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Sport in the county of Kremenets in the light of “Życie Krzemienieckie” magazine (1932–1939)

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Sport w powiecie krzemienieckim w świetle czasopisma „Życie Krzemienieckie” (1932–1939)

Streszczenie

Celem pracy było przedstawienie ruchu sportowego w powiecie krzemienieckim w świetle „Życia Krzemienieckiego”. „Życie Krzemienieckie” było czasopismem społecznym, ukazującym się głównie jako miesięcznik, w latach 1932–1939. Podejmowało obok problematyki społecznej, gospodarczej, kulturalnej, także kwestie związane z ruchem sportowym, głównie społeczeństwa powiatu krzemienieckiego.

Problematyka sportu podejmowana była w zasadzie w każdym numerze czasopisma. W zakresie działalności sportowej poruszano sprawy infrastruktury sportowej, kształcenia kadry instruktorskiej, organizacji i zarządzania sportem, sportu szkolnego oraz współzawodnictwa sportowego. Ważną rolę w zakresie uwarunkowań ruchu sportowego w powiecie krzemienieckim odegrały lokalne struktury zarządzania sportem, m.in. Powiatowy Komitet Wychowania Fizycznego i Przy-

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sposobienia Wojskowego oraz Miejski Komitet Wychowania Fizycznego i Przystosowania Wojskowego. Na terenie powiatu krzemienieckiego ogromną rolę w zakresie budowy infrastruktury sportowej, kształcenia kadr czy organizacji imprez sportowych przypadło Zjednoczeniu Organizacji Społecznych. Artykuły, materiały i doniesienia dotyczyły głównie sportów zimowych, gier sportowych, sportów wodnych, a także szybownictwa. Sport realizowany był w działalności organizacji społecznych, m.in. w Wołyńskim Związku Młodzieży Wiejskiej, Związku Harcerstwa Polskiego, Związku Strzeleckim.

Słowa kluczowe: prasa, powiat krzemieniecki, sport, II Rzeczpospolita.

Abstract

The aim of the study was to present the sports movement in the county of Kremenets in the light of “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” [“Life of Kremenets”] magazine. „*Życie Krzemienieckie*” was a social magazine published mainly as a monthly in the years 1932–1939. In addition to social, economic and cultural issues it also addressed subjects related to the sports movement, mainly in the community of the county of Kremenets.

The issue of sport was actually discussed in every issue of the magazine. In terms of sporting activities it dealt with matters connected with sports infrastructure, personnel training, organization and management of sport, school sports and athletic competition. An important role in terms of sports movement conditions in the county of Kremenets was played by local sport management structures, including: County Committee for Physical Education and Military Training and Municipal Committee for Physical Education and Military Training. On the territory of the county of Kremenets a huge role as regards the development of sports infrastructure, personnel training or organization of sports events was attributed to the Union of Social Organizations. Articles, materials and coverage mainly related to winter sports, sports games, water sports, and gliding. Sport was practised in the activities of social organizations, such as the Volhynian Association of Rural Youth, Polish Scouting and Guiding Association and the Shooting Association.

Keywords: press, county of Kremenets, sport, the Second Polish Republic.

Introduction

The aim of this paper has been to present sport in the county of Kremenets in the light of “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” magazine (1932–1939). “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” [“Life of Kremenets”] magazine was published in Kremenets. The magazine was a monthly, at certain times “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” came out as a bi-weekly. It was a magazine which was to provide information on social, cultural and economic life, as well as in the field of sport, mostly of the local community. The county of Kremenets was located in the Volhynian province. Its area was 2700 km² and the population was 243 thousand (according to the census of 1931)¹. The county was mainly (80.7%) inhabited by the Ukrainian population (196.2 thousand). The second nationality in terms of the population number was Poles (10.6%; 25.8 thousand of inhabitants). The remaining part was Jewish pop-

¹ https://pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Powiat_krzemieniecki [accessed: 31.05.2019].

ulation and other small nationality groups. The initial date is 1932 – in this year “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” magazine began to be issued; the closing date is the year 1939 – when the magazine ceased to be published and World War II broke out. As far as the present state of research is concerned there are no publications devoted to sports activities in the county of Kremenets in the interwar period.

Methods and research problems

In the research the following methods have been used: analysis of historical sources, synthesis, induction, deduction, and a comparative method. The following research areas have been put forward:

1. Did the period of 1930s see the development of sport in the county of Kremenets?
2. What factors influenced sports activities in the county of Kremenets?
3. Was there, in the period discussed, an increase in the number of clubs and societies engaged in sports sections and of people involved in the sports movement in the county of Kremenets?

Results and discussion

An important role in the development of sports in a given area during the Second Polish Republic was played by physical culture management structures contributing to organizational conditions and constituting legal, personnel, financial and other bases. In the county of Kremenets the County Committee for Physical Education and Military Training (CCPEMT) conducted its activities. One of the meetings of CCPEMT in Kremenets was held on 12 February 1937². The aim of the meeting was to discuss the activities of the Committee for 1936 and plan works for 1937. CCPEMT for its activities in 1936 expended an amount of 8,356.54 zloty. In the budget of the Committee in 1937 an amount of 14,259 zloty was allocated for its activities. The programme of works for 1937 provided for, among others, subscription of magazines related to physical education (PE) and military training (MT); organizing lectures on physical and civic education (on the territory of the following communes: Białozórka, Szumsk, Wiśniowiec i Wyszogródek); conducting tests for the award of the National Sports Badge (NSB) and the Shooting Badge (SB); training male youth (“junak” men) in military training – mt (on a camp in Racki Bór); in the winter period organizing a 14-day skiing course in Strażnica in Malinów; holding 7-day skiing touring courses (Kuty Rybcza, Kołodno, Wyszogródek), with the courses completed with

² “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1937, no. 4, p. 67.

competitions for the Badge of the Polish Skiing Association (PSA); a civic education camping trip in cooperation with the Border Defence Corps (BDC); the investment department planned for: further extension of the sports field of the County Committee for Physical Education and Military Training – CCPEMT (running track, long-jump and high-jump pit, discus throwing and shot put areas); commencement of construction of a shooting range with a locker room and showers in Kremenets; completion of construction of a sports field in Białozórka and construction of a field in Kołodno and Wiśniowiec; construction of shooting ranges in Kołodno and Wyszogródek and completion of construction of shooting ranges in Białozórka and Katerberg)³.

In addition to CCPEMT, an important role in the popularization and promotion of physical activity in Kremenets was played by the Union of Social Organizations (USO)⁴. It was established on 29 December 1931 in Kremenets. Its objective was to “join efforts of individual organizations and conduct direct activity in the area of sport, physical education and public defence of the State”. As part of sections 3 committees were set up: of physical education – with its head Julian Kozłowski; of public defence of the State – the head of the committee was Michał Rzeppo; of associations of former servicemen – the head of the committee was Franciszek Groński. Apart from those mentioned above, the management of the sections included: Aleksander Berger (chairman), Klaudiusz Krzehlik (deputy chairman), Maria Zadróżna (secretary). In the meeting of the management of sections on 21 January 1932 the following work plan for the committee of physical education was adopted for the 1st half of 1932: six-day skiing course combined with learning how to make skis at home; shooting competition (19 March 1932); team cross-country running for the challenge prize; spring course of athletics and sports games; track and field events (3 May 1932); 6-week course of civic education; gymnastic exercises for women and men; a series of lectures in the scope of physical education and military training.

In addition to CCPEMT, Municipal Committee of Physical Education and Military Training (MCPEMT) conducted its activities⁵. An organizational meeting establishing MCPEMT was held on 4 February 1937. The structure of the Committee included an Executive Department and 3 sections: Administrative and Economic, Social Education and Propaganda, Physical Education and Military Training. The budget for the reporting year 1937/1938 amounted to 1000 zloty only. This was a subsidy from the commune of Kremenets. Out of this sum, among others 600 zloty was allocated to levelling works at an ice rink, completion of a sports field at Public School No. 2, organization of Festival of Physical Education and Military Training (PEMT). Plans for the next years consisted of the following investments: construction of a gym together with equipment at Public

³ Ibidem.

⁴ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1932, no. 4, p. 28.

⁵ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1937, no. 3, p. 46.

School No. 3 in Kremenets (1938); construction of a hostel with lecture rooms and facilities on the territory of Zgniłe Lake (1938-1940). In the county of Kremenets Communal Committees of PEMT were fairly active, e.g. in Szumsk a Festival of PEMT was organized in 1936 on the initiative of the local Committee⁶. The event was attended by teams from the Shooting Association, the Association of Reservists and Fire Brigades. A shooting competition „Ten shots to the glory of the Fatherland” was held.

An important element of the infrastructure was construction of a swimming pool (bathing beach) with a water jump, in Młynowce near Kremenets (5 km from Kremenets) on the Ikwa river by USO. The construction was completed and the facility was commissioned to public use in June 1933⁷. For safety reasons bathing areas on Ikwa river were laid out and tidied up. The sports and recreation investment that the bathing beach consisted of a swimming pool, beach, locker room and springboard. The swimming pool dimensions were 50 m × 60 m, with the depth of water from 1.5 to 4 m and 5 swimming lanes⁸. In the years 1935–1936 day-to-day repairs were carried out, a shelter for canoes was built, and a boat, kayak and 10 wicker cabins were purchased⁹.

On the territory of the county of Kremenets sports facilities for winter sports were built. The initiative to construct a ski jump was the work of the State Defence and Physical Education Section of USO in Kremenets¹⁰. The section was established on 29 December 1931¹¹. The territory for the construction of the jump was located in the vicinity of Zgniłe Lake (one of the most beautiful places of Kremenets – a northern, wooden slope). It was given by the Kremenets Secondary School (made available for skiing). The profile of the jump was designed by the engineer architect Celarski. According to calculations jumps of from 30 to 40 m long could be showed on the jump¹². Construction works began in early November 1932. At the end of 1932 the erection of the ski jump in Kremenets was completed. The ski jump opening ceremony took place on 15 January 1933. On that day, an inaugural sports skiing competition was held¹³. On the initiative of USO, in 1933 a training jump and a hut (changing room) for skiers were built by Zgniłe Lake¹⁴. The investment cost (of the training jump and changing room) amounted to 1836.29 zloty. In subsequent years, further works were carried to „finally com-

⁶ „Życie Krzemienieckie” 1936, no. 7, p. 300.

⁷ „Życie Krzemienieckie” 1934, no. 3, p. 76.

⁸ „Życie Krzemienieckie” 1933, no. 6, p. 269.

⁹ The report of the Chairman of the USO Board of 10 July 1936 for the year 1935/36, „Życie Krzemienieckie” 1936, no. 7, pp. 279–295.

¹⁰ „Życie Krzemienieckie” 1932, no. 11, pp. 29–30.

¹¹ „Życie Krzemienieckie” 1933, no. 4, p. 176.

¹² „Życie Krzemienieckie” 1932, no. 11, p. 30.

¹³ „Życie Krzemienieckie” 1933, no. 1, p. 27.

¹⁴ „Życie Krzemienieckie” 1933, no. 3, pp. 75–76.

plete both ski jumps”¹⁵. By means of earthmoving the jumping range was increased from 40 m to 50 m, both jumps were turfed and the floor was fitted in the skiing shelter.

Instructor courses were organized on the initiative of sports clubs. Kremenets Sports Club (KSC) in the period from 15 January 1931 to 7 February 1931 organized a skiing course on the territory of Kremenets¹⁶. The course was attended by 30 people, divided into two groups: the youth and the elderly. Particular progress on mastering skiing skills was noticeable in the group of youth. An important role in training instructor personnel was played by USO. The skiing course organized by USO taught on 1520 February 1932 was attended by 24 people¹⁷. From among the participants 11 people belonged to the Police Sports Club (PSC) Kremenets, 3 people to SA, 4 members of RYC, 3 soldiers and 4 unaffiliated persons. Course activities were conducted by J. Kozłowski and F. Gronowski. Courses in skiing were organized by CCPEMT in Kremenets. At the beginning of 1932 on the initiative of the committee a skiing course was organized for 30 students of school troops¹⁸. Skiing courses in Kremenets were continued in subsequent years. In the second half of December 1933 on the initiative of the Polish Scouting and Guiding Association (PSGA) a 10-day skiing course for scouts from Volhynian province was organized¹⁹. In addition to these courses, in the first quarter of 1934 organization of skiing courses was planned in the county of Kremenets: in Beresteczko, Katerburg, Kołodno, Stożek, Szumsk and Wiśniowiec²⁰.

On the initiative of CCPEMT in Kremenets a Festival of PEMT was organized on 25 September to 2 October 1932²¹. The competition programme consisted of a cycling race, football, sports games (basketball, volleyball), athletics competitions and tests for NSB and SB. Participation in the competition was quite large, they were attended by athletes from PSC Kremenets, KSC Kremenets, Sports Club (SC) “Bona” Kremenets, Jewish Sports Club (JSC) “Hasmonea” Kremenets, Shooting Association, MT Troops from Wiśniowiec, school youth from the Lower Secondary School (Gimnazjum) and Secondary School (Liceum) in Kremenets, Agricultural School in Białokrynica, Lower Secondary School (Gimnazjum) run by the local self-government and Orthodox Seminary. The event took place on the sports field of CCPEMT in Kremenets (field by the Lower Secondary School run by the local self-government) and on the field of Kre-

¹⁵ The report of the Chairman of the USO Board of 10 July 1936 for the year 1935/36, “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1936, no. 7, pp. 279–295.

¹⁶ S. Pomykański, *Kremenets Sports Club*, “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1932, no. 1, p. 26.

¹⁷ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1932, no. 2, p. 32; 1932, no. 4, p. 28.

¹⁸ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1932, no. 3, pp. 28–29.

¹⁹ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1934, no. 1, pp. 30–31.

²⁰ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1933, no. 11, pp. 435–436.

²¹ L. Gronowski, *Święto Wychowania Fizycznego w Krzemieńcu [Festival of Physical Education in Kremenets]*, “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1932, no. 8–9, pp. 45–47.

menets Secondary School. Secondary school students competed in sports competitions included in the programme of the PEMT Festival in Kremenets, in 1932. The competition was attended by athletes from the National Agricultural School in Białokrynica, Orthodox Seminary, Lower Secondary School run by the local self-government and the Teacher Training Seminary (Secondary School) in Kremenets. Competitions were held in sports games (basketball, volleyball) and in track and field events. In the overall competition score students from the Agricultural School in Białokrynica were the winner.

Festivals of PEMT in Kremenets continued to be organized in subsequent years. On 11 June 1936 the event took place in Kremenets on the initiative of the local Committee of Physical Education (PE) Teachers and with the help of the District Headquarters of PM²². Approximately 800 students of local public and secondary schools participated in the Festival of PEMT. The programme, among other things, included lessons of gymnastics for girls and boys, athletics performances, shows of physical games and activities, and dances – national and stylized. Individual items in the programmes were presented at a very good level. Performances of gymnastics lessons conducted by Groszyńska and Ergetowski with the participation of students from 11 schools deserve special attention.

The Inter-School Sports Club of the Youth from Kremenets Secondary School was an organizer of school sports competitions held on September 25–26, 1937²³. The competition was attended by 93 boys and 20 girls from the following schools: Public Lower Secondary School in Dubno, Orthodox Seminary in Kremenets, Lower Secondary School run by the local self-government in Kremenets, Secondary School, School of Economics, Lower Secondary School and Agricultural School of Kremenets Secondary School. Competitions were held in athletics and sports games. The best athlete of the competition proved to be Kowalewski (Dubno), who was the winner in the 100-m run, long jump and high jump. A student of Agricultural School – Mogetycz gave a very good performance and took the first place in the 1500-m run. In sports games, volleyball of girls and boys, the winners were school youth of the Lower Secondary School at the Secondary School in Kremenets, whereas in basketball – the youth of the Orthodox Seminary. In school scoring the winning team was the one of the Lower Secondary School at the Secondary School in Kremenets ahead of Public Lower Secondary School in Dubno. The event was well organized and attracted a wide audience.

One of the biggest winter sports events for school youth was the Winter Games of School Youth²⁴. The competitions which were held in Kremenets, on 31 January – 2 February 1937, were attended by 347 students of 24 secondary schools, from the territory of the Volhynian province. The competition programme consisted of the following disciplines: ice hockey, figure skating, skiing

²² “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1936, no. 6, pp. 270–271.

²³ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1937, no. 18, pp. 348–350.

²⁴ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1937, no. 3, p. 48.

and tobogganing. Figure skating performances included individual and pair rides; skiing – girls 4-km and 5-km races – boys 7-km and 9-km races; in tobogganing, downhill toboggan run of 300 m²⁵. Competition was carried out in freezing cold weather (from –14 to –18 degrees Celsius). In the overall competition score, both in boys' and girls' categories, the winner was the Lower Secondary School at the Secondary School in Kremenets. In addition, other educational institutions gave an outstanding performance: Public Lower Secondary School from Dubno, Lower Secondary School run by the local self-government from Kremenets and Public Lower Secondary School of Zdołbunow. In the ice hockey competition the 1st place was taken by students of Road and Surveying School from Kowlo, ahead of the Lower Secondary School at the Secondary School in Kremenets and Lower Secondary School from Kowlo. The tournament was attended by 8 teams playing knockout matches. The level of sports competition, according to the editorial office of "Życie Krzemienieckie" was quite high²⁶.

A very interesting form of athletic competition was the rivalry between the schools: Sułkowscy Lower Secondary School In Rydzyna (Poznań province) and Secondary School in Kremenets²⁷. The initiative to conduct inter-school competition was taken by the head teacher of Sułkowscy Lower Secondary School in Rydzyna²⁸. The first competition took place in May 1933 in Kremenets, when students from Greater Poland won (85 : 10). On 10–13 May 1934 competitions took place in Rydzyna. Victory was again won by school youth, but it is worth emphasizing that the failure of the Kremenets team was not so high any more (70 : 120). The level of athletic sports competition was quite high. The winners of individual competition achieved the following results: in the 100-m run – Ładnowski (Kremenets) – 11.5 s; in the 200-m run – Turczynowicz (Rydzyna) – 23.8 s; in the 1500-m run – Gąsowski (Rydzyna) – 4 min. 15.2 s; in shot put (5 kg) – Ładnowski (13.49 m); in discus throw – Wyrożemski (Kremenets) – 27.66 m; in javelin throw – Turczynowicz (43.58 m); in long jump – Ładnowski (6.11 m); in high jump – Gąsowski (158 cm); in the 4 × 100 m relay – Rydzyna (47.2 s); in pentathlon – Rydzyna; in athletic triathlon – Kremenets. In other disciplines in sports games triathlon (basketball, volleyball and handball) students from Rydzyna proved the best; in shooting with military weapons – Kremenets; shooting with small arms – Rydzyna²⁹.

On June 4–6, 1937 already the 5th edition of the competition between schools in Kremenets and Rydzyna took place, in which students from Sułkowscy Lower Secondary School won once again³⁰. In the next 6th edition of the Rydzyna-Kre-

²⁵ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1937, no. 5–6, pp. 108–111.

²⁶ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1937, no. 3, p. 48.

²⁷ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1934, no. 6, pp. 207–209.

²⁸ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1933, no. 5, p. 217.

²⁹ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1934, no. 6, pp. 208–209.

³⁰ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1937, no. 10–11, pp. 233–235.

menets competition, which were carried out in 1938 the winners were again school youth from Sułkowsky Lower Secondary School in Rydzyna³¹. This time Rydzyna students won a narrow victory (74.230 : 70.589). School youth from Kremenets won the competition in athletic triathlon, volleyball, and shooting with military weapons, while students from Rydzyna won in athletic biathlon competitions, athletic pentathlon, basketball, shooting with small arms, 4 × 100 m relay and handball.

The organization which worked in the field of physical activity in the county of Kremenets was the Volhynian Association of Rural Youth (VARY). The section of pe and mt at the Instructor Department of RYC in the county of Kremenets was organized in May 1931³². Aleksander Berger was appointed the head of the section. The section aimed at extending physical education and sport to include all members of RYC, which was to contribute to the development of physical fitness and morale. Over a year members of the section board went on 22 trips to RYC, including 3 trips to Bereżce, 4 trips to Lisznia, 4 to Stożek, 2 to Uhorsko, 6 to Wesołówka, and 1 trip to Antonowiec, Czuhal and Załuże. During trips talks and lectures were given on physical education, sport, military training, and organization of physical activity in RYC. This work resulted in the organization of pe and mt departments in Lisznia, Stożek, Uhorsk, Wesołówka, Zahajce and Załuże. In Bereżce and Stożek exercises in track and field events were held for RYC from Antoniewice, Stożek and Uhorsk. On the initiative of the District Headquarters of PE and MT, and of PE and MT Sections at the Instructor Department of RYC in the county of Kremenets, a course for pe and mt leaders in RYC was held on 19–24 October 1931. The course was attended by 12 participants. The course programme consisted of drill, combat training, shooting training, topography, internal service, anti-gas defence, gymnastics, athletics and sports games. Rural Youth Clubs from the area of the county of Kremenets received support in the field of sports equipment from CCPEMT in Kremenets, among others in the form of 10 basketball balls and 6 track and field shots. Four people from RYC successfully participated in the competitions, acquiring the minima for NSB. The County Instructor Department of Rural Youth in the county of Kremenets in 1933 had 11 departments of pe and mt³³. Its plans included organization of skiing courses and 4 people from the county of Kremenets (outside of Kremenets) were hired to teach classes in physical activity.

In the county of Kremenets the Shooting Association (SA) was active, too. On September 1, 1935 briefing of presidents and commandants of SA from the county of Kremenets took place³⁴. The briefing was chaired by the President of the County Board – Aleksander Berger with Antoni Stebelski – commandant of

³¹ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1938, no. 11, p. 268.

³² “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1932, no. 6, p. 27.

³³ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1933, no. 1, pp. 29–30.

³⁴ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1935, no. 9, pp. 403–404.

the SA branch in Wiśniowiec – acting as a secretary. During the meeting problems of physical education, sport and military training were discussed among other things. In the department of military training issues of work in the current year (1935) were referred to. Within the scope of physical education and sport, it was decided that more attention should be paid to sports games and track and field events, which were the bases for tests to obtain NSB. One of the means to involve individual branches to practise physical activity was sports competition. One of the proposals for increasing the level of physical education and sport was work for the development of women's shooting. The demands of participants in relation to physical culture and military training must be assessed positively. In the activities of SA in the county of Kremenets, in the 1930s women's participation was on the increase³⁵. Female departments of SA in the county of Kremenets operated in Katerburg, Kremenets, Kutu, Rybcza, Szumsk and Wiśniowiec.

Scouts from the county of Kremenets on 12 May 1935 began celebrations of the "Scout Week"³⁶. On the first day of the scout event an assembly of scouts and female scouts race were held. Volhynian female scouts completed their first winter camp in December 1935 near Ławoczno, which was attended by 18 scouts. The camp programme included skiing classes. The Volhynian Female Regiment organized a 3-week team camp for scout leaders in Żywiec³⁷. In Kremenets from 16 to 26 January 1937 a skiing course for female scouts took place³⁸. It was attended by 15 female scouts, and an instructor on the course was Motorkow.

The establishment of Volhynian DSA (1934) contributed to the development of skiing, as well as wider interest from the local community in this field of physical activity. Editors of "Życie Krzemienieckie" in issue 3 of 1935 summed up the 1934/1935 sports season as follows:

Last season undoubtedly ranks among one of the most beautiful ones in terms of snow and weather, as well as rich in successes in terms of sport. However, we still haven't made use of a number of opportunities and a lot of work is waiting ahead of us to make Kremenets a real Volhynian Zakopane³⁹.

The 1936 sports programme (in the period from January to February) provided for sports competitions on the territory of the country of Kremenets in Dederkały, Kremenets, Kulików, and Wiśniowiec⁴⁰. In the calendar of events the most important one was the Championships of Volhynian DSA, which were to be held on 1–2 February 1936 in Kremenets.

³⁵ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1935, no. 10, p. 451.

³⁶ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1935, no. 5, p. 263.

³⁷ Z. Kańska, *Kilka słów na temat harcerstwa w ogólności, a wołyńskich harcerek w szczególności* [A few words about scouting and guiding in general, and Volhynian female scouts in particular], "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1936, no. 11, p. 424.

³⁸ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1937, no. 3, p. 47.

³⁹ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1935, no. 3, p. 131.

⁴⁰ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1935, no. 12, p. 533.

The programme of sports events organized by the Volhynian DSA became richer and richer with every year. The share of skiing courses, training ski camps, courses and exams for candidates for skiing judges and instructors, as well as qualified tourism events (ski hiking tours) was on the increase in the activity of the Volhynian DSA with e.g. courses in gliding and skiing, courses in lowland skiing and courses in women's skiing being organized⁴¹.

One of the most active clubs in the county of Kremenets was KSC. It was set up in November 1929⁴². On February 18, 1932 an annual General Meeting of the members of the club took place⁴³. During the meeting, the board was elected composed of: Dubrowiński, Falkowska, Kozłowski, Kuśmierski, Pierwieńcewowa, S. Pomykalski, Szumski. The President of the club was again S. Pomykalski. The President of KSC – S. Pomykalski, in his report drew attention to the club's success in the field of sport, and what is important in the life of local communities. One of the objectives of the club was to create a tennis section, construct tennis courts and obtain funds to rent their own premises. The activists of the club established the following sections of the club: socializing and playing, ice hockey (set up in 1932), skiing (founded in 1931.), football, athletics and sports games. The gymnastic section members exercised three times a week, using the gym of the Kremenets Secondary School. The classes were attended by women and men. At the beginning of 1932 the club had 60 members.

A major role in the development of "sports life" in the county of Kremenets was played by PSC. PSC in Kremenets was set up on 1 October 1928⁴⁴. As of 1932 it had 189 members (including 1 honorary member, 15 founding members and 172 ordinary members). The President of the club was Tadeusz Poczod (senior leader), and the secretary was Władysław Lisowski (leader). Shooting, and skiing-tobogganing sections stood out in the sports activity. On the initiative of the club members, at the State Police Station in Kremenets an athletics field was organized. Sports equipment was bought, including 10 weapons (of "flower" type), 12 pairs of skis, 4 toboggans, gymnastics accessories and sports costumes.

A number of equestrian competitions was held in military units stationed in the county of Kremenets. On 3 June 1934 in the square of 12 Podolski Uhlan Regiment in Białokrynica, an equestrian competition was held combined with performances of rhythmic gymnastics, wielding cold steel and peasant race⁴⁵. In the equestrian competition, in the officers' tournament the winner was a cavalry

⁴¹ *Program imprez narciarskich X Wołyńskiego Okręgowego Związku Narciarskiego na rok 1936/37* [Programme of ski events of the 10th Volhynian District Skiing Association for the year 1936/1937], "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1936, no. 11, p. 452.

⁴² S. Pomykalski, *Krzemieński Klub Sportowy* [Kremenets Sports Club], "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1932, no. 1, pp. 25–27.

⁴³ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1932, no. 2, p. 31.

⁴⁴ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1932, no. 2, p. 31.

⁴⁵ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1934, no. 6, p. 270.

captain Choynecki (on a gelding “Oxford”), and in the non-commissioned officers’ tournament the 1st place was taken by a platoon sergeant Rostocki. Another equestrian competition took place on 15–17 June 1934. It was a (preliminary) equestrian competition for the championship of the 2nd Independent Cavalry Brigade⁴⁶. In the team competition the winner was the team of the 12th Podolski Uhlan Regiment, whereas in the individual competition Lieut. Antoni Kropielnicki (mare “Sabina”) – 12th Podolski Uhlan Regiment. At the competition the commander of the 2nd Independent Cavalry Brigade – Brigadier-General Władysław Anders was present.

From among football teams of the county of Kremenets KSC played in the top league. Football events were also organized outside of the traditional meetings lasting 90 minutes. On 17 July 1937 a Rapid Football Tournament was held in Kremenets⁴⁷. Each match lasted 20 minutes and the games were held in a round-robin system. The tournament was attended by the following teams: KSC Military Sports Club (MSC) Derdekały, SC Smyga and JSC “Hasmonea” Kremenets. The winners of the tournament were the footballers of MSC Dederkały.

In the volleyball tournament which was played in Kremenets in July 1937 five teams competed: Scouts Lublin, KSC, MSC Dederkały, SC Smyga and JSC “Hasmonea” Kremenets⁴⁸. Volleyball players of KSC and MSC Derdekały won two victories.

Another sport that developed in Kremenets was tennis. In May 1934 a match was played between the teams of KSC and JSC “Hasmonea” Kremenets⁴⁹. The winner was KSC team (4 : 1). The match was held on the tennis court in the secondary school park. In July 1937 a match was played between KSC Kremenets and MSC Dederkały⁵⁰. It was played in Kremenets, on the (newly built) tennis court next to the Community and Tourism House. The match ended with the victory of the MSC Dederkały (4 : 3). The team of KSC consisted of the following players: Bury, Fuchs and Pomykalska, and the MSC team Dederkały – Szulcowa, Szulc and Zapart.

On the initiative of SA in 1935 the championships of the county of Kremenets in shooting were held⁵¹. In the women’s competition the winner was Olga Szubia-kowska ahead of Halina Buszowa and Halina Krajewska. Among men, Jan Mołczok proved the best, the 2nd place went to Mojżesz Skakalski (both of Post Military Training – PMT), and the 3rd one was taken by Bronisław Knasiński

⁴⁶ Ibidem. The 2nd Independent Cavalry Brigade comprised the following units: 12 Podolski Uhlan Regiment, 19th Volhynian Uhlan Regiment, 21st Vistula Uhlan Regiment and the 2nd Battalion of Mounted Artillery.

⁴⁷ “Życie Krzemienieckie” 1937, no. 14–17, pp. 306–307.

⁴⁸ Ibidem.

⁴⁹ “Życie Krzemienieckie” 1934, no. 5, p. 177.

⁵⁰ “Życie Krzemienieckie” 1937, no. 14–17, p. 306.

⁵¹ “Życie Krzemienieckie” 1935, no. 11, p. 492.

(PSC Kremenets). It is worth noting that the county combat was preceded by qualifying competitions in clubs and sports associations. Competitions for the Kremenets county championship in shooting were held in the following years. In 1936 there were 42 participants in the event⁵². There were team and individual competitions. In the women's competition the winner was Wieleżyńska and the SA team composed of Wieleżyńska, Buszowa, Krajewska; in the men's competition the 1st place was taken by Sgt Czapiński and BDC Derdekały. Competitions of girls and boys were held. Among girls the 1st place was taken by Hanna Słupczyńska; the best among boys was Edward Kowalski. Proceeds from the shooting championships were donated to the National Defence Fund (110.50 zloty).

On 14 June 1933 the consecration of a swimming pool which was commissioned to use took place on the river Ikwa in Młynówka⁵³. The facility was consecrated by the parish priest E. Studziński in the presence of the Kremenets starost S. Czarnocki and prof. A. Berger (Chairman of the Section of Physical Education and State Defence of USO). The event consisted of swimming competitions whose programme included the following: women's 50-m classic style race; for men – 50-m classic style race, 100-m freestyle race and jumps off the tower. In the women's competition Hornowska and Zarembianka gave an outstanding performance and among men: Mudryk (JSC "Hasmonea"), Pawłowski, Sawłuczynski (Secondary School of Kremenets). In the jumping competition the winner was Karczewski (SSA Lviv), ahead of Laskowski ("Czarni" Lviv) and Sokólski (Kremenets).

On May 13, 1934 competitions in Młynówka at the swimming pool of USO in Kremenets took place⁵⁴. The swimming competition was organized by KSC and consisted of 50-, 100- and 200-m freestyle and classic style races, relay and a jumping contest. In the swimming competitions contestants who were particularly successful were Krajewski and Kołłątaj (KSC) as well as Mudryk. The swimming competition on the river Ikwa was carried out in the following years. According to the editors of "Życie Krzemienieckie", on 15 August 1935 three swimming contests took place: men's 100-m and 200-m freestyle race and women's 50-m freestyle race⁵⁵. The swimmer who proved the best was Mudryk winning both men's competitions. In the women's competition the winner was Zarembianka (Kremenets Secondary School).

As far as the development of skiing in Volyn is concerned Kremenets played a major role. Mainly competitions of local reach were held. On 12 March 1932 skiing competitions of PSC Kremenets were held⁵⁶. The competition programme consisted of the following: 2.5-km gear patrol with shooting, downhill race,

⁵² "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1936, no. 11, p. 447.

⁵³ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1933, no. 6, p. 269.

⁵⁴ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1934, no. 5, p. 177.

⁵⁵ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1934, no. 7–8, pp. 365–366.

⁵⁶ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1932, no. 3, pp. 28–29.

5-km race. From among 20 contestants the best one proved to be constable Świątek ahead of Mol and Kwasiński. Activity in the organization of skiing events was showed by USO which on 13 March 1932 organized a 5-km race competition. The competition attracted a fairly large number of contestants with 44 skiers participating. The winner was Stepaniuk (non-affiliated), the 2nd place was taken by Gronowski (KSC), and the 3rd one – Motorkow (KSC). In the county of Kremenets skiing competitions were organized aimed at gaining a PSA badge. In March 1933 during a skiing competition 20 participants in the event were awarded a skiing badge⁵⁷. The competition was carried out on the initiative of the activists from PSC Kremenets.

In February 1938 inter-club team competitions were held in Kremenets for the challenge prize of the PEMT District Office⁵⁸. Competitions were held in two events, a 12-km race and ski jumping. The winner was the team of KSC Kremenets ahead of Secondary School Sports Club (Inter-School Club of Kremenets Secondary School). Skiing competitions were organized in Kremenets for MT Corps. In skiing competitions held on 6 February 1938 the best contestants turned out to be teams from Białokrynica, Dederkały, Szumsk and Wiśniowiec.

Championships in skiing events for the cup of Volhynian province were held on February 24–25, 1934.⁵⁹ The competition was dominated by KSC skiers. Volyn championship in individual events was won by the following: in the 9-km race the winner was Jerzy Stepaniuk; in the 15-km race Arseni Stepaniuk; in a ski jumping competition – Walerian Kołłataj; in a (Nordic) combined race – Alexander Mielniczuk (PSC Kremenets). In addition to the contestants mentioned, the editors of “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” magazine distinguished a shooter Jacorzyński (MSC Dubno). In the team classification, the Challenge Prize of the District Office of PE and MT in Lublin for the year 1934 went to the winning skiers of KSC. In the competition there were no events with the participation of women.

The competition for the championship of Volhynian DSA in Kremenets was held on 16–17 February 1935⁶⁰. The honorary patron of the championships was Volhynian province governor Henryk Józewski. The competition was attended by a fairly large group of contestants, about 70. Out of this number half were visiting sportsmen from, among others, Dubno, Lutsk, Rivne and Dederkały. Also, military men from the 24th infantry regiment from Lutsk, 43rd infantry regiment from Dubno, 12th Uhlán Regiment from Kremenets and BDC took part. Also skiers from Warsaw took part in the competition. Three competitions were held for the championship of Volhynian DSA; in the 18-m run the 1st place was taken by Stanisław Sawicki (PSC Lutsk), the 2nd place went to Marian Koprowski (Students’ Sports Association – SSA Warsaw), while the 3rd one went

⁵⁷ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1933, no. 3, p. 143.

⁵⁸ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1938, no. 3, p. 74.

⁵⁹ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1934, no. 2, p. 53.

⁶⁰ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1935, no. 2, pp. 77–79.

to – Jerzy Stepaniuk (KSC); In the jumping competition the winner was Berko Kuter (“Hasmonea” Kremenets), the vice-champion title was awarded to W. Kołłątaj (KSC), and the bronze medal was won by W. Obeziuk (KSC); in the (Nordic) combined race the winner was W. Kołłątaj, ahead of Gliklis (“Hasmonea”) and Wojnarowski (KSC). The programme of the competition included events in which the organizers did not award championship titles of Volhynian DSA; in the 18-m race for unaffiliated participants Karol Fedor (BDC Dederkały) proved the best ahead of Rudolf Prystupa (Lutsk) and Józef Wyroba (BDC Derdekały); in the 12-m race (for those affiliated with the Volhynian DSA) – the 1st place was taken by Szaja Gindsberg, ahead of Mojżesz Nudler (both from “Hasmonea”); in the 12-km race for unaffiliated participants the winner was Mojsze Mejler (“Hasmonea”), the 2nd place was taken by Jan Pindzuł (Organization of Working Youth – OWY).

The next championships of Volhynian DSA took place on 22–23 February 1936⁶¹. 48 skiers entered the competition. The skiers from SC “Strzelec” Janowa Dolina were missing from the participants. In the competition of a 15-km race the winner was Arseni Stepaniuk (KSC), ahead of Jerzy Stepaniuk (KSC) and Aleksander Mielniczuk (PSC “Horyń”). In the ski jumping competition the first three places were taken by skiers of KSC: Mielniczuk, Jenkner and Obeziuk⁶². Mielniczuk was also a champion of Volhynian DSA in Nordic combined. The competition was very well prepared in terms of organization. It contributed to the growing popularity of skiing among the local population, as well as showed that Kremenets is a major centre of this sport in Volyn.

The most important ski event in 1938 was the championships of the Volhynian DSA. They were held in Kremenets on 23–24 January 1938⁶³. The championships took place in the following disciplines: in the 14-km ski race, ski jumping and Nordic combined. The competition was attended by 34 of the 45 contestants entered. It is worth noting that in previous competitions of this type a greater number of skiers participated. The champion of Volhynian DSA in the 14-km race was Arseni Stepaniuk (KSC). In the remaining two events (ski jumping, Nordic combined) championship titles went to A. Mielniczukow.

The representation of skiers from the Volhynian DSA, composed of brothers Stepaniuk. S. Sawicki, W. Kołłątaj, W. Obeziuk, took part in the Polish Championships in Zakopane in 1935⁶⁴. The sportsmen were nominated for two competitions, 18-km race and the Nordic combined. Unfortunately, the difference in level presented by the skiers from Volyn, and the level of skiers from other areas of Poland was quite big to their disadvantage. It is worth quoting here the assessment of their participation made by the editors of “*Życie Krzemienieckie*”:

⁶¹ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1936, no. 2, p. 74.

⁶² “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1936, no. 2, p. 75.

⁶³ *Mistrzostwa X Wołyńskiego Okręgu PZN w Krzemieńcu [Championships of 10th Volhynian District of PSA]*, “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1938, no. 2, pp. 48–49.

⁶⁴ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1935, no. 3, p. 129.

Unfortunately, the race was completed by 2 competitors only (Stepaniuk brothers who took the 61st and 67th place), while others either broke their skis, or were ashamed to reach the finishing line with bad time. To make matters worse they did not even try to jump, thus not only shattering their participation in the combined, but an opportunity to become acquainted with big jumps, too. This unfortunate start should serve as an example how great emphasis should be put on the education of competitors by clubs and how much there is still to do in this respect⁶⁵.

The editors of the magazine rightly drew attention to the difference in levels, but they did not indicate why Volhynian skiers did not enter the jump competition for Nordic combined.

Ice hockey also developed in Kremenets. At the turn of years 1931 and 1932 a section of ice hockey was established at KSC Kremenets⁶⁶. The section of ice hockey operated at the Secondary School in Kremenets. Teams from Kremenets most often play matches with one another. Hockey players of KSC Kremenets competed with the PSC Rivne team, losing 1 : 3 as visitors. A rematch in Kremenets ended in a draw (0 : 0).

The origins of gliding in Volyn date back to 1932. In April 1933 Ludwik Gronowski and Stanisław Piątkowski made the „first rounds of Kremenets to investigate to what extent numerous slopes will prove suitable for skiing”⁶⁷. Gliding was dealt with by the County District of Air and Anti-Gas Defence League (AADL) in Kremenets, Volhynian Provincial District of AADL in Lutsk and the board of USO⁶⁸. The organizational meeting of the Gliding Club took place in Kremenets on 16 June 1933. The management board of the Gliding Club was composed of: Ignacy Puławski (member of Parliament, Nonpartisan Bloc for Cooperation with the Government – NBCG) – president, parish priest E. Studziński (vice-president), Aleksander Berger (secretary), Faliński (treasurer), Lieut. Minkowski and Kozłowski (members)⁶⁹. The activists of the Gliding Club made decisions to buy a glider of “Wrona” type and hold gliding training, which was to be conducted by M. Glatman.

On the initiative of, among others, the Volhynian Provincial District of AADL actions were taken to construct in Kulików near Kremenets a permanent gliding centre as regards “collection of wood among forest and sawmill owners to build hangars. In 1934 the construction commenced”⁷⁰. It is worth noting that a little earlier on 8 September 1933 the area around Kulików was inspected by

⁶⁵ Ibidem.

⁶⁶ “Życie Krzemienieckie” 1932, no. 2, p. 32.

⁶⁷ Z. Mikulski, *Wspaniały rozwój Szkoły Szybowcowej na Sokolej Górze koło Krzemieńca* [Great Development of Gliding School on Sokola Góra Mountain near Kremenets], “Życie Krzemienieckie” 1936, no. 4, pp. 166–170.

⁶⁸ “Życie Krzemienieckie” 1933, no. 6, pp. 269–272.

⁶⁹ “Życie Krzemienieckie” 1933, no. 6, p. 271.

⁷⁰ M. Rzeppo, *Wołyńska Szkoła Szybowcowa w Kulikowie Krzemienieckim* [Volhynian Gliding School in Kulików Krzemieniecki], “Życie Krzemienieckie” 1935, no. 10, p. 417.

a special commission delegated by the Ministry of Communications composed of: Eng. Grzeszczyk (“Father of gliding in Poland”), Eng. Polny (representative of the Regional Gliding Committee in Lviv), Col. dr Habich (delegate of the Provincial Committee of AADL in Lutsk), Kościanowski (inspector of Anti-Gas and Anti-Aircraft Defence)⁷¹. The assessment of the Commission was positive. The works in the scope of establishing infrastructure as regards the construction of the school began at the end of 1933. The construction and establishment of the Gliding School in Kulików met with a positive response from the local population.

As a result of these actions a Gliding School in Kulików was created with Zbigniew Mikulski (sailplane pilot) becoming its Head. In 1935 the Gliding School held courses resulting in the award of 48 diplomas in A category, 38 in B category and 33 in C category⁷². In the period from 2 July to 2 October 1935 trainee pilots of the school flew 56 hours 7 minutes and 17 seconds in the air. The longest flight lasted 5 hours and 5 minutes. As the editors of “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” wrote in issue no. 11 of 1935,

the School of Sailplane Pilots of AADL in Kulików [...], with the resolution of the Management Board of the AADL District in Lutsk changed its name to the “School of Sailplane Pilots in Sokola Góra”⁷³.

In the period from 1 January 1935 to 20 April 1936 as part of the activity of the Volhynian Gliding School of AADL on Sokola Góra Mountain 10 school and 6 training courses were conducted; all in all about 9,000 flights were performed totalling 406 hours, including about 25 flights of more than 3 hours, 6 flights of more than 4 hours, 3 flights lasting more than 5 hours, and 1 flight lasting more than 6 hours⁷⁴.

Tremendously fruitful activities of the School were disrupted by a fire which broke out on 7 March 1937⁷⁵. The resulting losses were estimated at about 30,000 zloty. As we can read on the pages of “*Życie Krzemienieckie*”,

local community, understanding the need to keep the Gliding School hastened to help devotedly. [...] about a dozen landed estates embarked on the action of rebuilding, donating necessary building materials for this purpose⁷⁶.

The reaction proved social awareness of the importance of the School of Gliding.

In 1938 works were in progress on the infrastructure of a gliderport on Sokola Góra Mountain. At the airport for gliders the construction of a brick house in-

⁷¹ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1933, no. 9, p. 379.

⁷² M. Rzeppo, *Wołyńska Szkoła Szybowcowa w Kulikowie Krzemienieckim* [Volhynian Gliding School in Kulików Krzemieniecki], “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1935, no. 10, p. 418.

⁷³ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1935, no. 11, p. 490.

⁷⁴ Z. Mikulski, *Wspaniały rozwój Szkoły Szybowcowej na Sokolej Górze...* [Great Development of Gliding School on Sokola Góra Mountain...], p. 168.

⁷⁵ “*Życie Krzemienieckie*” 1937, no. 5–6, pp. 94–95.

⁷⁶ Ibidem.

tended for office space was completed⁷⁷. In this year outbuildings and wooden facilities were being constructed for the use by participants in the courses. It is worth noting that the majority of glider course participants came from western Poland. Another investment was the construction of a shelter on Wilcza Góra Mountain. An important event in the activity of the Volhynian Gliding School of Anti-Gas and Anti-Aircraft Defence League was an initiative of the Guild of Jew Butchers Association in Rivne. On the initiative of the Association an RWD-8 school plane was donated to the Gliding School⁷⁸.

The Polish women's record was beaten by Maria Young-Mikulska (wife of Head of School of Sailplane Pilots in Sokola Góra), flying in the SG 3-bis/36 glider from Sokola Góra to the village of Urwenna in the county of Zdolbuniv (1936)⁷⁹. The route of the flight was 63 km 300 m. With this achievement, M. Young-Mikulska obtained a D category of sailplane pilots. Another representative of Volyn – Zygmunt Karczmarzyk flew from Sokola Góra to Dubno in a Komar-type glider. The Head of the school – Zbigniew Mikulski, made a flight on 22 March 1936 from Sokola Góra to Białokrynica (and back – 34 km) achieving the height of 1,300 m above start⁸⁰. A month later, on 21 April 1936 a pilot Bohdan Rodziewicz took off in a C.W. 5 glider from the gliderport of the Volhynian Gliding School of AADL making a flight to Ołyka 75 km away (in a straight line). It was the longest glider flight in Volyn to date. It is worth noting that the number of visitors to Sokola Góra and the Gliding School was on the increase. The total number of visitors to the gliderport in April 1936 was 2,100. An event in the Volhynian Gliding School can be a feat by Zygmunt Kaczmarzyk who on 10 April 1938 in an SG 3 bis/36 no.671-type glider flew a distance of 92 km landing in the town of Latiatyń near Brzeżany⁸¹.

Conclusion

The 1930s saw the development of sport in the county of Kremenets. An important aspect affecting its development were numerous conditions of the sports movement, beginning from all-Poland and national, macroregional factors to local ones. As far as sport management and organization was concerned an important role was played by: MCPEMT in Kremenets, CCPEMT in Kremenets and USO. In the period discussed sports infrastructure developed, among other things in the vicinity of Kremenets a complex of ski jumps, a swimming pool (bathing

⁷⁷ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1938, no. 3, p. 72.

⁷⁸ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1938, no. 5, p. 124.

⁷⁹ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1937, no. 10–11, p. 221.

⁸⁰ Z. Mikulski, *Wspaniały rozwój Szkoły Szybowcowej na Sokolej Górze... [Great Development of Gliding School on Sokola Góra Mountain...]*, p. 168.

⁸¹ "Życie Krzemienieckie" 1938, no. 9, pp. 225–226.

beach) on Ikwa river and the facilities of the Volhynian Gliding School were built. The number of sports courses and camps in different sport disciplines increased. In addition to clubs, sports activities were carried out in educational institutions, in social associations and organizations, as well as at Rural People's Universities. Among sports disciplines, such fields as horse riding, sports games, track and field events, skiing, water sports and shooting, developed relatively fast.

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