

So everything will be as before. How long that will last, is a question which the future must be left to decide. For the moment people in Belgrade insist as rigidly as ever on abiding by the fiction of Yugoslavism — of a *united nation* — which serves so well to mask the pan-Servian ambitions. History, however, teaches us that a people which, like the Croats, desires to live has never been effaced by brute force and the power of might.

### NOTEWORTHY FINDING OF ARBITRAL TRIBUNAL

When the change of régime took place, the bulk of the private property of Hungarians in the three Succession States belonging to the Little Entente was sequestered. This is what happened also to the lines of the Bars-Pakráč Railroad Co. Ltd., which were seized — together with the whole park of wagons and all the immovables — by the Yugoslav Government, which simply forgot to offer compensation. The Mixed Commission delegated by the

League of Nations to deal with the complaint of the interested parties recently took a decision, in terms of which in lieu of compensation for the period from January 1st., 1923, to the end of the present year the Yugoslav Government is required to pay 175.000 gold francs a year over a period of 41 years and in addition — during the period of validity of the company's concession, i. e. down to November 3rd., 1975 — in lieu of payment for use of the railway yearly 22.5% of the gross receipts of the same. This percentual participation in profits of the company must not be less than 218.000 gold francs a year; and every year a separate account of the receipts must be handed in. This finding is a stigma on the illegal and unfair procedure of the Yugoslav authorities and at the same time evidence in justification of the Hungarian attitude — it being merely a recurrence of what has happened in almost every case in which the breaches of law and right committed by the Little Entente have been submitted to Arbitral Tribunals or to the Permanent International Tribunal sitting at The Hague, the findings having been in favour of the Hungarian attitude.

## B O O K S

### SITUATION OF HUNGARIAN MINORITY IN CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

Recently the Hungarian Frontier-Readjustment League issued a monograph containing some 144 pages and entitled "Memorandum Respecting the Situation of the Hungarian Minority in Czecho-Slovakia". The author — one of the many thousands of Hungarian refugees who have been compelled by the arbitrary régime in Czecho-Slovakia to abandon their native country — gives us, on the basis of carefully sifted and reliable data and with a painful objectiveness, a thrilling and moving picture of the grave situation of Hungarians in Czecho-Slovakia.

The first chapter of the book describes the situation of Hungarians in political life, in the State administration and in local government, as also in the ecclesiastical organisations of Czecho-Slovakia, and in addition the intolerable chaos prevailing in the question of nationality and citizenship. In this connection the author establishes the fact that the oft-lauded democracy of the Czechs is merely — mock-democracy.

The second chapter offers a comprehensive survey of the methods of czechisation, — the dismissal of Hungarian officials, employment of large numbers of Czech officials in districts inhabited by Hungarians, land reform, the ruining of Hungarian banks, systematic "fleeing" methods in Slovakia and Ruthenia, and an economic war of destruction claiming its victims, not only among the members of the Magyar and German minorities, but also among the Slovaks and Ruthenians. In connection with the policy of reducing the educational possibilities of the Hungarian minority, the Prague Government has forbidden all cultural intercourse between Czecho-Slovak nationals who are Magyars in tongue and the Hungarians living in Rumania, Yugoslavia and Dismembered Hungary, while even the autochthonous furtherance of Hungarian culture has obstacles thrown in its way by various measures of Government which continually outrage the national feelings of the Hungarians. On this point the Memo-

randum provides a succinct survey supported by abundant data.

The third chapter deals with the Czecho-Slovak Censuses and their methods. The latter have been subjected to a severe yet objective criticism — with particular reference to the curtailment of the language rights of the Hungarians in Pozsony (Bratislava), Kassa (Košice) and Ungvár effected last year.

On the basis of all that has been said, the fourth chapter comes to the conclusion that in its treatment of the Hungarian minority the Czecho-Slovak system of government infringes all the Articles of the Minorities Treaty concluded with the Allied and Associated Powers at Saint-Germain-en-Laye on September 10th., 1919, thereby both legally and morally undermining the legal foundations upon which Czecho-Slovakia was built. Now that the procedure of the League of Nations for the protection of the minorities has proved completely abortive, the author declares that the only way to a solution of the problem of the Hungarian minority in Czecho-Slovakia is the application of the principle of nationality in a manner for the moment enabling that section of the Hungarian minority numbering roughly a million souls which is living in a compact mass along the Czecho-Hungarian frontier to be re-allotted to the mother country. This re-incorporation must be effected by peaceful means under Article XIX. of the Covenant of the League of Nations.

The supplement annexed to the Memorandum contains numerous statistical tables, diagrams, texts of laws, excerpts from newspapers etc. in support of the complaints to be found in the text of the book. And finally the supplement contains three maps, — the first showing the ethnographical conditions of the territories of pre-War Hungary allotted to Czecho-Slovakia, the second graphically illustrating the denationalisation and czechisation of the districts of Slovakia and Ruthenia inhabited by Hungarians, while the third offers a survey of the effects of the enforcement of land reform and the transmutation of the compact Hungarian settlements by an admixture of Czech and Slovak colonists.