

Summary

RELIGION — CIVILIZATION — DEVELOPMENT. ON THE THOUGHT OF JAN STACHNIUK

Bogumił Grott*

The book presents the ideas and concepts of Jan Stachniuk concerning the relations between various religions and civilization as well as the level of economic development achieved in various historical periods. Jan Stachniuk was the founder and creator of the ZADRUGA movement which appeared in Poland at the end of the thirties of the 20th century. The above-mentioned movement was cultural in character, although it was not devoid of considerable political ambitions. As Stachniuk himself admitted in his books and articles, his main intention was to bring about a cultural revolution in Poland, as well as among all of the Slavonic peoples, whose aim would be to create suitable psychological foundations for a rapid economic growth.

Undoubtedly, among the factor which inspired his thought, an important place was occupied by a German sociologist Max Weber, the author of a book entitled „Etyka protestancka a duch kapitalizmu” (Protestant Ethics and the Spirit of Capitalism) which has not lost any of its validity until the present day. Among other important influences, one should also mention scholars who dealt with the impact of religion on economic life, among others, a Polish philosopher Stanisław Brzozowski who dealt, among others with the problem of Poland's economic underdevelopment; one should also mention, the early Narodowa Demokracja (National Democratic move-

* Bogumił Grott is a professor of humanities who is employed in the Institute of Religious Affairs at the Jagiellonian University in Kraków. His academic interests focus on the relations between religion, politics, culture and social life. He is the author of a number of books and academic articles which were published both in Poland and abroad.

