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- 2 -

3. "WHO CAN ENROLL IN THE SCHOOLS

"In theory everyone can enroll, and everyone is allowed to take the entrance examinations. If there is a sufficient number of openings in a given school, students are classified according to their knowledge, but, if there is a shortage of openings (and this is the more usual situation), then the children of the following are accepted:

- (a) active party members
- (b) shock workers
- (c) laborers
- (d) peasants.

"A student often comes up for an examination with a letter of recommendation from the board which states that the student must be accepted. (For example, in September of 1950 a daughter of a certain active Communist, Mr. K., appeared with such a letter. Since she knew literally nothing in the Polish language, she failed to receive a passing grade [] and was not accepted. A week later she appeared again for the examination and the situation was repeated. She returned for the third time but this time was [] examined by [] the principal. A.L., also a teacher of Polish, and she passed the examination. []

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

4. "WHO MAY RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

"Young people belonging to ZMP and active in so-called 'public' work, that is, work which propagates Soviet ideology, are eligible. Besides this, some member of the family must make himself known for 'additional' work. The children of peasants having small farms are definitely favored. Progress in school is not taken into consideration.

5. "DEGREE TO WHICH COMMUNISTS HAVE WON OVER THE YOUTH AND METHODS

"Youth cooperating with the Communists obtain many benefits, such as free trips to camps and resorts, free athletic equipment, remuneration for propaganda speeches, books, tickets for artistic and sport exhibitions and assurance of entrance to higher studies. Young people are susceptible to these encouragements, at least in appearance. The possibility of attaining higher education attracts them the most, and so, starting with the tenth grade, they generally become active members of youth organizations. The real sentiment of youth, however, can be felt in its aversion to everything Soviet and in its hate of the so-called school 'leaders.' Ideologically, not more than five percent of the youth has been won over in the intermediate schools.

6. "THE DEGREE OF SOVIET PENETRATION IN THE CULTURAL SPHERE

"Contemporary Polish culture is completely under the domination of Communist influences in every sphere. This is most evident in the country's radio programs. The music is predominantly Soviet, light as well as classical; Soviet poets and writers are quoted to the point of boredom; talks are on the attainment of Soviet education and the heroism of the Red army, etc. Exhibitions of Soviet art and of the 'cultural ties' between Russia and Poland (like the Mickiewicz-Pushkin exhibition) are arranged. Soviet influence is seen in literature and music. The theme of poetry, for example, must be closely related to the problems of Polish and Soviet life. Verses not touching upon so-called social themes or not reviling the policy of the West are not accepted for printing. The youth is being convinced that the greatest scholars and artists of the world were and are Russians; that the Russians discovered the radio before Marconi. If for some reason the names of some artists or educators of other nations must be given they are fashioned into warriors for socialism. Such were, in their interpretation, Beethoven, Chopin, Bach, and Rembrandt. The most fashionable contemporary poet of the East is Wlodzimierz Majakowsky whose style Polish 'poets' are copying. Films and theatrical productions are 90 percent Soviet. (Reduced price theatre tickets are given to the youth for Soviet presentations only.) The aim of all Soviet and Polish works of art is to raise the prestige of the Soviet Union in every sphere of life and to ridicule and point out the evils of the conditions in Poland before 1939 and the exploitation and moral decay of the West.

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CONFIDENTIAL/US OFFICIALS ONLY /SECURITY INFORMATION

-3-

50X1-HUM

7. "THE TECHNICAL SIDE OF EDUCATION

"There is a trend toward creating 11-year schools and eliminating the distinction between elementary and secondary school. However, because of the lack of space there are only a few 11-year schools in the Warsaw region. Generally, one finds 7-year elementary schools and 4-year secondary schools comprising grades 8,9,10 and 11. During the school year of 1949/50 lyceum classes (10 and 11) were still divided into two types, humanistic and mathematical-physical, each awarding its own diploma. A diploma in the humanities required written tests in Polish, a foreign language, history, and a course on Contemporary Poland. The mathematical-physical diploma required written tests in Polish and mathematics, and oral examinations in Polish, mathematics, physics, history and Contemporary Poland. Since the academic year 1950/51, there is only one kind of diploma, requiring written examinations in Polish and mathematics, and oral examinations in Polish, mathematics, physics, history, and Contemporary Poland. New subjects introduced were Contemporary Poland, the Study of Society, and Service to Poland. Contemporary Poland corresponds more or less to the pre-war course on problems of social life with the difference that now it is approached from the viewpoint of Soviet propaganda. The Study of Society is concerned with the criticism of the organization of Western nations and Poland before 1939.

"Service to Poland is treated on a par with other subjects and is given four hours a week. Current events are discussed during the first two hours, and military exercises are given during the next two hours. The total number of hours in these socializing subjects in the 10th and 11th grades is 13, and in the lower grades nine. The emphasis on these courses is very great, especially at graduation time. Toward the end of the school year commissions are formed made up of the principal, instructors of the 11th grade, and representatives of 11th grade students, who evaluate every candidate for the diplomas as to his aptitude. This evaluation is then sent to higher educational institutions. The commission examines every student not from the aspect of his ability but his social origin and social and political activity. A 50X1-HUM with an unfavorable social and political evaluation is invariably refused admission to any higher institution of learning, although he may take entrance examinations. (For example, [redacted] capable student from the Gymnasium and Lyceum on 194 Grochowska Street, Z. Sz., was not accepted because of his membership in the Marian Sodality.) After graduation, an average of three certificates per school are awarded for social work and studies which make entrance into higher studies possible without an examination. In practice, studies are not taken into consideration, only social activity.

"Twice a month within the framework of Service to Poland, the students work on the reconstruction of Warsaw, public parks, or dig potatoes on the State Farms (sometimes on Sundays). Such a day is free from studies.

8. "THE RELATION OF THE AUTHORITIES TO TEACHERS

"Teachers, like the youth, are to a great degree 'reactionary.' Generally there is no open opposition to the regime, but there is decided, quiet resistance. The percentage of individuals passively submitting to propaganda and working along its principles is about 20 percent. Communist teachers make up a small group composed of the very young ones brought up in the new spirit (and not qualified), or those who became opportunists for their own safety. School authorities incessantly watch over the ideological indoctrination of the youth. They arrange visits of educational and social agents. Lessons are evaluated on the basis of their social utility. Inspectors who judge lessons otherwise are not able to keep their positions. (For example, K.B., a master of arts, was removed from his position of inspector in 1950.) Inspectors oppressing students and teachers with demands of knowledge in the field of Marxism are: DADLEZ, SWIERCZEWSKA, JANKOWSKA, JARCZEWSKA. Inspectors not only attend lectures but also carry on discussions with students

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CONFIDENTIAL/US OFFICIALS ONLY/SECURITY INFORMATION 50X1-HUM

-4-

ordering them to judge their professors and encouraging them to inform. Principals listen at the doors of classrooms and publicly admonish professors with threats. (Examples of this are Anna Lazarowiczowa, Principal of the Praga Gymnasium and Lyceum for Women, Warsaw, 12 Kawaczynska Street, and Franciszek Sparrow, Principal of the Gymnasium and Lyceum for Men, Warsaw, 194 Grochowska Street.) A teacher may not miss a single hour without a certificate from the physica in of Ubezpieczenia Społecznego (Social Insurance). Certificates of private physicians are considered sabotage. The teacher is forced to read ideological lectures and submit to examinations on Contemporary Poland. (This is also true of physical instructors, porters, and secretaries.)

50X1-HUM

"The teacher is not given the advantage of any price reductions (except on trains) nor is he granted any privileges. He is not permitted to be sick. [redacted]

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[redacted] A teacher working under Lazarowiczowa was literally ordered every step of the way. (For example, she publicly reprimanded Father Lis for not standing during the playing of the Internationale.)

9. "SALARIES

"A staff teacher earns up to 650 zlotys a month; contract teachers having full staff rating up to 600 zlotys; principals around 900 zlotys; secretaries in a gymnasium 400 zlotys; porters 300-350 zlotys.

10. "THE GENERAL LEVEL

"The scholastic level in secondary schools is very low. There are many unqualified teachers (students from the second or even the first year of studies). Much of the youth is accepted and promoted from class to class on the basis of attainments in so-called social work. Foreign languages were at such a low level, because of the lack of teachers and textbooks, that matriculation in languages was discontinued. The Russian language is introduced in the lower grades and obligatory for everyone. Latin, French and English is being systematically eliminated. The German language is completely abolished.

"Teachers are often people who do not know the given subject. For example, a graduate of SGGW taught physics and astronomy in a lyceum of mathematics and physics, while another 'professor,' L. S., did not even know how to speak Polish correctly. 'Professor' J., before he became a party member and advanced to the position of a teacher of mathematics in the lyceum, was for many years an elementary school teacher and had completed only the public university; likewise M. L.

11. "POLITICAL AND RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION

"As a rule, school authorities are unfavorably disposed toward all those who belonged to the AK (Armja Krajowa, Home Army) and took part in the Warsaw uprising or returned to Poland from the West. A teacher who committed any of the above mentioned 'crimes' cannot advance, does not receive any bonuses, and is never a candidate for premium pay. He is given special surveillance and the principal very often sits in on his lectures. He is questioned more severely and exhaustively at ideological examinations. The writer, J. K. (MA), professor J. Helczynski, and Captain B., were in this class.

"As for religious persecution [redacted] an event [redacted] took place in October 1950 in the gymnasium on 12 Kawaczynska Street. It was in this year that the principal, Anna Lazarewicz, took over and issued a directive to remove the crosses from the front of the room and to hang them in the rear. In the place of the crosses, she ordered portraits of 'state figures' to be hung. For this she was singled out by Inspector Dadlez in his rating of teaching personnel activity. Not satisfied with the transfer of the crosses, one day in November 1950 she ordered the porter to remove all the crosses and hide them during the absence of the students. Questioned by Father L.

50X1-HUM

50X1-HUM

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-5-

as to what happened to the crosses she replied that she hid them in order to provoke the youth to a demonstration and thereby find out who among the young people is their subversive leader. 'I can spit on the cross,' she stated publicly. Religious instruction is not a required subject, but, after this same Lazarowiczowa had refused to bring in a priest, thinking that this was raising her in the esteem of the authorities, a delegation of parents came to her demanding that religious instruction be introduced into the school.

12. "CONFIDANTS OF THE UB

"As a rule, every principal is in close cooperation with the UB (Security Police) and tries to encourage the youth to this worthy occupation. Very extensive activity of this type was carried on by the principal, Franciszek SPARROW, promising the boys promotions for informing on their friends and teachers. Another confidant of the UB is Markowski, manager of the Personnel Division of the Board. Informers among teachers are JURCZYK, LEMIESZEWSKI, SAWICKI, and among the students WIWA SZULC, JANUSZ LABECKI and KONRAD BICZYK. Alleged confidants of the UB are the manager of the Personnel Division of the University of Warsaw Tadeusz OLSZEWSKI, and the secretary of the school, 194 Grochowska Street, Josephine BOROWIKOWA.

50X1-HUM

13. "POSSIBILITIES OF COUNTERACTING SOVIETIZATION

"At the moment sensible propaganda to uncover Soviet lies and acquaint the youth with accomplishments of western culture through literary broadcasts (broadcasts for students) is most important.

14. "POPULARITY OF THE WEST

"Young people eagerly listen to broadcasts from the West and are waiting for a change of conditions, although a few of them repeat such nonsense as the statement that Americans feed their children candy and cocaine. But these voices are drowned out, and all kinds of jokes on State holidays and Polish-Soviet dignitaries circulate almost in public.

15. "THE RESULT OF ANTI-RELIGIOUS PROPAGANDA

"Its effect is at a minimum. Young people eagerly seek religion and hate anti-religious mud-slingers.

16. "MORALITY

"There is marked tendency on the part of Communist authorities to wipe out the traditions of the Polish nation and one of these is that of marriage. Thus young people are being accustomed to freely spending their time at co-educational camps without the supervision of elders. Such camps, led by students, must lead to all kinds of occurrences as reported by the young people themselves.

17. "HIGHER SCHOOLS

"Who can attend higher schools? Everyone can enroll and everyone is permitted to take the entrance examination. There are, however, three categories of lists of candidates for studies:

- (a) Those asked the easiest questions and invariably accepted (active ZMP's, ex-soldiers of the Kosciuszko Army, and party members).

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-6-

50X1-HUM

- (b) Those against whom no charges have been made but who, nevertheless, are not enthusiastically welcomed by the party (here the examination decides).
- (c) Those rejected a priori. Examinations are strictly a formality and the questions are the most difficult and tricky. These are the children of people engaged in private enterprise and of former members of the AK (Home Army).

"One of my students was refused admittance for the study of medicine, because, when he was questioned as to what happened to his father, he answered that his father was murdered at Katyn, adding after a pause, 'naturally by the Germans.'

18. "SCHOLARSHIPS

"As in secondary schools, scholarships as high as 220 zlotys are granted to active members of ZMP or of the party, to the children of shockworkers and party leaders, and to student leaders in public work and education. Scholarship itself, however, is not considered.

19. "EXAMINATION QUESTIONS

"The most important examination for entrance is one on Contemporary Poland. Questions pertain to the conditions in Poland and the USSR. There are also questions pertaining to the personal life of the candidates, his family, etc. Up to 1950 a colloquium was required besides the final examination, but in 1950 this was replaced by an examination on Contemporary Poland in every faculty. During the last year, seminars in Marxism are given. In 1951, for Polish studies, it was not permissible to take general philosophy, logic, or psychology as formerly, only Marxist philosophy.

20. "THESIS REQUIREMENTS

"In March 1951 a directive was issued stating that a graduate student could not choose the topic of his master's thesis, but that topics would be prepared by the Ministry of Education. It is not permissible to write on the works of Sienkiewicz.

50X1-HUM

21. "EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS

"Marxism is introduced at the expense of other subjects, but the standard is still maintained somewhat because there is no one to take the place of the old professors. However, after the death of Professor Wacław Borow, his chair was occupied by Zolkiewski who does not even have a doctorate. Non-party assistants are removed and the newly appointed ones are judged by the ZMP.

50X1-HUM

22. "ZMP

"The ZMP flourishes as widely in the university as in secondary schools. In the universities likewise it comprises 90 percent opportunists. The driving force of ZMP is its administration which directs the activities of the rest. About 30 percent of the students are not enrolled in the ZMP."

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