

THE WARSAW WEEKLY

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No. 50

COMMENTS on the BALTIC CONFERENCE in RIGA

The 5th. Conference of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia was closed on the 11th December. The Triple Baltic Entente concluded at Geneva on 12 Dec. 1934, has already existed for two years, a sufficient period of time to enable the passing of judgement on its political significance in international life.

The idea of this Triple Entente had existed for a long time, but the attitude of Lithuania hampered its realisation. Realising the friendly attitude of Estonia and Latvia for Poland, the Lithuanian government did not want to assume any international engagement which could have hampered the freedom of her policy vis-a-vis Poland. However, following the coming into power of the Nazis in Germany, Lithuania herself brought the matter to a head which gave rise to the idea of a possible change in her foreign policy. However, it was soon seen that Lithuania did not intend to change her policy towards Poland.

The Triple Entente between the three Baltic powers was successfully concluded but with certain important reserves. As Estonia and Latvia had no problems of this type it remained for Lithuania to put forward the Wilno question. In other words Lithuania reserved the right to conduct a policy in respect of Poland which might be at variance with the interest of the other partners of the Baltic Entente. It is obvious that the Baltic Entente, being organised on these basis, has automatically eliminated

itself from the field of Polish interest. Its essential defects have, what is more, taken away all its positive value since its foundation.

To maintain and stabilise peace in the region of Europe in which the Baltic Entente is most interested, is the vital consideration. The first and essential conditions of this peace are the neighbourly relations and at the same time the maintenance of equilibrium with neighbourly powers, as on this balance depends the conservation of the existing status quo in the Baltic States.

The partners of Lithuania in the Triple Entente endeavour to have good relations with all their neighbours and in this manner to defend their national life against the predominance of any external influence. On the other hand the maintenance of relations between Poland and Lithuania is ingeniously exploited, to the detriment of Estonia and Latvia by factors which it would be difficult to believe as essential to the maintenance of equilibrium in the Baltic States.

It also is open to question whether the members of the Triple Entente can fix a similar line of conduct in their more important joint problems while the policy of one of the partners may be to the detriment of their fundamental mutual interests.

For this reason the policy of Lithuania not only hampers the equilibrium of the Baltic States, but also is detrimental to the balance of power of the whole area. This is a serious obstacle to the existence and the activities

of the Entente, in any case, in spite of the friendship which Poland has for Estonia and Latvia, the Polish Government cannot consider the present condition of the Baltic Entente as constituting a positive element in international policy.

It can be well understood that under these conditions the ambiguity of the results of the conference of the Baltic States has been perceived by public opinion in those countries, in spite of the optimistic declaration of the delegates.

In connection with the conference it should be drawn to mind that M. Lozorajtis, the Lithuanian Minister of Foreign Affairs, has called the election of Latvia to the Council of the League a great political success for the Baltic Entente whose interest will be represented by Latvia on the League Council.

As far as Poland is concerned, the opinion of the Lithuanian Foreign Minister relative to the mandate of Latvia on the Council of the League is an individual opinion to which neither Estonia nor Latvia will be able to subscribe. In spite of her sincere sympathy for Latvia, Poland would not have given her vote at the assembly if it had not been on the distinct understanding that the Lithuanian candidature was in no respect the candidature of the Triple Entente. For this reason it is to be supposed that as Latvia's candidature was individual before the voting, it has remained so since then.

P. I. P.

LONDON LETTER

By Gregory Macdonald

Large and cheering crowds assembled in London on Saturday last to witness the Proclamation ceremony announcing the accession of King George VI. The regality of traditional brilliance was carried out in London at St. James's Palace, Charing Cross, Temple Bar and the Royal Exchange. Queen Mary, the Queen Mother, watched the ceremonies from a window of Marlborough House, and at St. James's Palace the King himself was a spectator with his daughters. At Temple Bar the Kings-at-Arms and Herald were met by the Lord Mayor of London, who according to usage admitted them into the City of London.

King George VI had already on the night of his accession been mobbed in his car by enthusiastic Londoners, as an informal welcome to the Throne. On Saturday he received the formal welcome of the Kingdom and the Dominions, for all over the world the Proclamation was being read; and all over the world the Oath of Allegiance was being sworn.

The King attended in the morning the Accession Council at St. James's Palace. Nearly all the 300 members of the Privy Council were present in their uniforms, with the Lord Mayor of London, the Aldermen and Sheriffs, and the High Commissioners of the Dominions and India. There the Proclamation was approved and signed. There also the King declared that he adhered to the strict principles of Constitutional Government and that he was resolved to work before all else for the welfare of the British Commonwealth of Nations.



KING GEORGE VI

In the same speech, King George announced that his first act would be to confer upon his brother a Dukedom, and that his brother would henceforth be known as His Royal Highness the Duke of Windsor.

On the same afternoon the Oath of Allegiance was sworn by the Members of the House of Lords and by the Members of the House of Commons. Lords and Commons in their separate Houses signed the roll in turn. There was a touch of humour in the midst of an old ceremonial when a Member of the Commons, who had declared his republicanism during the crisis, took the Oath of Allegiance to the King.

So the new reign began. The King's Birthday followed two days later, but by his own wish it was celebrated without the customary observances, except the salute of cannon. His Majesty has also signified his wish to be crowned on May 12.

Polish Memorandum on the Future of the League

In order to envisage the Pact of the League in all its reality - and such has always been the attitude of the Polish Government during the course of discussions concerning the League - there is no point in raising an ideal but only in perceiving what is possible at the present stage of international relations.

The Polish Memorandum addressed on the 9th. November by Mr. Beck to the Secretary of the League on the subject of the enquiry by the latter into the question of the reform of the Pact, quietly diagnoses the evil which is devastating the League at the present time. The Polish Government proposes to hasten the process of cure firstly by means of elimination, taking careful account of the reasons which have brought the League to its present state. It estimates that it is therefore necessary to

strike out from the first phase of discussions on the future of the League all projects and tendencies based on insecure premises the realisation of which would cause a further critical state in the affairs of the League.

The inflamed state of international affairs at the present time seems only to permit a preliminary discussion on the present situation, of the League, as a matter of fact in the foreground appear all the perils that the reformed League would have to overcome at periods of sharp opposition between States, dangers which are far less apparent under normal conditions.

On the other hand, the present state of international relations does not seem to be propitious for entering into the second phase of discussions concerning the future of the League or formulating a clause of the future

pact. It should not be forgotten that envenomed relations between states constitute a serious difficulty when the question arises of finding a common language and common ideas conceived of the League.

The Polish Memorandum justly observes that the League of Nations was conceived and created as an organisation based on the principle of universality. If therefore, this cardinal principle should be fulfilled, efforts should be made to obviate in the discussions all of those faults which would prevent in any one state the crystallisation of essential and common ideas relative to the frame-work of the organisation on the future activities of the League of Nations.

The accentuation by the Polish Government of the necessity of

(Continued on page 2)

After ten days of the most dramatic crisis, the people of Great Britain return to their ordinary callings—which, indeed, were interrupted only for discussion—with their eyes now fixed upon Christmas and the New Year, as though the whole painful episode were a matter of the past. And so, in a sense, it is. For although families and groups are rent in two by the issues presented, nevertheless the new King, George VI, has the allegiance of nearly all sections in the dispute—the note of Republicanism was sounded by a small group in the House of Commons—because he inherits the traditions of the Royal Family which is deeply popular. If there was one cause for congratulation in the sorry events of the crisis it was that no shadow of it seemed to fall across the unity of King George V's sons. In his final broadcast, after his abdication,

King Edward VIII passed all his duties and his honours to his brother, and was the first of his subjects to greet him publicly with the words, God Save the King.

It is hardly necessary now to recall the course of the crisis. There is wisdom in the decision that the controversy was closed by the abdication and departure of King Edward VIII. We shall not for a long day to come be able to assess the true results, for until the confusion and excitement have died down we shall not know the deeper reactions of the people in Great Britain and the Dominions. For the moment what has happened is that a political and historical movement of the first order has changed the future of English life; but there is little or no discussion of the deeper issues involved. The Times asserts editorially that "all the world

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THE ABDICATION

By Wickham Steed

King Edward VIII has passed into history and in passing has made history. For the first time in the long annals of the English Crown, its wearer has voluntarily abdicated. Others, like Edward I, Richard II, Henry VI, and James II have been compelled to vacate the throne. Charles I has beheaded. Edward VIII is the only Sovereign who has preferred personal inclinations to the discharge of the onerous duty which devolved upon him—who seemed peculiarly fitted for his exalted task—at his Royal Father's death ten and a half months ago.

To-day's decision took many by surprise. The moving appeals addressed to the King on all hands must have shaken the resolve of any man less obsessed than he by infatuation for the woman who, as the Prime Minister, Mr. Baldwin, rightly indicated in the House of Commons this afternoon, all the British peoples felt unworthy to become Queen.

In his message of Abdication, Edward VIII expressed the hope that his peoples would understand his reasons for the course now taken. The only sense wherein those reasons are understandable is that he has lost for the time being the power of balanced discrimination between his subjects' feelings and his own. In these sorry circumstances, they will give him credit for having carried out a deplorable resolve in a manner not undignified and with having rendered a last service by precluding the factious disputes which some misguided individuals appeared eager to begin.

The mood of the country in the past few days has been one of resentful sadness. Had the decision been longer postponed, resentment would have given place to anger. Britons the world over know how to distinguish between the institution of the Crown and the personality of its wearer. Under King George and Queen Mary this distinction tended to fade so that the Sovereigns whom the whole Empire, nay the whole world, delighted to honour during the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of May, 1935, appeared worthily and perfectly to merge the functions of the Crown with their own personalities. The depth and poignancy of disappointment felt to-day arise from the belief, fondly cherished ten months back, that Edward VIII as King would bring to high office experienced abilities even greater than those of his parents and lend to the Crown the added lustre of keen and active sympathy with the poor and lowly which he had so often displayed as Prince of Wales.

These fond hopes are now shattered. It is impossible that bitterness be absent from the hearts of British citizens everywhere as they contemplate the wreck of what might have been.

Nor are the future prospects of the Royal exile thought to be bright. The hardest of the hard blows that await him will be the realisation that he can no longer dwell in England or any portion of the British Empire. He has made himself an outcast with the sole consolation of his devotion to the woman whom he undoubtedly loves with consuming ardour—a consolation that may be proved against him in disillusionment in the passing years. Should he ever awaken from his present dream of irresponsible happiness, the awakening may be cruel indeed.

What of the country, what of the Empire which Edward VIII now makes over to his Royal

brother and the Duchess of York? They will be staggered, yet they will pull themselves together and prove to the world that no man however exalted, however gifted, is able by any "grand refusal" to shake the cohesion of the British peoples or their devotion to the principle of constitutional democratic monarchy. They will pass the sponge over the past and begin again. Their sympathy will go out to the new Sovereigns upon whom this burden has unexpectedly fallen. From them the British peoples may not expect the same brilliant gifts, the same kindly touch they hoped for from Edward VIII. Yet their conscientious discharge of royal duties may afford compensation for the unnumbered disappointment which has befallen the members of the British family of Nations.

Still, if devotion to the Crown as an institution does not suffer, some decrease of the glad personal loyalty to its wearers is hardly avoidable for a time. It is not only the British peoples who will have to begin again. The new Sovereigns must be conscious, perhaps too conscious, of the need to make good and fortify the prestige of the Throne. Fortunately Queen Mary is still with us as a reminder of duty nobly done and sanctified by every womanly virtue. To her all hearts go out in an ordeal which must be severer for her as Queen Mother than for any other member of the Royal Family. The anguish of imagining what King George would have thought of to-day's renunciation must be rendered more burning by the motherly grief over an errand on who has proved unequal to his mighty task. This all understand and understanding would fain spare her any added bitterness.

In the future prospect stands also the infant Princess Elizabeth who is universally beloved. Thus there may be light ahead when present griefs have been shattered, borne, and no individual failure has become an unhappy memory.

The country and the whole Empire feel that they owe deep gratitude to the Prime Minister, Mr. Baldwin, for his manly bearing and firm delicacy in handling this unprecedented crisis. His improvised speech in the House of Commons this afternoon is recognised by all as being worthy of the highest traditions of British statesmen. The factious behaviour of some prominent individuals in the earlier stages of the crisis and the fierce repudiation of their tactics by the House of Commons serve to show how little grace those who misread the national instincts are likely to find at the hands of the British people in great emergencies. These men will not soon recover from the lesson they have received. Mr. Baldwin's speech disposed decisively of all insinuations against the strictures passed upon his conduct. His position is now unshakable by partisan attack.

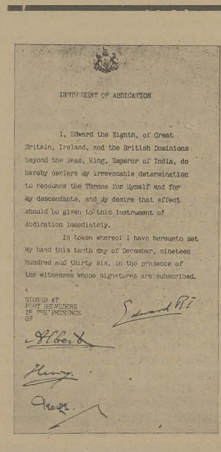
When enough time has elapsed for calm consideration of events, the country may conclude that the departure of Edward VIII is a blessing in disguise. Decisions of the utmost moment may await Government and Crown within the calculable future. Many will ask whether a Monarch so lacking in sense of proportion would have been a safe trustee of the affairs of the country and Empire in grave emergencies. Though this matter has not been publicly discussed, the behaviour of Edward VIII in more than one foreign country since the Accession had caused misgivings. He is believed to have fancied

LONDON LETTER

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knows now that Fascism has neither past, present, nor future among us", but the question of Fascism was never raised. Nor was there in any true sense a Constitutional Crisis—that is admitted on every side. My personal opinion is that an Oxford Don could best explain what occurred last week as the sudden gathering of the traditional forces of Parliament, calling in as their allies the suddenly awakened forces of Puritanism, to assert the supremacy of the Commons over the Crown. The names of Simon de Montfort, John Hampden, Oliver Cromwell were mentioned more than once. The odd coincidence happened that Edward VIII abdicated on the date, December 11, that saw the abdication of James II. This itself, interesting enough in itself, is not entirely above contradiction, for, it ignores the power of the Press in a modern community and the marked supremacy of the Executive within the Commons.

Owing to pressure of space we have been forced to hold over the rest of our London Letter until next week.



that he was treading in the footsteps of his grandfather, Edward VII, whose sure discernment in foreign policy stood the country in good stead. Having known something of Edward VII's methods can bear witness that between them and the conduct of Edward VIII a great gulf was fixed. Be this as it may, it is not disadvantageous that any hopes based in turbulent European centres upon the proclivities of Edward VIII should be wrecked by his renunciation of the Throne.

All in all, to-day's event will have sobering, perhaps salutary effect upon the whole international position. There has been some danger that the solidity of British national feeling might be underestimated abroad and that the dictatorial systems on the Continent were reckoning on divisions of political feeling here. I think the near future will amply prove the strength of the democratic parliamentary institutions of Britain and the wisdom of our forefathers who worked out the seemingly cumbersome, yet wise and wholesome rules of constitutional procedure. In this respect, at any rate, the manner in which King Edward's departure has done him credit and may have helped to lighten the heavy burden which henceforth his brother's shoulders must bear.

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Polish Memorandum on the Future of the League

(Continued from page 1).

creating conditions favourable for the realisation "of the universality of the League of Nations" arises from the fear that the League might be transformed into a group of states, the interest of which would be put into opposition to those of other non-member states. The Polish Government feels that a League organisation for these members would not only be unable to solve international differences but might even accentuate them.

The principle of sovereignty of member states has been strongly brought up by the Polish Memorandum in view of certain tendencies in restraint of these which have come up at one time or another in various countries. The Polish Government has put forth this principle with great firmness, following the well known general line of its policy to the effect that "no decision may be taken about any state without its consent and co-operation".

The third point of the Polish Memorandum endeavours to show the necessity for an equilibrium between the rights and the obligations arising from membership of the League. This point shows the realism which is the whole mark of Polish policy: The activity of each country should be directed above all by the necessity of its existence as the state. It is therefore difficult to expect that the League which gives but few rights and imposes heavy obligations on its members can exercise any great attraction for them. It cannot be expected that member states would conform entirely in good faith to the clause of a pact which would load them down with obligations incompatible with the benefits which they might expect to draw from their membership.

In 1919 the League was founded based on the ideas of the time, it would, however, be dangerous to presume that the sentiments and ideas of 1919 have not undergone a deep evolution in the succeeding years and that in a contrary sense to what was expected. The idea of an international functionary, which is dealt with

in the fourth point of the Polish Memorandum, might be based on the common ideology of the members of the League at the moment of its foundation.

The situation to-day is not the same, the paths followed by the ideologists of the different states are frequently wide apart, it is therefore difficult to-day to speak of a common ideal of the League.

As things are, the basis of the conception which has established in Geneva this international functionary are extremely involved and it may even be said that at the present moment its action does not depend on any generally recognised stable or clear criteria. It should therefore be asked whether as things are, it would not be better to replace the present "international functionary" by a national one attached to the secretariat of the League who would act in accordance with the government by whom he was delegated. Such a secretariat would serve as a platform for non-official and preliminary diplomatic contact between the member states, thanks to which, in preparing the formulas of further decision in the questions to be included on the order of the day of the League, it would greatly facilitate their adoption by the governments interested.

A brief examination of the principal points of the Polish Memorandum demonstrates the deep sympathy of the Republic for the existence of the League. In drawing attention to the danger which would result from the discussion, which is too advanced at the present moment, on the subject of the reform of the pact, or of the tendencies to direct this reform on to wrong paths, the Polish Government is only defending the interests of the League which it desires should become an efficient instrument of international co-operation.

P. I. P.

New Committee of the Foreign Club Press

On the 12th of December elections took place at the Foreign Press Club in Warsaw. The new Chairman of the Club is now Mr. Malcolm McLaren, the Warsaw correspondent of Reuters Ltd., who replaces Mr. Robert Sustar of the Stefani Agency.

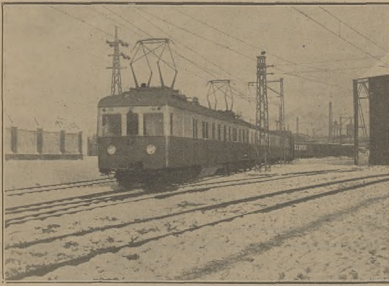
The new Committee consists of the following: Dr. Waldemar Lewicki (Voelkischer Beobachter), M. Roger Massin (Petit Parisien), M. Paul Steinfarth (Scherl-Verlag), M. Alceo Valcini (Corriere della Sera), M. Prieditis (Latvian Telegraphic Agency) and M. George Szapiro (New York Times).



Mr. Malcolm McLaren.

Electrification of Warsaw Suburban Lines

Opening of first Section



New Multiple Unit Train

On Tuesday the 15th December in the presence of the British Ambassador, Sir Howard Kennard, Vice Premier Kwiatkowski, Minister Ulrych and Vice-Minister Piasiecki and of officials of the Polish State Railways etc., the first instalment of the electrification of the Warsaw railways network was opened.

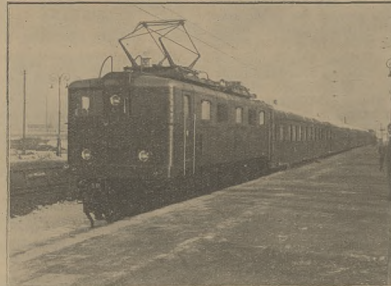
The contract for this work, which has been carried out by the English Electric Co., Ltd., and Messrs. Metropolitan Vickers Ltd., in conjunction with British Insulated Cables Ltd., was signed in London in 1933 and has involved a sum of approximately £ 2,000,000. £ 1,500,000 being for material and £ 500,000 representing a cash loan for the Polish State Railways.

Representatives of the English firms of contractors came specially to Poland in order to be present at the ceremony. They were, Mr. G. H. Nelson, Chairman and Managing Director, English Electric Co., Ltd., Sir Gerald Talbot, K. C. V. O., C. M. G. and Mr. H. T. Rice, Directors, English Electric Company Ltd., Mr. J. S. Peck, Director of Metropolitan-Vickers Co., and Mr. T. R. Grady, Traction Manager - Metropolitan Vickers Co., Mr. C. E. Fairbairn, London Midland and Scottish Railway, was also present as Chairman of the Contractors Committee.

The section of the scheme, opened on Tuesday, covers the electrification of the suburban

lines from Pruszków to Żyrardów, a distance of some 45 kms., together with the necessary sidings and train sheds. Further extensions will be from Pruszków to Żyrardów and from Warsaw Central Station to Mińsk Mazowiecki, bringing the total of electrified route up to approximately 100 kms.

The equipment covered by the contract covers 6 rectifier substations, 6—2200 H.P. electric locomotives, the complete electrical equipment of 75 three-coach trains, 4 shunting locomotives and the necessary overhead equipment, which latter was all supplied by British Insulated Cables Ltd. The multiple unit passenger trains, a picture of



2200 H.P. Electric Locomotive and Train

one of which is given above, are similar in design to those used on the Berlin and Paris undergrounds, they are capable of speeds of up to 120 kms. per hour, and should be able to deal efficiently with the growing suburban traffic problem of the City of Warsaw. In addition the electric locomotives will be used for high speed passenger services and for the hauling of goods trains passing through the Warsaw tunnel.

The carrying out of this work reflects great credit not only on the initiative of the Polish State Railways but also to the energy and the technical knowledge supplied by the English contractors.

DANZIG LETTER

From our own Correspondent

Overshadowing every topic, there has been only one subject of conversation in Danzig this past week, and that is the abdication of King Edward VIII. Even in the most intensely Nazi circles, the talk has inevitably turned to this subject, uppermost in everyone's mind, and every development in the dramatic events taking place in England was followed with the keenest interest and reported in the local press with great wealth of detail.

Under cover of these tremendous happenings in London, which have taken up so much space in the Danzig newspapers, the return of Herr Greiser from his cure at a watering place in Germany has been so unobtrusive as to pass almost unnoticed—most people's minds, even locally, having been occupied with a much larger figure. Herr Greiser, however, his health now happily restored, has plunged immediately into work, receiving a visit from M. Papée almost the moment he returned to office. In fulfilment of Poland's undertaking to the Council of the League of Nations, to examine and report upon the subject of Danzig, the conversations which were postponed until Herr Greiser's return, have now begun.

There have also been various other activities in Danzig. The police have repeated the reward of weeks of vigilance, and have succeeded in rounding up no less than 60 members of a Communist organisation, said to be Spartacist in character and reported to be closely connected with Trotsky. They also discovered a mass of printed matter, manifestly pamphlets of propaganda material in various languages, all of which had evidently been smuggled into the Free State.

In the harbour there have been some distinguished visitors. Herr Nedetzki, President of the Harbour Board, who is himself a Dutchman, entertained a large party of his countrymen, deputations from Amsterdam and Rotterdam, who came here and spent two days inspecting the harbour of Danzig and all its arrangements.

The town of Danzig itself is putting up a brave show of gaiety for the approaching holidays. On the Holzmart, the square in the very centre of the town, a Christmas fair has been set up, with booths of toys and sweetmeats, and a huge and very modern merry-go-round, equipped with quantities of brightly coloured electric lights and a high-powered loud-speaker which diffuses seasonable and patriotic melodies from early till late. The scene is gay, the air is crisp and frosty, but the fair is not very brisk, the crowds, of whom the majority of course, are children, mostly strolling around and the buying is not eager, but that maybe because it is early yet, and there are still some days until Christmas.

Frederick the Great was another ruler that interested Nowaczyński. In his play he showed the unity of his high qualities as King of Prussia with his dreadful character as a man. In this work also appears Bishop Krasiński, a famous author of verses and fairy-tales, well-known at the court of Stanisław August Poniatowski, and a friend of the Prussian King.

(Continued on page 4)

PRESS REVIEW

Discussing the exposé of Vice-Premier Kwiatkowski in the *Sejm*, *Depesza* writes that he very justly emphasised that the treasury and the money market will be burdened with the expenses of investiture strictly according to their actual payment possibilities and that "the investiture plan has been very minutely thought out, from which we may conclude that it will be applied to our essential needs, that the hierarchy of purposes will be considered that it will not as heretofore include unnecessary work which after its performance does not augment the social income. In any case, one thing is certain that in connection with the French loan the tempo of investiture in 1937 will be considerably quicker, which doubtless will act as a factor influencing the decided animation of economic life". Further *Depesza* writes that the report of the government's activity in the economic-financial sphere during the current year shows intensity of work and serious achievements within a short period of time.

Kurier Warszawski writing of the conflict that has burst out in Asia between China, Russia and Japan says, "We are again witnesses of how unhappy China has been dragged under the juggernaut of the struggling powers of Japan and Russia and how Soviet Russia by evoking an insurrection in China is trying to revenge itself on Japan for concluding an ideological pact with Germany".

J. K. C. quotes from a speech of Prince Janusz Radziwiłł in Cracow who said among other things, characterising the present European situation, "To-day, when all Europe is, as it were, divided into two large camps, when the world is beginning to speak of religious wars, the position of Poland is consistent and clear, it is a position for peace, the result of which is the refusal to

join any block of states which might create a danger of armed conflict. This is a policy in agreement with that of our ally France, a policy which has been approved and supported by England. All this is the logical result of the political line which was traced out during the lifetime of the Marshal".

Kurier, *Borany*, in characterising the budget discussions in the Senate, writes that the latter maintains the same position as it held in the former session, that it "no less decisively emphasises the danger and condemns attempts at pseudo-nationalist revolution as well as revolutionary communist propaganda. The speakers protested equally strongly against infection from the east and the west".

The French press discusses the revolution in China at large and describes the situation as alarming. *Le Journal* states that "there is no doubt that this revolution may be put at the door of the Soviets". This opinion is even shared by *L'Oeuvre* in spite of its sympathies for Russia. *The Republic* calls the Chinese revolution "a communist coup d'état which may have serious consequences for the peace of the world".

The Conservative *Wiłno* organ *Stowo*, writing about the abdication of King Edward VIII, compares him to a knight errant of old. "This modern, ultra-democratic David Windsor was born and brought up within the walls of old castles, where still hang the shields of knights from the times of the crusades. And this man who travels constantly in aeroplanes and speaks by radio has some uncanny atavism. Does not all that he has done for the lady of his heart remind us of the knight errants from the times of the crusades?" "And the final conclusion of the article is that England has to-day the king which she needs. K. M.

Nowaczyński, the Polish Satirist

Adolf Nowaczyński (born 1876 in Podgórze near Kraków), pamphletist, satirist, novelist, playwright, journalist comes from the famous Cracovian group *Młoda Polska* (Young Poland). This group was very prominent in our cultural life between the years 1891—1897, when it led philosophy, literature and art along new roads; it developed several great writers and artists, among whom were Wyspiański, Przybyszewski, Mehoffer, Kasprzowicz, Witkiewicz, Tętmajer and others.

But whereas these wrote satire only incidentally, Adolf Nowaczyński devoted all his talents to pamphleteering, paradox and sharp irony. He was an ardent enemy of false morality, of prudery and of all the faults and weaknesses of his contemporaries in Poland.

His great talent and sharp pen was fearfully directed against everything deserving criticism. And so Nowaczyński does not scruple to ridicule and scoff, not even sparing his own person.

His satires, such as *Matpie Zwierciadło* (Ape Mirror) and *Faccieje i Skotopaski Sowizdrzałskie* (Facettes of a Giddy Fellow) were pamphlets on his contemporaries, written with irony, bitter truth and a great deal of spiteful humour (ridiculing the faults of the political, aristocratic and artistic world then in Poland).

They also disclosed an excellent talent in Polish literature on field of satire.

After this outstanding debut as pamphletist, he devoted himself to playwriting. Subsequent to the writing of 7 one act satirical dramas, he began to create a special kind of historical chronicles. Some are based on Polish history, while others show the interest of Polish life in their conflicts with foreign lands and societies.

As a dramatist Nowaczyński deserves comparison with the great George Bernard Shaw. He possesses all the talents of the Irish author, such as sharpness in irony and freshness in paradox, but also his faults, as lack of scenic construction and action, which are too often overshadowed by the witty and spiteful eloquence of the author. The action then is often only the pretext, which permits the author to show the understanding and judgement of a person in sharp words, taunts and sarcasms.

Among the Polish chronicles he gives an interesting portrait of Mikolaj Rey (*Rey in Babina*) treating him with sympathy, but even while admiring him shows up his ignorance.

Rey in Nowaczyński's interpretation becomes a true representative of Polish character and humour, and the background of this chronicle is that epoch when the *Golden Age of Polish Literature* was only beginning.

The many-sided talents of Nowaczyński permitted him to present all the characters of Polish history. And so as Rey is treated with humour and some sentiment, in another drama, entitled *Smocze Gniazdo*, Nowaczyński successfully portrays Stanisław Stadnicki, one of the most dark and ignominious figures in Polish history.

Among those chronicles reflecting the influence of foreign nations on domestic affairs, the best are *Dymitr Samozwaniec* (*Sar Dymitr*) and *Frzydryk Wielki* (*Frederick the Great*). The first, written in 1902, shows Dymitr as a man in whom the good instincts are constantly warring with the bad. At one moment he is a despotic monarch, at another quite incapable of earnest deeds.

Nowaczyński

(Continued from page 3)

In *Bóg Wojny* (God of War) which has Napoleon as the title rôle, the author combats Polish admiration and enthusiasm for this famous Frenchman who, in his opinion, betrayed Poland, and did not keep his promises to render freedom to Poland.

Nowaczyński has also written several comedies on modern lines. Such a one is *Nowe Ateny* (New Athens) which is a parody on Kraków during the first decade of the present century. None of the prominent figures of that time are spared the bitterness of his pen, but the action is quite overshadowed by this emphasis.

The most interesting chapter, however, in Nowaczyński's literary career concerns his journalistic achievements. His political articles and scientific sketches written in specific style, direct with conviction and force his well-known sarcasm against his enemies. The violent temper, the spiteful witicism, the knowledge of each theme make his articles always interesting even when we do not agree with him.

In conclusion it must be added that Nowaczyński has also written "Wojna Wojnie" (War War) one of the most bitter political satires ever produced on the Warsaw stage, and one which caused a violent outcry at the time.

THE BOHEMIANS OF WARSAW (CYGANERIA WARSZAWSKA) AT THE TEATR NARODOWY

The *Teatr Narodowy* has now revived a play by Nowaczyński *The Bohemians of Warsaw* (*Cyganeria Warszawska*), written in 1911. It is a picture of Bohemian life in Warsaw in 1847, when Poland was under Russian rule.

The Bohemians of Warsaw played then a prominent rôle in the cultural and national life, and included such names, as Cyprian Kamil Norwid, the famous Polish poet, Roman Zmorski (1824-1887), Włodzimierz Wolski (1824-1882), Teofil Lenartowicz and many others. Zmorski, at that time edited together with Filiberta a weekly *Nadwiślanin*, propagating new ideas in philosophy and literature.

In this Polish romanticism, the ideas of Warsaw and the problems of the Cracovian *Młoda Polska* are sharply criticized. The author is an adherent of English and American methods in work, business and politics. Polish Romanticism, on the other hand, - in Nowaczyński's opinion - had a noxious influence on Poland's future and freedom. The poetry of Mickiewicz or the music of Chopin were narcotics, lulling the national vigilance. *The Bohemians of Warsaw* was always a disagreeable satire; in 1911, however, the ideas of the author were of the period, - today the play is uninteresting.

Unfortunately in the *Teatr Narodowy* our great artists, Leszczyński, Brydziński and Węgrzyn, playing the leading rôles, resembled rather fathers of families, than a group of young, enthusiastic artists. Kurakowicz, and Dominik, on the other hand, overplayed their rôles, giving them a rather farcical interpretation.

Maria Balcerkiewicz, as Miriam, gave an operatic production, resembling rather a pathetic and affectionate Carmen. The muse of the Bohemians, the poetical *Madame Laura* is played by Miss Ewa Kuncewicz, always a mysterious artist making a secret of her rôle. This time, however, it was not possible to hear a word

Wanda Landowska at the Philharmonia

Wanda Landowska, the world famous clavierist, was the chief attraction at the Symphony concert on the 11th December. There is perhaps no living artist who has penetrated so deeply into the music of bygone centuries of the pre-Bach and Bach period as she. She has founded a school in the neighbourhood of Paris where young musicians benefit by her profound knowledge and insight into the spirit of the great masters of old. Her interpretations of Bach and his contemporaries are a revelation. Her playing of the Italian Concerto of Bach shows us new unexpected beauties. At Friday's concert she introduced us to an unknown work of a modern French composer, Poulenc, for clavier or piano and orchestra. Concert Champêtre, in which the clavierist might well have been replaced by the piano in connection with the overpowering tone balance of the ensemble of instruments against the thin tone of the clavierist. The composition in itself is very beautiful. Other orchestral items of the programme were the so-called Jupiter symphony of Mozart somewhat roughly played and works by Tansman, Aubert and Ravel. The conductor Henri Peniss from Luxemburg possesses no very striking individual qualities but is evidently a cultured musician.

K. M.

Art Exhibitions

The II International Exhibition of Woodengravings, to be held at the IPS (Królewska 13, Marshal Piłsudski Square) under the patronage of Marshal Smigły-Rydz, will be opened by Col. Beck, Minister for Foreign Affairs, on Saturday, December 19th at 5 p.m. The Exhibition will be open to the general public from Sunday, Dec. 20th onwards and is expected to last three weeks.

The Zachęta is now holding its annual Winter Salon. This is, an exhibition which is always extremely difficult to review, as its rules permit no more than two works of any artist and only a work of extraordinary merit can succeed in holding the attention in such a welter of styles, names and techniques. The general level of this year's show is neither above nor below the usual average.

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of her part. Miss Jarszewska was too much artificial in her rôle, as *Falcheria*. Among the episodic rôles Miss Barczewska, Miss Zelenka, Mr. Stanisławski and Mr. Wesołowski gave a very interesting production. Production by Ludwik Solski. Sets and costumes by Stanisław Jarocki.

PLAYS

FISTON

(TEATR ATENEUM)

The *Teatr Ateneum* is now presenting a French comedy, *Fiston*, by André Birabeau. This is a political satire, a theme well-known to French scenic literature and carried to perfection by de Flers and Cailhau. André Birabeau has not brought to his comedy any new values of style or conception, but he has interspersed his comedy (often with quite forcible) with a great deal of political paradox and witicism which makes of his work an agreeable entertainment. The timeliness of Birabeau's comedy is more evident, today for *Fiston* in parodying the popular front in politics and government is inseparably linked with the political situation in France today.

The artists of the *Teatr Ateneum*, under the direction of Mrs. Stanisława Perzanowska, displayed Birabeau's comedy with humour, lightness and intelligence. Above all, Stefan Jaracz must be mentioned, he who with jovial humour and discreet conviction portrayed the figure of the door-keeper who unexpectedly becomes a minister. It is a new and interesting production of this artist, who is always to be seen with the greatest of satisfaction.

Jaracz had excellent partners in Seweryna Broniszewska, Ewa Bonacka, Halina Kamińska, Juliusz Łuszczewski and especially in Leszek Połczyński, one of the most talented among our younger comedy players. The sets were by Władysław Daszewski.

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Warsaw Amusements.

THEATRES

NARODOWY, "Cyganeria Warszawska" ("Bohemians of Warsaw") by Adolf Nowaczyński.
POLSKI, "Siłkowski" by Zeromski with Julius Osterwa.
NOWY, "Judith" by Jean Giraudoux with Irena Riehlówna.
MALY, "Lato w Nohant" ("Chopin and George Sand") by Iwaszkiewicz with Maria Przybyłko-Potocka.
LEŃNI, "Zolnierz Królowej Madagaskaru" ("The Soldier of Madagascari Queen") by Dobrzański.
MALICKIEJ, "Mrs. Warren's Profession" by G. B. Shaw.
ATENEUM, "Minister and Door-keeper" ("Fiston") by Birabeau.
REDUTA, Closed.
KAMERALNY, "Sparrow's Nest" (Gobsch)

MUSICAL SHOWS

OPERETTA — "Queen in Love" by Brodsky.
CYRULIK WARSZAWSKI — "The King with the Umbrella" by Benatky.
TEATR S.15, "Gaby".
13 RZDOW — "Duby Smalone".
CIRCUS, Daily at 8

ART AND OTHER EXHIBITIONS

I. P. S. II-nd International Exhibition of Wood Engravings.
ZACHĘTA, Annual "Salon" of artists.
NATIONAL MUSEUM, Acquisitions during 1935/6

CINEMAS

**APOLLO Andrzejewski in "Ada to nie wypada".
**ATLANTIC Shirley Temple in "My star" American.
***BALTYK Jean Harlow in "Suzy" American.
***CAPITOL Dymna in "30 karatów szczęścia" Polish.
***CASINO Smarska in "Barbara Radziwiłłówna", Polish.
***COLOSSEUM, Boris Karloff in "Walking Death" American.
***EUROPA Gary Cooper and Madeline Carroll in "The General Died at Dawn" American.
FILHARMONJA Henry Jaray in "Her Highness dances the Waltz" Austrian.
HOLLYWOOD Friedl Czepa in "King's Light" Austrian.
PAN Zimniska in "Papa się żeni". Polish.
***RIALTO Joan Crawford and Robert Taylor in "Gorgeous Hussy".
ROMA Louis Trenker in "The Ruler of California" Austrian.
***STYLOWY "Things to come" by H. G. Wells, English.
***SWIATOWID Sylvia Sydney in "Fury".
***STUDIO Sylvia Sydney in "Fury".
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*** Very good. **** Good.
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100955	VEINSTOCK Sara	6	D	
100959	SKIBIENSKA Chaja Sura	77	D	Stanisławów
100962	GRYNBERG Abram	17	B-3	Lipno
100968	GROSZMAN Chaim Majer	17	B-3	Radom
100968	FEFFER Marcella Rosa	49	D	Lublin
101220	" Debora Sara	16	D	
101220	Eliasz Symcha	5	D	
101220	JASTRZEMBSKI Moszek Isidor	11	D	Zychlin
101227	GOLDBERG Hanna	55	D	Wilno
101247	GLIK Moshe Aron	62	D	Białystok
101251	LEWKOWICZ Szlama Mnyl	55	D	Czeszochowa
101255	TURELTAUB Ema	48	D	Chelm
101256	SOLARZ Lea	58	D	Lodz
101257	" Malka Chana	18	D	
101257	CALBK Chaja Rachel	17	B-3	Lodz
101258	GRJPNER Toba	16	B-3	Szekocin
101259	KLAJNER Lola	16	B-3	Lodz
101260	MILLER Lewi	17	B-3	Skiel
101261	LEWKOWICZ Seweryn	17	B-3	Lodz
101262	FAJNSZTAJN Berok	17	B-3	Lodz
101263	KAGAN Josef	17	B-3	Nowogrodek
101264	CYTRYNOWSKI Natan	15	B-3	Lodz
101265	BORNSZTAJN Salomon	15	B-3	Lodz
101269	WEISBERG Fisel	56	D	Hanczewice
101270	Taubas	31	D	
101270	VEDERMAN Galliesz	13	D	Zuramin
101271	KLEINER Fele	13	D	Podczajczyska
101280	FRUMER David Ezriel	16	B-3	Opoczno
101284	HOCHERMAN Sura Estera	43	D	Czeszochowa
102286	WITENBERG Chajl	13	D	Otwock
102287	" Baila	60	D	
102287	HELEMER Szmul Lejb	43	B-2	Zwoien
102298	ZYLBERMAN Jucka Zyndel	69	B-2	Warsaw
102298	" Rochma	58	D	
102298	" Szajdel Perl	17	D	
102298	" Sara Dworja	17	D	
102298	Fajga	15	D	
102299	KAHAN Szlomo	13	D	Graymatow
102304	WITELSON Reucha Marja	45	D	Sosnowiec
102304	" Malka	13	D	
102304	" Shlomo Josef	11	D	
102304	" Majloch	7	D	
102317	CHAJA Lubka	5	D	
102317	SPRINGER Joseph Usher	35	A(1)	Jaroslaw
102317	" Rebeka Debora	35	D	
102919	SZULAN Andrzej	28	Cis	Warsaw
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