

# THE WARSAW WEEKLY

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3rd YEAR

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No. 42

## IN MEMORY OF MARSHAL PIŁSUDSKI



President Mościcki and  
Mrs. Piłsudska at the  
Inauguration.

The estate of the Piłsudski family, on which Joseph Piłsudski was born seventy years ago, has been placed in a national trust. It has been restored to a condition approaching that in which it had been during Piłsudski's childhood.

On the 10-th instant a symbolical oak was planted by the President of the Republic on the exact spot where the late Marshal was born. The house, in which he was born, had been burnt down during his boyhood, so that only the park and

the natural surroundings have remained.

On the same day 100 elementary schools, named after Marshal Piłsudski, have been opened in the province of Wilno, as a living monument of the Marshal's memory. The hundred schools were built during the course of the summer and are all ready for the opening of the term. The construction of a 100 new schools in one year has greatly improved the educational facilities available in the province of Wilno, which had been badly neglected in that respect by the Russian occupants.



President Mościcki planting the oak.



Delegations of children from the 100 new schools.

## Poland and the Baltic Countries

The eminently friendly relations between Poland, Estonia, Finland and Latvia are naturally justified by the geopolitical structure of this part of Europe and are at the same time strongly anchored in the stable condition of public opinion in these countries. A manifestation and a proof of this well known state of affairs has been the recent series of visits which have been witnessed.

The present voyage of Mr. Anthony Roman, Minister of Industry & Commerce, accompanied by the Director of the Marine Department, Mr. L. Mozdziński, to Tallinn, Riga and Helsingfors, can therefore only be considered as a natural expression of the universality of the present collaboration which is also to be seen clearly in the economic domain.

This collaboration developed itself harmoniously on its widest lines even during the period of economic depression, in spite of the difficulties which unavoidably presented themselves in commercial exchanges between countries having a somewhat similar economic structure. These economic relations were, what is more, not limited to commercial transactions. In Latvia, for example, there is a large demand for seasonal Polish labour which

this year reached the total of 40,000 men. In the same manner this year a large transport of Polish agricultural labourers was sent for the season, of which a portion has established itself definitely, while next year there will be still greater opportunities for Polish seasonal emigration.

Polish-Finnish commercial relations in 1936 reached 19 million zloté, Polish-Latvian 5.5 million zloté, and Polish-Estonian 4 million zloté. For the first seven months of the current year the respective figures were 12.5, 2.8, and 3 million zloté, showing large increase for Finland and Estonia, which, in addition to having commercial treaties with Poland, also have annual quota conventions.

In spite of the absence of such a convention with Latvia, Polish-Latvian commercial relations reached large figures and give possibility for even further increases in the event of the stabilisation of these transactions within the framework of a concrete agreement advantageous to both parties.

Attention should be drawn to the fact that the consolidation of the economic structure of the countries in question has ended by taking a definite shape, and

## International Wood Workers Conference

The International Conference of Wood Workers, in which participate the representatives of 75 organisations and trade-unions from 24 countries, has been opened in Warsaw. The wood workers of Sweden, Finland, Norway, Yugoslavia, France, England, Holland, Denmark, Czechoslovakia, Roumania and Poland are among the delegates.

The members of the conference will visit Białowieża, the largest forest in Europe, and the model sawmills of Hajnowka in Eastern Poland.

one which not only does not create obstacles for a tightening up of economic co-operation with Poland but which on the contrary opens up further possibilities in this direction.

Taking into consideration the general improvement in conditions, it may be said with conviction that we have before us the prospect of a growing development in economic relations of Poland with its Baltic neighbours.

The present journey of the Polish Minister of Industry & Commerce and the conversations which he will have the occasion of exchanging with his Baltic colleagues may therefore give real and useful results for all parties, results which will constitute the integral completion of real and amicable collaboration. P.I.P.

## LONDON LETTER

By Gregory Macdonald

Last week was a thoroughly exciting period with war only just around the corner. By Friday afternoon (just before the Prime Minister delivered his speech at Scarborough) the situation was very tense indeed. It was a toss-up whether Mussolini would land all his crack troops in Spain first, or whether France would pour guns and cavalry through the Catalan frontier, or whether President Roosevelt, who has suddenly become the darling of the London Press, would declare war on Japan, Germany and Italy all together in the name of the League of Nations. Yet Friday passed, and Saturday and Sunday, without any political eruption whatever. And this was perfectly natural, as everyone might have known from the start, because Europe was waiting for the results of the French cantonal elections. This was the best guarantee of peace that any one could want in stormy times.

Yet the events of last week were significant as proving very clearly that half the present troubles are caused by purveyors of opinion who have completely lost touch with fact. There was, first of all, the report from Valencia that H. M. S. Basilisk had been attacked by a pirate submarine. This story got so far as the discovery of a likely-looking Italian torpedo on a Spanish beach, and yarns attributed to sailors about patches of oil, before the Admiralty came out with the bald announcement that no such attack had taken place. The communiqué should

have been issued sooner. Again the repeated forecasts that Mussolini would adopt an aggressive attitude on the question of volunteers came to a climax with deliberate statements from Gibraltar that 15,000 Italian troops had been landed at Cadiz. As this report was calculated to ruin the atmosphere for Chamberlain's speech, an announcement had to be issued from Whitehall that the British Government had no belief in the report. On top of that, Valencia addressed a Note to Great Britain complaining of Italian atrocities which had not yet taken place. The Basque Government, it will be remembered, angrily asserted that Bilbao was going to be bombed out of existence on Coronation Day, as an act of spite against British public opinion. The Valencia Note was a repetition of the same tactics.

But in a wider field the purveyors of opinion divorced from fact were in clover last week on account of President Roosevelt's admittedly oracular speech. It was seized upon with joy as a general Magna Carta against Japan, Italy and Germany, with the reading that President Roosevelt was ready to effect an economic boycott of Japan already demanded in the Albert Hall by the giant protest meeting over which the Archbishop of Canterbury presided. Gallons of ink were spilt over that speech and the boycott atmosphere was

(Continued on page 2)

## London Letter

(Continued)

appreciably strengthened. But whatever the President meant he did not mean that economic boycott would force back upon the American market the huge quantities of cotton usually exported to Japan. As the estimate of the cotton crop proved to be a record it was quite certain that the President was not going to assist in the spectacular ruin of the South. This project was being put into his mouth by the people who want to see the destruction of the American price level.

One may suspect that President Roosevelt was already in agreement with the British Government before he delivered his speech and that he secured his real objective when reports immediately afterwards came out of Japan that the more moderate element was gaining the ascendancy in Tokyo. Apart from that, Roosevelt turned attention away from the Supreme Court issue and became spokesman on a topic interesting the Western States. The British Premier's welcome to the President's "clarion call" was outwardly a polite return of the initiative to Washington, but in reality referred to Italy disposed of the rumour-mongers who were building up a common front of democratic nations against dictator nations. Behind the scenes lurk the negotiators of a Trade Agreement and of a Stabilisation Pact. The two rulers are not putting all their trumpets on the table.

The upshot of all this excitement is that war is not after all, though the situation must remain critical so long as the struggle for the Mediterranean continues. On that point it is an extraordinary fact that practically no responsible quarters in Great Britain disclose any opinion on Russia and the Internationals in the Spanish tragedy, or the aid given to Valencia by France since the war began. While these matters are suppressed it is ridiculous to appeal for the withdrawal of foreign troops from one side so that the Spanish people can trash out their difficulties against a conference table. The battles of Lepanto and Warsaw to name only two, could never have been settled around a piece of green baize.

Internal policies are also stirring into activity, the chief events of last week being the unsuccessful demand of the Opposition for the immediate summoning of Parliament, and the attempt at the Labour Conference to declare a "United Front with the Communists. The project was overwhelmingly defeated, though with the usual tactics of compromise its proposers were elected to the Executive Committee of the Labour Party. There was a great deal of playacting in the whole episode. Both Sir Stafford Cripps and Professor Laski are "parlour Bolsheviks" so far as politics are concerned. The former at any rate probably does not want anything like Leninism in Great Britain, and neither of them can be under the delusion that Communism will be achieved through Labour politicians. Their real power will come through keeping the question in continual public agitation, and more will be achieved through the spate of propaganda from weekly reviews and publishing houses, acting through the intelligentsia and school teachers. Communism in this country is not spreading politically but culturally, through youth organisations and the like in one layer of the population and through disruptive but attractive cults among the unduly rich or among the products of the universities. Its opposite, Fascism,

### Polish — Canadian Trade Relations

The observations regarding Polish—Canadian goods exchange have shown that Polish firms are very little interested in the Canadian market. If the Polish export to Canada is not increasing in proper tempo, this is first of all due to the fact that there is total lack of interest on the part of Polish exporters. Polish firms were almost entirely not interested in the conclusion of the Polish—Canadian Trade Agreement. After the Agreement was signed there was not only no increase in trade transactions with articles, which, as previously, have no advantage of special reduction, but even the export of Polish goods, on which certain reductions in custom duty have been allowed, has also not increased. On the other hand, Canadian exporters, who have no trade and consular agencies in Poland, have reacted to the Agreement by concluding a number of transactions with Poland, which have not previously been recorded. It should be noted, that the Canadian market presents great possibilities for the Polish export, and the Polish exporters should pay more attention to this market. However, it should be borne in mind, that in order to sell goods on foreign markets, these goods must not only be offered, but also shown. Polish exporters should therefore maintain continual contact with Canadian merchants, furnish them with offers, price lists, samples, illustrated catalogues, etc. In order to enable the Canadian importer the understanding of the offer, prices should be quoted in Canadian Dollars, and measures and weights should not be shown in metric units, but in English ones, as it is being practised by other foreign countries. It is a known fact, that a number of Polish products do not arrive to Canada direct from Poland, but through the medium of foreign firms, in the first place, German, Dutch, Belgian and even English firms. Polish firms should subsequently in their own interest strive to change this state of matters, as only direct trade relations with the Canadian importer can assure larger sales and better prices.

It should be noted, that Poland imports from Canada, first of all: aluminium, asbestos, hides and furs, fresh apples, etc. On the other hand, Poland exports to Canada: barley, rye, seeds of sugar beet, meat conserves, textile raw materials and ready textiles, ply wood, bentwood furniture, glassware, hats, berets, rabbit hides, etc. Our export to Canada declines from year to year. Thus in 1935 we exported to Canada goods for 4.8 million Zloty, in 1936—1.4 million Zloty and during the first 7 months of 1937 only for 0.5 million Zloty. On the other hand, the import from Canada shows an increase. In 1935 we imported from Canada goods for 1.4 million Zloty, in 1936—2.2 million Zloty and during 7 months of 1937 for over 4.0 million Zloty.

will receive a fillip now that Sir Oswald Mosley has been attacked and injured in Liverpool.

Meanwhile the background of political events is that the Stock Markets are liable to panic, the general prosperity of the country continues to increase, and the movement of higher retail prices is being reversed as the effects of the manipulated boom in commodities during last March begin to wear off. Merchants who were then induced to buy "forward" in expectation of a continued rise are coming to the end of the stocks they acquired; and prices will fall back to a more constant level.

### Polish-Palestine Trade

Polish exports to Palestine in August were for a value of 992,000 zlotys as against 391,000 zlotys in August 1936, and imports from Palestine for one of 185,000 zlotys as against 53,000 zlotys. During the first eight months of this year Polish goods for the total value of 6.2 million zlotys were exported to Palestine (last year during the corresponding period 3.9 million) and goods valued at 5.2 millions were imported from Palestine (last year 5.4 million). For the whole of 1936, Polish exports to Palestine amounted to 7.0 million and Polish imports from Palestine came to 6.0 million.

### Butter Export

Butter is one of the principal exports of Poland and during the last few years has shown increased sales abroad. The largest export of Polish butter occurred in 1929, amounting to about 88 million zlotys. The value of butter exports in 1936 was 20,614,000 zlotys against 10,247,000 zlotys in 1935. Western Poland produces about 75% of the country's export butter and most of the shipments are directed to Germany, England, Switzerland, Belgium, France, and recently to Palestine and the United States. Unfavourable weather conditions in central and southern Poland caused a sharp decrease in butter production for the first half of this year.

The tendency on the world market is strong and the demand for Polish butter is increasing greatly.

### Export of Chemicals

The Polish chemical industry has increased its exports. Their value in the first half of this year was 25½ million zlotys against 19½ million zlotys in the same period of last year, an increase of about 6 million zlotys (31%). The following articles increased particularly: ammonium sulphate, zinc oxide, benzene, phenol, carbide of calcium.

### Harvest Results

Harvest results in Poland, according to tentative figures of the Chief Statistical Office in Warsaw, based on 3900 agricultural reports for the middle of August, in comparison with last year and the average for the years 1932—1936, were as follows (in millions of quintals):

Year	1937	1936	1932—1936
Wheat	17.9 q	21.3 q	19.5 q
Rye	55.7 q	63.6 q	65.3 q
Barley	12.8 q	14.0 q	14.3 q
Oats	23.5 q	24.4 q	25.7 q

The above figures show that this year's harvest will be lower than last year in wheat 16%, in rye 11%, in oats 11%, in barley 8%.

### Sugar Beets

Favourable weather during the last few weeks greatly improved the sugar beet crop. The harvest will be somewhat less than last year but generally better in quality. The production is estimated at 229.5 quintals per acre in comparison with 233 quintals per acre in 1936. It is reported that the average content of sugar in beets will amount to 15.32%.

### Cotton Arbitrage

The Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Gdynia together with the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in Łódź, and the National Economic Bank are training Polish arbitrators of cotton in the main centers of that trade in Europe. Thus upon the opening of cotton arbitrage in Gdynia Poland will have a trained personnel for this work.

### Wholesale Prices in July

Wholesale prices during July, 1937, were reported at an index of 60.1 (1928 equals 100) as compared with the average of 60.3 in June 1937, 59.9 in May 1937, 60.1 in April 1937, and 53.6 in July of last year. The ratio of wholesale prices in July of this year (1928 equals 100) compared with the same month of last year for various products was as follows:

	1937	1936
Foods	58.9	49.9
Domestic farm products	51.5	37.0
Industrial goods	61.2	57.2
Raw materials	62.0	55.5
Semi-manufactures	60.6	56.4
Finished products	61.0	59.6
Industrial raw materials and semi-manufactures	61.2	56.0
Cartelized articles	73.3	75.3
Building materials	55.5	54.4

As seen from above, prices increased on cartelized articles in connection with rising prices of iron.

### Iron Ore

The iron ore deposits near Tarnów, Dębica and Gorlice, which have been recently discovered, have been investigated by geologists delegated by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, who found that they have an iron content of 45% to 50%. The deposits are easy to exploit, owing to the fact that they are almost on the surface.

### Reopening of a Coal Mine

The "Wyzwolenie" colliery near Lagiewniki (Polish Upper Silesia) which was closed up since 1932, has been reopened this month at a cost of 2 million zlotys for the present with 353 men employed, and is already producing 700 tons of coal a day. The men and the technical staff carried through the re-opening work in record time, as it was expected that the mine would not be in operation before next April. It is one of the largest mines in Polish Silesia, with up-to-date modern technical outfit and an extraction capacity of several thousand tons a day.

### Budgetary Surplus.

In September, the sixth month of the current fiscal year, the budgetary revenue of the Polish Treasury totalled 189,026,000 zlotys; with the budgetary expenditure at 188,433,000 zlotys, a surplus of 591,000 zlotys was realized for the month, closing the first half of the fiscal year with a surplus of 2,248,000 zlotys.

Taxation and monopolies in September yielded 11.7 million more than in the corresponding month of 1936, the total increase of revenue for the month being 13,733,000 zlotys. The growth in expenditure was 13.4 millions, and nearly half of that amount was spent in covering the enhanced requirements of the internal and external service of the National Debt.

### Venezuela Invites Polish Immigration

The government of Venezuela has nominated its first Consul General in Warsaw, Mr. Andres Paul, with the mission of assisting the immigration of Polish colonists, particularly agricultural, to the undeveloped provinces of Venezuela. Several thousands of Poles are already living in that country. (ATE).

### No Campaign for More Births in Poland

Although the London "Observer" has informed its readers about a proposed heavy tax on bachelors in Poland, no such measure is contemplated by the Polish government, nor any other means for artificially increasing the birth rate are used in that country.

A high birth rate is a symptom of national vitality only if it exists naturally, without any official encouragement or support, such as is commonly used in totalitarian countries to obtain more future soldiers. The birth rate of Poland is already among the highest in Europe, without any official effort, limitation of the use of contraceptives, etc.

The Polish Chief Bureau of Statistics has just published data on the natural movement of population in Poland during the second quarter and the first half of the current year. It appears from these figures that the rate of natural increase decreased as against the first half of 1936 when the total absolute increase was 217,859 persons or 12.9 per 100 of population whilst for the first half of the present year it was 178,757 persons or 10.5 per 1000. The other data for the last half-year (comparison with first half-year of 1936 bracketed) are: marriages registered 138,578 (143,669), live-births 433,306 (454,437), deaths 254,549 (236,578), of which infantile mortality was 56,094 (53,999). Computed per 1000 of population the figures work out as follows: marriages 8.1 (8.3), live-births 25.5 (26.9), deaths 15.0 (14.0); deaths of infantile mortality per 1000 live-births 13.0 (12.2). The number of live-births in the first half of the year was 4.7 per cent below the figures for the first half of 1936, but the number of deaths was slightly higher.

Even after that setback of the natural increase of population, it is still proportionately the largest in Europe, with the exception of the Balkan countries, where it is somewhat higher. No special moves of the government tending towards increasing the birth rate are under consideration, particularly as Poland is fast becoming an over-crowded country with a density of population (87 persons per square kilometre) already greater than that of France and of several other European countries.

### New Factory of Fish Flour

The Sea Fish Institute has started a new fish flour factory in Gdynia. This factory will produce flour and fish oil from all fish remains.

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## Polish Motifs and Allusions in Elizabethan and Jacobean Literature

By Dr. Wacław Borowy

The much appreciated Oxonian biographical dictionary ("Athenae Oxonienses"), compiled in the 17th century by Anthony A. Wood, contains a note that at a certain moment Sir PHILIP SIDNEY was considered a candidate for the crown of Poland, and that "the queen of England refused to further his advancement, not out of emulation, but of fear to lose the jewel of her times". Polish sources do not know anything about that plan, and perhaps it was rightly supposed to be an invention of the famous Polish adventurer Albert Łaski; but the fact itself that such a plan was spoken of in England has its significance. Proofs, otherwise, are not lacking of Sir Philip Sidney's interest in Polish affairs: he followed with concern and curiosity the developments of the first royal election (1573), and wrote of his "desire of seeing Poland".

In Elizabethan drama we come across several Polish allusions. In MARLOWE'S *"The Massacre of Paris"* (acted 1592—93) there is an episode in which "the lords of Poland" offer the Polish crown to the Duke of Anjou, afterwards Henry III. He replies modestly: this offer — he says — is "far beyond the reach of my deserts":

"For Poland is, as I have been [inform'd] A martial people, worthy such [a King] As hath sufficient counsel in [himself] To lighten doubts and frustrate [subtle] foies; And such a King, whom practice [long] hath taught To please himself with manage [of the wars]. The greatest wars within our [Christian] bounds, — I mean our wars against the [Muscovite], And, on the other side, against [the Turk], Rich princes both, and mighty [emperors]..."

The theatrical company of "The Lord Admiral's Men" had in their repertory (in 1599—1600) and performed the play entitled *"Strange News out of Poland"*. We know the names of its authors: HAUGHTON and PETT, but the play itself has not been preserved. We may with probability suppose a Polish subject also in the play called *"Vayvode"*, written (or revised) for the same "Admiral's Men" by Henry Chettle (1598), and equally lost. In JOHN WEBSTER'S *"The White Devil"* and *"The Fair Maid of the Inn"* (if the latter is really his) Polish pedlars and Polish shaved heads are mentioned (unfavourably). — In BEAUMONT and FLETCHER'S *"The Knight of the Burning Pestle"* the garrulous London citizens turn "Moldavia" of the play staged before them into "Cracovia" which was evidently more familiar.

The most numerous and most correct Polish allusions occur in SHAKESPEARE in the *"Comedy of Errors"*, in *"Measure for Measure"*, and in *"Hamlet"*, in the last play the very names of Poland and the "Polacks" are repeated about ten times. These mentions gave rise to various critical speculations about the possible Polish origin of certain Shakespearian plots and motifs. Jacob Caro, e.g. has written a fascinating essay in which he contended that the plot of *"The Tempest"* as well as that of *"The Winter's Tale"* only paraphrase some vicissitudes of Polish mediaeval history which might have been learnt and made known in England by the participants of Henry of Derby's expeditions into Lithuania at the end of the 14th century. Nearly everything fits in his hypothesis: characters,

events, atmosphere; we may believe him, that the Baltic coast near the town of Puck is quite a probable scene for Prospero's exile, and that Wilno may be meant whenever we hear in the play of Milan; we may agree that there is a great resemblance between the cruelty of Leontes and that of the wild prince Ziemowit of Masovia; we cannot contest the similarity of a large number of details and their groupings; we should acknowledge as right his observation that Richard II's marriage with Ann of Bohemia created a tie between England and that part of Europe; we may see grounds for believing that Henry of Derby's minstrels returned home with some tales and ballads, but, anyhow, no definite documentary proof of this series of probabilities is extant. The only positive argument is rather slight: that in the German comedy of Ayler, believed to be derived from the same source as *"The Tempest"*, the hero is "the Prince of Lithuania" (for *"Fürst in Litwa"*), the usurper "the Prince of Wilno" (der *"Fürst in der Witau"*); this form was commonly used in the Teutonic Order; and the heroine daughter of "the King of Poland" (des *Königs von Polen*). It is, however, worth adding that a large number of documents relating to the old expeditions to Russia and Lithuania were in Shakespear's time recalled in England by Hakluyt's famous collection of *"The Principal Navigations etc."* (1st ed. 1599; 2nd 1598—1600), which was read practically by everybody.

Of course, even if these suppositions prove true, they concern only the plot which in Shakespeare has no great importance. We see something more substantial in *"Hamlet"*. The presentation of the Poles as being in antagonism to the Scandinavian countries was an exact reflection of contemporary political conditions. Denmark which had been in alliance with Poland up to 1569, now entered into closer trade relations with Moscow and took such a threatening attitude towards her former ally that the outbreak of a war was feared at any moment. In England the Polish question was considered in conjunction with the Danish, and the gifted diplomatic agent Dr. Parkins was sent on missions to the one country and to the other. In the anonymous *"Relation of the State of Polonia"* (1598) a special chapter is given to the Danish problem in the very beginning of which it is stressed that "differences [sic] have happened within these 40 years, whereas before for 200 years the leagues and amity of this crown with Dania, Norvegia and Suecia were observed without any breach". The treatise stated the difficulty of the situation from the point of view of the two parties and affirmed that open enmity is alike hurtful to both. — The relations between Poland and Sweden grew strained and involved since Sigismund III, for a few years the common king of the two countries, lost his hereditary Swedish throne and, unwilling to resign, was driving Poland into a fight for his royal rights. This exactitude in the historical-political background of the tragedy might be taken as a proof that Shakespeare possessed a fairly good knowledge of things Polish. The famous line about "the sledded Polacks" smitten on the ice (I.1.63), which puzzled so many commentators, seems to contradict this statement. But as a matter of fact the error is here only in the compound, whereas the elements are true. Certainly, "Polacks" is the most authentic name of the Poles;

they always used sleds; and their winters in winter are usually frozen into hard ice; Shakespeare exaggerated only the degree of the phenomena, presuming the possibility of a battle on the ice, but this is not so strange in an inhabitant of a country little familiar either with ice or with snow. — But whatever Shakespeare might have known about Poland's climate and history, some of his lines stand like a monument of what was most noble in her chivalrous tradition and most appreciated by those Englishmen who visited her at that time. We have only to recall that fragment of act IV, sc. 4:

Captain:  
Truly to speak, and with no [addition],  
We go to gain a little patch of [ground]  
That hath in it no profit but the [name].

Hamlet:  
Why, then the Polack never will [defend it].

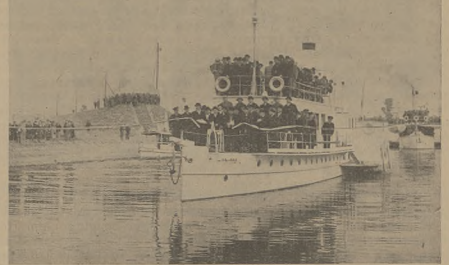
Captain:  
Yes, 'tis already garrison'd.  
Two thousand men and twenty [thousand] ducats  
Will not debate the question of [this] straw.

In the language of poetry it was nearly the same as what in prose was said by the author of the anonymous *"Relation"* of 1598: "In public service they are most hardy, and have always showed great valour". Of course the *"Relation"* was not published but, nevertheless, there are grounds for thinking that its contents were widely known; it was written for the Queen or for someone at the court; it must have been discussed there; and matters discussed at the court were well within the view of Shakespeare.

But there is one more point in *"Hamlet"*, though a less glorious one, on which Polish connections have been convincingly contended, namely Polonius. According to Professor Israel Gollub, who devoted to this question a special study, this name of the Danish courtier had been suggested in some general way by the recent Swedish-Polish conflict in which England was deeply interested, but in particular by a much read book depicting the ideal "Councillor" and written by a Polish statesman Goslicius, known under the latinised name of LAURENTIUS GRIMALIUS GOSLICIUS.

This book, called *"De optimo Senatore"*, was first published in Venice in 1568, and in 1598 appeared in an English translation (*"The Councillor"*), to be revived in 1604, plagiarised half a century later (1660), and once more translated as late as the second quarter of the 18th century (1737). It was obviously very popular; in 1593 it was mentioned by Gabriel Harvey; and the edition of 1598 advertised its value in the subtitle which of itself may remind us of the Shakespearian Lord Chamberlain: "A golden work replenished with the chief learning of the most excellent philosophers and lawgivers, and not only profitable but very necessary for all those that be admitted to the administration of a well-governed Common-weal, written in Latin... and consecrated to the honour of the Polonian Empire". It would seem that Shakespeare might have only ridiculed this sort of pomposity, and so in many cases he certainly did; but as his attitude towards Polonius is not exclusively that of derision, so his attitude towards "The

## New Vistula Port at Plock



Minister Urych cutting the ribbon

Councillor's" phraseology appears to be equally compounded, as Prof. Gollancz says, "Some of Hamlet's noblest utterances sound like echoes from passages in the book". Of course, these "echoes" are always very distant, and resound against very high mountains.

Prof. Gollancz considers also as possible an influence of Goslicius' *"Councillor"* on the conception of *"Measure for Measure"*. A great part of Goslicius' work, he says, "bore on the responsibilities of the Councillor as judge, and some of the most striking passages in the book had reference to magistrates, good and bad. The evil example of magistrates works more ill than their virtues work good". . . Shakespeare, who had already, with lighter touch, portrayed vain and testy magistrates, now in Hamletian mood portrayed Angelo — this Councillor 'most still, most secret, and most grave', deputy of his Duke, whom he supposed travelled to Poland. The very spirit of Goslicius seemed to speak through Shakespeare in the famous words "He who the sword of Heaven will bear" (III.2.274).

Polish motifs reappeared once more in the English drama of the 17th century a generation later, in Charles 1st time, in a work written by an enthusiast of that King and an enthusiast of Shakespeare as well, Sir JOHN SUCKLING. It is called *"Brennoralt"*, was produced in 1640, and published in a complete form in 1646. It is a political play in disguise inspired by the Scottish rising of 1639. The Poles are meant here to represent the English, and the rebel Lithuanians the Scots. Among the actors we have such approximately Polish sounding names as "Palatine of Menseck" and "Palatine of Torck", mixed however with the conventional "Melidors" and "Francelias". The name of the King is "Sigismund". Suckling was a Shakespearian to such a point as to introduce sometimes whole lines from his beloved poet. Owing to this devotion, some of his passages possess undeniable force. — The hero of the play is "a discontent" himself, but he rejects with scorn the suggestion of a rebellion. His central allusion to the King (a. III, sc. 1) best characterises both him and the author's attitude towards his Polish symbols:

"Shall we believe there is no [difference]  
In good and bad? that there's [no punishment]  
Or no protection? forbid it; [heaven!]  
If when great Poland's honour — [safety] too  
Hangs in dispute, we should not [draw] our swords,

## PRESS REVIEW

President Roosevelt's speech is widely commented in the Polish press. J. K. C. writes that not only the White House but the whole United States are deeply concerned at the political crisis of the world, which they regard as a moral crisis no less than a political one, as a social and ethical crisis threatening a return to barbarism and savagery. The American people is strongly opposed to totalitarianism. "An active and energetic democratism is propagated, an aggressive and expansive democratism which is to stand up for the defence of the ideals of the western world". This may lead to a policy of intervention either in the form of diplomatic action or even in a military form. "The change in the attitude of the people and the government of the U. S. A. towards problems of world politics in the sense of revision of the principle of neutrality may be boldly considered as the most important fact in present day world history".

Karier Poranny, in an article entitled "Will America abandon her policy of isolation?", says in conclusion, "In his speech Roosevelt emphasized that the States only spend for national defence 1% of their budget. This is universally considered to be a prelude to the initiation, in the near future, by the President of a great arming action. If America partially abandons at the present moment the principles of isolation policy, she will make use of quite different means to those imagined by Wilson, means which would in a distinct manner increase the weight of her words on international ground".

*Gazeta Polska* discusses the situation created by the action taken by the government against the Union of Polish Teachers, stating that the Union had enjoyed the respect and support of the education authorities and for many years harmony and cooperation had prevailed. But, writes *Gazeta Polska*, the authorities of the Union endeavoured to govern the school administration and to place themselves above the will of the minister. This could not be tolerated "threatening as it did the basis of organized social freedom and neither the authorities of the state nor the community can suffer this".

The new political group now arising consists of a fusion of the National Workmen's Party with the Christian Democrats (Concluded on page 4)

Why were we ever taught to [wear 'em, sir?]

\*) See "An English Relation of the State of Poland in A. D. 1598"; The Warsaw Weekly No. 39.

## VIENNESE LETTER

By Eugene Hinterhoff

Mussolini's visit to Germany, the enthusiastic reception he met with there and the whole course of events were followed in Austria with perhaps even more interest than elsewhere. This of course was centered around his conferences with Hitler, at which the most important political topics had to be discussed. And doubtless the Ballhausplatz awaited references to the Austrian problem with great excitement.

This great interest was largely caused by the results and resolutions of the Venice conference, which offered Germany easy access to and possibly a means of expansion in the Danube Basin. (It is necessary to point out, however, that Germany, occupied with more interesting problems for the moment, has up to the present made no use of these possibilities).

The chats of Mussolini and Hitler were followed at the Ballhausplatz with the quiet reserve which the good Austrian diplomat finds it convenient to display at times, with a certain amount of anxiety in the Fatherland Front, and with hopes and good faith in the small Feinfalt Street, adjacent to the Ballhausplatz, where the Austrian Nazis have their headquarters, and also by their leader Captain Leopold.

It is also necessary to add that a few days before Mussolini left for Germany, the optimism in Austrian official circles was revived by confidential assurances from Rome. On the other hand, the Austrian Nazis, as a result of rumours published by the Swiss "Journal des Nations" and the usual sensational article by Mme. Tabouis in the "Oeuvre" were looking forward to Göring's supposed ultimatum to the Austrian Government concerning internal affairs; these rumours were not denied by the Austrian Government. Therefore, they gained firm ground in wide circles in the Austrian Empire and served as a proof that the clause in the treaty of July 11th demanding the non-intervention of Germany in the internal affairs of Austria exists only on the paper.

Mussolini's splendid reception in Germany, the terms the speeches were couched in and the impression they created abroad, did more than enough to refute all rumours that the Rome-Berlin axis was at breaking point. This fact made a great impression upon Austrian official circles who had recently called the axis an instrument of political convenience; a weapon directed against England. As a result, the so-called Western orientation, so much in vogue at the time of Dr. Guido Schmidt's visit to London, has lost much in power. It must be pointed out that this orientation formed with the plans of the Quai d'Orsay, which included the cooperation of Austria and Czechoslovakia. Then, just at the moment when Austria realizes the integrity of the axis Berlin—Rome, who should arrive in Baden near Vienna, but Hodza, Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia, and have a long and confidential interview with Chancellor Schuschnigg.

This sudden arrival, and the private interview, which the Austrian authorities at first tried in vain to conceal, but were later obliged to publish a sort of semi-official statement, caused many and various comments and suppositions.

The most probable explanation may be the one that asserts that Hodza had received information of a confidential character regarding the talks between

Mussolini and Hitler, which caused him some anxiety. This anxiety might have arisen through the rather hostile attitude of the Italian press towards Czechoslovakia during and after the Venice conferences, and by the strong and decisive tones of the speeches of the leaders of the two Fascist states against Moscow, showing that they were fully aware of the growing intimacy of the Soviets and Czechoslovakia.

Being a realistic and sober diplomat, Hodza could hardly address himself to Chancellor Schuschnigg begging him for assistance, as he might have done for instance to the Polish king Sobieski, during the siege of Vienna by the Turks.

According to this quite probable explanation, he painted in glowing colours all the advantages to be gained by the realization of his plan (being in some respects a renewal of André Tardieu's plan) and especially those advantages in store for Austria, if she would consent to join that great economical and political organization of the future in the Danube Basin.

This sudden visit which caused some sharp comments in the German press, put the Austrian government in a very awkward position. The authorities had to repeat the statement which had been made before, and the official newspapers started a polemic with the "Völkische Beobachter" even going so far as to assert that the visit was of a purely "private character"; quite a common phrase, nowadays, and used so often to cloak official visits.

It is now some time since the Italian flags disappeared from the houses in Berlin, and Mussolini is once more playing a political game directed against the Western powers at the comfortable Villa Torlonia, while the whole world is concerned about the Chinese losses. The Mussolini-Hitler talks have not apparently affected Austria in any way. We can therefore conclude that the optimism in the Government was well founded, and that the Nazis were to be bitterly disappointed. It would be too much to expect political changes immediately after that important visit, and therefore it is risky to make any prophecies as to what results this meeting might eventually have for Austria.

For the moment it may be interesting to note that two powers are crystallizing in Austria; the ever growing and ever more powerful Fatherland Front, which will not enrol any more members after November 1st, and unfortunately also the illegal power whose capable leader is Captain Leopold, who has a promising personality. Even if the Austrian problem was discussed in Berlin, (and no doubt it was), the mere existence of an organized power in Austria such as the Austrian Nazis, will not remain without significance in case of an arrangement between Mussolini and Hitler.

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## MUSIC

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Miss Dorothy Helmrich

Dorothy Helmrich, the well-known Australian recitalist who is now on a tour in Scandinavian countries and Finland, is coming shortly to Poland, and will give a recital at the Warsaw Conservatorium on the 25th of October. Her programme includes German, French and British songs. Miss Helmrich before coming to Europe had just completed a tour in the U. S. A., New Zealand and India, giving in all 90 concerts. She has also represented British composers at the Contemporary Music Festival at Salzburg with great success.

## Concerts of the Art Festival.

The outstanding features of the Festival Concerts were the Szymanowski concert conducted by Gregory Fitelberg who may be considered as the interpreter par excellence of Szymanowski's music. Especially the performance of "Harnasie" was thrilling in its intensity of expression. Mme Bandrowska's rendering of this composer's songs was remarkable feat not only of vocal art but of high musical intelligence without which indeed it is impossible to approach the work of Szymanowski. Thursday's concert again brought many interesting novelties such as a cycle of Polish songs by Czeslaw Marek "In the country", interpreted with rare charm by Mme Wermiska who brought out the folk character of the music with its archness and naivety and its underlying sadness. Other orchestral works were the "Funeral Poem" dedicated to the memory of Marshal Pilsudski by Boleslaw Wytowicz and "Chmieł" a symphonic poem by S. Wiechowicz founded on Polish themes. On Friday, Mme Umilaska gained a real triumph by her performance of Karłowicz's Concerto for violin played with compelling force and spirit. Of quite remarkable interest was the concert on Saturday at the Conservatoire when the Cathedral choir of Poznań under its director the Rev. Father Gieburowski performed a number of religious compositions by Polish musicians dating from the Middle Ages till the present day. The choir consisting mostly of boys' voices is wonderfully trained, their pleasing effects are very good, the forte occasionally somewhat shrill and thin, phrasing excellent, revealing the hand of the good musician as is indeed the director of the choir. Father Gieburowski's *Ave Maria* proved to be a finely conceived composition of deep religious feeling. K. M.

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## Warsaw Amusements

## THEATRES

NARODOWY. Eichlerówna in "Waves in the Night" (WIKI w noc) by Rittner.

From Thursday: "Black Lady" by Shaw and "Life as a Dream" by Calderon.

MALY. "Papa" by Fiers and Cavallet. NOWY. "Skiz" by Zapolska.

MALICKIEJ. "The Mollusc" by Davies. A TENEUM. "Marriage" by Gogol.

KAMERALNY. "Contemporaries" by Gajewczyńska.

LETNI. "Friends" by Fredro. NOWOSCI. "Sqd" (Tria).

## MUSIC

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## MUSICAL SHOWS

POLSKI. "Widow Julia", CYRULIK WARSZAWSKI. "Jas at the Gates of Paradise".

TEATR A. S. "Virtuous Susanna". WIELKA REWIA. Dymysa in "King for a Night".

## ART

I. P. S. Paintings by Czermanski, Siendzinski, Hoppen, Jamont, Kwiatkowski and Horno-Oplawski.

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## CINEMAS

\*\*\*ATLANTIC Taylor in "The Condemned Man's Last Night".

\*\*\*BALTYK Harlow and Gable in "Saratoga".

\*\*\*CAPITOL Barazewska in "The Quack" Polish.

\*\*\*CASINO Eggert and Klepura in "Gypsy King".

\*\*\*COLOSSEUM Gaynor in "A Star is Born".

\*\*\*EUROPA Grace Moore in "When You're in Love".

\*\*\*HOLLYWOOD "Pat and Patachon".

\*\*\*IMPERIAL Boyer and Arthur in "The story of a Night".

\*\*\*PAN Bodo in "Skłamalam", Polish.

\*\*\*RALTO Dietrich and Marshal in "Angel".

\*\*\*ROMA "Toomai of the Elephants".

\*\*\*STYLOWY Paul Muni, Luisa Rainer in "The Good Earth".

\*\*\*STUDIO Jennings in "The Ruler". German.

\*\*\*SWIATOWID Gabin in "Pepe le Moko".

\*\*\*VICTORIA Simone Simon in "Seventh Heaven".

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## Press Review

(Concluded)

under the name of Polish Labour Party (P.P.P.) and is to constitute a central Opposition. *Wiczeór Warszawski* writes, "The creators of this party are followers of the classical system of three parties which are represented as follows:— 1) the nationalistic party of totalitarian and fascist tendencies. To these are reckoned the Nationalist Party and the group of former O.N.R. (National Radicals) as well as O. Z. N. (National Unity), 2) the Liberal, Christian national centre, to which the newly formed party wishes to draw in also the populists, and 3) the Left socialists consisting of P. P. S., whom the founders of the new party consider as a state party not-revolutionary and with whom they are ready to cooperate in the struggle for democracy against totalitarian and fascism".

*Kurier Warszawski* welcomes the newly constituted Polish Labour Party (P. P. P.), as a political consolidation of active national elements and points out that it is "a central platform, a platform of moderate elements possessing in itself restraint of social prudence, not admitting any excesses in words or deeds. In times, nourished as they are by grandiloquence, political character is needed not to allow oneself to be carried away by the infection of imitation of

foreign examples, to be able to stand firmly on one's ground, in accordance with Polish tradition and with the endeavours of the most reasonable elements of Polish national democracy".

A. B. C. asks how the group of O. Z. N. reacts to the new fusion of the National Workmen Party and Christian Democrats. This latter has for one of its objects the consolidation of the centre elements of the people and excluding the extreme right and extreme left, so that it forms a sort of rivalry with O. Z. N. "So far we have no authoritative declarations from O. Z. N. The essential obstacle separating the Labour Party from other groups is their opinions as regards the foreign policy. The leaders propose unconditional cooperation with Czechoslovakia and France". K. M.

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