

Times 9. III. 68

Freedom call by Poles

WARSAW, March 8.—About 4,000 chanting students marched in the grounds of Warsaw University today, demanding the reinstatement of two colleagues banned for taking part in a demonstration against the closing of a classic Polish play.

There were a few scuffles between the demonstrators and some 500 plain clothes auxiliary policemen as the students clamoured to see the Rector, shouting: "No study without freedom. No bread without freedom."

They were protesting about actions taken against students who paraded through the city on January 30 after the Ministry of Culture had ended performances of the play *Dziady* (*The Ancestors*) by the nineteenth-century poet Adam Mickiewicz. The police temporarily detained about 50 students after the demonstration, and six will appear before a university disciplinary commission.

The play, depicting Polish sufferings under Tsarist oppression, contained anti-Russian lines which were enthusiastically applauded. The official reason for taking off the play was "organized hooligan excesses" among sections of the audience.

Warsaw writers last week rejected a move by their communist colleagues to condemn the

demonstrations by the audience. Instead, the Warsaw branch of the Polish Writers' Union passed a counter-motion believed to have condemned the closing of the play as heavy-handed censorship and to have demanded more liberal censorship regulations.

During today's two-hour demonstration some students chanted "We want *Dziady*" and "Long live the writers". Not all students at the university took part in the demonstration; some stayed in their classes and others watched from windows.

Plain clothes auxiliary policemen were on the spot when the demonstration began, and others arrived in seven buses at the university grounds in central Warsaw.

The students marched from the square in front of the university library to the Rector's building, demanding to see Mr. Stanislaw Turcki, the Rector. When Professor Zygmunt Rybicki, the pro-Rector, appeared instead, he was greeted with whistles and shouts.

Professor Rybicki said that the Rector was not in, but the students answered in chorus: "We do not mind, we can wait." Professor Rybicki then proposed a meeting with representatives of the students in their faculties next Monday and asked the students to disperse. The students agreed after demanding guarantees that no action would be taken against their representatives.

A university official promised the students that they would not have their documents taken away, as at a previous demonstration. The students then left without reading a resolution they had brought with them.

Some students scuffled briefly with policemen who tried to drag away a number of demonstrators. There was little violence, and the police did not use their batons it was said. There were no apparent arrests.—*Reuter*.

MILAN, March 8.—Hundreds of policemen with batons swept through the Liceo Parini here today, ejecting about 300 students who had barricaded themselves in the building. Witnesses said that 600 policemen entered the school after the students had locked themselves in to show their support for university students who have been demanding educational reforms.

Battered and bleeding from head wounds, the school students ran from the building shouting insults and weeping. Some of them later joined other students in a march through Milan.

Some 4,000 students had marched on the Parini at the end of morning classes. Many of them were Parini pupils who had been ejected from the building after occupying it on Thursday. As a few policemen watched, about 1,000 stormed the building. About 300 remained, barricading themselves in with desks. Police reinforcements were summoned and cleared the building.—*United Press International*.