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SUMMARY

The activities of Melchior Władysław Nestorowicz and his influence on the development of the road system of the Second Polish Republic.

This dissertation discusses the achievements of engineer Melchior Władysław Nestorowicz (1880-1939), one of the most outstanding yet forgotten figures in Polish technical administration of the interwar period. As an engineer, researcher, and civil servant, Nestorowicz played a key role in the creation, unification, and development of the road system of the Second Polish Republic, combining practical knowledge and organizational skills with the ideal of public service based on the principles of openness and transparency. The aim of the dissertation is to present his professional, research, and organizational achievements in the context of socio-political and economic transformations from the late 19th century to the outbreak of World War II, and to present his contribution to shaping the structures of state administration in the field of road construction. The discussion focuses on issues related to the organization of road administration, the mechanization of works, the rationalization of construction processes, the standardization of technical standards, and the development of research on road materials. Nestorowicz viewed the development of road infrastructure not only as a technical issue but also as an integral element of state modernization and national defense. The Permanent International Association of Road Congresses (PIARC) played a significant role in shaping its views. He was one of the first Polish members, and modeled it on the Association of Members of Polish Road Congresses (SCP KD) in 1927, an organization that co-created the road policy of the Second Polish Republic.

The dissertation is organized chronologically and thematically, encompassing five chapters. Chapter I presents Nestorowicz's early years and education, with particular emphasis on the influence of his family environment and Professor Aleksander Wasiutyński on shaping his attitudes and career choice. Chapter II discusses the beginnings of Nestorowicz's professional career in the road administration of the Kingdom of Poland, his scientific and journalistic activities, and the process of forming his professional views. The next chapter is

devoted to the process of organizing road administration in the reborn Polish state (1918-1922), including the establishment of the Ministry of Public Works and the development of the first road laws. Chapter IV focuses on Nestorowicz's mature years, his teaching and research work at the Warsaw University of Technology, as well as the circumstances surrounding the establishment and operation of the Road Research Institute and the Association of Members of Polish Road Congresses. The final chapter discusses the idea behind the creation of the State Road Fund, the most important road finance reform in interwar Poland and the last major bill authored by Nestorowicz. The chapter includes an analysis of the legislative process, the impact of the act on road management, and subsequent changes in technical administration. The final subchapter discusses the circumstances of the main organizer of Polish road construction. This monograph attempts to restore the rightful place in history to engineer Nestorowicz, a figure who, through his knowledge, expertise, and organizational vision, co-created the foundations of modern technical administration in the Second Polish Republic and made a lasting contribution to the modernization of the Polish state.

Keywords: Melchior Władysław Nestorowicz; road administration; road engineering, road construction, Road Research Institute, Ministry of Public Works