

If, as we are entitled to believe, the Senate in future affords the High Commissioner and the Council all the assistance required to enable the League to carry out its task, it seems to me that, from a practical standpoint, the High Commissioner, in the performance of his duties laid down in the Statute, should take care to see that the internal administration of the Free City of Danzig is not hampered. This should be the less difficult for him if it is borne in mind that a differentiation between the sources of information on which the High Commissioner bases his action is not only possible but even desirable. In this connection, the information furnished by the Senate should be given the place corresponding to the latter's authority as the Government of the Free City of Danzig.

The Polish Government considers that it has carried out its difficult mission in submitting a solution which seems to it, in present circumstances, to be reasonable, and which, in its opinion, will prove effective, provided the Senate acts in accordance with its own declaration mentioned above. It is obvious that the responsibility of the Council, as guarantor of the Statute of the Free City, imposes upon it the duty of following the development of the situation. This will enable the Council to see whether the proposed solution has put an end to the difficulties that have arisen in the relations between the League of Nations and the Senate.

---

ANNEX 1648a.

C.37.1937.VII.

FREE CITY OF DANZIG: SITUATION AT DANZIG.

---

LETTER, DATED JANUARY 6TH, 1937, FROM THE HIGH COMMISSIONER OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AT DANZIG TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, TOGETHER WITH THE FOLLOWING APPENDICES:

- (1) REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE DANZIG HARBOUR AND WATERWAYS BOARD, DATED DECEMBER 30TH, 1936;
- (2) LIST OF THE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND TREATIES TO WHICH THE FREE CITY OF DANZIG HAS BECOME A CONTRACTING PARTY DURING 1936.

Danzig, January 6th, 1937.

It has been customary for the High Commissioner to make an annual report for the information of the Council of the League of Nations with regard to affairs concerning the Free City of Danzig. For the year 1936, however, this will scarcely be necessary, as the Council has been fully informed through reports made by me and notably my report of September 12th, which was circulated to the Council with a report of the Committee of Three on October 5th as document C.427.1936.VII.<sup>1</sup> The document in question, while surveying events from January 1st, dealt mainly with the situation created during the preceding three months by the Government of the Free City in connection with the League's guarantee of the Constitution, and the demands by the President of the Senate for the revision of the relationship between the League and the Government of Danzig. It also recalled the legal provisions affecting the Statute of the Free City and the Council's instructions to the High Commissioner.

On considering the situation thus presented, the Council passed the following resolution:

" The Council,

" Having taken note of the report submitted to it by the Committee of Three;

" Considering, that it is necessary to seek a means of putting an end to the obstruction offered by the Danzig Government to the High Commissioner in the exercise of his functions and to render fully effective the guarantee of the League of Nations;

" Considering on the other hand, that the Statute of the Free City was conceived in order to ensure in the best conditions possible the well-being of Danzig and the maintenance of the rights accorded to Poland by the international instruments in force:

" Invites the Polish Government to seek on behalf of the Council the means of putting an end to the situation described in the general report of the High Commissioner and thus of rendering fully effective the guarantee of the League of Nations, and to make a report on this subject at its next session;

---

<sup>1</sup> See *Official Journal*, November 1936, pages 1190 and 1359.

“ Requests the Committee of Three to continue to follow the question;  
“ Declares its readiness, in view of the importance of the question, to hold a special session, in case of need, to deal with it.”

There have been further activities in Danzig since October 5th relating to the Constitutional position, but, in view of the decision of the Council, I do not propose to deal with these matters in detail.

The relative Council documents for the year relating to Danzig are numbered as follows:

Document C.38.1936.VII;<sup>1</sup>  
Document C.41.1936.VII;<sup>2</sup>  
Document C.215.1936.VII;<sup>3</sup>  
Document C.281.1936.VII;<sup>4</sup>  
Document C.398.1936.VII;<sup>5</sup>  
Document C.427.1936.VII.<sup>6</sup>

I enclose herewith a report which the President of the Harbour Board has been good enough to send to me in connection with the traffic of the Port, and also a list of the international agreements and treaties to which the Free City of Danzig has become a contracting party.

There is no change in the list of suspended disputes between the Governments of Danzig and Poland which formed Annex IX to my report for the year 1935 (document C.28.1936.VII).<sup>7</sup>

I shall be glad if you will be good enough to submit this document for the information of the Council.

(Signed) Sean LESTER.

#### Appendix I.

### REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE DANZIG HARBOUR AND WATERWAYS BOARD TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER.

[Translation.]

Danzig, December 30th, 1936.

I have the honour to forward to you as usual particulars regarding the activity of the Port of Danzig. Taking matters up again as from November 1st, 1935, I shall be able to give figures for the traffic of the Port in 1936 for the first ten months of the year only. The information concerning the work done in the harbour will cover the first eleven months.

#### A. TRAFFIC IN THE PORT.

##### I. Vessels.

	November 1935–October 1936		November 1934–October 1935	
	Arrivals	Net tonnage	Arrivals	Net tonnage
November . . . . .	365	258,598	404	300,173
December . . . . .	352	247,694	396	293,897
January . . . . .	381	244,397	352	236,421
February . . . . .	324	201,602	276	175,181
March . . . . .	424	254,943	352	243,232
April . . . . .	408	241,602	332	208,237
May . . . . .	477	263,160	363	247,857
June . . . . .	413	234,671	365	220,273
July . . . . .	523	291,415	478	241,303
August . . . . .	528	324,221	439	251,747
September . . . . .	501	311,033	383	248,940
October . . . . .	502	287,918	398	264,274
	5,198	3,161,254	4,538	2,931,535

<sup>1</sup> See *Official Journal*, February 1936, page 198.

<sup>2</sup> See *Official Journal*, February 1936, page 231.

<sup>3</sup> See *Official Journal*, May 1936, page 511.

<sup>4</sup> See *Official Journal*, July 1936, page 895.

<sup>5</sup> See *Official Journal*, November 1936, page 1333.

<sup>6</sup> See *Official Journal*, November 1936, pages 1190 and 1359.

<sup>7</sup> See *Official Journal*, February 1936, page 202.

	November 1935–October 1936		November 1934–October 1935	
	Departures	Net tonnage	Departures	Net tonnage
November . . . . .	377	270,317	386	290,340
December . . . . .	350	233,139	391	281,121
January . . . . .	377	246,069	358	250,093
February . . . . .	335	212,677	282	180,520
March . . . . .	400	241,422	339	233,415
April . . . . .	418	245,547	353	222,307
May . . . . .	496	272,232	357	249,052
June . . . . .	400	225,197	369	215,295
July . . . . .	513	293,546	473	245,961
August . . . . .	523	324,872	458	249,207
September . . . . .	501	301,757	381	242,884
October . . . . .	513	291,553	383	266,464
	<u>5,203</u>	<u>3,158,328</u>	<u>4,530</u>	<u>2,926,719</u>

The number of vessels arriving and leaving during the period November 1935–October 1936 rose by 1,333, and the net tonnage by 416,320 NRT.

## II. Goods (in tons).

	1935/36		1934/35	
	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports
November . . . . .	99,327.3	403,397.9	73,785.3	477,832.3
December . . . . .	69,539.0	316,496.0	55,307.5	458,120.0
January . . . . .	67,524.0	440,186.5	50,266.8	522,021.2
February . . . . .	50,047.3	317,798.0	33,227.0	271,350.1
March . . . . .	37,699.2	352,819.5	36,379.6	290,637.4
April . . . . .	64,639.7	371,937.8	34,504.8	323,717.3
May . . . . .	64,550.0	355,934.9	72,513.9	356,369.1
June . . . . .	78,199.8	257,925.1	68,073.7	304,309.5
July . . . . .	84,161.6	327,551.9	66,835.4	350,187.8
August . . . . .	72,173.2	399,010.6	84,927.0	360,210.1
September . . . . .	56,182.3	433,390.2	75,316.5	390,096.4
October . . . . .	49,637.3	448,898.4	87,556.7	425,753.9
	<u>793,680.7</u>	<u>4,425,346.8</u>	<u>738,694.2</u>	<u>4,530,605.1</u>

## B. HARBOUR INSTALLATIONS.

The work done during the period November 1st, 1935–November 30th, 1936, 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 miles, 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 Neufährwasser.

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

- (1) Dredging of the Mottlau, opposite Krantor;
- (2) Surfacing of the side walls and south front of the timber storage yard built last year on the Holmzunge;
- (3) Construction of an anchorage more than 120 metres long on the Schuitensteg, below Wallgasse;
- (4) Modification of the Customs frontier at the south end of the Free Zone, so as to place the old refinery outside that zone;
- (5) Extension of the pier of the former Marinekohlenlager in connection with the leasing of sheds IV–VI to the firm of Speiser & Co., Danzig, for the installation of flour-mixing plant;
- (6) Extension of the anchorage before shed H on the Hafenkanal at the corner of Lotsenweg;
- (7) Thorough reconditioning of the jetty at Weichseldurchbruch Neufähr, which was seriously damaged by the violent storms of last year, and particularly the rebuilding of the head of the jetty which had been destroyed;

- (8) Construction of a large building for the port workshops;
- (9) Paving of the quays in front of shed I on the Weichselbahnhof;
- (10) Paving and repair of the Broschkischerweg in the Marxstrasse as far as shed Vistula II (the road is more than 550 metres long);
- (11) Building of a wall more than 130 metres long along the bank supports on the Holm side of the Kaiserhafen, which were rebuilt last year;
- (12) Construction of new bank supports 70 metres long on the Holm side of the Kaiserhafen, continuing those built last year;
- (13) Building of bank supports 380 metres long with cement embankments and bank supports 240 metres long on the Dead Vistula, near Heubude, Krakauer Kämpe, Westl. Neufähr and in the Plehnendorfer Schleusenkanal;
- (14) Construction of a boat-house for a large launch for the Polish detachment on the Westerplatte;
- (15) Construction of a footway, 80 metres long, on the embankment in the Kaiserhafen Holmzunge for the "Paged" firm;
- (16) Construction of a river gauge in connection with apparatus for long-distance communication of the water-level to the pilot station;
- (17) 100-metre extension of the two quay walls in the Weichselmünde pool (so far, the wooden framework for the quay wall on the west side has been finished and the erection of the iron plating is in progress);
- (18) Construction of a grain silo at the Weichselbahnhof (the pit had previously been sunk and the floor has now been completed);
- (19) Various dredging operations in the harbour by the *Hummer* dredger;
- (20) Additional dredging of the channel between the old Mottlau and the new Mottlau at Thornsche Weg by the dredger *Schwente*.

## C. FINANCE.

Table of Revenue collected during the First Eight Months of the Financial Year.

	1936/37		1935/36
	Danzig Gulden		Danzig Gulden
1936:		1935:	
April . . . . .	402,042.26	April . . . . .	259,171.62
May . . . . .	419,515.30	May . . . . .	379,791.31 <sup>1</sup>
June . . . . .	410,875.70	June . . . . .	372,073.26
July . . . . .	470,823.83	July . . . . .	464,516.37
August . . . . .	540,330.90	August . . . . .	464,516.37
September . . . . .	585,022.72	September . . . . .	426,309.41
October . . . . .	538,450.34	October . . . . .	511,181.20
November . . . . .	533,543.48	November . . . . .	516,252.02

Although last year—April 1st, 1935, to March 31st, 1936—revenue fell short of the estimates, it was nevertheless possible to place a sum of 334,869.99 gulden at the disposal of the two States, as the expenditure had been considerably reduced by extensive economies.

During the present year—April 1st, 1936, to March 31st, 1937—the Harbour Board decided to construct a grain silo at the Weichselbahnhof and to lengthen the Weichselmünde pool, and to charge the cost to "Extraordinary expenditure".

	Gulden
The estimated cost of the construction of the silo was . . . . .	2,300,000
and of the lengthening of the harbour pool . . . . .	1,100,000
	3,400,000

During the current year, however, expenditure in respect of these works has only amounted to 2,000,000 gulden.

The capital for these two schemes will be provided as follows:

	Gulden
Loan from the Deutsche Bank und Diskonto-Gesellschaft, Danzig . . . . .	2,400,000
Appropriation from the renewal fund . . . . .	700,000
Appropriation out of last year's surplus . . . . .	300,000
	3,400,000

<sup>1</sup> Increase in tariffs on May 2nd, 1935.

The loan will be repaid in four years—*i.e.*, one-quarter of the total at the end of each year. The interest exceeds the Bank of Danzig discount rate by 2%; minimum 6½%, maximum 7½%, now 7%.

The payment of interest and the repayment of the capital will be effected by the provision of the necessary sums in Chapter IX—debt service—of the "ordinary" budget.

In consequence of the construction of the silo and the lengthening of the Weichselmünde pool, the "extraordinary" chapter of the "ordinary" budget for the 1936/37 financial year was increased by two supplementary votes on June 30th, 1936, and November 4th, 1936, as follows:

	Original figure: Ordinary budget	Increase: Extraordinary budget Supplementary votes	Total
	Gulden	Gulden	Gulden
Revenue . . . . .	9,447,000	2,000,000	11,447,000
Expenditure . . . . .	9,447,000	2,000,000	11,447,000

Revenue and expenditure balance exactly.

The grants made by Danzig and Poland towards the Harbour Board's expenditure for the 1936/37 financial year amount, according to the budget, to 2,880,000 gulden; this amount was not increased by the two supplementary votes.

Interest and amortisation payments in respect of the 1927 Loan were duly made on the appointed date.

#### D. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS.

##### *Imports.*

Imports of the following goods increased during the period January-October, compared with the same period of last year.

	1936 January 1st- October 31st	1935 January 1st- October 31st	Increase
	Tons	Tons	Tons
Oleaginous seeds . . . . .	8,054	6,083	1,971
Cocoa . . . . .	1,069	917	152
Tobacco . . . . .	718	399	319
Mineral ores . . . . .	350,271	316,437	33,834
Coke . . . . .	14,912	14,287	625
Phosphorite . . . . .	36,594	24,991	11,603
Scrap iron . . . . .	6,480	1,787	4,693

The only considerable increase is in heavy goods, particularly mineral ores.

There was a decrease in the following goods during the period January-October, compared with the same months of last year:

	1936 January 1st- October 31st	1935 January 1st- October 31st	Decrease
	Tons	Tons	Tons
Rice . . . . .	5,300	6,912	1,612
Fruit . . . . .	558	888	330
Coffee . . . . .	2,115	2,552	437
Herrings . . . . .	16,994	25,911	8,917
Coal . . . . .	72,051	78,761	6,710
Oil . . . . .	7,542	7,594	52
Tanning substances . . . . .	6,393	7,599	1,206
Paper . . . . .	6,209	13,656	7,447
Copper . . . . .	925	1,141	216

There was a large falling-off in imports of herrings and also of paper.

*Exports.*

There was an increase in exports of the following goods during the first ten months of 1936 compared with the same period last year.

	1936 January 1st- October 31st	1935 January 1st- October 31st	Increase
	Tons	Tons	Tons
Wheat . . . . .	62,414	49,571	12,843
Barley . . . . .	318,248	211,954	106,294
Oats . . . . .	57,615	48,120	9,495
Leguminous plants . . . . .	46,081	16,834	29,247
Oleaginous seeds . . . . .	5,129	4,224	905
Flour . . . . .	176,419	91,293	85,126
Coke . . . . .	49,228	27,081	22,147
Olive-cake . . . . .	29,785	16,335	13,450
Ammonia . . . . .	19,666	16,152	3,514
Timber . . . . .	832,698	655,422	177,276

While grain exports remained at the level of last year, owing to the decline in rye exports, there was an increase in exports of leguminous plants, flour, olive-cake and timber.

There was a decrease in the following goods:

	1936 January 1st- October 31st	1935 January 1st- October 31st	Decrease
	Tons	Tons	Tons
Rye . . . . .	180,424	322,936	142,512
Coal . . . . .	1,712,713	1,932,823	220,110
Mineral oils . . . . .	27,839	36,998	9,159
Molasses . . . . .	12,626	23,804	11,178
Tripotassic salt . . . . .	28,153	32,144	3,991
Piping . . . . .	3,736	5,681	1,945

Rye and coal are responsible for this falling off.

(Signed) NEDERBRAGT,  
President of the Harbour Board.

## Appendix II.

## LIST OF INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS AND TREATIES TO WHICH THE FREE CITY OF DANZIG HAS BECOME A CONTRACTING PARTY DURING 1936.

Commercial Treaty and Clearing Agreement between Poland and Germany, signed November 4th, 1935.

Convention between Great Britain and Poland relating to the tonnage measurement of merchant ships, signed at Warsaw on April 16th, 1934.

Renewal of the Baltic Geodesic Convention concluded on December 31st, 1925.

Polish-Belgian Arrangement of July 25th 1935 abolishing the obligation to produce bills of health for ships.

International Sanitary Convention for Aerial Navigation, concluded at The Hague on April 12th, 1933.

Convention of Commerce between Poland and Canada signed on July 3rd, 1935.

Agreements signed between Poland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on March 31st, 1936, on (1) the mutual recognition of tonnage-measurement certificates and (2) port dues.

Convention of Commerce and Navigation concluded on February 10th, 1934, between Poland and Czechoslovakia, together with two protocols additional to that Convention, dated respectively February 8th and September 5th, 1935.

Polish-German Agreement of July 18th, 1936, additional to the Commercial Treaties between Poland and Germany, signed on November 4th, 1935.