

19 January 1952

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POLAND

COMMUNIST PARTY

The tradition of having a Christmas tree has been supplanted this year in Poland by the new institution of a "New Year Tree" with no religious connections, it is reported directly from that country.

Playing an important role in the campaign for popularizing the "New Year Tree" idea has been the Society of Friends of Children, commonly known as the "TPD" (Towarzystwo Przyjaciół Dzieci.) It has been organizing mass celebrations of the "New Year Tree."

The "TPD" reportedly represents the educational policy of the Communist Party in Poland and with the backing of the government is now running an ever-increasing number of schools and educational institutions. In all these schools religious classes were completely eliminated.

The Society now has 469 schools, 356 kindergartens and 20 so-called "children's homes." Ten new "TPD" kindergartens are to be opened in WARSAW in the very near future; this will increase the number of kindergartens in the Polish capital to a total of 28.

The chairman of this anti-religious Communist organization, the report reveals, is Mme. KLUSZYNSKA Dorota, an ardent Communist Party activist.

DATE OF OBSERVATION: December 1951

EVAL. COMMENT: Source : fairly reliable  
Information: correct as to the part played by the TPD. The number of schools and kindergartens run by the TPD is constantly increasing. KLUSZYNSKA ex left Socialist now an ardent Communist position confirmed by evidence.