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CHRONICLE

20th Polar Symposium "HUMAN IMPACT ON THE POLAR ENVIRONMENT" Lublin, June 3-5, 1993

The Polar Club of the Polish Geographical Society organized its twentieth annual symposium in cooperation with the Committee on Polar Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences and the Earth Science Institute of Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin. This time Lublin was chosen as the place of a scientific session, a social meeting and a point of departure for a trip to the Polesie National Park. For two years now Lublin has been the seat of Polar Club Board.

During the introductory plenary session the participants listened to four papers:

- 1) Changes in the Antarctic environment under the impact of anthropopression and the legal means to counteract them (J. Machowski — Poland);
- 2) Aspects of archaeological research on Svalbard (M.E. Jasiński — Norway);
- 3) The remains of the early industrialization of Svalbard as cultural heritage (L. Roll — Norway);
- 4) Long term variability of the atmospheric circulation over Spitsbergen and its influence on their temperature (T. Niedźwiedz — Poland)

Then work was carried out in sections: Biological Sciences, Geology and Geomorphology, Hydrology and Climatology, History and Man's Activity in the Arctic.

During the symposium an open meeting of the Polar Club of the Polish Geographical Society was held. Reports were presented and future activities were discussed.

There was also a traditional social evening during which, as usual, the guests had time to exchange experiences, share plans for the future and, most importantly, cement friendship among polar society of various professions and interests.

The symposium was accompanied by video and slide sessions. There were also some films, as usual. This year's event was a slide show, presented by W. Moskal, documenting the winter-spring transect across Greenland carried out by two Club members from Gdańsk.

On the final day of the symposium the participants have taken part in a trip to the Polesie National Park, a specific and very interesting area of Poland.

The organizers have prepared a special, English-language, 496-page volume "XX Polar Symposium, Lublin, Poland June, 3-5, 1993" (Polar Club of Polish Geographical Society; Committee on Polar Research, Polish Academy of Sciences; Institute of Earth Sciences of Maria Curie-Skłodowska University). Its contains the following parts: PLENARY SESSION (4 papers), HISTORY AND MAN'S ACTIVITY IN THE ARCTIC (6 papers), BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES (17 papers), EARTH SCIENCES (25 papers) and VARIA (2 reports). Following the tradition of many Lublin polar publications, the symposium volume is very carefully edited, has a nice get-up, and features Zbigniew Wójcik's artistic graphic, this time not very numerous. Worth stressing are the skills of the volume' editors, Dr. Janina Repelewska-Pękalowa and Prof. Kazimierz Pękała.

The 20th Polar Symposium has fulfilled its scientific, integrating and social tasks. Its organizers and congenial hosts succeeded in creating an atmosphere both scientific and familiar, worthy of an anniversary polar symposia to be equally successful. The next, 1994 symposium is to be organized by the colleagues from Warsaw.

Wojciech STANKOWSKI
Poznań



Fig. 1. — Leaders of the organizing committee: prof. Kazimierz Pękala and dr. Janina Repelewska-Pękalowa

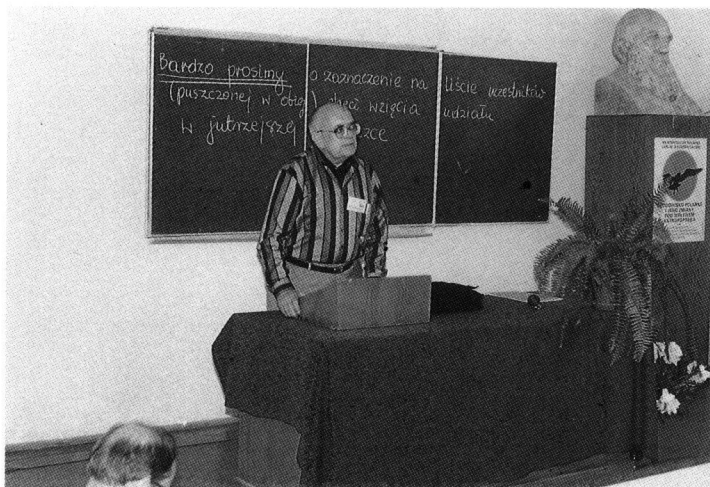


Fig. 2. Speech by prof. Stanisław Siedlecki

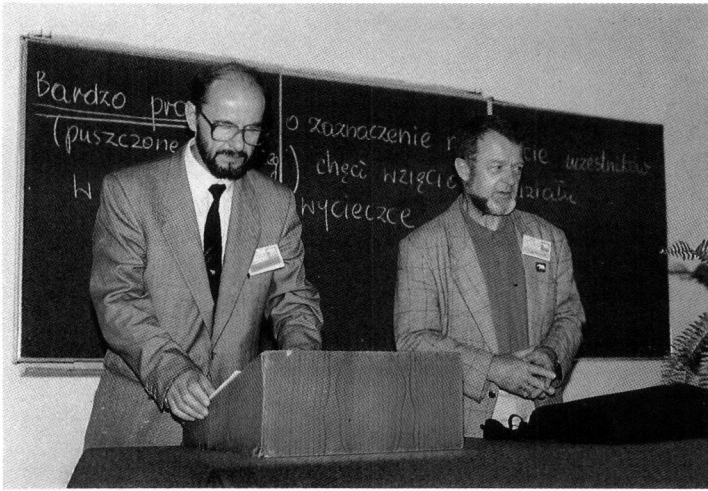


Fig. 3. Two presidents: prof. Kazimierz Pékala (Polar Club of the Polish Geographical Society) and prof. Krzysztof Birkenmajer (Committee on Polar Research, Polish Academy of Sciences)



Fig. 4. At the registration desk of the Symposium