

Church-State Relations

The unpublished Pastoral Letter issued by Polish bishops at Jasna Gora, Czestochowa, September 4 has been released by the Inter-Catholic Press Agency in Vienna and reprinted by the Dziennik Polski i Dziennik Zolnierza, October 12. It will be recalled that this letter was the subject of numerous reports by foreign correspondents accredited in Poland (please see Situation Reports, September 22 and 26, October 4, 6, 7 and 10). One of the reports stated that the Pastoral Letter defends the faith and freedom of conscience threatened in Poland, contests the (regime) accusation of backwardness of the Church and reiterates the right of the Church to educate the young in Christian faith. It will be pouched tomorrow.

Gomulka

His stopover in Denmark seems calculated to make possible a hero's welcome in Poland this afternoon, when large masses of workers and employees may be mobilized to greet him.

Investment Policy

Zycie Gospodarcze carries a note on investments which implicitly criticizes their decline in the building industry since autumn 1959. This is the nearest thing to the overt criticism of decisions taken at the 3rd Plenum and will be pouched soonest.

In its effort to exert an influence on economic policy-making by the communist regime, Zycie Gospodarcze has, of late, relied on the device of printing readers' letters. Some of these contain acute questions as this: You write that Poland sends economic aid to the less developed members of the Socialist Camp. Will you please state which socialist country aids Poland?

Zycie Gospodarcze provided a lame answer to this question, advertently or inadvertently. It recalled the old brown coal agreement with East Germany and the Czechoslovak aid in developing Polish sulphur deposits. The latter item would seem to indicate that the recent Warsaw talks between the two government and party representatives have not yielded concrete results (cf. Situation Report, September 12).

German-Polish Relations

RFE Berlin bureau has supplied a list of commodities and figures on the trade between West Berlin and Poland. The list does not include the important trading item coal. The three points worth making in this connection: (a) trade with West

Berlin is highly advantageous to Poland because she trades food staples and raw materials for hard currency and highly desirable engineering goods, (b) East Germany is either unable or unwilling to supply West Berlin with these Polish commodities, and (c) the East German decision to impede this trade appears to be motivated by political considerations since only small amounts of construction materials are involved (competition in these materials between Poland and East Germany is insignificant). The list of traded goods is generally representative of the overall West German trade with Poland except for the engineering goods because these are produced by industry concentrated in West Berlin.

Pouched

(1) Przegląd Kulturalny (September 6), Cz. Bobrowski, an astute and sharp criticism of the Five Year Plan 1961-65 by an economist formerly credited with revisionist sympathies which promises to extend over several installments which we will translate; (2) Nowe Drogi (October 1960), Z. Zandrowski on the difficulties encountered by the regime in its bid to exert control over the academic and intellectual life of the universities; (3) Nowe Drogi (October 1960), Z. Zakrzewska lamenting on the inadequate, in her view, participation of youth in the regime-controlled scouting movement; (4) Slowe Powszeckne (October 6), "i" provided facts and figures on the development of mechanization through the aid of the Agricultural Development Fund.

Erratum: Yesterday's Situation Report contains a garbled sentence. The fourth sentence under sub-heading U.S. Relations should read: Furthermore, in the Radio Warsaw version of the CBC interview, Gomulka stated that Mr. Herter employed the same arguments used by Mr. McMillan on the danger of West German militarism.