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Political

State of Mind of Polish railway personnel

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1. Old railwaymen are opposed to the employment of women as traffic controllers (DYZURNI RUCHU) and locomotive drivers, since experience during the past few months has shown that they cause many accidents which could be easily avoided.
2. Old locomotive drivers are complaining of the fact that members of ZMP (Association of Polish Youth) receive quicker promotion than pre-war personnel. As one of them said:

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"After 17 years' work as stoker and driver's mate I was promoted to the post of locomotive driver. Now a youngster is promoted to driving long-distance trains after a mere 5 year's service. No wonder they seize up locomotives and stop between stations. Before the war there were at most four such accidents in a year - now there were 17 such cases in WARSAW and 4 in CIECHANOW during July alone. To-day again a ZMP team has caused their locomotive to seize up and they got stuck on the way. The fines will cost the driver 200 zlote, his mate 150 zl., and the stoker 100 zlote. They will have to work for a month without pay".
3. Railwaymen are very dissatisfied with the great discrepancies in rates of pay. To quote:

"Those who were getting 340 zlote a month have had a cut of 60 zl. a month, while those who have over 1,000 zl. a month have received a rise. Till now they had to eat dry bread and black coffee - what on earth will they eat now?"
4. A Soviet Dance-and-Song Team organized concerts for railwaymen in WARSAW and SZCZECIN. During the performances both in WARSAW and SZCZECIN the team was pelted with tomatoes and rotten fruit so that further performances had to be abandoned.

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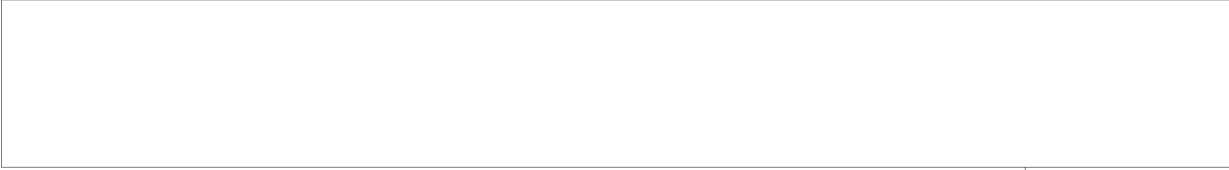


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