

THE ŁÓDŹ ATLAS

Sheet XXXVIII: Metropolitan institutions in Łódź – distribution and structure in 2000

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Łódź, Poland, 2000

In 2000, Łódź had 800 100 population, and the number of metropolitan institutions in the city was 686, of which the largest group were banks and insurance companies (171), administration sector comprising 63 public offices, and 87 professional societies and associations and trade unions. The next most numerous group (fig. 1, Sheet 37) incorporated hotels and travel agencies (137) followed by academic institutions (70). It deserves special attention that the number of the various metropolitan-quality cultural institutions was 55. As compared to 1975, metropolitan mass media institutions grew in their number (29), nevertheless, it was still below the 1939 figure (41). The number of clinics of the Medical University of Łódź and the Defence Medical Academy of Łódź increased, too (19). Relative to 1945, the number of metropolitan institutions linked to transport and communications remained on stable level (12).

I. Banking and insurance

In 2000, banking agencies in Łódź represented 30 banks, of which: Bank Pekao S.A - 31 branches as part of the central macroregion; National Bank of Poland Branch (Narodowy Bank Polski Oddział); PKO BP S.A - 22 branches; Bank Pocztowy S.A. Regional Branch; Bank Przemysłowo-Handlowy S.A. (2 branches); Bank Przemysłowy (4); Bank Spółem S.A.; Bank Spółdzielczy Rzemiosła (2); Bank Śląski (5); Bank Unii Gospodarczej S.A. in Warsaw; Bank Zachodni S.A. (5); BIG Bank Gdański S.A.; BNP - Dresdner BANK (Poland) S.A.; BRE Bank S.A.; Deutsche Bank Polska S.A.; Fortis Bank Polska S.A.; GE Capital Bank S.A.; ‘Handlobank’ S.A.; Invest-Bank (2); Kredyt Bank S.A. (2); LG Petro Bank S.A. (5); an office of Mazowiecki Bank Regionalny S.A.; Powszechny Bank Kredytowy S.A. (25); Prosper Bank S.A. (3); Raiffeisen Bank Polska S.A.; Spółdzielcza Kasa Oszczędnościowo-Kredytowa im. F. Stefczyka (2); Wielkopolski Bank Kredytowy S.A. (5). In aggregate, 128 bank branches were recorded within the city boundaries, primarily in housing neighbourhoods. For a long time – as of 1891 - financial institutions were associated with the buildings at 57 Piotrkowska Street (Lorenc House), with 74 Piotrkowska St. (Geyer Palace), and the two banks at 14 and 15 Kościuszki Ave. and 15 Roosevelta St. The banks at 47 and 63 Kościuszki Ave. are a little more recent. The longest banking tradition boast the financial institutions in Kościuszki Avenue which is often referred to as the “banking street”. The remaining banks with branches outside the city centre (Śródmieście district) moved in after 1990. Banks were the first metropolitan institutions in Łódź to move beyond the ring railway and offer services at such places as the vehicle exchange or supermarkets.

Insurance institutions in 2000 were represented by 36 insurance companies maintaining 40 branches in Łódź, including Agropolisa S.A., Allianz Życie Polska S.A., Amplico AIG Life S.A., Warta, Cigna Commercial Union, Compensa S.A. and Życie, Daewoo S.A., Enre-go-Asekuracja S.A., Europa S.A., Filar S.A., Gerling Polska S.A., Nationale Nederlanden Polska S.A., Norwich Union, Partner S.A., PBK S.A., Polisa Życie Polonia S.A., PZU S.A., Rekompensata, Rentier S.C., Samopomoc S.A., Towarzystwo Ubezpieczeń Wzajemnych, Warta S.A. and Vita, Winterthur Życie S.A., Zurich.

II. Education and research

Educational institutions are represented by 7 state universities, 11 private universities, 4 large academic libraries, the Regional National Archive, and 43 research and central research-and-development institutes.

The educational function was one of the last in the broad spectrum of metropolitan functions which has developed over the last 56 years, giving the city its academic centre status. Apart from the seven state universities: University of Łódź (1945), Technical University of Łódź (1945), Medical University of Łódź (1950), Defence Medical University of Łódź (1958), Academy of Music (1945), Academy of Fine Arts, National Academy of Film, Television & Theatre (1948), there are four institutions of higher education supported by the church and eleven private universities. The oldest private institutions were established in 1994 - the Academy of Marketing and Business [Wyzsza Szkoła Marketingu i Biznesu] and the Academy of Commerce [Wyzsza Szkoła Kupiecka].

The state universities form two large campuses: that of the Technical University of Łódź in Aleja Politechniki, adjacent to the western edge of the city centre, and that of the University of Łódź incorporating the halls of residence complex, the institutes of Mathematics, Physics and Biology, the Collegium Geographicum and the University Library, located east of the city centre. Other institutions of higher education in Łódź, except for the Academy of Fine Arts and the Defence Medical University, are situated in Śródmieście and occupy buildings erected during the capitalist period of the city’s development. The most recent - private universities – filled in the gaps between the state universities. The outstanding institutions (43) being academic institutes and research and development institutes have the most dispersed spatial distribution outside the central area and alongside transit roads in the city. They are linked to the industrial areas and form their research base.

This Sheet XXXVIII contains a map showing the locations of educational institutions engaged in direct cooperation agreements with the city’s largest higher learning school, the University of Łódź (93 agreements with 79 cities worldwide), and the locations of foreign scientific institutions that cooperate with the University of Łódź Library (162 agreements with 107 cities worldwide).

III. Specialised hospitals

The group of 19 specialised hospitals comprises clinical hospitals of the Medical University of Łódź and the Defence Medical University of Łódź and other hospitals which, in view of their specialisation, provide health services for the whole central region of Poland, e.g. the Regional Specialised Tuberculosis and Pulmonary Diseases Healthcare Trust (Wojewódzki Specjalistyczny Zespół Opieki Zdrowotnej Gruźlicy i Choroby Pluc) at 181 Okólna St., the J. Babiński Neurotic and Mental Diseases Hospital (Szpital dla Nerwowo i Psychicznie Chorych im. J. Babińskiego) at 159 Aleksandrowska St., the Polish Mother’s Heath Centre (Centrum Zdrowia Matki Polki) at 281/289 Rzgowska St., and the Ministry of Home Affairs’ Hospital (Szpital MSW) at 42 Północna St. Nearly 90% of specialised healthcare facilities are situated in old downtown buildings that originate from the interwar period and only a few enjoy locations up to 10 km away from the crowded city centre, for example the hospital in Okólna Street is situated in Łagiewniki Forest and occupies the former industrial buildings along with several post-war buildings, likewise the hospital at 159 Aleksandrowska in the north-western part of the city. The newest and most modern facility is the Polish Mother’s Heath Centre (Centrum Zdrowia Matki Polki) situated in proximity to the southern border of the city near the dual carriageway to Piotrków Trybunalski.

IV. Courts and other justice administration institutions

The justice administration institutions (10) are represented by the Prosecution Office of

Appeal (Prokuratura Apelacyjna), the Military District and Garrison Prosecution Office (Okręgowa i Wojskowa Prokuratura Garnizonowa), as well as the Non-resident Division of the Supreme Administrative Court (Ośrodek Zamiejscowy Naczelnego Sądu Administracyjnego), the Court of Appeal (Sąd Apelacyjny), the Regional Court (Sąd Okręgowy), the District Court (Sąd Rejonowy), and the Military Garrison Court (Wojskowy Sąd Garnizonowy), the Regional Police Department (Komenda Wojewódzka Policji), the Remand Centre (Areszt Śledczy), and the Regional Chamber for Investigating Crimes against the Polish People (Okręgowa Izba Badania Zbrodni przeciwko Narodowi Polskiemu). They are located in the city centre (with the exception of the Remand Centre), and with the exception of the Regional Prosecution Office (Prokuratura Wojewódzka) they all occupy buildings from the interwar period. The seat of the Prosecution Office of Appeal (Prokuratura Apelacyjna), is located in one of the best preserved of Łódź’s palaces at 151 Piotrkowska St., built in 1910 in the style of Italian Renaissance. The Regional Court and the Court of Appeal (Sąd Wojewódzki i Apelacyjny) occupy the complex of imposing buildings in Plac Dąbrowskiego.

V. Mass media

Mass media institutions (29) include six radio broadcasting stations (Radio Łódź, Classic, Manhattan, RMF FM, Parada and Plus), three television stations (Telewizja Polska S.A. regional department, TVN, and Toya), six nationwide publishers Regionalne Towarzystwo Publikacyjne, PAP, Polska Press sp. z.o.o and eleven press titles: Angora, Biuletyn Społeczno-Gospodarczy, Gazeta Wyborcza, Kalejdoskop Łódzki, Niedziela Łódzka, Oblicze, Super Express, To & Owo, Wiadomości Samorządowe, Wydawca, and Zielona Gazeta. All mass media institutions are situated in the city centre.

VI. Hotels, other accommodation and travel offices

In 2000, Łódź was the venue of 17 hotels and 120 travel agencies. Out of the 17 hotels in Łódź, nine are located in the city’s central area, while the smallest ones are found on the outskirts, mainly off the transfer roads in the city. Three quarters of Łódź’s travel agencies, which rapidly developed after 1989, are situated between the Stary Rynek in the north, in and off Piotrkowska Street, and in Plac Niepodległości in the south, with the others situated in housing microdistricts and shopping centres. 90% of travel agencies in Łodz are agents of large western tourist organisations.

VII. Transport and communication

The locations of the institutions in charge of transport and communication management (12) are strictly linked to their functions. The State Telecommunication Inspection Board (Zarząd Państwowej Inspekcji Telekomunikacyjnej), the State Radiocommunication Agency Board (Zarząd Państwowej Agencji Radiokomunikacyjnej) and the General Public Road Board (Zarząd Generalnej Dyrekcji Dróg Publicznych) are situated in the centre of Łódź. Railway and coach stations (Kaliska, Fabryczna and PKS) and the International Forwarding Companies (Przedsiębiorstwa Spedycji Międzynarodowej) are situated along the ring railway and south of Ustronna Street. The Attached Lublinek Airport (Lotnisko Dyspozycyjne Lublinek) and the Łódź Flying Club (Aeroklub Łódzki) are the exceptions and are situated in the south-western outskirts of the city.

VIII. Cultural institutions

Cultural institutions include 14 museums, 12 theatres, one concert hall, and 29 galleries. All museums organise exhibitions, inter-museum exchanges, and academic sessions, and one of them - the City History Museum (Muzeum Historia Miasta) - is the focal point of the cultural life of Lodzians for preparing all-Polish events that promote Łódź internationally. This museum is situated in one of the largest palaces in Łódź representing the former property of the industrialist I. Poznański. Another of his palaces is occupied by the Art Museum, internationally renowned for its unique International Collection of Modern Art which had its first public show in 1931. A branch of this museum is the “Książy Młyn” Residence, the former estate of the industrialist Edward Herbst, which is situated in the southern part of the city in the largest 19th century industrial museum. The reconstruction of ‘Książy Młyn’ in 1990 was awarded the prestigious Europa Nostra medal from the Pan-European Federation for Cultural for saving and restoring architectural heritage. The museum organises approx. ten national and five international exhibitions annually, and its international cooperation includes exchange of exhibits, catalogues, and publications with museums and galleries from all around the world. The Museum’s international cooperation in 2000, as shown on the maps in this Sheet XXXVIII, included 18 notable world museums from ten European countries, the USA, and Israel. Another unique and internationally renowned museum is the Central Textile Museum [Centralne Muzeum Włókiennictwa], a self-contained facility since 1960 located in Geyer’s ‘White Factory’. Currently the museum is the only venue of the International Tapestry Triennial, and in 2000 it organised two international exhibitions (cf the map). Other exhibition venues in Łódź include the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnography [Muzeum Archeologii i Etnografii], the Łódź Archdiocese Museum [Muzeum Archidiecezji Łódzkiej], Museum of Cinematography [Muzeum Kinematografii], Museum of Book Decoration [Muzeum Książki Artystycznej], Museum of Martyrdom and Struggle [Muzeum Martyrologii i Walki], Museum of the Pro-independence Traditions [Muzeum Tradycji Niepodległościowych], Museum of Education [Muzeum Oświaty], Museum of Sports and Recreation [Muzeum Sportu i rekreacji], and two university museums: the Natural History Museum [Muzeum Przyrodnicze] in Sienkiewicza Park, and the Geological Museum at the Collegium Geographicum.

Out of the twelve active theatres, the most prominent is the Grand Theatre (Teatr Wielki), opened in 1967, which boasts the second largest stage in Poland. In the course of the season the theatre prepares 10 premieres. The Artur Rubinstein State Philharmonic Hall splendidly represents Łódź on the cultural map of the world. In 2000 the Łódź Philharmonic Orchestra and Choir toured Spain, Germany, France, and the Netherlands – as shown on the map - and hosted foreign artists from Austria, Japan, Germany, and Russia. In total, the Philharmonic Hall organised 30 symphony concerts, 10 concerts for children, and several hundred performances for schools and nursery schools. Out of the 29 art galleries – eleven are situated along the city’s high street - Piotrkowska Street, while others are scattered over larger housing areas in town

IX. Administration

Institutions, broadly understood as administration, are concentrated along Piotrkowska Street, and streets perpendicular to it, from Plac Wolności to Plac Niepodległości. Among 150 institutions categorised as administrative, 61 are part of the state administration at województwo and powiat level, Garrison Headquarters [Komenda Garnizonu], Military Police [Oddział Wojskowej Służby Wewnętrznej] and four religious administrations (Łódź Roman Catholic Archdiocese, Orthodox Łódź Diocese, Evangelical Łódź Diocese and the Jewish Religious Community), as well as an office of the Financial Ministry, and the ?Supreme Chamber of Control? [Naczelna Izba Kontroli]. Almost 41% of all administrative bodies are professional unions, societies and associations.

X. Other metropolitan institutions

The 42 institutions classified as ‘other’ include the Łódź International Fairs [Międzynarodowe Targi Łódzkie], the Łódź Special Economic Zone, 4 professional associations, 3 national chambers, and 9 regional associations of medical, law, industrial, and commercial professionals, 15 super and supermarkets, and nine large department stores. All of the foregoing institutions, except for the large shopping centres, are located in city centre.

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