

THE WARSAW WEEKLY

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No. 6

The Problem of Raw Materials

Part 2. The actual redistribution of raw materials

A fortnight ago we discussed the different stages traversed by the problem of raw materials on the arena of the League of Nations. The League Council went into this subject again two days ago. Having listened to the report of the Polish delegate, the Council at his motion resolved to appoint a special international commission to examine the question of access to raw materials.

Without anticipating too soon the importance a Commission on raw materials may have for the practical solution of this problem, it should be stressed that Poland has largely contributed to the resolution taken by the Council of the League. This proves that the interest shown by Poland is not at all formal, but that on the contrary it claims to watch over the ulterior evolution of an action which it itself initiated.

Before examining the importance which the question of raw materials presents for Poland we must ask ourselves to what extent other countries are provided with raw materials, what, in a word, is the world inventory of raw materials and the proportional share of Poland in this inventory. The answer is given us in an interesting work published by the Royal Institute of International Affairs, "Raw materials and Colonies" which comprises above all metals, minerals, and vegetable substances. Thus, the United States contributes to world production as follows: pit coal 34%, petroleum 59%, cotton 49%, zinc 28%, phosphates 29%, lead 19%, iron 21%, copper 16%, wool 12% and silver 14%. Hence the United States possess all these essential raw materials with the exception of rubber. The situation of the British Empire, including its dominions, is perhaps still more favourable, indeed it has 71 per cent of gold, 99% jute, 86% nickel, 58% rubber, 50% wool, 48% tin, 45% lead, 32% zinc, 28% copper, 12% iron. The British Empire does not possess a sufficient quantity of cotton, nor has it petroleum on its own territory. Nevertheless it has terrains on which it can develop, at any moment, the production of cotton and, besides it has at its disposition the petroleum wells of Iran and Iraq of which it has the assured control. Nor must we pass over the sphere of influence of the Royal Dutch Shell.

Soviet Russia occupies the third place among the "raw material powers". It participates as to 77% in the world production of flax, 61% of manganese, 47% hemp, 28% of mineral chrome, platinum 12%, petroleum 12%, and of the world production of gold 11%. The group of other colonial empires follows a long way behind: France, Holland, Belgium and Italy. They produce only certain raw materials, the

universality characterizing the three "raw material powers" fails them. Thus France produces in serious quantities iron and phosphates, Holland — tin, petroleum, rubber and palm oil, Belgium — copper, tin and vegetable oils. The poorest country in colonies is Italy which is beginning to create its colonial empire when all the best kinds already belong to others.

To what extent the production of certain raw materials has become the monopoly of a very restricted group of States is proved by the fact that the three great colonial empires Great Britain, France and Holland as well as the United States and Russia are by 97% the masters of the world production of rubber and nickel, 88% of gold, 30% of iron, 80% of cotton, 76% of petroleum, 74% of pit coal, 74% of aluminium, 70% wool, 76% lead and tin, and 50% of the world production of copper.

What strikes us in this inventory is the apparently secondary role of the colonies in the production of essential raw materials. Although the colonial territories under mandate are serious producers of rubber (96%), phosphates (18.3%), manganese (13.7%), chrome (12.3%), copper (21.5%) and tin (58.8%) yet they do not play an important part in the production of pit coal, cotton, wool and petroleum, as to the African colonies they only produce in abundance phosphates (40.9%), copper (26.9%), manganese (12.7%) and tin.

We stand before an apparent paradox: have the colonial powers attained the conquest of colonies at such great expense only to discover afterwards that they are of so little value as sources of raw materials? The solution is simple. Not so much the actual figures of production determine the value of the colonies as the virtual possibilities of their development as suppliers of raw materials. The colonial powers can at present obtain the raw materials that are indispensable to them at less cost and more easily from other sources that also belong to them, or even from foreign sources. For these states the colonies represent not lands which they actually exploit, but in great measure reserves of raw materials for the future.

It is thus that the world inventory established by the Royal Institute is, in fact only an inventory of raw materials entering from now on into the sphere of world exchange.

It does not on the other hand include the non-exploited reserves, or those still concealed, it cannot therefore give a picture of the potential possibilities of the production of colonial territories in the domain of the raw materials.

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President of Bank of Rumania in Poland

Monsieur Milita Constantinescu, the President of the Bank of Rumania, has been spending a few days in Warsaw in order to discuss certain economic problems with Monsieur Byrka, the

President of the Bank of Poland. Monsieur Constantinescu has issued a statement regarding his visit but unfortunately this was received after going to press and will only be published next week.

Polish Economic Life in 1936

The analysis of economic conditions prevailing in Poland in 1936 should be developed on the basis of the economic situation in foreign countries. The improvement in the situation noted in certain countries during the last few years has progressed during the year under review, if not always on an even level. The growth of industrial production, the increase in commercial turnover, and the decrease in unemployment, the latter in no proportion to the two former — these are the signs of general improvement arising through different factors of economic or non-economic character. The diminution of the world's stocks of grain and raw materials (such as rubber, copper, zinc, etc.), belongs to the economic factors, while among the non-economic ones should be mentioned the artificial improvement of economic conditions in certain countries thanks to the immense development of armaments which in its turn arises from the uncertainty of the political situation, itself the cause of the general lack of confidence, one of the most important factors of the general break down in the economic world situation. Taking into consideration the present state of affairs it is possible to speak of the improvement of the economic conditions on the basis of data concerning production and turnover, but it would be premature to believe that we have entered into an era of stabilisation and normal financial and economic conditions.

With regard to Poland, the year 1936 was a year of distinct improvement in her economic situation. This can be seen — the number of registered unemployed has only slightly decreased, the number of employed workmen has increased largely, which is explained by the natural growth of the population and the inflow of peasants from overpopulated villages into towns.

Among the factors which have improved the economic situation, in the first line should be mentioned the balanced State budget, which previously showed deficits covered either by reserves dating from prosperity years or

by internal loans. During the first three months of 1936 which belonged to the 1935-36 budget there were still some deficits progressively diminishing, so that the current budget year was not only balanced but has even shown at the end of November an excess of over two million zloty of revenue over expenditure. This balancing of the State budget has made unnecessary any new issue on the money market and has opened up new credit possibilities for economic purposes.

In an agricultural-industrial country with a predomination of agriculture, the rise in the prices of corn which took place during last year (wheat — Dec. 1935 — 19.25, November 1936 — 25.70; rye — 12.50, 18.80) was of great importance. If we take into consideration that at the same time the prices of articles bought by peasants did not rise and, sometimes, even fell, we must agree that this fact has greatly increased the purchasing power of the largest class of Poland's population, causing a certain animation in production and consumption.

There must also be taken into account the favourable influence of the general improvement in the economic situation of the world, which naturally had an effect on Polish affairs; at the same time it should be mentioned that the devaluation of the French and other European currencies had had only a very slight repercussion in Poland.

The most important change in Poland's economic life during the year 1936 was the introduction of Currency Restrictions on the 26th of April last for the control of the movement of currencies with abroad and of transactions in local and foreign currencies. This step became necessary first in view of the then obtaining situation, taking into consideration the reduction in the gold and foreign currency reserves, secondly, the marked tendency to hoarding and, thirdly, the reduction in its favourable trade balance with abroad. These three factors seriously threatened the stability of the currency and the equalisation of the general foreign trade balance. These measures proved successful, the gold and currency stocks in the Bank of Poland began again to increase. The effect on the foreign trade balance was not serious, certain sections even increasing, the second half of the year. The introduction of these restrictions has given to Poland

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LONDON LETTER

By Gregory MacDonald

The announcement of arrangements for the approaching Coronation was made during a week of prosperity and of comparative peace. If affairs proceed in the present manner until May, without a first-class crisis to throw us back into confusion, there will be surprised comments on the abundance of wealth in Great Britain and many gratified reflections on the friendliness of neighbouring nations. For the arrangements promise great splendours which hundreds of thousands of tourists will journey far to see. Great Britain's internal prosperity is anyhow on the increase. And London will be courted, not only because the rearmament programme encourages the friendly attentions of competing allies, but also because of a real recognition of British stability, and because of a renewed taste for monarchical trappings in an authoritarian world. Very many visitors will crowd from the Empire, very many from Europe, and the American invasion promises to rival the figures for 1927 or 1928.

The celebrations will extend from Wednesday, May 5, when the first Court will be held, to Thursday, July 22, when there will be a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. On Wednesday, May 12, the King will be crowned and that evening he will for the first time broadcast an address to the Empire. The route of the procession for the return from Westminster Abbey after the Coronation will be longer than ever before — both the Jubilee of 1935 and the funeral of George V showed how large the London crowd can be — for it will pass by Piccadilly Circus, Regent Street, Oxford Circus, Oxford Street, and the Eastern side of Hyde Park. The Coronation season will see the usual round of functions and reviews, including the reception of Foreign Envoys and Delegations, visits to St. Paul's Cathedral and to the Guildhall, Royal journeys to Scotland and to Wales, and reviews of the Army, Navy and Air Force.

The Regency Bill introduced into Parliament last week already indicated some of the characteristics of the new reign, for it provided for any eventualities in circumstances where the Heir Apparent is a minor, and it provided also for the absence of the King on journeys abroad: a Royal progress to India is planned. The Council of State appointed to act in a Regency consists of members of the Royal Family, one more reminder that the Crown holds a more important position than ever as the binding link of the British Empire, and that the Royal Family in general shares this function, because any of the political officers of State represent only Great Britain or the Dominion which gives them

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LONDON LETTER

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office. If this position makes the Crown more vulnerable to attack, and the unity of the Empire more than physical, it is yet true that the Crown is given an importance which may grow with the years, and that the integrity of the Empire as a factor in the preservation of modern civilisation is more widely recognised by responsible people all over the world.

A great deal was heard from Bank Chairmen last week when they made their customary speeches to shareholders on the past year's working. The truth came out fully that industry is no longer borrowing from the Banks, for the source from which money enters the market is now Government expenditure on State services and public works. Consequently, the figures for advances are not commensurate with the revival of trade. It also appeared that a large proportion of loans was obtained privately and professional people for purposes ultimately not far removed from speculation in stocks and shares. Not much attempt was made to defend this unhealthy practice, which showed how hard put the Banks are to lend money; the most ingenious defence was that money was being lent to consumers so that they could buy the goods of production. For the rest, the Chairmen showed themselves optimistic as to the future of industry — with the usual insistence of the orthodox that we are in a boom period — and they were equally delighted with the freedom of sterling from gold standard rigidity (although upon the nineteenth century gold standard the former money price of greatness of London was based). Evidently not much harm is being done when everybody is satisfied, but the continuance of low interest rates does not tally with the text-books, and as a result of the addresses of the Chairmen there was a heavy fall in Bank shares.

The Russian Treason Trial has mystified everyone in London as elsewhere. Undoubtedly also it has shaken the prestige of the Soviet after a number of consistent propaganda to point Russia in paradisiacal hues in contrast with the bestial barbarities of the nationalistic forces in Spain. But occasion is taken to point the moral — and a striking one it is — between Western and Eastern conceptions of justice. Over the past year and more there have been proved cases of sabotage on British warships, but it was never possible to detect the culprits or to find the sources of their inspiration. Then, suddenly, came the announcement that five men had been dismissed from the naval dockyards without reason given or accusation preferred against them. The Government, pressed by Members of Parliament, admitted that the dismissals were connected with the acts of sabotage which imperilled the safety of the Fleet, but it declared that the evidence against the men could not be made public without damaging the operations of the Secret Service. With that explanation the public had to rest content. On the one hand there was a hint of efficient detective work — perhaps a hint of more knowledge than the Government was prepared to disclose — but there was no question of grovelling public confessions or of a summary execution.

Herr Hitler's Reichstag speech, the other sensation of the week, was received by large portions of the Press with coldness and with criticism, though it was admittedly mild enough and possibly made a deep impression upon the ordinary public. At

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

Polish Investment Works Scheme.

Two bills concerning national investment works will be submitted to the Polish Sejm within the next few days. In the first bill the Government proposes to allocate 264 million zlotys during the present year for general economic purpose, the second bill provides for a total amount of 1000 million zlotys for the National Defence Fund during the period 1937-40 for increasing the country's defensive armaments. The scheme for the investment of 264 millions during the current year comprises: 12 millions for electrification, 10 millions for gas installations, 5 millions for harbour works, 15 millions for hydraulic works, 2 millions for fundamental land improvements, 14.2 million for the construction of various government buildings, 5 millions for railway investment works, 7.8 million for telegraph and telephone lines (apart from sums provided for by the ordinary estimates), 16 millions for investments by the Land Reform Fund, 50 millions for roads and bridges, 26 millions to be granted as housing, credits 50 millions for investment works by the Public Works Fund. These investments are to be covered by credit operations and out of the receipts of the Public Works Fund. The 1000 million zlotys to be spent within the next four years on the defence of the country will be covered as follows: 500 millions from the proceeds of the recent French loan; the balance will be covered by the Minister of Finance in the course of the four years, with credit operations on the domestic and foreign money markets.

Increased Import of Raw Materials to Poland

The aggregate value of raw materials imported by Poland in 1936 was 433.2 million zlotys as against 376.6 million during the preceding year. Raw textile materials, ores, metals and hides were the principal items on the import list. The total value of imports last year was 1,003.4 million of which the import of raw materials represented 43.2 per cent as against 43.8 per cent in 1935 when the total value of imports was 860.6 million zlotys. Of the foreign exchange quotas allowed last year by the Bank of Poland to cover the cost of

least, it would have made a deep impression if the word dictator had not become a slogan word of abuse to belittle all acts of authoritarian rulers. Between the bad publicity effect of the Treason Trial and the good publicity effect of the Reichstag speech, British public opinion remains incalculable. The general attitude of the Government turns still more noticeably to the Right, towards agreement with Italy and Germany, so far as that entails no breach with France, but perhaps from now on, if peace and prosperity are preserved over the Coronation period, the real feelings of the Government (in which there appear to be two camps) will be better tested by internal than by external affairs. If there is a safe generalisation about political public opinion just now it is that the Liberalised Left has failed to carry the country in support of the Valencia Government.

imports, 61 per cent went for the import of raw materials and only 12 per cent for imports of finished goods.

Bank of Poland

The General Meeting of shareholders of the Bank of Poland will be held on February 18th when payment of an 8 per cent dividend for 1936 will be proposed. The net profits for the year are 9.3 million zlotys. The Treasury will receive 12 million zlotys as dividend on 50 millions of stock of the second issue of the Bank's shares which up to April 20th 1936 were held by the Government and on that day were acquired by the Bank and cancelled. The Bank's balance sheet as on December 31st, 1936 totalled 1,314, 200,000 zlotys, i. e. 4.3 million zlotys less than a year ago. The chief assets are: gold holdings 392.9 million, foreign exchange and bills 29.7 million, Polish silver and other token money 41.4 million, bills discounted portfolio 681.3 million, collateral security advances 107.4 million. Treasury bills discounted 666.0 million, own securities portfolio 136.0 million. Reserve Fund securities 89.0 million, Superannuation Fund 53.2 million, loan to the Government (bearing no interest) 90.0 million, share in syndicates 25.0 million and buildings 20.0 million zlotys. The chief liabilities are: share capital 100.0 million, reserve fund 89.0 million, note circulation 1,033.8 million, sight liabilities 231.6 million and other accounts 230.0 million zlotys. The profit and loss account comprises: overhead charges 25.4 million, writings-off and reserves 10.3 million, interest paid 38.4 million, return of securities held by reserve fund 4.5 million, commission and other receipts 2 million, net profits, including those carried over from 1935, 9.3 million zlotys.

National Economic Bank

Owing to improved economic conditions, deposits with the National Economic Bank showed a considerable increase during the second half of last year, reaching an aggregate sum of 374 millions as on December 31, the highest on record since the establishment of the Bank. The total increase of deposits during the year was nearly 67 millions arising from credit of 7 million with other banks. This influx of means enabled the National Economic Bank to pay of over 23 millions of rediscounts at the Bank of Poland, reducing this item on the liabilities side to 11 millions on a bill portfolio which had increased to nearly 104 million zlotys. Cash reserves at the end of the year amounted to 78 million zlotys 36 millions in excess of what they had been a year ago, and representing a cover of over 20 per cent of the deposits and of over 30 per cent of all sight liabilities. During the year the Bank expanded its credit activities in all branches of this class of business. The Bank will also take part in the proposed increase of the share capital of the British and Polish Trade Bank of Danzig.

Polish Iron and Steel Industry

Domestic orders received by the Polish iron and steel works in December totalled 10,758 tons of goods as against 46,915 tons in November. During December, 10,468 tons of goods were for private, 290 tons for governmental orders. The works employed 36,650 men at the end of the month, i. e. 106 more than at the end of November, and 3,992 more than a year ago.

DANZIG LETTER

Herr Greiser has returned quietly to Danzig with his staff of experts, after attending the meeting of the League of Nations at Geneva, which the official report published in Danzig describes as having passed "as was to be expected, without incidents or sensations".

The National Socialist viewpoint is that the Danzig Government under the leadership of Herr Greiser has made a very positive contribution to the cause of peace in Europe by the entirely satisfactory manner in which it has arranged that negotiations between Danzig and Poland are now carried out direct instead of through the intermediary of Geneva. Hence the office of arbitrator between these countries has become completely superfluous. In the new form that has been given, thanks to the Nazi efforts, to the relations between Danzig and Poland, however, a change has likewise been introduced into the relations between Danzig and the League of Nations, in that the council of the League is now no longer called upon to settle differences between Danzig and Poland. Thus the situation which awaits the new High Commissioner is quite different from that which confronted his predecessor. He is not likely to be required to act in his capacity of arbitrator, the capacity for which his office was originally designed. Nor will he be able to follow Mr. Lester's example of striving for the impartial and rigid observance of the constitution, in the course of which Mr. Lester, by his defence of the equal rights of all parties, was accused of interference in Danzig's internal politics. From henceforth, that is all to be changed, and the

National Socialists hope that the new High Commissioner will strengthen the friendly relations between Danzig and Geneva on the new lines introduced by the League resolution of January 27th, and that he will not be tempted in any way to listen to those disturbing elements who wish to put spokes into the peaceful wheels of progress and development in Danzig. This will be his new and important mission, in which the Nazi government will aid him with all its power.

The fact that a new High Commissioner for Danzig has not yet been chosen causes no concern in Danzig except in Opposition circles. Here those persons who have been more actively engaged in opposing the National Socialist regime are facing two alternatives: either to join the Nazis or to seek other fields of endeavour.

The near future therefore has many big changes in store for Danzig. In the meanwhile, all is quiet. With the thermometer for the past fortnight showing from ten to twenty degrees below zero, most people prefer to remain indoors.

The severe frost is causing serious delay to shipping, and many are the tales of hardship. Of these, that of the Norwegian steamer *Sigrd* is typical. She arrived here in ballast, and after such a long struggle in the gale that all her coal was exhausted and she was using her woodwork for fuel. Her captain had been in poor health but he stayed at his post on the bridge until he came to Danzig and the pilot came aboard. Then he collapsed, and when they picked him up, they found that he had died.

Polish Economic Life in 1936

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the possibility of controlling trade with those countries which have previously introduced restrictions resulting in the freezing up of large amounts of Polish money. In view of the above Poland was enabled to conclude economic and commercial agreements during 1936, with Belgium, Hungary, Estonia, Holland, Norway, Switzerland, Danzig, Canada, Germany, Austria and France.

In respect of internal indebtedness, in 1936, the plan for its repayment was reconstructed by the conversion of several earlier loans into a Consolidation Loan, thereby reducing the servicing charges to a considerable extent in addition to spreading the repayment over a longer period.

Mention should be made of the new French Loan of 1936, for defence purposes. This loan is of great importance, not only for the purpose for which it was given, but also for its direct and indirect effect on the economic life of the country.

L. W.

First published in the "Praca Obywatelska", organ of the Polish Women's Union for Citizenship.

Butter Exports from Poland

Butter export from Poland in 1936 amounted to 109,380 metric quintals as against 55,789 quintals in 1935, an increase of 93 per cent. Last year, 89.4 per cent of the Polish butter exports were taken up by the United Kingdom and 5.5 per cent by Germany.

The Problem of Raw Materials

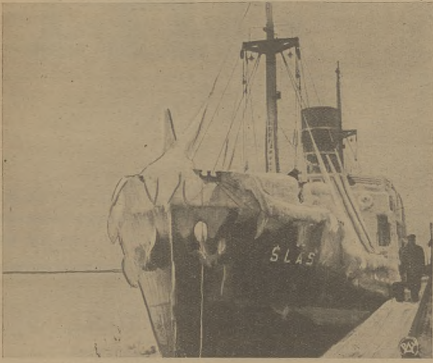
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One thing however results clearly from the actual redistribution of raw materials: the main industrial raw materials, are in great majority, in the hands of a few states, these are at the same time the masters of the territories which in the future constitute reservations serving to replenish the exhaustion of the present sources. This inventory would be incomplete if we did not take into consideration the part of Poland in the world production of raw materials. It rises (in 1934) to 2.7% for pit coal, 0.9% for iron, 0.2% wool, 4.4% flax, 3.1% hemp.

Only the production of pit coal, zinc, flax and petroleum (considering its very low consumption in Poland to-day) correspond to the needs of the country. It is therefore evident that for Poland, a state occupying the 6th place among European countries as regards extent and population and the fourth place as regards the increase of its population, the question of raw materials, indispensable for the industrialization of the Country, possesses an importance of the first order. As Poland has an insufficient quantity of a whole series of fundamental raw materials such as cotton, wool, minerals, iron, the necessity of assuring her access to raw materials is imperious for her, all the more that certain branches of Polish industry, essential to the State, such as metallurgy and textiles industry are strongly dependent on raw materials imported from foreign countries

P. I. P.

On the icebound Baltic



An icebound ship in Gdynia harbour

The last trip of the SS. Baltrover, which started on the 28th January from London in the teeth of a North Easterly gale, was replete with thrilling experiences such as are not usually met with on the London Gdynia route. After thirty six hours of battering in the North Sea with a strong head on wind, the ship arrived at the entrance to the Kiel Canal, only to find it ice bound.

However, the Baltrover ploughed her way through the Canal at a snail's pace, and arrived at Kiel with a temperature of minus 22 Centigrade only to hear that the Western Baltic was frozen over and that it would not be possible to proceed. Undeterred, Captain Whalley had the coal bunkers and water tanks filled up to the limit determined to try his luck the next day when it was light. At 7 am the passengers heard

the first grindings of the ship's prow against the ice, a noise which was to be constantly in their ears for the next few days, and rushed on deck to see the ship break her way through the ice field in the Kiel Bay, where some 50 boats were icebound.

Proceeding at some 4 knots the Captain, literally coaxed his ship along. On leaving the harbour a couple of smaller ships followed in her wake, trying to take advantage of the open water, but they were unable to keep up even that slow pace and were soon left behind, the water freezing up and arresting their progress.

Some hours later a solitary ship was observed, not very large in size, frozen in the ice, it looked pathetic and lonely. Meanwhile our drunkards progress of zig zags through the ice was continued, the Captain with consummate skill managing

to find every weak spot in the ice, even though doing so meant cutting complete circles from time to time.

Between decks the passengers were being entertained by the officers not on watch, with grisly tales of shiploads of passengers marooned for months in the ice when the fatter and more succulent passengers had been the first to vanish into the stewpot or the pickle barrel. Suggestions as to suitable sauces for various passengers were considered to be in the height of bad taste.

The next morning, however the proof of a real tragedy was sighted; what appeared to be a whale eventually disclosed itself as being the keel of once proud ship which had turned turtle—no sign of crew or passengers remaining to be seen. We realised what might have been our fate had we struck the deleretic head on in the night.

Later on the Tuesday evening the lights of Gdynia were sighted, and after some three hours more of careful manoeuvring by the Captain—who had been on the bridge practically without intermission from the start of the trip—we arrived just after 11 pm, fifty three hours late, but the only ship to get through from Kiel for several days. Our only mishaps had been a couple of burst pipes, which had been quickly repaired.

Captain Whalley's experience of the Baltic is well known, but nevertheless it was no mean feat to bring the Baltrover through the ice field, not by force but by coaxing and gentling her every inch of the way, a task in which he was fully aided by the officers and crew. It is only after encountering such an experience that one realises how much discretion, determination and patience go towards the making of a successful shipmaster.

K. E. S.

Kazimierz TETMAJER

The Polish literary world celebrated last month the completion of 80 years of work in the fields of poetry, prose and drama by Kazimierz Przerwa Tetmajer, who has secured a permanent position as the poet of the beauty and power of the Tatra mountains, their people and customs and finally as the creator of the beautiful Tatra legends.

Kazimierz Tetmajer (born in 1855) began his literary career in *Krakow*, where from an outstanding poetic debut, he became prominent among a group of young writers known as *Young Poland*.

This group, led by Stanislaw Przybyszewski, proclaimed the principle of "Art for Art", understanding the necessity of concentrating on aesthetics to the exclusion of other affairs.

Tetmajer, after a few first poems on social themes, also becomes, in his lyrics, where from his own thoughts and impressions. His exceptional language, the beauty and originality of his metaphors (although sometimes a little exaggerated) make his poetry interesting in its sincerity and impressiveness.

The poet's point of view is distinctly pessimistic. We find in him no happiness in living but rather resignation which drives him to finding out a means of forgetting that life on this earth can be so tragic. Such a means is above all in Tetmajer's opinion uxorious love.

Dedicating the greatest part of his verses to sensual love, Tetmajer attains perfection in the description of women's carnality, with a boldness hitherto unknown. In that matter, the poet can be regarded, as the precursor of today's literary style, in which all the thoughts, deeds and words are rendered in a stark and brutal manner.

* * *

It is no wonder, however, that such a philosophy, has given Tetmajer many moments of surfeit in his life, and so to gain another impression of love, he has turned himself to nature with its extreme poetry—to the Tatras, whose tremendous power is especially perfectly portrayed in the two masterpieces among Tetmajer's works: *Na Stalnem Podhalu*, and *Legenda Tatr* (*Tatra Legends*).

It was Kazimierz Tetmajer who first penetrated the soul of the Tatras, hearing and understanding even the music of the mountain winds, the whisper of streams, torrents and waterfalls, or the melody of the nightly mists on the lakes, rendered in the fine poem, entitled *Melodia mgiet nocy nad Czarnym Stawem Gantencowym*. (Melody of the Night Mist on the Black Gasienica Lake). Not only, indeed, has Tetmajer fully understood the natural aspects of the mountains, but he has also given Polish literature a splendid

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"At The Office"

By HELENA BOGUSZEWSKA
From "Ci Ludzie" — "These People"

(conclusion)

Or the Grzegorzowski: one girl was at school and doing well, they were pleased with her, but now there was no money and she had to have some clothes from the first lot that came in, and cod liver oil for the younger one, who looked worse and worse, and would end up like the Kwiatkowska girl.

She went to Miss Janina's table.

"My dear, until I get something else, I'll come to the office and help you, I've been working such a long time here with the people, I know all about them."

Janina did not answer. She took Angela into her arms and gave her a warm, strong kiss. Angela's heart leaped. For a moment the pretty rosy face was close to hers, as though threatening her. A faint sense of perfume hung round her. Her heart warmed. She had never thought Miss Janina would be so good to her.

"I'm not even very upset" she said quickly "because I think I'll get something, and Mother and I will get on all right."

Mrs Szulc got up too, carefully put on her black office steves and came over to them on her none too steady, rheumatic legs.

"Angela" she said, taking her in her arms in turn. She had said Angela although until then she had always said Miss Angela, but there was nothing strange in that, she was so many years older.

"My Angela, I know you'll be all right, but it's so hard to get anything now. So I want you to

remember that I always, that always with me..."

Angela thanked her and felt better, almost happy. Only she did not know whether Mrs Szulc was speaking generally or whether she had invited her home...

So she came to the office almost as usual, only much later. For now at least she could have her sleep out. That was her due, wasn't it, she used to say at the office, with a smile. She used to go inside the barrier at once and hang on its old peg beside the navy blue coat of Miss Janina, with the scented bunch of flowers at the edge of the collar, her own brown coat which only now seemed to her worn out, when she had no hope of getting a new one. But she tried not to think of that. She sat down beside Mrs Szulc, whose desk had been joined to her former table, which was covered with the paper folders. She looked at her quiet industrious hands with the joints a little swollen from rheumatism, saw how quickly and correctly they wrote, added, subtracted, separated the papers. She always wondered how anyone could write so evenly with stiff fingers?

As she watched she was lying in wait for some familiar name, and when she found one, she began in a feverish whisper to explain everything it was necessary to know, all she herself knew, of all these Kwiatkowskis, Kuzpils, Golsbowski, Walendz, the eldest boy needed practice work, for he was doing nothing...

didn't Mrs Szulc know about them? But Mrs Szulc interrupted a shade impatiently, though she was always quiet.

"Which boy are you talking about?"

"The eldest"

"But he's been placed long ago. I went to the department about it, and it's settled. I arranged to have the younger one taught book binding, and you are still talking of the other boy."

Angela stopped speaking. In a minute, she felt cold and got up to throw her coat round her shoulders.

"Does Antoni heat less than he used to?" she asked.

No one answered. She looked over Mrs Szulc's shoulder, but all the cards had names she did not know.

In the corridor she met Nowakowski with a cigarette. They shook hands.

"You come here now as a visitor? You want to come like that every day?"

Angela was a little confused. She began to say that she was worried about that, she always worried about those unemployed of hers.

Nowakowski took the cigarette out of his mouth. He crushed out the stump on the tin in front of the stove where they were standing. He looked carefully at his cigarette holder with the amber mouthpiece, that had Gdynia on it, held it up to the light and tapped it with his finger. Only then he said:

"Why should you worry about them? you should think about yourself. Have you anything yet?" It was hard to get anything now. Has she tried?"

She spoke indistinctly. She

hadn't anything so far. She had tried, of course.

"She's very cold, though she had on her coat."

"And have you come to us for help yet?"

"No, not yet. I planned to do it in the next few days". She gave a shamed little smile.

He shrugged. "You shouldn't put it off. If she came into the office with him he would give her the card and that would be shorter than through the department. She ought to think of herself and not..."

"With this card you go to Mrs Szulc."

Who had said that not long ago? Had it been she, Angela, who had said that to the lady in the ragged seaskin coat with this card you go to Mrs Szulc.

But Mrs Szulc was very busy with the papers. Angela had to wait a very long time for a break, to push forward her card. Mrs Szulc looked in silence for a moment, then she whispered:

"Miss Angela, if you are here with an official card for help, you had better stand outside the railing with the others, so no one can say afterwards some people are differently treated."

There was part of Angela, which thought she had not heard. Part of her knew it had heard correctly. So the whole Angela saw that she got up and took half a step forward. She heard the dull soft closing of the door in the railing, and with an uncertain smile that was yet private and knowing, she looked towards Mrs Szulc who was now a long way off. But Mrs Szulc was already busy. Ptazkowska had already descended on her head with her out of work husband, her eight children, the

consumption, the sties, ejection from their house, a thousand requests and complaints. Did Angela not remember how giddy she made one? She remembered perfectly well. She remembered everything that happened there, although it was already a long time ago and very far away. So she kept her defenceless comprehending smile for Miss Janina, as though it were only some joke that she herself was standing on the other side of the railing with an orange card in her hand.

But Miss Janina was very busy too and very tired. Because many people had come that day, chiefly the new ones who were after Angela's time. So Miss Janina didn't understand the joke, but took the card in her manicured hands, and treated it like any other. And when, as usual, she turned to the window, Angela, standing with her unnecessary private, knowing smile, saw her strange profile, clear and rosy, as she had always seen it when she was sitting at her table on the other side of the railing...

With a movement which recalled the lady in the seaskin coat, she withdrew her frozen hands into the sleeves of her worn coat and went out with the rest through the special applicants' doorway through the courtyard.

Translated by Helen Henry

Mrs HELENA BOGUSZEWSKA
Authoress of
"Siatka po niewidomościu" "The world of the Blind."
"Ci Ludzie" "These people."
"Cate zycia szubiny" "The whole life of Sabina,
and some books for the young
In collaboration with Mr. Jerzy Kortacki
"Jadk wzoz z cegla" "The brick caris artoie"
"Wista" "Wislaula."
"Polozec" 1st vol. "Nous, Parisiens..."

TETMAJER

(continued from page 3)

portrait of the mountaineers in which we can admire their independence, courage, and hardihood in their lives, so near to nature. He has created a great gallery of types from Podhalie and has introduced, for the first time into Polish literary style, the local dialects of mountaineers, not always quite authentic, but penetrating the character and style of their language.

In the two works, Na Szkalnem Podhalu and Legenda Tatrz, as also in many other poetic ballads and verses he has created a whole cycle of legends about the Tatras, full of extraordinary tribulations and heroic deeds. Especially one figure, Janosik, (having his historical prototype in Janosik Nedza-Litmanowski) has interested the poet, and his deeds and exploits drawn out into a historical canvas by the marvellous imagination of Tetmajer.

In his poetry there is Hanusia a mountain girl, longing and finally sighing good-bye to her lover, Jerzy The cycle of Listy Hanusi (The Letters of Hanusia) in the opinion of Alexander Bruckner, the highly praised connoisseur and scholar of Polish literature, is designed to stand near the famous letters of the heroines of Lord Byron, Pushkin and Julius Slowacki.

The many sided possibilities of Tetmajer have permitted him to try his powers in the field of the novel and theatre. Here, he has written also some interesting works, but has not attained in them the high level of his love-lyrics and Tatrasmasterpieces.

Among the novels, always linked a little in their style with the past epoch of Moda Polska, he gives very well written essays from the Napoleonic period under the title Krotkie Opowiadania (The End of the Epopee), the end of the past century is portrayed in some modern novels of that time, among whose Panna Mery was a most successful work. The most charming and moving, however, in this branch of Tetmajer's achievements is Ksiadz Piotr, a novel describing the death of an old clergyman, sometime superior of the Polish University. This work gained great popularity, similarly to the Sienkiewicz historical novels, and has remained so until to day.

As a playwright, in the Sflinks, Tetmajer was quite under the influence and impression of Maeterlinck, while in Zawisza Czarna, he gives a play of Polish history (the times of the Jagiellonian dynasty), most beautiful in the language of its lyrics.

The best known of Tetmajer's dramas is Judasz (Judas), in which he has given many dramatic expressive accents and a very original conception of Judas. After the historical incidents in 1905, Tetmajer, for a short time, returned to social and patriotic problems and published a collection of poems: Poezja Wroscelona (Modern Poetry) and a novel, Rewolucja (Revolution), where he has given voice to his own opinions and feelings on current political events and situations.

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PRESS REVIEW

Kurier Polski writing at some length about Chancellor Hitler's speech says "Taken altogether Chancellor Hitler's speech does not introduce any new constructive ideas into European politics, its moderation and cautiousness in regard to delicate questions of European politics, it avoids, in any case adding new embarrassments to these dangerous questions, without, however, exercising any influence on an essential change in the European situation.

The announcement that "surprises" need be no longer feared is without doubt the most important point". Further the Kurier writes "the Chancellor's words that the Polish nation and State have become a reality show in the clearest manner the road followed by Polish - German relations from the moment of Poland's re-birth, in spite of all difficulties shaping itself favourably within the limits of existing agreements". These words the writer considers to have been the most valuable for Poland in the whole of Hitler's speech.

The Berlin Volkischer Beobachter publishes an interview with Minister Beck in which the latter says "I have already frequently expressed my opinion that the German - Polish non-aggression pact is at present as important an element in the stabilization of Europe as it was three years ago". And further he said that the Polish - German treaty had been signed with the full consciousness of the existence of the Franco - Polish alliance hence it is clear that both these important elements of European peace do not clash with each other.

The Work of Polska YMCA Increases 73% In One Year.

In the figures below there are included three classifications of persons who use the buildings of the Polish YMCA. In the first column are reported men and boys who are ordinarily classified as members. In the second column we report women in our educational and physical department classes. In the third column under "special", appear men and women and children regularly enrolled in gymnasium and swimming classes conducted in our buildings but less closely connected with the Association than are the other groups.

The upper figures in each pair are for December 31, 1936. The lower ones, thus—169— are for a year ago. The present total of users is, as shown below, 15,589.

Table with 5 columns: City, Members, Women, Special, Total. Rows for Gdynia, Krakow, Lodz, Poznan, Warsaw, and Totals.

Among the more interesting advances of 1936 was the growth in work for boys. The Boys' Divisions of the three large Associations grew as follows: Krakow From 292 To 583 boys Lodz 303 " 539 " Warsaw 722 " 1001 " Total From 1317 To 2173 " (From "News from Poland")

Concerning Danzig the Minister said "The Economic development of Danzig as an important link in the Polish customs area possesses both for Poland and Danzig the greatest significance. I think it is on this road we should seek the peaceful future of the Free City which awakens so much anxiety as well in Poland as in Germany".

The New York Times publishes an interview, transmitted by telegraph, with Minister Beck at Geneva. In this interview the Polish minister declared "Poland is not anti-Semitic. The Key of the Jewish problem is economic and social one. The constant principle of Polish policy is rather to suppress passions than afterwards to combat them". Minister Beck called my attention to the last declarations which Premier Sikorski made in the Sejm in which he assured to all citizens security irrespective of their confession. The Polish government did not raise the question of emigration at the international forum in an anti-Jewish sense — declared Minister Beck — "The problem of emigration brought forward by Poland at the League of Nations concerns the Poles equally with Jews".

In connection with the projected reorganization which presumably is to be initiated by Col. Adam Koc the Depesza writes, "We are convinced that, within the limits of the national organization which has for its watchword and programme the increase of the country's defensive powers by the growth and cleansing of its moral strength, we shall find all the healthy and vigorous elements of the Polish community." K. M.

Symphony concert.

The conductor of the Symphony concert on the 29th Jan. Emil Cooper is well known and popular in Warsaw. His interpretation of Bach's Chaconne, transcribed for orchestra by Caselli, was clear and vigorous, setting forth the beauties of this immortal work. The chromatic variations of Bizet gave him the opportunity of displaying his virtuosity. Other orchestral works were fragments from Morawski's ballet "Młodość" and Korsakow's Easter overture. The pianist Wilhelm Kempff possesses a highly developed technique and, as was shown in his solos which he gave as encores, an unusual lightness and delicacy of staccato. The pastorate of Mozart and the Schubert-Liszt Serenade were exquisitely performed.

On the other hand the Brahms concerto though technically brilliant was disappointing from the interpretive point of view and played with a certain hardness of tone and coldness of expression. K. M.

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Warsaw Amusements.

THEATRES

NARODOWY W. "Spadkobierca" ("The Heir") by Siedlecki. POLSKI K. "Le Mariage de Figaro" by Beaumarchais. NOWY W. "Dziewięć osobliwych" (The Passepartout of Zbrzydowicki Family) by Jasnorska. Thursday. Przemyski "Trzech-Six-Nine by Duran. MAZY. "Lato w Nohant" ("Chopin and George Sand") by Iwaszkiewicz with Maria Przybylo - Potocka and Zielonkiewicz. LETNI. "Zolnierze Królów Madagaskaru" ("The Soldier of the Madagascan's Queen") by Dobrzyński. MALICKIEJ. "Hurly-Burly" ("Zamieszaj") by Herz. ARTEŃ I U M. "Ludzie na krze" by Werner. REDUTA. Sunday. Matinée of Mountainers Poets. KAMERALNY. "Doctor's Secret" by Fodor.

MUSIC.

TEATR WIELKI OPERA. Tuesday: HALEY'S LA JUIVE. Sunday matinee: Johann Strauss' A NIGHT IN VENICE. Sunday evening: Leon oca wall o's PACHA Appearance of Marina Karlin, Ballet's Divertissement and recital of Miss Karlin. Monday: Dance Festival Appearance of Hanna Smolowna. Tuesday: Johann Strauss' A NIGHT IN VENICE. Wednesday: Rossini's THE BARBER OF SEVILLE Appearance of EWA BANDROWSKA-TURSKA. Thursday: Tchaikovsky's ORCHESTRAL Appearance of Dymitr Smirnoff and Alexander Dyllan. Friday: Massenet's Manon Lescaut Appearance of Ewa Bandrowska-Turka. FILHARMONIA. Sunday Matinée Concert. Friday: Symphonic Concert: IX SYMPHONY OF BEETHOVEN. Dir. Herman ABENDROT. Sunday: P.L.I. (Matinée) Opening of the III-rd International opm Competition in Warsaw. KONSERWATORIUM. Saturday. Recital of Orlando Barera (violin). Monday. Recital of Eriberito Scarlino (piano). MUSICAL SHOWS. OPERETKA — "A Dancer from Andalusia". CYRULIK WARSZAWSKI — "Cabaretissimo". TEATR B.S. "The Dance of Happiness" (Stole). 13 RZĘDÓW — "Co wno wojewódzkie." CIUCHI — "At 8. An English Circus "Harry".

ART AND OTHER

EXHIBITIONS. I. P. S. "Annual Salon". ZACHĘTA. New Year Show. NATIONAL MUSEUM. Acquisitions during 1935-6. CINEMAS. **APOLLO Mankiewiczówna the "Pani Minister tancerzy" Polish. **ATLANTIC Jean Herabolit "Forgotten Symphony" American. **BAITYK Erol Fyran and Olivia de Havilland in "The Charge of the Light Brigade" American. **CATOL. Miriam Hopkins and Merle Oberon in "We Three". **CASINO Smosarska in "Barbara Radziwiłłówna" Polish. **COLOSSEUM. Annabella in "A Night before the Battle". French. **EUROPA Simone Simon and Herbert Marshall in "Matriculation" American. **FILHARMONIA Willy Forst and Magda Schneider in "Robert and Gloria" Austrian. **HOLLYWOOD "Romance in Budapest" Austrian. **IMPERIAL "Silhouettes". German. **PAN Laurel and Hardy in "Dearest Family". American. **RIALTO Herbert Marshall and Jean Arthur in "A week before the wedding" American. **SALA Benjminio Gigli and Kethe von Nigby in "For you, Maria" German. **STYLOWO Eleanor Powell in "Queen of Dance". American. **SWIATOWID Gladys Swarthout and Fred Mac Murray in "Champagne Waltz". American. **STUDIO Marta Eggerth in "A Chateau in Flanders" German.

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

Broadcasting from Warsaw
Sunday: 21.30. Recital of Jozef Turczyński (piano)
Monday: 22.30. Symphonic Concert
Tuesday: 16.30. Sonatas of Beethoven
Wednesday: 20.45. Chopin's work
Thursday: 21.00. Silhouettes of Polish Composers. Leonard Scheide
Friday: 20.30. Symphonic Concert
Saturday: 21.00. The poetry of Kazimierz Tetmajer in music

BRITISH PASSPORT CONTROL OFFICE

Table with columns: No, Nat. certificate, NAME, Age, Category, Last date of visa, Address. Includes entries for KRAKOWSKI Gittel, KORNEICH Ryka, WERER Carl, LERMAN Hjal, SOLLBERG Malka, WACHOCKIER Pelagia, Koc Ruchla, WAXELBAUM Senda, KAGAN Rachel, GRYNSTEIN Mendel, EPSTEIN Uda, Riwka, Ruchla, Awrum, BRIL Szmul, Racheł, BAJER Helena, ZUKERMAN Malka, REICHERT Golda, HANEK Perla, PERLOW Gabriel, MILCHEMAN Frymata, MOCHER Lea, FISZ Chana, RUBINSTEIN Moshe, SZWARCBAUM Chaim, WEINLANS Sala, WIERZBICKA Hendla, SZYDLOW Chaim, FISZ Isak, NIDERMAN Mojsesz, LEWKOWICZ Zukon.

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