

# THE WARSAW WEEKLY

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3rd YEAR

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No. 50

## Minister Kwiatkowski on Economic Developments

Mr. Kwiatkowski, Minister of Finance and Vice-Premier, who is responsible for the economic policy of Poland, made an important speech at the opening session of Parliament. It was a summary of Poland's economic progress in 1937 and an outline of the Government's policy for 1938.

Mr. Kwiatkowski remarked that Polish statistics are generally based on the years 1928 and 1929 considered as standard years, and their indexes are taken as 100. The years 1928 and 1929 were in fact better than the average and for that reason the statistics do not show the full extent of the recovery.

The production of most commodities, notably coal and iron exceeded the 1928 level, which was the highest on record since the war. Mr. Kwiatkowski concluded that 1937 has been one of the best years for Poland from the economic point of view. The recovery in Poland came later than in some countries, but it was very fast. The index of production increased by 21% in 1937 (first half of), which was the highest rate of increase of any country in Europe.

The situation of the agricultural classes has also considerably improved, as the prices of agricultural products have increased by 31%, while industrial prices rose only by 2.3%. The purchasing power of the farmers has in consequence increased, with favourable results for the industry.

Imports have increased to the point of exceeding exports for the first time since several years, but as imports consisted chiefly of machines and raw materials, there is no ground for anxiety on this account. Besides, the unfavourable balance of trade has already been checked.

Mr. Kwiatkowski established a "hierarchy of principles" which will guide the policy of the Government; 1) A balanced budget, 2) the systematic construction of pioneer undertakings by the State, 3) the stability of the currency and the re-establishment of confidence, 4) the profit earning power of private enterprise.

The budget is balanced and will remain so. For that reason it has not been increased by more than 120 million zloty for the next year, although the recovery might permit a larger increase. No new taxes have been introduced, in order to preserve the profit earning power of private enterprise. (pt. 4).

The principal task of the Government will be the industrialisation of the country through the improvement of transport facilities and the development of key industries requiring a large capital outlay. The Government will be an industrial pioneer, but without the ambitions of a monopoly. The construction of the Central

Industrial Region is the largest pioneer undertaking of the State, which desires to prepare the way for private enterprise.

In the budgetary year 1938—39 over one milliard zlotys will be spent by the Government on such investments, chief amongst which are: the construction of a canal between the Vistula and the Warta, the construction of a hydro-electric power station near Wilno, and the development of the Central Region, including the construction of railways, dams, roads, factories, high tension electric lines, gas pipelines, etc.

A simplification of the taxation system will be proceeded with, as some taxes will be suppressed and the remaining ones proportionately increased, in order to avoid complicated formalities. State enterprises will have to pay taxes identical with those of other private concerns.

Mr. Kwiatkowski's speech made an excellent impression, as its optimistic conclusions were based on hard facts. Moreover, Mr. Kwiatkowski is known to be an organiser of exceptional ability and foresight. The construction of the port of Gdynia was due mainly to his efforts and the vast plan of the Central Industrial Region bears the stamp of the same practical mind. Before becoming Minister of Commerce and Industry in 1928, Mr. Kwiatkowski was managing Director of the largest nitrate works in Poland, at Mościce, and he has a profound business experience.

### VIRTUTI MILITARI FOR WOMEN SOLDIERS

Marshal Rydz Smigly decorated with the cross of *Virtuti Militari* (the highest Polish military decoration), the standard of the women members of the Polish Military Organisation, which was active during the war.

The women members of the POW (Polish Military Organisation), in many cases sacrificed their lives for the national cause, either fighting together with their brothers and husbands, or acting as intelligence agents. They have rendered extremely valuable services, especially in the latter sphere, and the present decoration was a recognition of their merit in that respect.

### FRENCH PRIZE FOR POLISH NATIONAL BALLET

The Polish National Ballet received the highest distinction—a Grand Prix—after its performance in connection with the Exhibition. The composers who wrote the music for the Polish Ballet, — all Poles, received gold medals.

After a series of performances in Paris the Polish Ballet will start on a world tour.

## MONSIEUR DELBOS IN POLAND

The visit of Mr. Delbos to Poland, besides being another manifestation of the revived strength of the Franco-Polish alliance, provided an opportunity for an exchange of views between the Ministers of the two countries.

Press and public opinion in Poland alike accorded a cordial welcome to Mr. Delbos, which, was not a mere gesture of courtesy, but the outcome of certain conclusions. Passages from a book written by Mr. Delbos some years ago, in which he drew a comparison between Russia and Poland to the advantage of the latter, made a very good impression. The fact that his journey was not continued to Moscow proved conclusively that Mr. Delbos sees the difference between Soviet Russia and Poland in true light.

The conversations between the Ministers once more affirmed the importance attached by both Governments to their mutual obligations, and elucidated certain questions. It was stated that if any negotiations for a new Locarno were to be started, Poland would have a part in them. It is understood that the French and Polish Ministers came to the conclusion that the political tension in Europe has somewhat decreased in the last months.

Although no official statements has been made on the subject, it is believed that the colonial claims of Poland have been also discussed. The French press gave much prominence to the colonial demands of Poland on the occasion of the visit of Mr. Delbos, and it generally admitted that such claims have sound foundations, entirely apart from considerations of national prestige and pride.

As Poland generally favours bilateral negotiations in her relations with other — and particularly neighbouring — countries, it is believed that the French Minister did not touch upon such questions, which could be settled only by direct understanding. For instance the relations between Poland and Czechoslovakia depend largely on the good will of the Prague Government in treating the Polish minority in that country.

There is reason to believe that Roumania was highly satisfied with the success of the French visit in Poland, as there is no opposition whatever between the interests of Roumania and Poland, whose friendship with France is equally to the advantage of both these countries.

It is felt in Poland that the recent rapprochement between Gt. Britain and France may have made the old Franco-Polish alliance better appreciated in London. It is, after all, one of the few facts which really can be relied on in the present troubled state of Europe. It is obviously defensive and it constitutes a fairly powerful weapon for the defence of peace and established order. (ATE)



Mr. Delbos with Mr. Beck



Ministers Kwiatkowski, Delbos and Roman enjoying a quiet chat

### DANZIG DECLARATION ABOUT BUSINESS WITH POLAND

*Danzig.* The Senate of the Free City of Danzig has issued a declaration stating in 20 points the policy of the Senate with regard to Polish business transacted in the Free City.

The Senate retracts its decree about special licences for shipping agencies.

The grain trade between members of the Danzig exchange and foreign merchants will be free of tax (as the grain trade of Danzig is done almost exclusively with Poland, the latter will benefit).

Polish firms investing funds in the construction of warehouses, etc., in Danzig, will benefit from tax rebates.

Poles will be employed in Danzig on equal terms with natives whenever there are sufficient vacancies.

Three new Polish members will be admitted to the Danzig Chamber of Commerce and

Industry, and the number of Polish members of the Exchange will also be increased.

The declaration states in detail the rights of Poland in the Danzig harbour, to which Poland has been entitled since the creation of the Free City. It is hoped that this will assist Polish businessmen to use the port of Danzig freely and without any hindrance.

### NEW COMPANY FOR AMERICAN TRADE

A new company is to be founded soon for the purpose of concentrating in its hands the trade of Poland with the United States. It is understood that the new company may enjoy a virtual monopoly in the trade between the two countries and that it will give much attention to the standardisation of Polish exports.

It is hoped that the efficient organisation of the new company, which may be assisted by the government, will help the development of the commercial relations between Poland and U. S. A.



# WHY DID THE POLES REVOLT IN 1830

By Wanda Peszke  
(Continued from No. 49)

On 1 December 1825, Alexander died suddenly in Taganrog. The third son of Paul the First, Nicholas I became Tsar. The next day, rather inefficient revolution broke out in St. Petersburg. Nicholas crushed it immediately, but, during the famous trial of the Decabrist, it transpired that the Russian revolutionaries were in touch with Polish ones.

Great numbers were arrested and after an inquiry in which the martyr patriot Major Lukaszynski, prisoner, deprived of his rights of noble birth by a former trial, was tortured most cruelly, the prisoners were sent before a High Tribunal formed from the senators, all the bishops and high lay dignitaries. Nicholas was sure that these dignified old men (one bishop was eighty) would never dare go against his wishes. The Tribunal said that the only fault of some of the accused was that, knowing there was a conspiracy in Russia, they did not tell the Government about it, and the hardest sentence they passed was three years and three months of prison, counting the sixteen months the accused had been detained during the inquiry. Three accused got these months each, the rest were allowed to go free.

The fury of Nicholas was terrible to witness. He had six of the accused immediately taken to Petersburg, to be kept in the grim subterranean prison of the citadel of Petrowpawlsk.

Time after time Nicholas broke the constitution (one of its clauses said that no Pole could be taken by force out of the country), by ascending the throne he had solemnly sworn to keep it. When, in 1826, General Zajczek died, the Tsar would not appoint a new governor, only gave orders that the council should obey all the orders of the Grand Duke, both written and given by word of mouth. In this way Constantine became the real governor.

In the Polish lands which belonged to Russia from the time of the partitions of the reign was felt instantly. Many Poles who of the best families were sent to Siberia. Poor people of gentle birth, who could not show by documents their rights to a coat of arms, lost it and in consequence were not allowed to send their children to school. The Luck bishopric was abolished, forty monasteries were closed. Preliminary steps were taken to the future abolition of the Uniate. The news of the unhappy lot of relatives and friends over the border increased the sufferings of the people.

About 1819, the character of the Grand Duke gradually began to change. He married a Pole, a mild, domesticated young gentleman, to whom he was really attached. His storms of passion became rarer.

The officers had learnt to apply his system, so that he should be pleased and the soldier perfectly drilled. It became a kind of competition among the higher and the lower ranks of officers to show what perfection they could attain without using corporal punishment. The obedience of the Polish soldier was never blind and spiritless as that of the Russian soldier.

His younger brother's accession to the throne opened Constantine's eyes to the fact that his position in the kingdom had a great worth, that it squared accounts for the lost crown of Russia. The importance of being in good comity with army and nation naturally followed.

In his letters to Nicholas, he took the part of the nation and army against the accusations thrown upon them by the Russian

revolutionists; he pleaded the lawful hopes of Poles to be united again with their countrymen in the eastern lands; he persuaded the unwilling Nicholas to be crowned king in Warsaw according to the demands of the constitution.

His endeavours to a reconciliation with the nation obtained no result. Hardly any one knew of his attitude towards Nicholas, but every one knew instead that formally he answered for all the repressions and menaces and the activities of the secret police and his person made void the laws of the constitution. Constantine tried now to gain popularity in the army. His capricious severity was substituted by an uneven, unpedagogical mildness, giving just as bad results.

Under the pressure of the officers' corps, he agreed to many reforms, as the abolishment of corporal punishment; the obligatory teaching of the illiterate by the Lancasterian system, etc. The care which was bestowed upon the soldiers made many wish to remain longer in the army than the prescribed ten years. In 1827 about the third part (2400) of the soldiers whose service came to an end, asked to be allowed to remain in the army. This man, who came with an inveterate hate to everything he found in Poland, began slowly to understand his mistake. The change came too late.

In May 1829 the Tsar came to Warsaw for his coronation, postponed by the Turkish war. There was a conspiracy aiming at murdering Nicholas in the officers cadet school. They all came to the review in the Plac Saski with their rifles loaded, but the sign that was to make them take the Tsar as their target did not come. A legend says that he was surrounded by women and children and the chivalrous patriots hadn't the nerve to shed the blood of innocent persons. Slowacki in his 'Kordjan' tells us that old Niemcewicz forbade his countrymen to use such methods of warfare. However it happened, there was no attempt to fulfil the plan.

In 1830, the Diet met after five years and called loudly for a change of the system. As usual the budget was kept secret, and the attempts against the constitution, mentioned above, were increasing still in quality and quantity. The petitions, written to the Tsar, were answered by him curtly, with a promise to look into the wishes of the nation.

At this time a division became evident in the nation. The older generation, who had witnessed the fall of Napoleon and the growth of power of Russia (the Turkish war did not open their eyes to the fact how superficial on the whole was that power), weary of fighting and crushed in spirit, had lost belief in the possibility of any change. Even the Patriotic Society, now decimated by arrests, had never been really revolutionary. Looking as they did, on the authorities as legal, they only wished to keep up the national spirit, and defend the nation against Russian influences. This moderate policy was enhanced by those who returned from their long imprisonment, refined and ennobled in spirit but, having suffered for the Cause, were loath to make younger brethren suffer the same atrocities.

However, a younger generation was appearing on the stage. The defeat of Napoleon was for them only a childhood's memory, whereas the Napoleonic legend

gave them a belief in great deeds done solely by higher moral power. Romanticism was spreading all over Europe and waking up in Poland also. The youthful poems of Mickiewicz were the mouthpiece of these aspirations and aims. They echoed in the hearts and brains of the young men in the Officers Cadet School.

This school was an institution created and headed by Constantine. Here he hoped to have officers taught according to his system. Year after year, day by day, they spent in training. Perfect drill, coolness and surety in giving commands were the sole aims. In the evening there were a few hours of lectures on regulations of service. Just before the outbreak of the revolution, the commander of the school, tried in vain to persuade the Grand Duke to introduce lectures on mathematics, drawing, tactics and military administration.

"This system of education of future officers met with sharp criticism on the part of older officers. They said that it bored the pupils to death, disheartened them, made them odd and eccentric, and sick of military service. But it was impossible even to mention this to Constantine. In the autumn, 1830, heavy clouds gathered over Poland. Nicholas I, who thought it his duty to punish France and Belgium for the revolution of July, decided to mobilize the Polish army and place Russian troops in their stead in the Kingdom. He sent a rescript to the Polish Treasury to prepare the necessary money.

The fear that Nicholas, taking advantage of the absence of the army, might entirely abolish the constitution, and, at the same time, the repugnance at supposing other nations' movements to independence, decided the Polish conspirators to shake off the Russian yoke. New imprisonments and reprisals followed. There was no time to be lost. On the night of the 29th of November 1830, the cadets, together with the university students, began the Revolution which spread afterwards to the army and the entire nation. The next day there was neither the Grand Duke nor a Russian in Warsaw.

Constantine saved his life by hiding in his wife's bedroom among her women, where the chivalrous cadets did not seek him, and, escaping over the frontier, he never returned to Poland, dying six months later from cholera.

A regular Russo-Polish war, sanctioned by the solemn deposition of the Tsar as King of Poland by the Sejm, began, lasting one year, and ended with an honourable defeat for the Polish army. Warsaw fell again into Russian hands.

3) Wacław Tokarż. The Conspiracy of Wysocki and the November Night.

## EXPORTS OF READY-MADE CLOTHES

During the first three quarters of the current year, exports of ready-made clothes, etc. from Poland came to 20,022 metric quintals valued at 15,356,000 zlotys. The figures for the corresponding period of last year were 17,025 quintals and 10,722,000 zlotys. Thus the rise in this class of export goods from Poland works out at 16 per cent as to weight, and at nearly 50 per cent as to value. A considerable increase in the export of ready-made men's clothes and leather gloves was the main cause of the advance. Exports of rubber footwear was also resumed and exports of leather footwear extended. On the other hand, there was a decline in the exports of ladies' apparel, finished and half-finished felt hats.

# ECONOMICS

## Trade Turnover with British Colonies

In connection with the improvement in the economic situation of individual countries there has been a large demand for raw materials, which has found expression in augmented exports from the Colonies and caused a secondary phenomenon taking the form of an increased absorbing capacity of the colonial markets. The fastest development in exports was evinced by the British Colonies.

Exports by British Colonies situated in ASIA showed the following results for the past three years: (in million gold Dollars)

Name of Colony	1934	1935	1936
Ceylon	54.5	50.5	54.3
British India	335.1	344.6	400.7
British Malaya States	19.7	19.4	21.7

Exports by British Colonies in AFRICA showed still better results: (in million Gold Dollars)

Name of Colony	1934	1935	1936
Nigeria	28.3	33.4	46.5
Gold Coast Colony	23.7	26.9	36.5
Kenya and Uganda	16.7	18.6	26.0
Nyasaland	2.2	2.2	2.4
Northern Rhodesia	13.2	13.6	14.8
Southern Rhodesia	22.4	23.8	26.8
Siera Leone	2.4	4.5	4.9
East Africa	3.3	7.1	7.7
Tanganyika	8.0	10.0	10.9

It is worthy of note that the increase in the exports of all the African Colonies amounted to almost 40% for Nigeria, Kenya and Uganda and just under 36% for the Gold Coast.

Of the other colonies, situated in other continents, BRITISH GUAYANA exports for 1934 amounted to Gold Dollars 4.9 million, for 1935—6.8 million and for 1936—6.3 million. Exports by JAMAICA also appreciated (in million Gold Dollars 9.2—10.7—11.7).

The British possessions in Asia, with the exception of Ceylon and India, have shown an unquestionably increasing absorbing CAPACITY FOR IMPORTS during the last three years. The British Malay States which during 1934 imported goods to the value of 163.3 million U.S.A. Dollars, increased imports in 1936 to 175 million USA Dollars.

The increase in imports by the Colonies in Africa is incomparably greater, especially in finished articles. The growth in imports is illustrated by the following data: (in million Gold Dollars)

SOUTHERN RHODESIA has been increasing its imports of metals & metal products (£ 1,767,834 —2,308,475 —2,585,967), pottery, glass and cement ware (£ 75,564 —86,300—105,095), osier shoots and sundry items made of this wood (£ 173,316 —185,368 —204,542).

SIERRA LEONE is importing greater quantities of clothing (in 1934 for £ 9,198, in 1935 for £ 9,529), cotton manufactures (in 1934 for £ 131,821, in 1935 for £ 350,642), cement (1934 for £ 6,779, in 1935 for £ 9,067), whisky (in 1934 for £ 9,947, in 1935 for £ 10,645), coal and coke (in 1934 for £ 38,866, in 1935 for £ 51,052).

Another should be made of TANGANYIKA which, during the last three years, has conspicuously augmented its imports of cotton manufactures (£ 492,987—601,704 —648,616), building materials (£ 77,611 —107,552 —135,074), iron, steel and their manufactures (£ 89,740 —112,089 —162,955), whisky (£ 34,567 —36,175 —38,994) and medicines (£ 31,841 —31,747—37,383).

All the other British colonies—BRITISH GUAYANA in 1934 imported goods for 4.9 million, in 1935 for 5 Million, and in 1936 for 5.4 million Gold Dollars. JAMAICA's imports for the same years being 13.9 million, 14.1 million and 15.1 million Gold Dollars. (Polska Gospodarka No. 36, 1937).

	1934	1935	1936
Nigeria	15.7	22.3	35.4
Gold Coast Colony	12.8	21.3	24.4
Kenya & Uganda	12.3	13.4	14.0
Nyasaland	1.5	1.8	2.0
Northern Rhodesia	8.6	8.3	9.1
Southern Rhodesia	13.2	16.0	17.4
Siera Leone	2.3	3.3	3.6
South West Africa	3.6	4.1	4.6
Tanganyika	6.4	7.9	8.5

As to the kind of goods in demand in these colonies, this, of course, varies considerably in the individual markets:

NIGERIA is yearly increasing its imports of clothing (in 1934—£ 108,783, in 1935—£ 155,186), chemical products (in 1934—£ 174,586, in 1935—£ 210,445), iron, steel and their products (in 1934—£ 460,872, in 1935—£ 631,023), cotton piece goods (in 1934—£ 1,303,860, in 1935—£ 2,534,216).

THE GOLD COAST COLONY is showing a growing demand for the following goods (import figures for the years 1934, 1935 and 1936 in pounds sterling): Clothing: 75,955—125,193—171,384, cement: 61,316—94,435—130,522, cotton piece goods: 733,077—1,557,067—1,658,665, medicines: 63,601—99,116—113,004, and metal products: 259,570—596,254—772,964, soap: 63,374—79,733—89,892, finally whisky & liquors: 82,532—119,948 and 150,604.

## INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

The index of industrial production in Poland for last October remained unchanged at 85.2 (1928=100) as for last September, and exceeded the level of a year ago by 14 per cent. In connexion with high investments there was an increase in production in the stone, glass and ceramic, metal and building industries, while a seasonal drop in production began in the timber, foodstuff, and clothing industries. No changes of any importance were recorded in other divisions.

## ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

According to the monthly bulletin of the National Economic Bank of Warsaw, the situation on the Polish money and credit market in October was favourable. The rising of deposits increased the funds at the disposal of the banks, which, however, did not proportionally extend their credit activities, the offers of commercial paper having been limited. The credit demand for investments in industries and for completion of new buildings was, however, stronger. The solvency of debtors was satisfactory, there was also an improvement in rural solvency. Industrial production was favourably influenced by investment works, especially public ones, but manufacturers also extended their old investment works and constructed new ones. There was a considerable advance in the extraction of iron ores. The seasonal decline in the sales of fertilizers set in, but other branches of the chemical industry maintained a high level of production and turnover. Manufacture of winter articles nearing its close, the textile industries reduced their production. Producers of wooden goods reported a high level of employment, but the seasonal restriction in the operation of saw-mills was not avoided. As building activities were still continued, in the stone, glass and ceramic industries worked intensively. There was a considerable increase in the labour employed by industry, but at the end of the month the number of registered unemployed rose, as usual at this period of the year, but only to a small extent. A foreign trade balance in favour of Poland was a welcome feature of the month.



## KÓRNIK

By Dr. Betty Morgan



The Hall.



A Wing of the Castle.

Twelve miles south-east of Poznań, my obliging Polish friend and host brought his car to an abrupt halt. "Here we are," he announced. "The lake of Kórnik on your left. Kórnik Castle on your right".

Temporarily ignoring the lake, I turned right, and rubbed my eyes in astonishment. Here, tucked away in the rural depths of what was once Great Poland, is a castle that looks for all the world as if it had been transplanted bodily from some English country—preferably Warwickshire. Green lawns slope smoothly down to a water-filled moat crossed by a drawbridge. Walls and towers strongly reminiscent of Kenilworth are studded with windows that would not be out of place at Compton Wymtates.

The surrounding park keeps up the illusion. Where, I wondered, as I stood looking out at it five minutes later from a terrace overhanging the moat, had I seen something like that before? The beech avenue, the scattered oaks, the silver birch, the cypresses, the general profusion and richness of species—all this seemed familiar, but what particular chord of memory did it touch in me? The answer (though I did not discover it at once) is simply—*Kew Gardens!*

As it turned out, I was right about the gardens and wrong about the Castle. Notwithstanding its strangely English appearance, Kórnik Castle is as Polish as *Pan Tadeusz*—a veritable treasure-house of Polish history, literature, and art. But the Castle Park has actually become the Kew Gardens of Poland.

It began quite normally as an Italian garden, laid out to embellish the castle in the sixteenth century. Successive owners of Kórnik—the Górkas, Czarnokowskis, Szoldrskis, and Dziąlyńskis—thereupon remodelled it according to the changing fashions of landscape gardening.

Its exotic career, however, dates from about 1830, when Count Titus Dziąlyński began bringing together at Kórnik a large collection of rare trees. His successors carried on the work with—or if anything—increased fervour. Count Władysław Zamoyski, for instance, thought nothing of sending his gardener across the Atlantic on the chance of picking up some rare shoot in the American forests.

The net result of this century-old labour of love, assisted by lavish and often eccentric expenditure, was that when in

1925 Count Władysław Zamoyski and his sister, the Countess Maria, handed over castle and gardens to the Polish Government, they enriched the Polish nation with an arboretum containing more than five thousand different species of trees and shrubs.

Relations between Kórnik and Kew are today quite intimate and fruitful. Their respective research stations exchange information—photographs, and specimens, and in particular the present Superintendent of the Kórnik Gardens (Mr. Antoni Wróblewski) publishes an English-Polish periodical, *News From the Kórnik Gardens* (*Wiadomości z Ogródów Kórnickich*), which is read with much interest both in Great Britain and America.

It says a good deal for Kórnik that the castle considered as a national museum is just as rich and varied as the gardens surrounding it.

More than five centuries have elapsed since Nicholas Górka, in 1420, built his castle on the banks of Kórnik's charming, reed-fringed lake. During the whole of that period the turmoil of Polish history hardly ceased to echo round this castle which housed, successively, some of Poland's noblest families.

In 1874, Henry III of France, elected King of Poland, stopped at Kórnik during his journey from Paris to the coronation ceremony at Kraków. He and all his court, it is recorded, were delighted and astonished by the splendour of their reception. Those were indeed days when the Polish nobility enjoyed an almost oriental opulence—witness a portrait still to be seen at Kórnik of Bishop Uriel Górka, a kinsman of the Stanislas who entertained Henry Valois. Bishop Uriel is shown wearing a magnificent cope, sewn through from shoulder to hem with turquoises.

The seventeenth century saw Kórnik in the hands of the Swedes and the Prussians, who fortified it and put in a garrison, but by the beginning of the eighteenth century the castle passed back again into the ownership of the Dziąlyński family, who were linked by marriage with the Czarnokowskis, themselves heirs and successors of the Górkas.

When Napoleon rocked Europe to its foundations, Count Xavier Dziąlyński, the contemporary owner of Kórnik, was one of the first to acclaim, in this enemy of Russia and Prussia, a potential

saviour of Poland. In most of Bonaparte's transactions with Poland, Count Xavier played an important role. After Iena, he headed a delegation from the Duchy of Poznań to the Emperor at Berlin, and there received, from the Emperor's own lips, the first declaration of Poland's rehabilitation. After Tilsitt—by this time a member of the governing Commission of the Liberated Provinces—he had an interview with the Emperor at Dresden, and was handed the Constitutional Charter of the Duchy of Warsaw.

During the anxious years that followed, Count Xavier kept closely in touch with Napoleon, visited him on confidential missions in 1808 and 1810 (at Paris, Bayonne, and Compiègne), and even after the Emperor's fall preserved his loyalty and affection for one whom he had always regarded as a great friend of Poland.

Memories of these events, and of a hundred others besides, are preserved in the museum at Kórnik, amongst whose chief treasures must also be mentioned three magnificent souvenirs of John Sobieski—a suit of battle-armour in gold and crimson velvet, a field altar of richly-carved silver encased in black oak, and his sword with the inscription *Dextra Joannitis vicit ad Viennam*.

When all is said and done, however, the chief glory of Kórnik is its library, mainly the creation of Count Xavier Dziąlyński's brilliant son, Count Titus, (1797-1861).

Count Titus was the *beau idéal* of a Polish patriot. Handsome, accomplished, enormously rich, he inherited from his father a passion for his country's liberty and a grateful affection for Napoleonic France. His enthusiasms cost him dear. He spent long years in exile, and narrowly escaped with his life after the November Revolution of 1830 in Warsaw.

In the tranquil intervals, however, when he was allowed to live in his native country, he spent unstinted time, money, and energy on his ancestral home at Kórnik, which had already begun to fall into disrepair.

For the work of renovation he relied entirely on Polish workmen and Polish materials. He cut the wood for his floors and ceilings from his own park, and forests, and the men from his own village carved and inlaid it according to his designs. "There is not a single nail of foreign origin in the whole place", he used to boast afterwards.

But Count Titus' greatest work was the creation of his library, which he consciously designed to be a survey of Polish life and thought from the Middle Ages to modern times. How well he has

## PRESS REVIEW

The Polish and foreign press are concerned this week specially with the visit of the French Foreign Minister Delbos to Poland. To quote a leading French newspaper, *Republique* (4XII) says "the regularisation of Polish—German relations has assured peace in this part of the European continent. Direct Polish—German understanding was not well received by followers of the doctrine of collective security. The attitude adopted by Polish diplomacy toward collective security has been only too well justified by the development of events". The journal points out that in the recent London communication the question of collective security was not even mentioned.

"The Franco-Polish alliance exists and will exist". *The Times* (4XII), reminding its readers of the alarming rumours concerning a supposed coup d'état which was to take place in Poland, says "these rumours arose in the Left-Wing press when it became known that Monsieur Delbos was intending to visit Poland. This campaign, inspired by Communist and Left-Wing elements in certain European countries, aimed at discrediting Poland at a specially critical moment in international relations". *The Times* concludes by saying that these rumours of

succeeded may be seen from a few significant figures. Kórnik contains seventy thousand printed volumes, (more than a hundred of them *incunabula*), two hundred parchments and charters (of which a number date from the thirteenth century), and two thousand manuscripts. Included in the list are thousands of extremely rare books written in Polish or about Poland, large numbers of sixteenth century and seventeenth century publications, invaluable historical documents, and the autograph manuscripts of nearly all Poland's greatest heroes and writers—Kościuszko, Mickiewicz, Słowacki, Matejko, Wroński, and Norwid amongst others.

The collection of manuscripts contains some extremely interesting relics of Napoleon, acquired by Count Titus from the 'Dr' Antommarchi who attended Napoleon during his last hours and subsequently appropriated many of the Emperor's personal effects.

The Napoleon manuscripts include military notes made by him during the Italian campaign, and also—a rare document this—a short novel entitled *Clisson et Eugénie*, which he wrote during the months of April-June 1795, to celebrate his own broken romance with Eugénie (or Désirée) Clary, the daughter of a soap-manufacturer from Marseilles, who was later to marry Bernadotte and become Queen of Sweden.

Written in a feverish, almost illegible hand, on scraps of yellow and blue paper, this novel provides a fascinating commentary on the sentimental and military ambitions of the young Napoleon.

"Clisson" he writes in the opening sentence, "was born for war". Nevertheless "like all men, he longed for happiness, but hitherto had found only glory". In love he was idealistic and faithful. But alas, the wife of his choice was unfaithful to him, and nothing was left for Clisson but to perish nobly in the heat of battle, "pierced with a hundred wounds".

For more than a hundred years these Napoleon manuscripts were unknown outside Poland, but they were edited in French and Polish by a famous Polish historian, Dr. Simon Askenazy, in 1929, and have thereby helped to draw the attention of the outside world to what is one of the finest and most important collections of rare books, manuscripts, charters and prints in the whole of Europe.

a projected coup must be counted as ordinary gossip of the cafés without any basis in reality.

*Gazeta* (4XII) discusses the present situation in the Sejm arising from the electoral system introduced two years ago, which abolished all political groups in the parliament. "This attempt has failed, as it was bound to do, being based on unreal foundations. The natural tendency to act in concert has prevailed; a number of groups, circles, and unions has arisen, open and secret, formal and informal. Only the name "club" has been carefully avoided, as has also any hint of political character in these unions as if policy in parliament were a crime. This hopeless fiction was apparently maintained in both houses, with the result that the development of cliques and coteries was threatened. The legalization of the OZON Club puts an end to this fiction.

*Czas* (4XII) questions what other clubs beside OZON may arise in the Sejm and writes that there exists "the possibility of the formation of a Democratic club in the parliament. According to reckonings this club would amount to 60 members. The creation of yet another club is also spoken of, that of Catholic deputies and senators who have already a certain non-committed understanding among themselves. This club would count 20—30 members".

*Goniec Warszawski* discusses Polish colonial demands, and shows the necessity of an outlet for the surplus production and the crying need of industry for raw materials. It writes: "Poland as a factor of order and security in Europe has the right to expect certain concessions and facilities from those powers which desire to strengthen this order and security. The gaining of immigration facilities and the just solution of the problem of access to raw materials has become at present a leading postulate of the Polish nation".

*Kurier Polski* criticizes the Budget discussions in the Sejm on the grounds that they are too discursive and do not keep strictly enough to the subject in hand. "The key to the solution of many of the economic, social and political problems which face the Sejm", it writes "lies in great measure in the Budget. As one of the deputies justly remarked, the aim of the Budget debate ought to be to discover if its execution will introduce elements to unite the nation or to divide it. Intervention, State control, bureaucracy, are not uniting elements". *Kurier* contends that the Budget must follow the direction of limiting the overgrowth of public functions "Its aim is to reduce excessive intervention, bureaucracy and State control, and hence ensure important savings for the State, and enormous relief for private initiative freed from the chains and burdens of intervention".

On Monday Dec. 6th Monsieur Delbos had a conference with the Polish and foreign press which is reported in a Polish newspaper. The inner significance of his speech to the press was shown in his remark "The alliance of Poland with France lies in our hearts and not only in the pacts". In reply to a question by one of the American correspondents, whether it were true that he had been invited to meet with Herr Neurath, M. Delbos answered that his conversation with Neurath should neither be exaggerated nor diminished. "He had been agreeably surprised by the act of courtesy on the part of the German Foreign Minister, but naturally in the course of a 20-minutes' conversation it was impossible to discuss all the matters interesting both sides".

K. M.



Teatr Narodowy

The Man who was Thursday

The latest production at the Teatr Narodowy is the stage version of G.K. Chesterton's famous novel 'The Man who was Thursday', adapted by Cecilia Czerwinski and Rafn Nels.

Transforming an event into a play is never an easy matter. There is always a danger that something in the character and purpose of the novel will be damaged in the process.

Moreover, Chesterton is typically English in his burlesque treatment of even the gravest and most profound themes. In 'The Man who was Thursday' he does not seem to miss the struggle between God and Satan, and between peace and anarchy.

The primary understanding is increased rather than diminished by the Teatr Narodowy's production. As stage director, Wacław Fitełberg invests the whole performance with an extravagantly gloomy atmosphere quite out of keeping with Chesterton's style and humour.

The circumstances, the Teatr Narodowy's production must regretfully be counted amongst the less successful artistic ventures.

CONCERT AT THE FILHARMONIA

On Friday the 3rd inst. two orchestras, the Philharmonic and the Radio, united under the direction of Gregory Fitelberg for the performance of Gustav Mahler's VI Symphony, the dimensions of which demand an increased orchestra.

In conclusion the programme contained a very charming and effective suite for orchestra by Kodaly, a Hungarian composer, who has succeeded in combining modern technique with melodiousness.

THE POLISH STUDENTS' CIRCLE IN LONDON

The Polish Students' Circle in London has added another event to its records. It organised a series of popular speeches for the Polish Colony in London on Modern Poland, of which the first took place last Sunday, November 28th.

Mr. Jan Kozielewski delivered an exceedingly well prepared speech on the November Insurrection. The speech was warmly welcomed by the listeners, totalling about 120 persons.

The other lectures will take place after Christmas time. Speaking about the past, it should be mentioned that on the 28th October, 1937, the same Circle had a very successful Evening in the London Branch of the International Friendship League, the programme including a speech by Mr. Stanislaw Nahlik.

As Christmas is coming the Circle organises a "Willi" for their Members.

Polish Students, on their arrival in London, should communicate with the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Z. Wejchert, 14 St. Mary Axe, London, E. C. 3.

MEETING OF THE ACADEMY

The annual meeting of the Academy of Polish Literature took place on the 8th December in the presence of the Minister of Education, and a large audience.

The clou of the evening was a speech by M. Kornel Makuszyński, in which he gave his literary autobiography and paid a well-merited homage to the memory of the late Jan Kasprzowicz, the greatest Polish poet of the present century and whom he considered as his teacher and patron.

After the official part a reception was given in the stylish rooms of the Potocki Palace, where the Academy has its seat.

POLAND - NORWAY 12:4

Oslø. The Polish boxing team won by 12 to 4 its match with the Norwegian national team in Oslo. Three of the victories were scored by K. O. A Norwegian national team visited Poland earlier in the year and it was defeated in Poznań by the same number of points.

The Polish boxers will be matched against the Danish national team in Copenhagen, fighting as the Warsaw team.

THEATRES

NARODOWY. 'The Man who was Thursday' by Chesterton. POLSKI. 'Galzka rozmarynu' by Nowakowski. MAXY. 'Friend's Theory of Dreams' by Gwoździński.

MUSIC

TEATR WIELKI - OPERA. Saturday: 'M-me Butterfly' with Teiko Kiwa. Sunday: 12. - Performance for children. '330 'The Sun of Mexico'.

KONSERWATORIUM

Saturday: Song recital by Mira Grolchowska. FILHARMONIA. Sunday: Early Matinée. Dr. Tadeusz Mazurkiewicz. Singer - Marina Karłina.

MUSICAL SHOWS

CYRULIK WARSZAWSKI. 'Kłosażka zwarzawo'. (One of us is Potty). TEATR 8.15. 'Virtuous Susanna'.

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WARSAW AMUSEMENTS

ART

L. P. S. Winter Salon. ZACHĘTA. Ruszezy's Memorial Exhibition and Graphic Artists. NATIONAL MUSEUM. Monuments of Marshal Piłsudski. 'Italian Landscape'.

CINEMAS

ATLANTIC. 'D. Durbin and L. Stokowski in 'A Hundred Men and one Girl'. 'Good American musical'. 'BALTYK. 'Franchot Tone, Maurice O'Sullivan, and Virginia Bruce in 'Trust Me'. 'Love Drama'. 'CASINO. Turka Bandrowska & Zielińska in 'Halka'. 'Młotuszczyk's famous opera'. 'CAPITOL. Barszczewski in 'Znacoch'. 'The quack - Polish Drama'. 'COLOSSEUM. Annabella and Conrad Veidt in 'Hearts and Swords'. 'Exciting'. 'EUROPA. Rainer and Tracy in 'Dead End'. 'High quality sociological drama'.

BRITISH PASSPORT CONTROL OFFICE

UJAZDOWSKA 18, WARSAW. The following persons are entitled to receive visas or immigration certificates for Palestine:

Table with columns: No of certificate, NAME, Age, Category, Last date of visa, Admission date, Address. Lists names like SZPIGEL Chawa, KORIN Abraham, RABKOW Frelja, etc.