

In this task it was inevitable to overcome many difficulties among which were the problems of minorities and particularly of the German minority. The Germans residing in the former Prussian Province supported by the Reich central authorities in Berlin caused many troubles to the Polish State, not only in domestic affairs but also in international relations and especially in the League of Nations. It was a quite particular relationship which has not been properly examined by historiography till the present time.

The Author has attempted to demonstrate the policy of German minority towards the Polish State in the first years of its independent existence taking as material for his work some scarcely known records, as: the protocols of Parliament debates, the Decisions of the Ministry of the former Prussian Province, of the Commission and Liquidating Office, of the District Land Office etc.

The whole paper is divided into four Parts, i. e.: 1. Introductory Remarks, 2. the Process of Formations of the German Minorities Organizations and their connexions with Central Authorities in Berlin, 3. the Struggle of the German Population with the Wielkopolska Community and the Polish Government, 4. Final Remarks.

Discussing the particular parts the Author demonstrates the intensity of the struggle between the organized German minority and the Polish nation which struggle was aimed at the detachment of the so called Polish Western Provinces and their union with German Reich.

TADEUSZ CIEŚLAK

#### THE POMORZE (POMERANIA) PRESS AT THE END OF THE XIXth AND THE BEGINNING OF THE XXth CENTURY (UP TO 1914)

In the history of Pomorze (Pomerania) the transition of the XIXth century to the XXth is marked by an increased intensity in the struggle between the Polish and German nationalities as a result of the pressure of the Prussian Government which endeavoured to germanize the Polish population of these territories. In these struggles a prominent role was played by the Pomorze press which had a great importance in politics.

At the same time the Pomorze press had created several interesting organization methods which afterwards became an example for the press of later periods (village correspondents, payment of family allowances in case of death of a subscriber caused by accident, gifts of books, almanacs etc.).

The investigations concerned with press problems have had in Pomorze a long lasting and good tradition and are being continued at present, with particular reference to the second half of the XIXth century and the beginning of the XXth. These investigations have helped to throw some light on many unsolved historical problems.

The main difficulty encountered in these works is the incompleteness of records (especially of the Polish press) of the period of Prussian rule and also their barbarous destruction by the Nazis. The social-democratic press in Pomorze presents a quite different problem. Published in German („Stettiner Volksbote“ from 1885 and „Volkswacht“ in Gdańsk from 1910) this press was persecuted by the Prussian administration which was preventing its spreading. The social-democratic press was defending the Polish population from the Prussian germanization tendencies. At party congresses demands of publishing the socialist press in Polish were put forward. The rest of the German press represented various political groups and a great part did not declare any political attitude.



The whole German press except the social-democratic fraction was supported by Prussian authorities as a means to hasten germanization.

A characteristic feature of the Pomorze press was a great number of newspapers. Each county wanted to have its paper. „Der Gesellige” published in Grudziądz since 1826 enjoyed the greatest popularity. The Gdańsk (Danzig) press had less influence („Danziger Allg. Zeitung“, „Danziger Zeitung“). Szczecin (Stettin) was a large publishing centre. Polish newspapers were published in the part of Pomorze near Gdańsk and Mazowsze. Of the greatest importance were: „Gazeta Toruńska”, founded 1867, „Pielgrzym”, founded 1868, „Gazeta Gdańska”, founded 1890, and especially „Gazeta Grudziądzka”, founded 1894 which outpassed the other Polish papers by its initiative, the size of circulation and cleverness of articles. At the head of all the papers of Mazowsze stands „Gazeta Olsztyńska”, founded in 1886. „Gazeta Ludowa” published in Elk from 1896 to 1902 occupies a special place as it had succeeded in establishing an interesting party of the Mazowsze people and was liquidated only after a strong resistance against Prussian germanization.

At the end of the XIXth and the beginning of the XXth century some professional magazines, i.e. concerned with agricultural education, appeared („Gospodarz”, „Kłosy”). At the same time the number and regularity in publishing scientific magazines greatly increased. There were many of these publications and mainly historical ones („Baltische Studien”, „Pommersche Jahrbücher”, „Mitteilungen des Copernicus-Vereins”, „Zeitschrift des Westpreussischen Geschichtsvereins”, and the Polish „Zapiski Towarzystwa Nauk. w Toruniu” — from 1908). „Gryf” — a Kaszub magazine, founded in 1908 by Dr Aleksander Majkowski, was a very interesting publication. It assembled a large group of prominent and active men together with specialists in Kaszub problems.

This short discussion brings us to the conclusion that at that period many interesting papers both German and Polish were published in Pomorze.

MIECZYSLAW TOMALA

#### THE CAUSES OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN WESTERN GERMANY

The problem of economic reconstruction in Western Germany after the II World War known as „the economic wonder” is of great interest for many economists.

In order to understand the present situation it is absolutely necessary to examine the past. It appears that during the last war the German industry was greatly developed and the war destructions together with later dismantlings have not greatly decreased its power of production. That is why after 1948, after the money reform, the huge production power of Western Germany though not properly employed was nevertheless able to be put into action.

In further years the Western Germany production forced to adjust the disproportions caused by the division of Germany carried out large investments which from 1948 to 1950 became a decisive factor in stimulating economic development.

After the outbreak of the Korean war the Western Germany production taking advantage of the decreased pressure of Western Powers on the world markets began a serious and large scale export activity. Thus, since 1950 up to the present day the export has been the second factor influencing prosperity in Western Germany. The great investments of the Western Germany industry are paid generally by the industry itself and only an irrelevant part is paid by the money market.