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# Summaries

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# S U M M A R I E S

JÓZEF CHAŁASIŃSKI

## SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY OF CONTEMPORARY SOCIETIES

Are Americans like Kwakiutls or Dobuans, Zuni or Hopi Indians? In *The Lonely Crowd* by D. Riesman and others — the chapter 'Americans and Kwakiutls' — the question is related to their theory of inner-directedness and other-directedness in contemporary America. The author of this article takes Riesman's book, as well as M. Lerner's *America as a Civilization*, as illustrations of the expansion of social anthropology into a study of contemporary society. This is a symptom of a crisis in contemporary sociological thought.

Sociology which began with the idea of 'social organism' seems nearing the end of its successful career with 'mass society in modern civilization. 'Mass society' means society of common media of communication without common ends. In investigating 'mass society' sociology has been replaced by statistics. What kind of society has been still left in mass society? Kwakiutls or Hopi Indians?

Search for personality has become the characteristic feature of a human being in 'mass society' and the 'personality and culture' approach has been stressed in social anthropology of contemporary society.

In this article the author underlines two other problems of contemporary societies which belong to the intellectual tradition of social anthropology of primitive societies. First, the problem of social and moral unity of society, and the role played in this respect by myths. Secondly, the myth of the individual human being; this myth is the key to mythmaking in culture of primitive societies as well as in art, poetry and fiction in contemporary civilization. The French anthropologist Claude Lévi-Strauss wrote that 'l'ethnologie, c'est simplement l'humanisme d'un autre monde' (*L'Express*, Paris 20 Octobre 1960).

The issue of 'Daedalus' (Spring 1959) on *Myth and Mythmaking* is an interesting link between social anthropology of primitive societies and that of civilized societies.

The intellectual profile of Ernest Renan, the famous French rationalist and freethinker, is presented in this article as an amazing case of mythmaking on the highest level of sophistication. Renan's idea of the nation as a 'spiritual family' as well as his prefascist idea of Europeans as a 'race of masters' opposed to the people of China and to Negroes as races of slaves was kind of myth.

The idea of American culture as a unity of spiritual values — based on the Hebrew-Christian tradition — also contains this myth of 'spiritual family'. Albert Einstein's moral idea of the Jewish nation may serve as another illustration. Einstein included among the great traditions of the Jewish nation the feeling of sanctity of life and the striving for justice and wisdom.

Mythmaking of this kind is an essential aspect of the socio-psychological mechanism of the group- and self-identification processes. An intellectual who defines himself — consciously or subconsciously — by a system of culture values in which he believes is involved in mythmaking. Desintegration of traditional group ties — tribal, national or local community ties — individualization of life values and social mobility make the character of mythmaking more complex without eliminating it from human culture.

Malinowski was right to emphasize that mythmaking is a component of belief, and so it belongs to the primary aspect of any human culture. The sense of life comes out of the belief in culture values and not from scientific investigation. The question is what amount of reason and fact forms the basis of belief. Malinowski's statement is also valid in a civilized world where magic has been replaced by science and the sorcerer by the intellectual.

It is significant that stimulating books on American culture — D. Riesman's, M. Lerner's and others — have been written by outsiders in sociology. The concept of 'behavioral sciences' looking for convergences in anthropology, sociology and psychology is an answer to an acute need of 'anthropology' meant as a science of social man.

JAN LUTYŃSKI

#### ON ANTHROPOLOGICAL STUDY OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND RESEARCH IN THE SOCIO-CULTURAL CHANGES IN CONTEMPORARY POLAND

The paper discusses the community-study method as an instrument in social researches and presents the Polish contribution to this method brought by Professor Chałasiński's school. The community study method is valuable in studies of the socio-cultural change occurring in contemporary Poland. The study of middle-sized cities, such as Płock, where rapid social changes are in progress following industrialization, is of particular importance. The paper carries the scheme of researches in Płock laying a stress on the need of a study of the socio-cultural change as a whole and as a historical process.

ANTONINA KŁOSKOWSKA

#### NATIONAL CONCEPTS AND ATTITUDES OF SCHOOL CHILDREN IN OPOLE

This paper is part of a report of a pilot study following a research programme of the professors O. Klineberg and W. E. Lambert (cf. O. Klineberg, W. E. Lambert: *A Pilot Study of the Origin and Development of National Stereotypes in Children*, 'International Social Science Journal', 1959 No. 2). 150 school children aged seven, ten and fourteen were interviewed on their attitude to and their idea of their own national group and other ethnic groups. The principal object of the research has been to find out how national attitudes are formed as a result of socialization operating through different channels, such as home, school, mass media, etc.

The research was carried out in a middle-sized city in the Polish Western Territories (Silesia). The population of the town is composed of groups with different regional traditions: an autochthonous Silesian group, repatriants from former Polish eastern territories, and immigrants from central Poland. The main findings of the research are as follows:

The regional origin of the family has no perceptible influence on the national awareness of the children as measured by the frequency of the use of national self-reference in answer to the question: 'Who are you?' and other indicators. The occurrence of ethnically orientated answers is growing with age. Children aged from seven to eight give less stereotyped descriptions of their own national group than the older children. The traditional attributes of the Polish national stereotype, i.e.: brave, patriotic and hospitable, appear only in descriptions given by the fourteen year old, but oldest children are at the same time more critical in the evaluation of the Polish people than the two younger age groups.

The scores of prejudiced attitudes towards other peoples are rather high in comparison with the data obtained by Klineberg and Lambert. This is primarily due to the children's opinion of the Germans most often presented as the disliked foreign group. The result of the poll shows that this attitude is formed mostly under the influence of home being connected with the traumatic war experience of the parents. A differentiation in the attitudes towards the Germans and the general drop in negative evaluations and unfriendly attitudes towards foreign ethnic groups seem to be due to the influence of the school which is markedly growing with age.

A similar research carried out in a big city in central Poland will help to check some of the hypotheses of the pilot study. A summarized report of the pilot research is published in English in the review of the Polish Sociological Society, the 'Polish Sociological Bulletin', Vol. I, No 1.

WACŁAW PIOTROWSKI

#### SOME ECOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF THE CITY OF ŁÓDŹ

The interest in the city of Łódź as object of sociological studies can be traced almost to the beginnings of the sociological research centre at the University of Łódź opened in 1945.

These studies, both in the past and in the present, have been characteristic for two things. First, they reflected the general interest in this second largest Polish city with a brief but dynamic history of development still lacking, however, a comprehensive scholarly interpretation. Secondly, the Łódź sociological centre has engaged in research work in response to the needs of the planning institutions which asked for aid also in the form of a sociological diagnosis indispensable to remedy many functions of the underdeveloped town organism inherited by Łódź from the period of destructive economy under capitalist rule.

The study of the ecological structure of Łódź which is presently reviewed falls within the second category. It was inaugurated after consultation with the Town Planning Centre run by local municipal authorities who were preparing and already implementing the plans of the city's spatial development in the stage until 1965 and, in the long range perspective, until 1985.

Łódź has now a population of more than seven hundred thousand living on an administrative area of some twenty thousand hectares. The city area, ratified in 1945, increased nearly four times as compared with pre-war through incorporation of suburban townships, settlements, villages and fields. Administratively, this area has been subdivided into a central district and four marginal districts. Yet, in the implementation of the spatial development programme these districts, because of

their size and the number of their population, could constitute but a rough framework for plans requiring a more detailed division of the city on the basis of specific socio-cultural and physiographic features of separate areas.

The present study established 23 such areas in the city calling them 'basic districts' after taking into consideration: a) statements by the residents who described these parts of the city by definite names; b) the opinion of the residents as to the principal streets in these districts known under separate names; c) the opinion of the residents as to the neighbouring streets outside their own district; d) the character of the area in which a definite name was prevailing; e) the obstacles dividing these areas in a natural manner; and f) the historical process of extension of the city due to the successive incorporation of suburban grounds. The 'basic districts' thus established were subsequently subjected to an analysis from the angle of social and professional structure of their residents, the incidence of offences and social diseases, functions fulfilled, services, etc.

In the light of the structure of the basic districts it can be said of the existing administrative division of the city that it does not divide them mechanically by combining them into bigger units and that the central part is, in principle, identical with the historical central part. Thus, through the application of urban planning schemes was possible to avoid in Łódź such divergences between the administrative and natural division of the city as are known from the ecological studies of the American towns.

It has been stated as a result of the research that there are some essential differences between the separate basic districts in the intensity of occurrence of analysed phenomena. Some likenesses in districts similarly situated as regards the city centre have been also noted.

It seems, therefore, that the basic districts can be regarded as natural units providing a sufficient departure for a socio-spatial analysis of the structure of Łódź on the ground of the characteristic separate zones with different physiographic and social features.

#### COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Józef Chałasiński: *The People and Problems of Ghana as Reflected in Ghana's Dailies and Magazines*; Józef Chałasiński: *On Literature and Fiction Writing in Nigeria*; Teresa Pfabé, 'Black Orpheus' — *the Literary Gazette in Nigeria*; Krystyna Chałasińska: 'Inutiles' — *On the Novel Published in the Weekly 'Afrique Nouvelle' (Dakar)*; Krystyna Chałasińska: *The Tribe of Kikuyu and other Tribes of Kenya in Transition in the Light of Jomo Kenyatta's Facing Mount Kenya*.

These five papers deal with problems of politics, political élite and political leadership, politicians and new intelligentsia, legal monogamy and customary polygamy, beginning of national history writing and national literature — novel and poetry — in English and in vernacular languages, and the search for African personality presented against the traditional culture of tribal societies. They are based on Ghana's daily press the — 'Daily Graphic' (1959) and 'Evening News' (1961); the magazines 'The Ghanaian' (1959); 'Drum' (1959, Ghana Edition); and 'Black Orpheus' (1960, Nigeria); and the Weekly 'Afrique Nouvelle' (1961, Dakar); 'Présence Africaine' (1959—1961, Paris). Nigerian fiction writings by Amos Tutuola and Cyprian Ekwensi as well as Jomo Kenyatta's *Facing the Mount Kenya* (1938, II ed. 1953) have been also considered.

## SOCIOLOGY IN POLAND

## THE LENIN SESSION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WARSAW

A scientific session commemorating the 90th anniversary of the birth of W. I. Lenin was held at the University of Warsaw on April 28 and 29, 1960 under the auspices of the Institute of the History of Poland (Polish Academy of Sciences), the History of the Party Centre at the Polish United Workers Party Central Committee, the Historical Institute (University of Warsaw) and the Institute of Literary Research (Polish Academy of Sciences). The publication *From the History of Lenin's Ideas in Poland* (Warsaw, 1961, 304 pages), issued by the History of the Party Centre at the PUWP Central Committee, is the fruit of the session. The volume contains four papers which were read at the session: *Lenin and Poland's Independence* by Henryk Jabłoński, Professor at the University of Warsaw and Scientific Secretary of the Polish Academy of Sciences; *Lenin and Some Problems of the Polish Working Class Movement (prior to 1918)* by Jan Kancewicz and Feliks Tych; *Lenin and the Polish Communist Movement (1918-1923)* by Tadeusz Daniszewski and Józef Kowalski; and *Lenin and the Polish Intelligentsia* by Stefan Żółkiewski, Professor at the University of Warsaw and Secretary of the Social Sciences Section, Polish Academy of Sciences.

Professor Żółkiewski's paper, constituting one third of the volume, ends with a chapter in which the author, in the light of Leninism, subjected to criticism Józef Chałasiński's book *Polish Intelligentsia — Past and Future* (Warsaw, 1958). "...Chałasiński, says Professor Żółkiewski, draws conclusions which eliminate the concept itself of socialist class intelligentsia. He does not postulate a betterment of socialist institutions on the basis of their specific aims but instead puts forth different aims." Professor Żółkiewski ends his paper with the following conclusions: "In all this the Party's consistent leadership is an essential factor... I made an attempt just now to combat survivals of the influence of old, bourgeois ideals. This struggle, I think, should be continued... Our youth nowadays should be always guided by the model of Lenin's thought, aflame and bold, paving the way towards fine action."

## A POLISH MANUAL OF THE HISTORY OF SOCIOLOGY

The work *Sociology — Evolution of the Problems and Methods* (Warsaw, 1961, 518 pages) by Jan Szczepański, Professor of Sociology, University of Łódź, is reviewed in the book news 'Nowe Książki' (No. 5, 1961) by Zygmunt Bauman, Assistant Professor of Sociology, University of Warsaw. "Professor Szczepański, he writes, provides a matter-of-fact and lucid survey of all the sociological concepts with such precision that their authors would certainly appreciate his compendium. Moreover, his treatment is scholarly and objective, with a remarkable sobriety in the evaluation of reviewed opinions. [...] Dealing with each of the sociological trends under consideration, Professor Szczepański expounds not so much his personal views as presents the later evolution of these concepts in sociological research centres. He supplies reasons why some of them have been disapproved or subjected to criticism and the others adapted by the schools in university *milieux* constituting a lasting achievement of sociology until the present day."

Jan Szczepański's book developed from his lectures on social thought, the history of sociology and the evolution of methods in sociological research given at

the University of Łódź during the 1947—1956 period. It is subdivided into the following chapters: I. Introductory Remarks on the Evolution of Social Thought prior to the 19th Century; II. The Elements of the Sociological Theory in Saint-Simon's Views; III. Theories and Methods in Auguste Comte's Sociology; IV. Sociological Ideas of Liberalism and Utopian Socialism; V. Theories and Methods of Research by Social Reformers; VI. Sociological Ideas of Marxism; VII. Evolutionist Sociology; VIII. Naturalistic Sociology; IX. Psychological Tendencies and Methods in Sociology; X. Vilfred Pareto's Sociological Theories; XI. Sociologism; XII. Humanistic Sociology; XIII. Formal Sociology; XIV. From Systems to Specialization; XV. Contemporary Sociology.

#### 'SOCIOLOGICAL STUDIES'

No. 1/1961 of the new Polish sociological quarterly 'Studia Socjologiczne' ('Sociological Studies') has come out. It is published by the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology of the Polish Academy of Sciences with Zygmunt Bauman, Assistant Professor of Sociology (University of Warsaw) as Editor in Chief.

Contents: S. Ossowski, *Standpoints and Schools*; J. Hochfeld, *The Marx's Theory of Classes: An Attempt at Systematization*; J. J. Wiatr, *Historical Materialism and the Conditions of a Socialist Society*; A. Malewski, *Discongruity Among Convictions and its Consequences*; S. Nowak, *General Laws and Historical Generalizations in Social Sciences*; H. Malewska, *Ritual Religiousness, Moral Rigorism and Severity in Child-Rearing*; A. Pawełczyńska, *Groups of Juvenile Delinquents*; Z. Gostkowski, *Fluctuations in the Popularity of Newspapers in the Opole District during the Period 1956—1957*; M. Ossowska, *The Twilight of Puritan Ethos in the United States*; J. Kubin, *Some Factors Conditioning the Effectiveness of Mass Influence*; M. Hirszowicz, *The Sociological Theory of the State: Difficulties and Opportunities*. — Notes. Book Reviews. News.

#### THE SOCIOLOGICAL SECTION OF THE SILESIA INSTITUTE IN OPOLE

The Sociological Section of the Silesian Institute in Opole met at its Summer conference on June 19 and 20 this year. The agenda included rural and urban aspects of contemporary civilization as reflected in regional phenomena in the Opole district. The following papers were presented: Z. Gostkowski's on the social and cultural functions of the local newspaper 'Trybuna Opolska'; W. Świderski's on the changes in rural patterns in some rural communities in the Opole region; K. Żygulski's on two generations, born in 1910 and 1930, of the residents of the city of Opole; J. Woskowski's on Opole teachers; and A. Olszewska-Ładykowa's on television in the Opole region. The head of the Sociological Section of the Silesian Institute in Opole is Dr. Józef Chałasiński, Professor of Sociology at the University of Łódź.

#### BOOK REVIEWS

K wilecki, A., *Rola społeczna nauczyciela na Ziemiach Zachodnich w świetle pamiętników nauczycieli-osadników* [On the Social Role of Teachers in the Western Territories in the Light of Their Autobiographies], Poznań 1960 Instytut Zachodni [The Western Institute], 124 pages.

This publication, based on autobiographies of teachers working in the Western Territories, contains the following chapters: I. Journals of Teachers Who Settled in the Western Territories as a Historical and Sociological Document; II. The Motives Prompting Teachers to Settle in the Western Territories; III. The Teacher as Organizer of School Education; IV. Society and the Teacher; V. The Teacher's Role in Youth Upbringing; VI. The Teacher as Social Leader; VII. The Teacher's Role in Shaping Adaptation and Integration Processes. The work provides essential information on sociological facts and phenomena occurring in the Western Territories. Yet, the journals alone, because of their more or less egocentric character of an autobiographical source, are incapable to disclose adequately the entire background of a teacher's activity. A light thrown from a different angle, from the 'positions outside the teaching profession', on both the role of teachers and other roles linked with it, would be valuable.

Zbigniew Tyszka

Czapow, Cz., Manturzewski, S., *Niebezpieczne ulice. U źródeł chulipaństwa. Materiały i refleksje [Dangerous Streets. On Juvenile Misbehaviour and Delinquency. Material and Notes]*, Warszawa 1960 Iskry, 491 pages.

The authors present on the one hand the results of their own field research and on the other results of hitherto psychological and sociological studies on maladjusted youth in Poland and in the other countries. In fact the volume contains two separate and unconnected works, independent of each other. A part of material was collected in a method of participating observation carried out among the Warsaw gangs (74 boys from 15 gangs). The results were checked by contacts with the families of the youngsters, the court of law, the probation officers and militia as well as with members of other gangs. However, the authors stopped mid-way and failed to take advantage of all the chances for research provided by direct and long contacts with maladjusted youth. I have in mind particularly the chance to study the internal structure of a gang, internal ties between its members, the cult of certain values specific for the gang and their relationship with some definite situations.

It seems that the principal misunderstanding was to include juvenile delinquency within the range of hooliganism. In the authors' opinion '...elements of a behaviour characteristic for hooligans are a trait of an overwhelming majority of juvenile delinquents' (p. 18) and this suffices to quote statistical data regarding juvenile delinquency as illustration of 'the dangers of hooliganism'. This standpoint is utterly erroneous, particularly as regards juveniles under 13 and 14 (statistics show that this age group constitutes an average of 30 to 40 per cent of all the juveniles) in whose case it is hard to speak of behaviour characteristic for hooligans as the latter's exclusive aim is to manifest disrespect of the accepted principles of social life. In fact, quite a number of ordinary thieves can be found also among juveniles under 17. For the Polish penal code describes a juvenile delinquent as a person who in the period under 17 years of age, that is a period of incomplete penal responsibility, committed an act punishable by the law whatever would be the character of this act.

The above criticism of the reviewed book is moderated to a large extent by the fact that the authors were confronted with many difficulties arising, among other things, from the pioneer character in Poland of their empirical research on hooliganism.

Piotr Kryczka



## CONTRIBUTORS

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Jan Lutyński — see Vol. XV, No. 1.

Wacław Piotrowski, M. A. in Sociology, Instructor in Sociology at the University in Łódź, engaged in studies of social ecology of Łódź.