

N° 156.

ALLEMAGNE ET POLOGNE

Arrangement au sujet de la préparation du plébiscite en Haute-Silésie, 20 janvier 1921.

GERMANY AND POLAND

Agreement regarding the preparations for the Upper-Silesian Plebiscite, January 20, 1921.

¹ TRANSLATION.

No. 156. — GERMAN-POLISH AGREEMENT, REGARDING THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE UPPER-SILESIAN PLEBISCITE. JANUARY 20, 1921.

(1) The {German } Government agrees to permit individuals or organisations in both countries to make preparations for the Upper Silesian plebiscite.

(2) These individuals or organisations shall have the right to publish the necessary proclamations more especially through the agency of the press, in either the German or Polish languages. Further, they shall be granted the right to enter into direct communication with the voters, either personally or through the post.

(3) Both Governments undertake that the Communal and Police authorities shall grant without delay the visas which are required by the Inter-Allied Commission to substantiate applications for inclusion in the lists of voters.

(4) Both Governments undertake that all correspondence relating to the plebiscite (applications, voting-papers, objections, etc.), shall be forwarded without delay or hindrance.

(5) Both Parties agree to allow three couriers to whom the requisite facilities will be granted, to be employed for communication between the plebiscite organisations in Upper-Silesia, and the German and Polish organisations outside the plebiscite area. These couriers shall be authorised to carry applications for votes and other documents required in connection with the voting.

When the Polish couriers leave Upper-Silesia, their portfolios shall be visaed and sealed by the German representatives attached to the Inter-Allied Commission. When they proceed from Germany to Upper Silesia, their portfolios shall be visaed and sealed by the Chief of Police (e. g. at Essen, Breslau, Berlin).

Similar procedure shall be adopted with regard to communication between the German organisations in the plebiscite area, Germany and Poland. The Polish Consulate at Breslau shall be responsible for visa-ing and sealing the portfolios of couriers proceeding from Upper Silesia to Poland, and also for visa-ing their passports for the outward and return journeys. On the return journey, the portfolios of the German couriers shall be visaed and sealed by the Chief of Police at Posen or Bromberg or by the Prefect (Starost) at Kempen.

(6) Both Governments undertake to allow nationals of either Party who are entitled to vote, to travel to and from the polls without hindrance, and under the same conditions as the most favoured voters.

(7) In execution of the provisions of paragraph 6, the following procedure shall be applied :

(a) German voters in Poland shall apply for travelling facilities to the Railway authorities at Posen.

(b) Polish voters in Germany of their organisations shall notify the general management " East " at the Potsdam station of the number of tickets which will be required. The Railway authorities at Breslau, Berlin and Essen, shall then issue the tickets.

Details regarding the form of these tickets, and the text of the instructions of the Inter-Allied Commission which are to be attached thereto, have already been published.

(8) Both Governments undertake to bring the provisions of the present agreement to the knowledge of the authorities concerned, before January 26th.

¹ Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations.