

In the fourth period — from 1870 to 1879 — the state takes possession of private railway lines in Prussia. The Author tries to find out the real causes of this change of policy and to present the financial results of this step for the budget. In depicting these problems the Author has made use of little known works of Engels and his methods of computing the financial charges of the Prussian budget.

This has enabled him to prove how at the expense of the budget the state has paid enormous sums for private railway lines.

The Author concludes that the Prussian government had been desiring the support of bourgeoisie and therefore the exorbitant prices paid for private railway lines were the cost of this support.

The budget allowed to employ gains derived from railway lines in Western Prussia to cover losses of those in Eastern parts.

EDWARD SERWAŃSKI

#### CULTURAL LIFE AS FACTOR OF THE UNIFICATION OF GERMANY

The Author states that the process of democratization of the German nation — determined in Potsdam Agreement — follows quite different courses in both parts of Germany. In German Democratic Republic everything that was not progressive has been eliminated, while in Federal Germany various cultural trends are still struggling. This fact as well as the political differences have a great influence on the cooperation of both Republics.

During the last twelve years, however, Germans have had numerous achievements in the field of cultural unity. In this cooperation we can observe two different trends — one represented by scientific, literary and artistic centres which at congresses of both countries advertised the idea of unity of entire Germany and its culture, and the second one expressed in every day joint efforts of the most important cultural institutions.

As to the first trend — it should be noted that the above centres have organized a number of conferences, meetings, gatherings at which the principles of political and cultural unity of Germany have been formulated. These encounters have played a considerable role particularly from the emotional standpoint, they have not, however, accomplished the task which was their purpose.

In the past eleven years the other trend was also having its achievements. This work was being done in every day life by the protestant church, literature, music, artists, theatres, movies, and also youth.

The Author gives the main features of the achievements in cultural cooperation and states that in spite of the results being still irrelevant they may bring great profit in the future.

The every day cooperation of these cultural institutions is the only factor representing the traditional German cultural unity. Considering the particular conditions of the German nation this cooperation has a very great importance, especially as both the political and economic links are rather weak, thus the achievements in the cultural field gain a considerable meaning.

ALFRED WIELOPOLSKI

### THE ROLE OF HISTORICAL INVESTIGATIONS IN IMPROVING CULTURAL LIFE OF WESTERN POMORZE (POMMERANIA)

The paper is concerned with the problem of creating a proper relationship between the people of Western Pomorze and their surroundings. The heterogeneous structure of the population in this part of Recovered Territories creates a particular situation differing greatly from other regions of Poland. People were, and are still, coming to Pomorze from various circles of different traditions and cultural levels. The Author sees the historical investigations, their proper popularization and teaching history at schools as an important factor in forming a lasting link in a community which could not produce its own local cultural traditions in a short period of time. Considering the methods of popularization and teaching history at schools one should remember the particular feature of this population, i. e. a great percentage of young people, a higher than usually rate of births, and following that a speedy growth of the quantity of youth.

Founding of a humanistic (historical) centre in Western Pomorze is of particular importance if the youth is supposed to get attached to its surroundings and to understand the local problems of the past and the present. From the point of view of the existing task the Author underlines the crisis occurring in the knowledge of social problems. Historical science which makes the youth acquainted with its community and its development has a very important role. The conclusion of the paper puts forward the necessity of developing a strong and efficient research and teaching centre in Western Pomorze which could support teachers and help them in transferring their knowledge of local problems to their pupils.

BOLESŁAW WIEWIÓRA

### THE PROBLEM OF INTRODUCING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN POLAND AND WESTERN GERMANY

(An International Law Question)

The paper discusses the problem of introducing diplomatic relations between Poland and Western Germany and its international law aspect. The first part describes the mechanism of diplomatic relations among states: the Author presents the role and task of diplomatic representatives as well as the active and passive right of legation.

The second part discusses the realization of the right of legation in Polish-German relations: the role and task of Military Missions; the right of legation of both German states and gradual gaining the right of legation by Western Germany.

The third and last part of the paper is devoted to the outline of the results of diplomatic relations between Poland and Western Germany if they were introduced. From this standpoint the Author considers the problem of recognition of Western Germany and the problem of recognition of the extend of