
Summaries

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S U M M A R I E S

JÓZEF CHAŁASIŃSKI

FLORIAN ZNANIECKI POLISH AND UNITED STATES SOCIOLOGIST

The author of the present article considers the Polish and American aspects in Znaniecki's works on the basis of his biography and works*. Although Znaniecki first won a reputation as the co-author of *The Polish Peasant in Europe and America*, 1918—1920, his ambitions were not centered on empirical research alone. In the works published in English, Znaniecki's aim was to create and substantiate his own sociological system or to give a more detailed description of its parts. This was the character of the following works: *The Laws of Social Psychology* (1925), *The Method of Sociology* (1935), *Social Actions* (1936), *The Social Role of the Man of Knowledge* (1940), *Modern Nationalities* (1952). *Wstęp do socjologii (Introduction to Sociology)* by Znaniecki, published in Polish in 1922, gives an outline of his system of sociology.

Znaniecki considered sociology one of the cultural sciences, his sociological ideas went hand in hand with his interest in the theories of culture and theories of the cultural sciences. Znaniecki's *Cultural Reality* was published in Chicago in 1919 and his *Cultural Sciences* in 1952.

In the collective work *Review of Sociology-Analysis of a Decade*, published by J. B. Gittler in 1957, Znaniecki is considered in the chapter on theories of sociology as one of the authors who aimed at theoretical foundations of sociology.

Readers of this work will not find Znaniecki's name in the chapter on Sociology of Education. Yet Znaniecki is widely known in Poland as the originator of the sociology of education and as the author of the two volumes of *Socjologia wychowania (Sociology of Education)* — 1928—1930.

Modern Nationalities (1952) is particularly noteworthy among his works for the Polish elements it contains. For Znaniecki nationality is *national culture society*, which has a common and distinct secular, literary culture and an independent organization functioning for the preservation, growth, and expansion of this culture. The nucleus of national culture society originates with independent individual leaders in various realms of cultural activity — men of letters, historians, national ideologists, artists, musicians. A common national culture distinguishes *national culture society* or nationality from *political society* or *state*. Znaniecki wrote in his book: "For more than a century, there was no united

* Florian Znaniecki, born in Poland on January 15, 1882, died on March 23, 1958. He was professor of sociology at the University in Poznań, Poland, 1920—1939, then at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, Ill. U.S.A., 1940—1951. After 1951 retired, lived in Champaign till his death. In 1953 was chosen President of the American Sociological Society.

Polish state and no common Polish government. Yet this division did not prevent the Poles from maintaining and developing cooperatively a common Polish culture and an active solidarity which cut across the political boundaries, in spite of many obstructions imposed by the three ruling governments (p. IX)". The Polish case was tested by Znaniecki in his book by comparative study of other cases.

The Polish origin of Znaniecki's *Modern Nationalities* is obvious. For the concept that a nationality is a society whose ties are the result of a common literary culture — literature, art and ideas — is ostensibly rooted in the soil of Polish history.

The supreme role of literature, ideas and intellectuals in shaping a nationality does not harmonize with the American national stereotype of "the common man", although similar influences may be found at work in the birth of the American nation.

Sociologists will find this volume of interest not only as a study of nationality, but also as a document which throws a light on the attitude of a contemporary intellectual toward his own nationality.

Znaniecki concludes his work on modern nationalities with the problem of transition to a *world society* with a world culture. According to Znaniecki, the heterogeneous national cultures will find a place in the future world culture. A world culture may be born solely of an abundant and diversified creativeness and not of the annihilation of cultural differences and diversities between nationalities. Similarly, national cultures were produced by a diversity of human talents and individualities and not by a homogeneous human mass.

Znaniecki based his concept of nationality as a cultural community and his concept that the future world civilization would grow out of nationalities understood in this sense on two spheres of historical experience with which he himself was directly bound. The concept of nationality took its origins from the experiences of the Polish nation and the experience for the concept of national plurality of the future civilization was provided by America.

Znaniecki devoted a volume published before the war to a problem that fascinated him, namely that of the future civilization. The book, called *Ludzie terażniejsi a cywilizacja przyszłości* (*Contemporary Man and the Future Civilization*), was published in 1934 and was written during Znaniecki's second visit to the United States in 1933—1934. Although the work was published only in Polish, it was nevertheless the product of the intellectual climate of New York in the thirties. The American society, seen with the eyes of a liberal intellectual an optimist, was Znaniecki's chief source of inspiration for his vision of the future civilization. From America Znaniecki took the concept of the future civilization as a harmonious diversity of national cultures.

"The processes that are taking place in our cultural world" — Znaniecki wrote in his book — "can lead to a complete transformation of the structure and life function of every cultural field. No utopias can delineate the picture of this future civilization [...] But this great future is uncertain. The second alternative we face is not the gradual evolution of the present world [...] but the disintegration or destruction of a substantial portion of the cultural achievements of the past few thousand years, the impoverishment in the quality and quantity of the whole of civilization for long centuries to come".

CZESŁAW ZNAMIEROWSKI

SOCIAL GROUP AND ITS STRUCTURE

This paper intends to show by means of models as simple as possible, what are the factors and elements of the structure of a stable and durable group. First of all it is shown on what depends an unchanging state of things which in most cases rests on a durable equilibrium of many different forces. Particularly, an unchanging social state depends on emotional attitudes and dispositions of the members of a given group. And among these emotional factors the feeling of obligation, moral or instituted, has its very important place.

A social bond which links two persons together is the simplest element of social structure. It can be purely somatic (Siamese brothers), but it can also have its only basis in emotional attitudes of both partners, whereby these attitudes can arise in each of them in different ways. If this social bond is of durable nature, the partners linked by it, form a group. Such a group is a natural one when the bond is created without the will of its partners. When it depends on the decision of its members it is instituted. In the latter case it has at least some elementary organizational statute.

The character of a group is determined by the individual properties of its members, its aims, functions and activities. It is also of no little importance whether the group is open or closed; whether it is only a frame-group (it means: gives to its members an opportunity of a certain kind of activity, but it does not do anything of itself) or an action group, that is one which undertakes certain activities by itself, as a whole.

The structure of a group consists of all the social relations and bonds which link the members taken individually, or individuals and subgroups, or different subgroups with each other. The social relation being neither tangible nor visible. This structure is so too. The spatial distribution of the members of a group is only in some cases a relevant feature of the structure of the whole group.

In the psychical bond there is always a certain attitude, essential and peculiar for the given group (e.g. love in marriage, common interest in a commercial company). This attitude has sometimes an emotional fringe which makes the bond stronger or weaker. The feeling of obligation, for instance, gets stronger, when accompanied by the fear of social sanction.

In general, the equilibrium of a group is more stable under the influence of acquired habits and of fixed creeds which can not be easily overcome. This social inertia is considerably strengthened when the members of the group do not know that changes are possible what is often the case. Valid knowledge can upset the social equilibrium; and a false belief can increase the stability of a group. Example: magical creed which plays an important role in the structure of many durable groups, and in many cases is the very source of social and political power.

STEFAN NOWAKOWSKI

EGALITARIAN TENDENCIES AND THE NEW SOCIAL HIERARCHY IN AN URBAN INDUSTRIAL COMMUNITY OF THE WESTERN TERRITORIES

The postwar era in Poland is one of swift urbanization and industrialization. Before the war, the urban population constituted 27% of the total population, while in 1962 the urban and rural population were about equal.

The process of urbanization may be observed more clearly in the Western Territories where the population of a number of cities and towns is in its preponderant majority of recent rural origins. This is a young population educated and trained after the war. The present article concerns itself with the problem of the creation of a new social structure in a town which before the war had a population of 8,000 (half of which were Germans who were evacuated to the West after the war), and which now, owing to the swift process of industrialization has a population of about 30,000.

In the first years after the war, the social structure of the city was one the incoming population could not accept. The population was divided into groups corresponding to the regions from which the settlers came, and each sectional group tried to subordinate to itself the remaining groups, marshalling a variety of arguments in support of its superiority. There was a tendency to establish a class order corresponding to the regions from which the population was derived.

These tendencies were transitory and have now disappeared completely. Although the city is still continuing to grow, the population forms an integrated society, while the regional groups settled here have either disappeared or are becoming absorbed and fused into one community. This fact is borne out by the number of marriages contracted between the groups, by the disappearance of the tendency to classify the inhabitants according to their origins and by the disappearance of stereotyped pejorative opinions which at first each regional group held about the remaining groups.

Strong egalitarian tendencies are emerging in this city, which has about 1,000 engineers and technicians and about 8,000 industrial workers of all categories. These tendencies are evident in the objective conditions and in the consciousness of the citizens.

The greater majority of the city's families live in similar apartments of newly built houses for the most part that are furnished with gas, water, a central heating system and others. Because of a whole flock of the same material factors enjoyed by both, like washing machines, television sets and refrigerators, there is little difference between the qualified worker's family and that of an engineer. Material conditions, the way of life, professional work of women, education, the manner of spending one's leisure time, social disorganization and a series of other factors are very similar in both cases. In the prewar years, the distinctive factors were social standing and wealth, while at present these distinctions are visibly disappearing. These differences have disappeared in marriages, where the principal criterion is education.

Egalitarian tendencies in the city are ostensibly the effect of the social revolution and of the homogeneous selection of the inhabitants.

But simultaneously, the inhabitants are conscious of a specific hierarchy or social ladder. The underlying criteria are education, income, way of life and

the prestige attached to one's profession. Due to the fact that schools are free to all who have the ability, a higher education and the consequent high social and professional position attained have become a badge of distinction in the present urban society. At the top of the social ladder stands the director of the local factory and several prominent physicians. Next in importance are engineers and doctors followed by technicians, qualified workers, teachers, civil servants and white-collar workers and railway officials. There is no clear boundary between the separate categories. The group occupying the lowest rang of the ladder are the unqualified workers.

The new factor are the ties maintained between the city and the village. The process of changing one's social affiliations, which was observed in the years between the two world wars, is now not in evidence. But a move to the city is still considered an advance, particularly as far as the material culture is concerned. That is why the peasant who settles in a city looks upon the village with aversion. For to him the village is synonymous with difficult living conditions, a home without the comforts of life and worse prospects for a job.

JAN TUROWSKI

THE PROBLEM OF THE SOCIAL STRUCTURE IN AN INDUSTRIO-AGRICULTURAL AREA

The article gives a fragment of the results of research conducted on the economic and social changes that occur in the rural area when an industrial plant is built there. The object of the research was the Fruit and Vegetable Canning Plant in Milejów and the region it influences — more than one hundred villages lying east of Lublin.

The greatest changes were observed in Milejów and the neighbouring villages. The general character of these changes is set by the urban settlement built around the Plant housing the workers of the Plant, who have migrated from all parts of the country, but especially from the surrounding villages. The settlement has become the centre for the whole industrio-agricultural area. Urban buildings are going up. The formation of specific professional structure may be observed here. The managers, white-collar and manual workers tend to combine their work in the Plant with farming or vegetable gardening. But farming is more efficient and economical, and the whole family no longer works on the farm as it had formerly. Although they work their farms, they do not consider themselves peasant and much resent being called so.

A working class district has grown in the villages of Klarów, Jaszczów, Milejów village, Antoniów lying within a radius od 3—4 km. of Milejów. The greater part of the Plant's labour force is recruited from this area and its population increasingly resembles that of the Milejów settlement as regards professions, wage-earning, and socio-cultural needs.

The social structure of several villages that lie outside the working class district has also been undergoing change in the post-war years. Formerly the entire population of these villages was employed in agriculture, while now the professional structure is extremely heterogeneous. The nearer the given village lies to the Plant, a main road, or a railway station, the greater the number of inhabitants are employed in occupations other than agriculture. However, in

villages with larger farms (over 5 hectares) there is a much slower process of abandoning farming as a full time occupation. The age old idea, that the village and farming is inferior is also disappearing.

The class structure of the village population is changing due also to the migration of a part of the population to industry and to the fact that some take part-time work in industrial plants. The unemployed and day-labourers who formerly formed the lowest social class are disappearing. Among the small land holders the fathers of families and their adult children are earning additional money outside of farming. The second source of income has radically changed the economic and social position of a part of the village population now called peasant-workers and clerk-farmers. These people are no longer dependent on their families on the large peasant farms, and their living standard is frequently higher than that of families who work on farms alone. Former worker-employer relationships based on exploitation are disappearing. For this reason, too, the size of the farms is now no longer the deciding factor in the class structure of the village. There is now a division into that part of the population which is employed in farming alone and is connected only with the village, and that part of the farming population, who are also workers or clerks (white-collar workers) and are connected with the town and with a means of earning an income elsewhere than in agriculture.

Changes in the acceptance of established authority are also characteristic of this transformation in the social structure. External authorities in the village (the former authority of the president of the local council, the parish priest, the teacher) have lost their old significance as have the former internal authorities (the owners of the large peasant farms and the oldest members of the most numerous families in the village). These changes are taking place against the background of a process of disintegration of the old traditional organization of the village as a custom sustained local community. The old blood- and neighbourly relationships, which were the binding elements in the social structure of the village, are vanishing.

The building of an industrial plant creates an industrio-agricultural region concentrating in this case about the urban settlement of Milejów and its Plant. The economic and social life can now develop in an industrio-agricultural region and not in an framework of socially disintegrated villages held together by administrative ties alone. So far, however, the whole region has not taken on any definite shape or character of its own, for it lacks not only an intensive socio-ideological life, but also new social authorities and leadership.

The author states that the object of further research and the basis for practical activities in the search for and the establishment of new ties in a new social structure and for new authorities and leadership in the industrio-agricultural regions formed as the country becomes industrialized.

JACQUES JENNY

SOCIAL MATURING OF YOUTH. BIBLIOGRAPHIC OUTLINE

The work was published in the "Revue française de Sociologie" (Avril—Juin 1962), under the title *La maturation sociale. Thème de recherche psycho-sociologique appliquée à l'étude de la jeunesse (approche bibliographique)*.

BOGDAN MOLINSKI

ORGANIZATION MAN, HOMO FABER AND AFRICAN PERSONALITY

The article deals with the problem of self-identity of an individual living in a world of revolutionary transformation. The problem of the identification of an individual with a given system of values within the whole human race is born of the transformation in which the dominant force is the technological revolution. Social mobility, the disintegration of local communities, the rise of supra-national economies, technical and political systems, and the independence of colonial peoples, these are the various aspects of the great transformation of the modern world.

An important feature of these processes is the fact that the large distances separating continents and their countries and peoples have lost their significance. For the first time in history, people of the whole world inform each other about themselves on a vast and mass scale. The arising problem is that of a new humanism so that mankind would no longer be divided into a civilized and uncivilized world. The problem of personality patterns emerges against this background; the African idea of "African Personality" appears side by side with the idea of Homo Faber and Orgman (Organization Man).

In his search of a new self-identity, the modern man is faced with clashing elements. Technological progress works for the unity of mankind, the threat of atomic war gives rise to a community spirit on an international scale. On the other hand, the modern Homo Faber has a growing sense of isolation as did the principal character in the novel under the same title by the Swiss writer Max Frisch.

In Africa technological progress is accompanied by the national idea and various forms of nationalism. In Africa elsewhere rational processes are accompanied by deep and disharmonious irrational and mythmaking processes. This trait is evident in the idea of "African Personality", particularly when "negritude" combined with Africa's messianic mission is emphasized.

COMMUNICATIONS

JADWIGA KOMOROWSKA

TELEVISION IN THE LIFE OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PUPILS

This is a summary of the monograph, entitled *Telewizja w życiu dzieci i młodzieży* (*Television in the Life of Children and Teenagers*) a yet unpublished doctor's dissertation in sociology. The influence of television on elementary school pupils in an industrial town is the subject of this first study on the effect of television on youth in Poland.

The research was conducted in an industrial center in the suburbs of Warsaw with a population of 38,000, the author's place of residence. The author conducted research on 239 children, attending grades 1 to 7 in one elementary school. This group included children who had a television set at home and children who did not have one. Various research methods were employed. The author carried on systematic observations of her three children over a period

of one year in order to formulate the working hypotheses. Children from 17 selected families were the object of methodical observations for one month. Parents and teachers were interviewed on about 164 children and all 239 were given a drawing test on any subject they may choose. With the aid of these drawings the author wished to find out the subjects that could be ascribed to the influence of television.

The social roles of the pupils in the family, at school and in the peer groups, constituted the basic point of reference, both as regards the material obtained and the author's analysis of the data. Employing life-histories and other personal records the author followed F. Znaniecki's and J. Chałasiński's school of sociology.

These are some of the conclusions arrived at in the work. Children devote from 2 to 3 hours a day to television. This has affected certain changes and set limitations on their other occupations. The cinema and radio have suffered the greatest debacle. No change was observed in reading habits. The time devoted to play with other children has been slightly curtailed, but television has added a new context to the peer group's life. Television has cut into the time devoted to play and hobbies pursued at home, less time is devoted to house work (by girls), television has made inroads on the sleeping hours of the 10 and 11 year olds as well as into their leisure time. Noted also was an increased interest in travelling. The television promotes and accelerates independence and the maturing of children in the family and also increased the influence of the child's peer groups on the shaping of his personality.

Children prefer to watch and imitate programs whose theme is play, for they consider television principally as a source of entertainment and a continuation of playtime.

WŁODZIMIERZ KOŁODZIEJCZYK

THE WORLD OF THE FILM AND THE ASPIRATIONS OF YOUTH TO PARTICIPATE IN IT

The subject of the work is cinema as a stimulus to aspirations of youth to participate in "the world of the film". The author employed the method of contents analysis in his study of two kinds of material: 1) the weekly "Film", in its treatment of the subject of the personality, career and profession of the film actor and 2) 303 letters from girls who sent in applications to the contest "Beautiful Girls on the Screen". The contest was organized by the weekly, "Film", and the Employment Bureau of Actors and Extras of the Polish Film Artists.

The author compared the results of the analysis of both materials. The comparison indicated that there was considerable correspondence between the esthetic values of beauty (or perhaps glamor) and the attractions of the world of the film and the points the girls who sent in applications to the film contest stressed in themselves. The author found three personality patterns prevalent among the contestants. The three groups were: 1) those who emphasized points of physical beauty, 2) escapists and 3) dreamers. In the light of the analysis conducted by the author, the world of the film had considerable influence in shaping these personality patterns.

The work is a master's thesis written at the University of Łódź under the supervision of Dr. Antonina Kłoskowska, Docent of Sociology.

ZDZISŁAW IWANICKI

ATTITUDES TOWARD AGRICULTURE AMONG THE YOUNG GENERATION
OF A SUBURBAN AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY

This is a study on jobs considered desirable by the young generation of a suburban agricultural community near Łódź with a population of 2,500 in 1960. The community had a population of 233 between the ages of 18 and 25. Of these 163 came from families living on farms. The author conducted his survey of the last group in the course of the year during which he lived in the community. The author made use of case study method based on participant observation, interviews and life histories. Statistical data were used to give a picture of the economic structure of the village community and of its social stratification.

The author arrived at the following conclusions: the young people feel that farming as the one and only occupation is the lowest in rank as far as social status is concerned, even if it brings a large income. But farming is approved of as an additional source of income if the individual's principal occupation is in the city. All those who are able try to qualify for non-agricultural jobs, but they make every effort to have some member of the family remain on the farm. Individuals who have become emancipated from the farm build their homes here and commute to the city. The study is a master's thesis in sociology, University of Łódź, conducted under the supervision of Professor Józef Chałasiński.

MIECZYŚLAW A. WĘGRZYŃSKI

GOING STEADY AMONG ŁÓDŹ STUDENTS

The present study, a master's thesis in sociology, University of Łódź, was conducted among the boys and girls who live in the University dormitories in Łódź. The following methods were employed in the study: participant observation and focused interviews with students on the subject of going steady and dating. The study gives the case histories of 16 student couples, residents of the dormitories, who were going steady and of 9 girl students whose boy friends do not live in the dormitories. The collected data reveal that finding a steady boy friend or girl friend helps the individual adapt to the new conditions and to establish a defined social status in the university campus. This role of going steady may be observed most specifically among students who have come to the university in a large city from villages or from towns and who feel insecure in the new community and fear that they will lose prestige. Girls and men students, residents of dormitories, go steady in order to satisfy the need for security and companionship. Going steady is becoming an established custom among students, for it gives them a sense of stability. This custom has a salutary effect upon men students. They are more serious about their studies, pay greater attention to their personal appearance and in many cases give up drinking.

This study does not lend support to the opinion that students are cynical in the affairs of sex. Students follow the current fad and adopt a cynical pose. But the pose is an act put on to protect the student from losing face in the event that he is not a social success or that his ambitions and desires are not understood. He is then able to clinch every failure with the argument, "Hang it all, I didn't really try". In the majority of cases, going steady is not considered

a form which leads to marriage. As a rule, the steady boy friend or girl friend are not considered as possible marriage partners and their personality is not evaluated from the point of view of marriage. Consequently, a crisis occurs when one of the sides begins to think of marriage. The appearance of new marriage criteria of evaluation effect a rift in the relationship. The crisis may lead to marriage or a complete break.

SOCIOLOGY IN POLAND

POLISH SOCIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

The Polish Sociological Association continued in 1962 the program of lectures and research initiated in 1957. The Association's four chapters in Warsaw, Poznań, Łódź and Lublin were active throughout this period. As of December 31, 1962, the Association had 300 members. A chapter is now being organized in Cracow. Two issues of "The Polish Sociological Bulletin", published by the Association, appeared in 1962: the January—June 1962 and the July—December 1962 issue.

A general meeting of the Polish Sociological Association was held in the first quarter of 1963 which elected three new members to the Board of Administration to succeed three officers, who according to the provisions of the statute, were retired. The officers of the Board of Administration are: Chairman — Professor Stanisław Ossowski (University of Warsaw), Deputy Chairman — Professor Stefan Nowakowski (University of Warsaw), Secretary — Docent¹ Maria Bielińska-Hirszowicz (University of Łódź), Treasurer — Mgr.² Zygmunt Pióro (Warsaw); Members — Professor Nina Assorodobraj (University of Warsaw), Docent Zygmunt Bauman (University of Warsaw), Professor Józef Chałasiński (Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw), Docent Antonina Kłoskowska (University of Łódź), Docent Jan Lutyński (University of Łódź), Docent Władysław Markiewicz (University of Poznań), Professor Paweł Rybicki (Jagellonian University, Cracow), Professor Jan Szczepański (University of Łódź), Docent Janusz Ziółkowski (University of Poznań).

RESEARCH CENTRE OF INDUSTRIALIZED REGIONS

The Committee for Research of Industrialized Regions, instituted by the Presidium of the Polish Academy of Sciences on October 24, 1961, is now in its second year of activity. The principal task of the Committee is to plan and co-ordinate research projects on the economical, social and cultural changes that take place in regions where large industries are being built (Płock, Puławy, Tarnobrzeg and others). The chairman of the Committee is Dr. Stefan Ignar, professor of rural economy and deputy prime minister.

The Research Committee supervises the work of the Research Centre of Industrialized Regions, organized in Department I, Polish Academy of Sciences. The director of the Research Centre is Dr. Władysław Misiuna. The research work of the Centre is guided by the principle of co-operation between economists and sociologists. Economists and sociologists are members of the Scientific Council of the Research Centre.

¹ Docent is the first title in the rank of professor in Poland. The next in rank is Professor Extraordinary and the highest Professor Ordinary.

² The Polish equivalent of Master of Arts or Sciences.

RESEARCH CENTRE FOR SOCIAL AND CULTURAL PROBLEMS OF AFRICA

Professor Józef Chałasiński, member of the Polish Academy of Sciences, professor of sociology and head of the Centre, gave an interview to the Łódź daily, "Dziennik Łódzki" (Dec. 9—10, 1962) and the Polish Radio on the program of the Research Centre for Social and Cultural Problems of Africa, established by the Presidium of the Polish Academy of Sciences, November 1, 1962.

"The Centre's research program covers a wide scope of interests", Professor Chałasiński explained, "ranging from the emergence and development of modern social, political, economic and educational institutions, to the processes of urbanization and industrialization, and in this setting the forming of national cultures in African countries. Not many years ago Africa constituted a separate subject for ethnographers who were interested in primitive societies. To the modern sociologist, the emerging new and independent Africa is not a separate problem, but a fragment of a general issue. Namely, the coming of a new world, without any divisions in ruling and dependent nations, but one for the whole of mankind. The problems of Africa are the problems of the whole contemporary world and the problems of the contemporary world are the problems of Africa. This is the underlying principle of the Centre's program".

In connection with the appearance of Professor Chałasiński's new work *Kultura amerykańska — Formowanie się kultury narodowej w U.S.A. (American Culture — The Shaping of a National Culture in the U.S.A.)*, the interview touched upon the author's transference from American to African problems.

"There's nothing strange in that", Professor Chałasiński explained, "if we consider the great importance that mutual understanding, the common values and aims of people of different cultures, nations and continents carry in our present age. It is in America during my last visit there in 1958", Professor Chałasiński said, "that my interest in Africa was aroused".

Professor Chałasiński's interest in Africa began with the Afro-American writers. At present his interests are centred upon the rise of national writings — history, fiction, journalism, poetry — in African countries south of the Sahara and on the development of schools — ranging from elementary schools to schools of higher education — as a system of institutions of national, supranational and world culture.

Polish Sociological Review prepared the ground for the establishment of the Centre by devoting a great deal of space to African problems. The beginning was made with vol. XV/1, 1961, where the following articles were published: Jan Czekanowski, *The Feudal Pastoral Kingdoms of Interlacustrine Africa*; Józef Chałasiński, *The African Intelligentsia and the Birth of Nationalism in Black Africa* and Andrzej Zajązkowski, *The Ashanti Tribe in a Period of Transition*.

Dr. Andrzej Zajązkowski, docent of sociology and now senior research worker of the Centre took part in the First International Congress of Africanists held in Accra, Ghana, in December 1962. From Ghana, Dr. Zajązkowski travelled to several other African countries in order to establish contact with African research centres in sociology and other social sciences.

The address of the Centre: Pracownia Zagadnień Afryki PAN, Warszawa, ul. Nowy Świat 72, Pałac Staszica, Poland.

THE UNIVERSITY OF ŁÓDŹ CONFERS MASTERS DEGREES IN SOCIOLOGY

The first group of students, who began their studies in the department of sociology which was reopened, after an interval of 6 years, at the University of Łódź in 1957/58, received their masters degrees in the academic year of 1961/62. Ten of the theses were devoted to social problems of the Łódź area and district. The problems dealt with were the sociology of work and profession, sociology of education and social education, problems of social disorganization, sociology of youth and mass culture. Summaries of the theses by Iwanicki, Kołodziejczyk and Węgrzynowski are given in the section of reports.

Despite the diversity of subjects and methods, the trait common to all the papers was the students' concentration on empirical material and problems of a practical nature. Consultant professors drew the students' attention to the proper use of Polish and foreign literature on the subject so that the student should have a general knowledge of the problem in his chosen branch of sociology and the ability to relate the usually narrow field of phenomena to the broader framework of theoretical problems. But the fundamental and essential part of the papers was not devoted to the description of the literature. It was devoted to the analysis of the empirical material. The data were obtained from documents, first hand observation, free and focused interviews, questionnaires and contents analysis. Some of the students employed the statistical method, others made qualitative analyses. A major part of the works will constitute a point of departure for further research in an allied field, conducted in the same area.

THE SECOND STUDENTS SYMPOSIUM OF SOCIOLOGY

The Second Student Symposium of Sociology, devoted to the subject "Problems of Contemporary Polish Sociology", was held from September 6 to 19, 1962, at Iwonicz-Zdrój. The object of the symposium was to review the achievements of sociological research in Poland in the postwar period; give a critical analysis of these achievements and to attempt to define the tendencies developing in contemporary Polish sociology; compare on the one hand what was demanded and expected of sociology and sociologists in the postwar years and on the other the trends of research and achievements in the field of sociology in this period; define the various scientific orientations; confront the concept of the ideal sociologist with the curriculum and practical demands.

The symposium was attended by almost 50 students of sociology of the universities of Warsaw, Łódź, the Jagellonian University, the Higher School of Social Studies and the Catholic University of Lublin.

The discussion which followed the reading of the papers centered about the problem of professional specialization. The idea of "a sociologist in each factory" was attacked in the discussion on the sociology of work. Instead of it, it was proposed that research groups composed of sociologists, psychologists and economists should be organized to conduct research in the sociology of work and industry.

PRIZE CONTESTS FOR LIFE RECORDS

Life Record of an Immigrant, which constituted the third volume of the first printing of *The Polish Peasant in Europe and America*, by W. L. Thomas and F. Znaniecki, published in 1919, introduced life records to sociological

research as a fundamental material for studying social personalities in their attitudes toward cultural values. This example gave rise to contests for life records in Poland which were then issued in a large number of publications. The first contest for a life record of a worker was organized by the Institute of Sociology in Poznań, headed by Florian Znaniecki. The contest produced a life record of Władysław Berkan, called *Życiorys własny (My Autobiography)* with a foreword by F. Znaniecki (Poznań 1923) and Jakub Wojciechowski's *Życiorys własny robotnika (An Autobiography of a Worker)*, edited by J. Chałasiński (Poznań 1930). J. Chałasiński based his sociological study *Drogi awansu społecznego robotnika (The Worker's Roads to Social Advance)*, published in Poznań in 1931, on the life records submitted to this contest.

The four volume monograph by Józef Chałasiński, entitled *Młode pokolenie chłopów (The Young Generation of Peasants)*, with a foreword by Florian Znaniecki (Warsaw 1938) was based on the material submitted to the contest for the life record of rural youth.*

In the years between the two world wars, contests were also organized by the Institute of Social Economy, headed by Ludwik Krzywicki. These contests resulted in the following publications: *Pamiętniki bezrobotnych (Memoirs of the Unemployed)*, Warsaw 1933; *Pamiętniki chłopów (Memoirs of Peasants)*, Warsaw 1935 and 1936; and two volumes published in 1939, called *Pamiętniki emigrantów (Memoirs of Emigrants)*.

The contests for a life record of a rural social leader and for a life record of a doctor yielded a number of other publications.

Of the series of contests organized after the World War II, we shall mention here the contests for a life record of a miner and for a life record of emigrant. *Życiorysy górników (The Life Records of Miners)*, with a sociological interpretation by Józef Chałasiński, (Katowice 1949), was the product of the first contest, and *Pamiętniki emigrantów (Memoirs of Emigrants)*, Warsaw 1960, of the second.

Several contests for life records have been announced in recent years. A contest for life records of people of rural origin was organized in 1961 ("Przeгляд Socjologiczny", Vol. XVI/2, 1962). The contest yielded 5,475 life records. The material submitted is now being analyzed by a group of sociologists. Józef Chałasiński is in charge of this work.

A different kind of contest was organized by the Warsaw daily, "Życie Warszawy", under the title *Jaka jesteś rodzino? (What Kind of Family are You?)*, which called for an autobiographical description of one's family. 617 family biographies were submitted. The collected material is now being analyzed by Dr. Antonina Kłoskowska, docent of Sociology at the University of Łódź. Two other contents were organized by periodicals. The first, *Tydzień mojego życia (A Week in my Life)*, organized in 1961 by the "Tygodnik Powszechny", yielded 428 autobiographical accounts and diaries covering seven days in life; the second contest, called *Jeden miesiąc mojego życia (A Month in My Life)*, was organized by the weekly, "Tygodnik Kulturalny", and yielded 1992 life records and diaries covering a month in life.

* Theodore Abel writes on this work in his article *The Nature and Use of Biograms* ("The American Journal of Sociology", Vol. LIII, No. 2, September 1947). As to the terms used Abel writes: "The term «autobiography» should be reserved exclusively for life-stories written on the initiative of the author and intended as literary or historical contributions. For the new type of life-story, written on request and intended as research data. I propose the term «biogram»".

The weekly, "Tygodnik Powszechny" (Cracow, September 23, 1962) organized a contest for an autobiographic account of marriage, called *The Two of Us*, and received 280 records. The weekly, "Życie Literackie" (Cracow, November 18, 1962), organized a contest for a life record of the experiences of a teacher, called *The School and I* and received 216 records.

The contest for life records of engineers, organized in 1962 by the Warsaw weekly "Polityka" yielded 200 life records.

BOOK NOTES

Landau L., *KRONIKA LAT WOJNY I OKUPACJI* (The Chronicle of the Years of War and Occupation) Warszawa 1962—1963 Państwowe Wydawnictwo Naukowe, Vol. I: pp. XXIII, 820; Vol. II: pp. 562; Vol. III: pp. 802.

It is a remarkable human document, a rare historical source of peculiar sociological significance.

The Chronicle of the Years of War and Occupation covers the period from September 1939 till the end of February 1944. The first volume — from September 1939 to November 15, 1940; the second volume — from December 1, 1942 to June 30, 1943. The third volume will include the period from July 1, 1943 to February 28, 1944. Part of the *Chronicle*, covering the period from November 16, 1940 to the end of November 1942, buried in the grounds of the Free Polish University in Warsaw, has never been recovered.

The author of the *Chronicle*, a distinguished Polish social scientist of Jewish descent, spent the whole war in Warsaw and at Włochy a suburban town. Born in 1901, he was 38 when in the last days of September 1939 he decided to keep a diary. In the fifteen years of his brilliant professional career in social sciences before the war he combined in his studies the laborious registering of economic facts and statistical data with a wider sociological frame of reference.

Dr. Witold Kula, professor of history at the University of Warsaw, writes in his Foreword to this *Chronicle*: "The *Chronicle* has some extremely valuable passages in which it records the mood of the population, particularly in Warsaw. He describes their feelings about a wide range of issues: the inter-war period and its political regime, Sikorski and the London Government, the Western Allies, the U.S.S.R., life under the Nazis' occupation, etc. [...] In these matters the *Chronicle* is also the most important, if not the only source".

"Landau, chronicling the life around him, found himself, in a certain respect, in a situation close to that of the historian studying some distant epoch. The number of available sources of information about life in the «General Gouvernement» was extremely limited, their accuracy highly suspect, and the chances of collecting new materials pitifully meagre. His analysis of the accuracy of his material and its intensive interpretation was overpowering. His penetrating breakdown of the official publications of the German authorities enabled Landau to expose many a deliberate lie or reveal a truth that they were trying to conceal. Those who knew Landau in those days will never forget the impression they received from numerous conversations and discussions about the situation; the scientific critical method with which he was equipped succeeded putting to rout the Goliath of falsehoods of German propaganda. In these passages the *Chronicle* is a monument to the triumph of the free mind".

Landau continued his diary until his arrest. Arrested on February 29, 1944, he never came back.