

in Hungary are so mixed that no correct ethnographic boundary can be drawn has been officially refuted by Slav ethnographers, such as Niederle, Kálál, Bohác and Petrov. Apart from this, however, the argument is a lame one, for *Trianon*, in separating about two million Hungarians from the Hungarians in dismembered Hungary with whom they formed a solid block, ignored — willfully and on purpose — indisputable ethnographic borders.

Similarly unfounded is the objection that only certain oligarchs wish for revision. The truth is that all classes and conditions of people in Hungary, from

the Archdukes down to the poorest labourer are united in their demands for revision.

At the end of his excellent work Sir Robert Gower expresses the conviction that with "a just and equitable revision of the territorial provisions of the Treaty of Trianon a new era of prosperity would open for an important part of Europe where chaos now reigns."

Sir Robert Gower's excellent work, so rich in arguments and interestingly written, is sure to contribute to a better knowledge of the situation in the Danube Valley.

George Lukács.

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

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

THE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS FOR 1935.

The Statistical Office has now made public Czecho-Slovakia's balance of payments for 1935. The balance, which shows total revenues amounting to 10.338.000.000 crowns and expenditure totalling 10.404.000.000, closes with 66.000.000 on the debit side. The balance of payments for 1934 and that of 1933 closed with a profit of 143.000.000 and 283.000.000 crowns respectively. Compared with 1934, Czecho-Slovakian exports have increased by not quite 2%, but imports are 5% larger. The profits on tourist travel have sunk from 252.000.000 to 39.000.000. The reason is that tourist travel from the country has greatly increased, so that in 1935 the number of Czecho-Slovakian subjects who took trips to foreign countries has risen to a much extent than the number of foreigners who visited Czecho-Slovakia. The revenues accruing from railway traffic show an improving tendency, inasmuch as the revenues from international railway traffic have risen from the 133.000.000 crowns figuring in the balance for 1934 to 248.000.000. The sums sent home by emigrants, on the other hand, have again fallen off. In the column devoted to capital we see that the long term foreign credits of the manufacturing concerns and banks have increased, but the sum total of the other items has decreased.

The sum total of frozen foreign credits is 260.000.000 crowns. An examination of the detailed data of the balance reveals that the profits on current items have decreased, the sum total of private debts in foreign countries has increased, private credits have fallen off and the profits accruing from the stock market have sunk. The balance also shows that the transfer of dividends and *tantièmes* puts a great strain on Czecho-Slovakia's stock of foreign exchange. The rise in the transfer to foreign countries of dividends and *tantièmes* finds its explanation in the fact that the profits of several big enterprises whose shareholders

are mostly foreigners have greatly increased in the past year. The situation in this respect has undergone no change in the present year, as is best proved by the fact that the Czecho-Slovakian big enterprises in the hands of the French Schneider-Creuzot concern recorded great profits again, thanks to the boom in heavy industries.

The sum total of revenues accruing from current items is 8.950.000.000 crowns as against an expenditure of 8.772.000.000. Compared with a profit of 836.000.000 in 1934 and with a loss of 47.000.000 in 1933, the profit in 1935 was 178.000.000 Czech crowns.

MINIMAL PRICES

Negotiations are going on between the ministries concerned in connection with the Bill elaborated by the Ministry of Commerce re the fixing of minimal prices. In terms of the Bill the unions will have the right to propose the fixing of minimal prices in certain clearly defined branches of business. The proposal must be approved by the District Offices or the Provincial Office, according to whether the minimal prices apply to districts or to the whole country.

HUNGARY

REPORT OF HUNGARIAN DELEGATE TO THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE ON SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN HUNGARY

In the course of the general debate on the annual report of the Labour Offices at the International Labour Conference at Geneva on June 13th, Mr. Ladislas de Vélícs, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, delegate of the Hungarian Government, announced that Hungary had achieved notable results in the sphere of social policy. These results were observable in the decrease of unemployment, the maintenance and extension of public works, and in

the way young university graduates and the unemployed of the professional classes in general were being provided with jobs in public and private businesses. So far as social legislation was concerned the Hungarian Government desired, by shortening the hours of labour, to contribute towards the amelioration of unemployment, and wished, in this sphere, to ensure a continuous improvement. The experiment had turned out to be very satisfactory, for with reduced hours of work unemployment had abated considerably in the shortest time. In order to eliminate the consequences of a falling wage caused by unemployment, the Hungarian Government had introduced the system of determining what the minimum wages must be in the various branches of industry.

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A NEW AGREEMENT CONCERNING THE SERVICE OF PAYMENTS ON THE HUNGARIAN LEAGUE OF NATIONS' LOAN

In the last days of June Dr. Fabinyi, Hungarian Minister of Finance, flew to London to discuss the Hungarian League of Nations' loan. According to a report issued by the London Committee on League of Nations' loans, the Hungarian Government had satisfactorily carried out and continues to carry out the agreement concluded on 6th, July 1935 *re* the services to be fulfilled by next August on the League of Nations' loan. In consequence the trustees could pay out 50% of the value of the coupons that fell due on 1st February 1936, and there is a prospect of their being able to pay also 50% of the value of those falling due on 1st August. The Hungarian Government has stated that it has again expressly recognized the special nature of the loan and the obligations undertaken. The Government firmly hopes, and will do everthing, to carry out the agreement *re* the services due on the loan from 2nd August 1936 till 1st August 1937, in terms of which the Government is to pay the trustees 50% of the interest in foreign exchange. The Government will set aside in the Budget the full services on the loan — interest and amortization included — in pengős and deposit these sums, as hitherto, in the account at the National Bank. The Government will have the right to borrow, as hitherto, the part of the interest not transferred against the deposit of 2% pengő treasury vouchers expiring in one year.

The 2% pengő treasury vouchers covering the part of the services on the loan not transferred in 1934/35 and 1935/36 will be prolonged for another year at the same rate of interest.

Dr. Fabinyi, Hungarian Finance Minister, has explained the significance of the new agreement as follows:

The agreement means that we shall have to pay $3\frac{3}{4}\%$ in foreign currencies instead of the whole $7\frac{1}{2}\%$. The negotiations were conducted in a very cordial atmosphere and in a spirit of understanding. The Committee on League of Nations' Loans, the Pre-

sident of which is Sir Austen Chamberlain, saw in the course of the negotiations that Hungary, in spite of all her great difficulties, honestly endeavours to fulfil her obligations.

The "Economist" admires the praiseworthy attitude shown by Hungary. It points out that although Hungary's finances have improved under the guidance of the present Minister, Dr. Fabinyi, the pace of recovery must of necessity be a slow one, considering the economic difficulties prevailing in the Danube Valley. The "Economist" also stresses the fact that the Hungarian Administration has frankly and honestly laid bare Hungary's financial position to the Committee. British capitalists are of the hope that Hungary's example will be followed by the Governments of other debtor states.

THE MARKETING OF HUNGARIAN WHEAT

Dr. Coloman Darányi, Minister of Agriculture, deputizing for the Prime Minister, issued a statement on this subject, according to which the Government has raised the station price of wheat 40 fillérs per quintal above last year's price (Station price means the average market price of wheat when the financial aid rendered by the Government has been equally distributed among all the stocks of wheat on the domestic markets. It insures stable prices for the whole season and protects the producer against a fall in prices.) The task of maintaining the station price in the following agricultural year will devolve on the *Futura* Ltd. The markets secured by treaty for Hungarian wheat are Italy (2,000,000 quintals, which a kind of monopoly will take over on the basis of a contract already signed); Austria (2,200,000 quintals, 700,000 of which may be flour); Switzerland (1,500,000 quintals), who has undertaken to buy that quantity in principle and is now negotiating the details; Holland (1,000,000 quintals) and Belgium (500,000 quintals), with which two countries Hungary has also concluded an agreement. This provides markets for 7,200,000 quintals of wheat, 4,200,000 quintals of which may be supplied immediately. Should our export surplus of wheat exceed 7,200,000 quintals — which is hardly probable — the Government sees further possibilities of finding foreign markets. Besides this, provision is already being made to insure that an undisturbed export of wheat to farther-off markets will continue.

ECONOMIC RECOVERY IN 1935 ALSO EXTENDED TO COMMERCE

According to the report issued by the Budapest Chamber of Industry and Commerce, the total value of Hungary's trade in the best year after the war (1928—1929) was 10,559 million pengő, while the average for the years 1925—1929 was 9960 millions. In the fiscal year 1932—1933 in which the depression may be considered to have reached its lowest point, the value of trade decreased by 50% to 5233 million

pengő. According to statistics compiled on the same basis, *trade in 1934—1935 amounted to 5686 millions*, which shows that the downward trend was replaced by an upward one. Compared with the worst year of the crisis (1932, for certain commodities 1933) the consumption of manufactured articles increased by 28.3%. The greatest improvement was noticeable in the branches of business employed by investors and the building trade. The quantity of bricks bought rose by 56.5%, that of cement by 29%, that of lime by 45.5%, that of iron girders by 38.6%, and that of plate glass by 66.5%. Compared with the worst year, the rise in the consumption of textile goods was also considerable.

If we examine the various statistics we see that on the whole *trade in articles of food developed comparatively favourably in 1935*. Trade in other commodities, however, was rather unfavourable owing to a duller tendency in the consumption of textiles. Trade in this business was adversely influenced this year as well as in 1934 by the weather, which made the purchasing of season articles almost negligible. On the other hand the position of certain other branches of business trading in produce and raw materials (building materials) developed favourably.

The considerable rise in the purchasing power of the agricultural population, as well as the sums released by the partial settlement of the farmers' debts, had a beneficial effect, especially on trade in the provinces.

RUMANIA

THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT HAS PROHIBITED THE IMPORTATION OF RUMANIAN WHEAT

The closing of the Belgian markets will be a great loss to the Rumanian export trade. Bucarest exporters sold about 30,000 tons of wheat to Belgium at a good price. The first deals were made at 97 Belgian francs at the Antwerpen rates. In consequence of the prohibition these contracts have naturally become invalid, and Rumanian exporters stand to lose 2,000,000 francs. Rumania is now considering how to parry the blow with a system of premiums.

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YUGOSLAVIA

STRICT CONTROL OF IMPORTS

The events of the first few days after the control of imports became valid on 25th June show that it is being handled very strictly. This control aims at limiting the volume of imports from lands which have a debit balance with Yugoslavia and have no barter agreements with her. The importation of wireless apparatus from the United States and Great Britain, for instance, will be forbidden.

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S P O R T S

OLYMPIC GAMES

The whole of sport life in Central Europe is dominated at present by the approaching Olympic Games. Every branch of sport is busy preparing for the great event, and so, for the time being, there are no important international matches on. Sometimes some of the competitors take part in the matches arranged by neighbouring countries, but that is more by way of training.

Every branch of Hungarian sport is busy training, in the first place those which won international titles at the Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

It seems a seasonable moment to publish the places won by Hungarian competitors at the Olympic Games hitherto held.

Athens (1896).

1st place. *Alfred Hajós* in the 100 metre fast swimming (1 min. 22.2 secs. 13 competitors) and in the 1200 metre swim (18 mins. 22.2 secs. 9 competitors).
2nd place. *Ferdinand Dáni* in the 800 metre flat race (2 mins. 11.8 secs. 13 competitors).

3rd place. *Aloysius Szokolý* in the 100 metre flat race (a tie. 19 competitors) and *Julius Kellner* in the Marathon (3 hours, 6 mins. 35 secs. 25 competitors).

Paris (1900).

1st place. *Rudolph Bauer*, throwing the discus (36.4 metres, 18 competitors).
2nd place. *Zoltán Halmay* in the 200 metre swim-

ing race (2 mins. 31 secs. 14 competitors) and in the 4000 metres swim (1 hour, 8 mins. 35.4 secs.).

3rd place. *Zoltán Halmay*, 1000 metres swim (15 mins. 16 secs.) and *Louis Gönczy*, high jump (175 cm.).

St. Louis (1904).

1st place. *Zoltán Halmay*, 50 yards fast swimming (11 competitors) and 100 yards wast cwimming (1 min. 2.8 secs. 17 competitors).

2nd place. *Géza Kiss*, one-mile fast swimming (28 mins. 28.2 secs. 9 competitors).

3rd place. *Géza Kiss*, half-mile fast swimming (10 competitors).

Athens (1906).

1st place. *George Sztantics*, 3000 metre walk (15 mins. 13.6 secs. 8 competitors) and *Zoltán Halmay*, *Géza Kiss*, *Henry Hajós* and *Joseph Ónody*, 4×250 metre relay swim (16 mins. 52.4 secs. 6 teams).

2nd place. *Zoltán Halmay*, 100 metre fast swim (1 min. 14.2 secs. 9 competitors), *Louis Gönczy*, high jump (175 cm. 24 competitors), *Michael Dávid*, weight throwing (11 m. 83 cm. 17 competitors) and *Stephen Mudin*, pentatlon (25 points, 26 competitors).

3rd place. *Stephen Mudin*, throwing the discus (31 metres 91 cm. 21 competitors), *Francis Holubán*, light weight wrestling (12 competitors) and *Peter Tóth*, sword fencing (3 touches, 22 competitors).

London (1908).

1st place. *Eugene Fuchs*, sword fencing (76 competitors), *Fuchs*, *Gerda*, *Tóth* and *Werkner*, sword