

JOANNA LUSEK

THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE EVANGELICAL SCHOOL SYSTEM IN BYTOM(FROM THE SIXTEENTH CENTURY TO THE FIRST HALF OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY)

The ideas of Reformation began penetrating into Upper Silesia due to Franco colonists who settled down in the local areas in the time of Margrave Jerzy Brandenburski's rule. In 1569, the parish church and the school in Bytom were formally taken over by Protestants. The successive owners of the town – the Family of Henckl von Donnersmarck – also favored the Evangelists. They held on to the policy of religious tolerance even in the face of the counter-Reformation spreading in Europe. Eventually, the last minister – at the same time – the teacher in the Evangelical school – did not leave the town until 1666. The next development of protestant communes in Upper Silesia occurred along with Frederic II coming to power. However, the efforts on the part of Bytom Evangelical commune to have the Evangelical school re-opened were successful as late as 1833. It was then that works were commenced on adapting the former convent at St Nicholas Church into a school. The Evangelical school was not re-opened until 1843. From then on the institution developed and provided education to a constantly increasing number of youth. In the successive years the school was modernized a few times both as far as its constructional and program-related matters were concerned. It also adjusted its educational offer to the social needs of the steadily developing Bytom agglomeration. The Evangelical school ceased to function during the Second World War.

ADAM KUBACZ

THE HISTORY OF SCHOOLING IN MIECHOWICE

The schooling of Miechowice dates back to the 1740s. Initially, lessons were taught in Polish in a parochial school on the basis of religious books. Generally, the teaching system did not change until 1872, when the legislation connected to the Kulturkampf was introduced. That put the schools under the management of the state. At the same time stress was laid on teaching the German language. The mid-19th century saw a rapid industrial development of Bytom County, which entailed a rapid growth in the number of population and a necessity to set up new schools. In the second half of the 19th century and at the beginning of the 20th century there were established three elementary Catholic schools and one Evangelical school in Miechowice. Moreover, in the area of the Evangelical „Refuge of Peace” established by Mother Eva (Thiele Winckler) there existed various rearing institutions (day-nursery, kindergarten), as well as ones preparing candidates for learning a profession. They were similar to those functioning at the St Elizabeth convent. The next stage of development of the school system falls on the 1920s, when a secondary school was established and vocational courses were organized at local firms, as well as a private course of the Polish language (liquidated in 1937). The German school system had functioned until January 1945. It was the starting moment of the functioning of the Polish school system in Miechowice.

LEOKADIA DROŻDŻ

THE POLISH SCHOOL SYSTEM IN ZAOLZIE AFTER 1989

The paper presents the situation of the Polish school system in Zaolzie in the new political context following 1989. The author discusses here school regulations which introduced the minimal number of children in kindergartens and schools, as well as their influence on the Polish

centers. She also offers a characteristic of institutions supporting the minority school system, such as: Towarzystwo Nauczycieli Polskich (The Society of Polish Teachers), Macierz Szkolna (The Mothers for School), Centrum Pedagogiczne dla Polskiego Szkolnictwa Narodowościowego (The Pedagogical Center for the Polish National School System) in the Czech Republic, Komisja Szkolna (School Commission).

For a few years now the Polish schools in the Czech Republic have been facing several problems caused by the drop in the number of schoolchildren. Beside the demographic depression, the situation has worsened due to the weaker and weaker role of the Polish language in Zaolzie, as well as because of mixed marriages, whose children attend Czech schools in most cases. Polish schools function on the basis of collective schools, which does not solve the problem since communes can not afford to pay for the passage and parents are not willing to send their children to distant places where such schools are based. Without financial support from the state the Polish centers do not stand a chance of survival.

MARCIN WIECZOREK

REMARKS ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MEDIEVAL ŻORY WITHIN RATIBOR DUCHY

The town of Żory, situated within the territory of Ratibor Duchy, grew to the rank of town in the second half of the 13th century. Founded on the German law, from the very moment of its foundation in 1272, it developed as a town which was distinctive among the neighboring towns like Rybnik or Wodzisław. In the first half of the 14th century, the town already functioned as a well-prospering crafts center. The effects of the town's wealth and its significance for the Prince's authority can be discerned in the fortification system, which proved only too useful during the Polish-Czech war of 1345. Financial problems led to pawning the town by successive Dukes of Ratibor. Thus, for a short period of time, the town fell into the hands of Teshin Dukes and then – Princes of Opole. The significance of the town, as an important point on the internal communication routes within the Duchy, contributed to regaining it by Prince Jan II the Iron. Fights between particular dukes led to enlarging the network of defensive castles. One of such constructions was erected in Żory, which is confirmed by resource materials from the second half of the 15th century.

IRENA KORBELÁŘOVÁ, RUDOLF ŽÁČEK

THE TAX-RELATED BURDENS OF OPOLE-RATIBOR DUCHY IN THE LAST QUARTER-OF-THE-CENTURY OF THE 17TH CENTURY

In the collection of manuscripts of the State Archives in Wrocław there is a German manuscript of 1676 which includes a description of taxes for the whole of Silesia (7 763 045 Th. 3 gr. 4 hal.) and also detailed data concerning tax-related duties of individual towns and estates, and – eventually – tax districts of Opole Silesia composed of the following lands: Opole, Ratibórz, Głogówek, Koźle, Ślawiecice, Strzelce, Toszek, Gliwice, Biała, Prudnik, Niemodlin, Olesno and Lubliniec. The total sum of the tax burden amounted to 735 754 Th. 14 gr. 11 hal. The inventory being published includes the largest and politically most important part of Upper Silesia and offers significant data on tax-related burdens for individual states and estates.

JOANNA NOWOSIELSKA-SOBEL

THE EXHIBITION „LABOR AND CULTURE IN UPPER SILESIA” („ARBEIT UND KULTUR IN OBERSCHLESIEN”) AND THE SILESIAN UNIONFOR PROTECTION OF MOTHER COUNTRY IN WROCŁAW IN 1919

The end of the First World War meant for Silesia the beginning of far-reaching changes in the Province. For a part of the society the post-war time of dynamic political and social changes created actual chances for making real the more or less hidden separatist tendencies. They manifested themselves in a particularly strong way in Upper Silesia. Fight for this part of Silesia continued between Germany and Poland incessantly from 1918 on both in the form of armed conflicts, street demonstrations, strike actions, political activity on the international arena, as well as on the plane of propaganda. The organizational center of the actions undertaken in order to keep the whole of Upper Silesia within the borders of the German state was Wrocław, beginning as early as 1918. One of the biggest events of propagandist character, which was held in Wrocław, was the exhibition „Labor and Culture in Upper Silesia”, which was presented to the public between 1 October and 2 November 1919. Apart from the authorities of the Province and several towns, cultural and scientific institutions, trade unions of various orientation, numerous socio-cultural, political and even religious societies based in Silesia were engaged for the organization of the event. They supported the event ideologically and financially.

One of the organizations engaged in the preparation of the exhibition was the Silesian Union for Protection of Mother Country. Its co-participation in the organization of the event fell on a particular moment of the activity of Silesian Heimatschutz. Like many institutions of this character in Germany, the Union came up against a serious task of choosing its new directions of activity, which were enforced by changes in the political life of the state after the First World War. At the beginning of the 1920s it gradually entered a phase of changes, the result of which was the ultimate transformation of the spirit of the organization. While before the First World War it had perfectly written in the trend of reformatory changes in many aspects of the social life, the Union was dominated by nationalism and the spirit of Nazism in the 1930s.

WANDA MUSIALIK

THE SILESIAN ECONOMIC FUND. THE ENDEAVORS IN THE PERIOD BETWEEN THE WARS TO OBTAIN A SYSTEMIC SUPPORTFOR THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN SILESIA PROVINCE.

After the division of the Plebiscite area of Upper Silesia in 1922 the everyday life of the inhabitants of Silesia Province concentrated on obtaining means to develop housing. Following examples of other European states, a discussion was opened on the forum of Silesian Parliament in 1926 regarding introduction of additional payment included in the rent as a form of indirect tax paid by owners of flats for rental or industrial-services locals. The author presented the stages of the discussion which accompanied the preparation of suitable act in force of the autonomous Silesia Province.

JACEK PIOTROWSKI

THE SILESIAN SANACJA TOWARDS CZECHOSLOVAKIA IN THE YEARS 1926–1939 IN
THE LIGHT OF PUBLICATIONS OF „POLSKA ZACHODNIA”

Following the May coup d'état in Warsaw, the followers of Marshal Piłsudski strengthened their positions in a relatively effective manner also in the remaining regions of the country. In the autonomous Upper Silesia these attempts were inseparably connected with the name of the new Silesia Voivode – Michał Grażyński. Under his auspices, after a few months of organizational preparations, a new daily started appearing under the title of „Polska Zachodnia” (The Western Poland). The daily continued to appear until September 1939. From the very beginning it was meant to be an unofficial organ of the new authorities of the Province. The editing personnel were very active to take part in shaping the policy towards the southern neighbor of the Republic of Poland. An external manifestation of that was extending the influence of the newspaper over Teshin Silesia (from November 1938). The range of the paper's influence (not only in the territorial sense) was considerable. In practice it was almost obligatorily read by state officials of all levels in the south-western lands. The daily performed different propagandist-political functions in Upper Silesia for many years. Due to that the editing staff could not afford to be objective, which – to a great extent – concerns the question of relationships with Czechoslovakia. This subjection on the part of the editing personnel left an unusually strong, yet often negative, stamp on numerous publications relating to the bilateral relations between the Republic of Poland and her neighbor in the south.

KRZYSZTOF FARYNA

THE SITUATION OF SOCIAL INSURANCE COMPANIES IN SILESIA PROVINCE
BETWEEN 1945 AND 1946

The rebuilding of the institutions of social insurance encountered a series of obstacles after the Second World War. Changes in the insurance system legislation widened the subjective and objective scope of social insurance and also standardized the legislation on the territory of the whole country. The task of the highest priority was to organize and start basic insurance centers – Social Insurance Centers – and to commence provision of benefits. In Silesia Province the process did not run in a uniform manner: in the area of Upper Silesia, which had belonged to Poland in the period between the Wars, four Social Insurance Centers (based in Katowice, Tarnowskie Góry, Rybnik and Chorzów) and a branch of Social Insurance Company in Chorzów were established and began their activity as early as at the beginning of 1945; whereas, the process of establishing insurance centers on the territory of the Regained Lands was developing very slowly. Accordingly, the Ministry of Labor and Social Care appointed organizational commissioners, whose duty was to organize and start insurance centers in these areas. Initially, the centers functioned as branches of already existing ones. Then, the establishment of self-government organs of Social Insurance Centers ended the stage of organization and opened the time of regular activity of the institutions. This became a fact at the end of 1945, in the case of the centers based in the former Poland's parts of Upper Silesia, while the corresponding centers in the Regained Lands did not become independent until at the end of 1946.

EDMUND NOWAK

INVESTIGATIONS AND TRIALS IN THE CASE OF CRIMES COMMITTED IN THE LABOR CAMP IN ŁAMBINOWICE IN THE YEARS 1945–1946 (PART 3)

The paper is a continuation of the topic presented in Vol. Vol. 61 and 63 of „*Studia Śląskie*”. The author analyzes in detail the final phase of the court trial in the case of crimes committed in the Labor Camp in Łambinowice, that is in the period between June 2004 and June 2006. In this particular period the trial came to a standstill, and the main reason for it was the worsening health condition of the defendant and the absence of the majority of witnesses summoned to appear in the trial. The author presents also the applied procedure of legal aid in the criminal case of Czesław Gęborski, which made it possible to hear witnesses residing in Germany as well as in other places on the territory of Poland. When the trial was coming to its end and there were few witnesses left to be heard, in June 2006, Czesław Gęborski, the defendant, died. Then the criminal procedure against him was cancelled by the District Court in Opole. In the conclusion, the author states that the Labor Camp in Łambinowice makes an unprecedented case as regards the number of investigations and court trials and does not compare to those concerning other post-War camps in Poland or states of the former eastern bloc. He also observes that the death of the defendant charged with homicide concludes the case in the understanding of legal regulations. It can not be excluded, however, that the history of this camp will recur in different contexts in the relations between Poland and Germany and interethnic contacts in Opole Silesia.

ADAM DZIUBA, ALEKSANDER DROZDOWSKI

THE FIGHT OF THE SECURITY APPARATUS AGAINST THE PHENOMENON OF INDUSTRIAL SABOTAGE IN THE PROVINCE OF SILESIA IN 1949(MARIA KANDZIA'S CASE)

In 1949 the area of activity of the security service broadened considerably: following the liquidation of the illegal and legal opposition, the party and state authorities set a task for the security apparatus to, among others, protect industry against the allegedly growing acts of diversion and sabotage, which were to be an expression of anti-communist activity of the external enemy and internal opponents of the new socio-political order, who were controlled by the former. In Silesia Province, the ones that became particularly suspected of „noxious activity” in the industry were the autochthonous population accused of pro-German affinities. When, on 22 July, 1949, fires broke out in three Silesian mines, nobody was ready to believe that they had occurred by accident. The security service began a big-scale search for the guilty ones, mainly in the environments of the Silesian population. At the same time, actions were undertaken to intimidate the inhabitants of the Province and mobilize them to make a greater effort at work. In order to achieve this goal a few carefully planned show trials were organized, among others, of people regarded as pro-German saboteurs. In August 1949, three such public court trials were organized, each ending with very severe sentences, including capital punishment. Maria Kandzia and her two other companions in the courtroom were sentenced to death. They were found guilty of membership in a group of saboteurs „created” by the security service and conducting a number of sabotages at the Nitric Works in Chorzów. During the exceptionally brutal and incoherent investigation and, later, manipulated trial, the defendants were made into a group of Germans – dedicated enemy to Poland and communism. Having made use of forbidden investigation methods, they forced Maria Kandzia to admit to her guilt. The other two accused denied their participation in the sabotage during the trial. Despite that all of them were sentenced to death. President Bierut did not grant them act of mercy and the three convicts were executed by a firing

squad in Katowice prison on 25 November, 1949. This was a classical case of court-arranged murder.

ALEKSANDRA PASZKOWSKA

THE HISTORY OF THE ZOOLOGICAL GARDEN AND THE PARK IN LIPNO– A MONOGRAPHIC SKETCH

The paper is a monographic outline of the history of the game garden, changed later into a scenic park in Lipno near Niemodlin. Today the area makes for a valuable nature-scenic object, with its traces of the park set up here in the 18th century. The park includes the following: a dendrological garden with 90 species and types of trees and shrubs, Hermit's Chapelette, a spring, „artificial isles”, and monument-like specimens of trees (some among the largest in Poland) – everything located within an interesting forest landscape containing a few picturesque old nurseries.

The zoological garden was established in the vicinity of Niemodlin when the post-Piast Prince's estates were transformed into private ones during the reign of the Habsburgs. In 1581, Caspar Pückler purchased them from Emperor Rudolph II. The former was most likely the one who created the first zoological garden. At the beginning of the 18th century, when the estates remained in the hands of the Zierotins, there certainly was a zoological garden in Lipno. Johann Nepomuk Carl Praschma transformed it into a romantic scenic place in 1782. In the times of his grandson Friedrich II Praschma, in the second half of the 19th century, there existed a middle-of-the-forest natural park there (Wildpark) and a well-kept zoological garden serving the purpose of hunting. Hans Praschma liquidated the zoological garden in the 20th century, having the forest-park revitalized with the help of well-known forester Adam Schwappach. He also still maintained Plantation, with its collection of valuable trees and bushes. After the Second World War, in 1945, the object was taken over by the Polish State Forests – Forest Inspectorate of Niemodlin, later Tułowice.

MARCIN PAWELEC

POLISH RESEARCH INTO ANDREAS GRYPHIUS(HISTORY AND CONTEMPORARY TIMES)

The paper concentrates on the theme of the studies conducted by Polish researchers into the bio- graphy and literary output of the Silesian creator. Beginning with the first serious discussions and literary translations made by A. J. Szafrański or L. G. Wysocki in the second half of the 19th century, the output of Gryphius came to find a permanent place in the Polish studies of the German baroque literature. The research developed especially after 1918. The theme occupied a particular place in the output of such outstanding Polish researchers and historians of the German literature in the period before and after the War as Z. Żegulski Sr., M. Szyrocki, R. Ligacz, M. E. Szarota. The University of Wrocław played and still plays a leading role as a research center in this field. A considerable revival of the scientific interest in Gryphius took place in Poland at the beginning of the 1990s. Undoubtedly, the active international cooperation within Internationale Andreas Gryphius-Gesellschaft projects greatly contributed to this as it included organizing joint scientific conferences and bringing out numerous publications. Thanks to that it was possible to enrich the knowledge of Gryphius's bio- graphy to date and his literary

accomplishment. The establishments made by researchers of both the older generation (K. Gajek, J. Budzyński, E. Klin) and the younger one (S. Kiedroń, M. Czarnecka, E. Pietrzak) place the Polish research into Gryphius among the world's leading.