

THE WARSAW WEEKLY

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4th YEAR

WARSAW, SATURDAY, JANUARY 29, 1938

No. 5

On the Kasprowy Wierch

a Peak in the Polish Tatras

TRADITIONS OF POLISH-HUNGARIAN FRIENDSHIP

Poland has had many relations with Hungary throughout history. Louis d'Anjou, Queen Jadwiga, and Stefan Batory were Polish sovereigns of Hungarian origin. Wladyslaw of Wama, a king of a Polish dynasty, was also King of Hungary, so that the two countries have been several times in a state of personal union.

In 1848, when both Poland and Hungary fell on evil times, the Poles assisted the Hungarian struggle for freedom. Later on, in 1868, when the Polish national insurrection attempted to shake off the foreign oppression, the Hungarians were perhaps the only European nation which showed a real sympathy with Poland.

Louis Kossuth, the Hungarian patriot, developed a wide activity in favour of the Polish insurgents. He tried to obtain the intervention of Napoleon III and of Italy, which could assist Poland by attacking Austria. On February 27-th 1863 Kossuth published in the Italian and English press an enthusiastic appeal on behalf of the Poles.

The plan of Kossuth consisted in extending the insurrection to the part of Poland occupied by Austria and fighting together with the Poles against the Hapsburgs. He sent to the Polish National Government twenty thousand rifles and proposed the formation of a Hungarian Legion. The National Government refused the assistance of that Legion, believing that the neutrality of Austria would be more advantageous than its opposition.

Later the plan of a Polish-Hungarian alliance against the oppressors came nearer to realization. The chief of the Polish Insurrection, Romuald Traugott, sent his agent, Ordega, to conclude a pact with general Klapka, the chief of the Hungarian revolutionaries. The pact of friendship and mutual assistance was concluded on the 8-th of March of 1864, but the Polish Insurrection has been overpowered by the Russians soon afterwards.

The Hungarians, although opposed themselves, collected funds, arms and equipment for the Polish insurgents. Many Hungarian students ran away to join the Polish forces and fought gallantly for the freedom of Poland.

The names of Otto Herman, Count Koloman Csaky, Julius Pechy, Baron Walisz, General Turr and many others are still remembered in Poland as those of Polish as well as Hungarian patriots.

After the great war the old friendship between the two nations continued. It will receive a new testimony when Admiral Horthy, Regent of Hungary, will visit Poland as the guest of President Moscicki in the first days of February 1938.

Regent Nicholas Horthy will be received in Krakow at the Royal Castle of Wawel, from which the Kings of Poland and Hungary have ruled the two countries

VIENNA LETTER

By Eugene Hinterhoff

Not for a long time has an international conference called forth so many contradictory comments and made such a deep impression as the one that took place recently at Budapest, between the signatories of the Rome Protocols.

This conference had been very carefully prepared with the usual diplomatic discretion, and was preceded by intermediary unofficial talks between Chancellor Schuschnigg and the Hungarian Prime Minister Daranyi. No declaration was made by Dr. Schuschnigg to the Press previous to his departure for Budapest, but from several guarded remarks made in official circles, it could be inferred that both the Austrian Chancellor and the Prime Minister of Hungary had the intention of fighting for the maintenance of the independent foreign policy of their respective countries. It was also to be concluded that Austria, who rejected the unofficial propositions made by v. Neurath and Goerring to join the Anti-Communist pact, would neither take this step on this occasion, nor follow the example of Italy and leave the League of Nations.

After the two days taken up by debates at which Italy was represented by Count Ciano, Austria by the Secretary of State Dr. Schmidt, and Hungary by Minister Kanya, during which time there were several banquets and festivities in honour of the foreign guests; an official communique was issued containing the important and interesting resolutions that had been made.

According to the previous suppositions of the author, who was in Budapest at the time, Austria and Hungary neither left the League of Nations, nor did they join the Anti-Communist pact. In this way, they emphasized their independence with regard to their foreign policy. At the same time, the representatives of Austria and Hungary expressed their satisfaction at the existence and development of the Rome-Berlin axis and the representatives of Austria declared the "July Treaty" between Austria and Germany to be in accordance with the Rome Protocols. The representatives of Austria and Hungary further expressed their Government's intention of formally recognizing General Franco's Government as the only legitimate government in Spain.

centuries ago. Later he will proceed to the Bialowieza forest, the hunting ground of many kings and the home of the European bison.

After some days shooting in Bialowieza, the Regent will pay a short visit to Warsaw before returning to Budapest. His visit to Poland will be probably returned by President Moscicki in the course of the year.

It may further be worth mentioning the interest shown by the Austrian and Italian representatives, towards the future improvement of the relations between Hungary and Roumania.

If we try to sum up the results of the conference, we can hardly fail to come to the conclusion that it was, to some extent, an undoubted success for Austria and Hungary. In spite, however, of their attitude towards the problems of the Anti-Communist pact and the League of Nations, it is the author's opinion, based on his personal observations, that the course of debates as well as the results of these, show an undoubted leadership on Italy's part amongst the signatories of the Rome Protocols.

The recognition of Franco's government, which is so important for Italy, could be mentioned as a proof of this, — for of what interest could it be to two comparatively small States, to involve themselves in delicate political problems, which do not as a matter of fact come within the sphere of the Rome Protocols, at the same time running the risk of offending Great Britain and France whose favourable attitude is not at all indifferent to them.

Subsequently, although not leaving the League of Nations, the two States expressed their sympathy with Italy's doing so, at the same time proclaiming their intention of revising their non attitude towards the League, to which they are more or less under obligations. For this last reason, Chancellor Schuschnigg, being a very shrewd diplomat, made a statement in the "Reichspost" on the same day as the communique was issued, expressing his country's gratitude to the League of Nations and his desire to see that valuable institute reformed. We may also consider the acknowledgement of the Rome-Berlin axis by Austria and Hungary, and the resolution expressing a desire to see the relations between Roumania and Hungary improved, as a further proof of Italy's influence. The reason for this decision, though not revealed in the communique, is probably a desire on the part of Italy to play the role of an intermediary between Hungary and Roumania, the fascist tendencies prevailing in the present government of Goga, making possible the improvement of relations, and the bringing of Roumania under the influence of Italy.

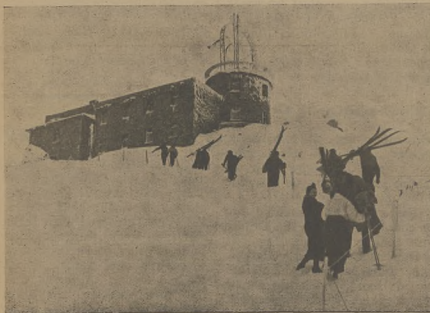
If we recall the recent improvement in the relations between Yugoslavia and Italy, which was crowned by Stojadinovic's visit to Rome, the further Italian plans concerning Roumania demonstrate Italy's dynamic expansion in South Eastern Europe. It is of interest to note that this Italian policy,

(Continued on page 2)



Rope Railway to the summit

Photo Schabeneck



New Meteorological Station



The Rope Railway Terminus

Photo Schabeneck

Lecture by H. B. M. Ambassador

Sir Howard Kennard, the British Ambassador delivered a most successful lecture on "The British Character" at the building of the Warsaw Historical Society, Stara Miesto 31, on Tuesday, the 25th January. The lecture which had been arranged under the auspices of the Polish British

Chamber of Commerce and the Polish British Society, was well attended, practically everybody in Warsaw seriously interested in Anglo-Polish relations being present. It was followed by a cocktail party given by Mr. Falter, President of the Polish-British Chamber of Commerce.

Economics and Finance

FOREIGN TRADE IN 1937

The expansion of Poland's foreign trade which set in towards the middle of 1936 continued during 1937 in imports as well as in exports. Last year's total, according to provisional computation, 3,685,056 tons of goods (increase as against 1936, 616,683 tons) valued at 1,254,341,000 zlotys (increase 220,900,000 zloty) and last year's exports 14,987,682 tons (increase: 2,029,528 tons) valued at 1,192,580,000 zlotys (increase: 166,372,000 zloty), the balance against Poland being 61,761,000 zlotys, whilst 1936 resulted in a balance of 7,227,000 zlotys in favour of Poland. The increase in the value of imports was very considerable in proportion to the increase in volume, as the expansion of imports almost exclusively affected raw materials, the prices of which on the world markets advanced substantially last year. On the other hand, the average value per ton of Polish exports remained almost without change. This was mainly a result of the fact that Poland benefited only to a very small extent by the advance in the world prices of grain as last year's smaller crops, combined with an increase in domestic requirements, caused severe restrictions of Polish exports. Polish imports in December comprised 380,720 tons of goods valued at 110,721,000 zlotys, and Polish exports 1,285,996 tons, valued at 108,593,000 zlotys, leaving a balance of 2,128,000 zlotys against Poland. Imports included about 600,000 zlotys worth of German goods delivered

on account of "frozen-up" charges due for German transit traffic through Poland; these imports do not react on the Polish balance of payments. In comparison with last November the value of Poland's imports advanced by 2,720,000 zlotys, while the value of the exports declined by 2,438,000 zlotys.

IRON AND STEEL INDUSTRY

Last year's production of the Polish iron and steel works (comparison with 1936 bracketed) totalled 723,836 tons of pig-iron (584,381 tons), 1,450,005 tons of steel (1,144,943 tons), 1,052,339 tons of rolled goods (820,075 tons), and 99,375 tons of iron and steel tubes and pipes (61,422 tons). As against 1936 the increase in the production of pig-iron, steel, rolled goods and tubes were 25.6, 26.7, 26.2 and 56.9 per cent respectively. Domestic sales in 1937 (comparison with 1936 bracketed) comprised governmental orders for 113,666 tons (108,027 tons) and private orders for 427,475 tons (266,666 tons). While the increase in governmental orders works out only at 5.4 per cent, the advance in private orders was 60.3 per cent, and the rise in the total amount of domestic sales 44.5 per cent. Exports of iron and steel goods in 1937 amounted to 262,211 tons (increase: 25,259 tons as against 1936), and comprised 214,238 tons of rolled and other finished or half-finished goods (increase: 14,313 tons), 35,498 tons of tubes and pipes (increase: 6,598 tons), 12,478 tons of manganese and pig-iron (increase: 4,348 tons). Last December's production of the Polish iron and steel works amounted to 73,250 tons of pig-iron (67,902 tons in November) 127,027 tons of steel (135,383 tons) 88,971 tons of rolled goods (88,733 tons), and 6,453 tons of tubes and pipes (6,104 tons). Governmental orders totalled 52,568 tons (7,074 tons in November), private domestic orders 21,868 tons (18,497 tons). Exports came to 22,289 tons (increase as against November 645 tons).

IRON-ORE EXTRACTION

During the first three quarters of 1937 the extraction of iron-ore in Poland totalled 550,146 tons as against 330,636 tons during the corresponding period of 1936. Not only the old mines increased their output, but the exploitation of new mines was also taken in hand.

TEXTILE EXPORT FROM BIELSKO

Textiles valued at 5,671,730 zlotys were exported from the industrial district of Bielsko in 1937, whilst the value of goods exported from this district in 1936 was 3,247,653 zlotys, and in 1935 only 947,258 zlotys. The heaviest buyer of Bielsko woollens was Yugoslavia (680,000 zloty), followed by Argentina (311,000 zloty), and Hungary (139,000 zloty), second by Austria (42,000 zloty), third by Italy (14,000 zloty). Men's hats (finished and half-finished) found the best markets in the U. K. (343,000 zloty), the U. S. A. (307,000 zloty) and Belgium (150,000 zloty). — Textile exports in December from the Bielsko district were for a total value of 544,601 zlotys.

TEXTILE EXPORTS FROM LODZ

Textiles to the total value of 34,738,000 zlotys were exported last year from the industrial district of Lodz (in 1937). Exports from this district in 1936 were for a total value of 24,218,000 zlotys. Thus the increase in value works out at 43.5 per cent, while the increase by weight was only 29.6 per cent.

A RECORD YEAR AT PORT OF GDYNIA

Last year brought a new record in the goods traffic at the Port of Gdynia. With a total of 9,147,272 tons of goods handled during the year, Gdynia has not only broken its previous record but also exceeded those of any other Baltic seaport. Of the above total, 9,006,176 tons represented overseas traffic and 22,236 tons coastwise traffic including with the Free City of Danzig and 119,868 tons traffic with the inland waterways. Imports from overseas amounted to 1,718,004 tons and exports to overseas to 7,288,375 tons. In comparison with 1936, the increase in total goods traffic came to 16.1 per cent, that in overseas imports to 28.6 per cent, and that in overseas exports to 13.7 per cent. The aggregate goods traffic at Gdynia in December amounted to 903,377 tons (797,292 tons in November) of which 795,794 tons were in overseas traffic (775,480 tons), 176,337 tons in overseas imports (156,108 tons), and 519,372 tons in overseas exports. Coastwise traffic, including that of the Free City of Danzig, amounted to 347 tons; traffic with inland waterways came to 7,236 tons. As against December 1936 the increase in the goods traffic was 49,315 tons.

PASSENGER TRAFFIC THROUGH GDYNIA

Last year's passenger traffic at the Port of Gdynia totalled 45,267 persons, of which 13,180 disembarked and 32,087 embarked at the port. In comparison with 1936 this traffic increased by about 10 per cent. Traffic between Gdynia and the U. S. A. totalled for both directions 10,116 persons, followed by the United Kingdom (7,321 persons), France (6,129), Argentine (4,911), Brazil (3,671), Denmark (1,484) and Canada (979). Pleasure cruises from Gdynia contributed a large part of this passenger traffic.

BANK OF POLAND IN 1937

During last year the gold holdings of the Bank of Poland rose by 42 million zlotys, from 392.9 million to 434.9 million, and the foreign exchange in P. o. l. exchanges and bills by 64 million to 36.1 million. In comparison with the end of 1936 the bill portfolio declined by 20.4 million to 681.3 million zlotys; Treasury bills discounted by 43.6 million to 23.3 million zlotys and collateral security advances by 83.0 million to 24.3 million zlotys. The Bank's own holdings of securities were reduced by 7.7 million to 126.7 million zlotys and its interest-free credits to the Treasury from 90 million to 80 million zlotys. The "other assets" item rose by 53.2 million to 258.5 million zlotys and sight liabilities rose by 68.1 million to 359.7 million zlotys. The largest increase, from 1.4 million to 35.5 million zlotys, was in the credit balance of the Treasury, the other current accounts grew by 23.4 million zlotys. There was a considerable decrease of 160.9 million to 179.9 million zlotys in the item of "other liabilities". Notes in circulation grew only by 25.7 million from 1,033.8 million zlotys at the end of 1936 to 1,059.5 million zlotys at the end of 1937. The gold cover of the notes in circulation and of sight liabilities in excess of 100 million zlotys at the end of last year was 32.97 per cent as against 32.07 at the end of 1936.

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London Notes

A NEW COLLEGE FOR OXFORD UNIVERSITY

Lord Nuffield has presented £1,000,000 (including a site valued at £100,000) to Oxford University for the building and endowment of a new graduate College to be devoted by the collaboration, particularly in social studies, of theoretical students and practical men of affairs. The site was purchased by Lord Nuffield in 1935, mainly with the object of beautifying the western approach to Oxford, and he has now decided that a new College would not only accomplish this, but at the same time further educational projects to which he has already devoted a large fortune.

In a statement to "The Times" the Vice Chancellor of Oxford University revealed that the idea of a college devoted to the study of the problems of contemporary society originated not in the minds of members of the University but in that of Lord Nuffield. As its work will be entirely post-graduate, the new college will not be a rival to any of the existing foundations. It will be a residence for graduate students who are to be given an opportunity for a further period of study after completing their more strictly academic education. It will also serve as a place where historians, philosophers, anthropologists and jurists may meet with politicians, civil servants and business men, so that on the one hand theories may be constantly tested by men of practical experience, and on the other hand future actions may be based on the more subtle analyses and longer views of the theorists. Lord Nuffield has already given Oxford University £2,000,000 for medical research and £3,800,000 to Oxford University and Radcliff Infirmary, and his benefactions for public purposes now total more than ten million pounds.

NEW FABRICS OF GLASS

One of the most remarkable exhibits at the forthcoming British Industries Fair at Birmingham will be textile fabrics made of pure glass. "Glass silk" was introduced into this country — and to the Empire — in 1930 by Chance Brothers (of Smethwick) at their Glasgow works. Further developments are now in hand, including a new process which yields fibres even thinner than those now being used and enabling yarns to be spun of pure glass. These yarns can be woven into cloth for decorative effects of surprising variety and refinement: indeed the possibilities of this new glass fabric are impressive. It can be used for the insulation of electrical apparatus, chemical filtration and numerous other purposes.

Glass silk can also be used as a decorative wall-panelling for the covering of acoustic materials, or for decorative purposes only.

Chance's glass silk has a worldwide reputation and has been used for all manner of heat insulation purposes. It is found on more than 300 British ships, in some of which the whole of the insulation is carried out with glass silk, including the cylinders and engine room steam pipes.

BOOKS PUBLISHED IN GREAT BRITAIN

The total number of books published in Great Britain in 1937 was 10,804. A shortage of paper and other difficulties during the Great War cut down book production, and in 1918 the number published was only 7,716. Then the output rose steadily. During the past few years an average of 16,000 has been published each year. As at least 1,000 copies of each book are printed as a first edition, at least 16,000,000 volumes are pouring out from the presses every year. But this is a very conservative estimate. Many books sell from 5,000 to 10,000 copies, and of a "best seller" 100,000 copies may be disposed of in a few months. One enterprising publisher started publishing a sixpenny series of books not very long ago, and it is said that he has already sold ten million copies. And he has had imitators.

One reason for expecting still further increased sales is the boom in Book Clubs. It is a mistake to imagine, as so many people do, that the book club is a recent idea. It originated at least two centuries ago, for there are records of one, called the Dilettante Society, dating back to 1734. The early book clubs were run on somewhat different lines from those of to-day. Members then shared the cost of printing scarce works, and each member took a copy. The present method is usually to arrange for each member to receive a monthly or bi-monthly selection of books, priced at 7/6 or 2/6. There are now a number of such clubs, one of the largest being the Left Book Club, with a membership of 50,000. Others are the Right Book Club, the Religious Book Club, and the National Book Association, and all of them seem to be flourishing.

IGLOOS IN THE HIGH TATRA

The boy scouts of Zakopane made an interesting experiment. They built several igloos at an altitude of about 1,500 metres in the High Tatra and lived in them for three weeks. The igloos were built entirely of ice, with access through a long tunnel, on the Eskimo model. Although during the three weeks the outside temperature sometimes dropped down to 24 degrees centigrade below freezing point, the temperature inside never went below 3 degrees below zero.

The party of boy-scouts who spent three weeks sleeping in the igloo found it quite convenient and pleasant. The cold was not as intense as might be expected and the Polish boy scouts want to organise more igloo camps in the winter, when they go out skiing in the mountains.

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SKI JUMPING RECORD

Zakopane. Stanislaw Maruszak, the ski-jumping champion of Poland has established a new record on the Krokiew jumping hill at Zakopane, with a jump of 76.5 metres.

THE SILVER WOLF BADGE FOR VOYDOW GRAZYNSKI

Mr. Grazyński, Voyvode of Silesia and Chief Scout of Poland, received the badge of the Silver Wolf, the highest scouting distinction. The badge was handed to Mr. Grazyński on the 20-th of January, by Sir Howard Kennard, the British Ambassador at Warsaw on behalf of General Baden Powell.

Vienna Letter

(Continued)

corresponding to the far-sighted plans of Mussolini, caused a certain apprehension in German circles. Already a short time after the publication of the communiqué, a rumour went round in well-informed German circles in Budapest and Vienna to the effect that Italy was bent on excluding Germany from South Eastern Europe and the Danube Basin, which both represent a natural direction of German political and economic expansion, — some went even so far as to doubt Italy's loyalty to the axis. This German reaction was not, however revealed in the German press, this being a docile instrument of the Wilhelmstrasse, and it was not only in the interest of the two partners of the axis to show that flaws are beginning to appear in it. Considering the Budapest conference from the point of view of Austrian interests, Italy's concern as regards the Danube Basin, may be looked upon as a positive one; for Italy was, and will be, the most reliable protector of Austria's independence. This point though not appreciated by the Austrian population, seems to be in line with fatalistic ideas regarding the future of their country, and made bitter by Nazi propaganda, was, on the other hand, well understood by that great Austrian statesman Dr. Schuschnigg, for such we may consider him, when he declared that the Rome Protocols formed the basis of Austrian policy, and expressed his esteem for Mussolini.

The development of the political events in the near future, in Central and South Eastern Europe, will no doubt show an increase of activity in Italy's foreign policy, probably causing a certain amount of rivalry on the part of Germany — and the visit of Stojadinovic to Berlin can be taken for a proof of that rivalry, which from the Austrian point of view, would be very welcome.

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THE ORIGINS OF THE POLISH STATE

By Max Goryński

(Continued from No 3.)

The name *Drago* and its combinations *Dragovit*, *Cedrag*, *Zelidrag* are in the time of Charlemagne, frequent in the ruling families of the Polabians and Obotrites, and reappear (*Cedrag*, *Anadrag*, *Mizzdrag*) in the tenth century. But the name which by Prof. Piekosiński was identified with the Swedish *drake* (dragon), does not occur in the Polish prehistoric Popiel dynasty, nor in the historic Piast dynasty.

The etymologic part of the argument seems to imply a Viking origin of the *Drago* dynasty, but this point was not any further insisted upon by Prof. Piekosiński who, on the contrary, committed himself in quite a different direction. He suggested, on the basis of a few lines in the writings of the Spanish Jew Ibrahim ibn Jakub, whom we had already occasion to mention, that possibly Samo, the founder of the first half—legendary Slavonic state, may have been the common ancestor of all those branches of the *Dragos*. Samo, by the way, the founder of a realm of the Wends (about 620) which passed out of existence at his death, is credited with 12 wives, 22 sons and 15 daughters; by a German chronicler; he is generally supposed to have been a Frank merchant who taught the Wends about the raid of his own connationals, but some modern writers discuss the possibility of his Slavonic origin.

Prof. Piekosiński's principal assertion is that some time about the turn of the 8th century, when the Polabian Slavs were hard pressed by Charlemagne, a younger branch of the *Dragos*, migrated from the Elbe to the Warta river where they conquered for themselves a new realm. The Polish *szlachta* (nobility, a class corresponding to the English nobility and gentry of noble descent) with the exception of some groups are the descendants of those dynasts. In support of this startling hypothesis Prof. Piekosiński devoted a large part of his work on the dynastic origin of the Polish *szlachta* (*O dynastycznym zrodzeniu polskiej szlachty*) to the discussion of another hypothesis just as hazardous as his hypothesis concerning the *Drago* dynasty and their identity with the Popiel and Piast dynasties. He endeavoured to prove that the quaint and very simple emblems of the oldest Polish heraldry are nothing else but letters of the two *futhorks*, the older and the younger runic alphabets of the Norse, which originally were used as military standards by the several *Drago* princes and their followers who came to conquer a new realm in Poland.

On the hypothesis of a runic origin of the oldest Polish heraldic bearings Prof. Piekosiński has based an elaborate divination of the *szlachta* into 20 "dynasties" of whom 17, in his opinion, descend from the dynasty of the Polish dukas, and one each from the dynasties of the Obotrite, Rugian and Pomeranian princes. The fact that the *szlachta* did not hold their estates *iteri militari* or by any other feudal tenure obtaining in the West, but as free, inheritable property, first of the *gentes* (clans), later on of families, he endeavoured to explain by the dynastic origin of practically all the nobility and gentry in Poland. When the senior of the dynasty, the ruling duke of Poland, ceased to provide at his own court and from his own means for his *comitatus* or trustones (*antrustiones*), as the Franks used to call the followers of their princes in the palace and the field,

he endowed them with apapages in land; thus military service was with the Polish *szlachta* not an obligation deriving from land tenure as in the European West, but their right and privilege as members of the ruling family.

Prof. Piekosiński's suppositions as to the runic origin of Polish heraldic devices broke down under the test of concentrated research into the peculiarities of Polish blazonry, but they proved a powerful stimulant for its study, and the enormous material of rubbings collected by him from various seals on all sorts of documents and deeds and partly reproduced in this work on the *Dynastic Origin of the Polish Szlachta* is still extremely valuable to students of the subject. His insistence on the importance of clanship in early Polish history and on its influence in later times led him, however, in the right direction, the gene being now recognized by all Polish historians as the root of all social development in their country, which will be a main concern of ours later on. He certainly failed to prove the origin of the Polish State in a migration of Polabian princes and their followers to the Warthe basin, he has no real argument for a factual connection of the Popiel and Piast dynasties with the *Dragos* except the rhetorical question, how it might be possible to deny it, and the armorial dragon or griffin common, of course, not only to those three, but also to so many other old families in all parts of Europe. And the introduction of Samo as the probable ancestor of all the dynasties of the Slavs reads almost like an anticipated counterpart of that theory of "dynastic continuity" all the world over from the Pharaohs of Egypt to the Miceados of Japan and back again "ultimately, to the ruling groups of Europe", so interestingly and so unconvincingly propounded in the works of Mr. W. J. Perry, Reader in Cultural Anthropology in the University of London.

The renewed attempts of several German writers on Polish history at reviving the old Viking hypothesis of Poland's origin are dealt with exhaustively in Prof. Zygmunt Wojciechowski's book on *Mieszko I and the Rise of the Polish State* (The Baltic Pocket Library). In these German publications much stress is laid on the document known as *Dagone judex* preserved in the Papal Archives, and on the strength of this digest, made in 1089 of a lost bull of John XV dating from between 988 and 992, it is said to appear "highly probable" that the founder of the Polish State was the Norseman *Dagone*, *Dagome* or *Dago* (N) "from over the sea"; some German writers identify even this Norseman with *Mieszko I*, and assert that "the new state was called to life suddenly and without any ethnographic basis by the strong hand of the conqueror". We have already dealt at sufficient length with the reasons that do not allow to consider *Mieszko I* otherwise than as distant by three or even more generations from the first founder of his state. It has been suggested long ago by Prof. Oswald Balzer that the name *Dagone* which does not occur in any other source but in the *Dagome iudex* document, may be a scribe's corruption of the *ego mesco* preceded by a cross. It may also have been a second name of *Mieszko's*, double names being pretty frequent in the Piast dynasty. In Prof. Zygmunt Wojciechowski's well-considered opinion, "to base a hypothesis of the Norse origin of the Polish State on the name *Dagone*,..... is just as

valid as would be the conclusion from the name of Sweeney Fork-Beard's daughter, *Swietoslawa*, descended from Slavonic that the Danish dynasty was conquerors."

A very ingenious new hypothesis of the origin of the Polish State in conquest by Slavonic invaders under Viking leadership was presented by Dr. Kazimierz Krotoski in several publications the first of which appeared in 1920. Dr. Krotoski's construction is chiefly based on etymological arguments. His first point is that the very names of Poles and Poland are foreign imports to that part of Poland to which they were first applied, that is to say Great Poland, in Latin *Polonia Maior*. The real meaning of the Latin designation is, of course, "the Older Poland", as *Polonia Minus* (Little Poland) to which the name of Poland was extended. Now the names *Polsha* (Poland), *Polanin*, and later *Polak* (Pole) derive, according to all philologists, from *pole*, a word common to all Slavonic languages, meaning "field" (especially good for tillage), also "open space"; *Polanin* is therefore the inhabitant of a "country of fields." *Polsha* such a country itself. The name seems hardly to fit the cradle of the Polish State, Great Poland, as it was at the dawn of Polish history and far into the middle ages, a country of bogs, marshes and forests, part of the water-logged jungle or *tajpa* that extended from the Rhine through Northern Germany, Poland, Lithuania, Central Russia, right across Siberia to the Pacific. In 1500 the half the total area of Great Poland was still covered by forest. (Compare *The Warsaw Weekly*, Nr. 23, June 5th, 1937, instalment of this series). The earliest sources know nothing, indeed, of Poland and Poles. *Mieszko* is first mentioned as *Misca*, king of the *Liticiaviki*, and it is only in a biography of St. Adalbert, dating from the close of the tenth century, that *Polesia I dux Polanorum*. In the eleventh century the names *Polonia* and *Poloni* or *Polani* are finally in general use. The so-called Nestor, the Kiev chronicler of that century writes of the *Lechs* (*Lachs*) on the Vistula, some of whom are called *Polans*, others *Lutitzi*, others *Masovians*, others *Pomeranians*. But in his enumeration of Slavonic tribes he has also other *Polans* on the Dnieper river and these are the Kiev people over whom the band of Swedish Vikings known as *Ross*, *Russ* or *Varangians* established their rule about the middle (after 860) of the ninth century. These Dnieper *Polans* certainly dwell in a "country of fields" or "open country" in the very midst of the South European grassland.

(To be continued)

Visit of Sir Ronald Storrs

Sir Ronald Storrs, the distinguished diplomat, soldier and expert on near Eastern questions, is giving two lectures in Poland during February under the auspices of the British Council. The first will be at Krakow on the 16th or 17th of the month, by arrangement with the English Club, and the second will be at Warsaw, probably on Sunday, the 20th February, at the Town Hall, under the auspices of the Polish Institute for Collaboration with Foreign Countries. Those interested in having tickets for the Warsaw Lecture which will be on Lawrence of Arabia, should apply in writing either to the Institute or to Mr. Egerton Sykes, Czackiego 1.

Marshal Śmigły Rydz surrounded by Veterans of the 1863 Insurrection



PRESS REVIEW

The press agency *Echo* states that "reports are current in the Sejm according to which the Democratic Club has announced to the Speaker the intention of bringing forward its own proposal for an electoral system. This proposal is said to have gained followers and the support of other deputies of different opinions and political views".

Depeza calls attention to the fatal effects of totalitarianism on true culture. It writes "we see in many countries, that totalitarian and etatism tendencies have killed culture, poetry, painting, the theatre, even science — in spite of the apparent protection with which it surrounds them. But in such states where people live in spiritual barracks there is no place for free thought. Altogether thinking is not allowed there. It is only allowed to read circulars". And after showing that where there is no tolerance and no criticism there can be no true art or culture the article concludes "Where there is neither a free life for individuals, and for free local organisations there are no experiences, no life. There is vegetation".

A. T. E. (22/I) writing from Paris says that in political circles there is a conviction that a real majority in the Chamber will only be crystallized in some time, above all during the discussions on the new labour legislation. "Even *Oeuvre* which is pro-government demands from the government a wide party concentration according to Blum's programme. This vital programme ought not to be disregarded".

Kurier Warszawski (22/I) writing that France and England will defend the League of Nations quotes its French correspondent who says that the visit of Minister Eden in Paris will serve as an occasion for French-English measures aiming at saving the authority of the League "especially in view of the new wave of attacks from many states of which some are influenced by fear of being involved in war, others are embarrassed by nearer relations with the Reich or Rome or else are anxious to enter into such relations".

The *Wino Stowo* (22/I) finds that there is a turn towards the left in the policy of the present Government and that with the retirement of Col. Koc the parliamentary circles have lost some of their interest in O. Z. N.

Cambridge Regional Examination Centre

It is proposed to open up a regional examination centre in Warsaw in conjunction with the Polish-British Society for the granting of Cambridge University Certificates of Proficiency in English, similar to that which already exists in Gdynia. Further particulars will be announced at a later date, in the meantime those who are interested should communicate in writing with Mr. Egerton Sykes, Górnoląska 39, Warsaw.

"This constant point of irritation has at the same time disappeared not only from the lower circles of the régime, but above all from the leading spheres. This was said recently during the audience of the representatives of the democratic club and authoritative circles who had drawn their conclusions, in consequence of which a calming had ensued and no further changes are necessary as the situation has recovered its balance". But *Stowo* does not suppose that the Left shares this opinion, neither the left of the "sanitation" nor of the opposition, the one demands a change of the cabinet, the other a change of the electoral system.

Kurier Polski (24/I) in an article discussing the present debates in parliament writes that they show Poland is suffering from an excess of State control. "The State wants to be an omnibus which transports everything, includes everything; there is always less room for the free action of the citizen, all activities are becoming more and more the privilege of the functionary; wherever he is, or things are done through him.

I. K. C. (23/I) comparing Soviet and Hitler totalitarianism says: "The future of the civilized world does not lie in the development line of either one or the other totalitarianism. Both aim at the systematic destruction of the highest value which humanity has created in its historic development; human freedom, free work and a free workshop in a world human individuality. And once more it will be seen that a free man is superior to an unfree one, a free workshop is superior to a fettered one".

Kurier Poranny (24/I) writes that in France there is talk of the possibility of the relief of tension with respect to Germany and that "both in London as in Paris tendencies are increasingly marked towards seeking understanding with States that have left the League and are outside the limits of the Geneva institution".

The German press shows much interest in the meeting of Minister Beck with the Romanian Foreign Minister, M. I. Miescu. *Berliner Tageblatt* writes "that the Ministers discussed the common position of both States in Geneva on the Jewish question and the problem of neutrality or the complete independence of the smaller States from the League of Nations".

K. M.

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Danzig famed for Art Manufactures

When King Casimir of the Jagiellon Dynasty of Poland gave Danzig permission to mint her own coins in the 15th century he started the art craftsmen of that old town on the production of art subjects that have brought it world fame.

In the following century the brothers Gebelius invented a new die and a new press which brought to Danzig coins an even finer perfection. Pieces with the new presses, and the older ones were widely circulated and are to be found today in famous coin collections.

As the years passed Danzig's craftsmen artists gave wing to their collective imagination. Brass candleabra and brass candelsticks, their traceries and decorations done with lovely precision were turned out in considerable quantities; and since their motifs were religious, in most cases, they found their way into churches, monasteries and into the mansions of the religious rich.

The art of making the famous ornate Polish bolts was devised about this time and has been handed down from generation to generation to this day. In most respects this period might be called the Golden Age for Danzig's artist workmen. They devoted themselves to amber carving, to cabinet making especially during the baroque period. Their chests, clocks, tables, and chairs are today prized pieces in private museums.

Danzig artist workmen received much encouragement from Polish Kings, who were generous buyers of their wares as were also the great Polish nobles. It is because of these purchases that much of this fine workmanship has survived. Some of it is still in the mansions of its noble owners and some has found its way into museums in Poland and many other European countries.

It is an interesting fact that the art-workmanship in Danzig today is a direct descendant of those splendid old days. The amber carving industry has been taken over by the State and many small objects of beauty are produced from this precious material.

Danzig workmen not only know how to make artistic things but they were expert at making whisky. In 1598 a certain Herr Vermellen began the manufacture of this liquor and among his several brands was Krambambuli which shortly became celebrated

THEATRE AND MUSIC

YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU

This new American comedy by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman may popularly be said to unite wit and humour with something deeper and more significant.

It is the story of Grandpa Martin Sycamore's family, each of whose members - with the exception of his grand-daughter Alice - is a crank whose peculiar brand of mania, unwhimsical and respected by the other members of the family, brings to each complete satisfaction with life. Grandpa's daughter, Penelope Sycamore, has been writing plays for eight years on end without making a single one of them. Her husband, Paul Sycamore, manufactures cheap neckties with his partner, Mr. Carmichael. Essie, the Sycamores' daughter, dances at home, and has been preparing her ballet appearance for the last eight years. Essie's husband, Ed Carmichael, is an amateur painter who takes his text from works whose meaning and propaganda value he is incapable of understanding - notably Ibsen's 'A Doll's House', Grandpa himself collects snakes, etc., etc. One and all are completely happy, and neither wish nor expect any change in the conditions of their lives.

The play revolves around the matrimonial project of the one unaccountably - minded member of the family, Alice, who has set her heart on marrying Tony, the son of her chief, Mr. Kirby. The violent contrast between the respective atmosphere of the Vanderhof and Kirby families seems to be the main obstacle to this marriage, and the consequent tribulations are shown in the play with rare humour. The second act, with the unexpected visit of Mr. and Mrs. Kirby to Grandpa's house, the contrast in the ideology of the two families, and the end of the act - when all the Vanderhofs and Kirbys are arrested in connection with Ed Carmichael's printings of Tolstoy - are beyond praise.

Notwithstanding the humorous development of their theme, Messrs Hart and Kaufman do not forget to include a searching commentary on the ideals and conditions of modern life. Their rather optimistic theory amounts to this - that the tempo of modern life is too quick and the desire for a career too overpowering. Grandpa's creed is that every man ought to be happy in his own life, and that such happiness is easy enough to obtain if people will only be content with what they have. Modern man has too many desires, Grandpa seems to say - and which of us shall say that he is wrong? On the other hand, a character like Penny, who finds complete satisfaction in the writing of plays, without being unhappy because no solitary manager is interested in her dramatic output, points the way to a happy life.

Moral: People must be contented with their lives, and full of faith in the future, like Grandpa, when at the end of the play he proceeds to say Grace in the following words: - "Well, Sir, here we are again. We want to say thanks once more

for everything You've done for us. Things seem to be going along fine. Alice is going to marry Tony, and it looks as if they're going to be very happy. Of course, the fireworks blew up, but that was Mr. de Bings fault, not You. We've got our health, and as far as anything else is concerned we'll leave it to You. Thank You".

In general, the originality of the Vanderhof atmosphere, the interesting commentary on modern life, the first-rate stage effects, and the profusion of comic gags, make of YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU a quite delightful evening's entertainment.

The Teatr Ateneum's production, like most of the performances seen on that stage, is talented and scrupulous. The stage direction this time was in the hands of Zygmunt Chmielewski, who thoroughly enters into the spirit of the authors' wishes. He gets the most out of every situation, particularly the comic denouement of the second act.

The cast of the play includes the entire company of the Teatr Ateneum and some guest artists, among them Helena Zahorska, Irena Horecka and others. Of the Ateneum company, pride of place must be given to Stanisława Perzanowska, who in the rôle of Penny displays humour, directness and sincerity. Stefan Jaracz, as the optimistic American Grandpa, is as convincing as ever. Other members of the Vanderhof family are ably interpreted by Elżbieta Kryńska (Essie), Stanisław Daniłowicz (Ed.), Józef Kempa (Sycamore), and the rest. Miss Hanna Jaraczówna is disappointingly pallid in the rôle of Alice. On the other hand, Leszek Pospiewicki is interesting as Tony, and is well supported by Helena Gruszecka and Juliusz Łuszczewski as Mr. and Mrs. Kirby.

The settings are by Władysław Dąszewski.

"WITH A BOWLER TIPPED UP"

Warsaw has revived the cabaret artistic. The "MALE QUI-PRO-QUO", whose two first programmes offer to the audiences a great quantity of capital sentimental and satirical songs, burlesques, based on all actual events, amusing sketches, and sharp political monologues, all on an artistic - literary and musical - level.

The second programme entitled "WITH A BOWLER TIPPED UP" (Z MELONIKIEM NABAKIER) is one of the best cabaret programmes, seen lately in Warsaw. The company includes a list of excellent artists, such as the well known diseuse, Tola Korianówna, whose Polish and French songs are ravishing; the favourite of Warsaw public, Adolf Dymek, the masters of artitque burlesque and parody Halina Kamińska and Tadeusz Olasz; the well known interpreter of romances Olga Kamińska; and, finally, the sentimental singer Andrzej Bogucki.

CONCERTS IN WARSAW

The well known pianist Mieczysław Münz who has lately returned from an American tour gave a piano recital last week at the Conservatorium. While possessing elements in a number of qualities this artist has no very striking individuality. Like many of the younger generation of pianists he seems more in sympathy with the music of modern composers such as Ravel, Debussy and Rachmaninoff than with Chopin or even Liszt.

THEATRES

NARODOWY, Eichelrodowa and Solska in "Balladyna" by Stowacki. POLSKI, "Galazka rozna yb" by Nowakowski. From 3rd Feb. - "Narazeczkowa in "Little Dorrit" by Dickens

MALY, "Freud's Theory of Dreams" by Cwojdzinski. From 3rd Feb. - Young "Milk in "Domino" by Archard. NOWY, "It is not seri us" by Hrandel. MALICKIEJ, "Candide" by Shaw

ATEUM, "You can't take it with you" by Hart and Kaufman. KAMERALNY, "Anna Kareline" by Tolstoj

LETNI, "In the Receivers Hands" by Arnold and Bach. NOWOSL, "The Prince and the Pauper" (Mark Twain's "Huckleberry Finn")

MUSIC TEATR WIELKI - OPERA. Saturday: "Mme Butterfly" with Plagi. Sunday: "The Barber of Seville" by Rossini. Tuesday: "The Barber of Seville" with Plagi. Wednesday: "The Barber of Seville" by Rossini

Thursday: "Pan Twardowski". Friday: "The Fowler of the Tyrol". KONSERWATORIUM. Saturday: Recital by György Sándor, Hungarian pianist. Sunday: Piano recital by Yvon Le Moind'adour. Monday: Piano recital by Claudio Arrau.

FILHARMONIA. Sunday: Early Matinee. Dir. Mikolaj van der Pals. Violin - Kurt Skrzypek. Tuesday: Concert for the Winter held benefit. Friday: Symphony Concert. Dir. Walerian Bierdziejew. Piano - Alfred Hoehn.

MUSICAL SHOWS

CYRULIK WARSZAWSKI "Behind Closed Doors". Tuesday: "The Merry Musical in "Virginius Susan". From 1st Feb. - "Makowka in "Fedora".

WIELKA KREWLA "The Waltz Dream" by Strauss. MALE QUI PRO QUI at Zlomiańska "With a Bowler Tipped up"

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At the Symphony concert in the Philharmonic on Friday the 21st. inst. Alexander Uniński a former first laureate of the Chopin contest played with great bravour the e minor concerto of Chopin. The artist has developed greatly since his appearance here 6 years ago. He has gained especially in breadth and virility

and may certainly be ranked among the first class pianists of the day.

The conductor Igor Markiewicz, also a Russian, exhibited eminent musical qualities. His work Le Nouvel Age demands nearer acquaintance and study but in any case reveals a highly serious and intellectual artist. K. M.