ANNEX 1584.

C.28.1936.VII.

FREE CITY OF DANZIG.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER[1] OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AT DANZIG FOR THE YEAR 1935.

LETTER, DATED JANUARY 8TH, 1936, FROM THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL.

Danzig, January 8th, 1936.

I have the honour to enclose herewith my annual report on affairs relating to the Free City of Danzig for the year 1935.

I shall be glad if you will be good enough to circulate it for the information of the Council and at the same time I draw your attention to the fact that the document is associated with my letter of December 30th forwarding the report of the Senate of the Free City to the Council concerning the carrying out of the latter's recommendations.[2]

(Signed) Sean LESTER,
High Commissioner

Annual Report of the High Commissioner for the Year 1935.

The year 1935 was one of considerable difficulty and anxiety in connection with the affairs of the Free City of Danzig. On the one hand, the relations between Danzig and Poland have, on the whole, been satisfactory but, for a period between June and August, the relationship became strained as a consequence of the decisions taken in connection with the devaluation of the Danzig currency This matter will be dealt with later. I am happy to note, however, that a spirit of compromise eventually prevailed and the dispute, which at one time was very critical, was settled without being referred to the representative of the League of Nations. Although I have not been called upon to take any official action, I have continued throughout the year in whatever way was open to me to encourage the maintenance of good Polish-Danzig relations.

Other aspects of the public affairs of Danzig have been, however, much less satisfactory The year has seen an intense development of the policy to create a National-Socialist community *de facto*. The exhortations of the Council at each of its three sessions and my unintermittent efforts have not prevented the application of an anti-constitutional policy in a steadily increasing degree, which has now culminated in the Senate's report as to the execution of formal recommendations made by the Council of the League.

Elections.

Inspired to some extent by certain external events, and by the results of partial local elections, the leaders of the National-Socialist Party decided last February that the time had come for a new Volkstag election. This Party had been in power for nearly two years with a small but absolute majority and, the Volkstag having passed a Full Powers Law (June 24th, 1933), the Senate had been governing by the issue of decree-laws, without any embarrassment from the rare meetings of the Volkstag. It was apparently felt, however, that the time had come when it would be possible to secure a two-thirds majority in order, *inter alia*, to be able to propose amendments to the Constitution, and to demonstrate to the League of Nations that the great majority of the people were not in favour of petitions being brought to the League of Nations by citizens in connection with the Constitution. The events of this election and its results were substantially dealt with in my special report presented to the May session (document C.205. 1935.VII).[3]

Following a very active campaign and with the participation of some of the principal Cabinet Ministers and other leaders of the German Reich, the National-Socialist Party polled nearly 59% of the votes. On November 14th, the High Court of Danzig, in a joint appeal by all the Opposition parties, who sought to have the elections annulled, decided that, because of unconstitutional measures adopted to aid the National-Socialist Party the votes given to this Party

[1] For the last annual report of the High Commissioner, see documents C.42 and 42(a).1935.VII.
[2] See Annex 1582, page 174.
[3] See *Official Journal*, June 1935, page 819.

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should be reduced by 10% in the rural districts and 3% in the municipal areas. In the final results, therefore, the National-Socialist Party gained an increase in their representation of one seat with about 57 3% of the votes polled (128,619 out of 224,442 votes).

It should be further noted that this election was held under conditions affected by laws subsequently established by the Council to be unconstitutional. The validity of these laws was actually pending before the Council when elections were decided upon.[1]

The manifestation of the existence in Danzig of a very large minority opposed to the National-Socialist Party's policy did not check the efforts to apply to a still greater extent the principles of National Socialism.

Incidentally a petition that the elections should be declared invalid has been presented by the minority [2]

Liberty of the Press.

The Council has since January 1934 clearly shown that the freedom of the Press was regarded as one of the most important and essential principles of the Constitution, and, during 1935, the number of seizures and suppressions, sometimes for long periods, appeared to me to a very grave extent to infringe the principle of the free expression of opinion. I can well appreciate that a Government might be justified in punitive measures against certain forms of Press agitation, but, in many of these cases, the Senate's idea of what constituted reasonable criticism in the Press seems to have been based upon National-Socialist principles rather than upon those laid down in the Constitution. My representations to the Government on this subject have, I regret to say ceased to be effective.

In September, [3] the Council of the League considered some of these Press questions, and in the only one calling for decision found that the Senate had acted unconstitutionally Again an appeal was made by the Council of the League for the application of the constitutional principle. Within the first few weeks following that meeting, the *Danziger Volksstimme* (Social Democrat), the only daily Opposition newspaper, was suppressed (on October 11th) for a month on the allegation that it had misrepresented the facts in a comparative table showing the amount of assistance given to the unemployed under the present regime and formerly The bi-weekly organ of the Centre (Catholic) Party the *Volkszeitung*, was seized six times between October 3rd and December 12th. On December 13th, an order was given suppressing it for four months. The *Danziger Echo*, a small Jewish weekly sheet, was seized once, on October 19th. The *Nationale Zeitung*, a new weekly paper issued in the interests of the German National Party, was seized twice, on its first appearance on November 1st and again on November 15th, and was finally suppressed on November 26th for five months. Other small sheets were accorded similar treament. A list of suppressions during the whole year would be proportionately imposing. Action is taken in these cases in the name of the Police President and appeal is only possible to the Senate itself, a political and non-judicial body

Without taking the position that all these suppressions were equally unjustified, the situation of the public Press in Danzig in relation to its reasonable constitutional rights can only be described as entirely unsatisfactory The authorities would appear to have been guided more by what is legally possible in a National-Socialist State than by what is legally right in a community governed by a Constitution like that of Danzig.

The Parliament.

The Volkstag, or Popular Assembly has met on seven occasions during the year. The meetings (usually lasting about an hour) did not give much evidence of a desire to use the Parliament as a means for ascertaining public opinion. The principal event at each meeting was as a rule a statement of Government policy and intentions. The time allotted to the Opposition parties, representing not very much less than half the population, would in any ordinary Parliament be regarded as pitifully inadequate. The arrangement made was invariably that the parties should have minutes allotted to them in proportion to their strength. This usually meant that, in a Parliamentary sitting, the Opposition parties' time allowance was: Social-Democrat Party, 5 minutes; Centre Party 4 minutes; German National, Polish and Communist groups, each 1 minute.

On April 30th, the Volkstag adopted new rules of procedure, which included a provision that a deputy who has received no authorisation to absent himself, and who does not assist at a meeting of the Assembly or who abstains from taking part in a nominal vote, is excluded from the Assembly for a period of ten meetings. In practice, the exclusion of a deputy from Parliamentary work for ten meetings means that, as the Volkstag meets rarely, the deputy in question would be unable to exercise his mandate for a period of possibly over a year.

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[1] See *Official Journal*, June 1935, page 648.
[2] See page 182.
[3] See *Official Journal*, November 1935, page 1189.

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Restrictions were also imposed upon the deputies by the application of the power given to a Committee to which must be submitted Parliamentary questions prior to the sitting. At the last meeting, for example, the Opposition parties had put down twenty questions, a number of them dealing with matters of considerable public importance. The National-Socialist majority on the Committee, however, decided that not one of these was permissible, on the extraordinary ground that they would disturb the even tenor of Parliamentary life!

Deputies are, under the law immune from arrest, unless in certain special circumstances, and complaints have been made during the year that the deputies arrested from time to time have not always benefited by this provision. One deputy was arrested in December as he left my office and was taken to police headquarters, where he was searched and subsequently released.

Workers' Organisations.

In August this year, the General Association of Workers *(Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband)*, which had been suppressed in 1934 and had appealed to the local courts, obtained a verdict in its favour and was allowed for a short time to resume its activities. This trade union published a small weekly sheet called *Die Arbeit*, and on two occasions in November this newspaper was seized by the police. Unlike other cases of newspaper suppressions, it was possible in this case to appeal to the courts, which found that the Government's action had been illegal. On December 7th, however, the Police President announced that the entire organisation would be immediately abolished, because of the articles which had appeared in *Die Arbeit* and which represented an agitation by the trade union (1) against the sending of unemployed workers to Germany and (2) demanding new elections to works' committees *(Vertrauensräte)*. This decision to abolish the only non-National-Socialist Trade Union is, of course, a very grave step. I understand that action will be taken in a local court, but I have received a memorandum from the three principal Opposition parties, which I attach for the information of the Council (Appendix II), together with the text of the decision of the Police President (Appendix I). It will be seen that there is apprehension on the part of the organisation that the legal procedure will be unnecessarily and unduly protracted, as they assert was done in connection with their suppression a year ago, and that, if the authorities should adopt this method, even though the organisation should ultimately obtain a favourable decision, it would have serious consequences on its normal development.

M. Albert Forster

The situation in Danzig cannot be fully understood without considering the position of M. Albert Forster, the District Leader for Danzig of the National-Socialist Party M. Forster is not a Danzig citizen, he is a German national. Furthermore, he is a Deputy of the German Reichstag and holds high official positions (*e.g.*, Prussian Counsellor of State) in the German Government service. He appears to have established himself here about five years ago. I cannot say if the Danzig Party had any share in his selection or whether he was nominated from outside. It is to be noted that there is a very close relationship between the National-Socialist Party in Germany and that in Danzig, the latter being regarded, apparently as a branch of the former. (I do not discuss M. Forster's position as it may be affected by the relations between the National-Socialist Party in Germany and the German State.)

The National-Socialist Party is organised on the principles of leadership and obedience and discipline, and from M. Forster's own declarations it seems that he gives obedience to his superior chiefs and demands equal obedience from all members of his Party in Danzig. The importance of this principle as applied in connection with Danzig affairs will be appreciated. Furthermore, an oath is taken by members of the National-Socialist Party of loyalty and obedience to the head of the movement in Germany

M. Forster is a young man and an extremely enthusiastic, not to say fanatical, National Socialist, who believes that all people of German race or culture must also be National Socialists and, whatever the circumstances, should give unquestioned obedience to the Leader of his Party in Germany

In October 1934, in view of rumours as to a conflict between M. Forster and the then President of the Senate, Dr. Rauschning, I addressed a letter to the Senate asking if it were true that M. Forster had presented a series of demands to the head of the Government, which as were follows:

(1) Calling for the suppression for a long period of the Opposition newspapers in Danzig, the organs of the Social-Democrat Party of the Centre Party and of the Jewish population,

(2) That the Opposition parties and their organisations should be dissolved,

(3) That the Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband, recently declared a legal organ by the High Court of Danzig, should be suppressed,

(4) The imprisonment of Catholic priests against whom the National-Socialist Party had evidence.

I took the same occasion to enquire if the Government's relations with M. Forster had in any way changed from a declaration made to the High Commissioner in June 1933, which was to the effect that M. Forster exercised no influence whatever upon the conduct of the Government. M. Greiser, who was then Acting President, replied that the governing principle of the Government's

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declaration in 1933 remained unchanged. I attach the text of these letters as Appendices III and IV

I am afraid, however, that the situation is not normal. It must be borne in mind that each member of the Government is a member of the Party and that the President of the Senate himself holds a position in the Party (Substitute District Leader) subordinate to that of M. Forster. Furthermore, it would appear from M. Forster's own declarations that it is not his conception of his position, and the President of the Senate in his public speech on November 27th, in explaining the position of members of the Government, said:

> " We National Socialists go when we are told and stay when we are told. We obey only our leaders."

(President Greiser was here apparently referring to rumours of his intended resignation.)

M. Forster and State Officials.

Even in his public speeches, M. Forster has not refrained from giving evidence that he can and does interfere in the State administration in matters supposed to be exclusively the concern of the Government. To take an example: On March 11th, 1935, M. Forster addressed a meeting of State officials in a Government building. He there declared that any State official who did not vote for the National-Socialist Party would be dismissed from his post. Members of the Government were present on the occasion and no objection was made then or at any time subsequently It is interesting to note that the High Court, in considering the election appeal, recently found that this speech was an unconstitutional attempt to influence voting. The Court declared: " It can make no difference if the unconstitutional influence is exercised by a superior officer or by a personality who, like the Gauleiter, has influence over the superior officers " M. Forster has frequently addressed gatherings of State officials in State buildings.

M. Forster, in his public speeches, claims to be working for the policy of Herr Adolf Hitler, Leader of the National-Socialist Party President and Chancellor of the German Reich. His influence in Danzig is based on that assertion.

One of his most recent declarations is a New Year's message (December 31st, 1935) as follows:

> " I wish all Danzigers in the New Year good courage and a firm belief in Adolf Hitler. So will we successfully overcome all the difficulties that 1936 may bring."

I find it extremely difficult to believe, however, that the impression given of representing Herr Hitler is well founded. For example, M. Forster is reported in his own newspaper (*Vorposten*, November 16th, 1935), in a public speech on November 16th, to have made the following declarations in the presence of President Greiser and other Senators:

> " Our adversaries, on the other hand, have no uniform political aim. They are only united in their campaign against us. They are only united in weakening Germany and hindering the Führer's work.
>
> " We National Socialists represent a movement which, from its very foundation, has taken the fight for Germany on to its own shoulders. No institution in the world can hinder us in our struggle. When cowards and pacifists run to the judge and try to bring us down, when they fight against their own German brothers, I can only say that I wish these party representatives would come and see me face to face; we should then learn if the truth is on their side.
>
> " People make a great mistake if they think we would ever crawl before any institution in the world. During our period of struggle we displayed no fear, and no chicanery will disturb our confidence. The more our opponents attempt to put spokes in our wheels, the more determined and extreme we shall become. Those who think we are getting weary make a big mistake !
>
> " Our purpose remains unchanged. to work for a great and powerful Germany. A day will come, my friends—we shall take good care of that—when all these fellows who dare to oppose us will be flung into a concentration camp, which is where they belong.
>
> " Our task is to pay Adolf Hitler the debt of gratitude which we owe him with our efforts and our lives. Sternly and fanatically as in our early days of struggle, must we combat all those whose activities are aimed in the last resort at ruining Germany Soon men from the Reich will come to help us and tell us of the Führer's work, in order to give us here outside the frontiers new strength and new confidence in our struggle.
>
> " We are firmly resolved not to give in; on the contrary, we shall continue to attack, in order to show the Führer our gratitude for his work and for the splendid ideal

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he has set before us. We must always remember that the Führer gave us back Germany! "

After the loud applause aroused by the Gauleiter's concluding words had died down, Kreisleiter Boeck (a member of the Government) thanked the Gauleiter, who was well acquainted with the Führer's thoughts and plans and knew the path which we had to follow Here in the Kreis of Danzig City where the Reds have been in power in many parts of the town and in the suburbs, the campaign against un-German elements is particularly severe, but we shall press forward unshaken to victory! [1]

A year ago, I referred to the resignation of President Rauschning and confined my remarks strictly to the official version of this incident. President Rauschning has since retired from public life, except for an intervention during the closing days of the election campaign. On this occasion, feeling himself insulted by remarks made against him by a speaker from the German Reich and by M. Forster at an election meeting, Dr. Rauschning issued an "open letter" addressed to M. Forster. This document is circulated as an annex [2] to document C.19.1936.VII (petition relating to the elections), and another annex [3] to the same document is a copy of a letter from Dr. Rauschning to the President of the Volkstag on the occasion of his resignation.

From these two documents, it will be seen that the ex-President of the Senate declares he was compelled by M. Forster to resign his position as head of the Government, ostensibly on the alleged grounds of ill-health, but in fact because of a conflict of policy between him and M. Forster.

An extract from a circular letter addressed by M. Forster to his subordinates in Danzig on June 28th, 1934, the authenticity of which has not been questioned, was annexed to document C.577.1934.VII.[4] The views expressed in this document with regard to Catholic priests, the various Opposition parties and non-National-Socialist elements can hardly be said to be reassuring,

M. Forster, in a signed article in the *Vorposten*, on December 31st, 1935, declared.

> " We cannot suffer any other flag than that of the new Germany to be again displayed in German Danzig. He who insults this flag and raises his hand against it insults Germany and her Führer, and that we can never tolerate."

The position of this German personality in Danzig has been mentioned in a report by my predecessor and in my last annual report was also referred to *en passant*. I have on this occasion dealt with him in some additional detail, in view of the position created by the public speech of President Greiser and in view of M. Forster's own activities during the year. It seemed to me that the time has come when the Council should be more fully informed.

Police and Political Partisanship.

Party feeling in Danzig has been regrettably bitter during the year, and the leader of one party has several times been publicly assaulted in the streets. On the last occasion, this followed immediately on a public announcement that the Police President had withdrawn his permit to carry a weapon, and the attack took place outside the door of police headquarters. There was some recrudescence towards the end of the year of the attacks on citizens who failed to salute the National-Socialist flag, and violence which occurred during the elections was considered by the High Court to be one of the factors leading to their decisions.

In my last annual report, I drew attention to the growing lack of confidence in the non-National-Socialist section of the population as to the equal treatment of all citizens by the police.

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[1] Another version of M. Forster's statement, as reported in the *Danziger Volksstimme* (Social Democratic), is as follows:

> " With fanatical faith in the Führer's ideal, we shall hold fast to the power which we have gained at the cost of such great sacrifices. If you want to fight, we are ready. But let me tell you that we can also fight with sharper weapons than in the last year and a half. I know already that we shall be winners in this fight. I know that here too in Danzig the day of reckoning will come, when they will all have to answer for their actions, if they have not preferred to leave Danzig. But as certainly as this day will come, so certainly will these gentlemen find themselves in a concentration camp. The greater the pressure exercised upon us, the greater will be our faith and our warlike ardour. These gentlemen now want to ruin the unity we have won so hardly. They now run to the judge and complain against us, and send petitions to the League of Nations. We see to-day in Africa that it is the strong who win and the weak who lose. And I am firmly convinced that here too in Danzig, we shall one day win as our Führer has won in Germany. I am among the few who are intimately acquainted with the Führer's thoughts and I know his unshakable confidence in Danzig. Our sole duty is in our turn to have unshakable faith in the Führer and to remain true to him. We must be mindful of the oath we have sworn to this banner and to him who bears it. We owe him this fidelity."

[2] See page 197.
[3] See page 193.
[4] See *Official Journal*, June 1935, page 761.

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It would seem that this lack of confidence, which has, if anything, increased, is to a great extent due to a conviction that in many cases the police are not encouraged to take action equally against members of all political parties who offend the law. Whatever the justification, it is deplorable that such a feeling as this should be so widespread. Equal treatment in accordance with the law is one of the foundations of every State and, although allowances must be made for party feeling as one of the causes of this lack of confidence in the police, one cannot leave out of consideration the effects of the National-Socialist political philosophy as preached to officials of the State (including the police) by political leaders (see, for example, Annexes 3, 4 and 5 of document C.205.1935.VII, of May 6th, 1935).[1]

The Opposition parties' complaints, however, against intimidation and alleged violation of their constitutional rights appear to outnumber those relating to actual violence. As already pointed out, the last election figures show the National-Socialist Party to have had an actual majority over all other parties, but the Opposition was able in the circumstances to obtain 43% of the votes. *The division is not a racial one and most of the Opposition voters resent a suggestion that they are not loyal to German culture.* The strife might thus be described as fratricidal and to be based upon opposing political philosophies. It is to be noted that, during the past six months, complaints to the High Commissioner have been made jointly by the Social-Democratic, the German National and the Centre (Catholic) Parties, which in normal political life are inspired by widely different ideals, but seem to feel it necessary to sink their differences in seeking protection from the guarantors of their rights.

Collaboration between High Commissioner and Senate.

In my annual report for 1934, I was able to state that a number of questions regarding the Constitution had been settled locally the policy of the Senate at that time making it possible even to have some published laws modified in response to my representations. The members of the Council have more than once impressed upon the President of the Senate the desirability of settling most of these questions in Danzig in agreement with the views of the High Commissioner. This is not possible without the collaboration of the Senate. I myself pointed out at the September meeting that the questions which had been decided by the legal Committee and the Council could have been solved in Danzig on terms not less favourable to the Senate.

The attitude of the Senate with regard to constitutional questions has led to increasing difficulties, and for the causes and motives of this policy I cannot do better than refer the Council to the public speech of President Greiser on November 27th, which is circulated as an annex[2] to the Senate's report to the Council on the carrying-out of the latter's recommendations (document C.18.1936.VII).

In the earlier part of the year, the President of the Senate, in a public speech, referred to the rôle of the High Commissioner in Danzig, expressing views as to the competence of the High Commissioner in constitutional questions. This attitude being maintained by the Senate subsequently in a memorandum, the Council was required to define once again the competence of the High Commissioner. The Council's decision did not, however, remove the resentment that the guarantee of the League of Nations should make it necessary for the High Commissioner and the Council to take cognisance of the more serious complaints of citizens that their constitutional rights were being infringed. In the popular elections, the Government failed to obtain the necessary mandate to propose changes in the Constitution, but efforts to maintain fundamental principles are regarded by the Government as unnecessary interference in the internal affairs of the Free City The decisions of the Council do not seem to have changed this impression.

I have referred above to a speech made before the Popular Assembly by the President of the Senate, M. Greiser. The text of this speech is illuminating. Again and again in this declaration, President Greiser shows that he is inspired and guided in regard to internal questions by the ideas and policy applicable in the German Reich. He speaks of the hostility of the Opposition having as its sole aim to " recreate " in Danzig the political divisions of the German people which had been ended by the greatness of National Socialism. Again, he refers to the National-Socialist Movement as an incarnation of the idea of the great Germany

Farther on, he speaks of complaints having been made that the National-Socialist flag or a bust of Hitler are used to decorate public buildings of the Free City The Opposition, he states, have the effrontery to maintain that the exhibition of party emblems on public buildings is incompatible with the Constitution and he replies by declaring that the so-called " party emblem " is to-day the flag of Germany!

> " The symbol of our National Socialism is to-day the banner of the German national defence force; our leader is to-day the Leader of the German People, and no National-Socialist Government will ever oppose the outward display of the symbol of New Germany on specially

[1] See *Official Journal*, June 1935, page 819.
[2] See page 178.

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solemn occasions, the purpose of which is to place our German nationality in the foreground. Danzig is a German State, recognised as such by the League of Nations itself; and this it is which gives the Danzig Government the right to make an end once and for all of such Press utterances and incendiary articles insulting the flag of the German Reich and disturbing the very friendly relations between us and the German Reich." [1]

Farther on, the President of the Senate declared that all the present sufferings of the Danzig population have their real origin in the separation of Danzig from the mother country—a separation which had been desired by the League of Nations. The President exposes once more the basis of the Senate's policy Referring to the Senate's decision to disregard some of the Council's recommendations, he says " a sad chapter in the internal policy of the Free City is thus closed" He is absolutely persuaded that the life of a people, and especially of a part of a people, could not be for ever restricted by " articles " and " clauses " made in the time when the political and moral distress of the German people was at its height. During the greatest part of the period which had passed since the proclamation of the Free City the fate of the Free City had been decided by the will of the League of Nations.

" We nevertheless hope that, in Geneva, where political realities are taken so fully into account, the fact that the distribution of political power in Europe has been considerably changed will not be ignored. Particularly is this true in comparison with the time when, as the result of the Marxist revolt, Germany lay prone and powerless, and when, through this same betrayal, the Free City of Danzig was set up. Articles and paragraphs have no meaning unless there are men of flesh and blood at hand who are determined to respect them as a rule of life which has been committed to writing. To-day the cause of Danzig's severance from the Motherland, which was to provide the newly-created Republic of Poland with a free outlet to the sea, is spontaneously admitted by the German people and by the Free City of Danzig as a political law Discussion regarding the integrity and development of this severed territory is therefore no longer the exclusive privilege of the Geneva organs, and, indeed, were such the case, the principle of the self-determination of peoples would be devoid of meaning. In sober recognition of the realities of the distribution of political forces in Europe, the Free City of Danzig will, in the future as in the past, pursue its policy of direct negotiation and agreement with Poland. To the satisfaction of the Senate, the friendly relations of the two States, which were disturbed for a short period last summer, have again been restored. Relations are good and friendly and there is every prospect of further progress in the same direction."

It may perhaps be the economic difficulties of the Free City to which President Greiser refers in saying:

" The economic and national development of our Motherland not only fills us with inward satisfaction, but gives us also that moral support which is necessary if we are to triumph over our future difficulties."

I have made some detailed references to this, the most recent declaration of Government policy the full text of which is available to the Council, and nothing I could myself say can, I think, better present to the Council the policy and motives of the Government.

The speech will also be found to contain an expression of hope for friendly collaboration with the League of Nations, but its general content will perhaps make it easier to understand why the efforts of the Council, my own representations to the Senate and the consideration and comprehension I have endeavoured to exercise have not enabled me to report on a happier situation in the Free City

In view of the subsequent decisions of the Senate in relation to the Council's recommendations, it may be of interest to recall that, in addressing a meeting of the Popular Assembly six months ago (on June 12th, 1935), a few weeks after the Council meeting, President Greiser declared that he was glad to note that the League of Nations exhibited a keen interest in Danzig political life and that it realised its duties both as regards the guaranteeing of the Constitution and in the matter of relations between Poland and Danzig. As regards the petitions submitted to the Council, the way in which the League of Nations had dealt with those questions proved that when studying them it had envisaged them from a lofty standpoint and that it had no intention of intervening

[1] The judgment of the Supreme Court of Danzig in the process concerning the validity of the recent elections found that the display of party flags and emblems on public buildings of State and communes was unconstitutional. Two days after the publication of the Court's decision, huge flags of the National-Socialist Party were displayed on the Rathaus and other public buildings. In the Law Courts, one finds suspended on the wall behind the judges' seats a portrait of Herr Hitler, who is head of the German State and who is recognised by the National-Socialist Party in Danzig to be their leader. Attached to this report will be found a copy of a letter addressed by me to the President of the Senate on November 18th regarding the display of party emblems, to which no reply has been made (Appendix V). Letters emanating from public departments and addressed to citizens conclude in many cases with a purely National-Socialist greeting—" Heil Hitler!" It is the practice of members of the Government and others in Danzig to regard Herr Hitler as the leader of a political party, but if references, verbal or written, are made to the German Leader which are considered to be offensive or critical, the authors are punished, sometimes with imprisonment, under the decree which makes it an offence to criticise the head of a neighbouring State.

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in local conflicts. The Danzig Government submitting willingly to the opinion and the judgment of that international forum, he was all the more satisfied at the way in which those questions had been dealt with, since his conscience was perfectly clear. The President pointed out, further, that the position of the High Commissioner had been considered at the session of the Council in May This had arisen out of an electoral speech which he, M. Greiser, had delivered, not in his capacity as Head of the Government, but simply as the mouthpiece of the Danzig population. The Danzig Government would never allow the powers of the High Commissioner, which were clearly established by the treaties and by the Council's decisions, to be impaired. The Danzig Government and its President had never been at fault as regards the fundamental powers of the High Commissioner. On the other hand, a large part of the population which was not conversant with the whole of the treaties and agreements governing the situation at Danzig was of a different opinion in the matter, as a result of its ignorance.

The League's Guarantee.

I have pointed out in my report that the various recommendations of the Council, urging the Senate to keep its policy within the spirit and text of the Constitution, have not led to any great improvement. My impression has been, indeed, that each meeting of the Council during the past year was followed by an intensification of the policy which had been deplored by the Council. Except for a few warning remarks of a general character in my last annual report, expressing some of the anxiety I felt in consequence of recent tendencies in the Government's policy and a restrained statement in September made only after the Council had reached its decisions on legal questions, I have confined my efforts to personal persuasion and disinterested counsel offered privately to the Government. The results of this policy have shown a sharp decline during the past year. In September, I felt it necessary to declare to the Council that: [1]

> " The position in Danzig had been such that, while there had been, as was known to the Council, declarations of official loyalty to the Constitution, there had also been from members of the Senate and the Party supporting them many declarations showing unfriendliness to constitutional principles. An effort was made to distinguish between the letter of the Constitution and its underlying principles, and it had not been thought wrong, in many cases, both in legislation and in administration, to endeavour to circumvent the intentions of the Constitution in favour of a particular Party "

The machinery through which the guarantee of the Constitution is effected is necessarily slow and, if there is not the will on the part of the Government to apply the principles and spirit of the Constitution, the guarantee may in many ways be rendered ineffective. When the arrangements were originally made, it was of course not contemplated that a situation would arise in which a Danzig Government, inspired by political ideas which are antagonistic to the ideas of the Constitution, would feel itself justified in continuously disregarding the representations of the High Commissioner and failing to fulfil specific recommendations from the Council of the League of Nations. It was, of course, provided that changes in the Constitution should be proposed by a vote of two-thirds of the Volkstag, but the present Government has endeavoured and as yet failed to secure such a majority The election figures show that nearly half the voters (43 %) are still opposed to the National-Socialist Party's policy. It is this large section of the people who seek protection from the League of Nations.

Outstanding Questions.

The general situation is such that I have not felt it right at this juncture to place before the Council a number of additional specific problems relating to alleged infringements of the Constitution by the Government (I have made an exception in the case of the petition regarding the validity of the elections). The Council may prefer first to consider the questions raised in the report presented to the Council from the President of the Senate,[2] together with the text of his speech on November 27th.

Apart from the spirit in which the laws continue to be administered, there remains a number of other questions which have arisen during the course of the year and which in some cases were not dealt with pending the decisions of the Council on the petitions earlier submitted to it. It was thought possible that, when decisions and recommendations would be made in these cases and the legal position thus made clear, the Senate would be willing to settle the outstanding points locally in the light of the Council's views. This, however, has not been the case up to the present. For example, a petition submitted to the Senate seven months ago, consideration of which had been adjourned at the request of the Senate until after the Council's September meeting, is still in suspense as the Senate have not yet presented their observations.

Investigation.

It will be recalled that the Committee of Jurists which reported to the Council at the September session [3] declared in connection with one of the petitions that it was impossible for the Committee

[1] See *Official Journal*, November 1935, page 1195.
[2] See page 174.
[3] See *Official Journal*, November 1935, page 1292.

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to form any opinion in regard to facts which were not established, unless it was to conduct an enquiry on the spot. Such an enquiry however, did not lie within the Committee's province. In my statement to the Council when this report was under consideration, I drew attention to the declaration of the legal Committee and expressed the hope that such an investigation should not be necessary [1] In view of the attitude of the Senate as expressed in the Parliamentary speech of President Greiser and of the information in this report, the Council may now wish to consider whether the appointment of such a Committee of investigation is necessary

The methods open to the High Commissioner are not at present working satisfactorily It seems to me that, if the Council at each session is not to be increasingly employed in dealing with Danzig constitutional questions—a situation which cannot be contemplated with satisfaction and which is, in addition, a very slow process—there must be a complete change in the attitude of the local Government or a change in the machinery through which the League's guarantee is made effective. It would seem to be required as a preliminary in either case that the present situation in Danzig should be restored to one more in keeping with the principles of the Constitution.

Financial and Economic.

The financial and economic situation in Danzig during 1935 has given rise to much anxiety and some hardship, particularly following the depreciation of the local currency Various measures were taken by the Government in consequence. A note prepared by the Senate on the financial and economic situation is attached to this report (Appendix VI), and it is naturally understood that this statement is made exclusively on the authority of the Senate.

Polish-Danzig Relations.

Polish-Danzig relations during the year 1935 have been, on the whole, satisfactory On January 7th, the President of the Senate, accompanied by the Senator for economic affairs and public works, made an official visit to Warsaw where the representatives of the Free City were received by the highest political personalities of the Polish capital. On May 20th, the President of the Senate went to Warsaw and from there to Cracow in order to represent the Free City at the ceremonies which took place on the occasion of the death of Marshal Pilsudski.

Following the devaluation of the gulden, a conflict arose which during the summer troubled Polish-Danzig relations.

The economic situation, which had deteriorated steadily during the first months of 1935, compelled the Government to take radical measures in order to prevent the collapse of the Danzig currency· by a Decree-law of May 1st, the gulden, which up till then had been at parity with the gold franc, was devalued by 42.3 %. By another Decree-law of the same date (May 1st), the Law of November 20th, 1923, relating to the Bank of Issue was modified in accordance.

The Senate introduced on June 11th control of foreign exchange, the monopoly of which was given to the State Bank; purchase and exportation of foreign exchange as well as exportation of the gulden were strictly forbidden. On July 17th, the Senate made some modifications in the Decree-law of June 11th relating to the control of foreign exchange. As a result of this new measure, export and conversion of foreign exchange were permitted under certain conditions.

On the other hand, the sale of gulden remained prohibited, except in certain cases to be authorised by a new institution, the Überwachungsstelle. Every transaction relating to the importation of goods into the territory of the Free City—including products from Poland—was made subject to the consent of the Überwachungsstelle.

Measures adopted by the Free City in connection with monetary affairs and foreign exchange had aroused definite protests from the Polish Government, who claimed that these measures taken unilaterally by the Free City were incompatible with several Polish-Danzig agreements. It claimed that, in effect, these measures, in creating restrictions in the exchange between Poland and the Free City as well as in export and transit trade in the port of Danzig, affected important Polish interests. The Polish Government demanded the repeal of these measures and declared itself ready to give effective aid to the Free City reserving, however, the right to adopt any measures which might be necessary for the protection of its interests which had, in its opinion, been affected.

According to the Government of the Free City the measures adopted by the Senate to deal with the grave economic crisis were in no way incompatible with the legal situation existing between Poland and the Free City· in the circumstances, the Senate could not see its way to defer to the Polish Government's request. On the other hand, it declared its readiness to examine the question of Polish interests, where these had been, or could be, damaged. The Senate also protested against the attitude adopted by the Administration of the Polish railways and by certain Polish trading houses who had refused to accept payments made in gulden.

Conversations took place between the two Governments, but with no positive result. The Polish Government then decided to adopt measures which, in its opinion, would assure the

[1] See *Official Journal*, November 1935, page 1196.

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protection of its interests. On July 18th, the Minister of Finance issued an order to the Administration of Customs in Danzig to cease all Customs operations (except in the case of merchandise destined for consumption or use in the territory of the Free City). Other products not destined for Danzig could be released from the Customs only by the Polish Customs administrationoutside the Free City territory.

The Senate thereupon issued an order, on July 23rd, to the Danzig Customs administration forbidding the putting into execution of the decree of the Polish Minister of Finance and demanding its withdrawal. The decree in question not being withdrawn, the Senate, deeming that the Polish measure affected seriously the economic life of the Free City, " which was no longer able to accomplish its essential function of port for Poland ", issued an order on August 1st to the Danzig Customs direction permitting the entry into the Free City of a number of articles necessary to the Danzig population, without the payment of Customs duties. In a communiqué published on the same day the Senate declared itself faced with the necessity of adopting this measure in order to supply the population with some of its essential wants, arguing that, as a result of the Polish Decree of July 18th, the Port of Danzig and Danzig industry were in an extremely precarious position, rendering immediate measures necessary. The Senate further declared that the measures which it had been forced to adopt were of a purely economic nature and that the Free City guaranteed still to Poland free access to the sea by the port of Danzig. Danzig, it was decided, was prepared to enter into negotiations with Poland with a view to arriving at a solution of the dispute.

The Polish Government replied that, by its decisions, the Free City had infringed an essential part of the Danzig Statute and that, furthermore, it had usurped the competence of the Minister of Finance. Under these conditions, the Polish Government could see no possibility of entering into conversations on the subject.

The situation at this period seemed to justify the most serious apprehensions. Happily a spirit of conciliation soon appeared and direct negotiations were entered into, which ended on August 9th with an agreement whereby the Free City repealed the measure taken on August 1st concerning the importation without Customs duty of certain products and Poland withdrew the Ministerial Decree of July 18th.

In an additional protocol, also dated August 9th, it was stipulated (1) that negotiations would be begun with a view to eliminating difficulties resulting from the regulations of foreign exchange for Polish commerce in transit and for commerce between the Free City and Poland; (2) that the control of the gulden would be temporarily maintained, (3) that, during the time in which the control of the gulden would be maintained, the Polish Government would present no new demands with regard to giving an exclusive or privileged position to the zloty in connection with the administration of railways and the port; on the other hand, however, during this same period, the payment of Customs duties would be made in zloty. At the end of the period of foreign-exchange regulations, the dispositions of Article 205, 2, of the Warsaw Agreement, permitting the payment of Customs duties either in gulden or in zloty, would be brought back into force.

The representative of the Free City declared that, in the case where the negotiations envisaged by the protocol signed on the same day would become necessary, conversations would take place between the directors of the two Banks of Issue. On his side, the representative of Poland confirmed that the Agreement on the use of the port of August 5th and September 18th, 1933, would continue to constitute the legal basis and the actual basis for the development of traffic of the port of Danzig.

On August 19th, negotiations were entered into in Warsaw which were later continued in Danzig, and which resulted in the signing, on October 11th, of two Protocols, as follows:

" Control of the Gulden.

" In execution of the Protocol of August 8th, 1935, the Senate of the Free City of Danzig and the Polish Government have concluded the following agreement with a view to the removal of the detrimental effects of the control of the Danzig gulden on Polish transit trade and traffic through the territory of the Free City of Danzig and on free economic relations between Poland and Danzig:

" I.

" The Senate of the Free City of Danzig shall endeavour to restore as soon as possible full freedom of payments between Poland and Danzig in accordance with Article 195, paragraph 3, of the Warsaw Agreement.

" II.

" The complete freedom which exists in the territory of the Free City of Danzig as regards dealings in foreign exchange for the purposes of Polish foreign trade via Danzig, and for the purposes of the transit traffic to and from other States, shall be maintained notwithstanding the provisional continuance of the control of the gulden provided for in the Protocol of August 8th, 1935.

" III.

" For the purposes of Polish foreign trade via Danzig and of transit traffic to and from other States, foreign exchange shall be issued in return for gulden in cases in which this may prove to be necessary

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" IV

" As regards purchases of goods from Poland, the Senate of the Free City of Danzig, during the provisional maintenance of the system for the control of the gulden.

" (*a*) Shall take all necessary steps to maintain Polish deliveries for the Free City's needs as far as possible at their normal level,

" (*b*) Shall not take advantage of the control of the gulden to introduce measures likely to cause a diminution in this trade;

" (*c*) Shall not exercise in its decrees and other measures, as well as in their practical application (particularly as regards the issue of foreign exchange), any discrimination in cases of like character to the detriment of individual categories of firms or persons.

" V

" In order to remove any difficulties and obstacles in business relations affecting individual branches of trade and connected with the purchase of goods in Poland, negotiations shall be immediately arranged between the Danzig and Polish economic representative bodies.

" VI.

" Should any complaints be raised against the application of the provisions of Articles II, III and IV of the present Protocol, these complaints shall be examined by a paritative Commission with the task of finding a practical solution on a friendly basis."

" *Prolongation of the Protocol of September 18th, 1933, relating to the Transhipment in Danzig of Certain Goods (Second Protocol)*

" 1. The period of validity of the Protocol signed on September 18th, 1933, in execution of Article 2 of the Agreement of August 5th, 1933, shall be prolonged for a further period of one year—*i.e.*, from October 1st, 1935, to September 30th, 1936.

" 2. Negotiations shall be initiated immediately with regard to the Protocol of September 18th, 1933, and shall be pushed forward so as to be concluded as far as possible before the end of December 1935. The agreements reached in this connection shall be put into force immediately

" The Polish Government reserves the right to raise at these negotiations all questions connected with the present economic situation of Danzig.

" In order to expedite proceedings, the Commission mentioned in Article IV of the Protocol of September 18th, 1935, is hereby authorised to collect and submit the necessary statistical material forthwith."

At its meeting of August 28th, 1935, the Volkstag decided not to confirm the Treaty concerning the Social Assurances concluded on July 2nd, 1934, between Poland and the Free City (see documents C.372.1934.VII and C.389.1934.VII [1]). The speaker of the National-Socialist Party declared on this occasion that the economic situation of the Free City would not permit of her assuming the obligations following from this agreement, obligations which for Danzig were considerably heavier than for Poland, because of the number of Polish citizens in the territory of the Free City compared to the number of Danzigers in Poland.

On August 7th, 1935, Poland and the Free City signed a Protocol with a view to prolonging until August 13th, 1938, the Protocol of August 13th, 1932, concerning access and stationing of Polish warships in Danzig. This Protocol will be tacitly prolonged every three years, in the case where neither of the parties will have denounced it three months before the end of such a period.

Visit of Warship.

The German warship *Admiral Scheer* paid an official visit to Danzig on August 30th and remained until September 2nd.

I am informed that a list of disputes between the Danzig and Polish Governments not yet settled by direct negotiations remains unchanged from my last annual report (the list will be found as Appendix IX).

I enclose also Appendix VII (Report of the President of the Harbour Board) and Appendix VIII (List of International Agreements entered into by Danzig).

(Signed) Sean LESTER,

High Commissioner

[1] See *Official Journal*, November 1934 (Part I), pages 1421 and 1387.

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Appendix I.

[*Translation from the German.*]

-OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE.

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Danzig, December 7th, 1935.

To the Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband der Freien Stadt Danzig,
c/o the Chairman, M. Karl Töpfer.

The Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband der Freien Stadt Danzig, together with all its branches and subsidiary organisations, is hereby dissolved with immediate effect.

Grounds of the Decision.

The Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband regards itself as the successor of the free trade unions, based on the fundamental principle of class warfare. Accordingly from the outset of its activities, it has taken up an irreconcilably hostile attitude towards the Danzig Government and the measures adopted by the latter in the matter of labour legislation. This attitude of opposition—which cannot in itself be regarded as illegal—taken up by the Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband has been concentrated, since the beginning of July 1935 (independently of the wage question, which has always been the subject of unrestrained agitation on the part of organisations with class-war ideas), on the system of finding employment in the Reich and on the composition of the works councils in the Danzig industrial undertakings.

Die Arbeit, the Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband's organ, of which that association's Chairman is the responsible editor, launched, in No. 15 of July 4th, 1935, a campaign which has continued without interruption until the present day and to which the following articles, in particular, are devoted: " The System of finding Employment in Germany " in No. 15; " Sending-away of Danzig Workers." in No. 16; " More Danzig Workmen sent away " in No. 19, and " The Arrest of Comrade Töpfer " in No. 20.

While in the first article a futile attempt is made to discuss objectively the Senate's Decree of June 19th, 1935, by drawing the more than bold conclusion that the steps taken to find employment in the Reich constitute an expulsion of Danzig citizens, and are therefore unconstitutional, the following articles speak continually of the inadmissible " sending-away " of Danzig citizens and even of their " deportation " This expression is employed in common usage to mean the sending-away of people for a long period as a punishment, and this is the sense in which the journal employs it, for the Senate is accused of wishing to get rid of its opponents by this system of finding them employment. The object of the articles is to create among the unemployed the false impression that the Danzig Government is acting illegally and to induce them to resist the Government's efforts. The journal's purpose is shown particularly clearly by the request that all workers who refuse to be sent to the Reich for employment should apply to the Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband, and also by the statement that no worker with socialist sympathies could be expected to accept employment in Germany.

The purpose of the Senate's decree is to endeavour to relieve the Danzig labour market and to release the communes from part of the intolerable burden of unemployment relief by creating possibilities of employment outside Danzig. This method, which has to be employed in the interests of maintaining the economic solvency of the Free City of Danzig, cannot achieve its purpose if the unemployed refuse to accept such employment, for the complete withholding of all relief from the destitute and their families is impossible in any civilised country.

The second objective of the Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband's attacks is the formation of the works councils. In accordance with Article 115 of the Constitution, the Government issued in 1934 a Decree on Labour Organisation, which set up councils of the workers' representatives, and, unlike the previous practice, such councils had to be established even in the smaller undertakings. In view of the exceptionally difficult economic situation obtaining in the first half of 1935, the Government prolonged, until further notice, the term of office of the existing representatives by the Legislative Decree of April 12th, 1935. This decree, the purpose of which is to prevent any disturbance of economic peace in a time of crisis by holding workers' elections, and which is only of a temporary nature, is attacked by the Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband in No. 17 of its organ, *Die Arbeit,* and this attack does not confine itself to calling in question the justice and expediency of the decree, but directly calls upon the workers to elect new works councils in defiance of the decree. The incitement to the workers to act in this matter regardless of a contravention of the legislative decree in question is clearly shown by the concluding sentence of the article, printed in thick type: " Elect New Works Councils " in No. 17 of *Die Arbeit.*

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The same tendency is shown in a letter sent by the Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband, on September 7th, 1935, to the management of the Danziger Werft, in which the Werft are called upon as employers to hold new elections of representatives contrary to the legislative decree. This letter is signed by Töpfer, Member of the Popular Assembly and Chairman of the Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband, who is also the responsible editor of *Die Arbeit.*

The line of action taken by the Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband in the matter of the obtaining of employment in Germany constitutes an attempt to frustrate, or at any rate to curtail, the effect of the measures of the authorities, with the intention of injuring the interests of the State (§ 129 (*a*), *St.G.Bl.*). The Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband is and must be aware that only a reduction in the number of unemployed can render possible the adequate relief of those who remain. It also knows, like all the other inhabitants of Danzig, that no employment scheme on a large scale is possible in Danzig without laying a financial burden on the State which the exchequer cannot bear. The Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband must also know in view of the history of the post-war period, that, in times of crisis, labour has already in the past been moved from the east to the industrial areas of Western Germany under the threat of a withdrawal of unemployment relief. In this connection, we need only recall the large number of Danzig citizens who were sent to the Rhineland and Westphalian industrial district in 1919. If the Arbeiterverband nevertheless endeavours to frustrate the measures taken by the Government to relieve or save the situation, and does so by methods and in a manner calculated to bring the Government's action into disrepute, the reason is that, on selfish party grounds, it does not want an improvement in the economic situation, because it makes capital out of the difficult economic position of the State and because its interests are contrary to the State's interests. The frustration of the measures taken by the authorities to improve the situation is pursued by the Allgemeiner Arbeitsverband quite openly

The Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband's attitude to the legislative decree regarding the election of workers' representatives constitutes an open incitement to disobey a Government enactment possessing the force of law (§ 110, *St.G.Bl.*).

As already emphasised, the Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband's attacks on Government orders and decrees have continued without interruption since about the middle of the year and have infringed various penal provisions. This consistent attitude on the part of the Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband and the concentration of its whole agitation on the sabotage of Government measures justify the conclusion that its present objectives, as shown by its actual behaviour, are contrary to the penal laws.

Accordingly the necessary conditions for the dissolution of the Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband in virtue of § 2, paragraph 1 (*a*) and (*b*) of the Law on Associations of April 19th, 1908, in the text of the Legislative Decree of June 30th, 1933, may be regarded as fulfilled.

The Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband is entitled to appeal against this decision under the procedure for administrative disputes.

(Signed) FROBÖSS.

Appendix II.

[*Translation from the German.*]

To the High Commissioner of the League of Nations.

Danzig, December 11th, 1935.

Desirous of maintaining constitutional politics in the Free City of Danzig, the Social-Democrat Party the Centre Party and the German National People's Party beg to draw Your Excellency's attention to the dissolution of the Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband by order of the Chief of Police, dated December 7th, 1935.

The dissolution of the Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband and of all its subsidiary and affiliated organisations, and the grounds given for this action by the Chief of Police (as to which we are informed), justify the apprehension that the freedom of association guaranteed in Article 85 of the Danzig Constitution and the State recognition of organisations representing the economic interests of particular classes and vocational groups in Danzig, which is guaranteed in Article 115 of the Danzig Constitution, are in actual fact no longer secured. On the contrary, the grounds given by the Chief of Police for his order of dissolution lead to the conclusion that the fact of a union not deferring on certain issues to the designs of the National-Socialist Government may be treated by the authorities of the Free City as sufficient grounds for frustrating the activities of such a union.

Reference must also be made in this connection to the dissolution of the Federation of National Officials by order of the Chief of Police dated July 8th, 1935, the very similar circumstances of which afford a precedent for the dissolution of the Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband. The proceedings before the administrative courts which were immediately instituted by the parties affected by this action on the part of the police are not yet concluded, nor is any modification in the police action to which such judicial proceedings might lead calculated to repair the serious harm that has been done in the meantime by the police prohibition of the union's activities.

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The undersigned three parties accordingly request Your Excellency to consider the general bearing of the police order for the dissolution of the Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband in relation to the freedom of association which the Constitution guarantees, and to take steps to prevent possible unconstitutional repercussions of this action on other unions in Danzig.

For the Social-Democrat Party:	For the Centre Party:	For the German National People's Party:
(Signed) BRILL.	*(Signed)* POSACK.	*(Signed)* GAMME.

Appendix III.

LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE FROM THE HIGH COMMISSIONER.

Danzig, October 1st, 1934.

Reports published in the newspapers give details of a conflict which is alleged to have arisen between the Senate and the National-Socialist Party and the matter has caused so much uneasiness that I venture to draw your official attention to it. It would seem that according to these reports demands have been made upon the Government (1) calling for the suppression for a long period of the Opposition newspapers in Danzig, the organs of the Social-Democrat Party of the Centre Party and of the Jewish population; (2) that the Opposition parties and their organisations should be dissolved, (3) that the Allgemeiner Arbeiterverband, recently declared a legal organ by the High Court of Danzig, should be suppressed, and (4) imprisonment of Catholic priests against whom the (National-Socialist) Party has evidence. I cannot credit this report, but as the adoption by the Senate of any such policy as that indicated might lead to flagrant violations of the Constitution of Danzig, which is guaranteed by the League of Nations, you may think it well, in view of the publication of the newspaper reports, to give me assurances as to the attitude of the Senate with regard to each of the points mentioned. I trust you will be able to do this with the least possible delay

It may not be inappropriate if I recall an assurance given to the High Commissioner of the League of Nations by the President of the Senate on June 26th, 1933, with regard to the position of M. Albert Forster, the leader of the National-Socialist Party, who is alleged to have been concerned in the demands reported to have been made on the Government. The declaration of the President in response to representations from my predecessor was as follows:

> " The position of M. Albert Forster, member of the German Reichstag, is only that of leader of the National-Socialist movement in Danzig. He exercises no influence whatever upon the conduct of the Government. The new Danzig Senate is the legal Government constituted on a parliamentary basis, and is responsible only towards organs provided for by the Constitution."

In view of the facts that M. Forster, in a recent speech at a meeting of officials of the State over which Senator Batzer presided, described Danzig as a " National-Socialist State " that in another speech he declared " it is not the State which governs the Party but the Party governs the State " and in view of a message from him to the Saar, in which reference was made to the future of Danzig in regard to the existing treaties, you may also think it well to inform me if the position of M. Forster in relation to the Senate continues to be as set forth in your declaration of June 26th, 1933.

May I also take this occasion, Mr. President, to recall my letter of August 30th, 1934, in which I drew the attention of the Senate to a certain tendency in legislation and administration in their relation to the Constitution ?

The Constitution of Danzig is guaranteed by the League of Nations, and you will remember that the Council of the League of Nations declared in January 1934 that it was " clear that the League of Nations' guarantee of the Danzig Constitution implies for the Council the right and duty to satisfy itself in general that the constitutional life of the Free City is in keeping with that Constitution " It is my duty to keep the Council informed of the position and the object of this letter is to obtain information as to the acccuracy of the reported demands and, if the report is well-founded, to ascertain as promptly as possible the attitude of the Danzig Government in regard to them.

(Signed) LESTER.

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Appendix IV

LETTER FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND SENATOR IN CHARGE OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER.

Danzig, October 2nd, 1934.

With reference to your letter of October 1st last and the conversation I had with you yesterday, I have the honour to inform you that the Government of the Free City of Danzig and myself are not aware of any conflict between the Senate and the National-Socialist Party The sensational reports which have appeared in the Polish Press in this connection are devoid of all foundation. The National-Socialist Party has not submitted any demands to the Government, although the section of this Party which sits in the Danzig Popular Assembly would, of course, possess such a right according to parliamentary procedure and the Constitution of the Free City of Danzig. On the contrary the relationship between the Government and the Party is so close and friendly that policy is determined as a result of harmonious co-operation and is in no way the outcome of demands and counter-demands.

As regards the position of State Councillor Albert Forster as Leader of the National-Socialist Party in Danzig, I would emphasise that the basis of the declaration made by the President of the Senate to the High Commissioner of the League of Nations on June 26th, 1933, remains the same and that the Senate stands by this declaration as heretofore.

As regards the quotations made by you from a number of M. Forster's speeches, according to which M. Forster described Danzig as a " National-Socialist State " and said that " it is not the State which governs the Party but the Party which governs the State " I should like to say that I was personally present at these speeches of M. Forster's and that, like the remainder of the Danzig population, I interpreted these passages as referring to the influence which any parliamentary party supporting a Government formed on a parliamentary basis is entitled to exercise on such a Government. Such an influence is quite constitutional, and neither the Party, on behalf of which I am entitled to make such a statement as its Deputy Leader in Danzig, nor the Government, for which I have the honour to speak as the deputy of the President of the Senate, will overstep the limits set by the Constitution.

I would also request you to note that the Danzig Government will refuse to give effect to any proposals involving a breach of the Constitution from whatever quarter they may come. In this connection, it may be well to point out that, in the interests of friendly relations between Danzig and Poland, it would be desirable for the Polish Press to exercise some caution in giving credence to rumours regarding alleged internal tension in the Free City of Danzig.

(Signed) GREISER.

Appendix V

LETTER FROM THE HIGH COMMISSIONER TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

Danzig, November 18th, 1935.

You will recall that, on more than one occasion, I have drawn the attention of the Senate to the display on public buildings in Danzig of party flags and symbols.

During the week-end, on the occasion of some celebrations by the National-Socialist Party, it was observed that the flag of this Party was hoisted over State and other public buildings.

I shall be glad if you will be good enough to give me the observations of the Senate on the practice of displaying flags and other emblems which have a party significance in or on public buildings.

(Signed) LESTER.

Appendix VI.

REPORT OF THE SENATE ON THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION OF THE FREE CITY OF DANZIG IN 1935.

Financial Position.

I. The financial results of the savings effected in the budget of the Free City of Danzig during the 1934 financial year, through the measures enumerated hereunder, brought about an

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appreciable improvement in the final position of the accounts for 1934. The measures referred to were the following:

(a) Expenditure on staff:

(1) 5.5 % cut in the salaries of officials;

(2) Reduction of staff;

(3) Decision to fill only one out of every two vacancies for officials and employees, with the exception of the higher posts;

(b) Expenditure on material:

(1) 20 % cut in expenditure on material and in the special budgetary expenditure not necessitated by law or a legal obligation;

(2) 25 % cut in non-recurrent expenditure.

II. The *full* financial effect of the above-mentioned measures of economy was, however not felt until the *estimates for the 1935 financial year* were submitted, and resulted in a marked reduction in the expenditure for that year.

The devaluation of the Danzig gulden as from May 2nd, 1935, completely upset the 1935 budgetary estimates, which had already been completed, the estimates had, therefore, to be completely revised and recast. The rise in prices following upon devaluation led naturally to a considerable increase in the amount of a large number of items of expenditure on material for the public services and special budgetary expenditure; there was a considerable increase in the amounts required to meet the interest and redemption service of foreign loans.

In the original estimates for 1935, no appropriation had been made to cover these unforeseen increases in expenditure. The balance could therefore only be restored by the strictest measures of economy The economy programme, which was the only means of placing the budget on a sound basis, was drawn up and unflinchingly applied by the Senate; the measures in question fell into the following main categories:

(1) Far-reaching reductions in the activities of the public services through administrative re-organisation;

(2) Extensive reductions in the staff of public services (affecting officials, employees and workers within the limits permitted by the Constitution)·

(3) Transfer to the Reich of officials and retired officials in respect of whom Germany is required to make certain contractual payments under the German-Danzig agreement regarding officials;

(4) Further sweeping cuts in all expenditure on material not of an indispensable character;

(5) Cancellation of all non-recurrent budgetary expenditure unless of vital importance;

(6) Other measures of retrenchment, more particularly in the matter of unemployment relief.

In view of the unfavourable financial position, the transfer of Danzig officials and educational staff to the service of the German Reich and the Prussian educational service, together with the settlement in the territory of the Reich of numbers of retired officials and other persons in receipt of pensions, was unavoidable. The officials have, however, been appointed to similar posts in the service of the Reich, and those in receipt of pensions have been found satisfactory accommodation in German localities of their own choice. By March 31st, 1936, the following transfers will have been made:

	Gulden
386 officials, representing an annual budgetary saving of approximately	840,000
2,118 persons in receipt of pensions, representing an annual budgetary saving of approximately	3,000,000
So that the total annual saving thus effected will amount to	3,840,000

In spite of unfavourable economic conditions, the Senate has made every effort further to reduce unemployment. Fuller details on the present extent of unemployment will be found under the heading " Economic Position " The provision of work has led to a reduction in the amounts paid in unemployment relief, and this in its turn has contributed appreciably to the balancing of the budget.

It was only by dint of unremitting efforts that it was possible during the summer months of 1935 to carry out the Senate's economy programme fully and in all its details, and to complete the great work of financial retrenchment; as a result, however, the 1935 budget was successfully balanced and the Free City's finances were placed upon a sound basis.

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Economic Position.

The Senate had already referred in its report for 1934 to the very marked decline in Danzig's economic activities in the course of the last few years. This decline was not only to be attributed to the general world economic depression, but also to the particularly difficult conditions arising out of the Free City of Danzig's political and legal position under the Treaty of Versailles. As is well known, Danzig's compulsory union with the Customs and economic territory of Poland had for some years past led to a state of economic conflict, characterised more particularly by the competition of the new Polish port at Gdynia. While Danzig remained a valuable customer for Polish goods, it was compelled to look on while a large proportion of Poland's foreign trade was diverted to its rival port, and while difficulties were placed in the way of its own industries in the Polish markets on which they had been accustomed to rely

The National-Socialist Government took the view that its chief and most immediate task was to put an end to this economic conflict with Poland through the conclusion of a comprehensive agreement. The various economic treaties of the last two years have indeed done something to improve the atmosphere, and have also brought about a temporary revival in economic relations between Danzig and Poland. The operation of the treaties has not yet succeeded in restoring —as it is hoped they will—the Free City's enfeebled economic life to normal activity In the meantime, the devaluation of the Danzig gulden on May 1st brought business circles face to face with new and difficult problems.

The reasons which led the Danzig Government to revise the value of the Danzig gulden, and while firmly adhering to the gold standard to fix it at 57.63% of its former parity were fully explained in the statement made by the President of the Senate on behalf of the Government on May 2nd, and in the explanations given by the Senator in charge of finance in the Popular Assembly on November 27th. The reasons for this revolutionary economic measure may be summarised as follows: the fact that Danzig's share of the Polish Customs revenue has decreased by approximately 15 million gulden annually the heavy losses sustained by Danzig business circles on the collapse of the Polish zloty in 1926, the decline in economic activity through the competition of Gdynia, the heavy indebtedness represented by several foreign loans, the fall of various European currencies and the resultant competition in foreign markets, the foreign exchange and economic position in the German Reich and the resultant freezing of the sums due to Danzig agriculture, the desire to prevent unscrupulous speculation, and in the last place the desire to limit imports as far as possible and to enable Danzig trade to increase exports. But this devaluation of the Danzig gulden and its assimilation in value to the Polish zloty, while strengthening Danzig's economic position as regards competition in foreign markets, also brought on those economic difficulties which are inseparable from devaluation.

When, therefore, the gulden was devaluated, a Price Commissioner was at the same time appointed with the necessary powers to keep the rise in prices to which devaluation was expected to lead within reasonable limits.

The devaluation of the Danzig gulden naturally caused in the first place, among the Danzig population, a certain anxiety further aggravated by the fact that unscrupulous individuals were spreading false rumours. Accordingly in order to prevent the flight of Danzig capital or its conversion into other currencies, temporary measures were introduced on June 11th instituting currency control. In the application of these measures, due account was taken of the peculiar structure of Danzig economy and the necessities of the Danzig port traffic. The different trades and industries employing their own foreign exchange were given the liberty they needed for their special purposes and to enable them to pursue their activities on a remunerative basis.

Unfortunately these measures for the protection of the Danzig gulden and the Senate's efforts to revive economic activities by the devaluation of the gulden did not receive the necessary support from Poland.

The port of Danzig is still one of the most important elements in Danzig economic life. In this connection, reference is invited to the explantions given in the 1934 report. The results of the Danzig-Polish Agreement on the complete utilisation of the port of Danzig cannot be regarded as satisfactory The port installations continued to be used only to a partial extent. The traffic itself, for reasons bound up with its particular composition, offers but little in the way of profits or earnings. Negotiations were accordingly instituted in order to improve this situation, which undoubtedly is not in keeping with the spirit of the fundamental Agreement of August 5th or that of September 18th, 1933. During these negotiations, Danzig demanded the amendment of the former regulations on a number of important points. The negotiations proved, however, to be extraordinarily difficult and protracted, and the economic circles interested in the port naturally grew uneasy The Government accordingly decided to extend the conventional situation for a further period, without having obtained satisfaction for all the demands put forward, but at all events after both contracting parties had admitted and recognised the principle that, in future, the assessment of the traffic should be made no longer exclusively on the basis of quantity and quality but on that of the transhipment value. Danzig economic circles continue to follow the development of the port traffic with the liveliest apprehension, since the traffic of the port of Gdynia shows a substantial increase, whereas in Danzig there has in certain respects been a further setback.

One particularly important event from the standpoint of the economic life of the Free City was the German-Polish Economic Convention. The object in view in that particular case was to incorporate Danzig in the entirely new framework of economic exchanges covered by this Treaty.

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Among other things, Danzig had to be given a share in the German quotas for imports into Poland, which are fixed by value. Similarly Danzig's share in German imports had to be stipulated and, in this connection, the question of the finishing trade for foreign account presented special difficulties. An agreement was reached, however, whereby Danzig acceded to the German-Polish Economic Convention. After the entry into force of the Convention, a series of technical difficulties at once appeared. It is not yet possible to formulate an opinion on the repercussions of the Convention on Danzig economic life.

In this connection, mention should also be made of the Polish-British Commercial Treaty of February 27th, 1935, to which the Free City of Danzig acceded during the year under review.

Another important question consisted in the negotiations with Poland concerning the reassessment of Danzig's share in Polish import quotas and export Customs quotas. In both questions, agreement was reached after somewhat lengthy negotiations on the basis of a policy of understanding.

During the year 1935, measures for the relief of unemployment also formed one of the Government's chief concerns. On December 7th, 1935 (compared with the year 1934), the number of persons seeking employment was as follows:

	1934			1935		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
Danzig	16,338	2,284	18,622	15,016	2,307	17,323
Zoppot	1,471	149	1,620	1,340	164	1,504
Kreis Danz. Höhe	456	58	514	602	15	617
Kreis Danz. Nieder.	74	1	75	183	1	184
Kreis Gr. Werder	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	18,339	2,492	20,831	17,141	2,487	19,628

There was thus an improvement as compared with 1934, but it may be noted that work was found in Germany for thousands of unemployed, many of them with families.

To sum up, the fact should be stressed that, in 1935, Danzig's hard struggle for economic existence continued unabated. Not only was there no fulfilment of the promise of economic prosperity which Danzig had been given when the Free City was founded, but, during the general world economic depression, Danzig has had a particularly hard fight for its life. Accordingly in passing final judgment on the year 1935, one can only reiterate the hope that the agreements concluded with the neighbouring State of Poland may develop and be carried out under conditions such as to ensure the means of existence of the Free City.

Appendix VII.

Report by the President of the Harbour Board to the High Commissioner.

Danzig, December 17th, 1935.

I have the honour to forward to you as usual particulars regarding the activity of the port of Danzig. Having brought my previous report down to October 31st, 1934, I now continue as from November 1st, 1934. I shall be able to give you figures for the traffic of the port in 1935 for the first ten months of the year only, and for the work done in the harbour during the year I shall be able to give you figures for the first nine months only.

A. *Traffic in the Port.*

I. Vessels.

	November 1934 to October 1935		November 1933 to October 1934	
	Arrivals	Net tonnage	Arrivals	Net tonnage
November	404	300,173	400	280,343
December	396	293,897	428	296,334
January	352	236,421	396	277,543
February	276	175,181	338	214,684
March	352	243,232	381	245,342
April	332	208,237	389	250,409
May	363	247,857	379	251,608
June	365	220,273	413	245,535
July	478	241,303	461	240,290
August	439	251,747	490	285,270
September	383	248,940	456	312,881
October	398	264,274	377	257,260
	4,538	2,931,535	4,908	3,157,499

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	November 1934 to October 1935		November 1933 to October 1934	
	Departures	Net tonnage	Departures	Net tonnage
November	386	290,340	394	282,397
December	391	281,121	420	288,002
January	358	250,093	396	284,166
February	282	180,520	334	199,108
March	339	233,415	386	256,390
April	353	222,367	387	239,501
May	357	249,052	395	272,088
June	369	215,295	418	245,124
July	473	245,961	448	246,103
August	458	249,207	487	271,023
September	381	242,884	446	295,021
October	383	266,464	405	284,842
	4,530	2,926,719	4,916	3,164,415

The number of vessels arriving and departing during the period November 1934 to October 1935 decreased by 856 and the net tonnage by 463,660 N.R.T.

II. Goods (in tons).

	November 1934 to October 1935		November 1933 to October 1934	
November	73,785.3	477,832.3	46,549.6	469,952.3
December	55,307 5	458.120.0	45,970.2	533,534.3
January	50,266.8	522,021.2	51,750.0	601,873.5
February	33,227.0	271,350.1	32,006.8	373,285.3
March	36,379.6	290,637.4	34,557.5	418,388.9
April	34,504.8	323,717 3	33,922.8	505,053.6
May	72,513.9	356,369.1	46,256.7	508,777.3
June.	68,073.7	304,309.5	37,042.8	463,453.8
July	66,835.4	350,187.8	61,549.7	447,451.6
August.	84,927.0	360,210.1	93,068.9	458,115.4
September	75,316.5	390,096.4	62,137.8	513,244.5
October	87,556.7	425,753.9	74,595.6	487,584.8
	738,694.2	4,530,605.1	619,408.4	5,807,715.3

B. *Harbour Installations.*

The work done during the period October 1st, 1934, to September 30th, 1935, comprises that necessary for the normal upkeep of structures and the execution of measures for improving harbour installations (sheds and warehouses, service premises and living quarters, streets and open spaces, quays, buttresses and other works for strengthening the banks, loading-bridges, bollards and moles, dunes, beacons and signals, etc.) current upkeep and repair work on the Vistula and the Elbing and Nogat waterways; current work for the upkeep and repair of the buildings and fleet of the Harbour Board (ice-breaker, steamers, motor-boats, dredgers, praams, etc.), harbour premises and construction and repair shops at Danzig-Krakau and Neufahrwasser.

The following constructional work has been carried out for the repair and improvement of the buildings mentioned below·

(1) Completion of the building of a second dyke at the *Durchbruch* near Neufähr;

(2) Completion of the dredging to deepen the mouth of the Vistula near Neufähr;

(3) Completion of the dredging to excavate the Mottlau to a depth of 5.5 metres;

(4) Maintenance of the depth of water in the harbour area, supplementary dredging by the dredger *Hummer* at the mouth of the harbour, in the Dead Vistula, in the Kaiserhafen and in the Mottlau;

(5) Supplementary dredging of the Dead Vistula off the Norderstrasse near Weichselmünde by a contractor's dredgers;

(6) Completion of the work of widening Bridge No. 1 over the Vistula at Broschkischer Weg;

(7) Paving for moving the cattle-loading ramp at Kielgraben,

(8) Completion of the paving of the Legan landing-stage and in front of Shed XVIII in the Free Zone;

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(9) Paving of the Feuerstrasse on the island of Holm;

(10) Improving the draining of the levelling-canal at Weichselbahnhof;

(11) Construction of supports to the bank on the island of Holm in order to close breaches in the banks of the Kaiserhafen;

(12) Repairs to the supports of the right bank of the Kaiserhafen at the 700-metre point;

(13) Demolition of the *Barkschuppen* at Fischmeisterweg, Neufahrwasser;

(14) Erection of a timber storage-yard at Holmzunge;

(15) Demolition and dredging work and construction of a bastion for the building of a *Schwojestelle* in the Mottlau opposite the Krantor;

(16) Land surveys at Weichselbahnhof (preliminary work for the construction of a silo);

(17) Removal of the rust from and painting of the loading-ramp at Weichselmünde.

C. *Finance.*

Table of Receipts for the First Eight Months of the Financial Period.

	1935-36 Danzig gulden	1934-35 Danzig gulden
April	259,171.62	282,718.72
May [1]	379,791.31	264,530.00
June	372,073.26	290,998.57
July	464,516.37	287,120.34
August	464,089.37	326,298.83
September	426,309.41	322,287.73
October	511,181.20	361,900.17
November	516,252.02	321,840.97

The Harbour Board raised its tariffs, following the devaluation of the Danzig gulden on May 2nd, 1935, the harbour dues being increased on an average by 70% and the rates of the quays administration on an average by 50%.

The 1935-36 budget was completed and adjusted to the new situation by a supplementary budget.

The subsidies which Danzig and Poland have to contribute in equal proportions towards the expenses of the Harbour Board for the financial period April 1st, 1935, to April 1st, 1936, amount, according to the 1935-36 budget, to 2,880,485 gulden.

A sum of 3,795,000 gulden had been appropriated for the previous year, but only 3,306,379.28 gulden of this amount had to be expended.

Compared with the grants for 1934-35, the State subsidies for 1935-36 have substantially decreased as the result of extensive economies.

Notwithstanding the changed situation created by the devaluation of May 2nd, there has been no need to increase the above amount of 2,880,485 gulden, the increased expenditure being defrayed by the increased revenue.

D. *General Considerations.*

The following table shows the fluctuations in harbour traffic during recent years:

Year	Imports (in tons) from January 1st to October 31st	Exports (in tons) from January 1st to October 31st	Total
1933	400,678	3,629,240	4,029,918
1934	526,889	4,777,229	5,304,118
1935	609,601	3,594,653	4,204,254

The total goods traffic for the first ten months of 1935 has fallen, as compared with the traffic for the same months in 1934, by 1,099,864 tons.

Imports have increased by 82,712 tons, or 15.6%, while exports have decreased by 1,182,576 tons, or 24.7%.

The increase in imports is due to larger transports of mineral ores:

January 1st to October 31st	Tons
1933	102,036
1934	119,099
1935	316,436

[1] Tariffs raised on May 2nd, 1935.

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Other goods have slightly fallen, as for instance metals and metal-wares:

January 1st to October 31st	Tons
1933	26,955
1934	32,126
1935	27,878

and fertilisers and chemical products:

January 1st to October 31st	Tons
1933	38,411
1934	61,911
1935	42,000

The fall in exports is mainly due to decreased transports of coal.

January 1st to October 31st	Tons
1933	2,415,174
1934	2,927,182
1935	1,932,823

These transports have thus fallen by 994,359 tons.

Transfers and Movement of Personnel.

There have been no changes in the membership of the two delegations during the current year.

In execution of the decision of February 20th, 1934, regarding decreases in the staff of the Harbour Board, in the year December 1st, 1934, to November 30th, 1935, three employees who had reached the age-limit (60) were retired on pension and three employees were discharged.

The Harbour Board at present has 225 officials and employees of whom 151 are of Danzig and 74 of Polish nationality

The workmen of the Harbour Board number 504, of whom 388 are of Danzig and 116 of Polish nationality

It was decided to appoint two technical apprentices and four supernumerary officials (three of Danzig and three of Polish nationality) as employees in order to form a reserve of officials with standard training for senior departmental duties, technical and non-technical. These officials have already been appointed except for one supernumerary who is to be proposed by the Polish delegation. They will be trained for three years in every department of the Harbour Board, at the end of which term they will have to take the examination for the grade of harbour secretary

(Signed) NEDERBRAGT,
President of the Harbour Board.

Appendix VIII.

LIST OF THE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS WHICH THE FREE CITY OF DANZIG, DURING 1935, HAS CONCLUDED OR ACCEDED TO, OR WHICH HAVE BEEN RATIFIED.

Title of Agreement	(a) Concluded (b) Acceded to (c) Ratified	Remarks
Conventions concerning the Transport of Goods by Rail and the Transport of Passengers and Baggage, together with Final Act; Rome, November 23rd, 1933.		Not yet ratified.
European Broadcasting Convention, Lucerne, June 19th, 1933.		Not yet ratified.
International Sanitary Convention, Paris, June 21st, 1926.	(c) on April 30th, 1934.	Came into force on April 30th, 1934.

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Title of Agreement	(a) Concluded (b) Acceded to (c) Ratified.	Remarks
Agreement concerning the Adoption of Special Provisions for the Transport of Goods consigned by Rail with Waybill to Order. Rome, March 31st, 1934.		Not yet ratified.
Convention for the Unification of Certain Rules relating to International Carriage by Air (First Agreement for the Unification of Private Law affecting Air Questions) Warsaw October 12th, 1929.	(b) on March 18th, 1935.	Came into force on June 16th, 1935.
Three Conventions for the Unification of the Law on Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes; Geneva, June 7th, 1930.	(c) on June 24th, 1935.	Came in force on September 22nd, 1935.
Three Conventions providing a Uniform Law for Cheques; Geneva, March 19th, 1931.	(c) on June 24th, 1935.	Came into force on September 22nd, 1935.
Trade Agreement between Poland and the German Reich and Polish-German Clearing Agreement of November 4th, 1935.		Provisonally came into force on November 20th, 1935.
Treaty of Friendship, Commerce and Consular Rights between Poland and the United States of America of June 15th, 1931.	(b) on March 24th, 1934.	Came into force on March 24th, 1934.
Commercial Treaty between Poland and Austria, Vienna, October 11th, 1933.	(b) on October 23rd, 1935.	Came into force on November 7th, 1935.
Agreement between Poland and the Irish Free State relating to the Tonnage Measurement of Merchant Ships; Dublin, October 19th, 1934.	(b) on September 20th, 1935.	Came into force on October 6th, 1935.
Arrangement between Danzig and Poland concerning Facilities for the Trade in Agricultural and Market-garden Produce and Fishery Products in the Case of Tourist and Frontier Traffic.	(a) on February 27th, 1935.	
Additional Agreement to the Danzig-Polish Convention, January 13th, 1927 regarding Social Insurance of Railway Employees.	(a) on April 11th, 1935.	
Agreement for the application of the Danzig-Polish Arrangement of August 6th, 1934, regarding the Trade in Agricultural and Market-garden Produce and Fishery Products.	(a) on July 17th, 1935.	
Danzig-Polish Protocol extending the Arrangement of August 13th, 1932, regarding Entry and Stay of Polish Vessels of War in the Port of Danzig.	(a) on August 7th, 1935.	
Danzig-Polish Protocol regarding the Control of the Gulden.	(a) on August 8th, 1935.	
Danzig-Polish Agreement regarding Trade in Fish and Cheese.	(a) on September 6th, 1935.	
Danzig-Polish Protocol for the Enforcement of the Protocol regarding the Control of the Gulden, of August 8th, 1935.	(a) on October 11th, 1935.	
Protocol extending the Danzig-Polish Arrangement of September 18th, 1933, regarding Harbour Traffic.	(a) on October 11th, 1935.	
Danzig-Polish Protocol regarding Weekly Instalment Payments and Quarterly Settlement of Customs Revenues.	(a) on October 31st, 1935.	
Danzig-Polish Protocol of Execution relating to the Fixing of Danzig's Share in Import Quotas.	(a) on December 6th, 1935.	

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Appendix IX.

POSITION OF DISPUTES SUBMITTED TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER.

Complainant	Date	Subject	Observations
1. Danzig.	August 27th, 1930.	Use by Poland of the railway repair shops.	Procedure suspended at the request of the parties.
2. Danzig.	September 16th, 1930.	Postal service at Danzig (Grünelinie).	,,
3. Danzig.	December 2nd, 1930.	Allocation of Customs receipts.	,,
4. Poland.	September 15th, 1931.	Question of the damages claimed by Poland with regard to the measures adopted by the Danzig Customs authorities.	,,
5. Danzig.	December 30th, 1931.	Question of the Arbeitnehmerausschüsse attached to the Railway administration.	,,
6. Poland.	February 29th, 1932.	Restrictions on the export and import of goods.	,,
7 Poland.	March 1st, 1932.	Customs organisation.	,,
8. Danzig.	April 26th, 1932.	Railway surcharges.	,,
9. Danzig.	June 28th, 1932.	Revision of the Warsaw Agreement: Customs (amendment of Parts VI and VII).	,,
10. Danzig.	June 26th, 1932.	Revision of the Warsaw Agreement: Polish Postal Service (amendment of Part III).	,,
11. Danzig.	August 11th, 1932.	Polish system of Customs facilities (Staffelzölle).	,,
12. Danzig.	August 12th, 1932.	Duty on Danzig quotas as compared with Polish Customs duties (Maximalzölle).	,,
13. Poland.	October 22nd, 1932.	Revision of the Warsaw Agreement: Acquisition and loss of Danzig nationality	Decision of August 28th, 1934, adjourning question for a period of five years.
14. Danzig.	January 14th, 1933.	Dismissal of certain Danzig railway employees.	Procedure suspended at the request of the parties.
15. Danzig.	January 18th, 1933.	Pensioning-off of nine Danzig railway officials.	,,
16. Danzig.	March 1st, 1933.	Revision of the Warsaw Agreement (amendments to Parts IV and V).	,,
17 Poland.	June 16th, 1933.	Conduct of the Free City's foreign affairs by Poland.	,,
18. Poland.	November 15th, 1933.	Interpretation of the Polish-Danzig Agreement of October 22nd, 1921, concerning the High Commissioner's decisions of August 15th, 1921, and September 5th, 1921.	,,

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