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THE ROLE OF INSTYTUT ZACHODNI (WESTERN INSTITUTE) IN THE REHABILITATION OF THE WESTERN TERRITORIES

The tasks of the Instytut Zachodni following Poland's return to the Western Lands were formulated already in 1945 by the Director of the Institute — prof. Zygmunt Wojciechowski. These tasks were: to supply all the research works necessary for all the domains of social life and to present the demanded opinions required in solving new problems.

Both anniversaries, i. e. the 15th of the Instytut Zachodni and the 15th of Poland's return to the Western Lands, present good opportunity to examine how Instytut Zachodni has fulfilled his tasks.

In order to discharge these functions Instytut Zachodni was obliged to engage a great number of scientific workers in various field of science and from different scientific milieux.

Further, Instytut Zachodni has developed: a) publishing activities, both of books and pamphlets, concerning all the problems of the Western Territories; b) publishing periodicals, among which is the „Przegląd Zachodni”, whose issues were edited also in English as „Western Review” and in French as „Revue Occidentale”; c) popularization of knowledge of the Western Territories through lectures, conferences and courses.

The range of Instytut Zachodni activities is so wide and this institution is concerned with so many issues that there is no actual problem in the Western Territories that would not become the subject of the Instytut concern. The large German publication, of 1959, „Das östliche Deutschland” is not only an attempt to polemize with Instytut Zachodni but, also, indirectly a tribute to its contribution in the revival of his region.

ANTONI WRZOSEK

THE BASICAL PROBLEMS OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK INDUSTRIES IN THE LIGHT OF THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMY

Taking as basis the 1957 and 1958 figures, the Author analyses the main structural elements of the Czechoslovak industries.

The 1957 employment in industries amounted to 2 050 thousand persons, thus equalling 1/7 of the total population, while the industrial production gave 66% of the total national income. The following figures illustrate the share of particular branches: machine industries — 26.6%, foodstuffs — 19.1%, metallurgy — 9.1%, textiles — 7.8%, chemistry — 3.9%, fuel extraction — 3.7% timber processing — 3.5%. The post-war period brought about great progress in such branches as: machines, chemistry, metallurgy and fuel extraction.

Electric power is based chiefly on lignit (yearly extraction — some 50 million tons), less on hard coal (some 25 million tons), and, further, on industrial — and earth gas (total production over 4 billion cub. m.) and, insignificantly, on water

power. The output of electric power was already over 17 billion kWh, i. e. some 1 300 kWh per inhabitant, of which 10% was received from water power. Almost all villages of the country have electricity.

The metallurgy is producing some 4 million of pig iron and over 5 million tons of steel, received in about 1/3 from home ores and in 2/3 from imported ones, chiefly from the Soviet Union. This branch is undergoing steady development. Of other metals the production of aluminium and antimony are worth mentioning.

The machine industries have 403 great manufacturing enterprises, of which 18 are employing over 5 000 persons each. These are producing all kinds of machines, transport equipment, tools, housewares, electric appliances and complete industrial equipments for whole plants. This production is working for export needs, mainly to socialist countries and to underdeveloped overseas countries. Thus, for instance, 73% tractors, some 58% motorcycles (80 thousand), 45% motor cars, 46% bicycles are made for export.

In chemical industries the main stress is laid on hard and brown coal processing, on the production of sulphuric acid, of fertilizers, fibres and synthetic masses, and lately the petrochemistry is being advanced.

Egyptian cotton, Australian wool and mainly home flax are processed and exported as 33% of cotton fabrics, 26% of linen, 16% of silk and 14% of woolen cloth. Mechanical production of footwear is extremely developed and 37% is exported. Items of importance in exports are also: china objects, glass and especially crystal articles, ornaments of plain glass and artificial jewelry. Czechoslovakia is also producing large amounts of paper (378 thousand tons), of which some 17% are exported and the printing presses are printing books on foreign orders (among others for English Publishers).

In food processing sugar production is of particular importance. The output of this product from home grown beet amounts some 800 thousand tons yearly, of which over 1/3 is exported. The Czech beer has a world wide fame and its output amounts to over 12 million hl. yearly. The most known firms are brewing for export.

The highly developed Czechoslovak industries have largely contributed to rapid industrialisation of all socialist countries of eastern Europe, the latter fact being one of the most characteristic features of the economic changes in the European continent.

STANISŁAWA ZAJCHOWSKA

THE SCENERY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND ITS VALUES FOR TOURISTS

Czechoslovakia is composed of three historical countries: Bohemia, Moravia and Slovakia. From the geographical aspect, however, Czechoslovakia can be divided into two regions: 1) the western old Czech Massiv and 2) the eastern young Carpathian mountains, composed of several picturesque chains the highest peak Gerlach of 2,663 m. o. s. l.) The Czech highland in its fertile part overlying the Elbe and Vltava is densely populated. Of great fertility and also densely populated