



Dear Readers,

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Experimental Division (Referat Doświadczalny) of the Ministry of Iron Railways. The Division was developed at the Mechanical Engineering Department of the Ministry under a decree of 7 April 1924, signed by Minister K. Tyszka. After the Second World War, in 1951, on the basis of the Experimental Division, the Railway Scientific and Research Institute was established, which now operates as the Railway Research Institute. Therefore, our Institute continues the work of the Experimental Division. It draws on its tradition and experience to solve current problems in rail transport, serving all actors in the rail market - infrastructure managers, rail carriers and also the industry.

In this issue of Railway Reports, in the article by prof. A. Bialoń, devoted to the historical development of traffic control equipment, one may notice a reference to the tradition of our Institute. Also, the article by prof. A. Chudzikiewicz and dr I. Góra refers to Polish steam locomotive designs, which were the subject of research conducted by the Experimental Division.

The volume no. 202 also presents current issues related to the design of high-speed railways (prof. W. Koc), the impact of railways on the environment (prof. J. Radziszewska Wolińska, mgr M. Łyszcz), and railway track end devices (dr D. Kowalczyk).

Wishing you an interesting read

Ph.D. Eng. Andrzej MASSEL Editor-in-Chief