

How long Judaism was seen as *superstitio* in the pagan Roman Empire

The emergence of the Jewish community in Rome in the second century B.C. initiated an elaborate dialogue of the Jews and the Romans who were forced to confront not only a different type of religion but also very different customs and traditions. Dissimilarity of the Jews made them incomprehensible to the pagans and a feeling of resentment aroused due to the lack of participation in worship or circumcision. For this reason Judaism was recognized as *superstitio*. Religious liberty granted to the Jews by Julius Caesar and Augustus began a long process of changing the way Judaism and its followers were perceived. However it did not mean immediate acceptance of the Jewish community, what was particularly evident during the reign of Tiberius, when he expelled them from Rome. In the following years manifestations of hostility towards Jews were especially visible in Alexandria, where a pogrom took place. Usually the action directed against the followers of Judaism occurred because of violations of order in the empire, just like during the first Jewish War. The main motive behind the decisions of the Roman authorities was the suppression of riots and not persecution because of religious differences. Subsequent Jewish revolts against Roman authorities also did not lead to depriving them of religious freedom. Moreover, while the Christian faith was banned during the reign of Trajan, the Jews had permission to practice their religion. Even during the persecution of Christians under Diocletian, the Jewish community was exempt from the obligation to participate in worship, which meant that Judaism was no longer considered dangerous to the old gods, and thus ceased to be *superstitio*.

MICHAŁ SIERBA

Überprüfung des Verleihungsdatums des Staatsrechts Orla

Der Artikel handelt von der Frage des Datums, laut dem Orla Stadtrechte von Christoph II. Radziwiłł in der Woiwodschaft Podlachien erhielt. Der Autor stellt als eine Einführung die Geschichte der Orleaner Güter ab Ende des 15. Jahrhunderts bis zum 20er Jahre des 17. Jahrhundert dar. Dann kommt er zur Besprechung der Ansicht, dass Orla angeblich das unvollständige Magdeburger Recht im Jahre 1618 oder 1634 bekommen hat. Die bisherige Literatur (von Werken aus der ersten Hälfte des 19. Jahrhundert bis zu Publikationen aus dem 21. Jahrhundert), in der diese Daten erscheinen, wird auch erwähnt. Der nächste Punkt des Artikels erklärt, aus welchem Grund das falsche Datum 1618 gebraucht wird. Anschließend wird aufgrund des ursprünglichen Lokationsakts das richtige Datum der Verleihung des Staatsrechts Orla – 6. Januar 1614 – genannt. Um diese These zu bestätigen, zitiert der Autor Fragmente des Inventars der Orleaner Güter und zwei Briefen aus den Jahren 1616–1617 von Orleaner Starost Maciej Berzeński geschrieben, in denen Orla als eine Stadt bezeichnet wird.

JERZY JÓZEF GŁOWACKI

Tolerance and fanaticism of the Polish nobility at the beginning of the Enlightenment

The enemies of the Confederates of Bar called them „fanatics” because of their struggle towards restoring the privileges of the Catholic faith. The confederates, as well as the public who shared their sentiments, sometimes accepted this label, accusing of religious indifference those of the nobility who did not cooperate with them. Regardless, they had quite a well-specified idea of the order among Christian denominations, the implementation of which would have realized their idea of religious tolerance. According to it, the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth should have preserved the privileged position of the Catholic faith, enabling, however, the people of other religions or denominations to practice their religion in private. It seemed to them of utmost importance to deny non-Catholics the right to hold office in the institutions of state in order to make the state unanimous and free from the influence of non-Catholic courts.

ELIZA KWIATKOWSKA-JEZNACH

The regional councils of February 1792 in reports „Gazeta Narodowa i Obca” and „Gazeta Warszawska”

The aim of regional councils in February 1792 was to remove the adverse image surrounding the Constitution of May the 3rd which some feared could cause a political coup. The councils were featured heavily in the newspapers „Gazeta Warszawska” and „Gazeta Narodowa i Obca”. Both newspapers included stories on 70 regional councils from across the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, which represented 89% of the 78 meetings that took place. There is a difference between current and past opinion on the 3rd of May referendum. Newspapers reported only two examples of support in the form of oath and gratitude by the councils for the Constitution of May the 3rd. Today we can distinguish amongst the oath, affirmation, thanks and silence. The differences between the past press interpretation and current research on the results of regional councils in February 1792 relates almost exclusively to the information published by „Gazeta Narodowa i Obca”. This newspaper misinterpreted 34% of the 70 presented regional councils. In comparison „Gazeta Warszawska” inaccurately published only one news story from across the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth. It should be noted that they reported only on 6 regional councils and those whose results did not raise any doubts. The regional councils of February 1792 were first recognised by the Polish newspaper referendum. Unfortunately, none of the newspapers provided a fair report. This was caused by the views of the editors of both newspapers – Julian Ursyn Niemcewicz and father Stefan Łuski. The readers of „Gazeta Narodowa i Obca” inevitably received a manipulated version of the regional councils, and the readers of „Gazeta Warszawska” were therefore misled of the marginal role in the February events.

ANETA STAWISZYŃSKA

Green areas in Łódź in the shadow of the Great War

The outbreak of the First World War was connected with occurrence of significant economic problems in the city. In connection with lack of combustible materials, large scale deforestations of parks and forests located around the city took place. In later years, the remaining tree stands were protected better due to introduction of many preventive measures. New parks were created and existing green areas were modernized. During the War, the green areas located in the city were also improved, especially by executing numerous plantation-related undertakings. Offices responsible for maintaining green areas were also caring about military cemeteries. Even though the significant attempts were carried out, Łódź recorded tremendous financial losses due to the devastation of forests located around the city.

PRZEMYSŁAW STAWARZ

Internment and the process of the legion troops in 1918 – in the memoirs of Father Colonel Josepha Panasia – chaplain of the Second Brigade of the Polish Legions

The article aims to show the history of the internment and process in Marmaros-Sziget (8 June – 2 October 1918) the then Kingdom of Hungary. These events are presented through the eyes of chaplain Józefa Panasia, who was also one of the main accused in the process. Internment of legionnaires and the process was a consequence of the battle of Rarańcza, which took place in the night of 15 to 16 February 1918. The cause of this battle was the conclusion of the Treaty of Brest – February 9, 1918 under which the German Empire and the Austro-Hungarian Empire gave Ukraine Chełm and Podlasie part. Officers and soldiers of the legion, who passed on the other side of the front were disarmed and later arrested by the Austrian headquarters. In contrast brave and uncompromising chaplain J. Panaś played in this endeavor a major role.

JAN RATUSZNIK

Alexandra Kollontai's activity in the light of Swedish magazine „Dalpilen. Tidning för Falu län och stad” (1915–1926)

The image of Alexandra Kollontai's activity wasn't placed in the magazine „Dalpilen”. The office of the newspaper was definitely conservative, but surprisingly new social groups coming into existence in Sweden became emancipated and demanded their laws. Journalists for this newspaper tried to fight as amended with the feather.

The office of „Dalpilen” was not interested Alexandra Kollontai and her connections with Sweden before the World War I. It could result from the provincialism of the newspaper. Only discussion in the contemporary press and numerous addresses of socialists objecting to the arrest and the left-wing deportation activists forced „Dalpilen” to the reaction. They joined in the campaign of right-wing media being aimed at a discredit then Kollontai and her friends.

In the next article about Kollontai *Russian sympathy for promoters of the disarmament* journalist of „Dalpilen” criticised activity of the left-wing activist in Norway and accused Kollontai also for being a spy of the tsarism. According to the version from Falun pacifist passwords delivered by her were supposed to serve making Scandinavian countries defenceless before the invasion of Russians.

„Dalpilen” didn’t write about Alexandra Kollontai through a few years. Only in 1925 when she reignited from the ambassadorship journalists from Falun wrote about Kollontai. In the article *Liberation from communist embrace* she was a symbol the USSR in Norway which steered the local left hand of the political landscape. Her defeats editors accepted „Dalpilen” with joy.

The image of Kollontai in newspaper „Dalpilen” evolved from the tsarist agent for the woman – of ambassador supervising Norwegian communists. To this image stereotypes made up to the subject of Russia and discrediting Swedish socialists. One should however underline, that since the newspaper from Falun concentrated on domestic and Scandinavian matters, of information about the author of the Love of worker bees it was little. Her as the supporting figure were usually being put in texts, they took a stance for her cooperation with Bolsheviks, not treating her as the socialist standing up for women’s rights.

PAULINA SOLUBA

Olympic Games in Berlin in 1936 in the eyes of Americans who came to Germany

On 13th May 1931 the Weimar Republic was appointed by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to host the Olympic Games 1936. Adolf Hitler, who was elected Chancellor of Germany January 30, 1933 finally responded positively to the idea of the Olympics. Due to the anti-Jewish policies of Berlin in Semitic environments appeared, especially in the U.S., the idea of a boycott of the Olympics in 1936 or move the event to another state. Do not, however, decided to take this step. The Olympic Games were run from 1 until 16 August 1936. For this reason, Americans who want to watch the games in July began arriving by sea to Germany. Among them were correspondents, sports journalists, diplomats, businessmen and tourists. American sports team also came to Germany. During sporting competitions U.S. citizens closely observed the reality of the Third Reich. Nazi propaganda had a big impact on the views of Americans about the new Germany.

ALEKSANDRA SYLBURSKA

The question of Hungarian minority in Czechoslovakia, Romania and Yugoslavia in the interwar period in the periodical „Sprawy Narodowościowe” („Nationality Questions”) 1927–1939

In Polish historiography much less attention is paid to the influence of Hungarian minorities in successive countries on development of situation in Central-Eastern Europe during the interwar period than to the German ones. Such an attitude is mistaken because Hungarians took an active part in the revision of decisions taken during the Peace Conference in Paris. One of the reasons may be the language barrier because Hungarian is not widely spoken. However, as a considerably worthy source to history of national and ethnic problems in the interwar period, it is needed to recommend „Sprawy Narodowościowe” („Nationality Questions”), a periodical which was published from 1927 to 1939 by Institute of Nationality Questions Research in Warsaw. The read of this periodical delivers plenty of information about activity of Hungarian state and its minority representatives in the League of Nations, Union of International Associations of League of Nations, Interparliamentary Union and Congresses of Minorities in Geneva. There is also a number of articles about the situation of Hungarians living in Czechoslovakia, Romania and Yugoslavia, considering i. a. the minority law, political activity of Hungarian society, discrimination of governments towards this national group. „Sprawy Narodowościowe” allows draw some conclusions about the attitude of Hungarian regime to the role, which its minorities were to play in revision of decisions of Trianon Treaty and effectiveness of different interwar organizations which main goal was to guarantee the peace.

MONIKA NOWAK-VILELA

„Kisses for Mr. Salazar” – a profile of the Portuguese dictator António Oliveira Salazar in the children’s and teenagers’ letters addressed to him (1929–1968). Review of archival materials

The aim of the article is to show how the creator of *Estado Novo* was perceived by the youngest generation throughout almost 40 years. It is also an indirect attempt to appraise the moods of young Portuguese people and children of foreigners who had been living then in Portugal, to outline their attitude to the regime, to show the background of the reality which had been described in their letters. The analysis of over 240 letters and postcards, written in the period of 1929–1968 and addressed to the creator of Portuguese dictatorship, collected in the Institute of the National Archives (The National Archive of Torre do Tombo) was the origin of writing the text.

MIROSLAW ROMAŃSKI

Polish party outposts in the USA in 1945–1989. The analysis in the context of Polish Worker’s Party files

The article presents the subject matter of delegating the Polish political workers to the USA, within the period of the Polish People’s Republic, which has not been well known so far. It

includes the general description of them and allows to familiarize with the mechanisms of these outposts functioning. Due to the that subject matter had not been developed wider in scientific periodicals, the article represents a contribution to the development of further research. There are not only the United States of America worth considering, but more than 80 countries where there were the outposts of the Polish Workers' Party and the Polish United Workers' Party.

It appears from the text that activities of the Polish authorities were aimed at propagating the communist ideology, even in democratic countries. It was then one of the many elements of the policy imposing the conditions of the socialist state.

The basis of the preliminary archival research of the article are the materials made by the Foreign Department of the Central Committee, kept in the Central Archives of Modern Records in Warsaw. The library with rich and extensive collections of records allowed to reconstruct the acting mechanisms of the discussed outposts.

MALGORZATA KARKOCHA

The population of the Rembieszyce Parish after World War II in the light of parish register

The article aims to discuss the most important demographic phenomena occurring in the Roman Catholic Parish of Rembieszyce after World War II, in the years 1945–2012. The basic sources for the Author were the parish registers of births, marriages and deaths, stored in the Archive of the Rembieszyce Parish. It was studied the collection of 2490 metrics of baptisms, 997 metrics of weddings, and 1272 metrics of funerals, making a total amount of 4759 metrical acts.

The Author had identified three key issues, i.e. births, marriages and deaths. Each of these problems has been characterized mainly by specifying the level of the phenomenon and its seasonality. In addition, with respect to the births, it was discussed the structure of births by localities, multiple births, the popularity of male and female names, as well as habits of giving the names and choice the godparents. The image of weddings also consists: the structure of the prospective spouses by age, marital status and territorial mobility of newlyweds. By contrast, analysis of deaths and funerals was complemented by the structure of deceased persons by sex and age, the life expectancy for men and women, the causes of death, and the issue of the last sacraments. At the end of the article was presented the natural growth and loss of the population of the Rembieszyce Parish.