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WARSAW LETTER

Events in Czechoslovakia are now absorbing the attention of the Warsaw public; that country is Poland's immediate neighbour and has a considerable Polish minority so that Polish ears are particularly apt to seize all reports coming from the other side of the river Olza.

During the strenuous day of May 21 news reached Warsaw that the Czechs in consternation at the rapidity with which events were developing had concentrated their troops not only on the German but also on the Hungarian and Polish frontiers. This news was also accompanied by alarming reports from Teschen Silesia. The Polish Minister of Foreign Affairs instructed M. Papée, the Polish Minister at Prague, to ask the Czech Government for an explanation of this movement of troops along the Polish frontier. The Polish representations brought immediate effect; the very next day reports reached Warsaw that the troops had been removed from the Teschen area and in the evening it was officially announced here that the Czech Government had assured M. Papée that there had not been any troop movements directed against Poland and that the Polish-Czech frontier was only held by the usual frontier guards whose numbers had been slightly increased.

The sensational report of the *Evening Standard* of May 23 to the effect that M. Beck had informed Herr Molke, the German Ambassador to Warsaw, that Poland would side with France and England, and that Poland would be included in an armed conflict in defence of Czechoslovakia, was energetically denied both by the Polish Embassy in London and by Warsaw circles close to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It is rather interesting to note that on May 24, i.e. the next day after the report of the *Evening Standard*, deputy Jan Walewski, member of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Sejm (the same who this Spring attacked the Germans over the radio for not observing Polish German Minority agreement of November 5, 1918) broadcast a lecture on Polish-Czech relations in which he laid stress on the temporary character of the present relaxation in view of the increase of disruptive forces inside Czechoslovakia and its unregulated relations with its neighbours. M. Walewski spoke with much vigour of the extermination policy applied by the Czech administration to the Polish Minority and the toleration of anti-Polish activities of the Comintern prepared on Czech soil. The Speaker ended by saying that there cannot be any question of changing the present relations of Poland to Czechoslovakia nor of changing the feelings of the Polish people towards that country until the conditions of the Poles in Czechoslovakia fundamentally improve and the anti-Polish

machinations of the Comintern are definitely discontinued.

There have also been press attacks on Czechoslovakia. The *Iskra* agency has issued a communique protesting against the difficulties put by the Czech administration in the way of Polish citizens residing in Czechoslovakia upon their return from military service in Poland, and the official *Gazeta Polska* published on May 20 a long article on the deliberate falsification of statistics and census results in Czechoslovakia with regard to the number of racial Poles inhabiting that country.

It must also be said that both the Polish press and the authorities have paid special attention to the delegation of Slovak autonomists belonging to Father Hlinka's party, presided over by Senator Budaj and deputy Sidor who came to Poland to meet in Gdynia the group of America Slovaks delegated to bring with them on M. S. "Batony" the original of the Pittsburgh agreement concluded in 1918 between Czechs and Slovaks in the event of the establishment of an independent Czechoslovak Republic. This delegation of Slovak autonomists arrived in Poland together with another Slovak delegation representing groups desirous of cooperating with the Czechs and opposing autonomy. This second delegation was presided over by Dr Czerno, special representative of Dr. Hodza who is a Slovak himself, and M. Juraj Slavik, the Czech Minister to Warsaw, also a Slovak, joined this group and went with it to Gdynia. Though these two groups were jointly received by the Czech Legation in Warsaw at a tea, there was a marked tendency in Poland to entertain only that of the Father Hlinka party.

The relaxation of tension in central Europe which has been felt since the evening of May 22 has permitted M. Beck to keep the date originally fixed for his visit to Sweden in return for that of M. Sandler, the Swedish Minister of Foreign Affairs, paid to Warsaw last autumn. In the morning of May 23, M. Beck accompanied by his wife and Count Michal Lubinski, Chief of his chancery, left Warsaw via Berlin, where they did not even leave their railway carriage or see anybody from the German political world. The Warsaw press expressed great satisfaction at the realization of the Stockholm visit in view of the affinity of the foreign policies of the two countries which, both desirous of preventing an open conflict between the two opposing blocs in Europe, are seeking to increase the cooperation which already exists between them.

In general everything in the Baltic seems to be going in accordance with Polish plans, including the continuous and steady progress made in normalizing Polish Lithuanian

THE EMPIRE EXHIBITION

Among the seventy or so units of the British Empire — a group of nations owing allegiance to a single Crown — are to be found representatives of almost every race, language and creed under the sun. For the next six months exhibits representing these world-wide scattered units will be found gathered together in the Empire Exhibition, which was opened on the third of May by King George VI at Bellahouston Park, Glasgow.

Apart from any other special feature, it is the biggest Exhibition of its kind held in this country since the great Wembley Exhibition of 1925. It covers an area of 175 acres in the heart of Scotland's leading industrial city. The building and the equipment, the planning of the site and the installation of public services have cost nearly £ 10,000,000. The organisers estimate that the attendance will be at least 15,000,000; probably nearer 20,000,000, and if the interest shown at the beginning is any indication, their estimates are likely to be too modest, for nearly 150,000 persons visited the exhibition on the opening day.

relations. On May 14, M. Michal Potulicki in the name of Poland and M. Norkaitis, director of the Economic Dept. of the Lithuanian Foreign Office, signed in Kaunas a convention opening water communications between the two countries and M. Norkaitis is expected to visit Poland soon in order to make a preliminary study of the possibilities of beginning business relations between the two countries.

The last fortnight also brought signs of a further cementing of friendship between Poland and Roumania. Patriarch Miron Christea, the Roumanian Prime Minister, arrived in Poland on May 20 and stayed until the 23rd. This visit had been arranged several months ago to return the visit of Mgr. Dionysius, Metropolitan of the Orthodox Church in Poland, who was last year in Roumania, but when Patriarch Christea became Prime Minister, this visit was not postponed but extended so as to include a visit to the Polish Government also. During his stay in Warsaw the Roumanian Prime Minister was entertained by President Moscicki at lunch and at dinner by M. Skladkowski, the Premier, during which toasts emphasising the strength of the Polish Roumanian friendship were pronounced. The visit was not planned to result in any new treaty or arrangement, but nevertheless it has been much appreciated as another link in Polish Roumanian relations and as a source of moral support for the Orthodox Church in Poland, which is now looking for closer contacts with the Orthodox Churches in the Balkans in the



The Tower at the Empire Exhibition

The British railway companies are also optimistic regarding the number of persons likely to visit the exhibition, for they are wholeheartedly organising their resources to arrange special facilities for travellers. Their long-

distance express services are being augmented, more than 2,500 special trains are being scheduled for excursionists, and organised parties aggregating more than 1,000,000 are already being catered for.

AUSTRALIAN LETTER

by Helen Henev

The Y. W. C. A. in Sydney is organising its annual Autumn Fair to open early in May. Among the exhibits will be a display of embroidery, to which work from various European countries are to be sent. Those countries to be represented include Germany, China, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia. The embroidery will be of special interest as so little of peasant crafts and national embroidery in general is known in this country.

Great interest is being taken in the National Health and Pensions Bill at present before the Federal Parliament. The scheme, to the building up of which the results of experience abroad have been applied, is one of the greatest importance, as it aims to provide for the majority of the employed population of Australia a scheme of social insurance which will cover, sickness, disablement, old age, and pensions to widows and dependents of insured persons.

place of the pre-war connection with Moscow. The visit of Patriarch Christea is being followed by that of General Ionescu, Chief of the General Staff, and group of high army officers who will be the guests of the Polish General Staff for a week. General Samsonovici, the former Roumanian Chief of General Staff, was in Poland two years ago so that this contact of the Polish and Roumanian Chiefs of Staff is now becoming a regular thing.

(Continued on page 2)

Australia is in a curious position in regard to social services, which are almost entirely a matter of legislation, and many of them having been made at one time or another the subject of political vote-catching election programmes, the two parties bidding against each other in the doing out of benefits. In consequence, there is little feeling for thrift in the Australian mentality, and great difficulty in inducing the voters to support any party which plans to make the people pay for any benefits they may receive. This present bill is an attempt to stop the trend towards pauperization of that section of the working class which has never recovered from the effects, moral as well as purely economic, of the depression. Its incidence will be shown by the fact that it will apply immediately, if passed, to about 52% of the population of Australia. It provides health and pension benefits. The progress of the bill through the House will be followed with interest.

The present speeding up of aerial defence has revealed the fact that Australia is suffering from a lack of pilots. This is not due to any lack of air mindedness among the young men, but to the cost of training, which averages at present A£ 250 for a B licence in civil aviation, and A£ 600 for an instructor's licence. Vigorous efforts to raise funds for training will be made in the near future. Of interest is the fact, disclosed in the annual report of the Australian Broadcasting Commission, that last year there were 940,000 licences running, with an increase of A£ 87,242 over last year.

WARSAW LETTER

(concluded)

Beside the very important events taking place outside Poland local affairs seem at present rather colourless but certain facts concerning both the Ukrainian and Jewish population of Poland should be noted. In the middle of the present month the leaders of the UNDO, i. e. the Ukrainian National Democrat Union, announced that the three and a half years of cooperation with the Polish Government have not brought them any real advantage, they listed all their grievances against the Polish Government, and finally said that hereafter they would insist on obtaining territorial autonomy, as no half measures could satisfy their justifiable demands.

This declaration has met with unanimous condemnation in all quarters of the Polish press including that of the Radical Opposition who in the past had always supported the Ukrainians in their political demands. The Ukrainians have been unanimously accused by the Polish press of copying the example of Conrad Henlein and certain articles even spoke of connivance with Germany.

The Ukrainian declaration has not been followed by any definite step on the part of the Polish Government. It is being said in some quarters that the acute tone of the declaration does not mean an immediate rupture, as it was mainly a tactical move in order to satisfy the boisterous elements of the lower ranks of the party and also an instrument to attract the attention of the Polish Government to the causes of this dissatisfaction.

In the meantime the Jewish question is also being much discussed in the columns of the Warsaw press in connection with the first meeting of the Supreme Council of the OZN which passed 13 resolutions in the matter. The first meeting of the Supreme Council had an interesting aspect proving the direct and strong connection between it and Marshal Smigly Rydz who came to the social reception after the meeting and said that, in his opinion as a soldier and a citizen "the ideology and the aims of the OZN are good, are right, are salutary and indispensable for Poland". General Skwarczynski said "our work is based on the authority of Marshal Smigly Rydz". Both the Marshal and General Skwarczynski pointed out that the work of unification of the nation meets with difficulties, but whereas the former advised the OZN to apply "much realism, much sobriety in judging reality and much optimism", the General found that in the influence of the old forms of life was to be found the main cause of the obstacles in the way of unification. In classifying the existing political parties as archaism he gave the impression of contradicting M. Kwiatkowski, the Vice Premier, whose Katowice lecture had been understood as a proposal to attempt a reconciliation between the Government group and the political opposition. The three days' debates of the Supreme Council ended with a series of resolutions concerning necessary state investments, the liquidation of alphabetism and finally 13 resolutions concerning the Jewish question. These resolutions are based on the principle that "Jews belong to the world Jewry which possesses its own national aims", and that "the Jews are an element weakening the normal development of Polish national and state forces and forming an obstacle to the present social evolution in Poland". The resolutions say that the solution of the Jewish problem in Poland can only be effected by an intensive emigration. Though

THE IMPORTANCE OF POLAND'S SEA-BORNE TRADE

The share of the two seaports of the Polish Customs area, Gdynia and Danzig, in the total foreign trade of the country during the first two months of this year was 79.2 per cent by weight, and 63.8 per cent by value. In exports the two seaports reached as regards quantity the record figure of 83 per cent of the total Polish outgoing trade, and as regards value 65.4 per cent. In imports the ports represented jointly 64.5 per cent of the volume and 62.4 per cent of the value. Gdynia's share in Poland's foreign trade during the two months was in tonnage 49.4 per cent and in value 49.2 per cent; the figures for Danzig are 29.6 and 14.6 per cent. Gdynia handles 51.6 per cent of the export tonnage and Danzig 31.5 per cent; by value 41.4 per

Palestine is to be considered as the main field for Jewish emigration, its limitations are such that other territories for emigration must be found. The resolutions condemn acts of violence against the Jews but recommend a diminution of the partitioning of Jews in a number of professions, in business life, arts, theatre, music and education.

These resolutions have greatly roused the Jewish population and press, so that the parliamentary Jewish group issued a protest maintaining that these resolutions are contrary the Constitution.

The *Gazeta Polska* began a series of articles on the subject, laying stress on the fact that the great number of Jews in Poland is a result of the humanitarian feelings of Poland in the past owing to which she accepted Jews expelled from other countries: Poland could not, however, continue to extend hospitality to these aliens. The article of the *Gazeta* has been understood by the nationalist press as meaning that the OZN will actually enforce its resolutions, and, if necessary try to amend the Constitution so as to avoid the accusation of violating it.

Despite the importance of political events in Europe the Poles have found time for other interests, for instance for the strophastic ascent prepared for the forthcoming autumn. On May 19, Captain Frank Burzynski and Dr. Konstanty Jodko Narkiewicz undertook a preliminary ascent in the balloon "Torun" with a capacity of 2200 cubic meters. This balloon is well known since it took part in the Gordon Bennett races. They reached the heights of 20,000 feet, starting from Legionowo near Warsaw at 7.51 a. m. and landing 9 and a half km. away at Zegze at 12.45 p. m. It was a day almost without wind which explains the short distance between the two points. In the meantime work on the cover for the huge strophastic balloon which will be made of textile invented in Poland has begun; 13 meters of this material will be required. Capt. Burzynski left the balloon at 11.15 a. m. and instruments for the balloon and to confer with American students of the strophastic.

The second half of May brought another great victory for Polish sport — the Polish Association team beat the Irish 6-0, the half time score being 3-0 for Poland. The same team which defeated the Irish will be sent to Strasbourg for the International Soccer Tournament where it will play against the Brazilians on June 4.

M. C.

Economics and Finance

The British Press

By Joseph Martin

An exhaustive survey of the British press was recently made by a group of non-party social and economic investigators, known as "P. E. D." (Political and Economy Planning). The main object of the enquiry was to present a clear and balanced account of the present state of development of the Press, and its problems and achievements as an industry and as a social organ. The result of the investigation has been published in a comprehensive report of 150,000 words, containing a mass of information, some of which will be new and surprising to both pressmen and ordinary members of the reading public.

It is surprising to find, for example, that in 1935 the press stood twelfth among the industries of the United Kingdom, exceeding both shipbuilding and iron and steel. It employs directly 80,000 persons, many of whom possess a high degree of skill. In 1935 it had the high net output of £ 478 per employee; a very high proportion (26 per cent) of administrative staff; and a large proportion of adult male workers.

DIRECTIONS OF POLISH FOREIGN TRADE

During the first quarter of this year Polish imports from European countries reached a total value of 209.9 million zlotys as against 180.1 million for the corresponding period of last year, an increase of 29.8 million zlotys. For the period compared imports to Poland from non-European countries rose from 98.7 million zlotys to 125.9 million, an increase of 27.2 million. Polish exports to European countries during the first quarter of 1938 amounted to 235.5 million zlotys in value (as against 236.2 million for the corresponding period of 1937), a decline of 2.7 millions. Thus in her European trade Poland was still able to maintain a favourable balance, but this was reduced from over 56 million to 23.6 million for the quarter. On the other hand, the adverse Polish balance of trade with non-European countries rose from 24.5 million for the first quarter of 1937 to 81.2 million for the corresponding quarter of 1938. The U.K. continued to hold a fixed place (Polish exports 53.7, Polish imports 38.5 million; the value of Polish exports during the quarter rose by 10 millions as against the first quarter of 1937, while the value of Polish imports from the U.K. remained practically unchanged. Germany came second with Poland exports valued at 47.5 million (37.0 mill.) as against 34.9 millions) the increase of Polish imports from Germany consisted mostly of machinery and electrotechnical appliances delivered for the cover of frozen claims of the Polish railways. Third was occupied by Belgium (Polish exports 15.8 millions, Polish imports 11.4 millions), followed by Austria (Polish exports 13.4, Polish imports 12.7 millions, France (Polish exports 13.5, Polish imports 10 millions), Italy (Polish exports 14.6, Polish imports 7.8 millions) and Czechoslovakia (Polish exports 10.8, Polish imports 10.6 millions). Of the non-European countries, the U. S. A. had the most extensive trade with Poland; the turnovers for the quarters compared totalled: 1937 Polish exports to U. S. A., 32.0 millions, Polish imports from U. S. A. 28.0 millions; 1938 Polish exports 15.8 millions, Polish imports 48.9 millions, the balance in favour of Poland amounting to 4 million zlotys for the first quarter of 1937, the first favourable balance achieved by Poland in trade with the U. S. A. — gave place to an adverse balance of 33.3 millions for the first quarter of this year. The chief causes of this shift were decline in the exports of Polish tinmed ham (from 4.2 mill. to 0.2 millions) and the substantial rise in the imports of scrap-iron from the U. S. A. to

cent of the exports passed through Gdynia and 24 per cent through Danzig. Of total imports 41.4 per cent of the tonnage came in via Gdynia and 23.1 per cent via Danzig; of the total sea-borne imports 55.7 per cent of the total value was handled at Gdynia and 6.7 per cent at Danzig. The average value per ton of goods in the aggregate foreign trade during the two months came to 136.70 zlotys and the average value per ton of sea-borne trade was 110.10 zlotys. The average value per ton of goods handled at Danzig was 67 zlotys and 136.10 zlotys at Gdynia. During the first quarter of the current year, imports via Gdynia increased by 46.9 per cent as against the corresponding period of 1937, exports rose by 2.2 per cent. For the two quarters compared, the rise of imports via Danzig was nearly 91 per cent, while there was a decline in exports of 11.5 per cent.

The British public are great readers of newspapers and periodicals, and last year 1,577 newspapers and 3,119 periodicals were being published in Great Britain. In 1936 the estimated average circulation of all daily newspapers in the country was 19,050,000; that is nearly one copy for every two persons — not families, but persons! The number of copies of the 12 national Sunday newspapers sold weekly was 14,400,000.

In discussing the economics of newspaper production the report deals with an extremely important development in modern journalism the large amount of capital needed to keep a newspaper alive until it has established itself and begun to make profits. It is estimated that the Labour daily newspaper, the *Daily Herald*, cost £ 2,000,000 to establish after it was taken over by a well known firm of newspaper producers and reorganised in 1930. But this is not so surprising when it is realised that to produce and distribute a penny London

newspaper costs three half pence; and each newspaper brings in to the publisher only two-thirds of a penny. This wide discrepancy between cost and sale price must be made up by advertisement revenue. Another interesting item mentioned in the report is that about 1,500,000 words are received every day in a newspaper office, and of these only 70,000 can be printed in a popular daily paper. More important than these questions of production perhaps are those concerned with the social aspect of the press. In these days of dictatorships and state-control, the question of a free press, such as that of Great Britain, is one of vital importance. Genuine liberty to print all the news, states the report, is now found in relatively few countries.

The press of each country must, of course, suit its own political system and its own needs. As far as Great Britain is concerned, there is no doubt that a free press is a vital necessity. "There is not, and is not likely to be, any state-owned or state-controlled newspaper in the ordinary sense" in Great Britain. The objections are that state ownership or control would give too much power to the Government of the day, or to the bureaucracy, or both, and tend to stifle public opinion. The latter objection alone is sufficient to condemn the idea, for the British public prizes too highly its liberty of speech and expression to consent to have its newspapers muzzled by state interference. On the other hand, ownership or control of groups of British newspapers tends to be concentrated in a few hands; but competition between these groups checks abuse of the power which ownership of a number of newspapers gives to the great press magnates. No human organisation or system is perfect, and the press interests in Great Britain would not claim anything like perfection for their products, but technically the standard of the British press is very high indeed, and as free organs of public opinion they are probably unexcelled anywhere in the world.

Poland (from 2.4 millions to 16.9 millions, necessitated by larger iron and steel production in Poland. There was also a considerable growth in Polish imports from Chile (from 0.9 million to 5.0 million), mainly accounted for by imports of copper.

CONVERSION OF POLISH DOLLAR BOND ISSUES

The one-year period allowed to holders resident in Poland for the conversion of bonds of the various Polish dollar loans issued in America into bonds of the 4 1/2 per cent Internal Loan for 1937 ended on May 31st, and no extension of this period is to be expected.

Up to May 1st dollar bonds to the total face value of \$ 45,987,200 were exchanged for new bonds for the face value of 294,556,000 zlotys. The distribution by loan issues concerned was as follows: \$ 20,238,200 of 7 per cent Stabilisation Loan converted into 150,088,000 zlotys of the internal bonds; \$ 9,086,900 of the 8 per cent Dillon Loan into 50,568,000 zlotys; \$ 6,443,400 of the 6 per cent Dollar Loan into 38,660,000 zlotys; \$ 4,458,400 of the per cent Italy of Warsaw Loan into 24,102,000 zlotys, and \$ 5,760,300 of the 7 per cent Silesian Loan into 31,140,000 zlotys.

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The Scots in old Poland

by Waclaw Borowy

I

Among the English speaking observers who visited Poland in the 17th century one of the most interesting was undoubtedly WILLIAM LITHGOW, both as a personality and as the author of a book of travel. He was a Scot, born in Lanark, a son of a merchant burghess. Educated at the local grammar school, he was probably going to become a tailor, but an unfortunate love affair changed his career. He appears to have aroused the enmity of the brothers of his sweetheart, was assaulted by them and had his ears cut off. He left the country and seems to have sought consolation in travel which in time became the chief passion and the principal interest of his life. He travelled for over nineteen years and saw not only the greater part of Europe, but also Asia Minor, Palestine, Egypt, Tunis and Algiers. These journeys abounded in adventures, and their description, first published in 1614, and gradually enlarged (1623), until the final edition in 1632, became a much read book. It had several editions and was translated into Dutch; it was still being reprinted in the 18th and 19th centuries, and even in the 20th it was judged to be worth including in Jonathan Cape's *Travellers' Library* (1928). Lithgow's style is rather bombastic but he has always arresting things to say.

He was in Poland for a short time only, on the way back from one of his oriental expeditions. He must have had little time for studying the country, and his remarks on it are on the whole scanty. That Poland is "a large and mighty Kingdom, powerful in horsemen and populous of strangers"; that its soil "wonderfully fruitful of corns and has become 'the gimmel' of Western Europe, that it has "a proud nobility, a familiar and a ruidous vulgarity"; these are only repetitions of popular notions. They are accompanied by some over-hasty generalisations. Lithgow describes the Poles as being "for the most part, of square and thick bodies, having bull-necks, great thighs and legs grim and broad faces", he adds more justly that the "heaven heads of the nobles are often "finely covered with over-thwarting strokes" of crooked sabres. Some audible note of dislike in these comments might be partly attributed to Lithgow's strong protestantism which naturally made him censorious about every nation where he heard "the hissing of snakish papists".

This basic suspicion only adds to the interest of some observations of his travels. We learn, e.g. that having reached Cracow, the capital city of Poland ("though but of small importance", as he hastens to add in brackets), Lithgow "met with divers Scottish merchants", who were "wonderful glad" of his arrival there, "especially the two brothers Dicksons, men of singular note for honesty and wealth". The same was repeated in a much smaller place, Lublin: "Here I met these are the travellers' own words — abundance of gallant rich merchants, my countrymen". When he went on a wagon from Warsaw to Danzig Lithgow was accompanied by one William Bailey, a young Scottish trader from Clydesdale. He met commercial Scots practically in every place to which he came, their conversation "being ever sealed with deep draughts and God be with you". After having read this we can hardly be astonished at his calling Poland a "familiar nation" for Scottish people.

It was, indeed, a period in which large numbers of Scots emigrated to Poland and lived there for some time or permanently exercising commercial business or crafts.

The origins of that historical link might be traced back at least to the 15th century. Danzig and the territories of the Teutonic Order were at that time in trade intercourse with Scotland as well as with England. We know, e.g. that between the years 1474 and 1476 twenty four Scottish ships entered the port of Danzig. From the early years of the same century we have a list of Scottish creditors to the Teutonic knights; and we find there sums large and small from £ 216 down to 9 shillings. Even at a much earlier date, namely 1390, we come across a mention of "Scots" as wandering traders in one of the Pomeranian towns, but we cannot be sure whether in that case the name was used in its national sense. Anyhow, it is only in the 16th century that we meet Scots in large numbers on Polish territories which allow us to speak of an emigration and justify the phrase of a modern historian (Th. A. Fischer) that Poland was for the Scots "the America of those days".

The reasons for this emigration might have been various. The most important of them was certainly that Scotland's resources were not sufficient for its population. The principle of primogeniture forced younger sons even of more prosperous families to look for a career abroad and whetted in them the taste for adventure. Another important reason came with the persecutions of the Catholics and, of the Presbyterians; the very dates of their developments seem to mark larger waves of the Scottish influx to Poland. In order to explain why Poland became such a centre of attraction for the Scots we have only to consider the state of things in other parts of Europe and the conditions of life in Poland itself. The relations of the Scots with England were hostile in the period preceding the union. France was not a field for commercial emigrants as it had a large trading base of its own. In Holland many Scots had settled already before Poland meanwhile offered many advantages to the enterprising and the persevering. Its commerce had not been developed and was to a great extent concentrated in the hands of Jews and other foreign people. The country was large, and had a good harbour with which the Scots had long been familiar. They set out indeed, first to Danzig and other sea-coast towns both of Poland proper and of the Duchy of Prussia (the successor to the Teutonic Order after its secularisation, and Poland's vassal). But these were precisely the most commercial provinces; the newcomers had many competitors there, and met with a considerable opposition: in Prussia they were even very early legislated against. Naturally they moved southwards and eastwards, and gradually explored the whole country with its big as well as small places, towns as well as villages.

The emigrants came chiefly from the class of small lairds or townfolk, and their most popular profession in Poland was that of pedlars. For this they became universally known in both countries. In Poland in the dialect of the Kashubs the word "szol" still means "a trader", and we meet it with the same meaning on many a page of Polish literature of the 16th and 17th centuries. The phrase "Scottish ware" was coined to design most various things sold by these itinerant merchants (it embraced

knives, scissors, beads, boxes, goblets, but sometimes also such different articles as rices or blankets). In a verse of the poet Potocki we read even a humorous swearing phrase: "Let the Scots take him". In England the expression "a Scotch pedlar's pack in Poland" became proverbial at the same time. Master JOHN SKENE, a learned Scot clerk of the King's Register, Counsel and Rolls, in his book *De verborum significatone* (publ. 1641) commenting upon all the special terms used in the legal and judicial practice of the realm has a detailed paragraph on "pedlars", and his chief example are the "Scotsmen of the realm of Polonia", on whom he adds a very interesting remark: "quhairof I saw an great multitude in the towne of Cracowia anno Dom. 1569". The Bishop of Glasgow on a mission to the Polish King in 1574 assured Queen Mary that he well understood the importance of his mandate as "outside France there was na country under the sun where the Queen's subjects traded more by sea than Poland, especially Danzig". They must have been numerous in that town even twenty years earlier so as to have caused serious displeasures to an Englishman from Newcastle, Cuth Blund by name, on whose behalf the English Queen complained in a letter to the King Sigismund Augustus.

It is not devoid of interest that in 1606 when the idea of union between Scotland and England was discussed in London in the House of Commons, and Bacon moved that the Scots might be naturalized by an act of Parliament, the party opposing retorted that if the Scots were admitted into English liberties, they would over-run the country, and "the multiplicities of the Scots in Polonia" were given as an argument; to which it was answered that they would never consent to "live so meanelly here as they do in Polonia".

They were not all pedlars. Some of them kept shops and stalls in towns. There were among them various craftsmen, such as clothiers, tailors, tanners, harness-makers, potters, brewers, excoriaters, chemists, and so on. There is a reference to a suburb called *All Schottland*, which name, according to a tradition, is due to an old colony of Scottish weavers. In Cracow the first Scot was registered in the townbooks in 1509. In Warsaw their earliest traces are found in the treasury-lists of 1564 and 1569. In the 17th century we see them practically everywhere.

After the events of the year 1649 the Parliament in England took the government into its own hands, and it was proclaimed that the office of King should be abolished, Charles II sent to Poland his agent Sir JOHN COCKRAM in order to raise some money from the Polish Scots for the support of his cause. Having been received favourably at the Polish court, Cockram visited several towns and collected considerable sums. He proved, however, not to be a reliable ambassador, and a little of this money reached Charles. The disappointed monarch sent then a letter to his subjects in Poland in which he disowned Cockram's mandate for levying money, and dispatched other ambassadors with the same purpose. They were WILLIAM CROFTS and JOHN DENHAM. We have from the latter, who was a poet, a bizarre verse description of their mission. When they came, they naturally found a cold welcome among the Scots who had just been robbed by Cockram: "their stubbornness was such", as Denham's "poem" words it, that they would not even hear them,

"Nor an answer would send,
Till our letter so we penn'd,
Nor assist our affairs;
With their monies nor their wares,

124. The 19 years of Travels of William Lithgow, Part 9.



They was first built by Dardanus sonne to Cerinthus King of Cerinth, who havinge line his brother 1561, fled to this Country, and first erected it, intulning it Dardanus.

William Lithgow

On the ruins of Troy

Woodcut to his

"Total Discourse... of long nineteene yeares travayles" ... (1632)

As their answer now declares, But only with their prayers."

Crofts, however, cleverly appealed to the Polish diet. The assembly was moved by his arguments and remembering with gratitude, as their resolution says, the good-will of Charles's grandfather shown to Poland during the Turkish war, and "wishing to requite it to him in some fashion", they ordained that all the Scottish and English merchants living in the realm should pay within eight weeks the tithe of their substance and that this sum should be delivered to Charles's envoy. There were still difficulties to meet. The Scots in Prussia, e.g. who had been settled there for a long time, asked for exemption. An additional reason they had for refusing this tax was that its payment exposed them to reprisals from the English Parliament which had likewise its agents in the country. Denham's verse itself apparently alludes to one them, by the name of JOHN MOLLESON. Charles's letter disowning Cockram was produced and seemingly another one about his new ambassadors was forged, which annoyed the Polish King John Casimir to such an extent that he threatened all the Scots with expulsion if they persisted in this course. In spite of all these complications, Crofts and Denham succeeded in collecting £ 10,000 and returned in triumph. "Then our breach they kist" — says Denham's poem proudly about the taxed Scottish merchants (1651).

A few years later (1656) Charles tried to tap the same source again, and sent to Poland a new envoy Lieutenant-General MIDDLETON to collect money, be it this time by way of loans, and to prepare an expedition to Great Britain. He expected to obtain one thousand dollars, besides the postponement of repayment due on previous debts. This mission could hardly be very successful, as at the same time new and grave troubles befell the Scottish (as well as English) settlers at Danzig. A war broke out between Poland and Sweden. People who were not naturalized were not sufficiently trusted. They were therefore given the choice: either to swear the oath of allegiance, enter the military service and pay a war tax, or leave the town. They asked the English Chancellor for intervention, and when it proved to be of no avail, they unanimously refused to accept the conditions, and departed (1656). The exile, however, did not last long, and soon we hear of them as being active in Danzig again.

Thus the history of the Scottish immigrants in Poland intertwined with the larger historical issues of the period.

What were exactly their numbers? This question is not so easy to answer. The earliest figure appears, very curiously, in a play, namely in Webster's *The White Devil* (publ. 1612) where a character mentions in rage as one of many possible miseries of his life the entering "of the list of the forty thousand pedlars in Poland". Of course, we cannot take the documentary value of such a text too seriously. Lithgow who was in Poland about 1616 and wrote his record before 1632 speaks of "thirty thousand Scots families" as living incorporated in Poland's "bowels", besides the fluctuating young seekers after fortune who come yearly "in great numbers". George Ossolinski during his embassy to London in 1621 seems to have mentioned that there were "about 30,000 Scots in Poland", as that number recurs in the English State Papers of that year. The French ambassador Charmaec gives (in 1629) 15,000 as the aggregate figure both for the Scots and the English living in Poland and trading with "fancy goods, hand wares, cloth and linen". A later Polish ambassador Andrew Rey who was in London in 1673 spoke of "40,000 Scots scattered about Poland". Discourteously treated by Charles I he threatened him with the expulsion of these Scots, which did not, however, much impress either the King or his English ministers. The anonymous Scotch poem on the fate of Stercovius (publ. 1640) speaks of "squadrons" of Scots abundant in Polish lands. And MUNDY (the traveller) who visited a fair in Torun in 1640 says: "Here were many rich and well furnished shops of Scots, there being many hundred (I may say thousand) families of that nation inhabitants of this land, no city or town of note without some, generally dealing with merchandise for more or less". Modern historians are divided on that subject. Herr Th. A. Fischer who studied the question of the Scottish emigrants in two special books believes that the number "at one time must have exceeded by far the thirty thousand mentioned by Lithgow"; whereas Professor Roman Rybarski is rather inclined to accept a much more modest figure of 800 families odd. But this last computation gives rise to doubt, as it is chiefly based on the registers of the tax levied in 1650 on behalf of Charles II, whereas we might be almost sure that many Scots escaped it, the more so as Charles II's ways of collecting taxes were singularly unfortunat and his popularity could only suffer from them; on the other hand, any help given to the Stuarts was strongly objected to by Cromwell whose agents were

(Continued on page 4)

The Scots in Old Poland (concluded)

present in the principal Polish towns and keenly observed what was going on. And besides that, many Scottish settlers might have been by that time naturalized in Poland and felt exempt from any duty towards the Scottish royal house of Stuart.

The immigrants came generally very young; there are many mentions in documents of boys of 15 to 17. When they first came, they were usually known only by their Christian names. Only after having reached some degree of prosperity they used to send to Scotland for certificates of birth, i.e. genealogical statement justifying their right to the name they bore. The procedure was long and elaborate, but they kept it to it; it was even necessary in cases when they wanted to acquire Polish citizenship. Many of these names have been recorded. We have, e.g., a list of Scottish wandering traders in the Duchy of Prussia, drafted in 1615, and consisting of 375 names. More copiously are recorded names of those Scots who, having got their birth certificates, naturalized and became burghesses of Polish towns. We know, e.g., about 150 names of those who settled as citizens in Danzig (in the years 1531-1710); we know 44 names from Poznan (1585-1710); and so on. The volume published (1915) by the Scottish History Society under the title "Papers relating to the Scots in Poland" contains materials about Scottish settlers in many other Polish towns.

Among the names we meet such as ALLAN, A UCHLECK, B U C H A N, C R U I K S H A N K, D I M C O K S O N, D R U M O N D, D U M P E R I S, D U M C A N, F E R G U S O N, F O R B E S, F R A Z E R, H E N D E R S O N, H O R N E, I N N E S, J O H N S T O N, L I N D S A Y, P O R T E U S O, R O B E R T S O N, R O S S, R E I D, S K E N E, W A T S O N, Y O U N G, etc. etc. Aberdeenshire itself is represented by the names of G O R D O N, L E S L I E, F A R Q U H A R, C O U T T S, B U R N E T, B A R C L A Y, M O R E, B L A C K and A B E R C R O M B I E.

But they came from various parts of Scotland. Among the 44 naturalized townsmen of Poznan we find 7 from Edinburgh, 9 from Aberdeen, 6 from Dundee, 2 from Culross, 2 from Clackmannan, 1 from Newbattle, Carnach, Lasswade, Montrose, Perth, Irvine and Berwick.

On the other hand people from one Scottish district did not gather in one part of Poland. In the collection of birth certificates from Aberdeen extending over 68 years (1637-1705) most various Polish places are mentioned. Cracow, Warsaw and especially Danzig are most frequent, but Lublin and Leszno recur several times also; Zamosc and Zakroczym are both twice mentioned; and besides them we have Tarnow, Krosno, Piotrkow, Wilno and Jaroslaw.

Some of the Scottish names got polonised in the townsbooks, not only phonetically, but even formally; thus a Macaulay became Makalinski, and a Gore-Corski. Sometimes it is even difficult to recognise the original name; who might have been, e.g., Andreas Dziomski, entered as a "Scotus Daburgenensis" into the townsbooks of Cracow in 1577? Was it possible Gough? Sometimes simply the designation of nationality was taken as a name: such was, e.g., the case of a "Morrison vel Schott" born in Cracow and mentioned under the year 1546. This simple surname Schott was even frequent.

Wacław Borowy

WARSAW THEATERS

A new comedy by Franz Molnar, THE NEW DALILA, at the TEATR MALY is one of this author's worst plays. This time the new Dalila deprives her husband of his manhood and his charm by taking away his money. The subject of the play is so weak, that even for a one-act play it would be insufficient. Extended over three acts, it is extremely irritating, and the question certainly arises why this excellent Warsaw stage should have made such a bad choice in its repertoire. It is all the more regrettable because in the New Dalila we see the return after a long absence of Miss Mila Kaminska, that fine and charming actress, who is worthy of appearing more often and in better plays. Miss Kaminska shows even here all the qualities of her admirable appearance, finesse and elegance of artistic expression. She is supported by Jerzy Woskowski (in a capital characterisation of the husband) who displays a perfect unity of taste and expression in comedy effects, Jan Kumańcowicz (an excellent episode), Jerzy Roland, and Lydia Wysocka, a young actress whose playing is spirited but lacks some of the charm so necessary for a role of this kind. The production is by Maria Przybylko-Potocka.

The TEATR LETNI presents a French farce FALLAIT PAS M'ECRASER, the typical, stereotyped and banal kind of farcical performance. It gives opportunities to the leading man which are not fully exploited by Adolf Dymuszka. The stage direction is under Teofil Trzcinski.

All circles of the Warsaw public are looking forward to the first night of the Murger BOHEME at the TEATR POLSKI on June 8th. This most popular work will receive a fine production in the hands of Zbigniew Ziembinski (who also plays Rodolphe), with an excellent cast headed by Elzbieta Barszczewska (Mimi), Maria Modzelewska (Musette), Stefan Michalak (Marcel), Władysław Kaczmarek (Chaumard), Józef Kondrat (Colline) and Jacek Woszczerowicz (Baptiste). The settings are prepared by Stanisław Sliwinski, while the costumes will be the work of Zofia Węgierek.

ARNO.

ART EXHIBITIONS.

On the 28th of May a new show was opened at the I. P. S. (Królewska 13) including the Memorial Exhibition of Lucjan Adwentowicz, and paintings of the "Pryzmat" Group. Besides there is a show of furniture designed by Władysław Wolkowski.

ANGLO BALTIC LINE S.S. "Baltrover" From Gdynia 9th, 23rd June From London 2nd, 16th June Cabin class 7, 0. o. return 25 1/2 reduction. For further particulars, apply to UNITED BALTIC CORPORATION, LTD. Warsaw, Kredytowa 18, tel. 299-30

Sea and Air News

AIR FORCE EXPANSION

As a result of the intense efforts now being made, the Air Force in Great Britain will have attained a first-line strength of approximately 2,370 aircraft by March, 1940. In the Empire overseas the number will have increased to 490 first-line machines, and the Fleet Air Arm will be expanded to 500 machines as when ships and carriers are ready to receive them. There will thus be an aggregate first-line strength of nearly 3,500 aircraft in two years time, supported by an unspecified number of reserve aircraft.

These particulars were given by Lord St. Oswald, the Minister for Air, in the House of Lords recently in the course of a debate on the need for further measures to ensure a more rapid expansion of the Air Force. At the same time the House of Commons was assured by the Government that the former programme for producing a first-line strength of 1,750 aircraft, with reserves, by March, 1939, was well up to schedule and that it would probably be achieved before the date proposed. Owing to her keen desire for disarmament, Great Britain delayed rearmament for so long that the leeway she had to make up was enormous. Now that the Government, supported wholeheartedly by practically the whole nation are determined to bring the defensive forces to the pitch of efficiency commensurate with the Empire's responsibilities, we may rest assured that nothing will be allowed to stand in the way of providing a British Air Force equal to that of any possible rival in the world.

THE LARGEST VESSEL

The largest and heaviest vessel ever built, the new Cunard-White Star liner, Queen Elizabeth, now in process of construction at the works of John Brown and Company on the Clyde, will be named and launched by Her Majesty the Queen on the 27th of September. The new vessel is being built on the same general principles as those which governed the design of the Queen Mary; but there will be certain modifications, based mainly upon the experience gained on the Queen Mary. A new form of hull has been developed, and the Queen Elizabeth will have only two funnels, as against the Queen Mary's three. There will also be other changes, both internally and externally, but of a minor character.

The length of the new vessel will be 1,031 feet overall - 13 feet longer than the Queen Mary; and her eventual gross tonnage will be about 85,000 as against the Queen Mary's 81,235. The total passenger accommodation of the Queen Elizabeth will be 2,410, some 300 more than that of her sister ship. The reason why the Cunard-White Star Company are building a sister ship to the Queen Mary is their desire to give a regular seven day service, in similar vessels, from Southampton on the one side and New York on the other. Allowing for the calls at Cherbourg, the moderate speeds necessary in the Solent and on approaching and leaving New York, and the time taken in replenishing the ship with fuel, boiler water, provisions, stores, linen, etc., a weekly service will require of the two vessels a minimum ocean speed of slightly more than twenty-eight knots.

CINEMAS

- ATLANTIC. "Wings over Honolulu"
'BALTYK. Greta Garbo in "Walewiska"
CASINO. "Dame Pique"
CAPITOL. "Egipci"
COLOSSEUM. "Tarzan's Revenge"
EUROPA. Herbert Marshall in "Enemies in Love"
IMPALM. Annabella in "The Gypsy Princess"
PALLADIUM. Claudette Colbert in "The eighth Wife of Bluebeard"

- "PAN. "Zorro"
RIALTO. Loretta Young in "Two husbands of Mrs. Vicky"
ROMA. Wallace Beery in "Big Bill"
STYLWY. Paul Muni in "The truth conquers"
STUDIO. "The Tiger of Eschnapur"
SWIATOWID. Simone Simon in "A summer tale"
VICTORIA. Brothers Marx in "A day at the Races"
Starred cinemas play at 5, 7, 9, others at 6, 8, 10.

BRITISH PASSPORT CONTROL OFFICE

JAJDOWSKA 18, WARSAW

No 93/94

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

Table with columns: No. of certificate, NAME, Age, Category, Date of issue, Address. Lists names like CZARNES Fruma, LEWIN Chana, KINSKAR Haja, etc.

(Golda ROSENBERG's original immigration certificate at this office, subject to production of a marriage certificate)