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## Echoes of the Włocławek events of 1905 in the pages of “Kurier Warszawski”

### Echa wydarzeń włocławskiego 1905 roku na łamach „Kuriera Warszawskiego”

**Abstract:** In the Warsaw Governorate, Włocławek was the second largest city after Warsaw. There was a noticeable close relationship between the publishers and publicists of these two centers. One of the press titles most frequently distributed by colporteurs in Włocławek was “Kurier Warszawski”. The events that took place in Włocławek in 1905 were reported in the Warsaw press, although coverage was limited to the most significant incidents. At the same time, inhabitants of Włocławek used this widely read newspaper to publish advertisements and commercial announcements. The objective of this study was to determine the extent to which events from the early period of the 1905–1907 revolution, including the school strike, were reported in “Kurier Warszawski” and how the image of the city was presented in this context. A comparative analysis of three sources from 1905 was conducted: “Kurier Warszawski”, “Echa Płockie i Włocławskie”, and “Dziennik Chicagowski”. Reports from Włocławek appeared in 197 regular issues and morning supplements of “Kurier Warszawski”, as well as in 98 regular and 8 supplementary issues of the American-based “Dziennik Chicagowski”. In the Warsaw newspaper, most of the information was published in sections such as “From the City”, “From Sport”, “Ordinances and Notices”, “Casualties” and classified ads. Notably, after the school strike, events such as the August regatta began to receive more extensive coverage.

**Keywords:** Kurier Warszawski – Włocławek – 1905–1907 revolution – school strike

**Słowa kluczowe:** „Kurier Warszawski” – Włocławek – rewolucja 1905–1907 – strajk szkolny

## Introduction

In 1903, Samuel Orgelbrand's *Encyklopedia powszechna z ilustracjami i mapami* presented Włocławek as follows:

Na przedmieściu Zazamcze, wzdłuż brzegów Wisły, oprócz kilku gmachów publicznych, mieści się okazały magazyn solny, wielka fabryka cykorii Bohma, fabryka narzędzi rolniczych, wielka cegielnia; oprócz tego posiada W. browar, fabrykę celulozy i kilka innych zakładów przemysłowych. Dalej na Powiślu znajduje się 30 magazynów zbożowych. Na Wiśle stoi od r. 1865 piękny most na łyżwach żelaznych, który znacznie ułatwia stosunki handlowe miasta i jego okolicy. Z zakładów naukowych posiada W. seminarium diecezjalne i szkołę handlową siedmioklasową; jest rezydencją biskupa diecezji kujawsko-kaliskiej [...]. Liczba mieszkańców miasta wynosi 23000<sup>1</sup>.

[In the suburb of Zazamcze, along the banks of the Vistula River, in addition to several public buildings, there is an impressive salt warehouse, a large Bohm's chicory factory, an agricultural tool factory, and a large brickyard. Additionally, it features a brewery, a cellulose factory, and several other industrial facilities. Further on, in Powiśle, there are 30 grain warehouses. Since 1865, a beautiful bridge with iron skates has spanned the Vistula River, greatly facilitating trade relations between the city and its surroundings. In terms of educational institutions, Włocławek has a diocesan seminary and a seven-grade commercial school; it is the residence of the bishop of the Kujawy-Kalisz diocese [...]. The city has a population of 23,000.]

This favourable image of a developing provincial city can be contrasted with the text by Włocławiak, who in 1905 mockingly and derisively listed the shortcomings of Włocławek, such as the fact that the Vistula River is polluted by waste from cellulose production, that there are no parks, and that admission to forests is subject to a fee<sup>2</sup>.

Already in 1906, Włocławek covered an area of 13.46 km<sup>2</sup> and had 28,478 inhabitants. At the same time, the capital city of Warsaw had a population of 746,513. Włocławek was only the 12th largest city in terms of population in the Kingdom of Poland, but it was already second in the Warsaw Governorate<sup>3</sup>. It is therefore not surprising that the capital was approached to publish current information about local events in its periodicals. Due to its location on the

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1 S. Orgelbranda *Encyklopedia powszechna z ilustracjami i mapami*, vol. 15, Warszawa 1903, p. 412.

2 Włocławiak, *Włocławek na początku XX wieku*, „Echa Płockie i Włocławskie” (hereinafter: EPiW) 1905, no. 89, p. 2.

3 W. Załęski, *Z statystyki porównawczej Królestwa Polskiego. Ludność i rolnictwo*, Warszawa 1908, p. 16.

banks of the Vistula River and the Warsaw-Bydgoszcz railway line, the city experienced rapid development in both industrial and social terms<sup>4</sup>.

The primary sources of information about the events of 1905 in Włocławek are documents stored in the Central Archives of Historical Records in Warsaw and the State Archives in Włocławek. The studies by Zbigniew Karpus, Maria Gruszczyńska, and Marian Pawlak are worth mentioning. They became the basis for further considerations and inspiration for the authors of subsequent articles<sup>5</sup>. The mood in the factories in Włocławek is known from reports by the county administrator, factory owners, factory inspectors, and the governor, published in source materials<sup>6</sup>.

Of course, the press cannot be treated as the only source of data about the events of that period. However, the Warsaw daily newspaper mentioned in the title contains information that helps paint a more detailed picture of the city. This study aims to analyse the news that could have been presented in the daily newspaper in 1905, given the political conditions at the time. The primary source is "Kurier Warszawski" [Warsaw Courier]. To provide a more detailed description of selected events, the newspaper "Echa Płockie i Włocławskie" (1905) was consulted, with data from "Dziennik Chicagoski" (1905) presented marginally.

Booksellers and newspaper vendors in Włocławek offered, among other titles, "Kurier Warszawski". One of the first provincial outlets selling the newspaper was Markus Lewiński's shop in Włocławek<sup>7</sup>. The daily newspaper was mentioned in an advertisement for Księgarnia Powszechna (founded in 1910), which also listed "Naród – Wiadomości Codzienne" [Nation – Daily News] (Warsaw), "Dziennik Powszechny" [Popular Daily] (Warsaw), "Gazeta Warszawska" [Warsaw Gazette] (Warsaw), "Kurier Warszawski" (Warsaw), "Polak-Katolik" [Pole – Catholic] (Warsaw), and "Dziennik Kujawski" [Kujawy Daily] (Włocławek)<sup>8</sup>.

4 See T. Dziński, *Przemysł włocławski w latach 1870–1918. Gospodarcze i społeczne aspekty industrializacji*, Toruń 2004; W. Wróblewski, *Podłoże społeczno-ekonomiczne strajków 1905 roku we Włocławku*, „Debiuty Naukowe WSHE – HISTORIA” 1999, vol. 2, pp. 97–117.

5 Z. Karpus, *Rewolucja 1905–1907 r. we Włocławku i powiecie*, [in:] *Kujawy Wschodnie i Ziemia Dobrzyńska w dobie rewolucji 1905–1907 roku*, ed. by M. Wojciechowski, Włocławek 1987, pp. 8–9; M. Gruszczyńska, M. Pawlak, *Strajk szkolny we Włocławku w 1905 r.*, [in:] *Kujawy Wschodnie i Ziemia Dobrzyńska w dobie rewolucji 1905–1907 roku*, op. cit., pp. 25–44.

6 *Narastanie rewolucji w Królestwie Polskim 1900–1914*, elab. by H. Rappaport, Warszawa 1960, pp. 88–89, 175–176, 178–181, 382–384, 391–392, 466–467, 529; *Źródła do dziejów klasy robotniczej na ziemiach polskich*, vol. 3, *Królestwo Polskie i białostocka 1901–1914*, ed. by S. Kalabiński, part 2. 1905, Warszawa 1971, pp. 56–65, 73–74.

7 *Kurier Warszawski. Książka jubileuszowa ozdobiona 247 ilustracjami 1821–1896*, Warszawa 1896, p. 281.

8 *Pisma i gazety, godne czytania i poparcie, na które prenumeratę nadsyłać można do Księgarni Powszechnej w Włocławku*, [in:] „Kalendarz Powszechny Ilustrowany na rok 1912”, Włocławek [1911], p. 31.

“Kurier Warszawski”, founded by Bruno Kiciński in 1821, was published until 1939. Its thematic profile was defined in the first issue and was to cover issues primarily related to Warsaw, and to a lesser extent, events in the Kingdom of Poland, as well as matters concerning the Russian Empire and the rest of the world. It was aimed at both the average reader and the more sophisticated reader. The newspaper was published under specific political conditions, and the content was influenced by the partitioning powers. Under Kiciński’s editorship, short reports on the most important social, economic, and cultural issues dominated<sup>9</sup>. He was also responsible for the overall content of the newspaper. In 1905, Jan Brzeziński was the editor-in-chief, and Wacław Szymanowski Jr. and Ferdynand Hoesick were the publishers. The detailed layout of the newspaper, and above all the conditions under which it operated in the first year of the 1905–1907 revolution, have already been discussed by Zbigniew Anculewicz<sup>10</sup>. The circulation in 1905–1906 was 27,000 and 25,000, respectively, which was significantly lower than that of “Goniec Poranny i Wieczorny” [Morning and Evening Courier] (60,000 and 25,000)<sup>11</sup>. The restrictions imposed by the censors, published on an ongoing basis in the form of decrees, instructions, or information addressed to the editorial office, did not allow for the printing of texts that negatively assessed the actions of the Russian authorities, commented on reforms, or supported the actions of striking workers and school youth. Despite this, thanks to informal contacts with censors, the editorial staff was sometimes able to publish texts describing the current situation in the Kingdom of Poland<sup>12</sup>. Notes concerning Włocławek appeared in various sections, including *Z miasta* [From the City], *Rozporządzenia i zawiadomienia* [Regulations and Notices], *Osobiste* [Personal], and others.

The information presented in the above sections can be referenced in “Echa Płockie i Włocławskie” [Echoes of Plock and Włocławek], which was published from late 1904 to early 1906. Its editor and publisher was Adam Grabowski<sup>13</sup>.

9 Z. Anculewicz, „Kurier Warszawski” w latach 1821–1868, Olsztyn 1997, pp. 83, 85–86.

10 Ibid., *Świat i ziemie polskie w oczach redaktorów i współpracowników „Kuriera Warszawskiego” w latach 1868–1915*, Warszawa 2002, pp. 136–137.

11 *Nakłady prasy w Warszawie w latach 1905–1906*, elab. by J. Myśliński, „Kwartalnik Historii Prasy Polskiej” 1981, vol. 20, p. 120.

12 M. Tobera, *Wesołe gazetki. Prasa satyryczno-humorystyczna w Królestwie Polskim w latach 1905–1914*, Warszawa – Łódź 1988, pp. 34–40; *ibid.*, *Cenzura prasy w Cesarstwie Rosyjskim na przełomie XIX i XX w.*, [in:] *Piśmiennictwo – systemy kontroli – obiegi alternatywne*, ed. by J. Kościecki and A. Brodzka, Warszawa 1992, pp. 194–201; Z. Anculewicz, *Stosunek władz Królestwa Polskiego do „Kuriera Warszawskiego” w latach 1868–1915*, „Studia Medioznawcze” 2002, no. 2 (7), pp. 112–113.

13 A. Grabowski, *Rocznik Naukowo-Literacko-Artystyczny (encyklopedyczny) na rok 1905*, Warszawa 1905, p. 77; M. Kucharska, *Grabowski Adam*, [in:] PSB, vol. 8, Warszawa 1959–1960, p. 481; U.M. Morawska, *Drukarnstwo płockie do roku 1918*, Płock 1984, p. 127.

The magazine was published twice a week: on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Józef Karasiński from Włocławek, who had previously published in “Echa Płockie i Łomżyńskie” [Echoes of Płock and Łomża], joined the editorial team. The pages of “Echoes...” featured a section called *Echa włocławskie* [Echoes of Włocławek], which covered half to two columns of text. News was sent in by J. Karasiński, Waław Alchimowicz, and Jakub Ceranowicz<sup>14</sup>. However, the periodical did not meet the expectations of the residents of Włocławek and was only a prelude to the publication of their own daily newspaper<sup>15</sup>.

To illustrate the fraction of news that travelled across the ocean and was not subject to preventive censorship, the content of the “Dziennik Chicagoski” [Chicago Daily] (Chicago, USA), a publication serving the American Polish community, was presented. It began publication in 1890 as a weekly entitled “Polacy w Chicago” [Poles in Chicago], but by the end of the year, its frequency had been changed to daily. The last issue was published in 1971. The first editor was Stanisław Sz wajkart, and the publisher was the Spółka Wydawnictwa Polskiego [Polish Publishing Company] associated with the Congregation of Our Lord Jesus, from which the founding priests, Wincenty Barzyński and Jan Radziejowski, came. From the very beginning, the non-partisan profile of the periodical was emphasised, despite its political nature and its purpose of providing information about and for the American Polish community<sup>16</sup>. Here, it is worth noting the surprising presence of content devoted to Włocławek in such a distant centre, which is worth examining more closely in the future.

### Formal analysis of the collected material

The press content analysis in terms of news about Włocławek covered 197 issues of “Kurier Warszawski”, 98 issues of “Echa Płockie i Włocławskie”, and eight issues of “Dziennik Chicagoski” for the year 1905. The analysed content consisted of texts whose main topic was Włocławek (66 from “Kurier Warszawski”, 563 from “Echa Płockie i Włocławskie, and 2 from “Dziennik Chicagoski”), and for the most part, only fragments of longer texts where the name of the city appeared in connection with events from the Kingdom of Poland or in connection with selected locations – Warsaw, Ciechocinek, or Płock

14 T. Rojewski, *Ilustrowane Echa Włocławskie 1881–1918*, Włocławek 2018, p. 13.

15 W. Alchimowicz, *Jak powstała pierwsza gazeta na Kujawach*, op. cit., pp. 103–104.

16 R. Nir, *Szkice z dziejów Polonii*, Orchard Lake 1990, pp. 19, 23; J. Szymański, *Parafia w Meriden i jej duszpasterze na łamach „Dziennika Chicagoskiego” w latach 1893–1920*, „Archiwa, Biblioteki i Muzea Kościelne” 2020, vol. 114, pp. 388–390; K. Wasilewski, *Pamięć o powstaniu styczniowym na łamach prasy polonijnej w USA na przełomie XIX i XX w.*, „Rocznik Historii Prasy Polskiej” 2022, vol. 25, pp. 9–10.

(113, 12, 6, respectively). The analysis also included published announcements, advertisements, and obituaries (65, 62, and none from “Dziennik Chicagoski”, respectively). “Echa Płockie i Włocławskie” provides supplementary material, but it should be emphasised that the primary focus here was on the regular column *Echa włocławskie*.

In “Kurier Warszawski”, the indicated content appeared in 197 issues out of 359 (combined issues: 43–46, 119–120, 121–123, 231–232, 298–301, 307–308), which accounts for 55% of the total number of issues. It can be preliminarily concluded that the town in question was a regular feature in “Kurier”, as articles about it appeared in at least every other issue, and it was mentioned in connection with every critical piece of news concerning the Warsaw Governorate. The journalistic genres in the Warsaw newspaper included mainly mentions, notes, correspondence from Włocławek, reports, accounts, press reviews, obituaries, individual articles, and editorial responses, as well as short stories in terms of literary forms. In turn, in “Echa Płockie i Włocławskie”, there were slightly more articles and letters to the editors, along with their responses. In “Dziennik Chicagoski”, mentions and single articles dominated, as well as a series entitled *Korespondencje* [Correspondence]<sup>17</sup>.

Table 1. Frequency of content published on the subject of Włocławek in 1905.

1905	“Kurier Warszawski”	“Echa Płockie i Włocławskie”	“Dziennik Chicagoski”
January	14	44	1
February	21	52	2
March	26	68	2
April	24	66	-
May	21	59	-
June	16	56	-
July	27	45	1
August	27	50	-
September	26	68	1
October	19	38	1
November	8	49	-
December	9	42	-

Source: own study

17 The division of genres on the basis of: K. Wolny-Zmorzyński, A. Kaliszewski, W. Furman, *Gatunki dziennikarskie. Teoria, praktyka, język*, Warszawa 2009; K. Wolny-Zmorzyński et al., *Prasowe gatunki dziennikarskie*, Warszawa 2014.

The frequency of publication of articles in individual periodicals in 1905 was also taken into consideration. The aim of the compilation was to identify the months in which content related to Włocławek was published most frequently. The most content appeared in March, July, and August, and the least in the last months of 1905, November and December. It is possible that this was related both to the active preparations of the Włocławek community to publish its own newspaper and to the Tsar's October Manifesto, which theoretically abolished preventive censorship, but at that time, the restrictions on the daily press were still unclear<sup>18</sup>. In the case of the Płock–Włocławek periodical, no decline in the number of news items was observed. "Echa Płockie i Włocławskie" ceased publication at the beginning of 1906<sup>19</sup>.

### An image of Włocławek in 1905 in the pages of "Kurier Warszawski"

To present the Włocławek contents in the Warsaw daily newspaper, it was necessary to adopt an appropriate thematic categorisation. A model categorisation of daily press content was defined by Irena Tetelowska in her *Klucz kategoryzacyjny obejmujący całość zawartości dzienników dla opisu typologicznego* [Categorisation key covering the entire content of daily newspapers for typological description]<sup>20</sup>, which was used as a model by Walery Pisarek and grouped into the following thematic sections: I. Private life of individuals; II. Social life of individuals: 1. Problems of the national economy; 2. Social and non-material services; 3. Politics and related issues; 4. Customs and law; 5. Sport and tourism. This division is repeatedly cited in the latest methodological studies<sup>21</sup>. Qualitative analysis also uses text mining software to analyse the most frequently occurring topics<sup>22</sup>. However, in the case of content categorisation, the subject of

18 W. Alchimowicz, *Jak powstała pierwsza gazeta na Kujawach*, [in:] *Kujawianin. Kalendarz braci Piotrowskich*, Włocławek 1928, pp. 103–104.

19 A. Notkowski, *Z dziejów prasy polskiej na Kujawach wschodnich do 1918 r.*, „Rocznik Historii Czasopiśmiennictwa Polskiego” 1971, vol. 10, no. 3, p. 322; C. Gutry, *Z historii czasopism płockich*, „Rocznik Historii Czasopiśmiennictwa Polskiego” 1970, vol. 9, no. 1, p. 123.

20 I. Tetelowska, *Zasady kategoryzacji zawartości dzienników*, „Zeszyty Prasoznawcze” 1965, no. 3, p. 34.

21 W. Pisarek, *Analiza zawartości prasy*, Kraków 1983, pp. 105–106; R. Kowalczyk, *Metodologiczne podstawy badania zawartości prasy lokalnej*, „Przegląd Politologiczny” 2012, no. 1, p. 161; O. Dąbrowska-Cendrowska, *Recepcja podręcznika „Analiza zawartości prasy” w kręgach badaczy mediów, czyli zaraźliwa metoda badawcza*, „Zeszyty Prasoznawcze” 2019, vol. 62, no. 2 (238), pp. 117–127; M. Lisowska-Magdziarz, P. Planeta, *Analiza zawartości oraz inne techniki badania treści medialnych na łamach „Zeszytów Prasoznawczych”*, [in:] *Analiza zawartości (1957–2012)*, ed. by M. Kawka, R. Filas, and P. Planeta, Kraków 2016, pp. 161–189.

22 M. Klęk, P. Planeta, *Kwestia polska na łamach „New York Times” w latach 1863–1921*, „Naukowy Przegląd Dziennikarski” 2021, no. 4 (40), pp. 22–81.

which is the locality, it was decided to use the model applied in the analysis of the “Kurier Warszawski” itself, which was carried out in his work by Z. Anculewicz<sup>23</sup>. The author identified six thematic categories with numerous subcategories, namely: the image of the city’s economic relations (subcategories: industry and its development; social insurance; stock exchange; banking system; savings and loan associations; pawnshops; industrial, agricultural and other exhibitions; restaurants; cafes; pastry shops; trade; organizations and associations of merchants, traders and economic institutions; city infrastructure; communication; transport; hotels; work and new jobs; living conditions of workers; technology and inventions), socio-political situation (subcategories: visits by the partitioning authorities; visits by heads of state; activities of the partitioning authorities; resistance to the partitioning powers; May Day celebrations; commemoration of important events in Polish history; activities of social associations and societies; anti-Semitism; the 1905–1907 revolution; elections to the Duma and the State Council), science, education, and culture (science and higher education; congresses; archives; individual universities; scientific institutions; vocational training and development; teaching materials and resources, and teaching conditions; culture and art; literature; reading rooms and libraries; theaters, small theaters, and cabarets; musical life and concerts; museums; fine arts; painting exhibitions; other manifestations of cultural life; press market), religious life (subcategories: Holy Masses and services; Christmas; Epiphany; fundraising; Easter; first communions; Pentecost; Corpus Christi procession; St. John’s Day; pilgrimages; All Souls’ Day and All Saints’ Day; sacred architecture), health care (subcategories: doctors and patients; hospitals; emergency stations; epidemics of cholera, typhus, scarlet fever, smallpox; hygiene; prevention and advice), everyday life (subcategories: the city and its history; social relations and society chronicle; marriage and family; parties; masquerades; regular and costume balls; dance evenings; receptions; Easter breakfast; Wet Monday; beauty contests; hunting; horse racing; sports and tourism; vacations, holidays and forms of leisure; fire service; poverty; hunger; begging; natural disasters and accidents; weather anomalies; court chronicle; advice corner; advertisements and announcements; obituaries). The thematic categorisation was dictated by the material collected from “Kurier Warszawski” between 1868 and 1915, and is also relevant to the 1905 issues that are the subject of this study. Thus, news, mentions, reports, and accounts of the Warsaw regatta will be recorded in the *Everyday Life* section. Issues concerning the fire brigade, advertisements, and announcements will also be located there.

23 Z. Anculewicz, *Świat i ziemia polskie w oczach redaktorów i współpracowników Kuriera Warszawskiego w latach 1868–1915*, Warszawa 2020, pp. 89, 615, 972.



In the year in question, Włocławek was 26 times smaller than the capital city, and not all of the subcategories listed for the provincial centre were mentioned in the popular periodical. For this purpose, during the content analysis of individual topics, the main focus will be on “Kurier Warszawski,” and information from “Echa Płockie i Włocławskie” will be cited for selected events in order to provide more details. Texts from “Dziennik Chicagoski” will serve as a modest supplement.

Table 2. Content categorisation of the three selected periodicals

Content categorisation	“Kurier Warszawski”	“Echa Płockie i Włocławskie”	“Dziennik Chicagoski”
Economic situation of the city	61	143	2
Social and political situation	27	95	2
Science, education, and culture	34	128	1
Religious life	23	48	2
Health care	12	23	2
Daily life	92	211	–

Source: own study (The sum is not identical to the results in Table 1, because some texts have been assigned to two thematic categories, specifically those concerning young people’s struggle for the Polish language in schools)

“Kurier Warszawski” is dominated by content concerning everyday life in Włocławek (92; 37% of the total sample), with the majority of texts focusing on the Włocławek Rowing Society, the Warsaw regatta, announcements, and obituaries. The next most numerous section was descriptions of the city’s economic situation, which mainly mentioned issues of transport, infrastructure, and the introduction of telephones. Issues related to the political and social situation ranked fourth and accounted for only 11% of all texts concerning Włocławek. The least numerous section was health issues, which mainly contained information about the slowly spreading cholera epidemic (12; as above, 5%). As can be seen, the percentage share of individual topics in “Echa Płockie i Włocławskie” is similar to that in “Kurier Warszawski”, but the provincial periodical devoted more space to socio-political issues and education, which were included in the *Science, Education and Culture* section.

In the thematic category of the city’s economic situation (61; as above, 25%), the Warsaw daily reported on rail and river transport. In 1862, a branch of the Warsaw–Vienna Railway was put into operation: the Warsaw–Bydgoszcz Railway, which ran through Włocławek and was a key element connecting the Russian and Prussian partitions<sup>24</sup>. The station was mentioned in connection with

24 M. Wilczek-Karczewska, *Rozwój kolei żelaznych na ziemiach polskich w ujęciu historyczno-prawnym*, „Kwartalnik Antymonopolowy i Regulacyjny” 2015, no. 1 (4), pp. 102–105.

the presentation of the timetable<sup>25</sup>, the transshipment of goods<sup>26</sup>, and, above all, accidents that took place on the railway, e.g., Bronisław Matuszewski, an employee of the goods warehouse (April 28/May 11), fell from a bridge onto the tracks<sup>27</sup>, and Jakub Figura, a switchman (August 6/19), injured himself with a wagon shield<sup>28</sup>. Walenty Błasiak was attacked on the railway (September 2/15)<sup>29</sup>.

Due to the limited information available on rail transport in Włocławek, data concerning discussions about the construction of the so-called “Kujawy” railway (narrow-gauge railway) is very valuable; its starting station was to be Włocławek, and its final station Piotrków Kujawski (stations: Wieniec, Brześć Kujawski, Osięciny, and Lubraniec). “Kurier Warszawski” reported on the initial meetings of the project’s initiators, including landowners and factory owners from Kujawy, as well as merchants from Włocławek. By July 20/August 2, 1905, it was already known that the committee’s application had been approved. Włocławek was represented by secretary Antoni Olszakowski, Eng., and Leon Bojańczyk. Forty people attended the first organisational meeting in October to discuss the details of the construction and financing of the new railway. Initially, it was assumed that the railway would be electric, but later it was decided to use steam locomotives<sup>30</sup>. Finally, the first section from the sugar factory in Brześć Kujawski to Włocławek was completed in 1908<sup>31</sup>, and the railway itself operated until 1978. The new freight and passenger transport was equally frequently mentioned in the “Echa Płockie i Włocławskie”<sup>32</sup>.

Włocławek was also an important point in river navigation between Warsaw and Toruń. Maurycy Fajans’ steamboats moored here, and information

25 *Kolej Warszawsko-Wiedeńska*, KW 1905, no. 105, p. 12; *Dyrekcja Kolei Warszawsko-Wiedeńskiej*, KW 1905, no. 139, p. 17; *Rozkład*, KW 1905, no. 291, p. 12.

26 *Rozporządzenia i zawiadomienia. Przewóz wołów*, KW 1905, no. 180, p. 7; *Cukier*, KW: dodatek poranny 1905, no. 182, p. 6; *Na kolejach*, KW 1905, no. 218, p. 5; *Rozporządzenia i zawiadomienia. Licytacja towarów*, KW: dodatek poranny 1905, no. 268, p. 4.

27 *Wypadki na kolejach*, KW: dodatek poranny 1905, no. 130, p. 3.

28 *Wypadki na kolei*, KW: dodatek poranny 1905, no. 228, p. 2.

29 *Korespondencje. Napad*, KW no. 256, p. 5; no. 259, p. 8 [repeat of news item].

30 *Korespondencje. Kolejka elektryczna*, KW 1905, no. 160, p. 7; *Najważniejsze nowiny; Wiadomości bieżące*, KW 1905, no. 211, p. 1, 3; *Najważniejsze nowiny; Korespondencje*, KW: dodatek poranny 1905, no. 280, p. 1, 4.

31 *Kolejka Brześć – Włocławek*, „Hasło” 1908, no. 117, p. 3; see: Z. Tucholski, *Opis kolei podjazdowych w guberni warszawskiej z 1911 r. Nieznany dokument w zasobie Archiwum Państwowego w Warszawie*, „Kwartalnik Historii Nauki i Techniki” 2022, no. 4, pp. 156–157.

32 *Nowa kolejka*, EPiW 1905, no. 45, p. 3; *Kolejka między Włocławkiem a Piotrkowem Kujawskim*, EPiW 1905, no. 63, p. 2; *Kolej Kujawska*, EPiW 1905, no. 82, p. 2; *Kolejka kujawska*, EPiW 1905, no. 85, p. 2.

about holiday and night courses was provided<sup>33</sup>. In turn, the Płock–Włocławek periodical mainly mentioned the offer of the Płock shipowner, Stanisław Górnicki's Żegluga Parowa [Steam Shipping], whose steamboats stopped in the Kuyavian city<sup>34</sup>.

Due to the high level of activity on the Vistula River, the city's infrastructure, including bridges and boulevard regulation, was crucial. As early as January 1905, "Kurier" featured information on the financing of the construction of a port and boulevards in Włocławek<sup>35</sup>. One and a half columns in the "Dziennik Chicagoski" were devoted to the information that the Włocławek Magistratum, at a meeting with citizens, supported the idea of building a granite boulevard, because more than 300 ships stop at the banks of the Vistula River. Detailed information on the costs and the opinion of the head of the transport district was published<sup>36</sup>.

The installation of telephones was widely discussed in the pages of the aforementioned periodicals. Telephone lines were laid in Włocławek in 1905. "Kurier Warszawski" first reported this in its 74th issue of March 2/15. It was reported that used telephones from Warsaw would be installed, and that the concession had been granted to the director of the capital's telephone company, Olszewski. This was later corrected to state that the residents of Włocławek would receive new telephones, specifically designed for the type of station being installed in Włocławek, manufactured by Bell and Ericsson. The work was finally completed on August 16/29, and 30 subscribers used the first telephones. Next, there were plans to expand the line and connect the city with Kowal via Czarniów, as well as with Lipno<sup>37</sup>. Włocławek gained a new means of communication relatively late; by comparison, the first attempts were made as early as 1877 using telegraph lines located along the Warsaw–Vienna railway<sup>38</sup>. In turn, "Echa Płockie i Włocławskie" mentioned telephones as early as February

33 *Rozporządzenia i zawiadomienia*, KW 1905, no. 108, pp. 4, 11 [Announcement]; *Zarząd Żeglugi Maurycego Fajansa*, KW 1905, no. 110, p. 10; *Osobiste. Żegluga świąteczna*, KW 1905, no. 158, pp. 3, 9.

34 E.g. *Zarząd Żeglugi Parowej St. Górnickiego*, EPiW 1905, no. 26, p. 4; no. 29, p. 4; no. 32, p. 4.

35 *Budżet okręgu komunikacji*, KW 1905, no. 24, p. 2; *Port i bulwar we Włocławku*, KW: dodatek poranny 1905, no. 25, p. 2; *Port włocławski*, KW 1905, no. 94, p. 2; *U Techników. Port we Włocławku*, KW 1905, no. 95, p. 6; *Rozporządzenia i zawiadomienia*, KW 1905, no. 99, p. 6.

36 *Więści z ojczyzny. Włocławek*, *Dziennik Chicagoski* 1905, no. 1, p. 5; see M. Sandecki, *Włocławek nad Wisłą. Żegluga od czasów najdawniejszych do końca epoki parowców*, Włocławek 2015, pp. 106–145.

37 *Telefony we Włocławku*, KW 1905, no. 74, p. 4; no. 76, p. 3; *Korespondencje. Telefony we Włocławku*, KW 1905, no. 244, p. 4; *Korespondencje. Telefony*, KW 1905, no. 272, p. 6.

38 M. Więcek, *Zanim powstała centrala. Początki telefonii w Krakowie w świetle materiałów prasowych*, „Maszyny Elektryczne – Zeszyty Problemowe” 2018, no. 4 (120), p. 209.

26/March 11, i.e. four days earlier<sup>39</sup>. Issue 69 of “Echa...” added a sarcastic comment that, although telephones had been installed, there was still a lack of sewage systems, waterworks, electric lighting, trams, and better road surfaces<sup>40</sup>.

“Kurier Warszawski” also included in this section issues related to the organisation of the Kujawy Region exhibition and the presentation of both its agricultural and economic potential<sup>41</sup>, the Towarzystwo Kredytowe [Credit Society] in Warsaw with a branch in Włocławek<sup>42</sup>, and the Towarzystwo Pożyczkowo-Oszczędnościowe Rzemieślników i Drobnych Kupców [Loan and Savings Society of Craftsmen and Small Merchants] in Włocławek<sup>43</sup>,

The socio-political situation of the city appeared much less frequently in the Warsaw newspaper. Most often, the Kuyavian town was mentioned in the context of events in the Far East. The Russian-Japanese War (1904–1905) primarily impacted local medical care; for example, Dr. Bolesław Wolberg was called to the front, but at that time, he was stationed at the Ujazdowski Hospital in Warsaw<sup>44</sup>. In turn, Alexander Eichenwald, a reserve ensign from the 24<sup>th</sup> East Siberian Rifle Regiment and co-owner of an electrical engineering factory, returned after a year of service in a cavalry intelligence unit<sup>45</sup>. The war effort required a constant supply of human resources and equipment. To this end, mobilisation was carried out in the Włocławek district, and horses were purchased in the Włocławek market for the cavalry, artillery, border guards, and to pull cannons<sup>46</sup>.

In 1905, the town was visited by the Vice-Governor of Warsaw, Baron Aleksander Wreński. The visit ended before June 30/July 13. The Vice-Governor also participated in an anti-cholera meeting in Ciechocinek, which concerned, among other things, the establishment of checkpoints in Włocławek<sup>47</sup>.

39 *Telefony*, EPiW 1905, no. 20, p. 3; *Telefony we Włocławku*, EPiW 1905, no. 49, p. 2.

40 *Telefony*, EPiW 1905, no. 69, p. 2; no. 70, p. 2.

41 *Korespondencje. Wystawa we Włocławku*, KW 1905, no. 280, pp. 1, 4; *Posiedzenia*, KW 1905, no. 289, p. 4.

42 *Dyrekcja Towarzystwa Kredytowego miasta Warszawy*, KW 1905, no. 11, p. 12; *Pożyczki dla miast*, KW 1905, no. 69, p. 4; *Instrukcja pożyczkowa*, KW 1905, no. 72, p. 4; *Dyrekcja Towarzystwa Kredytowego w Warszawie*, KW 1905, no. 87, p. 11; *Rozporządzenia i zawiadomienia*, KW 1905, no. 89, p. 5; *Pożyczki na prowincję*, KW 1905, no. 103, p. 5; J.Wł., *Z Towarzystwa Kredytowego m. Warszawy*, KW 1905, no. 349, p. 2.

43 *Towarzystwo pożyczkowo-oszczędnościowe rzemieślników i drobnych kupców we Włocławku*, KW 1905, no. 71, p. 10.

44 *Rozporządzenia i zawiadomienia*, KW 1905, no. 38, p. 6.

45 *Osobiste*, KW 1905, no. 156, p. 2.

46 *Mobilizacja*, KW 1905, no. 185, p. 8; [*Rząd gubernialny warszawski do spraw powinności wojskowej...*], KW 1905, no. 201, p. 6; *Rząd gubernialny warszawski do spraw powinności wojskowej*, KW 1905, no. 214, p. 5.

47 *Rozporządzenia i zawiadomienia*, KW 1905, no. 163, p. 4; no. 191, p. 3; *Wiadomości bieżące. Wobec cholery*, KW 1905, no. 243, p. 5.

Administrative changes were also noted in the vacant position of court clerk, for which Stanisław Milk, secretary of the second criminal division, and Jerzy Skokowski, who had been replacing investigating judges for six years, were proposed. The press noted the partitioning authorities' unfavorable attitude towards Polish candidates<sup>48</sup>. Issue 213, dated July 22/August 4, reported on the municipal council elections, featuring candidates from Włocławek, including Wilhelm Haak, Walenty Weichert, Dawid Poznański, Henryk Bock, Henryk Kolb, Markus Lewiński, Michał Nowacki, and Rev. Józef Stobiecki<sup>49</sup>.

The actions of the first month of the 1905–1907 Revolution consisted primarily of strikes in Włocławek factories, demonstrations, and a school strike, which began in Włocławek on January 25/February 7. A Warsaw daily newspaper reported that on that day, work was suspended for three days, which resulted in a meeting of factory owners and an increase in the hourly wage by 5 and 2.5 kopecks, as well as a reduction of the working day to 10 hours<sup>50</sup>. The announcement of the October decree led to the organisation of a general strike. It was not until the evening that the police began to disperse the crowds to their homes, and one of the guards beat students with his sabre. On October 23/November 5, several thousand people marched, singing patriotic songs and carrying national flags. It was emphasised that the demonstration was peaceful<sup>51</sup>. Residents felt the effects of the strikes in the form of a shortage of coal, bread, and meat<sup>52</sup>.

More details on the work stoppage at individual workplaces are provided by the Płock–Włocławek periodical, where the words “strike” and “unemployment” appeared in 12 headlines. Already in the 13th issue of “Echa Płockie i Włocławskie” on February 2/15, a note was published:

Bezrobocie rozpoczęło się we wtorek o godz. 10 rano i trwało do soboty. W środę pod przewodnictwem inspektora fabrycznego, odbyła się narada fabrykantów. Wszystkie sklepy były zamknięte. Wszystkie fabryki i warsztaty nieczynne. Dorożki nie kursowały. W mieście panował pokój zupełny<sup>53</sup>.

[Unemployment began on Tuesday at 10 a.m. and lasted until Saturday. On Wednesday, a meeting of factory owners was held, chaired by the factory inspector. All shops were closed. All factories and workshops were closed. Carriages did not run. The city was utterly peaceful.]

48 *Rozporządzenia i zawiadomienia. Zmiany w sądownictwie*, KW 1905, no. 327, p. 6; no. 329, p. 5.

49 W. Korotyński, *Dawne rady miejskie*, KW 1905, no. 213, pp. 1–2.

50 *Korespondencje. Z Włocławka*, KW 1905, no. 38, p. 6.

51 *Manifestacje na prowincji*, KW 1905, no. 307–308, pp. 7–8.

52 *Węgla kamienne*, KW 1905, no. 68, p. 4; *Korespondencje*, KW 1905, no. 326, p. 4.

53 *Bezrobocie*, EPiW 1905, no. 13, p. 3.

Additionally, it was reported that employees of three factories in Włocławek and selected exchange offices participated in the May Day celebrations, and that steamboats did not operate<sup>54</sup>, which was not reported in “Kurier Warszawski”. However, the socialists in Włocławek were not satisfied with the peaceful course of the May Day parade<sup>55</sup>. There were reports of strikes on the railways, by the employees of “Igła”, tailors, and at the post and telegraph office<sup>56</sup>. Reports on the speeches appeared in three mentions, entitled Echoes of the Days, following the publication of the October Manifesto<sup>57</sup>. Despite the much broader coverage in the Płock–Włocławek publication, the residents of Włocławek pointed out that too few descriptions of current political events were being printed<sup>58</sup>.

The 7-grade Commercial School did not resume lectures on January 25/February 7, but on February 28/March 13, it was announced that classes would resume on March 2/15. Additionally, boys who did not start school by March 9/22 would be expelled. Ultimately, 200 people did not resume their education and were removed from the list of pupils<sup>59</sup>. A note about the student strike was also published overseas in the Chicago Journal<sup>60</sup>.

Of the social organisations, only the Kasa Posagowa [Dowry Fund] was mentioned; its annual general meeting, chaired by Maksymilian Wasserzug, was reported on. At the meeting, the following members were elected to the board: Antoni Januszkiewicz, Stanisław Eska, and M. Warszawski. Additionally, the following members were elected to the audit committee: Adam Trzciński, Józef Karasiński, and A. Meisner<sup>61</sup>.

Issues related to **science, education, and culture** primarily continued the situation at the 7-grade Commercial School. “Kurier Warszawski” reported on measures taken to address the consequences of the school strike. After this event, Ludwik Teodor Bauer became the new president of the Supervisory Board of the commercial school in Włocławek. Due to the school’s lack of income, teachers were not paid their salaries, and the school itself was threatened with closure.

54 *Przerwa w pracy*, EPiW 1905, no. 36, p. 3.

55 Włocławski Komitet Robotniczy Polskiej Partii Socjalistycznej, *Towarzysze!* [Inc.:] Robotnicy całego świata już od lat 15 święcą rokrocznie dzień 1 maja [...], Włocławek 1905, p. 2.

56 *Strajk kolejowy*, EPiW 1905, no. 86, p. 3; no. 87, p. 2; *Strajk pracowników igły*, EPiW 1905, no. 91, p. 3; *Bezrobocie krawców*, EPiW 1905, no. 51, p. 2; *Strajk pocztowo-telegraficzny*, EPiW 1905, no. 96, p. 3.

57 *Echa dni*, EPiW 1905, Nno. 88, p. 2; no. 89, p. 2; no. 93, p. 2.

58 W. Alchimowicz, *Jak powstała pierwsza gazeta na Kujawach*, op. cit., p. 103.

59 *Rozporządzenia i zawiadomienia*, KW 1905, no. 38, p. 6; *Z Włocławka*, KW 1905, no. 72, p. 5; *Najważniejsze nowiny*, KW 1905, no. 106, p. 2.

60 *Telegramy*, „Dziennik Chicagoski” 1905, no. 32, p. 1; [*W Włocławku...*], „Dziennik Chicagoski” 1905, no. 53, p. 5.

61 *Z Włocławka*, KW 1905, no. 72, p. 5.

However, the school's founders guaranteed funds for August salaries. Local landowners were committed to financing scholarships after the introduction of the Polish language at the school, and the Brześć Kujawski sugar factory supported this effort with a sum of 3,500 rubles<sup>62</sup>.

In addition to this school, Helena Jezierska's private junior high school was also mentioned. An announcement was posted about the admission of female students and the start of classes on September 6.<sup>63</sup> Michalina Masłowska, the owner of a commercial school for girls, applied to the authorities for the right to teach in Polish<sup>64</sup>.

In "Echa Płockie i Włocławskie," school issues were addressed through mentions and announcements, including those about the commercial school, followed by H. Jezierska's institution, and the rural farm school in Kruszynek<sup>65</sup>, which was mentioned twice. The information in the local newspaper was much more detailed than in the capital's publication.

In "Kurier Warszawski," on the occasion of the description of the annual meeting of the Academy of Arts and Sciences in Kraków, it was reported that Monsignor Stanisław Chodyński from Włocławek was a correspondent for the history and philosophy department<sup>66</sup>. He was mentioned in connection with the large Marian Exhibition organised at the Museum of Industry and Agriculture on May 17/30, 1905. Selected exhibits were brought from the seminary museum in Włocławek, including illuminations on parchment, the mitre of Bishop Antoni Dembowski (d. 1762), and the Romanesque-style chasuble and crozier of Bishop Maciej Gołańczewski, which were signed as the property of Monsignor Chodyński. "Kurier" incorrectly stated the bishop's name, whereas the *Album Wystawy Maryańskiej* [Album of the Marian Exhibition] correctly identified the rightful owner, namely the museum of the Włocławek Cathedral<sup>67</sup>.

Information about reading rooms organized in Włocławek is particularly valuable. "Kurier Warszawski" reported on the approval of a public reading

62 *Strajk szkolny*, KW 1905, no. 43–46, p. 6; [Prezesa rady opiekuńskiej...], KW 1905, no. 67, p. 5; *Z Włocławka*, KW 1905, no. 72, p. 5; *Najważniejsze nowiny*, KW 1905, no. 106, p. 2; *Ostatnie wiadomości*, KW 1905, no. 246, p. 9; *Ostatnie telegramy, Włocławek*, KW 1905, no. 247, p. 4;

63 [Ogłoszenie], KW 1905, no. 240, p. 10.

64 [Przełożona prywatnej szkoły...], KW 1905, no. 283, p. 12.

65 E.g. *Szkola handlowa*, EPiW 1905, no. 14, p. 3; *Szkola w Kruszyнку*, EPiW 1905, no. 14, p. 3; *Szkola gospodarstwa wiejskiego*, EPiW 1905, no. 6, p. 3; *Ze szkół*, EPiW, Nno. 20, p. 3; see: Z. Arentowicz, *Moje wspomnienia ze strajku szkolnego w roku 1905*, „Życie Włocławka i Okolicy” 1930, no. 2, p. 4. B. Załuski, *Wspomnienia i refleksje na tle przebiegu walki o szkołę polską (1905–1930)*, Warszawa 1932.

66 *Doroczne posiedzenie Akademii Umiejętności w Krakowie*, KW 1905, no. 140, pp. 2–3.

67 *Album Wystawy Maryańskiej w Warszawie w roku 1905*, vol. 5–6, Warszawa 1905, p. 54; *Z miasta. Wystawa marjańska*, KW 1905, no. 133, p. 3; no. 148, p. 8; H. Sadowski, *Wystawa Marjańska*, KW 1905, no. 180, pp. 4–5; no. 188, pp. 1–2.

room for Zofia Gerkowa. The reading room was to offer popular books and magazines for craft workers. The name of Zofia Gost was mentioned in “Echa Płockie i Włocławskie”<sup>68</sup>. When discussing the Railway Reading Room, the Włocławek station was also mentioned, where there was considerable interest in its books<sup>69</sup>.

The theatrical performances taking place in Włocławek were mentioned on various occasions. On December 26/January 8, during the third act of *Małka Szwarcenkopf*, a play by Gabriela Zapolska, the ceiling above the audience collapsed. Director Józef Puchniewski took control of the situation, and the performance was completed despite the incident<sup>70</sup>. The Włocławek stage was unfortunate, as ten performances of the Towarzystwo Dramatyczne [Drama Society] under the direction of Eugeniusz Majdrowicz, who had left for Ciechocinek<sup>71</sup>, were cancelled due to the breakdown of the electric motor. The activities of Włocławek merchants preparing to stage plays featuring Władysława Karasińska for charity were also promoted<sup>72</sup>. Theatrical and musical life was presented in much greater detail in the pages of “Echa Płockie i Włocławskie”, which published at least 22 articles on the theatre, and Karasińska’s name appeared three times.

**Religious life** in Włocławek (23) was most often mentioned in connection with changes in the Diocese of Kujawy-Kalisz, both the introduction of new priests to the parish and the death of a monk from the Franciscan Reformed monastery, Pankracy Szczawiński<sup>73</sup>.

Włocławek was the destination of the Archbishop of Warsaw, Wincenty Teofil Chościak–Popiel, who headed the Diocese of Kujawy-Kalisz from 1876 to 1883<sup>74</sup>. The trips and returns of Bishop Stanisław Zdzitowiecki were also described. The plan for his visit from August 3/16 to August 20/September 2 was presented in detail<sup>75</sup>. The increased activity of the bishops was seen as an attempt to divert the attention of rural parishes from revolutionary activities by

68 *Z miasta. P. Zofia Gerkowa...*, KW 1905, no. [298–301], p. 4; *Nowa czytelnia*, “Echa Płockie i Włocławskie” 1905, no. 85, p. 2.

69 *Czytelnia kolejowa*, KW 1905, no. 260, p. 4; See: *ziesięciolecie Biblioteki Kolejowej przy Dr. Żel. Warszawsko–Wiedeńskiej z 5 ilustracjami*, Warszawa 1908.

70 *Korespondencje. Podczas przedstawienia*, KW 1905, no. 9, p. 5.

71 *Z teatru i muzyki*, KW 1905, no. 263, p. 3.

72 *[Grono amatorów-handlowców...]*, KW 1905, no. 25, p. 3.

73 *Mianowania w diecezji kaliskiej*, KW: dodatek poranny 1905, no. 12, p. 5; *W diecezji kaliskiej*, KW 1905, no. 14, p. 11; *Zmiany w duchowieństwie*, KW 1905, no. 52, p. 2; *Przeniesienie duchowieństwa*, KW 1905, no. 119–120, p. 9; *Wiadomości bieżące. Klasztory*, KW: dodatek poranny 1905, no. 163, p. 2; *Zmiany w duchowieństwie*, KW 1905, no. 231, p. 5.

74 *Z miasta*, KW 1905, no. 60, p. 3; no. 62, p. 2.

75 *Korespondencje. Wizytacja pasterska*, KW 1905, no. 194, p. 5; no. 200, p. 4.



involving rosary circles and other church organisations in preparations for the visit of the head of the diocese<sup>76</sup>.

Bishop Zdzitowiecki was also visibly involved in commemorating the Włocławek suffragan Henryk Piotr Kossowski and Bishop Aleksander Kazimierz Bereśniewicz, for whom he planned to prepare two sarcophagi. Their consecration took place during a solemn mass on October 12/25. The slabs were carved in red Hungarian marble with elaborate bas-reliefs designed by artist Stanisław Noakowski<sup>77</sup>. This was also mentioned three times in “Echa Płockie i Włocławskie”<sup>78</sup>.

In the section devoted to **health protection** (12), Włocławek appeared in the context of detecting cases of Asian cholera in the Kingdom of Poland. The first report appeared in issue 243 dated August 23/September 3, when Dr. Konstanty Buczyński did not find cholera in this city on the Vistula River. The Warsaw District of the Public Health Communication Office sent the doctor to examine the state of health on the banks of the Vistula. At the same time, observation points were planned to be established in Nieszawa, Włocławek, Płock, and Nowy Dwór. The head of the Włocławek district, A. Dawidow, participated in a meeting devoted to the threat of an epidemic. The first case in the Kuyavian city was reported in issue 259 of September 6/19, and it involved Marianna Muzykiewicz. Four days later, the death of a woman with two children was reported. According to a report from September 16/29, there were 27 cases of cholera in the Kingdom of Poland, including 17 deaths (3 in Włocławek). To prevent the spread of the disease, medical observation stations were set up, thanks to which information was obtained about seven cases of fainting and six deaths in the city in question, which occurred between September 8/21 and September 28/October 11, 1905<sup>79</sup>. The cholera cases in Włocławek were also reported overseas<sup>80</sup>.

76 W. Stankiewicz, *Chłopi polscy w walce z wyzyskiem obszarniczym i uciskiem carskim*, [in:] *Rok 1905 na ziemiach polskich*, Warszawa 1955, p. 152.

77 *Korespondencje. Z Włocławka*, KW 1905, no. 43–46, p. 6; *Korespondencje*, KW 1905, no. 250, p. 7; *Wiadomości bieżące. Pamięci biskupów*, KW 1905, no. 296, p. 2 [error in the artist's name in the text]; see: *Epitafia i płyty nagrobne Katedry Włocławskiej*, Włocławek 2012, pp. 184–187.

78 *Poświęcenie pomników*, EPiW 1905, no. 83, p. 2; no. 86, p. 2; *Nowe pomniki*, EPiW 1905, no. 85, p. 2.

79 *Wiadomości bieżące. Wobec cholery*, KW 1905, no. 243, p. 5; *Wiadomości bieżące. Nie ma cholery*, KW 1905: dodatek poranny, no. 245, p. 2; *Wiadomości bieżące*, KW: dodatek poranny 1905, no. 259, p. 2; *Ostatnie telegramy*, KW: dodatek poranny 1905, no. 263, p. 4; *Rozporządzenia i zawiadomienia*, KW 1905, no. 264, p. 2; L. Karwecki, *Czy mamy się obawiać epidemii cholery w Warszawie?*, KW 1905, no. 267, p. 2; *Wiadomości bieżące. Cholera w Królestwie Polskim*, KW 1905, no. 269, p. 9; *Walka z cholera*, KW: dodatek poranny 1905, no. 270, pp. 3–4; *Z miasta. Cholera w kraju*, KW 1905, no. 287, p. 4.

80 *Warszawa*, Dziennik Chicagoski 1905, no. 243, p. 8 [“Wypadek cholery we Włocławku”]; no. 219, p. 1.

In addition to the above information, “Kurier Warszawski” reported that Dr. Mieczysław Gruell would be replaced as director of St. Anthony’s Hospital by Waław Kraszewski<sup>81</sup>. This hospital also saw the unexplained death of Froim Mazja, who had been brought there from prison. Upon arrival at the hospital, the beaten patient was locked in a separate room. When the room was opened in the presence of the hospital’s head physician, Dr. Kraszewski, it turned out that the convict was dead. “Echa Płockie i Włocławskie” stated that he had committed suicide<sup>82</sup>.

**Everyday life** in Włocławek will be described through the prism of sports, crime reports, marriages, and other minor mentions. In light of the collected material, it can be concluded that the residents of Włocławek mainly used the Warsaw daily newspaper to publish announcements, advertisements, and obituaries. A fairly popular topic was mentions of rowers from the Kingdom of Poland who were to compete in the August regatta.

The Włocławek Rowing Society was founded in 1886 by civil servants, lawyers, carpenters, a pharmacist, and a hairdresser. Walerian Ehrenkreutz became its first president, Józef Danielewicz its vice president, and Wawrzyniec Pudrzyński its treasurer. Józef Karasiński played a special role in 1905, serving as president of the summer marina from 1905 to 1906 and as one of the correspondents for “Kurier Warszawski”<sup>83</sup>. Throughout the year, information was published about the organisation of the regatta, in which crews from Warsaw, Płock, Włocławek, Kalisz, and Łomża took part. On July 4/17, the Włocławek crew confirmed their participation. The meeting of rowing crews in Ciechoćnek, where the inauguration took place, was marked by a ceremonial march with flags to the graduation towers and a group photo, causing quite a stir. The following rowers from Włocławek participated in the Warsaw regatta: coxswain Jan Garlikowski, rowers Jerzy Bojańczyk, Justyn Gajewski, Gabriel Bulikowski, Artur Mayer, and others. Among the many categories, the Kuyavian crew ultimately took first place only once in the six-oared boats, with no other successes recorded. The rowing news ended with the announcement of the purchase of two new boats and their ceremonial blessing, as well as the naming of them “Orzeł” (Eagle) and “Pogoń” (Chase)<sup>84</sup>. It should be emphasised that the Włocławek

81 *Korespondencje*, KW 1905, no. 196, p. 4.

82 *Samobójstwo w więzieniu*, KW 1905, no. 235, p. 5.

83 A. Winiarski, *Włocławskie Towarzystwo Wioślarskie 1886–2018*, Włocławek 2019, p. 34.

84 *Narada wioślarzy*, KW: dodatek poranny 1905, no. 27, p. 2; *Ze sportu*, KW 1905, no. 83, p. 11; *Z miasta. U wioślarzy*, KW 1905, no. 198, p. 3; *Ze sportu. Wycieczki klubowe*, KW 1905, no. 216, p. 9; *Z miasta. U wioślarzy*, KW 1905, no. 218, pp. 2–3; *Ze sportu. Regaty sierpniowe*, KW 1905, no. 223, p. 10; *Ze sportu. Regaty dzisiejsze*, KW 1905, no. 224, p. 8; *Ze sportu. Regaty sierpniowe*, KW 1905, no. 225, pp. 8–9; *Ze sportu. Poświęcenie łodzi*, KW 1905, no. 246, p. 3.

Rowing Society was one of the main topics of the *Echo Włocławskie* column, as it was mentioned at least 46 times in reports concerning preparations for regattas, the work of the marina, social gatherings, and reports from meetings<sup>85</sup>.

The daily life of Włocławek was enriched by information about marriages. Only two such events were published in the Warsaw newspaper. The union between Zofia (daughter of notary Ludwik Ulejski and his wife Felicja, née Smoleńska) and Stanisław Surowiecki, a landowner from Grójec, was blessed in the cathedral. An announcement was published of the wedding of Martin Schenfeld from Włocławek, son of a merchant, to Elza Proskauer, daughter of manufacturer Natan Proskauer from Schöneberg<sup>86</sup>.

The residents of Włocławek also showed great sensitivity to poverty, and their names were mentioned in the section devoted to donations for meals for the unemployed, the poorest, or the Jewish community. Often, donations were made instead of wreaths at a friend's funeral<sup>87</sup>. Mentions appeared in as many as nine issues of the Warsaw newspaper.

The Włocławek crime chronicle in 1905 was filled with several cases of theft, murder, and attempted murder. On February 28/March 13, "Kurier Warszawski" reported the murder of Antoni Brykman, stating that the investigation had only begun after nine days<sup>88</sup>. Much earlier, on February 21/March 6, 1905, this was reported in "Echa Płockie i Włocławskie". It was written that a man aged around 50 was found murdered in a garden at the intersection of Zamcza and Matebudy streets. He was a resident of Rypin. He lost his life due to an axe blow to the head, and there were signs of strangulation on his neck. It was determined that Brykman's death was robbery-related<sup>89</sup>. In mid-March, "by order of the prosecutor, Amelia Gruppe and a certain Grün were arrested" on suspicion of murder<sup>90</sup>. However, in July, a friend of the Rypin resident was released from custody on bail<sup>91</sup>.

The case of Florian Szczypiorski, accused of poisoning, was described quite extensively. The trial of the Warsaw District Court took place at an off-site session in Włocławek. The defendant came from the village of Mikanów

85 E.g. *Uroczystość wioślarska*, EPiW 1905, no. 71, p. 2; *Z T-ow Wioślarskiego*, EPiW 1905, no. 69, p. 2; *Z T-stwa wioślarskiego*, EPiW 1905, no. 72, p. 3; *Z T-wa wioślarskiego*, EPiW 1905, no. 77, p. 3; *Zamknięcie przystani*, EPiW 1905, no. 79, p. 3.

86 [W dniu 28 lutego...], KW 1905, no. 64, p. 7; *Zapowiedź*, KW 1905, nos. 121–123, p. 9.

87 *Ofiary. Na chleb dla głodnych pozbawionych pracy*, KW 1905, no. 179, p. 5; no. 319, p. 4; *Ofiary. Na obiady i chleb dla głodnych*, KW 1905, no. 205, p. 6.

88 *Z Włocławka*, KW 1905, no. 72 (March 13), p. 5.

89 *Zbrodnia*, EPiW 1905, no. 19, p. 3; *Zabójstwo*, „Słowo” 1905, no. 55, p. 3.

90 *Ze szkół*, EPiW 1905, no. 20, p. 3; *Echa zbrodni*, EPiW 1905, no. 20, p. 3; *Poszlaki*, EPiW 1905, no. 21, p. 3; *Poszukiwanie morderców przez ogłoszenia*, EPiW 1905, no. 23, p. 3.

91 *Zwolnienie*, EPiW 1905, no. 61, p. 3.

in the Nieszawa County, and he did not love his wife Antonina, beat her, and threatened to kill her. In the fall, when his wife was leaving for work with her friend Aniela Bajdalska, he offered them both alcohol. Some time after drinking, they suffered convulsions and pain. Bajdalska died, and Antonina recovered after a few days. Szczypiorski blamed his wife, who probably wanted to kill her friend. The husband was sentenced to 20 years of hard labour<sup>92</sup>.

The picture of the city is complemented by advertisements and announcements published in “Kurier Warszawski” by companies and residents of Włocławek. Chicory factories made their mark, including Włocławska Fabryka Cykorii R[yszarda] Bohne & Co.<sup>93</sup>, and the oldest chicory producer in Włocławek, which dates back to 1816 and operated under the name Ferdynand Bohm & Comp. from 1900<sup>94</sup>. It was also reported that steel cash boxes manufactured by Fabryka Kas Ogniotrwałych “Grafit” [Factory of Safes] from Struga near Warsaw<sup>95</sup> could be purchased here, and that delicious cream cheese was available from A. Grąbczewski<sup>96</sup>. Much more varied were the advertisements seeking employees in professions such as machinist-locksmith, nanny, stonemason, and traveller. Noteworthy is the Włocławek bookseller Adam Hahn, operating under the name S. Błędowski. He announced the third edition of Marian Fulman’s book *Maj i Październik poświęcone czci N.M.P. w publicznych nabożeństwach kościoła*<sup>97</sup> [May and October dedicated to the worship of the Blessed Virgin Mary in public church services].

In 1905, information about the deaths of loved ones was published seven times: merchant Heiman Fraenkel<sup>98</sup>, Samuel Radziejewski<sup>99</sup>, Natalia Jezierska, née Magdalińska<sup>100</sup>, Zygmunt Waliszewski<sup>101</sup>, and Roman Rayzacher, former director of the sugar factory<sup>102</sup>. Particular mention was made of social activist Leon Nowacki, president of the Włocławek Rowing Society, president of the volunteer fire brigade, member of the Charity Society, Mutual Credit Society, and other social institutions<sup>103</sup>. The *Włocławski słownik biograficzny*

92 *Kronika sądowa. Truciciel*, KW 1905, no. 116, p. 9.

93 [Reklama], KW 1905, no. 4, s. 13; no. 39, s. 11; no. 43–46, s. 16.

94 [Reklama], KW 1905, no. 84, p. 11; no. 89, p. 13; no. 92, p. 19; no. 96, p. 12.

95 [Reklama], KW 1905, no. 59, p. 11; KW: dodatek poranny 1905, no. 73, p. 6; no. 87, p. 6; no. 101, p. 6.

96 [Reklama], KW 1905, no. 88, p. 4; KW: dodatek poranny 1905, no. 91, p. 6.

97 [Ogłoszenie], KW 1905, no. 131, p. 11; no. 136, p. 10; no. 140, p. 14.

98 *Nekrolog*, KW: dodatek poranny 1905, no. 25, p. 3.

99 *Nekrolog*, KW 1905, no. 112, p. 10.

100 *Nekrolog*, KW 1905, no. 170, p. 7.

101 *Nekrolog*, KW: dodatek poranny 1905, no. 213, p. 3.

102 *Nekrolog*, KW 1905, no. 346, p. 6.

103 TKW, [13 marca zmarł...], KW 1905, no. 72, p. 10; no. 73, p. 4;

[Włocławek biographical dictionary] primarily focused on his activities in the Volunteer Fire Brigade Association; however, thanks to press reports from the time, it would be worthwhile to expand the biography to include his contributions to the social and cultural life of Włocławek<sup>104</sup>.

## Conclusions

In light of the material collected from the Warsaw publication, one gets the impression that, in the shadow of the intensified workers' movements and students' struggle for the Polish language in 1905 in the Kingdom of Poland, life in Włocławek continued, only in some aspects hindered by revolutionary events. There is a visible concern for communication and infrastructure in the city, as well as economic development and the daily life of the inhabitants of the capital of eastern Kujawy, which is presented in great detail. Religious life and healthcare in the city are given a much lesser extent. Much more detailed information was obtained from "Echa Płockie i Włocławskie". Only fragments of these events appear in "Dziennik Chicagoski".

The political and social situation could not be adequately reflected in the analysed publications, as they were published in an environment where every text was subject to preventive censorship, which changed after the publication of the October Manifesto in 1905. We cannot say whether the residents of Włocławek were aware of the significance of the changes, but the community of journalists from Włocławek knew that not all situations from that year were adequately reflected in the current press. Thanks to the memoirs of students from 1905, such as Zdzisław Arentowicz, we can learn about the individual assessment of events from the 7-grade Commercial School.

In the future, it will be worth tracing the presence of content related to this city on the Vistula River in the pages of "Kurier Warszawski" and "Dziennik Chicagoski", covering a broader chronological range, as there is a noticeable lack of reference to this valuable press content both in studies on Włocławek and in biographies of famous Włocławek residents.

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