rise of prices of the manufactured goods.
 - 2) The elimination of superfluous intermediaries and the improvement of the methods of distribution of commodities, through the building of cold storage houses, grain elevators, etc.
 - 3) The de-freezing of Polish funds abroad, through the import of raw materials, coupled with an increased expansion of exports.
 - 4) A gradual increase of wages; following the progress of investment processes and reconstruction.
 - 5) A systematic policy of construction and public works, planned several years ahead and based on a hierarchy of needs.
- The economic policy of Poland is at present under the direction of Mr. Kwiatkowski, Vice-Premier and Minister of Finance, who is the author of the "Four year Plan" of construction and has wide powers for its execution.

Polish-American Chamber of Commerce

On Saturday the 14th. of November, there will be celebrated at the Hotel Europejski in Warsaw, the 15th. Anniversary of the foundation of the Polish-American Chamber of Commerce.

The celebration has been arranged by the Honorary Committee consisting of Antoni Roman, Minister of Industry and Commerce Mr. J. C. Cudahy, United States Ambassador, Count George Potocki, Polish Ambassador in the United States, Czesław Klarnet, President of the Industrial Commercial Chambers of Poland.

The opening speeches will be made by Count August Zaleski, President of the Chamber, by Minister Roman, Ambassador Cudahy and by Vice-president of the Chamber, Mr. Stanisław Arct.

In the event of Mr. Cudahy not arriving in time for the proceedings, he will be replaced by the American Chargé d'Affaires.

The Chamber are preparing a special report in the form of a book in celebration of the occasion.

On Monday next the Director of the Polish-American Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Michael Kwapiszewski, is leaving for the United States on the S. S. Pilsudski. His journey has for object a closer investigation of the American market and the establishing of contacts for Polish exporters.

Danzig. 3) Revise the present conditions in Danzig in such a way as to allow the free political, economic and life of the Polish population of the Free City.

The Polish member of the Danzig Municipal Council, Mr. Kurzynski, has addressed to the Senate of the Free City a petition requesting from it the protection of the numerous Danzig monuments and statues reminding us of the times when Danzig was under the Crown of Poland. Mr. Kurzynski based his request on the statement of the vice-president of Danzig, who promised complete protection to German historical monuments in Danzig. Mr. Kurzynski considers this promise as existing in all the historical monuments, including the Polish ones, which are besides a source of income for the Free City, adding to its tourist attractions and historical character. (A. T. E.)

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Polish Academy of Literature

The Polish Academy of Literature—PAL—created in October 1933 has just finished the third year of its activities.

The membership of PAL includes Wacław Berent, Ferdynand Goetel, Karol Grzybowski, Juliusz Kaden-Bandrowski (General Secretary) Juliusz Kleiner, Bolesław Lesmian, Zenon Przesmycki-Karol, Karol Linde, Romanowski, Wincenty Rygmowski, Wacław Sieroszewski (President) Leopold Staff (Vice-president) Jerzy Szaniawski, Tadeusz Zieliński and Tadeusz Boy-Zelenki.

On November the 8th, the annual session was held in the Potocki Palace in Warsaw, Marshal Smigły-Rydz the patron of the Society being present.

The yearly report was read by Mr. Juliusz Kaden-Bandrowski. This past year the PAL has been in mourning after the death of Piotr Choynowski, a prominent Polish novelist.

During the year reported upon, PAL held 22 plenary sessions, 4 public meetings, 6 discussions, and many sessions of the individual sections (Academic laurel, editions, libraries, foreign affairs, languages, and competitions.)

In the literary competition arranged in connection with Messrs. *Książnica Atlas*, publishers, the first prize for best novel was awarded to no one, Miss Malewska being awarded the second prize for her novel, *Żelazna Korona (The Iron Crown)*.

The literary prize of the year, valued at 2,000 zlotys, was awarded to the young poet, Szymon Karłowicz for his volume entitled *Trzynaście wierszy (Thirteen Verses)*.

This last year saw the founding of the PAL library which by law receives free copies of all works printed in Poland,

Messrs. Gebethner and Wolff have finished publishing a complete edition of the works of Bolesław Prus under the auspices of the Academy, and at present are engaged on a new edition of the novels of Eliza Orzeszkowa.

PAL maintained contact with foreign circles and with provincial centres. The only official foreign trip was taken by Leopold Staff to Vienna to attend the premiere of Polish romantic masterpiece, *Niechoba Komedia (Undine Comedy)* by Zygmunt Krasiński at the *Burgtheater*.

Two lectures were given in Warsaw by the famous French poet, Paul Valery, under the auspices of the Academy.

The *Wawrzyn Akademicki*, a special Golden Laurel conferred by the Academy this year given to:

Grabiński, Leszczyński, Kosak-Szczuka, L. H. Morstin, Parandowski, Wasylewski and Wittlin for literary works, and two for their travel books.

Lord Abernethy, General Hubert Canon, General Henri Mordace, and Wolfgang Müller Cleemann for literary and editorial work in connection with the publication of the works of Marshal Piłsudski in English, French, and German, the *Więści* of Stanisław Przychodki for eminent scholarly works connected with literature.

Joseph Bodier, Paul Cazin, Faustyn Czaryjowski, Michał Graczyński, Janusz Kaczkowski, Assadori Kato, Władysław Korski, Maria Mikolaj, Stefan Szyfrzyński, and General Władysław-Długoszecki, for merit in literature,

Boznańska, Lalewicz, Maczyński, Panikiewicz, Różycki, Strzyńska, Weiss Witt, for merit in Polish art. Adwentowski, Chmieliński, Juliusz Ostrowski, Siemaszkowa, Irena Soska, Sileski for the advancement of Polish dramatic literature on the stage.

Ponikwowski, for legal oratory. A silver laurel was also awarded to D. W. Gifford for his translations of Piłsudski's works.

J. M.

TEN CENTURIES OF ANGLO-POLISH CULTURAL RELATIONS

Canute the Great "was still something of a barbarian, though of greater intelligence than the rest, having a Polish mother" states Mr. Hilarie Belloc in his *Shorter History of England* and thereby pays an implied compliment to a Polish princess who has been dead for the past thousand years. She was Sigrid, the daughter of Miesco I (A.D. 962—992), the first authentically recorded ruler of Poland and the founder of the Piast Dynasty; she was also a sister of King Bolesław the Great (992—1025) who raised Poland to the rank of a great Power. The Princess Sigrid was given in marriage to Eric of Denmark (in about 985) and after his death married Sweyn of Denmark. One of the offspring of this union was Canute, King of Denmark and later also of England where he introduced many new and valuable reforms. Mr. Belloc describes Canute as "very energetic, but through his Polish mother somewhat different: livelier and keener than the tall Scandinavians with their soft flesh and clumsy budgeoning by way of government. It was to the advantage of himself and the work he had to do that the young man was strongly attracted by civilization. He did not hark back to barbarism".

Recent historical research has shown that Canute was in the closest contact with Poland and with the methods of State organization which made that country so important in those times. Canute visited Poland and his sister had the purely Polish name of Swietoslawa. But for his premature death at the age of forty, he might have become the founder of a powerful north-western maritime empire comprising Great Britain and all Scandinavia, based on the North Sea and the Baltic. Mr. Belloc is aware that the early Piasts of Poland, of whom Sigrid was one, were above all great civilizers, and he evidently assumes that the generous strain of Polish blood in Canute's veins was in some measure accountable for the great labour of peace and civilization done by that monarch in England.

Be that as it may, however, there can be no denying that the first connexions between England and Poland reach far back into the past, to the end of the Dark Ages and well before the times

of William the Conqueror. Since those distant times there have been many contacts, and as the means of communication improved, even long before the time of steamers and railways, intercourse between the two countries became closer and closer. A famous historian, Professor Simon Askenazy, a collaborator in the writing of the standard "Cambridge History", pointed out that the various Polish and English dynasties maintained relations with each other which were but reflections of very close contacts between the nations themselves. "The Piasts maintained relations with the Plantagenets, the Jagellons with the Tudors, and the Vassas and Sobieskis with the Stuarts. Such famous political writers as Modrzewski, Gosliński and others were translated and read in the English of the 16th century. John Laski, the great Reformation leader and aid of Cranmer who organized the Anglican Church, is still revered in England though few know that he was a Pole. King Sigismund Augustus corresponded with Queen Elizabeth. James I sent his theological study to Warsaw, to his cousin, the arch-Catholic King Sigismund III. Charles I acted as a mediator between Gustavus Adolphus and Poland, and after his execution the Polish Sejm voted a special grant for the benefit of the Stuart family; it is of interest that this tax was levied only on English subjects resident in Poland and that there must have been a considerable number of them to make the tax worth while. "English and Scots Catholics found shelter in Poland from persecution, as Cardinal Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster, recently pointed out. Gordon, the English envoy, was present with King Ladislas IV when he decisively defeated the Russians at Smolensk. King John III Sobieski was under the care of an English physician, Dr. O'Connor, and his praises were sung by many an English poet. Sobieski's grand-daughter, the Princess Clementine, married the Old Pretender, James Edward Stuart, so that Bonnie Prince Charlie, who to this day remains so popular a figure in English and Scotch history, was half a Pole. It would require a whole volume to describe the romantic happenings which accompanied James Edward and Clementine before and after their marriage.

A digest of Anglo-Polish diplomatic history from 1280 to 1731 has only recently been unearthed; it had been drawn up for the last King of Poland in 1780 and contains details of the greatest interest. It appears that there were frequent disputes between the Baltic Company of Gentlemen Adventurers of London and the Danzigers in matters regarding trade but there were also many matters of international importance. The chronicle also mentioned that in 1527, when King Sigismund of Poland was threatened with war by Soliman the Magnificent, he applied to Henry VIII for his assistance; it appears that this was promised, for the Polish King wrote to the English monarch thanking him for his readiness to help in case of need and informing him that the danger had been averted by Polish diplomatic action in the Sublime Porte. A hundred years later, in 1621, King James I received a special ambassador from the King of Poland and allowed English volunteers to join the Polish forces, besides promising subsidies to aid in carrying on the Polish-Turkish War; this assistance, however, proved unnecessary as before it could materialize, the war was ended by a great victory of the Poles at Chocim. English mediation between the Swedish branch of the Vassas and the Polish one resulted in truces which interrupted the sixty-year state of war between Poland and Sweden on two occasions, in 1629 and 1635.

The sixteenth century was marked by a great extension of Anglo-Polish commercial relations. Many Englishmen and Scotsmen settled for good in Poland, the Polish landed aristocracy had English and Scots companies in their household troops, the Scotch itinerant trader was a familiar figure all over the country. Just as English Catholics sought refuge in Poland, so did Polish Socinians (called Arians in Poland) find sanctuary in England after their expulsion. Their teachings as laid down in the *Catechesis ecclesiarum polonicarum* greatly influenced the Unitarian movement in England. The seventeenth century was also marked by the writings of the Polish Horace, M. C. Sarbiewski (Sarbiewski), whose Latin poems were most popular in England and were read in some schools until quite recent times.

(To be continued in next number)

Australian Letter

Adelaide, which is soon to celebrate its centenary, is organizing an air race from Brisbane, in Queensland, to Adelaide. So far there have been nineteen entries of which one is a woman. Interest, too, is being aroused by the preliminary discussions for an air service across the Tasman Sea; the journey by water takes three days, and is almost always rough, so the air route would do much to bring the two dominions into closer contact.

A movement is also on foot to spread the "flying doctor" activities, to supply the thinly populated areas of the interior with expert and available medical attention. The new centre is to be the Broken Hill mining district on the western boundary of N.S.W. and will consist of a wireless station in the town, and the equipment of transmitting receiving sets on a simple principle in the scattered homes to be served, and the upkeep of an aeroplane and the services of a doctor to fly to any point where his skill might be signalled as needed.

The Commonwealth Government is now anxious to discuss the resuming of immigration with the authorities of Great Britain, and it is expected that the various states will shortly be asked to submit their views on the subject, to aid in the formation of a definite policy. There is a general feeling that, with the need of skilled workers, the improved conditions of employment, an attempt to increase the population is necessary. The value of the movement is also viewed from the point of view of defence.

Meanwhile, new works are being undertaken to absorb 6000 men in N.S.W. on a rationed basis. The object of them will be largely water, sewerage, electricity and drainage development, and some roads and bridges.

The development of the franc is regarded optimistically here, as likely to afford Australia opportunities for trade on the continent, though the result is not to be expected immediately.

Tremendous interest has been roused by the serious fire on board the Orient line R.M.S. Ormonde, which broke out in the hold and threatened to become dangerous, as it was carrying inflammable cargoes. Firemen were rushed from Sydney to where she had put in to buy some distance down the N.S.W. coast, and these succeeded after hours of strain, in getting the flames under control. The whole incident, which might easily have happened in a tank, recalling the horrible disaster of the Moro Castle on the American coast a few years ago, was handled with efficiency by the captain and crew, and the calm of the passengers, for whom the situation was alarming enough, though they did not realise the full danger at the time, made the danger only grasped when it was over.

The discussion of book and film censorship has received fresh material in the last few days, since the Australian film "Uncivilised", at present showing in this country, contains a sequence of a naked girl swimming, which it has been ordered to delete before sending the picture abroad for representation there. Picturegoers, including a jury of women chosen to view the film, regard the order as unnecessary. In regard to books coming into Australia, exception has been taken to several recent bans, and talk provoked by the banning of a play about the German consul, the censor describing it as international courtesy, the public as unjustifiable interference with the liberty of the citizen to read what is really going on abroad.

H. H.

Further development of Polish Air Services



The Winter Time Table of the LOT Company does not show any particular changes as compar-



ed with last year. The Warsaw-Danzig-Vienna and Warsaw-Riga-Tallin services remain closed down while the Warsaw-Bucharest-Salonica-Athens line will be restricted to one service in each direction weekly.

The only service now being run with Fokker planes is that from Warsaw to Katowice, the Warsaw-Berlin service being run with Douglas machine and the Warsaw-Cracow and Warsaw-Lwów-Bucharest service with Lockheedes.

Last week a preliminary flight was made on the new service from Warsaw to Haifa via Lwów, Czerniowiec, Bucharest, Sofia, Salonica, Athens and Rhodes. The journey took two days, the half for the night being made in Athens (1902 km.) the trip from thence to Haifa (1228 km.). On the first journey nearly a ton of letter was carried. LOT is to open up this service during Spring of next year.

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