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# LIFE OF SCIENCE

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## THE NECESSARIES OF LIFE AND THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

by CZESŁAW ZNAMIEROWSKI

THE CHIEF and most important necessity at his moment is to protect the world and the happiness of mankind before a new war-cataclysm. The part that the scientists are to perform now is immense. Not only those who see immediately the practical results of their researches have a great influence but also the learned men devoted exclusively to pure science. The scientist addicted to pure science states but the laws of nature not caring for what is useful and what is harmful to life. On the other side he changes his character when to his theoretical assertions he tries to add indications which intend to satisfy some aims or wishes. There are many of those designs from which and for which there arise the applied sciences. One of these has to be social technic, the aim of which is such an arrangement of collective life that it would afford the greatest happiness to every individual. The same as other

Applied sciences social technic is a collection of not-homogeneous indications. It has to take them from different pure sciences, above all from humanistics as these are interested but in man. Social sciences are specially destined to secure peace. They can be divided into 2 big groups: into history describing the individual facts from the collective records of man and sociology which is in quest of the general laws connecting these facts.

We don't demand of history to be *magistra vitae*; as a pure science it has to give but the unforged reproduction of facts. It has many offences on its conscience in regard to mankind and peace either by its subjective choice of themes or by its false estimate of the values of the events and of persons. The historians following Plato's example have built up the worship of state and owing to this the worship of war. The second offence with regard to peace of which historiography is guilty is the awakening of national megalomany although the objective historiography could do much in the opposite direction i. e. for mutual peaceful relationship of nations by an impartial description of foreign records. It could disincline people to war if, instead of the war events, it would like to represent the balance of gains and losses which the conqueror as well as the conquered suffers. History possesses much material of which a technicist of peace could make the most. But it is yet rude as the present historiograph, contrary to his ancient colleagues, is not a sociologist who makes use of general reflections. Thus the task of transforming this historical material into general laws so that a technicist of peace could profit by it belongs to sociology.

Sociology can be called physics of collective life but it is far from physics as regards methods as well as results. Sociologists are subjected to sentiments and wishes, creating individual systems. Hence such an immense quantity of systems or schools. The technic of peace does not owe much to the speculative sociology. There are rather hidden dangers involved in such a sociology, as it is deprived of all moderation. Besides this there are real scientific researches of social facts which initiated August Comte. These investigations ought to be begun from the simplest and gradually pass on to more complicated questions. Thus comprehended sociology cannot be of much help to social technics in the near future but it will teach honest thinking at the very beginning.

For peace other social sciences must collaborate as well: economical geography, ethnology of exotic folks, pedagogy, social psychology, and at last ethics which has to show that the moral standard dictated by general friendliness is certainly the best basis of peace because peace falls but on people of good will.

## GENERAL ASSERTIONS IN SCIENTIFIC THEORY

by TADEUSZ CZEŻOWSKI

GENERAL not-analytical and empiric sentences are the subject of this paper. They are empiric because they are interested in the world of experience not in abstract meanings of terms and based empirically and not *a priori*. For the theory of science they are troublesome for they have not such a certainty as the assertions *a priori*. But an acknowledgment in science of an assertion which may be in future false is contradictory to the principle of science because it can obliterate the difference between truth and falsehood. Therefore methodological theories arose which have had to define the part of these doubtful empiric universal assertions in science. All of them are of the opinion that these assertions are not scientific assertions really i. e. they do not belong to the scientific theory. One group of these theories ascribes them an auxiliary function as of instruments of searching practice, the second group interprets them as elements of another row than the assertions of the empiric theory. After discussing the individual theories of both groups the author promotes the possibility of still another designation of the part which these assertions perform viz. from the point of view of discriminating dependent and independent sentences as this is connected in further consequence not with the postulate of truth but of usefulness of laws and hypotheses for explaining reality.

UNIVERSITY OF TORUN

## PHILOLOGY AS A FACTOR OF CULTURAL EXCHANGE

(REFLECTIONS OF AN ORIENTALIST)

by WIESŁAW KOTAŃSKI

THE STUDY of Orientalistic languages because of its small quantity of specialists connects many philologies as the study of Arabian philology, of Japanese etc. It differs from other philologies in this that it pays more attention to the realia of these peoples because it cannot disregard small even in appearance differences of cultural facts occurring among akin as regards civilization folk-groups. Many eminent linguists expressed the opinion that the study of and investigation into a language without getting acquainted with the realia is but fiction. It is not only the matter of teaching realia but also of specialization in individual questions of the given country as language, history, sociology, geography, natural science, art, literature etc. The dividing of culturological lectures into groups around the study of the given language may diminish the danger of storing hollow symbols and on the other side bring interesting results.

The author promoting the postulate of leading science in the given country to the path of reality and propagating the collaboration of scientists

all over the world sees the equal value of different parts of science as every scientific activity may cause the elevation of the level of one's own nation as well as of other members of mankind. There ought to be created a disposition-centre of planned international exchange of scientists.

Further on the author speaks about the organization of the study of oriental languages putting forwards some concrete proposals as basing the study on original texts gradually more and more difficult; joining the study of oriental philology to the study of natural, technical etc. science. which would be based on the necessities of the country the language of which is studied: removing the examen in exact philosophy etc.

WARSAW

### THE ACTUAL TASKS OF THE HISTORICAL STUDIES IN MODERN POLAND

by MARIAN TYROWICZ

THE PREPARATION for the revindication of the cultural goods taken by the German invader from the Polish territories and from the Regained Western Territories during the last war as well as of those not returned by the Central Powers after the first World War is the first task. The documents and objects in question are the numerous Polonica from the different libraries, archives, and museums to be found in Germany and Austria. The second task is the question of proper indemnification in form of manuscripts, of paintings, books, and works of art in return for the goods and cultural-scientific materials irreparably destroyed by the Germans in Poland. In a longer deduction the author puts down the thesis that it would be unjust and unsuitable if the defeated Germans had better endowed laboratories and studies for research work than Poland invaded and ruined by them. Further Tyrowicz speaks about the questions concerning the study of Polish history viz. the need of a thorough and well planned organization of a system of archives, museums, and libraries that is strictly connected with the postulates of the present progress of science as well as with the terrible destruction owing to the last war. The postulate of collaboration of the researches of the past with the architects as e. g. at the rebuilding of Warsaw or the development of other municipal or rural settlements, leads us into a different sphere of activity for historians.

JAGELLONIAN UNIVERSITY, CRACOW

### THE SYSTEMATIZATION OF THE LAW OF WORK

by STEFAN M. GRZYBOWSKI

WHEN localizing the law of work in the general system of law we have always met with difficulties, as the basis of division into private and public law did not make any progress. The law of work possesses some character-

ristics of the private as well as of the public law. But it is a real difficulty that the separation of the law of work was based on quite different characteristics than those by means of which the state, the administrative, the penal, the civil, and the commercial laws are divided. The characteristic features of the development of the law of work formed three different bases of division and of system: the sociological, the legal, and the historical one. The differences in details among the particular systems are great enough. A more detailed analysis shows that the systematization of the law of work depends to a large degree on the individuality of that scientist who is building up a system and on the dynamic of the social conditions. The attempts of founding a system lasting for centuries are, as yet, unsuccessful. In spite of this we ought to strive for a systematization more and more correct. The present systematization is not final. As the exponent of our temporary times it must connect the past with the future.

JAGELLONIAN UNIVERSITY, CRACOW

THE REVOLUTION OF THE FLOWERS AGAINST THE ROOTS. The author of this paper published in one of the social and literary weeklies calls the dramatic conflict which arises between the magnificent development of science, technic, and the material culture on one hand and our psychic relation to life on the other by this poetical metaphor. We still think, reason, and explain the reality surrounding us by categories of an almost mediaeval man. Hence the postulate of changing the psychic of man. Taking one of the title-words as starting point for the final conclusion the commentator of LIFE OF SCIENCE says that really from the roots upwards, from the basis there ought to be a concrete reform of the education and systematic instruction of the new man.

#### SCIENCE IN POLAND

DEMAND FOR HISTORICAL RESEARCH WORK ON THE REGAINED TERRITORIES. Adam Byszewski represents two theses of known Polish scientists viz. of prof. Jan Rutkowski and prof. Stefan Inglot reported to the 4th session of the Scientific Council for the Questions on the Western Territories Regained by Poland. These theses concern the creation of a certain amount of archival institutes for research work, the starting of university studies devoted to the history of those territories, and the arrangement of the net-work of scientific societies and friends of science. In Wrocław one of these projects was already realized by founding the Society of Lovers of History. At last there ought to be developed more and more the local libraries and regional museums already organized which collect the visible signs of Polish character of the Regained Territories in the past.

TWO YEARS OF POLISH SCIENCE IN UPPER SILESIA. The Vice-Chairman of the Silesian Institute Kazimierz Popiółek shows the activity of this Insti-

tute which took up again its work begun before the war and initiating new one. Among other things there have been issued different publications and cooperative research work on Silesian questions. Within the last two years there have been published 62 bibliographical units (26 books, many maps, and quarterly — *ZARANIE ŚLĄSKIE*) all in all 105.000 copies. Besides the Silesian Institute there were founded 2 new institutes devoted to applied science as the institute for research-work in the coal- and smelting industry, the institute for industrial administration as well as a local section of the Scientific Institute for Organization and Management. In Gliwice there is an Academical School for Technical Studies which shows that Upper Silesia even in this field equals the rest of Poland. The task of supplying the Silesian industry with highly qualified staff is fulfilled by other academical schools as e. g. the Study for Social and Economical Science in Katowice a. o. After having revindicated the dispersed and plundered by the Germans libraries there have been opened 2 public libraries, one in Katowice and one in Bytom containing 300.000 volumes. In a much more difficult situation are the Silesian museums. The Germans not only carried away all the collections but also pulled down the modern building of the Silesian museum in Katowice erected shortly before the war. There were found only some of the collections; besides this there were organized some municipal museums.

THE CONGRESS OF THE DELEGATES OF LIBRARIANS AND ARCHIVISTS by Jan Piasecki. On the 11th and 12th of May, 1947, there took place in Toruń the Congress of the Association of Polish Librarians and Archivists. This year it celebrates its 30th anniversary. Mr. Adam Łysakowski opened the meeting. Delegates of all circles, representants of the government and of university of Toruń were present. Many reports were read: J. Baumgart described the beginning, development and activity of the Association; Bańkowski spoke about the history of the Załuski Library; A. Łysakowski gave informations as to the activity of the State Institute of Book; at last S. Jarkowski — about the Polish Press Institute. The meeting passed some resolutions which are to promote the development of the libraries. At the end of the Congress there was elected a new management with A. Łysakowski as chairman.

#### SCIENCE ABROAD

THE READERS OF POLISH LANGUAGE IN SWEDEN by Józef Trypućko. The author who is Polish Reader at the University of Upsala and now Lecturer of Slavonic languages tells us about the vivid interest, which the Swedish show for Polish history, literature, and language. The first lectureship of Polish was founded in Lund in 1934. These readers are not limited only to the Polish language but try to inform and acquaint the Swedish undergraduates and other people interested in with the Polish literature and cultural history.

The readers collaborate with the Polish-Swedish Societies as well, publish special monthly and weekly editions as e. g. SVIO-POLONICA (Zbigniew Folejewski) bringing closer the two nations on a cultural basis.

**THE GERMAN UNIVERSITIES IN THE BRITISH ZONE.** The contents of this paper is an objective repetition of the information quoted in two papers on this theme published in the February number of the press organ of the British Association of University Teachers THE UNIVERSITIES REVIEW (1947, 19, No 2). One of these papers has been written by E. Colledge, member of the Control Office in years 1945—6, the second paper — by Lord Chorley who having been invited by the Control Office visited the universities in Germany. The proposals of both are the same and worth mentioning. On the Polish side there ought to be put the question whether there is done enough in the world to help the victims of the German aggression, among other things just for the schools of academical type, for libraries, for the living conditions of the undergraduates etc, to take so much pains for the material and intellectual help of the universities of this nation which caused so great destructions. Germany itself is relatively little destroyed. A just alternative turn ought to be kept in giving help to nations.

**THE PART OF THE UNIVERSITIES IN THE ADULT EDUCATION** by Józef Korpala. The paper devoted to this question is a summary and discussion on the reflections on this theme made by Prof. P. M. G. Lewy and Prof. A. Lauhy and published in a special number (4/6) of the monthly UNIVERSITE edited in Génève. The first is interested in the educational activity of the universities in Belgium, the second in the same work of Scandinavian universities, in particular of the university in Aarhus, Denmark, of the international popular College in Copenhagen as well as of the university of Helsingfors.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

**KRAKOWIANY AND A NEW BRANCH OF APPLIED MATHEMATICS** by Tadeusz Kochmański. The author writes about the wide application of the Krakowiany in mathematics as well as in applied sciences perceiving in them the result and sign of a powerful reformatory current which permits to create new mathematical methods operating with quite new figures.

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