

DANUBIAN REVIEW

(DANUBIAN NEWS)



VOL. ~~III~~ NO 5.
B U D A P E S T
O C T O B E R 1 9 3 5

PUBLISHED BY THE HUNGARIAN FRONTIER
READJUSTMENT LEAGUE

SINGLE COPY 50 FILL.
SUBSCRIPTION:
ONE YEAR 6 PENGÓ

C O N T E N T S

Hungary Obeys the Dictates of Honour and Political Ethics	
The Abyssinian Crisis	<i>Spectator</i>
Minorities in Central Europe	<i>Desmond Doran</i>
St. Margaret of Scotland: Her Hungarian Origin	<i>Dr. Alexander Fest</i>
Political Mosaic	
How Minorities Live	
Theatre, Literature, Art	
Political Economy	
Sports	

HUNGARY OBEYS THE DICTATES OF HONOUR AND POLITICAL ETHICS

Budapest, October 15-th 1935.

The Hungarian nation might well refer to the fact that since the conclusion a year and a half ago of the Rome Agreements Italy has been purchasing from her a million quintals of wheat a year and has thereby rendered its signal service in economic respects too. It might well refer to the fact that the agriculture of Hungary would suffer a disastrous loss if compelled during the carrying into effect of the sanctions to renounce also this considerable quota of her exports. However, these considerations fade into utter insignificance when we take into account the ethical principles which constitute the primary source of the attitude which Hungary has adopted. The Hungarian nation has no wish to make capital out of the vital problems of its friends. It has no inclination to follow the example of Soviet Russia — a country which, though only admitted to membership of the League of Nations a few months ago, is already displaying such a provocative attitude in its dealings with that institution — or of Rumania, which country, though having demanded the application of sanctions against Italy and having even suggested the enforcement of retaliatory measures against Hungary too, for not having approved the sanction policy, the moment the question of the practical effectuation of the punitive measures was broached, insisted upon being given compensation for being deprived of the possibilities of selling their petroleum, corn etc. in Italy. Its idealistic way of thinking has always prevented — and still prevents — the Hungarian nation from exploiting the question of peace or war and the Covenant of the League of Nations as an excuse for doing business in petroleum or corn.

Hungary's enemies are endeavouring to put a depreciatory interpretation on her attitude in Geneva, which they would fain explain as an outrage on other States. We must most emphatically declare that in standing by Italy Hungary did not take up an attitude hostile to any other State — and in particular did not take up any such attitude towards Great Britain. M. Laval, the French Premier, has repeatedly pointed out that a co-operation between France and Great Britain in the matter of sanctions does not pre-

clude the possibility of friendship between France and Italy. To be Italy's friend does not in the least mean to be hostile to other States. The Hungarian nation is fully conscious of the debt of gratitude which it owes to the great British nation too. The Hungarian people has never forgotten — and will never forget — what it owes to Lord Rothermere for the service rendered by his press organs eight years ago — before Mussolini took up its cause — in claiming a place in the sun for Hungary. It has never forgotten — and will never forget — the valuable support accorded Hungary by so many great Britons on the occasion of the ratification of the Treaty of Trianon and on numerous occasions since. It has not forgotten — and will never forget — that when the agreement of the Great Powers was concluded in 1933 (an Agreement unfortunately never put into force) it was the British Premier, Mr. MacDonald who made the question of a treaty revision the pivot of that important diplomatic document. It has never forgotten — and will never forget — the two hundred and forty Members of Parliament who are using the whole weight of their influence to secure justice for Hungary. And, finally, the Hungarian nation still remembers the statements made repeatedly during recent months by Sir Samuel Hoare, the British Foreign Secretary, — statements in which he consistently stressed the elasticity of the Covenant of the League of Nations, — and bases upon them the hope that the official quarters of Great Britain too will show a readiness to further a revision of the injustices inflicted upon Hungary. That country has proved to be a grateful friend to Italy; and the Hungarian nation, when the occasion arises, is not likely to prove ungrateful to Great Britain either.

It its grave dilemma the Hungarian nation, we believe, chose the path marked out for it by the dictates of honour and political ethics. It stood staunchly by its friend Italy without having defied other States. Our nation longs earnestly for peace and is endeavouring to realise its legitimate national endeavours exclusively by peaceful means; and it fervently desires that those great nations which have proved to be its understanding friends should before long be working

again hand in hand for the peaceful development of mankind and for the materialisation of an order of the world better than that in force today. For that was the ultimate object of the attitude adopted by Hungary in Geneva.

At the meeting of the General Assembly of the League of Nations held on October 9th. Ladislas Velics, Hungarian Minister in Berne and Delegate of Hungary, as is well known, adopted an attitude of reserve in connection with the Report of the Council devolving the responsibility for the outbreak of hostilities in Abyssinia upon Italy. The attitude thus adopted by Hungary has been misunderstood in many quarters. Hungary has in consequence been subjected to unjust attacks; and her enemies would have liked to have her regarded as "a traitor to the cause of the League of Nations".

In repudiating these attacks and insinuation we would first of all establish the fact that the Hungarian nation has from the very outset been by conviction in favour of the noble ideas responsible for the bringing into being of the institution bearing the name of League of Nations. We have naturally never closed — and indeed never shall close — our eyes to the deficiencies which during the past fifteen years have characterised the functioning in practice of the League; but the activity in Geneva of the late Count Albert Apponyi, the great Hungarian statesman who died two years ago, — which activity covered almost the whole period of the League's existence — proved more eloquently than anything that in keeping with its ideal attitude towards political conceptions our nation is ready heart and soul to back every endeavour having for its object the improvement of the spiritual and economic welfare of Europe and of mankind. The Hungarian nation has at all times trusted — and still trusts — that the League of Nations will sooner or later find the ways and means to bring it nearer to the realisation of its aims, and that instead of at all costs believing its chief mission to be the maintenance of present conditions it will in the future lay greater stress upon those laws of evolution which have always asserted themselves in the history of peoples and nations. Article 19 of the Covenant is also based upon an appreciation of these forces; and Hungary has often enough emphasised that she expects the ultimate victory of her just endeavours to result, not from the application of force but from the enforcement of the provisions of this Article — i. e. from a peaceful development and under the aegis of the League of Nations. We have also hoped for the ensurance of the rights of those of our racial

brethren who have been severed from their native country to result from an increased insistence upon the powers of guarantee secured the League of Nations under the minority treaties.

There can therefore be no question of the representative of Hungary having desired to defy — or of his having actually defied — the League of Nations.

In adopting an attitude of reserve in connection with the Report of the Council — a procedure to which she was, under the Covenant, indubitably entitled — Hungary was inspired primarily by an ethical principle — by the debt of loyalty and gratitude, which she owes Italy for the friendship and support shown to her by that country during the past eight years. The Hungarian nation has never made a secret of the fact that it regards the Treaty of Trianon to be unjust, not only to itself and to the Magyars torn from it, but also to the other peoples severed from Hungary without being consulted and indeed against their will. In demanding a just and fair revision of the treaty of peace the Hungarian nation has always based — and still bases — its claim upon the provisions of the Covenant of the League of Nations. Eight years ago Italy was the first of the European Great Powers to understand and appreciate the state of mind into which our nation had been thrown by the Treaty of Trianon, offering our country the right hand of friendship, which we then naturally had no reason — and still have no reason — to refuse, for indeed we are only too ready to receive tokens of understanding from whatever source they may come. Mussolini was the first responsible statesman to acknowledge the legitimacy of Hungary's endeavours to obtain a peaceful revision of the Treaty of Trianon. Hungary would therefore be guilty of "monumental ingratitude" if she were to desert her friend in his hour of need and were to join in demanding the application of retaliations against that Italy to which she owes so much. The Hungarian nation is usually spoken of flatteringly as "the chivalrous nation"; and it would be untrue to itself if it were to pay friendship with ingratitude. Our nation has more than once suffered severely for remaining true at all costs to its given word and clinging to its friends through thick and thin; it is nevertheless desirous to observe under all circumstances the ethical principle of loyalty. Any country that has once given Hungary the privilege of its confidence will never be disappointed; and it is this fact that lends this country, despite its dismemberment and its being downtrodden and oppressed, a firm moral basis upon which even the greatest nations may depend.

THE ABYSSINIAN CRISIS

HUNGARY AND THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

by
Spectator

Budapest, October 23-rd 1935.

The political tension of recent months and the daily developments, have been followed in Hungary with more interest, may, with more anxiety, than probably anywhere else.

This may seem paradoxical in the case of a country not directly involved in the troubles; and yet, the utmost apprehension respecting the issue of the crisis has been the continuous thought of all Hungarians. It is true that in Hungary no warlike preparations could be thought of, no mobilisation or any other military measures have been within the bounds of reality or possibility; and yet the impression has been general that even a serious conflict between Italy and the League of Nations might produce most disastrous consequences; more than that — until October 19th the menace of an armed conflict between Italy and the British Empire lowered over the world, as a most terrible menace to civilisation. Unhappy it cannot be doubted that the latter event would have most probably led to another general European war; while even the differences between Italy and the League of Nations had already shown most dangerous consequences. Consequences which not only threatened the success of the best-intentioned efforts of all peace lovers, but after Hungary's decision in Geneva became known, even directly threatened Hungary as a consequence of the activity of the Little Entente and Soviet Diplomacy. —

In an other article in this issue, we have dealt fully with the position Hungarian public opinion has taken up with regard to the sanctions decreed in Geneva against Italy.

We feel sure that these explanations will make Hungary's attitude just as comprehensible as that of Austria and thus recognised as the only possible one for these two countries. But let us not enter here into legal arguments over this point, which may be left to students of international law or perhaps historians; but rather let us refer to practical points and the special position of Hungary in the present crisis, particularly as the hopes are

not quite unjustified that negotiations may take the place of the carrying out of sanctions.

Looking at things with a practical eye, we see that in spite of the strongest desire to use moral arguments only, the immediate and practical interests of all countries play a considerable rôle in the problem of Sanctions.

Switzerland has pointed out the difficulties which stand in the way of that country carrying out the programme of Sanctions; Belgium and other countries also have raised objections: but the most serious hitch in the possibility of choking Italy's foreign trade comes from Germany and the U. S. A., both countries not members of the League and being so far apparently unwilling to abandon their position of absolute neutrality.

The Rumanian demand to be paid for being "good boys" was hardly a surprise to those who had followed the policy of the Bucharest Governments since the Balkan Wars. However — we cannot admit that the only people in the right are those who follow to the limit the old adage „salus rei publicae suprema lex”:

These selfish aims seem also to govern the activity of the Soviet delegates. It really seems unlikely that Bolshevism should suddenly have awakened to a sense of public duty towards mankind — that Bolshevism which, ever since its accession to power, has used all means to undermine our civilisation and has continually attacked democratic institutions and public freedom without the slightest hope of being able or even willing to really improve the fate of mankind. In spite of all professions to the contrary, even in Russia, one of the richest countries of the world, Bolshevism has failed to prevent famines and other causes decimating the population, or to carry out the communistic ideals for the good of all subjects alike.

While hoping that the British will understand Hungary's point of view, which was not prompted by either a desire for selfish benefits, or by fear or flinching from obligations, we, at the same time are glad that Britain is fighting so unequivocally for the principles of the League of Nations. Hun-

gary has not only willingly accepted the Principles of the Covenant, but has in fact, ever since she joined the League, expected from the League redress in all cases where she thought to have legitimate grievances. Thus Hungary never faltered in her adhesion to those ideals which are meant to advance our civilisation, even if occasionally she had to suffer under the defects of the machinery. We therefore doubt not, that the present crisis will give an impetus to those efforts which tend towards making the League's machinery more effective.

And at this moment we in Hungary cannot help, but remember several speeches made by Sir Samuel Hoare, also his negotiations with the French Government, on which occasions — according to newspaper reports — the Foreign Secretary clearly stated that the League's aim cannot be to maintain the present state of affairs in absolute rigidity, but to work for evolution.

We are glad that thus, while the ensuring of collective action stands foremost to-day, some such change in the policy of the League is likely to follow which will, in our opinion, better ensure (or even become an absolute guarantee), that the high ideals embodied in the Covenant shall be put into practice.

To all appearances the present crisis must be solved first by upholding the principles of the League. This opinion prevails among the majority of the League's members; but nevertheless let us hope that a certain amount of flexibility can be given to the present negotiations which will help to accelerate that possibility of compromise in detail which seems the surest way to maintain and save the principles. After all it is a sovereign right of the League to decide how its chief aim, the maintenance of peace and the maintenance of the spirit of the League's policy, can be attained.

If some reasonable and just understanding is not reached, the danger of further political troubles in Europe seems inevitable, — inevitable because, as stated above, the position taken up by Germany and the United States may have a decisive effect upon the results of whatever decisions the League Members take. At present President Roosevelt seems to be supported by the overwhelming majority of his country, which approves his policy of neutrality, even against the strong pressure of "would-be" war profiteers. There is no reason as yet to doubt that the majority of the American people would resent the idea of being dragged into another European war, and consequently, if peace could not be secured in Europe, it is more than likely that that part of American public opinion will gain supreme influence which desires to keep out of European

entanglements by all means. This again would mean another retrograde step and silence the voices of those Americans who realize that American prosperity is dependent upon the United States cooperating, on the basis of sound economic principles, with Europe.

Germany on the other hand is cleverly keeping aloof from the present political discussions; but what she will ultimately do may have a decisive influence upon the turn which affairs may finally take on the Continent.

Germany's action might also be of considerable influence upon the later decisions of Poland. Poland hitherto has done what circumstances prescribed as the only possible foreign policy for that country. She is anxious and willing to maintain her friendship and her treaty with France. Not only because France has for centuries stood up for Polish independence, but because France was Poland's surest ally against possible German aggression; but on the other hand France's friendship and alliance with Soviet Russia forced Poland to accept Hitler's offer of friendship and to sign a Polish German treaty even if it was limited to only 10 years. After all it is, in the worst case, probably even odds, that instead of renewed enmity between the two countries, at the lapse of 10 years, they shall have realized that it is better for both to live on good neighbourly terms and cooperate towards the welfare of the German and Polish people.

The treaty between Soviet Russia and Czecho-Slovakia lately gave even more justification to the German and Polish treaty, especially in view of the continuous and recently increased persecution of Polish minorities in Czecho-Slovakia.

That activity which through the Czecho-Slovak corridor is bringing Russian air forces right into the middle of Europe — Eger on the western Czecho-Slovak frontier is practically in the center of southern Germany — makes it also comprehensible that rumors find occasionally credence, that Germany, Poland, Hungary, and Yugoslavia might prepare for an anti-bolshevik block to keep away the Soviet from Europe.

Yes, instead of pre-war policy which led to the world war, let us stand up for the League of Nations, only the League, but also the full spirit of the Covenant. Only, if we can ensure a smooth and quick working to look into the root of the troubles and thus ensure action for better spirit, that new chapter in relations amongst the nations of the civilised world, only then can we hope that all danger of further political and economic troubles shall have passed away and a happier future for all of us can be vouchsafed.

MINORITIES IN CENTRAL EUROPE

A PLEA FOR TREATY REVISION

by

Desmond Doran

At the present time when the eyes of Europe are fixed on disturbances caused by the restlessness of some big nations harbouring certain grievances inherent in the present world order, there is a regrettable tendency to ignore the plight of some of the smaller nations who, although the part they played in the Great War was not so noticeable in Western Europe as was the German nevertheless lost very considerably by the treaties which followed the conclusion of hostilities.

The cry of nationalism has been raised with an ever increasing intensity for the last two centuries, and it was supposed that by the treaties of Trianon and St. Germain en Laye, the problems presented by the heterogeneous nationalities which composed the old Austro-Hungarian empire had been solved once and for all. It remains to see how far the claims of the nationalities have been realised and whether the new frontiers as defined by the Treaties are in fact the best possible solution of the problem. The fate of Austria is well known in England; how she was ruthlessly shorn of her territory and inhabitants, until so little remained of her former glory that instead of being one of the great powers of Europe she became merely a bone of contention between her northern and southern neighbours, has been frequently described in the English press. Far less however is known about her former partner Hungary, a state having behind it a thousand years of glorious history, a state which in the past more than once saved Europe from Tartar and Turkish invasion, and which has now through no fault of its own been reduced to the status of a minor power.

There can be only two grounds for remaking the frontiers of any state: the first and most important of these, and one which was moreover totally disregarded in the drawing up of the peace

treaties, lies in the deliberate expression of the will of the inhabitants of the affected territories manifested in a plebiscite or some other similar means. In the negotiations preceding the delineation of the new frontiers of central Europe, there was nothing approaching an attempt to obtain the views of the inhabitants of the areas concerned.

The only other reason is conquest by war and this is nowadays, theoretically at any rate of doubtful validity. In this case it is perfectly futile to suggest the right of conquest as a basis for the new frontiers, if only for the reason that neither the Austrians nor the Czechs nor the Slovaks nor the Croats ever defeated the Hungarians on the field of battle because all these races were integral parts of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and as such fought side by side with the Hungarians against the allies in the world war: yet they all profited at her expense on the conclusion of hostilities.

It is not hard to see what principles the representatives of the Great Powers followed when drawing up the treaties which have already brought about the economic downfall of Hungary, and have created a situation in the Danube valley which may well endanger the peace of Europe in the near future. Although in the years before the war there was considerable agitation amongst the members of the non-Magyar communities living in Hungarian territory in favour of autonomy and secession, there can be no doubt that the treaties were made, and the new boundaries defined, not to satisfy nationalist claims but solely for strategic reasons and at French demand; they bear "made in France" stamped on every corner, and form part of the interminable attempts on her part to secure allies to outweigh the imaginary menace on her eastern frontier.

In the breakdown of the Austro-Hungarian empire at the end of the war, she saw her chance

to form an alliance in eastern and southern Europe which should replace her now defunct ally Russia, and for this reason championed the claims of those Czechs and Croats who wished to set up independent republics for themselves and to retire from the courts of Vienna and Budapest.

The kingdom of Hungary before the war was an almost perfect example of an ethnographical and geographical unit: ringed about with high mountains forming an almost uninhabited and uninhabitable belt, Hungary contained a vast majority of Hungarian speaking people distributed over the vast plain of the middle Danube and the Theiß. The frontiers given her by the powers at Trianon and St. Germain en Laye follow no principle of ethnography or geography; by these treaties Hungary has been reduced by more than 71% of her former size and occupies a ridiculous position in the centre of the plain with foreign and mainly hostile countries in possession not only of the mountains but of a wide strip of the plain on the Hungarian side as well. An example of the futility of this frontier may well be seen in the neighbourhood of Sátoraljaújhely where the Czech-Hungarian frontier follows the line of a shallow ditch through the fields about 20 miles from the foot of the mountains.

Not only has Hungary lost 71% of her territory but also by the treaties 3½ million Hungarians were arbitrarily transferred to other states, two million of these now live on or near the present frontier, while another large outlying mass have been incorporated within the confines of the new Rumania.

The states now bordering on Hungary, contained the following numbers of Hungarians among their population, Rumania 1.463.573 (9.1%), Yugo-Slavia 467.658 (3.9%), Czecho-Slovakia 745.431 (5.6%). These Hungarians are all undergoing a process of denationalisation. In direct contrast with the former policy of the empire in which almost total cultural freedom was allowed to the several nationalities; in which the non-Hungarian speaking peoples were entitled in many areas to their own schools, and furthermore to use their respective languages as far as possible for administrative purposes; the Hungarian who now finds himself a Czechish, or a Rumanian, or a Yugo-Slav subject, suffers from being considered — to quote the memorandum of the Hungarian National Association to the League of Nations — "as a second rate citizen of his new state and of undergoing a process of gradual but systematic extermination".

Not only has Hungary been condemned by these treaties to a slow death from economic

starvation but a new and perilous situation has been created in Central Europe. The Czecho-Slovakian state is an entirely artificial creation. It is nearly double the size of the hereditary lands of the Czech crown, but in it the Czechs, even when taken together with the Moravians, formed in 1921 only 48.9% of the population; the remainder is made up of Germans, representing 22.9%, and who backed by the national-socialists have had considerable successes in the recent elections, 15.4% Slovaks who have nothing in common with the Czechs and desire to secure racial independence from them, 5.5% Hungarians desirous only of being allowed to rejoin the state from which they were forcibly removed and 3.4% Ruthenians, who, if allowed a plebiscite, would go either to Poland or to Hungary.

There is moreover a definite danger of Czecho-Slovakia being swamped by Russia, and there is more than one ground for believing that, whereas formerly France was the power behind the throne or rather the presidents chair, her place has now been taken by Russia, and in some circles it is believed that Czecho-Slovakia is to all intents already little more than a dependant state of the U. S. S. R.

The Treaty of Versailles is today reviled in many parts of Europe but that treaty does not merit this treatment nearly as much as do the subsidiary treaties by which the Austro-Hungarian empire was destroyed. That empire with all its defects did at least afford some measure of economic and political unity to the minorities of Central Europe. The states which replace it are too insignificant to stand alone, and can only exist by the good will of the great Powers. The lower Danube valley has always been the storm centre of Europe, but the storm centre has "moved rapidly northwards", and as a consequence has become far more of a danger to the peace of Europe.

Treaties made at the end of a long and bloody war must always be one-sided in their outlook for they are dictated by conqueror to conquered. Now is the time, when the intense jealousies and hatreds caused by the war are dying down, for an international commission composed of economists as well as politicians to investigate fully the problems of Central Europe and devise some better scheme for the settlement of the questions which are bound to arise, when in defiance of President Wilsons famous message peoples and territories are "arbitrarily transferred from one to another like pawns on a chess board".

ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND : HER HUNGARIAN ORIGIN

by

Dr. Alexander Fest

Reader in Budapest University

(Continued.)

As against the chronicles which stress the fact of Agatha's being related to the German Imperial House and only allow of a supposition that she was of Hungarian origin, we have records dating from the first half of the twelfth century which speak of Agatha definitely and unequivocally as having been the daughter of the Hungarian king — i. e. of St. Stephen. The best known of these records is that given in the chronicle of *Ordericus Vitalis*. Ordericus was born in England (in 1075), proceeding thence at the age of ten to Normandy, to the Monastery of Saint Evroul. It was there that, between 1125 and 1142, he wrote his great historical work. As will be seen, he was a contemporary of Florence of Worcester and of William of Malmesbury; but, being an inmate of a Norman monastery, he naturally drew the material for his *Historia Ecclesiastica* from other sources than those employed by the monkish chroniclers of Worcester and Malmesbury. In the monastery of Saint Evroul he not only had manuscripts and chronicles at his disposal to copy and study, but also had every opportunity to hear much of the events of the outside world. Aged knights who had taken part in crusades or Italian expeditions or in the campaigns of William the Conqueror and his sons, — pilgrims on their way back from the Holy Land —, gladly visited the peaceful monastery, which maintained permanent connections alike with England and with Italy. And, albeit the *Historia Ecclesiastica* "sacrifices everything for the sake of an interesting story" and often trusts entirely to the imagination, where any given incident appears to require a certain colouring, nevertheless there can be no doubt that its writer was a most industrious collector of material who had heard and knew very much about the events of his own age and of the recent past. He has a comparatively exhaustive knowledge also of the exile of the Anglo-Saxon princes in Hungary. According to his account Cnut sent the two princes to Denmark, whence they found their way to the Court of the King of Hungary. Eadmund died; while Edward received in marriage the daughter

of the Hungarian king and — *mirabile dictu!* — ruled over the Hungarians.¹

Here special mention is due to two moments. According to Ordericus Vitalis Agatha was the daughter of the Hungarian (Hunnish) king, — a statement which, as we have seen, is not in the least in contradiction of the version given by the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle and by Florence of Worcester, seeing that the daughter of St. Stephen was related to the German Emperor, St. Stephen's brother-in-law, and indeed affords a supplementary explanation of the general statement in the earlier chronicles which merely tells us that Agatha was related to the German Imperial House. The second moment requiring special mention is that according to Ordericus Edward, Margaret's father, was king of the Hungarians (Huns). Probably the only ground for this peculiar statement was the fact that the Hungarian king ceded the Anglo-Saxon princes a certain portion of the territory of his country as a place of residence. If the Hungarian king did really grant a certain area of land to Prince Edward, we may perhaps presume that the Anglo-Saxon prince resided in Baranya County and that Margaret was born at Püspök-Mádas. This presumption is founded upon a deed of the year 1235 which speaks of a certain part of Baranya County as "*terra Britannorum*".

This interesting and familiar version contained in the chronicle of *Ordericus Vitalis* is not without a parallel. At about the same period, though to all appearances quite independently, there was written in North England a highly romantic and very coloured verse chronicle — the Old French poem by *Geoffrey Gaimar* entitled "*Estoire des*

¹ "Ibi Eadmundus clito immatura morte obiit. Eduardus vero Dei nutu filiam regis in matrimonium accepit, et super Hunos regnavit. Edgarum vero Adelinum et Margaretam reginam Scotorum et Christianam sanctimoniam genuit..." (Orderici Vitalis Angligenae coenobii Uticensis monachi *Historia ecclesiastica*).

Engles". Of Gaimar very little is known. Undoubtedly of Norman origin, he lived and worked in East Anglia (Lincolnshire). His verse chronicle was written at the request of Custance, wife of Ralf Fitzgilbert — of that Fitzgilbert who was the friend of Walter Espec, who founded the Abbey of Rielvaulx in Yorkshire. It was from Espec that Gaimar, through the intervention of Custance, obtained books. This indirect connection with the Abbey of Rielvaulx is of peculiar interest, seeing that — as we shall see later on — the inmates of that abbey, by means of their personal contact with the Scotch royal family and with the sons of Margaret, had at their disposal more authentic data respecting the origin of the Scotch Queen than had the inmates of any other monastery. This fact must be borne in mind when referring to the relevant sections of Gaimar's verse chronicle, which in many respects is of extremely dubious value.

According to Gaimar's version it was by the queen's advice that the two young boys were sent abroad. They were entrusted to the care of Walgar, a Danish knight, who took them to Denmark, where they spent a few years. However, seeing that the boys were in danger there too, Walgar took them through Russia to Hungary, to the Hungarian king and queen. The latter had met Walgar years before; and they also knew that the young boys were claimants to the English throne. They were welcomed heartily by the Hungarian king, who promised to support them. It was at his Court that the princes were educated. When nineteen years of age, Eadgar fell in love with the Hungarian king's daughter, whom he received in marriage after having first been her lover (!!). In the presence of his assembled subjects the Hungarian king gave his daughter in marriage to Eadgar, informing the whole gathering that, as he had no son of his own, Eadgar would be his heir. This Eadgar and his Hungarian wife were the parents of Queen Margaret, of whose arrival in Scotland, of her marriage with Malcolm, and of her six sons, Gaimar is only too ready to tell us, seeing that he is telling us of the descendants (through Queen Margaret) of the ancient English kings. From this fantastically coloured story we may take certain moments more or less indisputable in character: Agatha was the daughter of the King of Hungary; her husband, the Anglo-Saxon Prince Eadgar, figures as the heir to the Hungarian throne, the reigning king not having a son. On these points Gaimar displays an extremely interesting agreement with the relevant records that have come down to us from the pen of the Ordericus Vitalis who lived in Normandy.

We may therefore establish the fact that there are two distinct variations of the story of the origin of Margaret, — the first, which emphasised the fact of Agatha's being related to the German Imperial House, having ultimately derived from the immediate *entourage* of Aldred, Bishop of Worcester; the other version stressing, not the relationship with the Imperial House of Germany, but the direct descent from the Hungarian king. The contradiction between the two variations is only an apparent one; for, if Agatha

was the daughter of St. Stephen and Queen Gizella, she was naturally a near relative (niece) of the Emperor Henry II. The genealogical tree is the same; the only difference being in the branch upon which interest is focussed.

*

The question now left to be answered is whether there are any other records dealing with the origin of the Scotch queen who was then already regarded as a saint (i. e. any records outside those found in the earliest chronicles written when St. Margaret's children were still alive) based upon *personal intercourse*?

His intimate acquaintance and personal friendship with St. Margaret's sons undoubtedly enabled Ethelred or Ailred (1109?—1166) to obtain authentic information concerning the great queen's origin. Ethelred was brought up (as the companion of the king's son) at the Court of King David, St. Margaret's youngest son. Ethelred's humility and goodness and learning brought him great fame; and his royal friend offered him a bishopric, which he refused, contenting himself with the dignity of Abbot of Rievaulx. This celebrated churchman, who had travelled and was familiar also with the conditions prevailing in his native land, apart from discussing with his royal benefactor questions affecting his Church, often used — as he tells us himself — to have stories told him by King David of the events and the gossip of the royal family. Ethelred repeatedly stresses the fact of his having been told this or that *by the King himself* or of his having been an eyewitness ("*vidi oculis meis*") of what he is telling for the edification of his readers. Does Ethelred know anything of St. Margaret's mother and of her origin? In his Dedication to Prince Henry (the later Plantagenet King of England) of his "*Genealogia Regum Anglorum*" he appeals to the future ruler to prove worthy of his great kinsman, King David, telling the story of the latter's last hours and of his death. He had had brought to his death-bed the famous little black crucifix which had belonged to Queen Margaret — that precious heirloom bequeathed by the saintly Queen who — as Ethelred observes — was of the seed of *both the English and the Hungarian kings*.² Ethelred's information respecting the origin of Queen Margaret was undoubtedly obtained from King David's *entourage*, possibly from the king himself; that meaning that the royal family regarded itself as descended in the female line from the King of Hungary (i. e. from St. Stephen). This record supplied by the Abbot of Rievaulx is subjective in character, and is therefore far more reliable as evidence than the records taken over mechanically — and often erroneously — from other chronicles. It is in perfect agreement with practically all that we read in the oldest chronicles concerning Agatha's origin. Therefore, Agatha was St. Stephen's daughter. This reduces all the varia-

² "Haec religiosa regina Margareta, hujus regis mater, quae de semine regio Anglorum et Hungarorum exstitit oriunda, allatam in Scotia quasi munus haereditarium transmisit ad filios..."

tions found in the earliest records to a common denominator, which alone helps us to reconcile all seeming contradictions. It is that which enables us to understand — what would otherwise be incomprehensible — why the Anglo-Saxon Prince Edward and his family remained in Hungary after the death of St. Stephen, right down to 1057, — until he was recalled to England to enter into his inheritance as heir to the English throne. It is that which explains why after the battle of Hastings, when the cause of the English royal house appeared hopeless, the Dowager Princess Agatha proposed to take her children *back to Hungary*. (What would a German princess have found to do in Hungary? would it not have been more natural for her to seek shelter at the Court of the German Emperor?). This same supposition enables us also to understand why the prince's family was accompanied to England — and then to Scotland — by so many Hungarian nobles, who included in their number (so we are told) the natural son of Andrew I. of Hungary. Thus, the facts seem logically enough to prove that Agatha must be regarded as having been the daughter of St. Stephen. This being so — and as things stand at present we have no reason to doubt that it was so — Hungary not only gave Scotland a great queen and a patron saint, but also — through Matilda, Margaret's daughter — helped indirectly to bring about the reconciliation of English and Normans, St. Stephen thus being the ancestor of the greatest of English dynasties (that of the Plantagenets), the consort of the founder of that dynasty having had the blood of the Árpáds flowing in her veins.

Agatha's escort included Hungarian nobles who became the ancestors of famous Scottish families which long enjoyed great prosperity and renown. In his chronicle Boece mentions five families of the kind — the Giffurd, Maule, Borthuik, Fethikran and Chreichtoun families — as having originated from distant Hungary and having received from King Malcolm rich gifts of money and land. No exhaustive researches have as yet been made in this field, — though such researches are bound to result in interesting discoveries: but the list is not complete, as it does not contain the names of two great Scotch families — those of the Leslie and the Drummonds — which also trace their descent to Hungarian ancestors. On the present occasion the family that interests us in our inquiry is that of the Drummonds. This famous family, which claims kinship with the Stuarts, traces its origin to a certain *Mauritius*, a distinguished noble from Hungary. This *Mauritius* was a brave and strong man; it was he who saved Agatha and her family when their boat was driven onto the coast of Scotland by a storm. At the request of Margaret King Malcolm granted *Mauritius* large estates: and at the same time he was given the name of Drummond and also the arms of a Scotch nobleman — three waves allegorically representing the danger from which he had saved the family of royal refugees. This same *Mauritius* Drummond became the faithful companion of King Malcolm, falling on the same field as his royal master in 1093.

According to Maurice Wertner, this *Mauritius* was the son of a certain Georgius, whom some authorities declare to have been the brother of Andrew and Béla, others again claiming him to have been Andrew's son. From Thuróczi's Chronicle we know that Andrew I. of Hungary had a natural son named George, the child of a mistress living at Marót. In all probability this George was older than Andrew's legitimate sons Solomon and David.

If the ancient tradition of the Drummond family which tells us that it was *Mauritius* who saved the family of Agatha from the sea, is true, *Mauritius* cannot possibly have been the son of George of Marót, seeing that when he left Hungary in 1057 he must have been in early manhood. Here — in default of data — we have to deal with a mystery which we cannot solve. However, if on the other hand we may believe the oft-quoted other version which tells us that the Scotch family of Drummond was descended from Georgius, the natural son of Andrew I. of Hungary, then this Georgius in none other than *Mauritius* himself (Marót = *Mauritius*?), the noble recorded by the "*Genealogy*" issued by the Drummond family as the original ancestor of that clan. And in that case Georgius-*Mauritius*, as being a scion of the House of Árpád (illegitimate though he was), was closely related to Queen Margaret. This would explain also the motto of the coat-of-arms (*Sanguis Regum Hungariae*) of the branch of the Drummond family which settled in France; for the blood of the royal House of Hungary flowed in their veins. It would explain further why such a large number of Hungarian nobles accompanied Agatha to England and then to Scotland; for they were in the suite of a noble who was of royal blood. And it makes us understand why Margaret was so deeply concerned to secure Georgius-*Mauritius*'s footing in Scotland; as already stated, according to family tradition it was by Margaret's special request that Malcolm bestowed so many marks of his appreciation on the Hungarian ancestor of the Drummonds. She was intervening on behalf of her own blood relation. The supposition would moreover explain where Margaret's youngest son, who later on won fame as King David, obtained a name so unusual in Scotland. If the ancestor of the Drummonds who emigrated to Scotland was really *Georgius*, he was the natural brother of Solomon, who later became King of Hungary, and of his younger brother David, who must have been a little boy of 3 or 4 when (in 1057) Margaret left Hungary with her parents. It is not impossible that Margaret later on named her youngest son after her young relative in Hungary. Here we find faint traces of the ancient connections between Hungary and Scotland, dim suggestions of which may be shadowed at times in the histories of Hungary and Scotland alike.

A faint trace of the kind — rather a suggestion than a distinct reality — may be shadowed in the similarity between the legends concerning the attempted assassination of St. Stephen and Malcolm respectively. The story of Malcolm was told to Abbot Ethelred by King David himself; and this was the source from which it was taken

by medieval chroniclers. An attempt was being plotted against the life of the Scotch king — just as against the life of St. Stephen of Hungary. As in the Hungarian legend, Malcolm too hears of the plot against his life and summons the would-be assassin to render his account; the guilty conspirator falls on his knees and frankly confesses everything. Like St. Stephen in our legend, Malcolm too forgives the assassin. It would be

superfluous to base any speculation on the similarity between the St. Stephen legend and the episode in Malcolm's life; but might Malcolm not have heard from Margaret of our saintly king's generosity? and might that not have stirred Malcolm to act similarly under similar circumstances? For we know how deeply the Scottish king was influenced by the gentleness of his consort.

P O L I T I C A L M O S A I C

THE HUNGARIAN PREMIER ON HUNGARY'S PEACE POLICY

At a meeting of the general management of the Party of National Unity (Government Party) held on 10-th October the Prime Minister, General Gömbös, delivered an interesting address, in which he also spoke about questions of international politics. Amongst other things he spoke of the statement made by M. Velics, Hungary's League of Nations delegate, at the League Assembly held on 9-th October. The tenor of General Gömbös' comments was as follows: Hungary is pursuing and wishes to pursue a policy of peace. She cannot take the initiative in European politics, being too small and weak for that. She must therefore endeavour to adapt herself to the international circumstances with which she is surrounded. The only rôle she can aspire to is that of a humble and zealous worker for what the whole world desires, namely that peace, sincere and genuine, should reign in Europe. Hungary in the first place desires this, for she seeks justice in a peaceful way and is convinced that her cause will triumph by peaceful means. It was a genuine desire to serve the cause of peace that led Hungary to oppose the sanctions planned against Italy and to protest against them in Geneva at the League of Nations' Assembly. For in the application of the sanctions Hungary sees a possibility of armed conflict. The ethical foundation upon which Hungary's foreign policy rests and the spirit of loyalty which has always been and will continue to be the leadstar of Hungarian politics made it impossible for Hungary to vote against Italy. For over a thousand years the Hungarian nation has shaped its own destiny on ethical principles; it does so still today and cannot disregard the moral obligation to honour sacred promises given in the name of friendship. Then again Hungary's economic interests do not allow her to

vote for the sanctions. A little country where the sale of every single bushel of wheat is a matter of vital importance cannot afford to lose Italy's friendship, if only for economic reasons. General Gömbös was firmly convinced that the League of Nations would use its prestige and the great moral and political forces at its command to serve humanity and the cause of international peace.

In connection with the rumours spread concerning his recent visit to Germany General Gömbös declared that there was nothing to forbid the Hungarian Prime Minister meeting the statesmen of friendly countries for the purpose of exchanging views. The attitude of 68 million Germans towards Central Europe could not be a matter of indifference to Hungary. It was the sign of a bad conscience when people suspected the object of every trip abroad to be the creation of a political alliance of a military nature. Neither he, nor the Foreign Minister, had had conversations in Germany or elsewhere about military affairs, for they did not consider them questions of the moment. On the contrary they discussed certain economic and cultural problems the pressing nature of which was admitted by all. Hungary, and every other country too, had still so many war-inflicted wounds that a time of peace and quiet was needed by all the nations, in order to let the sores heal and a return to normal functions set in. Hungary's policy aimed at safeguarding international peace, in other words the peace upon which progress and European prosperity depend. When troubles arose among the nations it was the duty of every state in Europe to do all in its power to isolate the danger, not to increase the possibilities of conflict.

A QUESTION OF COUNT ESTERHÁZY AND THE ANSWER OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER KÁNYA

At the meeting of the Lower House of the Hungarian Parliament held on October 16th. Count Marice Esterházy, former Prime Minister of Hungary, submitted a question to the Foreign Minister, asking him whether he was prepared to inform the House respecting the international situation?

"Those who have followed closely the event of the past few months" — said Count Esterházy —

„and who have watched developments, can have no doubts on the point stressed by the British Foreign Secretary, Sir Samuel Hoare, in his speech at Geneva on September 11th. This point was that (in his opinion) *elasticity* was a *sine qua non* of international security. He referred also to the *changing of international conditions by peaceful means*. And finally he established the fact that *the*

world is not immovable, it being on the contrary necessary to effect changes from time to time. This attitude will, it is to be hoped, make its influence felt in a peaceful liquidation of the conflict between Abyssinia and Italy, and will result in — or at any rate further — the peaceful and evolutionary solution of international problems.

"My question adressed to the Foreign Minister refers therefore chiefly to the future, — to the Minister who at an earlier period already expressed an opinion similar to that of Sir Samuel Hoare respecting the League of Nations Covenant and other treaties, declaring that it was necessary to carry into effect, not only the provisions serving the security and interests of the big conqueror States, but also those parts of the treaties which serve for the protection of the smaller nations.

"Quite recently, in Geneva, Hungary showed that even without a formal treaty of alliance she is ready to do her duty in international relations. She went to the extreme limit which a small country can allow itself. She has not forgotten the services rendered to her by Italy. Nor, on the other hand, does she forget the fact that in the critical situation in which she found herself last year, it was the League of Nations that — with the effectual co-operation of Great Britain — rendered possible the peaceful enforcement of that friendly assistance.

"The lessons taught by the conflict between Italy and Abyssinia make it of vital importance for Hungary that the Hungarian Government — after calmly considering our economic, political and geographical situation — should refrain from every statement or measure or attitude calculated to render the situation of the country in economic respects and in respect of international law more disadvantageous even than that prevailing today."

Foreign Minister Kálmán Kánya replied immediately to the question.

"Our attitude in Geneva" — he said — "was motivated partly by events in the past and partly also by considerations respecting the future; and finally it was based upon that conception of foreign policy which will I believe be approved by the whole public opinion of the country. For many years past close ties of sentiment have been developing between Hungary and Italy. These ties have repeatedly been strengthened by Italy throwing her whole political and moral weight into the scales on behalf of Hungary's interests. Perhaps many people will say that politics does not consist in sentimental moments; yet it is easy to show that rational motives too inspired us to adopt in the conflict that has arisen between Italy and the League of Nations that attitude which we have taken up — an attitude which all those nations that judge our political endeavours without prejudice could not but approve. I do not believe that there is a single Power — either Great or Little — which refuses to recognise the exceptional value accruing to a nation when it endeavours to reciprocate acts of friendship and thereby acquires the reputation of trustworthiness.

"Our policy in Geneva may be described not only as chivalrous or romantic — as we now and again hear it called — but also as a good policy. A policy which after the passions of the moment have subsided is calculated in the future too to render us extremely useful services.

"I believe I am echoing the thoughts, not only of the vast majority of the Hungarian nation, but also of perhaps a whole group of small nations, when I say that it can hardly be regarded as the work of small nations to show enthusiasm for and

to support the punitive provisions of the Covenant. There can be no doubt that in the event of the application of those provisions the situation in economic respects too of the small nations is bound to become more disadvantageous than that of the big nations. We should rather endeavour to bring these punitive provisions into harmony with those sections of the Covenant which provide for the possibility of effectually settling disputes arising between Members by peaceful means too.

"Ever since her admission to the League Hungary has consistently struggled to secure this harmony and endeavoured to secure the uniform development of all paragraphs of the Covenant alike. Consequently the foreign policy of Hungary merely remained true to itself when in Geneva it emphasised the attitude already spoken of during the discussion of the question of an application of the punitive provisions. The Covenant of the League of Nations has its defects. There are people who believe these defects can be eliminated only by a development of the retaliatory clauses and by an automatic enforcement of the same. Our attitude, on the other hand, is that described above. However, this difference of opinion does not mean at all that Hungary desires to thwart the activity of the League of Nations; still less does it mean that she is opposed to the ideas for which the League stands. All we are doing is to avoid being one-sided; and what we desire is to strive by the aid of all the articles of the Covenant combined to attain the objects for which the League was brought into being. We cannot shut our eyes to the weak points of the League; nevertheless we are far from desiring the weakening of the League and would gladly struggle and fight to strengthen that institution. In this point I believe we are at one with that friendly Great Power whose Foreign Minister in a speech recently delivered in Geneva also entered the lists on behalf of this object."

Francis Rajniss:

"Three cheers for Great Britain!" (loud applause).

Minister Kánya (continuing):

"It would certainly be very serious self-deception not to be willing to see that the conflict that has arisen between Italy and the League of Nations contains the seeds of great dangers. Pessimism is beginning to possess all peoples alike; but it is reassuring to see that in this situation — despite the great difficulties in force — practically all States alike are endeavouring to secure the maintenance of universal and of European peace. In this question the decision rests with two leading Members of the League of Nations, France and Great Britain, or rather with the attitude adopted by these two States. In respect of this attitude the French Premier recently made a very interesting and noteworthy statement. He (M. Laval) said that he and his British colleague, Mr. Eden, had always gone hand in hand alike in the Council and before the General Assembly and had always spoken on the basis of a mutual agreement. And he added that both he and Eden desired to continue the work which they had previously too been doing for the maintenance of European peace. He declared further that it was not only his (Laval's) but also Eden's wish and intention to discover the way to a peaceful settlement, naturally within the limits prescribed in the Covenant of the League of Nations. I believe that under such circumstances there is perhaps some justification for the hope, still in evidence in many places — despite the legion of croakers — that notwithstanding the

many difficulties and the grave differences still in existence it will be possible to save Europe from further horrors."

In his reply to the Minister Count Maurice Eszterházy stated that from the Minister's answer he

saw that the Government desired in the future too to secure Hungary's vital interests in the spirit of the provisions of the Covenant of the League of Nations and was sincerely anxious to co-operate in the work of maintaining peace.

SIR SAMUEL HOARE AND REVISION

In the reply given by Sir Samuel Hoare, British Foreign Secretary to the French Government's note, we find the following sentence:

"Elasticity is a part of security, and every member of the League must recognize, as the Covenant itself recognizes, that the world is not static."

This was not the first time the same idea had been voiced by Great Britain's present Foreign Secretary. On July 11th., in his speech in the House of Lords, he expressed it in the following words:

"I believe that the strength of the League in Great Britain, just as the strength of the British Parliament, depends upon the amount of public opinion behind it in this country, and on the adaptability of a great institution to a continually changing world. Secondly, I consider the League not from the angle of the past but from the angle of the future. I think much less of what it has done

and what it has failed to do in the last 15 years if it is given a fair chance."

And on September 12th., in his address to the Assembly of the League of Nations, the British Foreign Secretary said:

"The possibility is open, through the machinery of the League, for the modification by consent and by peaceful means of international conditions whose continuance might be a danger to peace."

Elasticity instead of static immobility, the adaptability of the League of Nations to a constantly changing world, and a modification by agreement of the international conditions menacing peace mean, in other words, the same thing as what the revision movement, based on Article 19 of the League of Nations Covenant, insists on and demands. We Hungarian revisionists think we are not mistaken when we recognise a close relationship between Sir Samuel Hoare's trend of thought and our own.

— y —

"THE WORLD IS NOT STATIC"

The "Washington Post" which is closely connected with the State Department published a very remarkable article under the above title in connection with Sir Samuel Hoare's note of 29-th September to the French Government. Because of its theoretical significance we publish it here in full.

"In retrospect it is easy to see that a serious blunder in the drafting of the League of Nations Covenant was the separation of the two articles now found therein as numbers 10 and 19.

Article 10, which had much to do with keeping the United States from League membership, is the one under which „the members of the League undertake to respect and preserve as against external aggression the territorial integrity and existing political independence of all members of the League." Article 19 provides that:

The Assembly may from time to time advise the reconsideration by members of the League of treaties which have become inapplicable and the consideration of international conditions whose continuance might endanger the peace of the world.

In the early drafts of the Covenant these two provisions were actually, as they are still logically, complementary parts of a single well-proportioned article. Those early drafts, in fact, made collective action against an aggressor clearly contingent upon coincident procedure to revise treaty settlements which encourage aggression. The desirable balance between the principle of treaty guarantee and treaty revision was clearly emphasized by the italicized phrase in a rejected British draft which read:

The states members of the League undertake, subject to the provisions of Article 22 (now Article 19), to respect and preserve as against external aggression the territorial integrity and existing political independence of all states members of the League.

The paramount significance of the British note on League policy, which Sir Samuel Hoare has now delivered to the French Ambassador in London, is that it seeks to reestablish that proportion which was lost when what are now Articles 10 and 19 were separated in the League Covenant. The current British note seeks to emphasize treaty revision as the essential counterpart of treaty guarantee. It points out that no permanent peace can be achieved merely by acclaiming the sanctity of settlements which are as disadvantageous to some nations as they are agreeable to others. In the words of Sir Samuel Hoare: „Elasticity is a part of security and every member of the League must recognize, as the Covenant (Article 19) itself recognizes, that the world is not static."

This British note, in other words, is directed as much to Italy and Germany as to France. It tells Mussolini that if he will hold his hand from aggression in Ethiopia, the British will work under the League aegis for some orderly rearrangement giving sympathetic consideration to Italian expansionist aspirations. Similarly the note tells the Germans—particularly by stressing the difference between „a positive act of unprovoked aggression" and "a negative act of failure to fulfill terms of a treaty" — that Great Britain regards the League as something much more than an instrumentality to uphold the Treaty of Versailles.

The British note will therefore fail to give the French that assurance of automatic support against Germany which Paris desires before lining up solidly with Britain against Italy. But it does provide the more constructive assurance that Great Britain will work for a fundamental solution, rather than a time-serving evasion, of the larger struggle between satisfied and dispossessed nations which really underlies the Ethiopian dispute.

Few would predict that this lead toward a rational

solution of the basic problem will of itself dispel the present electric atmosphere. But it is decidedly and appealingly in line with the original conception of the League of Nations. It is, in fact, a practical extension of the remarks made by President Wilson to the Peace Conference on January 25, 1919, when he said:

Settlements may be temporary, but the actions of the nations in the interests of peace and justice must be permanent. We can set up permanent processes. We may not be able to set up permanent decisions."

HIGH HUNGARIAN DISTINCTION CONFERRED ON BRITISH MP'S.

The Regent of Hungary has conferred upon Sir Robert Gower, British M. P. the Commander's Cross and Star of the Hungarian Order of Merit, and upon Colonel Charles Thomas Russel Moore and Dr. Frederick Llewellyn Jones, British M. P. the Commander's Cross of the Hungarian Order of Merit.

*

Dr. Llewellyn Jones who, as already reported in another column, received the decoration on the occasion of the Tercentenary of the Budapest Peter Pázmány University of Sciences on September 30th, delivered a lecture on "Little Wales and the Great World" in the International Club.

Dr. Llewellyn Jones began his lecture by paying homage to Great Britain's most able diplomat, the Prince of Wales, who had recently spent a few days in Budapest.

He then went on to say that shortly before, when he was visiting the fine museum in Székesfehérvár, some Celtic remains that might have been found in Wales caught his eye. He was pleased to find that the Hungarians knew about Wales, if only from John Arany's beautiful ballad "The Welsh Bards". That ballad, a gem of Hungarian poetry written by John Arany at a time when Hungary was struggling to achieve her independence, is not founded on historical facts; but that is no reason why it should not be considered one of the most beautiful ballads in the whole world of literature. The poet apparently wanted to conjure up an episode in the reign of Edward I — one that mirrored the relations then existing between England and Wales. History tells us that Edward was

anxious to pacify the people of Wales and establish friendly relations between that country and England. To further this end he sent the Queen to the castle of Carnarvon in Wales, in order that her first child might be born on Welsh soil. A son, the first Prince of Wales, was born there in 1248. Since that time there has never been any conflict between the national patriotism of the Welsh and their loyalty to the British Empire. Their attitude might well serve as an example of reconciliation to be followed by certain of the minor nations in Central and Eastern Europe.

Continuing, Dr. Llewellyn Jones said that, even if the League of Nations was not a perfect institution, it still provided the possibility of settling differences in a friendly way. The question of a revision of the peace treaties was a problem of that nature. The victors had dictated the treaties in a spirit of vindictiveness, instead of seizing the opportunity to create a real basis of friendly co-operation among the nations. Dr. Llewellyn Jones was convinced that it was not too late yet for the representatives of the nations to meet in friendly conference and find a way of curing the evils created by the peace treaties. Then Hungary's just demands would be satisfied.

After loud and prolonged applause Mr. Stuart Childs spoke about the Ireland of today. Amongst other interesting things he said that one of the most widely read books of the Irish Home Rule movement, which has now completely subsided, was "The Resurrection of Hungary" by the Irish statesman, Arthur Griffith.

THE NEW BRITISH AND AMERICA HONORARY DOCTORS OF THE BUDAPEST UNIVERSITY

The Budapest Peter Pázmány University of Sciences recently celebrated its tricentenary jubilee. On this occasion the University conferred the degree of Hon. Dr. on several outstanding men of science in Britain and America. Among the 32 Honorary Doctors we find the following Englishmen: Sir Frederick Hopkins Gowland (Cambridge) and Sir Charles Sgenington (Oxford). Americans were Mr. Edwin Borchard and Mr. Harrison Ross Granville (Yale), Mr. Ottmer Manley Hudson (Harvard) and Mr. James Thompson Shotwell (Columbia). The ceremony took place on 28-th September in the aula of the University. On the day before at the jubilee celebrations, held in the presence of the Regent, Admiral Horthy, Mr. A. C. Seward representing the Royal Society of London congratulated the University on its three hundred years spent in the service of science and the search of truth. Those — he said amongst other things — who see the fine city of Budapest lavishly endowed with beauty by Nature, and who remember the thousand years of glorious Hungarian history, know

that Hungary has inscribed her name perpetually in the annals of European history.

*

Dr. Albert Seward, Professor in Cambridge University, Master of Downing College, and Secretary of the Foreign Department of the Royal Society, was also present at the celebrations. During a conversation with the correspondent of the "Pester Lloyd" on October 2-nd the eminent savant spoke with the greatest admiration of the work which has been going on for centuries in Budapest University and of the cultural work in general carried on for a thousand years by the Hungarians in an outpost of western civilization. In his opinion the intellectual strata of British society are definitely on the side of revision, if only because originally the peace treaties were intended merely as a temporary solution providing only for a period of a few years, and also because the profound changes that have taken place in Europe since the close of the war make a general revision of

the treaties seem imperative. Sir Samuel Hoare's recent speech — he continued — suggests the conclusion that the revisionist current observable in British public opinion will before long find its way into the Foreign Office. The cause of Hungarian justice would benefit greatly if, in order to strengthen the links between the two nations, invitations to visit Hungary were sent to as many members of the educated classes in Britain as possible, and if, on the other hand, the

Hungarians would send as many young men — students, writers and journalists — as possible to Britain; then finally if meetings were arranged as often as possible between the leading scholars and public men of the two nations. From this point of view the memorable jubilee of the Budapest University has left an indelible impression in the minds of all who were present, and has been of the greatest service possible to Hungary's cause.

COUNT MAURICE ESTERHÁZY'S STATEMENT AFTER THE LONDON INTERPARLIAMENTARY UNION CONGRESS

Count Maurice Esterházy, former Hungarian Prime Minister took part in the Congress of the Interparliamentary Union held in London, and on his return gave an interview to the representative of the "Esti Kurir", a Budapest evening newspaper. As we think his statements are likely to interest our British readers we give them in full underneath. Count Maurice Esterházy said:

"I have just been in England for the twentieth time, and can say that I never met with so great an interest and sympathy for Hungary there as now. Besides the increasing dimensions of tourist travel and the Prince of Wales' visit, I think another reason for this is that the situation in Central Europe closely affects Britain. One of the British delegates to the London Congress of the Interparliamentary Union produced statistics to show that Britain's trade with the Succession States had shrunk to a fraction of what it was in pre-war days, and that even so the Succession States frequently remain in Britain's debt. Economic consolidation in Central Europe has therefore become important from a British point of view. It is gratifying that this fact has been recognised, for the world-wide importance of the Anglo-Saxon race, with its several hundred millions of people, is indisputably, both as a moral and as an economic factor.

One hundred and forty members of some thirty parliaments took part in the Congress. Dozens of ministers in office and ex-ministers were present. We listened to Mr. Chamberlain, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who told us that a return to the gold standard was desirable, but not timely; to M. Paul-Boncour, France's ex-Premier, who spoke of the difficulties attending the enforcement of the claims adjudged to private individuals against States by international arbitration, and how to eliminate them; to M. Hodzsa, Czecho-Slovak Minister of Agriculture, who urged the marketing in Europe of Central Europe's superfluous agrarian stocks, and in a masterly study exposed the present low purchasing power of the agricultural population. We heard of the approaching Canadian and Danish elections, with their currency problem slogans. In a word, the same vicious circle of difficulties and problems that form the axle of our own internal policy today was discussed in the centuries-old building of the British Parliament, in the Metropolis of world trade. Following the usual procedure of international congresses, at the last sitting we accepted the proposals submitted by the sub-committees and drew the attention of the Governments concerned to possibilities calculated to ease the economic crisis. In my opinion the positive value of that week lay in the opportunities of exchanging ideas and views afforded by social intercourse, by official and private invitations. The most impressive official reception was the Lord Mayor's soirée, with 1200 guests, amongst them Mr. Macdonald, ex-Prime

Minister, and the members of the diplomatic corps. We were received by the Lord Mayor amidst old traditional ceremonies in a fourteenth century drawing-room. It took him over an hour to shake hands with the more important of his guests.

As was natural, the agenda of the Congress was supplemented by the Italo-Abyssinian conflict. It was while the Congress was in session that we got news of the first battles. Here I must point out that faith in the League of Nations is very strong in England, both in Church circles and among secular organisations. I had the pleasure of talking to many English people, Churchmen, business men and bankers. All of them declared — as the British Prime Minister has publicly stated — that there is no national hatred against Italy in Britain. The conflict is not between Italy and Britain, but between Italy and the League of Nations. I noticed the same sensitiveness in connection with the League Covenant and the Kellogg Pact as that with which British public opinion reacted to the violation of Belgium's neutrality in 1914. This explains Britain's attitude towards sanctions in the Italo-Abyssinian conflict; on the other hand, however, it follows logically from the British standpoint in the question of collective security that Britain, in the long run, will scarcely go further than France, in the matter of sanctions. It is also perfectly understandable that in the past months Britain has taken no independent steps, but only through the League and for the maintenance of the League. She did not protest when at the beginning of the year Italy and France came to an understanding over Africa, although Italy's expansive ambitions were not unknown to her then. As I see the situation, by the time I left no important French standpoint had crystallised so definitely as the British point of view, but I think the explanation lies in the fact that in two cases — those of Japan and Germany — the League omitted to apply sanctions. It is true that in the case of Germany there was no question of military action.

It is also certain that one part of Abyssinia has not been long under the sovereignty of the Negus, and it is a fact that objections to Abyssinia's election as member of the League of Nations were raised at the time. All this, coupled with the factors of a common frontier, the Mediterranean Littoral, the importance of the Stresa front and mutual interests in the Brenner Pass, explain the welcome development of friendly relations between the present French Government and Italy and the attitude hitherto adopted in Paris.

There is every reason to suppose that Britain will continue to consider that the Italo-Abyssinian conflict is primarily not her own private business, but that of the League, and so — presuming that the present French Government remains in office — we may hope that, although the definition of economic sanctions is loose and well-calculated to lead to con-

flicts at present unpredictable, a European conflagration may yet be avoided.

Many people express the hope that a rapid Italian military advance will make the peaceful settlement of the conflict possible soon without detriment to Italy's prestige. — always supposing, of course, that some unforeseen international incident happening without intention on the part of the Governments or even without their knowledge does not create a *fait accompli* constituting an insult to the British nation. Let us not forget that Britain's present Foreign Secretary is made of firmer and tougher stuff than his predecessor. He gave proof of this in his handling of India. Nor let us forget that for the past 150 years Britain, even if she did lose battles, always managed to win the last one.

And when it comes to peace negotiations that is all that counts. Waterloo would have had another significance coming after Valmy. What struck me as peculiar in both countries — it is true that England is on the eve of general elections — was that the most extreme sanctionists were the very pacifists who had hitherto grudged the sums spent on national defence, but who now, all of a sudden, are ready in connection with the African question to defend peace at the expense of war. Those, on the other hand, who went through all the horrors of the world war protest, especially in France, are against this policy. Mr. Amery, former Colonial Secretary, writing in the

"Times" of October 4-th, declared that the League of Nations was a splendid institution as far as discussion, intercourse and conciliation went, but hardly an effective instrument where the enforcement of compulsory measures was in question. In many respects he was right; for today the League of Nations of which the U. S. A. Germany and Japan have ceased to be members, is no longer what it was meant to be. Shortly ago the Soviet delegate pronounced peace to be indivisible, which implies the danger of war being indivisible too. In a word, instead of collective security we should be reduced to the superchaos of the era of the Flood. To sum up: Although I am filled with anxiety as to what the future may hold, I hope we shall not be swept on to a declivity where the curbing power of commonsense is too weak to avert catastrophe, and that this Europe crippled by the last war will keep away from the brink of a dangerous ravine.

A sober calculation of how we stand as to geographic, economic and political forces will point out the path we must take. The only policy we can pursue in one that, while it does everything to preserve existing links of friendship and sympathy, is careful to avoid taking steps or decisions which might bring us into conflict with an international public opinion shaped by factors over which we have no control."

— y —

REVIVAL OF PAN-SLAVISM

"Prior to the Great War our nation had living cultural connections with those principal nations which today constitute the Soviet Union. These connections arose from a community of language and from blood relationship. We shall never forget what Russian literature in particular meant to us prior to the War; and we cannot but remember the interest we showed in the development of Russian philosophy. In this connection all I have to do is to simply point out the manner in which these connections are mirrored in the great philosophical and literary work of our President Masaryk."

These words were addressed on October 6th. by

Dr. Beneš, Foreign Minister of Czecho-Slovakia, to the Soviet writers and journalists then enjoying the hospitality of Prague. *Mutatis mutandis* practically the same words must have been used by Kramář, the founder of the modern pan-Slav movement known as "neo-Slavism", in the speech in which he toasted the Russian "slavjanophile" visitors to one of the Sokol celebrations held in Prague prior to the Great War. Since that War Dr. Beneš has consistently — for political reasons — turned his back upon political pan-Slavism; but those words of his which are quoted above are eloquent proof that pan-Slavism is not dead.

INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION IN RUMANIA

The National Peasant Party and Alexander Vajda's "Frontul Romanesc" are engaged in a concentric attack on Tatarescu's Government. The work of attack is being joined in also by Marshall Avarescu's party and by Gheorghe Bratianu's Liberal Dissidents too. These attacks are the prologue preparing the way for the mass meeting of the National Peasant Party convened to assemble in Bucharest on November 14th., it being proposed to organise a march of 200,000 persons through the streets of Bucharest on that occasion. The Government Party proposes to arrange a demonstration of 300,000 persons for the same day; and the opening of parliament has been postponed till that date. Of the attacks on Government appearing in the anti-Government press special mention is due to the *communiqué* dealing with the meeting of the National Peasant Party held on September 27th., the same declaring that the two years' government by the Tatarescu Cabinet has prejudiced the highest interests of the State, resulting in a catastrophe alike in economic, monetary and financial respects and in an atmosphere of corruption and immorality culminating in the foreign exchange fraud ("Patria", Oct. 1). In

one of his speeches Julius Maniu declared that the aggravation of the domestic political situation was due, not to a struggle between parties, but to the clash of two opposing systems. In a speech delivered at Marosújvár Maniu drew a parallel between the respective political methods of himself and of Tatarescu. He said that Tatarescu proposed to change the constitution so as to enable the king to act arbitrarily, though the Government should be responsible. At a political meeting Avarescu and Gheorghe Bratianu protested vehemently against the censorship and the state of siege. In their opinion the system of government was immoral, seeing that the power had fallen into the hands of traitors and robbers. In a speech delivered at Constanza Tatarescu bitterly attacked Maniu, declaring that the only opposition movement of a constitutional character was that of the Extreme Right (Cuza—Goga parties), and branding the endeavours of Maniu to defend the Constitution as an attempt at extortion.

Titulescu's russophile attitude is provoking protests ever increasing in vehemence. At meetings of the "Frontul Romanesc" held at Dés and Szamosújvár

Vajda spoke rather sharply in condemnation of the Russo-Rumanian military alliance; his criticism being extremely depreciatory and his conclusion being that according to the evidence of history the passing of Russian armies through the territory of Rumania had never done Rumania any good. "Should the Russians enter Rumanian territory", — he asked — "how do we expect them to go out?" Gheorghe Bratianu submitted a question in parliament protesting against the russophile policy and pointing to the serious danger to Rumania latent in that policy. And he spoke to the same purport also at a meeting of his party held at Campolung.

Some of the opposition meetings held in the provinces led to bloodshed. Quite recently, at Măranarossziget, the gendarmes were compelled to use their arms to check the destructive depredations of the crowd. The fate of Government will be decided at

the audiences to be given by the king during the second half of October, the leaders of the Opposition having also been summoned to the same, which are being looked forward to with eager excitement by the whole public life of the country. The anti-minority policy of Government was severely criticised by Dr. Joseph Willer, deputy belonging to the Magyar Party, in the speech to his constituents delivered at Nagyvárád on October 13th. He stressed that the lot of the Hungarian inhabitants had not been so grave even during the first two years after the change of régime is 1920 as it was today, and emphasised the fact that no previous government had so completely flouted the minority rights as that headed by Tatarescu, which desired to utilise the anti-minority atmosphere it was creating for the purpose of distracting attention from the difficulties prevailing in the internal political situation.

VELTCHEV'S SCHEME OF ASSASSINATION

On October 3rd., the anniversary of the accession to the throne of Czar Boris and of the declaration of the independence of Bulgaria, the celebrations usual in other years were replaced by a state of siege. Government was compelled to resort to this measure because steps had to be taken to prevent an attempt on a large scale planned with the object of assassinating the Czar, the members of the Government and a whole host of prominent politicians and military officers. The political group bearing the name of "Zveno", which on May 19th., 1924, availed itself of the assistance of friends in the military league to exploit the cabinet crisis of the time for the purpose of seizing the reins of power by a "putsch", very soon alienated the sympathies of the people by radical reforms which merely aggravated the serious economic conditions then in force; and the people, which was sick of the eternal party squabbles, gladly welcomed the Government formed by Kimon Georgieff. The situation was aggravated by the fact that this political group showed decided republican tendencies. Damian Veltchev, the *spiritus rector* of the Georgieff Government, was anxious to be made President of the Republic at all costs. Thereupon the Bulgarian officers withdrew their support from the Government, which was consequently compelled to yield the power to a new Cabinet. However, the by no means numerous group of republicans refused to abandon their endeavours. Damian Veltchev fled from the country and established himself in Belgrade, where he continued his work. Having convinced himself that his endeavours had not many supporters in the country, he planned a murderous attempt. He designed a notorious assassin of the name of Uzunoff to murder the Czar. At the end of September last he clandestinely

visited Sofia for the purpose of studying local conditions. The attempt was to be made in the Cathedral and in the big square in front of the Cathedral, where the celebrations of the anniversary on October 3rd. were to be held in the presence of the Czar and all the Ministers. However, the authorities were informed in good time of the proposed attempt, the ultimate object of which was a *coup d'état*. Veltchev and the other conspirators were arrested; and they are now awaiting their trial. Only Uzunoff succeeded in evading the vigilance of the authorities. In view of the fact that the origin of the conspiracy could be traced to Belgrade, the Yugoslav Press, instead of hastening to the assistance of the Bulgarian Government in its work investigating the case, made a political affair out of the crime. After the disclosure of the conspiracy the Bulgarian Government issued a statement which was not by any means intended to be an insinuation against the Yugoslav people, as the Yugoslav Press suggested; but Bulgaria cannot be expected when investigating the truth to avoid mentioning a fact relating to something (isolated as that something may be) that did actually happen in Yugoslav territory. On his way back from Geneva the Bulgarian Foreign Minister Kiosseivanov stopped a day in Belgrade, the real object of this visit being to assure the Yugoslav Government that the scheme of assassination cannot in the least dissuade the Bulgarian Government from continuing the friendly relation between their country and Yugoslavia and to inform Yugoslav public opinion how unfounded was the agitation aroused in connection with the unsuccessful attempt. We are reminded of an old proverb — *celui qui crie n'a pas raison*.

HOW MINORITIES LIVE

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

WHEN APPOINTING MEMBERS OF DISTRICT COUNCILS GOVERNMENT IGNORES THE RIGHTS OF MINORITIES

In terms of the administration law in force now, one-third of the members of the provincial and district

councils are not elected by the population, but are appointed by Government. We have already reported that the last time the members of the provincial councils were appointed the national minorities were completely ignored; the two Hungarian parties were not given any seats. The same thing has occurred again in connection with the appointment of members of the district councils. Although Henlein's Sudeta German Party is not only the largest German party, but also the largest party in the whole Republic, it was simply ignored by the Ministry of the Interior

when the members of the district councils were being appointed. The Parliamentary Club of the Party has decided to lodge a protest against this treatment with the Premier and the Minister of the Interior. At a meeting of the Komárom district council held on October 9-th the Rev. Joseph Király, Roman Catholic parish priest, complained that none of the nominees of the two Hungarian parties (the Hungarian National and the General Christian Socialist Party) had been appointed members of the district council. The managements of the two Parties were informed by the Prefect, Richard Novotny, in July that their nominations had arrived too late, although the appointments, in fact, were not made until September.

— y —

THE SITUATION OF THE HUNGARIAN SCHOOLS

Speaking on behalf of the common club of the Hungarian parties in the Education Committee of the Senate, Senator Charles Hokky dealt with the situation in respect of schools of the Magyars in Czecho-Slovakia and said (among other things): —

"The 1910 Census showed that the number of Czechs in the whole of Ruthenia was 201; yet today there are 200 Czech schools there... In the Těcső district there are 58 teachers to teach 64 Czech children... In many cases the Supreme Administrative Court too gave findings in their favour, acknowledging the right of certain villages to establish Magyar schools. However, the educational authorities simply ignored the decisions of this supreme tribunal. Even our infant schools have been closed — with a very few exceptions. The children are taught to be little parrots who learn a few Slav verses by heart without having the slightest idea what their prattle is all about. *The Greek Catholic parents of Magyar race are applying in vain for the right to have their children taught Hungarian.*

"As long ago as last June I requested the Ministry of Education to establish a Hungarian teachers' training institute in Ruthenia or in East Slovakia. We collected 7000 signatures. I have not even received an answer. At the end of August 1 did my best — but in vain — to find the Minister. Though he was in his office, he — refused to receive me.

"Nor have I received any answer to the question I asked the Minister in the matter of the Hungarian "city school" at Szöllös. Every year I have handed in petitions of the same tenor signed by the inhabitants of the neighbouring vilages. But in vain; nothing has resulted. On the other hand when the gendarmes or excise officers get hold of a couple of poor Jews with licences to sell drinks and make them present a petition for the establishment of a Slav "city school", the thing is done at once.

"At Szepesi, in a district inhabited exclusively by Magyars, a Slovak "city school" has been established; and the same things has happened at Kirdlyhelmec too.

"Both of these places are in districts exclusively Magyar in character. Nor is there any chance of establishing a Magyar "city school" at Nagyszöllös, though between that place and Körösmező there are many thousands of Magyars who have not a single "city school" at their disposal.

"Nor is the situation any better in respect of our secondary schools (gymnasiums). For years the parents have been sending petitions signed by many thousands of applicants asking for the restoration of the Catholic secondary school at Ungvár. But in vain!! It is in vain for us to ask for the renovation of our schools: of that at Beregszász, for instance, where

more than 800 children are crowded into a building with only limited accomodation. The conditions in force in the Kassa secondary school are also horrible.

"For years the Hungarian theatre has received no subsidy; while on the other hand the Slovak — or rather Czech — theatres in Slovakia are being granted subsidies amounting to millions every year.

"Even story books are excluded from our popular libraries. I could give the titles of whole host of such harmless books which are not even written by Hungarians but translations of the works of foreign writers."

AUTONOMY OF LARGEST TOWN IN RUTHENIA SUSPENDED FOR LAST TWO AND A HALF YEARS

The autonomy of Munkács, the largest town in Ruthenia, — which on paper is supposed to be self-governing — was suspended two and a half years ago by the Government, and a Government Commissioner appointed, who has pensioned off the autochthonous civil servants and filled the vacancies with strangers. This has put the town to much unnecessary expense. This state of things runs contrary to Act XXII of 1886, which is still valid, and which prescribes that the activity of a Government Commissioner shall not continue for more than one year. (The new Czecho-Slovak laws set no limit to the length of a Government Commissioner's régime.) When M. Charles Hokky, Hungarian Senator, recently put questions in Parliament, he demanded the recall of the Government Commissioner and the restoration of self-government.

R U M A N I A

"THE MINORITY PROBLEM MUST BE SOLVED WITHOUT DELAY"

In an interview given to the daily paper "Adeverul", Mr. C. Bucsan, formerly Under-Secretary of State in the Rumanian Ministry of the Interior, made some remarkable statements about the minority problem.

"The minority problem" — he said — "will sooner or later crop up, and then it may be very dangerous to the State. For, as time passes the resistance of the minorities is growing stronger and stronger. They will arm themselves with the same weapons which are now being used against them by the State. They will then demand collectively what they are now asking individually. It is therefore, so to speak, a wicked thing to delay the solution of this problem. And to this statement I must add, of course, that the minority problems will have to be solved in an honest way. I can, indeed, see no reason whatsoever for any feeling of chauvinism. The kind of nationalism that only worries about the petty problems of town hall servants and provincial post offices, is in my opinion truly a shameful thing. We must really not expect too much of our minorities with regard to their knowledge of Rumanian; nor is it fair to pretend that the minorities make it difficult for us to find a decent living in this country. On the contrary, it is a fact that we have secured a very favourable position for ourselves in every field of public life, economically as well as socially or culturally. As for the denationalization (Rumanization) of some cities, we have, indeed, proved for more succesful in the short period of ten years than the Hungarians did in the course of a thousand long years. Let us, then,

cease to complain that the Hungarians are depriving us of our daily bread, and let us be more serious altogether.

"We must work out a limited programme for our minorities, with the collaboration of the several political parties in Rumania. In the meantime we must create a different moral atmosphere, and the ruling majority will have to change its general attitude towards the minorities, because we must make them believe that we are willing to approach them with sincere feelings and that we wish to work for their good.

I must repeat, however, that there is no time to lose. If we allow ourselves to be late, it may be less easy to settle the question in the future. We simply have to accept the fact that we have a number of people living among us whose language and religion is not the same as our own, and we must allow them to develop in their own way. We have created this country because we disliked the injustice of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy. It is impossible, then, to show the same injustice towards others now. If we respect other people, it means that we respect ourselves. We must never forget to think of humanity and wisdom.

— y —

HUNGARIAN CONSERVATOIRE IN KOLOZSVÁR RUMANISED

The independence of the famous old Hungarian Conservatoire of Kolozsvár (Cluj) has been abolished by an ordinance recently issued by the Ministry of Education. From now on the language of teaching must be Rumanian, the members of the staff must all be able to speak Rumanian, and they must be authorized by the Ministry to teach in private schools. It is stated, moreover, that the conservatoire will be considered as a private school in the future, and that its certificates will, consequently, not have the same value as those issued by Government schools.

— y —

SOIRÉE OF EMINENT HUNGARIAN WRITER FORBIDDEN

The "Sigismund Kemény" Society invited Michael Babits, one of the most eminent members of the Hungarian literary world living and writing in Budapest, to visit Marosvásárhely on October 27th. to give selections from his own works. All preparations had been made when the Rumanian authorities, without offering any reason for their action, unexpectedly issued an order forbidding Babits to give his address.

HUNGARIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS CLOSED

The Roman Catholic elementary school at Gelence has been closed by the authorities and the building demolished. (*Székelyföld*, October). In Csikmadaras, by order of the educational authorities, 16 pupils of the Hungarian denominational school have been transferred by the gendarmes to the State school. In Csikszentsimon the Roman Catholic elementary school building has been confiscated. In Kolozsvár and Marosvásárhely the Hungarian section of the State elementary school has been suppressed by the Ministry of Education and the children actually forbidden to speak to one another in Hungarian. The Ministry has also ordered the Catholic elementary schools in Paplony, Nagymájtény, and Szaniszló to be closed.

Abusing the institution of "name analysis", the educational authorities in the county of Csik classify Szekler families among those of Rumanian origin, forbid their children to attend denominational schools, and force them to attend State ones. (*Keleti Ujság*, September 9th.)

— y —

HUNGARIAN CHILDREN NOT ALLOWED TO LEARN HUNGARIAN HISTORY

Police headquarters have ordered the confiscation of Domokos Gyallay's school-book "An Illustrated A. B. C. and Reader" because it contains stories from the history of Hungary. (*Curentul*, September 30th.)

— y —

GENDARMES INTERFERE IN CHURCH MATTERS

The Rev. John Hegyi, the curate of Martonos (county of Udvarhely) appointed by the Bishop of the Transylvanian Reformed Church, has been strictly forbidden by the sergeant of the gendarmes to undertake any church functions until he can produce proof of his having been appointed by the Ministry of Education; and this although under the law in force at present, Reformed Church ministers are not appointed by the Ministry, but elected by the Parishes. (*Brassói Lapok*, 1935, IX, 19 and *Székelyközélet*, 1935, IX, 11.)

— y —

HUNGARIAN JOURNALIST SENTENCED

Louis Daróczy, editor of a Nagyvárad paper, has been sentenced by the local Court of Law to one month's imprisonment and a fine of 10,000 lei for having published — on the basis of the report of a news agency — part of the speech dealing with the problems of Central Europe delivered by the French Deputy Ernest Pezet at the meeting of the Chamber of Deputies on November 13th, 1933. ("Jóestét", September 18th.).

COMPLAINTS OF RUMANIANS RESPECTING SITUATION OF RUMANIAN MINORITY IN THE BANATE

On March 10th, 1933, the Governments of Yugoslavia and Rumania came to a formal agreement with regard to the education of the Rumanian minority in the Yugoslav part of the Banate. The Yugoslav Government, however, seems to show very little inclination to respect the principles laid down in this agreement; it shows, in fact, the same contempt in the case of the Rumanian minority as in the case of all its other minority agreements. This fact has been duly commented upon in an article of the Bucharest daily, the "Universul", and also in a statement made by M. Anghelescu, Rumanian Minister of Education. We gather from his statement that, in spite of the provisions of the above agreement, the Yugoslav Government has hitherto appointed only 17 Rumanian teachers in the Rumanian schools of the Yugoslav Banate. The Rumanian Government, on the other

hand, has already appointed 75 Serb teachers to schools of the Serb minority in the Rumanian Banate, although that minority represents barely half the number of the Rumanians on the other side.

— y —

YUGOSLAVIA

AGRARIAN REFORM LIQUIDATION ACT INFRINGED AND CARRIED INTO EFFECT TO DETRIMENT OF HUNGARIAN VILLAGES

According to § 3 of the Act providing for the liquidation of the Land Reform (June 24, 1933) politi-

cal communities are entitled to a maximum area of 100 cadastral acres arable land in addition to pastures. This land is thenceforth exempt from expropriation. How this provision is carried out in practice to the detriment of villages with a Hungarian population, may be seen from the typical case of Szajan in the Banate. There 200 cadastral acres of arable land were left to the village by the Land Reform and leased to local Hungarian labourers. Within the past few months this land has been redeemed and distributed among Serbian settlers from Bosnia. The Hungarian inhabitants of the place desired to appeal against these unjust and illegal proceedings but the Serbian village clerk kept putting off, filing their appeal until the period for doing so had expired. At the request of the inhabitants the Roman Catholic parish priest has appealed for redress to M. Stankovitch, Minister of Agriculture.

THEATRE • LITERATURE • ART

FRANZ LISZT'S HUNGARIAN NATIONALITY

In the September issue of the Danubian Review the eminent Hungarian writer, Mr. Zsolt Harsányi, replied to some of the statements made in the German press in connection with the nationality of Franz Liszt, which had tried to prove that the great pianist and composer was not a Hungarian, and had claimed him as a German. It will be interesting to supplement the remarks of Mr. Harsányi by the following arguments referring to Liszt's Hungarian feeling, to be found in a statement made to a Hungarian journalist by the famous pianist, Mr. Frederick Lamond, Liszt's greatest living pupil:

"As a real Hungarian, Liszt was not only an interpreter of music, but he actually performed every work of music in the dramatic sense of the word. The inspiration expressed on his face, and even the movements of his hands, showed his heart like a mirror, but there was really nothing unnatural or affected about his pose: it was the natural expression of the genuine artistic experience that filled his soul. No artist would be able to give a musical performance of this type, except the son of a nation like the Hungarians, with whom music means the language of the soul. It is a great pity that cinematography was unknown in those days, because it is impossible to describe to later generations the wonderful gift that Liszt possessed of interpreting the musical experience of his soul by means of his external appearance.

"The whole life of Liszt was a tragic symbol of the fate of his people. Utterly forgetful of his own person, his magnanimity urged him to fight always for the interests of others. And what was his reward? Nothing but misunderstanding and ingratitude.

"The records of the history of music show us what he has done for other composers, such as Wagner, Berlioz, Chopin, and Schumann; but the names of his minor proteges would fill volumes. He was never tired of searching for young geniuses, and his piano was always loaded with new manuscripts, which he used to study with loving care, playing each of them through with an incomparable accomplishment that was entirely his own. He was really an indefatigable man.

"A touching example of his magnanimity comes now to my mind, — said Mr. Lamond; — having played to him the Variations on Paganini by Brahms, one of his greatest adversaries, he meditated for a while and then he turned to me, saying: "I have also

attempted this theme, but I think the work of Brahms is much more magnificent."

"On one occasion Stephen Thomán was playing Liszt's Concert in A major to the old master", — said Mr. Lamond at the end of his interview. Liszt was really touched, and he thanked Thomán for taking the trouble to learn "this very difficult and yet thankless piece". All of us who were present protested, of course, against such diminution of his own importance, and we all praised Liszt's music in very high terms. Liszt, however, warding off our praises, said: "Never mind, boys, I can wait." This picture of tragic unselfishness occupies a fit place in the historical portrait gallery of thousand-year-old Hungary.

"Liszt left his native land in his early childhood. Thus, every language he acquired was foreign to him. His command of foreign languages, therefore, must not be considered as a final argument in the matter of his nationality. As a rule he preferred to speak French, yet it could not be said that he was a Frenchman. In the same way, it could not be said that his frequent visits to Rome had made him into a German. In the history of art Liszt will always be remembered as the greatest Hungarian composer. Quite a number of foreign composers, like Haydn, Schubert, or Brahms, were fairly successful in imitating the general style of Hungarian music. But every single work that Liszt wrote, every motive and every sound in them, is pure, genuine Hungarian art. None but a true-born Hungarian could have written the Rhapsodies, the Mass of Esztergom, the Legend of St. Elizabeth, and many other compositions of Liszt. The music of Liszt is a monumental expression of the Hungarian national spirit of his age, in the same way as the poems of Petöfi, the novels of Jókai, or the paintings of Munkácsy are expressive of the national spirit of their own age. The music of Liszt may be described as the Hungarian national spirit expressed in sound.

"It was, however, not alone his spirit that was so characteristically Hungarian in Liszt: his personality in general, his actions, and his mode of thinking, were all typically and intrinsically Hungarian. Even as an old man, dressed in clerical robes, he gives the impression of a true-born Hungarian.

His noble features, the pride expressed in his movements and in the bearing of his head, were sufficient to indicate that he came of a proud and fiery oriental race, and that he was a real "grand seigneur" and also a true artist by birth. He would

sit at his piano like a monarch on his throne, or like a victorious general on his steed. The magnetism and the almost demoniac charm of his personality, so full of mystery to all those who had really known him, were essentially due to those typically Hungarian features of his character: his easy and gentlemanlike manners, his royal munificence, as well as the almost romantic spirit of chivalry he showed towards ladies, fire of his temperament enabling him to sweep away any barrier in technical performance.

— y —

DISCOVERY OF UNKNOWN LISZT-CANTATA

A Liszt-Cantata, hitherto unknown, has recently been discovered in Weimar. The Master himself gave it the title: "Hungaria-Cantata". The first performance of this work in Hungary took place on the eve of Liszt's birthday, Oct. 21st, in the form of a gala performance arranged by the Opera in Budapest. The orchestra was conducted by Prof. Raabe, one of the most eminent interpreters of Liszt's works.

The work is full of fire and sentiment. It was composed in the spring of 1848, when the news of the Hungarian revolution took the Master's soul by storm.

The words were written by his good friend, Franz Schober, a writer of note who then became counsellor of the legation in Weimar. On April 22nd Liszt informed the writer that: "this magnificent poem had helped to solve the crisis of his excited Hungarian soul and had inspired him to create a work which he could only compare with his Beethoven-Cantata".

To the words of Schober, Liszt really created a music which ranks among the greatest of his works. In this work we find several solos for bass and tenor, combined with chorus for male voices; the rest of the Cantata containing (about the middle) soprano parts, as well as piano and orchestra accompaniment. The whole work is interwoven with the motive of the Rákóczi-March. The bass solo thunders the apic of the frightful army of the Sun-people. In one part, where we have the expiatory sacrifice of the Hungarian people, the Rákóczi-motive is faintly accompanied by a beautiful and melancholy air. A short transition then brings us to the glorification of the virtues of the Hungarian race. On page 12 of the manuscript Liszt wrote the following words in large characters: "Unite in braveness and power! Go ahead!"

This Cantata, hitherto unknown, is another argument to prove Liszt's ardent patriotism as a Hungarian.

— y —

P O L I T I C A L E C O N O M Y

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR 1934.

The report put before both houses of the National Assembly by the Public Audit Department shows that the deficit for the year 1934 amounted to 341 million Kč (Czech Crowns) against 1480 millions in the year 1933. The administration shows a deficit of 705 millions (1507 millions in 1933), — 8175 million crowns receipts against 8880 million expenditure. The losses suffered by the State Railways are still as high as 660 million. The receipts of the tobacco régime did not amount to more than 1258 millions, as against the sum of 1463 millions foreseen in the Estimates. The sum of unpaid Government taxes is as much as 6.5 billions. The total of Government debts was 37.324 millions at the beginning of 1934, while at the end of the year it showed an increase by 826 millions, reaching thus the total of 38.151 millions.

— y —

TAX RECEIPTS SHOW MATERIAL DECREASE AS COMPARED WITH PREVIOUS YEAR

The receipts obtained by the Treasury during the first four months of the current year under the heads of taxes, customs duties, régime (monopoly) receipts and dues, amounted to 2356 million crowns — as compared with 2634 million crowns during the corresponding period of the previous year. The receipts under the head of taxes were considerably below the amount foreseen under this head in the Estimates. This decrease in Treasury receipts points to a deterioration of the economic situation.

HUNGARY

ECONOMIC BALANCE-SHEET OF GENERAL GÖMBÖS' GOVERNMENT

In commemoration of the third anniversary of General Gömbös' accession to power, the Government has published a "Blue-book", showing the financial and economic results of its work in the past: reduction of budgetary deficit from 180 to 58 million Pengő; 100 millions less expenditure in the administration of local government bodies; 176 million P investments in public works and State enterprises; 50 millions for further investments in the State Railways, and 60 millions for the building of new roads (280 km. of modern trunk roads, and 1335 km of parish roads); reduction of the rate of interest: from 12—14% to 8% in the case of credit, from 9.5% to 5.5% on mortgage debts, from 8.5% to 5.5% on agrarian debts and to 4% on "protected" estates. In consequence of this the yearly charges on agrarian debts has sunk from 224 to 90 million pengő. The total value represented by industrial production rose from 1763 millions in 1933 to 1935 millions in 1934. The price of wheat was 7.25 pengő in December 1933; since then it has risen to 15 pengő. The number of workers employed in factories shows an increase of 24.589, thus totalling 202.623 workers. 75% of the raw material required is now procured in the country.

— y —

THE GOVERNMENT'S ENTAILED ESTATES REFORM BILL

On October 18-th, in the Lower House, the Government presented the Entailed Estates Reform Bill promised some time ago.

The Bill does not advocate doing away entirely with the institution of entail; for that would involve

a loss of values which are very precious and should be safeguarded, both from racial and from national points of view.

In consideration of this the Bill proposes leaving in entail estates the net cadastral income of which does not exceed 30,000 crowns per annum, but in such a manner that at least 30% of the farm land of the entailed estate is to remain in alienable. A net income of that amount corresponds to about 3000 or 3500 cadastral yokes (a Hungarian cadastral yoke is about 1.7 English acres). With an entailed agricultural area of that size to each estate the extent of entailed estates would not be excessive for the country as a whole, and it would be possible to ensure the agricultural areas left under entail being assigned in places where they would least hinder the economic expansion of the agricultural population. The other parts of entailed estates which are not suitable for agricultural production would continue to remain under entail.

A discurtailment carried out on this scale would release about 230,000 cadastral yokes of farm land — that is to say, about half the farm land at present under entail would gradually be set free.

Seeing it would involve civil disability to deprive the present owners of entailed estates of the usufruct of property the lawful possession of which they had acquired before the new law came into effect, the released land is to remain the property of the parties who own the entailed estates at the time the Bill becomes law. The distribution of released land is not to be carried into effect until the owner dies, relinquishes the property, or, for some reason or other, loses his title to it.

To prevent disentailed estates being thrown on the market *en masse*, the Bill contains a mild form of embargo on the alienation and mortgage of released land. This embargo, however, does not go the length of standing in the way of transactions expedient from the standpoint of real estate policy — e. g. the sale of land to farmers' corporations or its parcelling out for building sites — and conducted under the requisite supervision of the authorities.

The various provisions contained in the Bill are intended to ensure the management of entailed estates being a model of rational farming. The Bill also provides the possibility of new entails, but only within narrow limits, and subject to strictly defined conditions. For the Head of the State may allow people who have distinguished themselves in public life, or in science and art, or who have rendered signal services to the country, and who have full control over their property, to entail their estates.

Lastly, in order to prevent the breaking up of small estates, the Bill lays the foundations of a system of entailed farms. The object in view is to ensure continuity in farming and protect the small estates which provide the owners' families with a living.

—Y—

RUMANIA

FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC SITUATION

In a statement respecting the financial and economic situation given to representatives of the Press Finance Minister Antonescu emphasised that despite a considerable increase in the public revenue the Budget still shows a deficit of 300 million lei, which amount he proposed to secure out of savings effected in both material and personal expenditure. In this connection the "Zorile", a journal appearing in Bucharest established the fact that in his report

almost 200 pages in length the *rapporteur* of the inquiry held respecting the questions of the simplification of the public administration and of "accumulation of offices" showed that there were 5151 public servants with a plurality of offices drawing salaries amounting to altogether 399,110,540 lei as emoluments for their principal offices and enjoying other State employments yielding a total amount of 253, 274, 537 lei, — that meaning that the aggregate amount charged to the State Budget on their behalf was 652,385,077 lei.

The trade balance for the period between January 1st. and September 10th. shows an active balance of 123 million lei. The Rumanian foreign trade balance has never before shown so large an excess of exports. However, the active balance of the foreign trade does not counterbalance the deficit on the Rumanian balance of payments; and despite the active character of her foreign trade balance Rumania is unable to pay her foreign creditors, seeing that her excess of exports does not cover the amount required for the instalments of her foreign indebtedness. Foreign sellers show no peculiar alacrity to sell goods to their Rumanian customers. In this respect peculiar interests attaches to the circular despatched by the British Board of Trade to British exporters on the day on which the Rumanian-British trade convention was concluded. The Board of Trade informs British firms that it is impossible to transact business with Rumania because no one is prepared to guarantee any form of obligation in respect of payment and because no one can guarantee the collection of the amounts credited. The reason why the President of the Board of Trade was compelled to issue a circular of the kind, was that the Rumanian Banca Nationala declared as impracticable the British-Rumanian convention in the matter of trade in goods and payments concluded in London after protracted negotiations by M. Leon, Rumanian Secretary of State for Commerce, seeing that it included obligations which the bank of issue was quite incapable of meeting, noting at the same time that it was not prepared to offer guarantees respecting the same, despite the fact that the Convention stipulated for the guarantee of the Banca Nationala in respect of the punctual payment of the instalments of the older debts. But the situation is the same as between Rumania and Belgium too. A prominent Bucharest firm ordered goods from a Belgian factory with which it has been connected for decenniums. The Belgian factory informed the Rumanian for that to its infinite regret it could not carry out the order, because there was so much trouble in connection with the effectuation of transactions with Rumania that it had to renounce the idea of doing any business with Rumanian firms.

Despite the favourable development of the foreign trade balance the Rumanian National Bank during the first half of the year had at its disposal freely available foreign exchanges of only about 1000 million lei, whereas the foreign exchanges available during the first half of the previous year had been four times that amount. The new foreign trade system introduced in July has also failed to improve the situation, as is shown also by the fact that so far the National Bank has not come into possession even of sufficient freely available foreign exchanges to be able at the disposal of the State the amount of foreign exchanges required to redeem the foreign coupons falling due for payment. And in any case Government is preparing to gradually abandon the system of export and import premiums introduced in July in favour of the compensation system. M. Manolescu-Strunga, former Minister of Commerce, severely criticises the new export-import system and points out that the same has proved a complete fiasco,

having done considerable damage to Rumania. According to Manolescu-Strunga the only result of the system is that it the Rumanian Bank sells the less stable foreign exchanges at higher rates than even the black market. Last week the bank of issue offered German marks and Italian lire at a premium of 44%: the same having been obtainable in the black market at a premium of 10%.

On the Bucharest Exchange — as on all the Exchanges in the world — for weeks past a bear movement has been in evidence. There has been a noteworthy set-back in the quotation of the 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ % inland loan bonds issued during the current year, the price of the same having declined from 570 lei in the previous week to 480 lei. In addition there has been in evidence a considerable shifting in the quotations of all securities bearing fixed rates of interest and also in those of industrial shares. Thus, for instance, the 5% debentures of the Renta CFR. (Rumanian State Railways) issued some 6—7 years ago in terms of pounds sterling, the quotation of which previously stood at about 700 lei, are to day not worth more than 70 lei each.

Government proposes to expel from the country 15,000 of the total of some 45,000 foreigners residing in Rumania. As a consequence of the unfavourable effect produced abroad by this report, people in Bucharest have thought it fit to deny the „exaggerated rumours”. It is alleged that the persons to be expelled include men occupying eminent positions in the

economic world. We are told that it is proposed to expel, for instance, the foreign directors (managers) of the Astra Romana and the Steaua Romana (petroleum undertakings), the jute factory, the cotton industry undertakings and the Banca de Credit Roman. But we have definite reports also of the Government having decided — on the basis of the Rumanian Labour Defence Act — to exercise a stricter control than hitherto over the activity of the unedrtakings established in Rumania by foreign capital.

YUGOSLAVIA

REDUCTION OF PUBLIC SERVICES EMOLUMENTS

From the 1-st of October the emoluments of Government officials undergo a general reduction of 7%. This new adjustment of salaries shows the continued financial troubles of the State, but it is hoped that this measure will result in the saving of 400 million Dinars a year. The personal expenses of the State, as the Minister of Finance once pointed out, constitute about 51% of the total budgetary expenditure for 1935—36. The State must provide for 210,000 Government employees, 62,000 retired officials, and 70,000 war pensioners.

— y —

S P O R T S

ATHLETICS

The most interesting event in the field of athletics was the Hungarian-Polish contest held in the middle of October. The Hungarian team beat the Poles by 77.5 to 58.5. The several results were as follows: *100 metres flat race*: 1. Kovács (Hungary) 10.6 seconds, 2. Nagy (Hungary) 11 secs. *400 metres flat race*: 1. Zsitvay (Hungary) 49.6 secs., 2. Jiniakowski (Poland) 49.7 secs. *800 metres flat race*: 1. Kucharski (Poland) 1 min. 54.5 secs., 2. Maselwski (Poland) 1 min. 55.5 secs. *1500 metres flat race*: 1. Iglói (Hungary) 4 mins. 2.4 secs., 2. Eper (Hungary) 4 mins. 2.8 secs. *500 metres flat race*: 1. Kelen (Hungary) 14 mins. 56.8 secs., 2. Nai (Poland) 14 mins. 57 secs. *110 metres hurdles*: 1. Kovács (Hungary) 14.9 secs., 2. Levente (Hungary) 15.6 secs. *400 metres hurdles*: 1. Kovács (Hungary) 55.6 secs., 2. Maselwski (Poland) 56.5 secs. *100—200—400—800 metres relay race*: 1. Poland 3 mins. 19 secs. 2. Hungary 3 mins. 22.8 secs. *Discus*: 1. Donogán (Hungary) 46 metres 26 centimetres, 2. Darányi (Hungary) 42 metres 25 centimetres. *Pole Vault*: 1. Schneider (Poland) 414 centimetres, 2. Csányi (Hungary) 400 centimetres. *High Jump*: Bódosi (Hungary) 190 centimetres, 2. Blavcik (Poland) 185 centimetres. *Long Jump*: Koltai (Hungary) 744 centimetres, 2. Blavcik (Poland) 719 centimetres. *Putting the Weight*: 1. Darányi (Hungary) 15 metres 34 centimetres, 2. Hilbner (Poland) 14 metres 17 centimetres. *Throwing the Javelin*: 1. Várszegi (Hungary) 64 metres 26 centimetres, 2. Lokaisky (Poland) 63 metres 65 centimetres.

The world record was broken by the first-rate Hungarian athlete, Joseph Darányi, who established a new world record of 29.46 metres in two-hand weight

putting. He put 15.77 metres with his right hand and 13.69 with the left. Previously the world record, 28.78 metres for two-hand putting had been held by Helias (Poland). Some years ago Darányi held the title with a put of 28.62 metres. It was taken from him first by Torrence (America), then by Helias (Poland). Darányi established his present record at an athletic tournament at the end of September.

TARGET-SHOOTING

At the target-shooting world-championship competition in Rome the Hungarian team won the rifle team-world-championship.

FOOTBALL

The representative match between Austria and Hungary — an event of the International European Cup — took place in Vienna on October 6-th. Although football circles in Vienna were certain that Austria would win, the result was a draw (4 all).

At present the European Cup score is as follows: 1. Italy 10 points, 2. Austria 9 points, 3. Hungary 8 points, 4. Czechoslovakia 6 points, 5. Switzerland 3 points. The Cup matches have not finished yet.

PING-PONG

The excellent (internationally recognised) results achieved by the Hungarians in ping-pong have given birth to the idea of sending an international or European team to compete with them. This plan will now be realised; for an international representative team will come to Budapest towards the end of October.