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NEW POLAND

Ten Years of People's Poland
Special Anniversary Number



JULY
1954

Monthly 6^p

TEN YEARS of PEOPLE'S POLAND

THIS year is the Tenth Anniversary of People's Poland. From the day, on 22nd July, 1944, when the Committee of National Liberation was set up in Lublin, miracles of reconstruction have been witnessed by the Polish people. A new and happy life unfolds before them. Their standard of living rises daily. Their children are faced with unending opportunity and their old people can live out their last years in happiness and comfort.



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IF NOT, HOW DID IT COME ABOUT?**

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in

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CONTENTS

Poland's Amazing Developments	2 & 3	Polish Co-op Delegate	21
Apprentices' Welfare	4	London Guild Visited	21
Architectural Exhibition—a success	5	Visitors to Poland—Impressions	22, 23, 24, 25, 26 & 27
Children in Poland	6 & 7	Winifred Coppard	22
What Polish Physicists are doing	8	Joseph Greenald, Anne & Hugh Lowe	23
Science in Industry	8	June Parkington, Ruth Haines	24
Polish Academy of Sciences	9	Jack Dash, Ron. Hodgkins	25
Polish delegate to E.T.U. Conference	10	Ted Rodgers	26
Poznan foundry worker interviewed	11	Ted Terry, Len Hatchett	27
The Youth of Poland	12 & 13	German Rearmament—the truth	28
Holidays that widen horizons	14	Leisure Time	30 & 31
Something to Sing About	15	Editor's Column	32
Liberation Day Greetings	16	Secretary's Letter	33
Ten Years of People's Poland	17, 18 & 19	Sports Page	34
Women in Poland	20	Cartoons	35

For many readers this will be the first issue of "New Poland" they have read. This is a special issue for a special occasion but each month "New Poland" brings up-to-date news and information about People's Poland. Next month we will continue the article "Poland's Amazing Developments" giving more details of different industries. Each month "New Poland" has twenty-four fact-packed pages, brightly illustrated with photographs, and it costs only sixpence a copy, or 7/6 per year, post free, from "New Poland," 81, Portland Place, London, W.1.

The Future is Assured

TEN YEARS IS ONLY A SHORT TIME in the life of man and in the life of a nation it is normally insignificant. Not so the past ten years for Poland, the first ten years of a People's Government.

For, in that decade, the Polish nation has emerged from an insignificant backward agricultural country into one of Europe's leading industrial countries. It has been ten years of sheer hard work, not only to put their house in order but also to wipe out the worst scars of Nazi occupation.

That, this has been done in so short a time is a credit to the People's Government for not only did it inherit a backward economy it also inherited a politically backward nation, a nation which had to be convinced in the early days that the sacrifices were necessary if their future was to be assured.

The confidence that the Polish people placed in their Government has been more than justified. For the vast majority, the living standard is higher than ever, there is no unemployment, no insecurity in old age or sickness. And the future holds even greater prospects.

Great as have been the achievements of Poland, the Polish people know only too well that much has still to be done, that there are still shortages of certain things. How could it be otherwise after ten, all too short, years?

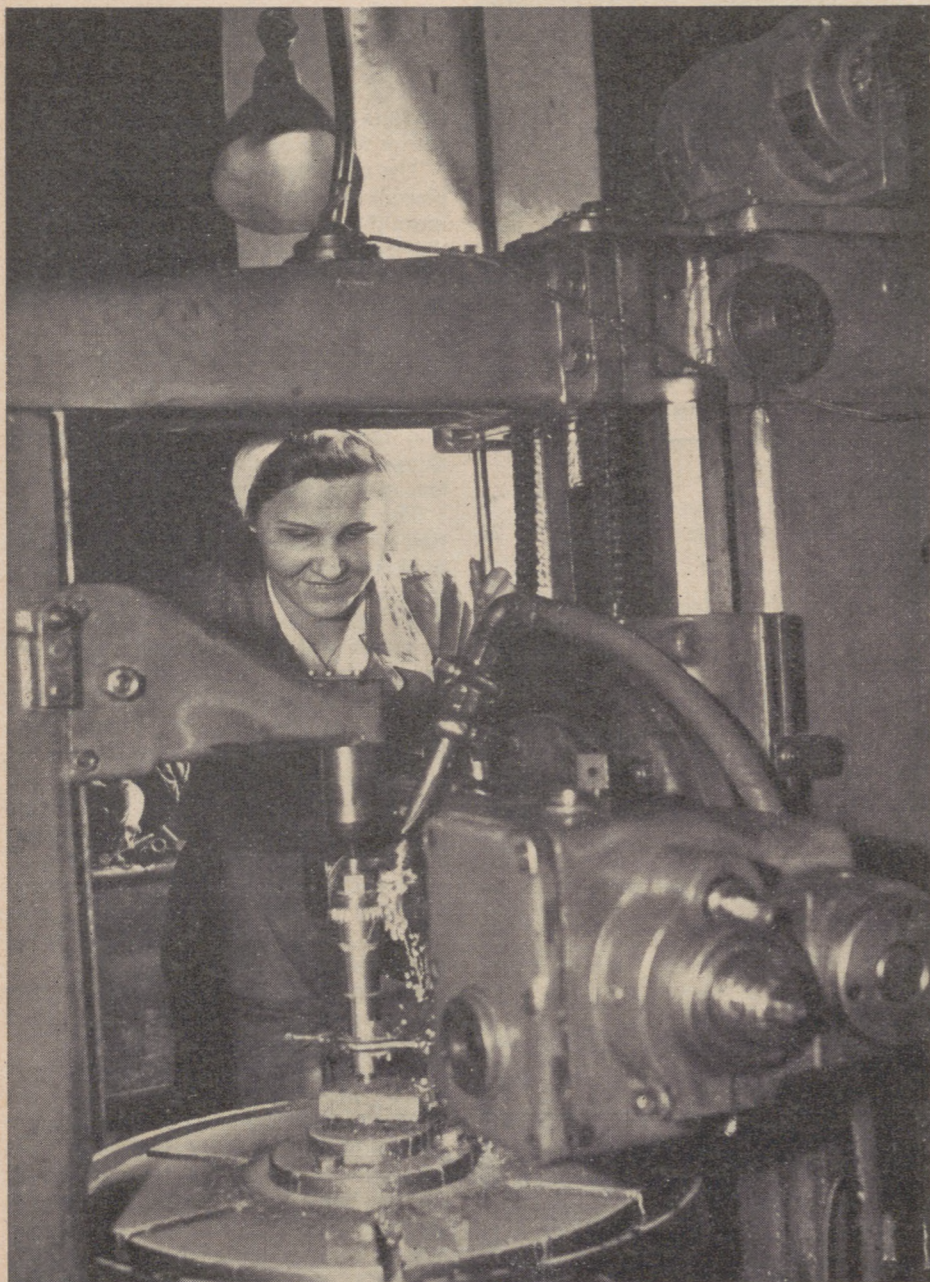
The main thing is, that for the first time in the history of their country the working people, especially the peasants, have sufficient to eat. What is more, they know that if they are allowed to go their way they will have even more and even cheaper food.

To fulfill the aims of developing her economy in the interests of the people Poland must have Peace. For this reason, and because she suffered more than any other country during the last war, Poland is to the forefront in the fight to establish a lasting Peace. She needs Peace, for all her economy is being built on the assumption that the ordinary people are better off in a peaceful world than in a world torn by conflicts.

To-day, there is no-one in Poland who could benefit by war, all can and will benefit by lasting peace.

On the occasion of the Tenth Anniversary of the Liberation of Poland, we, in the British-Polish Friendship Society join with other friends of Poland from all parts of the world in wishing her success both in her plans at home and in her efforts to ensure a Peaceful solution to the international differences. We are proud that we have done a little to make known Poland's amazing developments and achievements.

Poland's Amazing Development



Great calls have been made on Polish engineers who are now making, for the first time, building equipment, mining machinery and . . .

TEN YEARS AGO PEOPLE'S POLAND was born, born amid the rubble and ruins of Europe's most war-devastated country, a country which even pre-war was producing less than it did prior to the first world war.

To-day, Poland's industrial output is among the highest in Europe.

The 1938 output shown in the table below as percentages of the 1913 figure indicates the then economic backwardness of Poland. Then, during the war Poland's national assets decreased by 38 per cent, 19,000 industrial establishments, that is two-thirds of the total, were destroyed.

Raw materials	83.3%
Steel	85.9%
Rolling Mill produce	86.3%
Crude Zinc	56.3%
Lead	44.4%
Zinc-Lead ores	97%
Coal	93%
Rock-Oil	45.5%
Alcohol	33.1%
Sugar	68.5%

During the war the industrial losses in Poland amounted to eleven milliard zlotys as against 1.8 milliard zlotys in the first world war. This means that the industrial losses were almost six times greater, the value being nearly five times higher than the national budget during the immediate pre-war years.

First Problem

Such was the industrial inheritance of People's Poland. And it must be remembered that alongside this industrial devastation, houses, hospitals, schools, cinemas, theatres and other buildings were completely destroyed on a scale hitherto unknown.

The first task which faced the Polish nation at the end of hostilities was the urgent need to get as much industry back into operation as soon as possible. This, in fact, kept the country fully occupied until 1947 when the Three Year Plan for Economic Reconstruction was launched.

This Plan, which was fulfilled two

months ahead of schedule, raised the output of the heavy and medium industries to 77 per cent above the 1938 and so laid the basis for the next stage in the economic development of Poland.

This is contained in the Six Year Plan of Economic Development and the Building of the Foundation of Socialism in Poland which was put into operation in 1950. This Plan differs from the previous Plan insofar as it is designed to change the complete economy and so make Poland a predominantly industrial country instead as it was an agricultural country.

The Three Year Plan, on the other hand, was intended, as it did, to make possible the liquidation of the economic backwardness of Poland. Even so, on the completion of this Plan Polish economy could not be compared with many industrial countries.

In 1950—the first year of the Six Year Plan—the Plan was overfulfilled by eight per cent of the target fixed. The output of the heavy and medium industries reached 225 per cent of their pre-war output, while with a reduced manpower, the population decreased during the war by a third compared to the 1937 figures, output per worker was 315 per cent of the pre-war output.

Industrially Strong

In the following year, the Plan was again beaten by eight per cent. Because the targets of the Plan are increased each year as the industrial potential increases, the 1951 production was 13 per cent greater than 1950.

For 1952, the Plan envisaged an increase of 16 per cent over 1951 but in actual fact a twenty per cent increase was achieved. This put the output of the heavy and medium industries 320 per cent and that of the individual worker 425 per cent above pre-war.

Last year production increased at an even greater rate. Not only was it possible in January to abolish all rationing and price controls but in November there were all round price reductions for food and other essential goods. There were similar reductions on May 1st this year which were another direct result of the overfulfilment of last year's Plan.

Comparisons are often made between the rates of reconstruction immediately after the first war and the present period. Those for Poland make interesting reading. The results of reconstruction of the industrial potential are as follows:

1913, 100	1938, 100
1921, 46.8	1946, 73
1922, 73.9	1947, 102
1923, 71.2	1948, 144
1924, 46.8	1949, 177
1925, 63.1	1950, 225
1926, 58.9	1951, 270

Poland has now become a strong industrial-agricultural country, although much more has to be done to meet the ever growing demands of the population which now enjoys the highest ever standard of living.

The general development of the Six Year Plan can be seen quite simply by taking industrial production in 1949 as 100, in 1950 it was 130.8, 1951, 162.7, 1952, 194.4, while last year although the Plan set a figure of 197.1 per cent over 1949 the actual figure reached was 228.6 per cent.

Basic Industries

Under the Six Year Plan eleven new collieries will be opened and Poland's output of coal increased by 1955 to one hundred million tons annually. Already seven of the new collieries are in production and last year the production totalled 88.7 million tons. Mechanisation of all the pits is proceeding at a rapid speed, and the use of pit ponies has been abolished.

Before the war (1938), 1,441 thousand tons of steel were produced, in 1949, 2,300 thousand tons and last year the output had reached 3,604 thousand tons. The fulfilment of the Six Year Plan will

mean that the annual output of iron and steel industry will be:

Crude steel	4.6 million tons
(over three times that of 1938)	
Pig iron	3.5 million tons
(nearly four times that of 1938)	
Rolling mill products	3.2 million tons
(nearly three times that of 1938)	

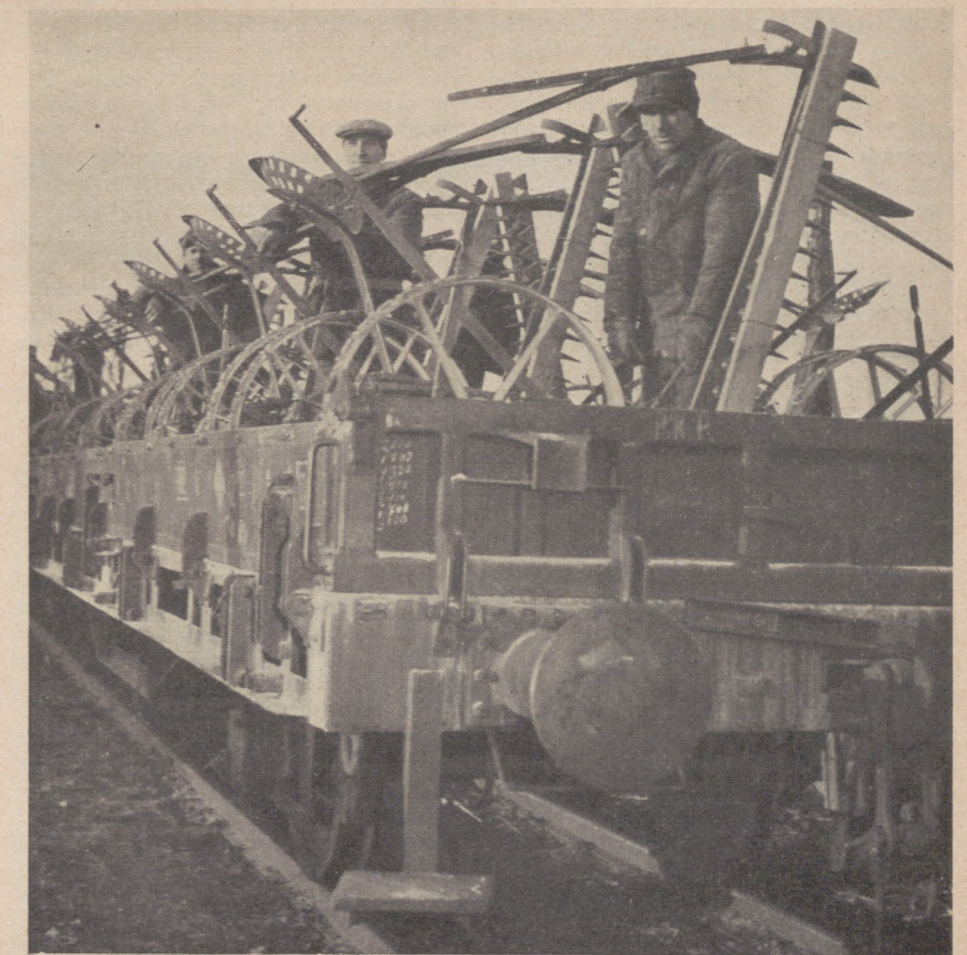
At present the production of pig iron and rolling mill products are more than twice that of 1938.

New Products

It is in the machine tool section of the engineering industry that Poland shows the most remarkable achievements. This section, of course, is so important in the task of reconstructing the old and the building of the new industrial establishments.

During the period from 1949 to 1953 this section produced, for the first time in Poland, over 300 new types of machines and equipment. These include new agricultural machines, coal cutting and loading machinery as well as a multitude of new mechanical aids for the building industry.

The output of this section is fifteen times greater than 1938 and three times bigger than in 1949.



. . . More than thirty types of agricultural machines, new to Polish industry, have been put into production in recent years

The Wellbeing of Young Workers Comes First

Despite the acute shortage of manpower and the urgent need to increase production
Apprentices Safeguarded

THE FUNDAMENTAL SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC changes which have taken place in Poland since the war have created endless opportunities for the youth of the country to find work in trades and industries of their choice, in which they can give full play to their talents and abilities.

But the scope offered by Poland's growing industries would have meant little without the provision of technical and vocational training and, therefore, the new Poland treats the problem of providing young people with facilities for further education and training as of primary importance.

The new system of technical training established in Poland since the war provides young people with the following choice and means for acquiring a trade:

Any young lad or girl can attend a two-year or three-year vocational school. Students who show special ability can enter a technical school, in which the course of study lasts either three or four years. Young people who are behind with their education, *i.e.*, have not completed a course of study at an elementary school, and whose age is between sixteen and nineteen, can enrol in a preparatory technical school.

No Errands

All these schools are closely linked with industrial enterprises in which the students can acquire practical experience of their trade. This takes place in accordance with curricula prepared by the school authorities and under the supervision of instructors and teachers provided by the respective school.

The employment of young people under the age of sixteen is prohibited. An industrial enterprise may engage young people between the ages of fourteen and sixteen only as apprentices in order that they may learn a trade with a view to employment when they reach the age of sixteen. This means that they must start their training immediately upon being engaged and cannot be used as messengers, cleaners, etc.

The conditions of employment of young people between the ages of fourteen and sixteen are governed by a decree of the Government of April 12, 1952,

Article 2, paragraph 2, which says, among other things:

An industrial enterprise may engage a youngster to serve his apprenticeship only if he can produce a birth certificate showing that he is fourteen years old. He must also pass a stiff medical examination and obtain his doctor's agreement to do the kind of work he has chosen to learn.

After these conditions have been fulfilled, the industrial enterprise engaging the apprentice must sign a contract with him, which states the trade in which he will be trained, the period of apprenticeship and other details of his training.

The management of an enterprise training apprentices is forbidden to employ them during their apprenticeship on jobs that have nothing in common with the trade they have signed to learn. The management is also forbidden to employ them on jobs which are harmful to their health, or which young people under eighteen are not allowed to undertake.

The training is done either individually or in teams. It comprises both practical and theoretical instruction. Both are carried out by skilled instructors specially appointed by the management. Both they and the workers who will later be in charge of the apprentices must be acquainted with the safety at work and hygiene code, and in particular with its provisions concerning the kind of work in which the apprentices happen to be engaged.

The Rate

Not later than a week after an apprentice has completed his training, he must pass an examination set by the board of his factory or works. Should he fail, the period of his apprenticeship may be extended or he may be directed to another enterprise, where he is likely to be more successful. If, on the other hand, he passes his examination, he is graded in the trade he has learnt and is employed by the enterprise in accordance with the terms of his contract, which stipulates that he must be given employment according to his grading.

The young worker begins at the lowest rung of the ladder in his particular trade and advances as he acquires knowledge

and skill. These he gains on the bench or by attending special courses organised and run by his factory or mill.

The management is also bound to help him in every way to pursue his studies at evening classes, which are either of the elementary or secondary type, or by taking correspondence courses. If a young worker attends an evening school, the management helps him, for instance, by employing him only on morning shifts.

Between the age of fourteen and sixteen, an apprentice works thirty-six hours a week and not more than six hours a day.

During the first period of his apprenticeship, that is before he has passed his examination, he is paid for the hours worked at a special apprentice's rate. After he has passed his examination, he is paid the rate for workers of his grade. However, before and after he has passed his qualifying examination, an apprentice under the age of sixteen obtains two hours' daily additional pay (except for Saturdays, which is a six-hour working day for all). It must also be pointed out that a youth receives the same rate for the same job as an adult.

Health First

Not all industrial enterprises are allowed to take on apprentices. Thus, old-type works and factories, which are too obsolete to guarantee the required standard of labour safety and hygiene, are not allowed to engage apprentices under the age of sixteen. At the same time, even in the most up-to-date enterprises an apprentice may be moved to another kind of work than he is doing or, if this is impossible, be released from the terms of his contract, if the factory or works doctor finds that his health suffers as a result of the nature of his occupation. If the management fails to carry out the doctor's orders, the case will be referred to the labour inspector, who will enforce its execution.

All young workers under the age of eighteen must undergo a medical examination on joining as apprentices and have a check-up every six months. It is the duty of the management not only to make certain that an apprentice has passed the medical examination on joining, but that he also attends the six-monthly examinations while he is working.

Paid Holidays

Up to the age of eighteen, young workers are not allowed to do night shifts and to do more than six hours daily if they are under sixteen years of age, or more than eight hours daily if they are between the age of sixteen and eighteen. No young worker under eighteen is allowed to work more than six hours on a Saturday.

Continued on page 5

New Poland

POINTS FROM POLAND THIS IS NEWS

One of the new non-ferrous metal works being constructed in Poland, the aluminium works at Skawina, near Cracow, will soon be completed. It is among the most modern in Europe.

The building of the first copper works in Poland, in which the entire production from the processing of the ore to the production of pure electrolytic copper can be carried out, is going ahead rapidly at Legnica in the Wroclaw region.

A modern high productivity sheet-rolling mill, designed and built by Polish engineers, has been put into commission at the Pokoj iron and steel works near Stalinogrod.

Research in the possibilities of using the fibrous substances of peat for the production of textiles is being carried out by the Textile Institute in Lodz. Already it has been established that peat fibres, if mixed with cotton, give a strong high-quality yarn, from which durable and elastic fabrics can be produced.

Plans for peat extraction this year envisage a production of 1,800,000 tons, that is 300,000 tons more than last year.

A big new cod liver oil factory will go into production in Gdynia this year. Based entirely on home raw materials it will produce cod liver oil for medical and technical purposes.

A new brewery, one of the largest and most up-to-date of its kind in Poland, is nearing completion in Dojlidy, near Bialystok.

APPRENTICES—continued

Workers between the age of fourteen and sixteen are entitled to a fortnight's paid holiday after six months and a month's holiday after a year. They are encouraged to take their holidays during the best months of the summer, *i.e.*, between July 1 and August 31.

Young workers between the age of sixteen and eighteen doing unskilled manual work are entitled to a seven-days' paid holiday after six months and a fortnight's paid holiday after a year.

Young clerical workers are entitled to a fortnight's paid holiday after six months and a month's holiday after a year.

Surveillance over the execution of all regulations dealing with the work and training of young people is in the hands of women labour inspectors and the labour inspectorate authorities as a whole.

New Poland

Polish Architecture Exhibition—A Success

THE exhibition of Polish Architecture, which aroused much interest when shown in Glasgow, Birmingham and Nottingham, created even more interest when it was shown at the Royal Institute of British Architects, Portland Place, London, during May.

The exhibition, which was opened by H.E. the Polish Ambassador, attracted more than 1,500 visitors during the two weeks it was on view in the headquarters of the British architectural world. The opening ceremony was attended by many distinguished architects, including Sir Howard Robertson who introduced the Ambassador to members of the Institute's Council and others.

As to be expected there were differences of opinion on the style of the modern Polish architecture, but all were agreed that in face of all the difficulties, Poland has already done a magnificent job of rebuilding. Architects and building technicians were particularly pleasantly surprised by the skilful care with which the ancient buildings of Poland are being repaired and rebuilt.

The Building Industries and Scottish Architect magazine in summing up the exhibition states: "Within the limits of a single exhibition of this kind, where an equal balance has been held between restoration work of historical edifices and new building projects in course of construction or planning, it is somewhat difficult to assess with any degree of accuracy the trend of contemporary Polish architecture. At present the scene offers rather too wide a variety of contrasting styles to visualise the emergence of any definite pattern or architectural formula. Perhaps at a later date we shall have the opportunity of seeing further samples of the work of leading Polish architects, and thus allow a better chance of comparison with similar projects in our own country."

"Keeping in mind, however, the immensity of the task facing architects and builders at the outset—that of replanning and rebuilding a vast new city from a desolate heap of ruins and rubble and of organising building operations in a country crippled by the ravages of modern warfare—the progress made within such a short span has been truly remarkable."

H.E. the Polish Ambassador declares the exhibition open at the R.I.B.A. On the extreme right is Sir Howard Robertson, M.C., President of the Institute



Children in Poland



THE CHILDREN

Playtime



Special children's cafés . . .



and restaurants are commonplace

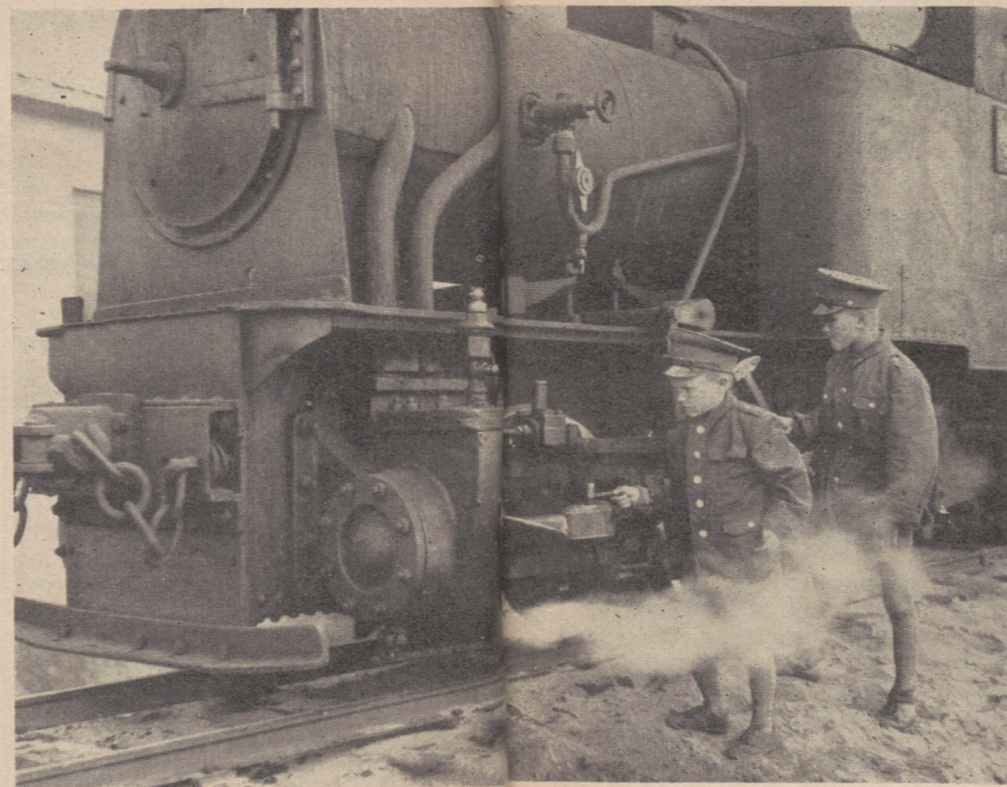


OUR TREASURES

Story time



The entrance to Podgrodze which has its own amusement corner



Their Own Village

Throughout Poland there are special villages where the entire responsibility for everything is left to the children, under adult supervision, of course.

The five lower pictures taken at Podgrodze show that these centres, where children learn citizenship in a practical way, are full size communities.

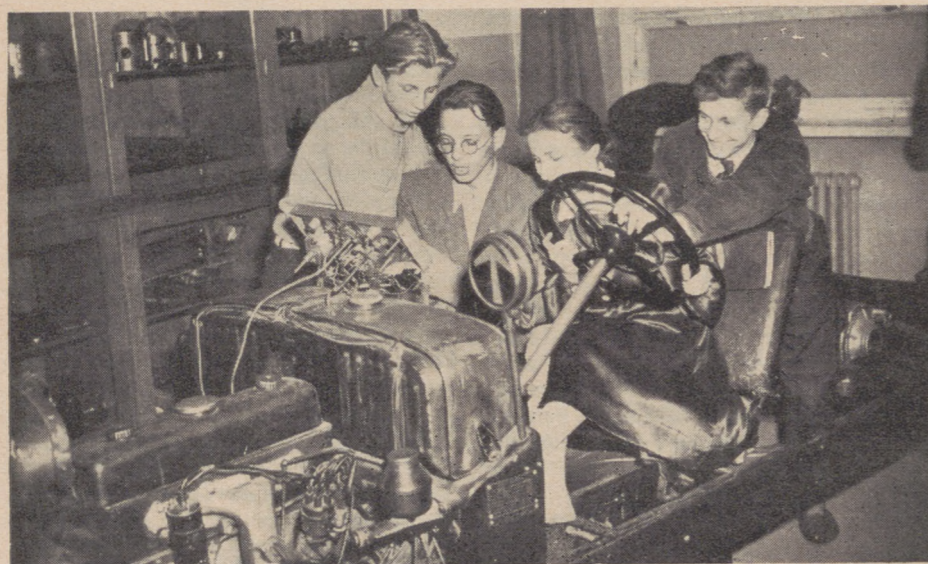


The perfect lesson in road sense, above, the first task of the day

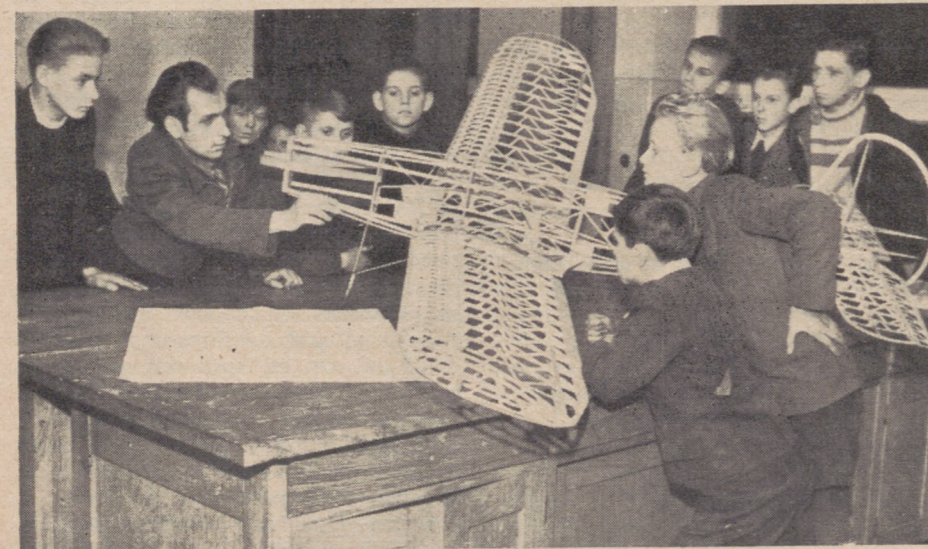
The Youth of Poland



The Palace of Youth, Stalinogrod



This lorry, anchored to the floor, is the "real thing."



In this department we saw a jet driven model of a MIG fighter plane made there from full scale plans

THE PALACE OF YOUTH, Stalinogrod, must arouse many regrets among the visitors from the Western World. Regrets that the youth of their countries do not have the same opportunities, regrets that they themselves were unable to gain first-hand knowledge of the various trades and professions before starting their working lives.

How different must be the lives of the fortunate boys and girls, who are selected to attend classes in this wonderful building, from those of the youngsters who are pitch-forked into unsuitable jobs.

At the Palace of Youth, one of the twelve at present in use in Poland, fifty-two different subjects are taught. These range from specialised industrial subjects such as electrical engineering, motor and motor-cycle repair and maintenance, and radio; to specialised sciences and the various arts.

We saw some of the 7,000 children who attend the two-hour courses after normal schooling. We saw them in the engineering department, in the geography class, building model gliders and engine driven aeroplanes, we saw them in the 25 metre swimming pool, in the gymnasium, learning the accordion and the violin and we saw them being taught ballet dancing.

Each of these happy children doing the very thing they wished to do. Each being encouraged to develop their talents, each being encouraged to study more than one subject. All being taught to work as a team.

Team work is important for these citizens of tomorrow. They meet with the staff and they, the children, draw up the plans and programme. Then in the practical work there is more team work. For example, the engines for the model aeroplanes are made by the engineering students, repairs to the model railway are carried out by those learning railway engineering.

It is not make-believe! The tools and the machinery, in fact all the equipment are the genuine thing. There are full size lathes, real motor cycles and motor cars, and full size plans from which to build models.

Such a Palace is the dream of every boy and girl, and there is keen competition among the children of Stalinogrod for the honour of being selected at their normal school to attend classes there. The lectures, and there are lectures on different subjects each day, are free to all children. Attendance at the classes and the lectures is voluntary. In my opinion, the attractions are so great and numerous that there will never be any need to make it compulsory. I would like to see a similar Palace in every city and town of Britain.— E. H.



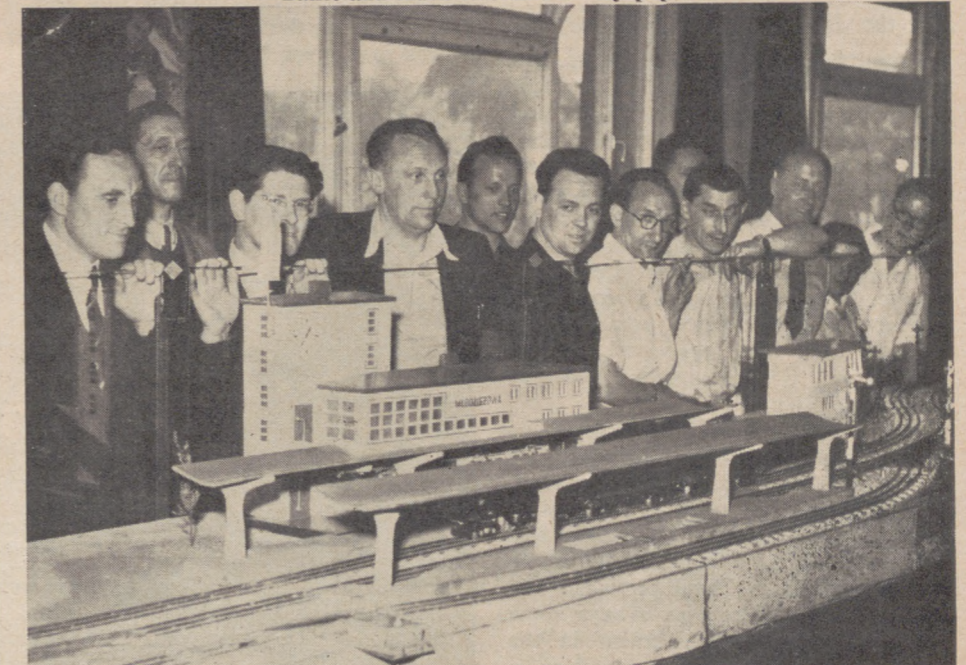
The botany department



A corner of the library



Ballet and music lessons are very popular



Delegates from Austria, Sweden and Britain enjoyed the model railway. Extreme left is Ron Hodgkins, Bristol; next to him, Len Hackett, London; in shirt sleeves are Ernest Hanwell and Ted Terry, London, with Archie Barr, Motherwell, on the extreme right

Holidays That Widen Horizons

By George Bidwell

THE SANDS ON POLAND'S LONG SEA coast are a special delight to working folk with families; the lakes are an irresistible attraction to keen swimmers and canoers. And holidays are for everyone—not, as it was before the war in capitalist Poland, only for a well-to-do few, with the urban and rural workers scarcely setting foot outside their own parish from one year's end to another.

The Polish people decided immediately they became masters of their own country in 1945 that all who work must have the opportunity, and every facility, to play, too. And so the Trade Unions arranged that every worker should have a much-needed rest at least once a year, combined with the chance to enjoy high level cultural entertainment.

That fact is in itself a cultural influence of far-reaching effect. Two or three weeks of complete leisure, with not even the care of meal preparation or household chores—unless they prefer to cater for themselves—opens up for the people new cultural interests which activists on the spot and back at home help them to grasp and develop.

Just the Job

Take the case of Mrs. Kozłowska, wife of a bricklayer. She and her husband and their two children have just got back from fourteen days at the seaside. Their holiday was organised by the Workers' Holiday Fund, run by the Central Council of the Trade Unions.

The Kozłowskas had at their disposal a furnished and completely equipped cottage. They had meals in a central restaurant—though they could have arranged their own meals and received a cash grant to meet expenses, had they wished to do so.

In the daytime, the family sat on the beach, bathed, paddled, roamed in the woods a little inland. In the afternoon, the youngsters went off to the sports ground, Mrs. Kozłowska had a nap and father took their books to the library to change, or spent an hour or two in the reading room. There was always some form of cultural entertainment in the evening—a play, a concert, a film, a lecture, dancing.

Mrs. Kozłowska said to me when I talked to her the day after her return:

"Just what we all needed. Not only a complete rest and change, but something for our minds to bite on all the time. We certainly relaxed, but we broadened our horizons, too. Why, two of the women in one of the plays we saw are housewives like me. I shall join one of those drama groups myself, now. Maybe I shan't be much good, maybe I shall—but I can have a try and if I can't act, I can help somehow. It'll make a new interest, anyway."

Luxury Hotel

Mrs. Kozłowska's husband chipped in to say how much pleasure he'd got out of a number of good concerts he'd attended. He's quite a typical case. With leisure to explore the enchantments of cultural pursuits while on holiday, lots of workers are finding in themselves undreamed-of capacities for enjoying music, literature and the fine arts.

There was Jan Krol, a foundry worker from Silesia, whom I talked to in the train between Wrocław and Stalinogrod. Thirtyish, stocky and tough looking, brown as a berry he was.

"Feel a new man," he said. "Guess I'll make my output norm look silly now. Good rest in the mountains I've had. Stayed in a great hotel where only toffs

could go in the old days. Just the job, I can tell you."

"Are you a work champion?" I asked. "Not yet," he answered. "Last year I went to the sea, and the year before that to the lakes. You put your name on the list and you can choose where you want to go."

"And not expensive?" I prompted him.

"Bless you, no," he said, offering me his cigarettes. "Free return ticket and a voucher that ensures special rates for board and lodging. Less than a quarter of the cost, I pay. The foundry shoulders about a third, and the state pays the rest. And comfort? Well, a pre-war luxury hotel it was, as I told you. Still, it wasn't only the material that I liked. Some sort of a show we had everyday."

Go-As-You-Please

"An author chap came to read some of his stuff to us and we talked to him afterwards. Criticised him a bit, too, and he seemed more pleased about that than when we praised him. Said it helped him. Then we visited an art school, and did a trip to Cracow to visit the Wawel Castle and a museum. Cultural stuff, I suppose you'd call it. I enjoyed it, I must say. Opened my eyes to a thing or two."

Krol was silent for a few minutes, looking out of the carriage window at the peasants working in the fields. Then he burst out with:

"Makes you think. By Jove, it makes you think. We can't help being different chaps from our fathers, after a few years of this. Look at my old man—been dead fifteen years. Only fifty when he died. Just worn out he was. Hardly a day's holiday in his life. Family of five to keep,

and either unemployed or sweating his guts out so that some toff could have a luxury holiday. And cultural stuff? That's a laugh. Plays, concerts, like I can go to now?—not a hope in his day."

Not only annual, more or less formal holidays are linked with cultural opportunities and provision. Wola Forest, near Cracow, and Bielany Forest, near Warsaw, have for generations been the week-end rendezvous of the working people in search of relaxation. But how different yesterday and to-day. Before the war, they were regarded as the happy hunting grounds of every trickster, every cheap jack salesman, every shoddy showman, every petty racketeer such as capitalism by its nature encourages. The people went in search of nature and fresh air—and were set upon by a pack of ravening wolves.

It is another scene to-day. The ravening wolves have been driven out. Natural beauty and cultural beauty await the holiday makers. I went on a Sunday excursion with a party of 500 building workers. Complete go-as-you-please, but provision made for all tastes.

No Spivs

Take a picnic meal—or buy a nominal price meal at open air cafés set in forest clearings. Rest and read, or play games. Watch a play or workers' concert party in the afternoon, or roam in solitude among the beeches. No tricksters, no constant "collections." No one making money out of the people's urge for recreation.

And as darkness fell—a Camp Fire. I stood on raised ground, looking over a natural amphitheatre. There, in the gloaming, were gathered thousands of people of all ages, watching the flames of the fire throwing up red and yellow arms as though to catch at the blue black canopy of the descending night. And in turn the twinkling stars and the great trees, silhouetted by the firelight, looked down on the happy thousands.

A roar of applause—and a youth song and dance team came pirouetting on to the stage. Arrayed in folk costumes and national costumes, they gave a non-stop entertainment of gay, vivacious, vital songs, accordion recitals and dances—feet tapping and flying, measures now delicate, now vigorous, arms waving, young voices rising clear into the night, to caress the branches of the trees and resound against the heavens, the girls' hair shining in the giant conflagration of the camp fire.

And finally, the *Song of Peace* hurled into the air by thousands of eager voices, every man, woman and child standing and singing that pledge from the depth of their hearts—a cry for Peace, and a confident assertion that Peace will triumph.

Minna Samuels, meetings organiser for the Society, says

Poland's National Liberation Day is SOMETHING TO SING ABOUT

STOP PRESS

Lidia Grychtolowna, a young Polish pianist who is internationally famous for her playing of Chopin, is coming to London especially to appear in the concert.

ON SUNDAY, JULY 18TH, AT THE Cambridge Theatre, we will celebrate Poland's National Liberation Day in one of the most interesting, colourful and inspiring events the British-Polish Friendship Society has yet organised.

This year, People's Poland is ten years old. In this short time the Government, with the full and active support of the nation, has changed Poland from a backward agricultural country into a leading industrial country. This change has brought the *highest ever* standard of living for the Polish people, a standard which is improving daily.

To pay fitting tribute to such great achievement, eminent writers, actors, musicians and dancers have come together to present, in dramatic form, the story of the ten exciting, eventful years of People's Poland. The production is aptly entitled *Something to Sing About*.

Music—Dancing

The curtain rises on a group of people celebrating National Liberation Day in a House of Culture in Poland. One by one the characters tell, in vivid flash-back scenes, how they used to live in the old Poland and contrast it with life in Poland to-day. Music, dancing, poetry and costume form an integral part of the performance and the evening ends with a concert of leading artistes.

Jack Lindsay and Gordon Raffan have written the script. Actor Harry Ross brings humour and humanity to the part

of the old man who, so to speak, runs the show. Well-known actors take the parts of the different characters. Leonard Cassini, Alf Edwards, Martin Lawrence and Ewan MacColl are the solo artistes. The Choir of the Workers' Music Association, the Society's Folk Dance Group as well as accordionists and other musicians complete the galaxy of talent.

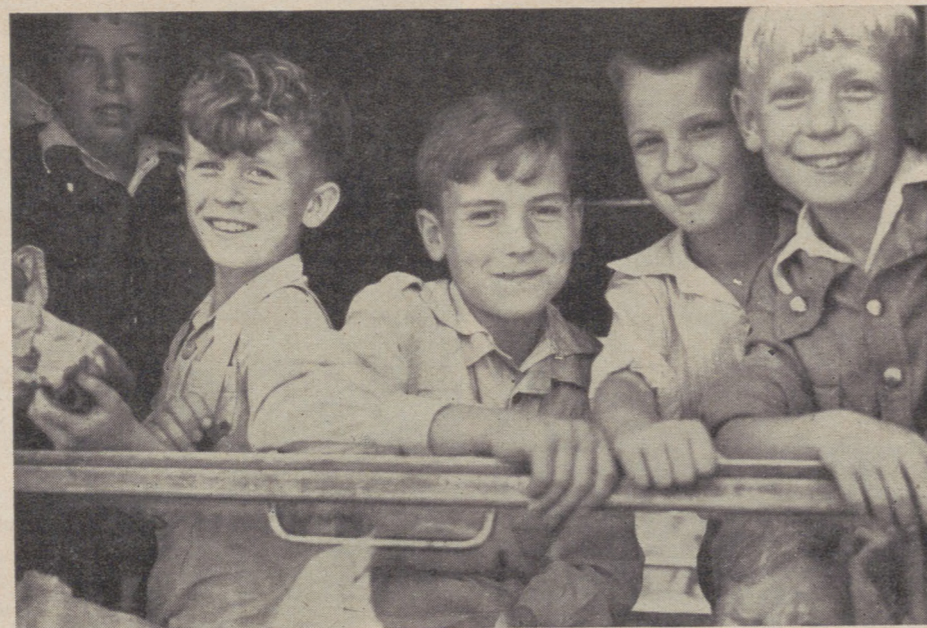
Special Song

A special song has been written for this Tenth Anniversary Celebration by Ewan MacColl, who will sing it. With the Choir, the cast, the artistes and, we hope, the audience joining in this will form the finale to the evening's entertainment.

His Excellency the Polish Ambassador will attend, and the programme will be introduced by Mrs. M. Pritt, Chairman of the Society.

Friends of Poland can best honour her Tenth Anniversary by ensuring that every seat in the Cambridge Theatre is sold before July 18th. (Tickets may not be sold at the door.) The performance is at 7 p.m. Tickets at 1/-, 2/6d. and 5/- can be booked immediately. Block reservations will be made for six or more seats. Leaflets and posters advertising the event are available.

We ask readers of *New Poland* to play their part in making the Tenth Anniversary Celebration at the Cambridge Theatre a Celebration in the true sense of the word.



Warsaw schoolboys leaving for a Summer Holiday Camp

Each year, trade unions and other organisations, as well as individuals, reaffirm their friendship with Poland by sending messages of goodwill on National Liberation Day. Each year we publish a small selection (there are always too many for all to be reprinted in *New Poland*), which gives a cross-section of the

Greetings from Britain

FOUNDRY WORKERS

ON behalf of the officers and members of the Amalgamated Union of Foundry Workers, my National Executive Council desires, on the occasion of the Tenth Anniversary of the Liberation of Poland, to extend most cordial greetings to you and to the whole Polish people.

We extend our congratulations upon your achievements in the building of a planned socialist economy, bringing new and higher social and economic standards to the working people of Poland.

In friendship between our two peoples we can do much to ensure that never again will our people be engaged in war, and that together with the peoples of all other nations, a lasting peace can be achieved and a new advance to higher cultural standards be made.

J. GARDNER
General Secretary, A.U.F.W.

TEXTILE WORKERS

SPEAKING on behalf of over 600 members, and Committee, it gives me great pleasure on this day to send you, the Polish people, our kind regards and

also our steadfast resolve to continue our friendship in our fight for peace and trading relations between us. Both Councillor C. B. Parkington and myself have seen the immense destruction in your beautiful country, also the tremendous strides you have made in your work of reconstruction, which given the peace we all desire, will help everyone to a fuller life without fear for the future.

B. W. LEE
Secretary, Nelson Branch Amalgamated Twisters' & Drawers' Association.

KENT MINERS

WE desire to convey our sincere greetings to Poland on her Tenth Anniversary of Liberation Day.

Their vast achievements in rebuilding their war shattered country, the new advances being made in industry, agriculture and in the cultural and educational fields warrants the admiration of the world and we now look forward to the strengthening of our friendship and understanding which will be of great benefit to all.

On this Anniversary date, together with our cordial and sincere greetings we send our pledge to continue to strengthen

those ties in our mutual interests and in the interests of world peace.

J. JOHNSON,
General Secretary, Kent Mineworkers' Assn.

SCOTTISH UNION

PLEASE convey the sincere good wishes and admiration of the members and officials of this Union to the Polish people on the Tenth Anniversary of the Liberation of their country. The steady and progressive achievements of their nation, not only enriches the Polish people but all humanity.

M. BYRNE,
Secretary, Scottish Transport & General Workers' Union.

CO-OP. WOMEN

ON the occasion of Poland's Tenth Anniversary of her Liberation Day, Westminster Women's Co-operative Guild sends greetings to Polish Co-operators. May your Co-operative Movement go from strength to strength and the ties that bind Britain and Poland in friendship never be broken.

S. WISE,
Sec., Westminster Women's Co-op. Guild.

ON the occasion of the 10th Anniversary of the liberation of your country we send you our most cordial greetings.

We realise with what pride you must look back on your ten years of solid achievements. Your people, we know, must remember very vividly the tremendous nature of the task that confronted them in 1945.

They had to create a new life in a country that had been almost completely devastated. Their towns and villages lay in ruins, their beautiful capital city of Warsaw was a mass of stone and rubble, with its population decimated and the men and women who remained, torn and weary with war.

And yet, so invincible is the spirit of man, that in the midst of this desolation they conceived a plan. Standing among the ruins

and the rubble they saw beautiful cities with noble thoroughfares and broad streets, with gardens and tree-lined boulevards. They pictured their ancient monuments restored—their universities, schools, theatres and opera houses created anew but in greater numbers so that all the people should have the joy of using them.

And in 1945 the creative power of your artists, professors, architects, and the millions of ordinary people was set free, and you created out of that desolation the planned cities that we, who have been fortunate enough to visit Poland, have seen with our own eyes.

This work of peaceful reconstruction is not only a source of pride and happiness to the Polish people, it is also an inspiration

to the people of our own country who recognise that wherever men and women build with faith in the future, there is our guarantee of a peaceful world.

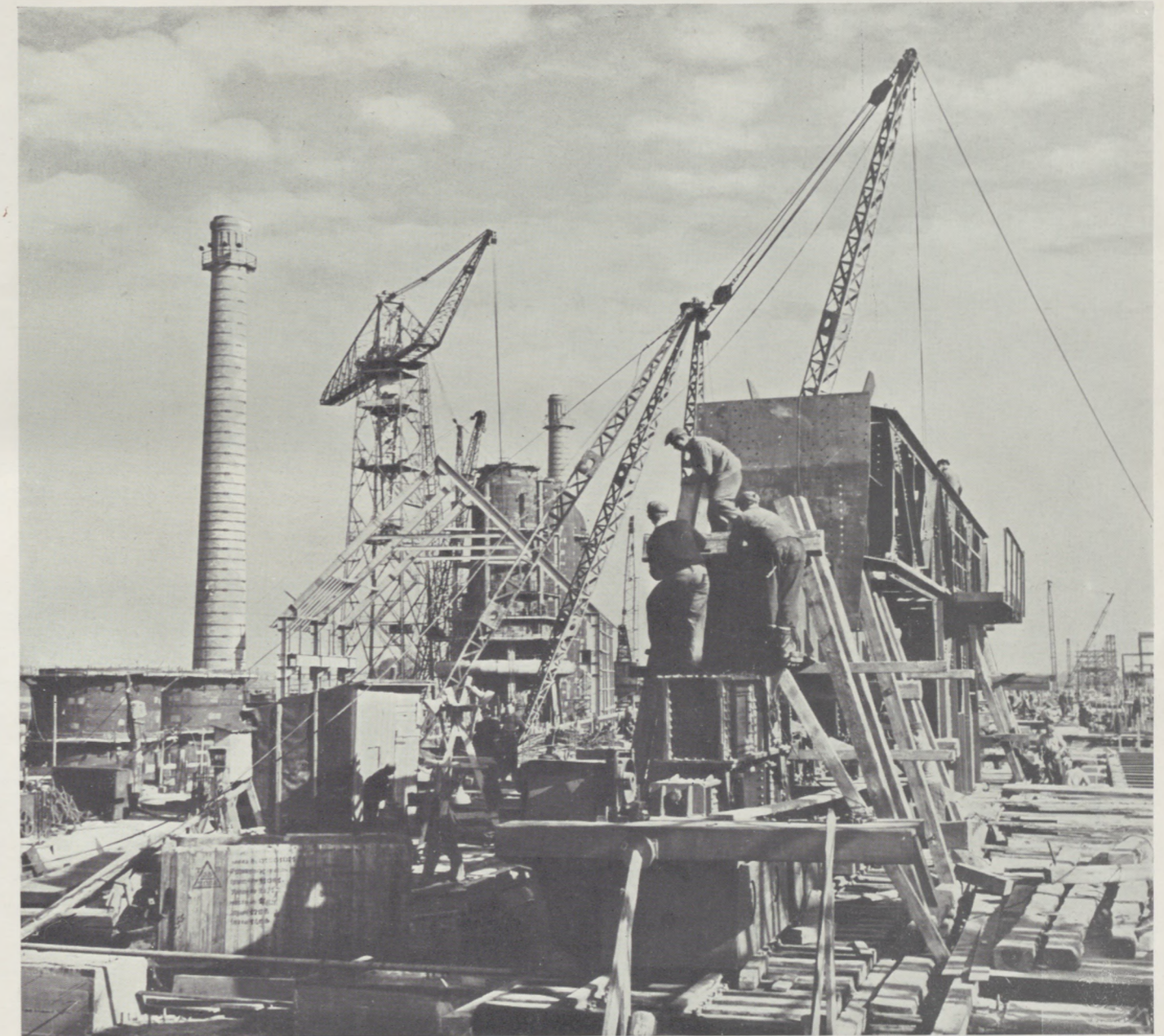
There are so many ties that bind our peoples together: music, science, literature; we each know and appreciate the great cultural figures of our two countries.

Our common need for trade in the interests of both our countries also brings us more closely together. On this anniversary date, together with our cordial and affectionate greetings we send our pledge that we will continue to strengthen those ties in the interests of both Poland and Britain and in the interest of world peace.

BRITISH-POLISH FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY

New Poland

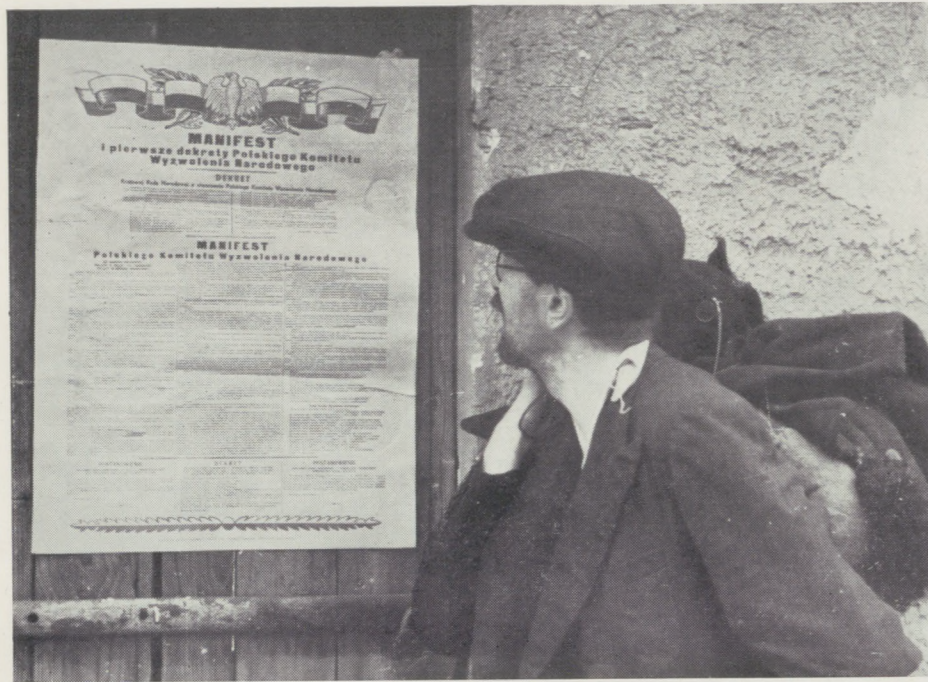
Ten Years of PEOPLE'S POLAND



On July 22nd, Poland will celebrate the tenth anniversary of the setting up of the National Committee of Liberation. Since that date, each anniversary has been marked by the tremendous achievements in the reconstruction and the industrialisation of the country. With the whole country one vast building site, it has become traditional for the building workers to hand over some new project on Liberation Day. The photographs on the following two pages show some of the more important projects which were finished for July 22nd. The picture above, and the one on the front cover, show Nowa Huta, the great iron and steel combine, now named the Lenin Combine which, together with the new town of Nowa Huta is the largest single undertaking of the Six Year Plan. Now in partial production, the Lenin Combine will, on completion, produce one and a half million tons of steel annually, which is more than the whole output of pre-war Poland.

New Poland

1944



The Lublin Manifesto of the Committee of National Liberation

1952



The Constitution Square

Poland in Pictures

- 1944 Committee of National Liberation set up.
- 1947 First General Election.
- 1949 Three Year Plan of Reconstruction completed two months ahead of schedule.
- 1950 Six Year Plan for Industrialisation started.

- 1951 Food and essential goods reduced from five to thirty per cent.
- 1952 New Constitution adopted.
- 1953 All rationing ended.
- 1954 On May 1st the second all round price reductions in six months.



The vast area, seen here as it was in May, will be opened as a garden on July 22nd, giving the setting for the Palace of Science and Culture

193



The Old Town Market Square

New Poland

New Poland

1949



The East-West Highway

1951



The State Departmental Store



Zofia Zdenicka, Teresa Kraft and Eugenia Sawczak decided on building careers



Pre-Natal clinics teach mothercraft

THE Liberation of Poland meant that for the first time in the country's history the womenfolk had some authority. The task of consolidating People's Poland falls equally on the women as on the men.

Article 66 of the Constitution states: "Women in the Polish People's Republic have equal rights with men in all spheres of public, political, economic, social and cultural life."

Early this year the Miners' Union decided that no more women should be recruited to work underground. The women objected stating that this decision was an infringement of their rights. This was admitted and joint discussions were held with the result that the women said we agree with you but in future consult us before taking any decisions that effect our rights as laid down by the Constitution, even if they are for our benefit. . .



Dr. J. Leckczynska, M.P., is the manageress of a plant breeding institute



Wanda Wilkomirska chose a musical career and is now world-famous



Equality has not affected the women's desire for the feminine things. This beauty parlour is a typical example as noted in the report opposite

Polish Co-op Delegate at Warsaw Club

By FRANCES WHITE

A WELCOME VISITOR TO THE Warsaw Club last month was Mrs. Irene Strzelecka, Vice-President of the Consumers' Co-operative of Poland.

This dark haired, jolly young woman with a pair of sparkling eyes is no stranger to Britain, for, as she told the British Guildswomen who had come to the Club to meet her, this was her third visit.

For the last three years she had been a fraternal delegate to the Co-operative Women's Annual Congress representing Polish Co-operators. What an honour and what a joyful task this has been for her.

Year after year she has been able to come back to Britain and tell of the work and the development of the Polish Co-operative Movement. Of the price cuts, always done in consultation with the Co-operatives. Of the increased turnover in Co-operative shops. Of the steady rise in production and the rapid rise in the standard of living of the people.

Friendship Strengthened

Of the widespread social, cultural and educational activities of the Polish Co-operators. Of the progress of Co-op building, till a year ago confined to Warsaw, and now going up in big and small towns throughout Poland. Big modern blocks of flats at first but now where the need of all Co-op members is satisfied, smaller individual houses for those who prefer their own house.

Of the kindergartens and nurseries which every Co-operative estate must have, where parents can leave their children for a very small cost. She told us of the new kindergartens now being established where mothers can leave their children all the week. They are specially beneficiary for a sick mother of small children.

She told us of the summer and winter holiday camps for children, the enormously popular children's villages, the hundred and one cultural and social activities. The theatrical groups, the schools for training women, the clubs and discussion groups. Listening to her one could get a vivid picture of how life had improved for the Polish Co-operators in the ten years since the Liberation. Above all she told us of the

Polish Co-operator's desire for Peace.

As she told the Congress "Faithful to the objects laid down in the Rules of the International Co-operative Women's Guild, Polish women Co-operators are working still harder to draw Co-operative members and their families into the fight for Peace and to imbue them with the spirit of international brotherhood."

Since her first visit here Mrs. Strzelecka has made many friends among British Co-operators, who affectionately call her Irene—both through her visits here and the two visits of groups of Guildswomen to Poland. "These mutual visits have helped to clear misunderstandings and strengthen the friendship between our Guilds," she said, "and Polish Co-operators will learn with great joy of the Resolution about Poland passed at the Congress."

Admired Poland

Just how much those visits have helped to strengthen the friendship between British and Polish Guildswomen, was stressed by Mrs. Ridealgh, General Secretary of the Women's Co-operative Guilds, who was also at the Club to meet Mrs. Strzelecka. Speaking of the wonderful time she and other delegates had when they visited Poland, she said:

"The Polish Co-operative Movement is doing a grand job now, building thousands of flats, shopping centres, laundries, etc. They are assisting their Government to rebuild their country. We could have done this—assisted our country to rebuild.

"We admired it very much, and we also admired the way they treated their

women. They treated them as individuals, they even provide elaborate beauty parlours for women." Mrs. Ridealgh went on to say how impressed she was by the way she and her fellow delegates were allowed to see whatever they wanted to.

"We went just where we wished. We went into people's homes and they welcomed us. It is by the getting together of the ordinary people of one country with the ordinary people of another that we can keep peace in the world. Through the Co-operative Movement we can get that peace and understanding between each other."

Rochdale Principles

Mrs. Ridealgh concluded with the hope that every Guild in the country would press their Society to pass new resolutions for the inclusion of Poland in the International Co-operative Alliance. "I hope it won't be long before the Polish Co-operative Movement is within the fold," she said.

Mrs. M. Pritt, Chairman of the British-Polish Friendship Society, in welcoming Mrs. Strzelecka and the Guildswomen to the Warsaw Club, said it was indeed a happy moment when the Women's Co-operative Congress demanded the re-admission of Poland into the International Co-operative Alliance. Poland, which for 30 years was a member, was excluded because of their change of Government, but as Mrs. Pritt said: "If you are a Co-operator you must have faith in Socialist countries who carry out the principles of the Rochdale Pioneers."

London Guild Visited

AT THE INVITATION OF THE LOCAL branch of the Co-operative Women's Guild, Mrs. Strzelecka, the Polish delegate to the Annual Congress of Co-operative Women's Guild, attended a social afternoon on the L.C.C. housing estate at Boreham Wood, North London.

Before going to the social she, her interpreter, Mrs. Pritt, and I paid a visit to Kenilworth school, a new modern building. The headmaster showed us around the school with pride—classrooms, restrooms, kitchens, etc., were seen and admired. Before leaving, Mrs. Strzelecka presented a large Polish woodcut and several small gifts to the headmaster, Mr. Battell, for the school.

Then on to the Guildroom where all the members and invited Guildswomen from other branches were awaiting our arrival. Mrs. Strzelecka received a warm

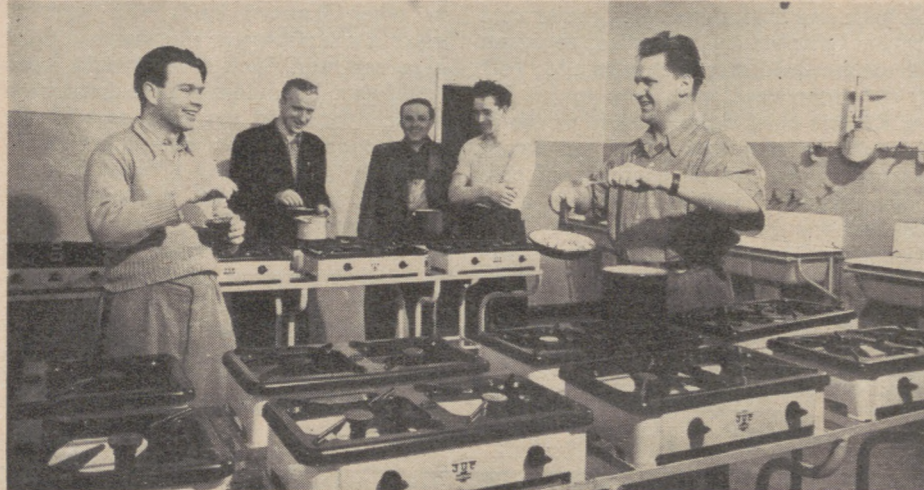
welcome and was introduced to the members. She gave greetings from the Polish women Co-operators and spoke on the Co-operative Movement in her country. She was asked many and varied questions and gave satisfactory answers.

After tea Mrs. Strzelecka presented the Guild with a beautiful woodcut, then the Guild President handed her a scroll signed by the Guild members bearing greetings to the Polish women Co-operators.

The delegation then visited the local Co-op. shops and our visitor had the opportunity to speak to the staff of each of the four shops. She was presented with beautiful flowers by the grocery staff.

The afternoon was a success and such visits are a great help to cement peaceful relations between our two countries.—

Mrs. ROSEMARY KERR.



Leisure Time

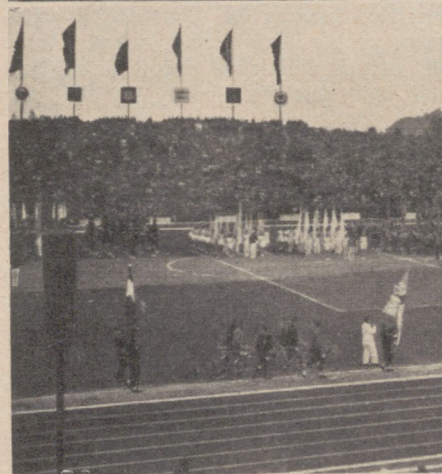
What shall we do to-night, have a lazy evening or go out? Perhaps we could have a meal at home, it's such fun cooking now that there's so much food in the shops. Josef tells me that the chaps at his hostel get a great kick out of preparing an occasional meal. I could slip in for some sausage or some meat as I come home, and perhaps we could have some tinned fruit and a bottle of wine, what do you say? If we stay in you can hang the new curtains and I might find a decent programme on the wireless. It's entirely up to you, if you prefer to have a night out . . .



The Arkody Restaurant and left the Nowy Swiat Café

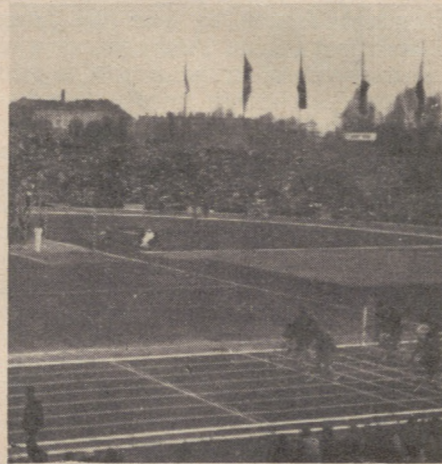
. . . we could try the new café in Nowy Swiat. Anyway, it's as good a meeting place as any and maybe over coffee or a beer we could make our minds up. I'm told that the Arkody restaurant at Marszalkowska serves a decent meal so perhaps we could go on to there. By-the-way the circus is in town, what about it? Then we could finish with a dance, you know, make a real night of it. That's the idea. Let's make it a birthday party for our country is ten years old this month. What do you say?





The Seventh Peace Cycle-Race

Warsaw-Berlin-Prague

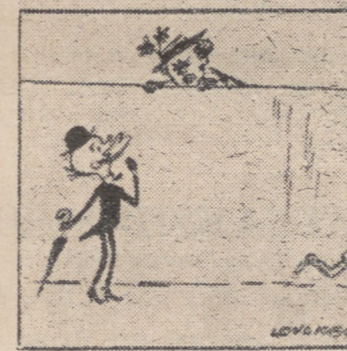
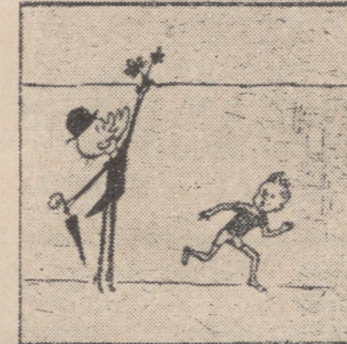
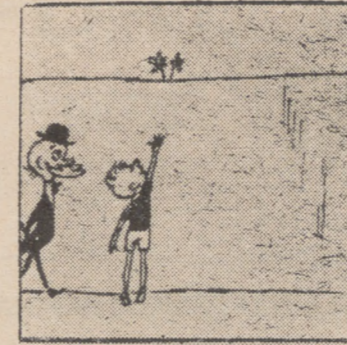
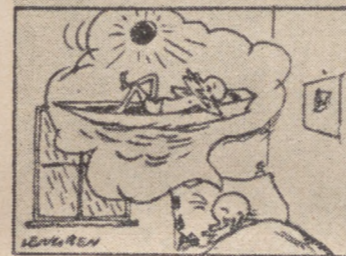
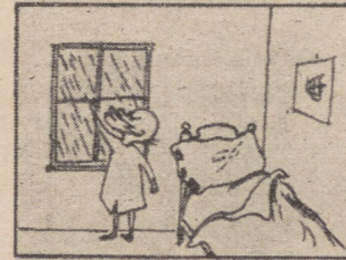
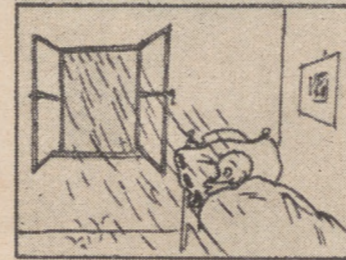


The winning Czech team is seen here with the individual winner, Eluf Dalgaard, Denmark. Dalgaard, who is also seen on the left, finished without any mechanical defects throughout this gruelling race.

Four of the six British riders completed the course to bring Britain home in the eighth place. L. Gill, our first man home, finished 26th.

The top four pictures show the scenes at the start of the race. They were snapped by a T.U. delegate who along with his colleagues and the Peace Delegation gave the Britishers a rousing send-off. Top left: The peace doves are released to indicate the start. Top right: The line-up with the British team in front. Lower left: Vic Humphrey, the mechanic, carrying the Union Jack at the head of the procession around the sports stadium. The other photograph shows our team away the first. The line-up was in alphabetical order, *Anglia* being first our boys were numbered one to six.

Polish Humour



Scotland Celebrates Poland's Liberation Day

Tenth Anniversary Meeting and Concert

Speakers: **WILLIAM PEARSON**, General Secretary, Scottish N.U.M.
ARCHIBALD BARR, May Day Delegate to Poland.

Greetings will be sent from these celebrations to the people of Poland

ALEX McCRINDLE : ISHBEL CAMERON : FOLK DANCERS

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