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Education for ecological bonds with nature and care about its protection in the Republic of Poland in the period between the wars (1918-1939)

Wychowanie do ekologicznych relacji z przyrodą w trosce o jej ochronę w Rzeczypospolitej okresu międzywojennego (1918-1939)

Abstract:

In the years 1918-1939 the Ministry of Religions of Public Enlightenment recommended periodicals for public use, in which articles on the protection of nature were published. The purpose of the article is to explain the process of education for ecological attitudes (indirect education in the teaching space) on the example of the "Ziemia" periodical issued by the Polish Sightseeing Society. The structure of this article is based on chronology and issue analysis. A qualitative method of research was applied in the process of scientific research (the qualitative analysis of a text/qualitative analysis of documents), in which a hermeneutic understanding and text interpretation is relevant.

Keywords: The Second Republic of Poland (1918-1939), indirect education for ecological attitudes, proper relations with nature, environmental protection, "Ziemia" (1919-1939).

Abstrakt:

W latach 1918-1939 Ministerstwo Wyznań Religijnych Oświecenia Publicznego zalecało czasopisma do użytku szkolnego na łamach których publikowano artykuły dotyczące ochrony przyrody. Celem artykułu jest wyjaśnienie jak przebiegał proces wychowania do postaw ekologicznych (wychowanie pośrednie w przestrzeni edukacyjnej) na przykładzie czasopisma „Ziemia”, wydawanego przez Polskie Towarzystwo Krajoznawcze. Artykuł ma strukturę chronologiczną i problemową. W procesie badań naukowych zastosowano metodę badań jakościowych (jakościowa analiza tekstu/analiza jakościowa dokumentów), w której istotne są hermeneutyczne rozumienie oraz interpretacja tekstu.

Słowa kluczowe: II Rzeczypospolita (1918-1939), wychowanie pośrednie do postaw ekologicznych, prawidłowe relacje z przyrodą, ochrona przyrody, „Ziemia” (1919-1939).

The first issue/number of "Ziemia" (illustrated weekly devoted to nature) was issued on 1 January 1910 as the entity of the Polish Sightseeing Society (established in 1906). Until the First World War, in the period of the Polish Kingdom 240 numbers were issued, Kazimierz Kulwieć fulfilled the duties of the chief editor. Due to warfare actions the weekly was suspended, but in the reborn Republic of Poland the periodical was renewed in 1919 and it emphasized the need and necessity to promote the idea of the national sightseeing. Since 30 August 1919 the chief editor of "Ziemia" (full title: „Ziemia. Tygodnik krajoznawczy

ilustrowany”) was Edward Maliszewski, the publisher was Kazimierz Kulwieć, and later the Polish Sightseeing Society. The publishing house and administration of the periodical was in Warsaw, at Karowa 31, later Nowy Świat 19.

Whereas in the first issue of "Ziemia" issued in the period of the Second Republic of Poland (1918-1939) the following information was included: „we renew the publishing of "Ziemia" after a five year break period, (...) the aim and the task of "Ziemia" from the beginning of its existence was to unify all Polish districts in the common spiritual effort to recognize and to examine our country as comprehensibly as possible and to establish live ties of connection between the Matrix and its sons dispersed everywhere and far away” (*Do naszych czytelników...*, 1919/33-35, p. 514). In December 1919 it was announced that due to high editing costs, "Ziemia" would become a monthly in 1920 (compare: *Do naszych czytelników...*, 1919/44-52, p. 640) In January 1922 it was written in the monthly that despite strong efforts it was impossible to issue the periodical in the period from the middle of 1920 until the end of 1921. The publication of the monthly was renewed when the Polish Sightseeing Society received from the Ministry of Religions and Public Enlightenment a financial support for the editing purposes. At that time the Editing Committee was established in the following personal composition: prof. W. Antoniewicz, prof. J. Bystron, prof. A. Chybiński, prof. J. Czekanowski, prof. E. Frankowski, B. Gembarzewski, prof. A. Górski, prof. B. Hryniewiecki, prof. A. Janowski, K. Kulwieć (chief editor until 1925), prof. M. Limanowski, prof. S. Noakowski, prof. S. Pawłowski, prof. E. Romer, prof. J. Rutkowski, prof. M. Siedlecki, prof. W. Semkowicz and prof. A. Sujkowski. During the first meeting of the Editing Committee it was decided that monograph issues should be edited in particular regions of Poland: Górny Śląsk, Małopolska Wschodnia, Ziemia Wileńska, Polesie and Kraków, Poznań, Warsaw (compare: "Ziemia", 1922/1, p. 1).

From 1926 the editor of "Ziemia". (Dwutygodnik krajoznawczy ilustrowany. Organ Polskiego Towarzystwa Krajoznawczego) was Aleksander Janowski („Ziemia”, 1926/21, cover page). From 1928 the editor was Regina Danysz-Fleszarowa (“Ziemia”, 1928/7, cover page), and then PhD Konrad Górski (1930) (“Ziemia”, 1930/24, internal side of the cover), and from 1931 Jerzy Remer (“Ziemia”, 1931/23-24, cover page). After J. Remer (General Conservationist at the Ministry of Religions and Public Enlightenment) resigned the obligations of the editor of "Ziemia", the Chief Board of the Polish Sightseeing Society summoned Aleksander Janowski to fulfill this function (as of 15 November 1932). From 1934 the function of the editor of "Ziemia" was taken by Aleksander Patkowski.

In December 1931, in the Anniversary Issue of "Ziemia" on the occasion of 25th anniversary of the Polish Sightseeing Society the *Editors' Announcement* was published in "Ziemia", which stated that as of 1 January 1932 the periodical would (again) turn a monthly from a biweekly (compare: *Zapowiedź Redakcji...*, 1931/23-24, p. 404).

It should be emphasized that the Ministry of Religions and Public Enlightenment, already in 1920 recommended the "Ziemia" magazine for the school use (*Podręczniki i książki...*, 1920/4, p. 57). The periodical was recommended to teachers (with qualification for libraries in all schools) also in later years (*Komunikat w sprawie...*, 1938/2, p. 75-76). Very well-known activists of the environmental protection issued their work there, among others the co-author of the Polish theory of the protection of nature Adam Wodziczko, and Bolesław Hryniewiecki, Jan Sokołowski, Aleksander Janowski, Aleksander Patkowski, Walery Goetel.

1. Environmental Protection

In the "Ziemia" magazine in 1919 there was a publication of the disposition of the Minister of Religions and Public Enlightenment Jan Łukasiewicz on the protection of certain monuments of nature as of 15 September 1919. By this normative act, to protect the monuments of nature, it was prohibited to destroy or take out from the country many valuable monuments of nature.

The Temporary Commission of Environmental Protection established in 1919, transformed in 1925 into the National Council of Environmental Protection (presided by the Minister of Religions and Public Enlightenment) promoted the idea of environmental protection in the Polish society (compare: Wolter, 2013, p. 122). In the analyzed periodical "Ziemia" it was written that the Temporary Commission of Environmental Protection, acting under the supervision of prof. Władysław Szafer, aiming at the protection/maintenance of pure areas of the Polish landscape for the future generations, attracted attention to the value of the Wigierskie Lake, especially after acquaintance with the paper of A. Lityński - director of the Wigry Hydrobiological Station. In this context, at the meeting of a Commission of 28 December 1921 a motion was announced on recognizing the Wigierskie Lake as (partial) reserve (compare: Kulwieć, 1922/3, p. 86-87). In March 1922 the need of environmental protection was emphasized (due to scientific and landscape reasons) of the Ojcowskie caves and caverns, where bats live (compare: "Ziemia", 1922/3, p. 113-114).

Władysław Semkowicz wrote about the Polish achievements in the scope of the protection of the Tatra mountains and he emphasized that „*The Polish people loved every piece of the Tatra mountains and they put a lot of effort and work to protect live monuments of the Tatra landscape*” (Semkowicz, 1923/1, p. 8). Aleksander Janowski explained the meaning of the need to protect the nature of the Tatras and Puszcza Białowieska. He appealed to protect „*at least the minor pieces of the virgin nature and leave them as the area of work of the scientist, who examines the life of nature left to its own*” (Janowski, 1923/1, p. 12-13). He emphasized that to protect the nature the National Commission of Environmental Protection should cooperate with the Ministry of Agriculture and National Property. It should be highlighted that in 1938

the readers were informed that „*the northern slopes of High Tatras were returned to Poland, located in the basin of Białka and its right side inflow: Potok Jaworowy. (...) They hide incredibly beautiful landscapes and plants, the famous world of animals*” (Młodziejowski, 1938/12, p. 288-289).

January Kołodziejczyk claimed that only thanks to harmonious cooperation of regional institutions and the National Commission of Environmental Protection it is possible to implement the idea of natural protection. He explained that poviats, or even communes should take care to protect interesting objects of nature and create local reserves (such as forest pine parts, mixed forests, bogs, dunes, steppic plants, rocks), which would make specific "live museums" of the landscape of a given place and area. Such local reserves, besides shelter for plants and animals would popularize their value and meaning for environment (compare: Kołodziejczyk, 1925/2, p. 18-19).

Jan Sokołowski explained the need to protect birds, because their small number interrupts the balance in nature (insects destroy forests). According to Sokołowski, special protection is due to the nests of eagles and owls (compare: Sokołowski, 1926/21, p. 337). Marian Koczwara wrote about the need to protect limba in the Tatras and Karpaty (Limba Karpacka) „*so that the most beautiful ornament of the mountain forests could finally enjoy proper protection and reasonable care*” (Koczwara, 1926/19, p. 292).

According to Włodzimierz Kulmatycki special protection should be given to the idyllic place: the Ciche Lake in the Brodnickie Lakes Area, because it is a specific monument of nature, with plenty of *Oscillatoria rubescens* (compare: Kulmatycki, 1928/12, p. 185). On the other hand Aleksander Janowski appealed for a protection of wild animals, but he claimed that care should also be given to domestic animals, (who „*suffer a hell of slavery*”) (Janowski, 1928/12, p. 186).

Romuald Rosłoński wrote about the natural gift of mineral water. He emphasized that in the Polish land there are many kinds of it, with various chemical composition and many healing properties, even in the area of the same resort (among others in Krynica, Szczawnica, Wysowa, Truskawiec). Considering the healing properties, he enumerated the following kinds of water: "szczawa", brine, sulphurous water (see: Rosłoński, 1929/12, p. 189-192).

Jan Karpowicz wrote about the protection of nature in Poland in the historical context. He focused on the years of national slavery. He presented the activity of the pioneer of environmental protection Hugo Conwentz'a - director of the Museum of Nature in Gdańsk (compare: Karpowicz, 1930/6, p. 101), who formulated many postulates of the protection of the treasures of nature, creation of reserves (such as the yew reserve in Bory Tucholskie). According to J. Karpowicz in the Austrian Partition there was no such a big output in the scope of the protection of nature. In this area the creator of the idea of environmental protection was prof. of the Jagiellonian University M. Siła-Nowicki - the

initiator of the *Law as for the Prohibition to catch, eliminate and sell the Alpine animals in the Tatras, the groundhog and wild goat*, binding as of 19 July 1869. Work of prof. M. Siła-Nowicki was continued by: M. Raciborski, M. Łomnicki, W. Kulczycki, B. Kotula, F. Wilkosz and others. In the land of the Russian Partition there were the smallest actions in the scope of environmental protection, because the Russian government, with enormous areas of land, was not interested in the issue of environmental protection. However the idea of the protection of nature was not completely strange to them, which is confirmed by the activity of the Polish Sightseeing Society and forest reserves established by land owners (such as K. hr. Raczyński in Złoty Potok, J. hr. Potocki in Pilawina) (compare: *ibidem*, p. 102).

It should be added that Jan Karpowicz also wrote about the systematic work (from 17 December 1919), of the earlier mentioned in this articles the Temporary Commission of Environmental Protection¹), which in 1923 took part in the *International Congress of Environmental Protection* in Paris, during which a motion was submitted to organize the International League to Protect the Wisent (similar to the American League of Bison Protection). Although it was welcome with enthusiasm, the Polish initiative was not realized, because in the same time the German People established the International League to Protect the Wisent (which Poland did not enter into, but established a separate section). The most significant result of many years of work of the National Board of the League for Nature Conservation was a partial completion of the project of national parks and natural reserves. Karpowicz explained that the national park is „*a bigger space, valuable in scientific terms, with a beautiful or characteristic landscape devoid of negative influence of human development. Plants and animals (...) are absolutely protected*” (*ibidem*, p. 104). *Whereas the reserves are "certain separated areas, which serve to protect particular sets of nature (...) we differentiate the forest, steppic, lakes reserves etc."* (*ibidem*).

The readers of „*Ziemia*” found out that the National Park in the Białowieża Forest was formed in 1921 (in the area of circa 4.600 ha). The inert of the National Park in the Świętokrzyskie Mountains exists in the form of two reserves (St. Katarzyna - 144 ha and St. Cross - 175 ha) and is to embrace a part of the Świętokrzyskie Mountains (connecting the two reserves). This project was undertaken by the Committee of the Protection of Fir Forest and was trying to keep the forest as National Park of Stefan Żeromski. The National Park of

¹ Composition of the National Board of the Nature Conservation: prof. W. Szafer – chairman and Delegate of the Minister of Religions and Public Enlightenment for Environmental Protection, prof. S. Sokołowski, prof. W. Goetel, prof. S. Kreutz, prof. M. Siedlecki, prof. J. Smoleński, prof. B. Hryniewiecki, prof. J. Morozewicz, prof. S. Dziubałtowski, A. Janowski, L. Staff, F. Goetel, J. Remer, S. Małkowski, dr M. Sokołowski, prof. A. Wodziczko, prof. J. Grochmalicki, prof. J. Paczoski, prof. J. G. Pawlikowski, prof. S. Wierdak, prof. A. Kozikowski, prof. S. Kulczyński, prof. M. Limanowski i prof. J. S. Kłós (Zakopane), J. Domaniewski, hr. A. Stadnicki. Compare: *Ochrona przyrody w Polsce*. (1930), in: „*Ziemia*” (Organ Polskiego Towarzystwa Krajoznawczego. Dwutygodnik krajoznawczy ilustrowany. Polecony przez Ministerstwo W. R. i O. P.), Warszawa, 15 marca 1930 (rok XV), Nr 6, p. 103.

Wielkopolska in Ludwików near Poznań (located between the lakes: Góreckie, Skrzyńska, Kociołek and Budzyńskie) is the property of the State and the *National Foundation „Zakłady Kórnickie”* (compare: *ibidem*, p. 105). The Seaside National Park in Kępa Redłowska near Gdynia also constitutes the property of the State and it was recognized as protected in 1929. In the Group of Czarnohory (with its highest summit Howerla – 2058 m.) in the area of state forests there is a beautiful national park with the area of 832 ha. The works on the completion of the National Park in Pieniny are about to end. Whereas the National Park in the Tatra Mountains in the area of 620 sq.m., out of which 170 km is in the area of Poland. The completion of the Tatra National Park is based on the *National Foundation „Zakłady Kórnickie”* (which is the owner of the most beautiful mountain areas). Jan Karpowicz stated that so far the National Park in Babia Góra in Beskidy Zachodnie has not been completed (compare: *ibidem*, p. 106).

The biweekly „Ziemia” also published a report of *XIII Convent of the National Council of Environmental Protection* (it was held on 11 January 1930) when Władysław Szafer presented a report of the activity of PROP in 1929. The report states that several new representative offices of the Council were formed (the Łódzkie voivodship, Gdynia and the seaside areas, Kartuzy, Leszno, the powiat of Tarnobrzeg). Besides, the National Council of Environmental Protection co-works with related foreign organizations. A private reserve was formed in Poręba Wielka near the Turbacz summit in Gorce, a reserve in state forests in Kępa Redłowska at the seaside of the Baltic Sea, the forest reserve in Skały Panieńskie near Krakow (compare: *Wiadomości bieżące. Kronika...*, 1930/6, p. 119).

The need to establish national parks in Poland was also described by Bolesław Hryniewiecki in 1934. Referring to the work of prof. Jan Gwalbert Pawlikowski he reminded the ambivalent thesis: *the lovers of the Tatras are their biggest enemies* (compare: Hryniewiecki, 1934/1-2, p. 12). He stated that it is necessary to protect nature for the future generations „in more than one hundred reserves and bigger national parks, already formed or under formation in the area of Białowieża, Łysogóry, Pieniny, Babia Góra, Czarnohora and Tatras, with a special and versatile form of the Polish nature and the Polish landscape” (*ibidem*, p. 14).

Aleksander Patkowski wrote about the *Committee of Fir Forest Protection*, operating since 1926 which was formed by teachers, geologists, botanists, geographers, anthropologists, historians, scientists, men of letters, journalists. He emphasized that they undertook actions to obtain the patronage of the President of the Republic of Poland in the issue of the area of the National Park of Stefan Żeromski in the Świętokrzyskie Mountains (compare: Patkowski, 1934/1-2, p. 16-20). *The Committee of Fir Forest Protection* at the Association of Polish Teachers was also described Bolesław Hryniewiecki in 1936. He emphasized that persistent efforts of the Committee lead to the formation of the National Park of Stefan Żeromski in the Świętokrzyskie Mountains (compare: Hryniewiecki, 1936/2-3, p. 66-68).

In "Ziemia" there were also articles about a considerable meaning of thirteen years of efforts (*Ustawa...*, 1934/3, p. 45), which lead to resolve the *Law of 10 March 1934 on environmental protection* - legal basis on counteracting the destruction of nature in Poland. Pursuant to this normative act the management and the general supervision in the scope of environmental protection belongs to the competence of the Minister of Religions and Public Enlightenment. The executive authorities are nature conservationists (they belong to the personal composition of voivodship offices). Besides, for the purpose of the protection of nature a special *Fund of Environmental Protection* (as a legal person) was formed (compare: *ibidem*, p. 46). According to the law the following was under protection: soil, its formation, caves, still and running waters, waterfalls, water coasts, animals, plants, minerals, fossils - types, gatherings and particular specimen, which need to be protected for scientific reasons, aesthetic, historical and commemorative reasons or because of particular feature of landscape. The protection related dispositions may consist in (depending on needs) prohibition to do changes in the subject or its surrounding, prohibition to use, to hunt, fish, cut trees, destroy plants, pollute water, excavate land, on prohibitions of disposal and acquisition and taking abroad objects, which are under protection, prohibition to place boards and notices on given objects or areas, prohibitions to construct buildings, organize industrial plants, objects of commerce, limitation of access to a given area, preparing protecting facilities (such as building trenches, regulating the water falling, growing forests in the areas, planting seeds, building fences, announcements on protection etc.) (compare: *ibidem*, p. 47).

Bożenna Papiewska-Urbańska wrote about plants in Wielkopolska, which should be under protection. She emphasised that there were many rare plants in the regions, such as pheasant's eye (*Adonis vernalis*), the meadow cherry (*Prunus fruticosa*), feather grass (*Stipa Joannis*), two types of bellflower (*Campanula sibirica* and *Campanula bononiensis*), briar (*Erica tetralix*), Ritschla fescue (*Festuca amethystina* var. *Ritschli*), Poznań sedge (*Carex posnaniensis*) (Papiewska-Urbańska, 1936/6, p. 161-163). She emphasized the value of environmental and historical monuments such as very old trees. In her opinion most of them survived in parks and near churches. An example may be the oak trees in Wielkopolska upon Warta in Rogalin (Śrem powiat) or a piece of beech forest over the Lutomskie Lake near Sieraków (in the Międzychód powiat). She also referred to the postulates of protection of various kinds of moss, lichen, alga and fungi (mainly for scientific and aesthetic reasons) (*ibidem*, p. 164-165).

The monthly emphasizes the didactic and educational role of making children sensitive in the process of recognizing the nature of their fatherland („*swojszczyzna*”) while learning at school (compare: *Ochrona Przyrody...*, 1922/11, p. 318-319).

2. The Białowieża Forest

The "Ziemia" weekly wrote about the devastation (circa 4-5%) of the area of the Białowieża Forest by the Germans during World War I. Valuable natural forest treasures were destroyed, only several last wisent survived in the forest then (compare: Miklaszewski, 1919/44-45, p. 617-618). In November 1922 there were mentions of carried out research on fauna and flora in the Białowieża Forest (compare: *Z Puszczy Białowieskiej...*, 1922/11, p. 312-315). In 1934 in "Ziemia" many times there were articles on the issues of the Polish forests, where precious species of trees grow, such as the dying out Polish larch (*Larix polonica Rac.*) (Kłoska, 1934/7-8, p. 160).

Jan Kłoska wrote about the numerical and qualitative shrinking of the forest treasures. He devoted special attention to the Białowieża Forest, which is known not only in Poland, but also in the whole world. It was recognized as the biggest forest in the Central Europe (compare: *ibidem*, p. 161), it has been exceptionally valued (privileged) for centuries because of the presence of wisent (also known as the royal animal) (compare: *ibidem*, p. 162). As already mentioned, during World War I the wisent was almost eradicated, but in 1929 the Polish government brought two wisent to the Białowieża Forest and later the next several animals (compare: *ibidem*, p. 163). The author of the articles claimed that besides the Białowieża Forest there are also forests in Karpaty, the Świętokrzyskie Mountains, Polesie, in the area of Augustów (beautiful land of lakes and forests) and in the Mazowsze Region (*ibidem*, p. 164-167).

3. The wealth and monuments of regional nature

Bolesław Hryniewiecki wrote about forests in Silesia, he emphasized the ecological value of the yew tree in Lower Silesia (in the Legnica powiat, nearby Hennersdorf). He claimed that it is one of the biggest trees in Europe (the height 11 m., the diameter over 5 m.). He advised the readers that about one hundred yew trees were growing nearby Kałuża in the Olesiński powiat and about the old yew tree (16 meters high; 1,43 m diameter), which grows in the Tarnowski powiat and two beautiful trees nearby the castle in Wielkie Strzelce. He emphasized that there were many very old oaks near Kłodnica (Kozielski powiat), which need to be protected against annihilation. The biggest oak is also in outside the Polish part of Silesia (diameter 9,61 m). Bolesław Hryniewiecki ornamented the text of his articles with photos/drawings of wisent living in the Pszczyzna forests (compare: Hryniewiecki, 1922/2, p. 51-52).

The readers of the monthly were informed about the density of trees of the biggest forest area in Poland, Bory Tucholskie. Types of trees growing there were enumerated:

spruce, ash, maple, lime, beech, pine, yew. Information on extinguished species was there: wolves, beaver, bear, buffalo; it was emphasized that black stork, owl and hoopoe were also threatened with dying out (compare: Karasiewicz, 1922/3, p. 92-93). Kazimierz Simm described the density of forests in the vicinity of Bydgoszcz. He emphasized that in Bory Tucholskie there are most (about 500 ha of the area) yew trees (*Taxus baccata*). He also mentioned the floristic monument in the Baltic Seaside (growing from Gdynia to Hel) threatened of dying out because of tourists - sea holly (*Eryngium maritimum*) (compare: Simm, 1922/7, p. 234-235). W. Swederski described the natural monuments of Podole, the landscape, the steppe, the forests, the grass, species of trees (Swederski, 1922/10, p. 291-295). Konstanty Stecki devoted his attention to the flora of Jaworzyna, especially to such plants as martagon (*Lilium Martagon* L. in Jaworzyna), alpine buttercup (*Ranunculus alpestris* in the lime rocks of Bialskie Tatry), milk-vetch (*Astragalus australis* in the Valley of Białczyńskie Ponds) (compare: Stecki, 1922/10, p. 296-299).

The "Ziemia" magazine described the world of animals and ecological conditions of the existence of fauna in Warsaw (Sumiński, 1922/12, p. 328). Jerzy Graff wrote about two oaks (*Quercus sessilis*) in Urle, which were recognized as a special peculiarity, because they are completely decayed. Their trunk may contain 3-4 people, the trees are at risk, because people detach their bark (compare: Graff, 1923/10, p. 197). The meaning of parks and green areas in the city was explained (Jankowski, 1922/12, p. 335-341). The reader's attention was attracted to the need to protect nature, to form a few reserves in the area of Warsaw to protect nature against extinction (compare: Kołodziejczyk, 1922/12, p. 341-346).

Adam Wodziczko mentioned the plant monuments of nature near Toruń (Wodziczko, 1923/2, p. 30-31). Witold Kulesza presented a description of flora in Poznań and its vicinity (Kulesza, 1924/4-6, p. 68-76). Whereas Edward L. Niezabitowski wrote about animals, who lived in the past in Wielkopolska: wisent, aurochs, Irish elk, beaver, bear, lynx, wolves, eagles - which was established thanks to scientific research (excavations). Niezabitowski stated that similar extinction may be the fate of many other animals. He explained that because of killing birds and other predators, not only the number of mice grew, but also the so called selective factor was destroyed (which added to the degeneration of game). Whereas by cutting out old decayed trees many birds and bats lost their shelter (compare: Niezabitowski, 1924/4-6, p. 79-84).

January Kołodziejczyk described the species of trees and the landscape of the areas nearby Nowogródek (Kołodziejczyk, 1925/10-12, p. 180-181). Whereas M. Koczwara in the part *The Peculiarities of the Polish Flora* wrote about old species of plants (such as meadowrue of Podole) (Koczwara, 1927/9, p. 137-139). Marian Koczwara wrote about the nature in Beskid Sądecki. He claimed that at the slope of the Tuł mountains orchids are very rare (*Orchis tridentatus*). Among others there is the spherical orchid (*Orchis globosus*). The article is enriched with drawings: the autumn colchicum (*Colchicum autumnale*), the Bologne

bellflower (*Campanula bononiensis*), trident orchid (*Orchis tridentatus*) and the earlier mentioned spherical orchid. According to M. Koczwara the park forest has traces of old climate influence (compare: Koczwara, 1930/6, p. 108-111). Aleksander Janowski, when encouraging the readers of "Ziemia" to visit Wielkopolska, to see the reports of the Poznań Branch of the Polish Sightseeing Society, emphasized the sightseeing value of this region especially the very well kept forests, mild hills, numerous lakes (compare: Janowski, 1933/2, p. 33). Roman Kobendza wrote about plants near Włocławek (Kobendza, 1937/1-2, p. 12-23), and Stefan Macko described the flora of a habitat in the vicinity of Łuck (Macko, 1937/11-12, p. 235-240).

Stanisław Pawłowski explained in the analyzed monthly the meaning of the Baltic Sea ecosystem (Pawłowski, 1924/8-9, p. 133-142). Kazimierz Demel described in detail this sea water reservoir, especially he focused on two factors of the life of fauna and flora in the Baltic sea: temperature and the level of salinity in water (compare: Demel, 1924/12, p. 208-210). Maria Uziembłowa wrote about coniferous forests in Hel (Uziembłowa, 1927/6, p. 86-89). Adam Wisłocki encouraged to practice water tourism thanks to which it is possible to see many beautiful domestic water reservoirs, the experience „*how many miracles, unknown before, take the eyes of the water traveler*” (Wisłocki, 1933/4, p. 77). He admired the Brodnickie Lakes: „*where do the sky, water and forest sing the anthem of the eternal beauty of nature?*” (ibidem). Whereas Mieczysław Klimaszewski wrote about the peculiarities of still nature. He claimed that the most beautiful forms of rocks are so called rock fungi (their shape reminds of forest mushroom) in the area of the Western Beskidy (located between Raba and Dunajec). He also presented the drawings of a rock fungi in Zegartowice and rock fungi in Bukowiec (Klimaszewski, 1934/1-2, p. 34-36). Walery Goetel explained the sub material value of the Polish mountains (Goetel, 1934/7-8, p. 167-172).

5. From our nature

In the above title part of the "Ziemia" periodical there were descriptions of trees (with photos/drawings), which deserve to be legally protected (Kobendza, 1922/3, p. 111-112) against destruction/annihilation. There were texts on plants adaptation (Kołodziejczyk, 1924/1, p. 2-5). In 1933 Adolf Kargel wrote about an oak with two conjoined trunks. It grows in the Chełmy village nearby Łódź and is a specific peculiarity of nature (as he metaphorically put it: „*abberation*”), the bark of which needs to be protected against being damaged by the villagers. He also placed its drawing (compare: *Ochrona przyrody...*, 1933/1, p. 15). Besides, there were appeals to feed animals in winter (Niezabitowski, 1924/2, p. 25).

Maria Uziembłowa in the section *Peculiarities of the Polish nature* wrote about the sea holly, which needs to be protected against extinction (Uziembłowa, 1926/21, p. 334-336). There was a list of healing herbs prepared by Aniela Chmielińska (see: Chmielińska, 1933/5-

6, p. 98-101). Adam Chętnik wrote about the yew trees in the basin of the Narew river. He also presented photos of trees in Zawodzie near Myszyniec. He regretted that it was about to decay and explained that in the Middle Ages it was used to produce many objects (also described by Jędrzej Kitowicz and Zygmunt Gloger) (compare: Chętnik, 1933/12, p. 239-241).

6. From our landscape

In this section of the magazine a lot of photos/drawings of our Polish landscape were printed. Examples may be the photos entitled *The Winter Road*, *The Eastern Karpaty*. *Prut in the vicinity of Tatarów*, *Our Seaside near Rozewie* (phot. J. Bułhak) (*Z naszych krajobrazów...*, 1924/1, p. 1). Beautiful photos of valuable natural treasures, such as wisent in the Białowieża Forest (photo T. Wiśniewski) (*Puszcza Białowieża...*, 1930/6, p. 106) or snowdrop wildflower (*Anemone silvestris* L.) in the sunny slopes near Kulin (photo R. Kobendz) (*"Ziemia"*, 1937/1-2, p. 18).

Conclusion

On the basis of own research it was stated that in "Ziemia" the sightseeing issues dominated, but in many volumes of this periodical there were also texts about the protection of nature. The process of ecological education in this periodical was realized thanks to popularizing the idea of environmental protection among the Polish society, in connection with a patriotic and civil education. The educational value of environmental protection (in content of "Ziemia") concerns knowledge about natural objects protected in the Second Republic of Poland (1918-1939), the landscape and the richness of nature in particular regions of Poland, the activity and resources of the museums of nature, as well as the activity of Temporary Commission of Nature Conservation (from 1919) then the National Council of Nature Conservation (from 1925) and the League of Nature Conservation (from 1928) in the following areas: the protection of nature (live and still), the creation of protected areas (national park, the reserve of nature), popularizing the commandments of young fans of nature and appealing to teachers and parents in the very important issue of development of ecological attitudes of youths and children. There was also information about the foreign successes in this scope, there were lists of publications and works devoted to the issue of the protection of nature.

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