

*AIDP — ACTIVITIES OF THE POLISH BRANCH**CHRONICLE OF THE POLISH BRANCH*

At the beginning of 1964, the Polish Group of the AIDP (Association Internationale de Droit Pénal) elected a new Executive. It comprised Professor I. Andrejew as chairman, Professor L. Lernell and Mr. K. Świtała, Deputy Prosecutor General for Poland as vice-chairman, and the following members: Mrs. M. Regent-Lechowiczowa, director of department in the Ministry of Justice, Professor W. Świda, Professor W. Wolter, and Mr. K. Jankowski, President of the Military Chancery of the Supreme Court.

In August 1964 the Polish Group sent a delegation to the IX Congress of the AIDP at The Hague. The members of the delegation were as follows: Professor I. Andrejew as chairman, Professor L. Lernell, Professor M. Siewierski, and Professor J. Bafia as an observer from the Ministry of Justice. The general paper in Section I, on the subject *Cidpable circumstances, with the exception of recidivism and the concurrence of crime*, was read by Professor L. Lernell. In addition, the Poles gave three national papers (about Subjects I, II and III), written by Professor J. Śliwowski, Professor I. Andrejew, and Professor M. Siewierski.

Directly after the congress at The Hague, the Executive of the Polish Group arranged a meeting at which the Polish delegates gave a detailed and comprehensive report of the congress. The great interest shown in the subject of the meeting was demonstrated by the large attendance of both jurists and practising lawyers.

But the activities of the Polish Group in 1964 were not limited to its prépara-

tions for and participation in the AIDP Congress. Following suggestions made by the present authorities of the AIDP, the new Executive of the Polish Group planned a considerable expansion of the Group's activities by organizing lectures, conferences and meetings for discussion.

Taking advantage of a visit paid to Poland by Professor Jimenez de Asua, of Buenos Aires University, the Polish Group held a meeting for discussion, which was attended by Mr. F. Wróblewski, President of the Criminal Chancery of the Supreme Court. Professor Jimenez de Asua gave a lecture on *Culpa (substance, kinds, and limits) and dolus eventualis*. He also replied to numerous question on the subjects of involuntary offences, which have become a very topical problem.

Then a meeting was held to honour the memory of Cesare Beccaria. The world has recently, under the auspices of UNESCO, been celebrating the bicentenary of the publication of his treaties on crime and punishment, which heralded the era of humanism in criminal law and marked the beginning of the modern study of the criminal law. Two papers were read. Professor B. Leśnodorski spoke of Beccaria's influence on Polish thinkers in the 18th century, while Professor I. Andrejew dealt with the pertinence of Beccaria's thinking at the present day. It is intended that these two papers should appear in print, in a special publication dealing with Cesare Beccaria and his work. This is an event that will be of interest to enthusiasts of the Enlightenment Period and to people who have to do with the history of the criminal law.

The Executive of the Polish Group, being not indifferent to the events that are absorbing world opinion at present, and lawyers in particular, sent a letter to Professor J. Graven, recapitulating the legal arguments against the negative prescription of war crimes, and asking the AIDP to take steps in this matter. The letter passed over moral and political arguments, and confined itself to an objective expose of the falseness of the legal arguments according to which, in the views of the N.R.F. authorities, proceedings against war criminals should be negatively prescribed as from 9th May, 1965.

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