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No. 45

An Interview with Colonel Koc

The leader of the Camp of National Consolidation, Col. Koc, granted an interview to the "Gazeta Polska".

Col. Koc stated that the organisation has now left the preparatory stage and entered the period of normal work in stabilized conditions. That transition coincided with the appointment of Col. Wenda to the post of the chief of staff, which was hitherto held by Lt. Col. Kowalewski. The leadership of the Young Poland group has been given to Mr. Rutkowski, who is 25 years old.

Speaking of the criticisms addressed by the public to the Camp of National Consolidation, Col. Koc said that he regarded some of them as unfair, but some as justified and deserving consideration. He added that the permanent headquarters of the Camp will have only a small staff, divided into four sections: organisation, information, political, and technical. The permanent staff may be smaller than that used in the period of setting up the organisation. (ATB)

Political Conferences in England

Two important annual conferences were held recently during the same week. The Conservative Party Conference, attended by several Cabinet Ministers and about 2,000 delegates, opened at Scarborough on the seventh, and that of the Labour Party, with 700 delegates, at Bournemouth on the fourth of October. It was apparent from the opinions expressed and from the resolutions passed at both conferences that for all practical purposes the nation is completely united upon important issues of foreign policy and defence.

The keynote of the Conservative Conference was the complete solidarity of the party - which represents the largest single body of political opinion in the country - in its support of the National Government and its policy. There were several minor recommendations, one foreshadowing the reorganisation of the party's finances so that no capable member of the party should be prevented from standing as a candidate for Parliament on account of lack of funds, and another providing for a larger role for the Junior Imperial League in both the local and national councils of the Party. Both recommendations were welcomed by the Chairman of the Party Organisation. The Labour Conference was enlivened by a spirited debate on the subject of Communism, which resulted in a crushing defeat for the advocates of the "United

Fifth Anniversary of Polish Northern Air Service

Poland is linked to the Baltic countries not only by many common interests, but also by many similarities of economic structure and common aims in political economy.

One of the most important links between Poland on the one hand and Latvia, Estonia and Finland on the other, is to be found in their interest for that sphere of international commerce which is bound up with the possession of the Baltic coasts. Poland, rightly considering these interests of the Baltic countries in the field of international economics to be distinguished by their common features, has striven to achieve the closest possible co-operation in many directions with all three of these countries. This co-operation contributed to the development of business relations between Poland and the Baltic countries and the impetus given to these relations soon reacted favourably on the sea trade. Almost all trade took the sea route.

Yet although this route proved excellent for the exchange of goods the need was felt for a different, quicker means of communication to make closer the existing relationships and open the way to new ones. The only means of solving this problem was found in linking these countries to Poland by an air service.

The Polish Air Lines "Lot" undertook the task and in 1931 began to study its economic and technical aspects. Having brought these studies to a satisfactory close, they initiated, in 1932, a service from Warsaw via Wilno to Riga and Tallin.

The length of this route is 1050 kilometres — 395 from Warsaw to Wilno, 875 from Wilno to Riga, 280 from Riga to Tallin. This year the line has been extended another 90 kilometres to reach Helsinki in Finland. Thus Poland now possesses the quickest possible communication with Finland — 6 hours in all — and an even quicker one with Latvia and Estonia.

The extension of the line to the third northern capital was brought about by the favourable results of its exploitation in the first four years of its existence. Its importance as part of a main airway leading through nine countries and seven capital cities can only be properly gauged by remembering that Latvia, Estonia

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This line is the longest in Europe and links up the far northern countries with the Near East within a space of 36 hours where the swiftest boats and trains would need eight days. The line is used mainly for passenger service and mail. Goods traffic is still much hampered, but already pays in the case of quickly deteriorating commodities, such as flowers and fruit, or in the case of small and light articles of value. Businessmen make use of the airmail service for despatching trade samples.

The passenger traffic on the Northern Line is fairly large as is shown by the fact that this year a regular service is being kept up during the winter season, which was not the case until now. The winter season lasts from October 4th to March 27th and in this time the planes for Riga, Tallin and Helsinki will start from Warsaw on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, while the return flights will take place on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

The Chief of Staff of the Baltic armies who recently visited Poland for the autumn manoeuvres travelled by the Northern air line. The many sportsmen who visit Poland also always travel by air.

It is now five years since the Polish Air Lines "Lot" initiated a regular service between Warsaw, Riga and Tallin and after nearly five years of use it has been extended to Helsinki. The Northern Line, as has already been said above, is not an independent, separate airway, but an important link in a main air route of 4548 kilometres which connects the Baltic basin with the southern European seas.

The airway from Helsinki to Lydda is a proof of the mutual understanding and fruitful collaboration on the part of the countries concerned. In its efforts to link the shores of the Baltic to those of the southern seas Poland has at every step met not only with welcome, but often also with far-reaching facilities of the other countries.

The fifth anniversary of the existence of the Warsaw-Wilno-Riga-Tallin air line coincided with the visit of the Polish Minister of Industry and Commerce to the Baltic countries. This visit opens up hopes of a still further consolidation of existing trade relationships as well as of entering into new ones, and that would give an added importance to that swiftest and best means of communication, the Northern Air Line.

Wreaths for the Grave of the Unknown Soldier



Delegates laying wreaths on the Grave of the Unknown Soldier, on behalf of the President and the Government.

Polish Fairs and Exhibitions in 1937

The Poznań Fair held last Spring was a success. The Fair management was compelled to decline many applications from companies desiring to exhibit due to lack of space. However, 2,062 exhibitors took part, of which 1,354 were domestic and 682 foreign. Danzig's industries were represented by 26 exhibitors.

Among foreign nations France led with 331 exhibitors; Germany had 207; Belgium 29, England 27; United States 27; Austria 18; Czechoslovakia 14. Holland, Italy, China, Denmark, Jugoslavia, Switzerland, Sweden, Hungary, and Uruguay were modestly presented.

Wearing apparel and accessories were very extensively shown. Wooden ware, machinery, and metal industries were also well represented.

17th Lwow Fair

The Lwow Fair, held in September, also reports satisfactory results. The space, especially in the technical section, was highly inadequate, notwithstanding the appropriation of the largest pavilions and a large area of open field. Of the total of 880 exhibitors, 642 were domestic and 238 foreign; Danzig had 5 representatives there.

For the first time Poland's tool industry was represented at that Fair. Tools made of the best domestic steel showed workmanship and quality equal to those of foreign manufacture. At present Poland is able to satisfy 70% of the domestic need for tools.

Other Fairs

Other Fairs held in Poland, such as "8th Fair of Wolyn", the "11th Katowice Fair", the "Gdynia Fair", the "International Fur

at Wilno", the "National Brewery Bazaar and Mill Fair", and other fairs of local character, report a general increase over previous years and promise to play an important role in the future of Poland's industry and commerce.

For instance, the "Mushroom Bazaar" held by the Lublin Chamber of Commerce in the town of Sarny, has as its aim:

- Centering mushroom sales in that town
- Enabling buyers and exporters to make direct purchase from the producer
- Correct estimate of the prevailing conditions of the mushroom market
- Standardization and betterment of mushrooms.

The town of Sarny is situated in the center of rich mushroom producing territory. In 1936 the mushroom crop from that region approximated 100,000 kilograms. The quality of these mushrooms is high and is now well known on American, German, and French markets.

The Fur Fairs of Wilno are also becoming a more and more important centre for fur markets. No less important cities than London and Leipzig are now frequenting this Fair. In the current year the total turnover of the Wilno Fur Fair increased 43% over last year.

This Autumn there will be only two more fairs in Poland. At the end of November the 16th National Seed Bazaar will be held in Warsaw. At that bazaar various grains, seeds, etc. of domestic origin will be exhibited. Last year 66 exhibitors took active part. The other fair is the Bydgoszcz Radio Fair which is now open.

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

Results of Geological Research

Systematic prospecting carried out in the Świętokrzyskie Hills in Central Poland by the Polish Geological Institute and the Geological Service of several large industrial concerns have resulted in the finding of rich deposits of barytes in several places. Widely used in the rubber and chemical industries over 5000 tons of this mineral are imported by Poland from Germany and Czechoslovakia every year. The exploitation of the deposits near Straszynsk (vicinity of Kielce) has already started and a plant is being operated at Kielce which it is planned will not only cover the country's requirements of barytes but also that of baryte compounds. Deposits of infusorial silica were also found in the Świętokrzyskie Hills; this material, used for the manufacture of dynamite and in the petroleum, oil and soap industries, as also for insulating purposes, has so far been imported from Hungary. Systematic prospecting has also led to the discovery of deposits of iron oxides in the vicinity of one of the recently proven iron deposits; these oxides are important for the dyeing and allied industries.

Principal Directions of Poland's Foreign Trade in Europe.

During the first eight months of the current year Great Britain continued to hold the first place in Poland's Trade. Exports to Great Britain which reached the total value of 138,996,000 zlotys and Polish imports from that country one of 100,447,000 zlotys, resulting in a favourable balance for Poland of 38,549,000 zlotys. Germany came second on the list, with Polish exports to the Reich worth 102,363,000 zlotys and imports from the Reich 111,545,000 zlotys, leaving an unfavourable balance of 9,182,000 zlotys. The results (in thousand zlotys) of Polish trade with some other European countries were as follows: Belgium: exports 48,300, imports 36,460, favourable balance for Poland 11,840; Sweden: exports 48,148, imports 24,057, favourable balance 24,091; Italy: exports 32,316, imports 23,620, favourable balance 9,196; Holland: exports 41,567, imports 35,347 and favourable balance 6,220.

Deposits with Savings and Credit Institutions.

During the year ending July 1st 1937 deposits with Polish savings banks and credit institutions rose to a joint total of 3,430.7 million zlotys. Of this sum, 1,815 million zlotys, represented savings and as long-term deposits came to 450 million zlotys, nearly two thirds of the total, represented capital accumulation. Deposits on current and cheque accounts aggregated 728 million zlotys, sight deposits and at call amounted to 438 million zlotys; thus 34 per cent of the aggregate deposits represented cash reserves. The Polish Postal Savings Bank, with 912 million zlotys of deposits occupies the first place with the largest individual part of deposits; the communal savings bank followed with 793 million zlotys, the joint-stock banks and banking houses with 507 million zlotys, including Polish branches of foreign banks, with 561, the National Economic Bank with 464 million zlotys, the co-operative credit societies with 269 million zlotys, the Bank of Poland with 182 million zlotys, the State Land Bank with 153 million zlotys, the other communal banks with 52 million zlotys, agencies and branches of the Postal Savings Bank with 31 million zlotys and the Central Bank of Agricultural Associations with 8 million zlotys of deposits.

Industrial Production.

The index of industrial production in Poland receded from 87.3 in August to 85.5 in September (1928=100), a decline of 2 per cent, although 14 per cent over the level of a year ago. The decrease resulted chiefly from a considerable restriction of production in the textile industries, caused by price movements in the cotton market. A decline of production was also noted in the metal, clothing and leather industries which were also influenced by world price movements for raw materials. In the computation of the general index of industrial production, these adverse influences were partly made good by increased production in other branches, especially those connected with building activities.

Economic Conditions

As stated in the monthly bulletin of the National Economic Board of Warsaw, a high level of industrial production and sales was maintained in September. The animation of economic activities usually observable in autumn was stimulated this year by the large volume of investments in public works, building and industries. The increasing buying power of the rural population favourably influenced the sales of industrial goods. The price index of goods sold by the farmers increased from 37.2 a year ago to 50.3 in September, whilst the price index of articles bought by them advanced only from 64.8 to 66.3. Coal extraction was considerably over the level of a year ago; there was some stabilization in the extraction of petroleum, domestic sales of oil derivatives increased, though exports declined. The iron industry, while maintaining its production level, set into operation two other blast furnaces, thus assuring a sufficient supply of pig-iron for the steel works and to the manufacturing industries, but the exports of iron and steel goods declined. The metal working industries, especially the electrotechnical ones reported better employment. Having finished production for the winter, the textile industries substantially restricted their production; the sales of textiles for hitherto not been fully satisfactory. Conditions in the stone, glass and ceramic, timber and paper industries were favourable. The number of hands employed in the industries was about 100,000 persons higher than a year ago, but the decrease in the number of registered unemployed was insignificant in comparison with September 1936. The turnover of the banking institutions increased in deposit and credit operations. Saving deposits continued to rise, but the joint total of all types of deposits did not increase as large sums were withdrawn for the financing of investments, in particular public works. In connexion with these movements, rediscunt with the Bank of Poland was more extensively applied. The Treasury situation developed favourably, and the currency position has also been strengthened; the gold and foreign bill reserves of the Bank of Poland increased steadily, although the foreign trade balance continued to be adverse.

56% of Customs Duties are Collected in Gdynia

The significance of Gdynia and its port in Poland's economic life can be seen from the fact that in the last year 56% of all the customs revenue was collected by the Gdynia Customs House, although Poland has many other customs houses on all its frontiers.

Increased Yield of Direct Taxation

During the first half of the current financial year the yield of the trading-license, income and house taxes in Poland showed an increase as against the corresponding period of last year, while of the direct taxes only the receipts from the land tax declined (from 25.8 million to 19.3 million zlotys) as a result of a remodelling of this tax. The yield of the house tax rose for the periods under review from 40.1 to 40.4 million, that of the trading license tax from 102.6 million to 116.2, and that of the income tax from 118.7 to 124.9 million zlotys.

Higher Sugar Consumption

The Polish sugar mills sold during the manufacturing season 1936-37, which ended in September, 4,150,767 metric cwt. of sugar as against 4,067,447 cwt. during the preceding season. Polish sugar exports declined from 612,169 cwt. to 404,780 cwt; since the 1933-34 season a steady increase in domestic sugar consumption has been noted. The volume of domestic sugar consumption was as follows: 2,910,636 cwt. in 1933-34, 3,019,285 cwt. in 1934-35, 3,445,278 cwt. in 1935-36, 3,745,987 cwt. in 1936-37. This last-named figure of sugar consumption is the highest post War figure noted in Poland. The gain as against last year is 370,709 cwt. i. e., 9 per cent.

Goods Traffic at the Port of Gdynia and Danzig.

Goods traffic at the Port of Gdynia during first three quarters of the year totalled 6,632,337 tons as against 5,556,572 tons during the corresponding period of last year, an increase of 19.4 per cent. Imports amounted to 1,270,130 tons (increase 41.2 per cent) and exports to 5,362,207 tons (increase 14.3 per cent). The gain noted for the Port of Danzig was even greater than at Gdynia. The tonnage of goods handled at Danzig during the two periods under review was 3,965,197 tons and 5,243,650 tons respectively, an increase of 30.2 per cent. Imports via Danzig totalled 1,051,232 tons (increase: 50 per cent), exports 4,192,418 tons (increase: 28.5 per cent). At both seaports the increase of imports resulted mainly from larger quantities of scrap iron, ores, phosphates, pyrites, Thomas slag, and metals being imported, while the list of increased exports comprises coal, coke, foundry and chemical products, meat and (at Danzig only) timber.

Shipbuilding activity in Danzig

The Danzig shipyards are at present engaged in building 41,000 g. r. t. of ships, while a year ago they had only 26,000 tons under construction. This includes an order of the Polish Gdynia—America line for two cargo-passenger ships of 6,500 tons each, for the cotton line to the Gulf ports.

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PRESS REVIEW

Gazeta Polska discusses the situation which has arisen in Danzig by the liquidation of the Catholic Centre Party. It writes that this is not the final aim of the national socialists in Danzig, but that a change in the constitution is looming and its introduction by legal means is at present considered possible although the events of the last few days, the increasing boycott action against Jews seem to point to the possibility of still greater violence and excesses. It is difficult to understand how the proposed elimination of Jews from economic life in Danzig is to be carried out and how it will affect the tendency to reconstruct and enlarge trade of the port and town. According to President Greiser's declaration the inner action of the Free Town will not be directed against Polish interests. "The future will show if on its new road of development Danzig will find the golden mean where lies the line of success and general prosperity; the only aim to which everywhere and always the will of every community tends. Let us hope".

Kurier Warszawski has an article by Giełczyński entitled "Neither with Germans nor with Russia" in which the author shows that "Poland can only fulfil her historic mission with the support of the great Western powers. She is predestined for this by her difficult geographical position in consequence of which she separates two great camps hostile to each other and at the present time, preparing for a war which may cause the ruin of Europe. Poland must for state reasons live on terms of peace and loyalty with her neighbours, but nothing beyond that. At most in a moment of dire need Russia might supply her with raw materials and munitions in case of an invasion from Germany as the price of Poland's not joining any 'crusade' against them. The author concludes with the assurance that an understanding with the Western powers gives sufficient guarantee to Poland since "the rebirth of French and British armaments together with the agreement with the U.S.A. are the most certain guarantee for European peace".

Polska Zbrojna writing of the understanding between the Polish Scouts, the Sharpshooters' Union, Rural Youth and Organisation of Working Youth says that such organisations as these ought to take up a decided attitude concerning certain conceptions connected with the education of youth. "It cannot be a matter of indifference to scouts if young people are brought up with respect for human dignity and are armed with the principles of Christian ethics or whether a fire of zoological hatred is lighted in the youth and they are armed with clubs and castanets. This is no political struggle but one of principles, of up bringing in agreement, with the demands of Christianity and Polish culture". *Polska Zbrojna* is the organ of military circles.

A. B. C. quotes various opinions on the idea of the "Polish Confederation", a radical nationalist organisation aiming also at a consolidation of the nation, but rather from a moral point of view. "The declaration of belief is made in a general form and includes such principles as are common to every Pole, reminding us that apart from all differences of views and interests there exist aims common to all Poles and which all ought to defend, according to which all should live and behave". "This conception of political questions according to the commands of the welfare and the honour of Poland must commend itself to

The Best Shooting Country in Europe

Berlin. At the sporting exhibition of Berlin the Polish trophies have received most of the premier awards in the class of European game. The stag antlers of Count Mיעielski, the wild boar tusks of Mr. Bielski, the elk's head of Mr. Sadowski have received first class awards and were adjudged the best in the Exhibition.

Poland received all the first prizes for European game, except for bears and stags, though these animals are also found in Poland. The result of the exhibition confirms the view that Poland has the best reserves of game of any European country.

1500 Hares in One Day

Stary Sielec. At a shoot on Prince Olgiery Radziwiłł's estate at Stary Sielec, a party of about thirty guns killed in one day 1467 hares, 965 pheasants, 294 rabbits and 223 partridges. It is believed that this result constitutes a European record. It was the best day's bag in Poland for the last 25 years, in equal circumstances. (ATE)

Polish Immigration to Argentine

Buenos Aires. According to Argentine statistics, the Poles hold the first place among the immigrants from Europe. In the first seven months of 1937, 28,085 persons have immigrated into the Argentine. 8,325 of them were Poles, 4,293 Italians, 3,107 Spaniards, 2,483 Germans, 1,712 Englishmen, etc.

Poland has the highest Percentage of Jews

According to data compiled from Jewish sources, the total number of Jews in the world is estimated at 15,925,000. Half of that number — e. i. 7,920,000, live in Central Europe — Austria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, Ukraine, etc., constituting about 6% of the population of these countries.

But the Jewish concentration in Poland is the largest, comprising about 3,500,000 persons, or about 9.5% of the population. In North America there are 4,400,000 Jews — 3% in Palestine, Iraq and Syria there are 503,000 Jews — 3.5%. In Africa there are 450,000. There is more than 1% of Jews in the following countries: Holland, Greece, Turkey, South Africa (5% of the white population) and the Argentine. In the remaining countries the percentage of Jews falls below 1%.

The different degree of concentration is probably responsible for the fact that the Jewish question has special aspects in Poland, where it is particularly acute. It may be added that the Polish Jews are probably less assimilated to the native population than in any other country, if only by reason of their numbers. (ATE)

the most varied spheres concludes A. B. C.

I. K. C. quotes an article from *Stowo* (Wilno) writing that, the meeting of the chiefs of the Union of Legionaries and P.O.W., at which Marshal Smigly-Rydz held long speech, is considered in political circles to indicate a re-consolidation of the Union of Legionaries, a softening of opposition tendencies and a strengthening of the situation of Col. Koc." (ATE)

K. M.

What was Known in old Poland of English Literature and English Theatre

By Dr. Waclaw Borowy

The Elizabethan and Jacobean literature was little familiar to contemporary Poland. The great English drama of the period was made known only by wandering English companies acting in German, who gave performances at the court, and because of the language, could be understood by select audiences only. The first such visit to Warsaw, the new capital of Poland, which has been recorded, was paid by the very alert and enterprising manager JOHN GREEN in the second half of the year 1616. It was prolonged for a few months, and it is probable (though not certain) that it was repeated two years later. We know approximately Green's repertory, as lists of plays from his earlier (1607-1608) as well as from his later (1626) tours have been preserved, and several titles are the same in both; we may thus conclude with likelihood that at least those stock plays were produced in Warsaw. We find among them an adaptation of Marlowe's *"Doctor Faustus"*; a play described as "about the Jew" (*von dem Juden*), which might have been either Marlowe's *"The Jew of Malta"* or Shakespeare's *"The Merchant of Venice"*; Dekker's *"Fortunatus"* and several anonymous plays. If we assume that some of the plays which Green is known to have given later were already in the repertory of these days a probability appears of Warsaw's being acquainted with some works of Shakespeare: by 1626 Green had on his list *"Romeo and Juliet"*, *"Julius Caesar"*, *"Hamlet"*, *"The Merchant of Venice"* and *"King Lear"*.

Another English company whose activity in Poland has been recorded was that directed by AARON ASKEN (in the Germanised form: Arend Aerschen). From one of their official letters we know that they had served for many years the King Sigismund III (who died in 1632); it is evident likewise that they were favoured by his son and successor Ladislas IV, and stayed at his court in 1636, 1639, and about 1641. Little is known about the repertory and the artistic level of this company. It could be natural to believe that it was not very high, but on the other hand, proofs have been preserved that it was appreciated by many men of high standing and education; and in one of their later petitions the company themselves definitely distinguished their art from the fooleries of the clowns. An English traveller, Mundy, in his diary written in Danzig (1642) has left an interesting note on these comedians which gives some idea of their stage-craft and at the same time characterises King Ladislas IV's feelings towards them. "Some summers" says Mundy, "come here (i.e. to Danzig) our English comedians or players which represent in Netherlandish Dutch, having been at Königsberg, before the prince and Elector of Brandenburg, also at Warsaw before the King of Poland. Among those actors was one here nicknamed Pickled herring, much talked of and admired for his dexterity, in the Jesters part, Amo. It is said of him that he could so frame his face and countenance that to one half of the people on one side he would see m heartily to laugh and to those on the other side bitterly to weep and shed tears — strange. He died at Warsaw. His wife... hath an allowance from the King for her maintenance." — It is known that *"Pickelhering"* was a popular stage character created (about 1620) and made famous by the actor ROBERT REINOLD who first belonged to Green's company, at the time of its visit to Poland,

and afterwards was a member of the troupe directed by Asken, at the time when they were coming from the Polish court to Danzig in 1640. He had been then known in Warsaw for twenty five years, and the King evidently considered him an old campaigner.

The latest mention of an English comedian's performance in Poland is recorded under the year 1669, when one GEORGE BENTELEY is believed to have given a show in Cracow with his troupe of 16 people at the coronation of King Michael.

But none of these companies has left any trace of influence on the contemporary literature of Poland. Polish poets were at that time still exclusive in admitting no other sources of beauty than Greek, Latin, or Italian, and, consequently, if they ever read any English or Scotch authors, they selected only those who had written in Latin. Jan Kochanowski, the greatest personality of the Polish Renaissance (c. 1534), in his magnificent *"Zwiaz monumentalny"* (—) that his poems would be known "among the English people who dwell in divers world", but he himself knew only GEORGE BUCHANAN, who was a Scot and wrote in Latin. It is true, however, that in most countries of the continent it was the same, and that numbers of people admired Buchanan who never knew about Shakespeare, whereas we now remember that humanistic celebrity chiefly for the fact that he was the teacher of Montaigne. But even Dr. Johnson thought very much of his poetry. Kochanowski spoke with appreciation of his verse paraphrase of the Psalms and even owes him some suggestions for his own similar work.

Another insular writer to be much read, translated and acquire a wide popularity in Poland throughout the whole 17th century was a Welshman, JOHN OWEN, author of numerous Latin epigrams, equally popular in many other European countries. But even lesser glories of the Britanno-LatinParasus had their following in Poland, as e.g. the poetess ELISABETH JANE WESTON to whom a Latin ode was dedicated in a book of verse printed in Wilno in 1611. — One of these minor English humanists, THOMAS SEGETHUS, came even to see Poland (1611), and not only visited Cracow, Wilno, Lublin, Zamość and Raków (the principal seat of Polish antirritanists), but published in Wilno two books in Latin verse, and made the friendship of the Polish poet Szymonowicz (in the Latinised form Simonides); they exchanged letters, and the Englishman helped the Pole by finding him a Dutch editor for a collection of his Latin poems.

Even in the second half of the 17th century the only British authors to be known were always those who wrote in Latin, and the only work to be more widely popular was JOHN BARCLAY's *"Argenis"*. Though it had appeared first in 1621, it continued to be read even in the 18th century. Wacław Potocki, one of the most talented Polish poets of the period, devoted to its translation several years of patient work, and completed it at c. 1669. Published only about thirty years later, after the poet's death, this translation had two more editions during the next half of a century, which was at that time considerable for a poem; and there was still another Polish version, done by some minor hand. The romantic and adventurous plot of the epic appealed well to the minds of contemporary readers, no less than the moral and political digressions with which "Argenis"

All Souls' Day



Cross on the battlefield of Grochów where fell many of the heroes of the 1831 Insurrection.

The loveliest autumn Monday—All Hallows, Warm, sunny, peaceful. A ceaseless, endless flow of people to the cemeteries, which will only end late at night next day — the All Souls' Day.

People hang on to trays like great bunches of grapes; conators are helpless; the well-to-do look on complacently from the long line of cars, journeying all towards the same goal. The wide sidewalks along the walls of Powazki—the oldest, the historic cemetery—are carpeted from one end of the long street to the other with white chrysanthemums, with here or there a small table set with oil lamps or fat short candles, and piles of evergreen wreaths and crosses. Only a strip of pavement is left for the crowd.

Inside, it seems as if every grave has been decorated already but still people bring pots of flowers and wreaths, and if perchance a grave is forgotten, often a kind hand throws a green garland on it. As dusk falls the hundreds of small oil lamps give out a flickering light...

The same scene is repeated at Brudno, the youngest cemetery, not long ago the place of rest only of the poorest, only that here the crowd is still denser, and not so dignified and quiet. In some places even very loud for the people, coming as they do to the cemetery of the town often for the whole day, bring sometimes

with them drink and victuals. In the country it often happens that a devoted son empties lavishly a pint bottle of liquor on his father's grave, begging him, in warm accents, to drink his fill or that a wife brings food for her husband.

The shocked onlookers do not realise that the poor man is only subconsciously fulfilling the ancient rites of his pagan forebears. From times immemorial they used to go at this time of the year to crossroads and sacred groves, light fires there, carry food and sing songs, to warm, feed and rejoice the souls of the dead, who like to find themselves in a merry company. The church waged perpetual war on these

were put to an ignominious death by the alien oppressor.

In the late evening, the large square, called after Joseph Pilsudski, was the scene of a moving ceremony. Delegations of various Ex Combatants, Legionaries, Sharpshooters, and many others, carrying lighted torches, approached the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior and laid their wreaths at its foot. Torches, lit from the beacons burning on the Field of Mokotow, where the Great Marshal held his last solemn review, and carried through the town, now flared up the perpetual fires in the urns beside the grave. General Gorecki read the roll call of those who fell in battle... From time to time the hollow



School girls tending the graves at the Warsaw Military Cemetery

superstitious customs, but, though secret, they existed until comparatively recent times. A little more than a hundred years ago, Mickiewicz saw them as a child, and the night season, the lonely spot, the summoning of the dead souls to draw near, fired his imagination and gave us in consequence the masterpiece of *Dziady*.

Those who gave their life to gain Poland's freedom were not forgotten by the metropolis. To the mournful beat of muffled drums, guilds and associations marched with standards and wreaths to the different spots chosen by them, where numerous heroes either fell in battle or

beat of drums... A solemn prayer for the dead... And then a sudden flare up and crackle of bonfires, lit at the corners of the large square.

In the military cemetery the Warsaw Girl Guides swept and adorned all the graves, as they do year after year. When night fell, a bugle called the two thousand girls to a bonfire, lit by the monument erected to the memory of the youngest heroes, who died in defence of the town. After singing, the girls, in the greatest order, dispersed, carrying burning branches or sprays, and lighting with them the tiny lamps on every grave and, here and there, larger beacons. V. P.

was abundantly interlarded. Potocki adapted these discussions to Polish affairs and conditions, creating thus in a way an original variant.

The Poles were not alone to enjoy the hybrid beauties of that neo-latin poem; it was appreciated also in the West, and by such men as Grotius, Leibniz, and even Rousseau. Unfortunately, in Poland there were for a long time no other translations to complete the readers' idea of literature on the British isles. The first literary work of the English language to be rendered into Polish was BUNYAN's *"Pilgrim's Progress"*. The translator, Dr. Wiktor Waintrub has recently discovered) was a protestant nobelman Stefan Cedrowski. His motives for undertaking the task were religious. He acknowledged himself that he was not working directly on the original but on a French version. The first part was ready in 1728, though published only in 1764; the second, by another hand, is said to have been done in 1757, and appeared in print in 1775.

A little earlier (1743) Poland made acquaintance with a faked English novel: it was Mme d'Aulnoy's *"A history, political and moral, of Hippolitus lord Douglas, describing the adventures of his friendship with Julia the earl of Warwick's daughter"*.

A new Astronomical Observatory

The construction of the observatory on the Rozspiewany peak has been terminated. It is situated at an altitude of over 2,000 m. in the Eastern Carpathians, among wild, inaccessible mountains. The purity of the air in that part of the country promises very good observing conditions. The building of the observatory will house also a meteorological station and a tourist hostel for sportsmen using the splendid Carpathian ski-ing fields.

The subject, a net of romanesque adventures, was concerned with England and people bearing English names; and therefore the readers as well as the translator certainly gave credence to the author's fictitious assertion that the narrative had been first written in English and she only rendered it into French. The book seems to have been a "best seller" of its day, and spread notions of England amorous and aristocratic.

It was only in the second half of the 18th century that the Poles became aware of the importance of English literature and started an extensive work of translation which was to make up for the neglects of earlier periods.

Independence Day Celebrations

The customary celebrations of the independence of Poland will be held on the 10th and 11th November.

On the 10th at 5.30pm there will be a gathering of delegates of social institutions on the Pilsudski square; subsequently the delegates will proceed to the Belvedere to pay homage to the memory of the Great Marshal.

On the 11th an official Mass will be held at St. John's Cathedral at 9.30 am, at which the Government will be present. Between 8am and 10am services will be held in all churches. The military parade will start at 11am, the route will be: Mokotow Field, the Belvedere, Ujazdowski, Nowy Swiat, Krakowski Przedmieście. At 5pm there will be a gala performance at the Opera.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND

EMANUEL CHURCH WARSAW
Sewerynow 3

Sunday Services

Holy Communion at 8.30 am.
Morning Prayer at 11.00 am.
Holy Communion after Morning Prayer every first Sunday.

Armistice Day Service at 11.45. Those who have not yet had their Flanders Poppies may obtain them at the Church or from Mrs. Sykes.

Polish Music and Films in Paris

THEATRE AND MUSIC

Warsaw Amusements

(From our own correspondent)
In connection with the International Exhibition in Paris, a week of Polish music and films took place in Paris, under the patronage of the Polish Ambassador, Mr. J. Lukaszewicz. The Polish Festival was inaugurated on Wednesday, October 13-th, by the showing at the Exhibition-Cinema (Pavillon Photo-Ciné-Phono) of the picture *Halka*, based on the story of the famous Polish national opera (by Stanislaw Moniuszko) and embellished with its highly original folk music.

Halka has attained a merited success in Paris, as the film has been realised with artistic taste and invention (the producers were Leon Schiller and Juliusz Gardan), and is also specially interesting on account of its background—the Polish mountains of the *Tatry* and Polish mountaineers' costumes, customs and life. The action of the film, the tragical romance of a young mountain girl, *Halka*, in love with the young and rich nobleman, *Janusz*—takes place at the end of the eighteenth century and permits the producers to exhibit not only the most beautiful views of the Polish Carpathians and the *Tatry*, but also all the coloured and picturesque beauty of the costumes and dances.

The musical and dramatic realisation of *Halka* is on a high level. The orchestration is by the Philharmonic Orchestra of Warsaw, while the arias are sung by Miss Ewa Bandrowska-Turska, whose artistry in interpretation and beauty of voice are well known throughout Europe.

Among the players first place must be given to Miss Seweryna Bronisłówna, who, as the godmother of *Halka*, gives an impressive characterization of an old Polish peasant-woman. The title rôle is interpreted with sincerity by Lili Zietliska, who is very good in the delicate. The remaining leading rôles were taken by Witold Zacharewicz (very attractive and handsome in the rôle of *Halka's* faithless lover, the land-owner *Janusz*), Ladis Kiepara, the brother of the famous tenor (in the part of mountaineer *Jontek*, the unrequited lover of *Halka*), Leokadia Ancewiczowa (the mother of *Janusz*), Janina Wilczyńska and Jerzy Leszczyński (in the rôles of *Zofia* and her father).

The big hall of the Ciné-Pavillon was filled to overflowing and the public included among others many representatives of the diplomatic corps, as well as many members of French and Polish literary, artistic and journalistic circles, all of whom warmly applauded and appreciated the picture and the eternally fresh and beautiful music of Moniuszko.

The Festival of Polish Music at the Grand Théâtre des Champs Élysées began on Thursday, October 14-th, with a Symphony Concert, dedicated to the compositions of the late Karol Szymanowski, the greatest Polish modern composer. The music was interpreted by the Symphonic Orchestra of the *Polskie Radio* under the baton of that excellent conductor, Mr. Grzegorz Fitelberg, who is without doubt the finest interpreter of his work, whose soloist was Miss Ewa Bandrowska-Turska, who rendered the songs of Szymanowski with rare existiveness and intelligence.

On Friday, October 15-th, there was a second Symphony Concert with the same participants and also Henryk Sztopmka at the piano. His performance of Paderewski's



Pospieltowski, Luszczyewski and Jaracz in „Marriage”

Marriage.
(Teatr Ateneum)

The *Teatr Ateneum* opened its new season with *Marriage*, a comedy by Gogol, the famous Russian playwright.

It is a capital burlesque on the method of arranging marriages, where the position and the title of the man and the dowry of the woman quite overshadow their characters and their love-affairs with other persons, and are sufficient reasons for uniting the couple.

This bartering of *Agafja Tichonowna's* hand between five competitors is shown in *Marriage* in a very humorous manner and with a tragicomic ending, since *Agafja's* chosen husband, *Ivan Podkolesin*, loses courage and flies at the last moment from his unfortunate fiancée.

Marriage as translated by Julian Tuwim has all the essential qualities of Gogol's humour and achieved success.

The inherent qualities of the work are skillfully drawn out by the production of Stanisława Perzanowska, while the humorous settings and costumes of *Władysław Daszewski* add comedy and character to the burlesque. The rôle of *Agafja Tichonowna* finds an excellent interpreter in *Ewa Bonacka*, who very well portrayed the character of a stupid Russian girl, without education and intelligence, whose one and only dream is to be married to a nobleman.

Her faithless groom, the "councillor of the court", *Ivan Podkolesin*, who so cravenly flies from her and is so haphazard in marriage-affairs, is brilliantly played by *Stefan Jaracz*, who gives an unusual performance a Russian state-official.

Very interesting characteristic figures are also created by *Stanisława Perzanowska* (the match-making woman), *Leszek Pospieltowski* (very amusing as *Ivan's* servant, *Stefan*) and *Helena Gruszczyńska* (*Agafja's* aunt), all of whom penetrate very satisfactorily into the Russian atmosphere of the play.

Fantazja Polska was especially brilliant.

A concert by *Jan Kiepara* concluded the Festival on Saturday, October 16-th. The famous Polish tenor had an enormous success and was enthusiastically applauded by the audience which included the French President, Mr. Lebrun, and many eminent representatives of the politic, diplomatic and artistic worlds of Paris.

Jerzy Macierakowski.

The other performers, especially *Juliusz Luszczyewski* give a false note to their rôles, as they apparently do not understand the author's wishes. This deprives the performance in several scenes of the uniform style and character so indispensable to a display of a satirical and "Russian" humour of Gogol's burlesque.

THE CONTEMPORARIES

(Współczesne)
(Teatr Kameralny)

Mrs. Pola Gojawczyńska is one of the most outstanding names in modern Polish literature. Several of her novels, such as *Ziemia Elżbiety* (*The Land of Elisabeth*) or *Dziewczęta z Nowolipki* (*Girls of Nowolipki*) were not only sensational events among new Polish books, but without doubt will remain artistic and valuable contributions to our literature.

For this reason Mrs. Gojawczyńska's debut, as a playwright, was awaited with intense interest and the first night of her first play *The Contemporaries* (*Współczesne*) filled the *Teatr Kameralny* with large crowds of her readers and admirers.

It is not surprising, also, that after her great achievements as a novelist, the public expected a very high standard of artistry from Mrs. Gojawczyńska, as dramatic authoress, in the theme, the scenic construction and dénouement. From this point of view, however, *The Contemporaries* rather disappoints by the stereotyped and ordinary treatment of the eternal "femine question": women's love and the breaking of their hearts, since men are dreadful creatures and women are innocent victims of male brutality...

The three heroines of Mrs. Gojawczyńska's play: *Janina Popławska*, her friend-Maria and Mrs. Kowalska are ordinary types, well known to the novel and the stage: the first with her broken idealism and tragic love, the other—a typist becoming the mistress of her chief—and finally Mrs. Kowalska, slaving for her drunken husband.

Under such conditions, Mrs. Gojawczyńska's choice of theme can hardly be satisfying. This theme, however, is a kind of malady with all women-writers, and now that the talented authoress of *Girls of Nowolipki* has succumbed to it we may expect some interesting plays from her, as in *The Contemporaries* she has shown, on the other hand, a marked ability to create vivid scenic figures and colourful situations: she has amply demonstrated the dramatic possibilities of her talent.

THEATRES

NARODOWY. "Doświadczenia" and "Pan Benda" by Fredro.
POLSKI. "Galathea rozmaryn" by Nowakowski (from 9th Nov).
MAŁY. "Walęszy sie dom" by Morowiczew-Szczepkowska (from 8th. Nov).
NOWY. "Skiz" by Zapolska.
MALICKIEJ. "The Mollusc" by Davies.
ATENEUM. "Marriage" by Gogol.
KAMERALNY. "Contemporaries" by Gojawczyńska.
LEŃSKI. "An Armenian from Beyruth" by Siedlecki.
NOWOSI. "Jacob and Esau".

MUSIC.

TEATR WIELKI—OPERA.
Saturday: "The Sun of Mexico"
Sunday: 1530 "The Sun of Mexico".
20.—"Legenda Baltyku"
Monday: Legend.
Tuesday:
Wednesday: Repertoire undecided at time of going to press
Thursday:
Friday:

KONSERWATORIUM.

Saturday: Piano recital of Angelica Morales.

FILHARMONIA.

Sunday: Matinée — Violin recital of Jozef Szligo.
Friday: — Symphonie Concert. — Dir. Lovro Matelic. Piano: Monica de Bruchollerie. France Ellagard.

MUSICAL SHOWS

CYRULIK WARSZAWSKI. "Ktoś z nas zwarował"
TEATR S.5. "Virtuous Susanna"
WIELKA REWIA. "Honey-moon trip"

ART.

I. P. S. Paintings by Czermanski, Sienkiewiczski, Hoppen, Jamont, Kwiatkowski and Horo-Opławyki.
ZACHĘTA. Several one-man shows.
NATYONAL MUSEUM. Monuments of Marshal Piłsudski.
"Egyptian Excavations"

CINEMAS

ATLANTIC. D. Durbin and L. Stokowski in "A hundred Men and one Girl". (*Good American musical*)
"B. A. L. T. Y. K. Barriex in "Port Arthur" (*Good French Spy Film*).
CAPITOL. Barszczyńska in "The Quack". (*Interesting Polish drama*)
"CASINO Eggert and Klepura in "Gypsy King". (*Amusing German musical*)
"COLOSSEUM "Seplo of Africa".
"EUROPA Isa Miranda in "The strange life of Nisa Petrowna".
HOLLYWOOD. Paula Wessely and Willy Forst "How Love Ends" (*Austrian*)
"IMPERIAL Loretta Young and Tyrone Power in "Cafe Metropole" (*Raffling American comedy*)
"PALLADIUM. Mac Donald and Eddy in "When the Lilies blossom". (*Average American musical*)
"P. AN Bodo in "Skłamanal". (*Polish drama*)
"RIALTO Dietrich and Marshal in "Angel". (*Marlene in good dramatic rôle*)
"ROMA Anna Neagle in "Queen Victoria". (*The History of a dynasty*)
STYLOWY. Barszczyńska and Cwiklińska in "Dziwczęta z Nowolipki" (*Good rendering of the well known novel*)
"STUDIO. Kitty Santzen and L. Diehe in "A Life at Satk" (*Tense German drama*).
ŚWIĄTOWID. Dymasz in "Niedorajda" (*Polish farical comedy*).
VICTORIA. Astaire and Rogers in "Let us Dance". (*Well up to their usual standard*)

NOTE: In response to numerous requests we have introduced a new system of film rating which we hope will satisfy our readers.

Starred cinemas play at 5, 7, 9, other 6, 8, 10.

BRITISH PASSPORT CONTROL OFFICE

UJAZDOWSKA 18, WARSAW

No 67

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

No. of certificate	NAME	Age	Category	Last date of visa	Address
F.2376	I. 64 GRUNES Freida	30	G	19.4.38	Pierackiego 54 Stanisławów
F.2387	I. 20 RAÜCHER Sara	32	G	17.10.38	ul. Sobieskiego 23 Dąbrowa Górnicza
F.2387	I. 99 FELDBLUM Michal	19	G	23.12.37	Krakow, Sw. Jana 3.

The *Teatr Kameralny* has produced Mrs. Gojawczyńska's play under the stage direction of *Karol Adwentowicz*, who brought out all its theatrical value and colour, and with the settings of *Stanisław Cegielski*, who has shown great inventiveness in creating the plastic background for the six scenes.

The cast is not always satisfactory. The hard work and good intentions of *Irena Grywińska* (appearing in the rôle of *Janina Popławska*) have long been known and appreciated. Her physical qualities and appearance however, are so imposing that they hardly present a convincing picture of a young girl, just entering on life. Such miscasting deprived the leading feminine rôle of its character and was an unavoidable cause of *Grywińska's* failure.

On the contrary *Janusz Strachocki*, as *Stefan Rogowski*, the cause of many feminine tragedies and the representative of "the lowest but the most universal male instincts" gave a good, discreet performance.

Janina's rival, the rich *Miss Melner*, was an opportunity for *Helena Kiejawicz* to display the characteristic traits of her interesting talent and appearance. The programme includes a long list of players, among which *Michalina Zamillo*, *Janina Morska-Zniczowa* (Mrs. Kowalska), *Jan Kochoanowicz*, *Lidia Kownacka* and *Władysław Ostrowski* deserve mention. Arno

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The Polish Latin American Chamber of Commerce advises us that from the 3rd November onwards, the annual half year courses in the Portuguese language have been started. The official opening of the courses was effected in the presence of the Brazilian and Portuguese Ministers. Enquiries should be directed to the Secretary of the Chamber, Mokotowska 12, Tel. 9-22-90.

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