

HOW MINORITIES LIVE

"NATIONAL MINORITIES" INSTEAD OF "ETHNIC MINORITIES"

The minority treaties concluded at the end of the war did not define the meaning of the term minority; in fact the word itself was rarely used in them. Where it was employed it was always used in the sense of racial, linguistic and religious minorities, and for "racial" the synonym "ethnic" was substituted. At the meeting of the Council of the League of Nations Union held in London in the middle of February, it was resolved, on the suggestion of M. Géza Szüllő, representative of the Hungarians in Czecho-Slovakia, and of Prince Clary-Aldringen, delegate of the Sudeta German minority, that in future the expression "national minority" should be used instead of "ethnic minority" to mark the respect felt for national consciousness. — y —

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

THE PEOPLES OF SLOVAKIA UNITED IN THE QUESTION OF AUTONOMY.

On 30th May it will be twenty years since an agreement signed by Dr. Masaryk was concluded in Pittsburgh between the Czechs and Slovaks in America in which the fullest autonomy was guaranteed to Slovakia. The Slovaks are now making great preparations to celebrate the anniversary of this event, and they are expecting a delegation of their brethren in America, who are to bring over the original copy of that document. In connection with this visit the "Slovak", the organ of the Catholic Slovak People's Party (Hlinka's Party), addressed a question to the representatives of the United Hungarian Party and of the Ruthenian and the Carpathian German Parties in Slovakia to ascertain their attitude in the matter of Slovakia's autonomy.

In his reply — rather long passages of which were deleted in two places by the Censor — Count John Esterházy, Acting President of the United Hungarian Party, amongst other things stated that from the very moment of their formation the Hungarian political parties in Slovakia had always struggled for the autonomy of Slovakia. Esterházy was convinced that when that autonomy had been achieved Hlinka's Party would not fall into

the same error as the Centralist Parties, and that the Hungarians living in the Hungarian districts of Slovakia would enjoy the same rights as the Slovaks of the Slovak regions.

M. Ivan Pjescák, parliamentary representative of the Ruthenians in Slovakia, said: "We insist upon the autonomies guaranteed in the Peace Treaties being carried out to the letter. (Article II of the St. Germain Treaty having promised the fullest autonomy to Ruthenia too); and we desire to see Slovakia's autonomy realized in the measure laid down in the Convention of Pittsburgh".

On behalf of the Carpathian German Party, Herr Conrad Henlein, its leader, replied, and rejecting the centralism dictated by Prague, expressed the hope that in the event of their achieving self-government the Slovaks would show more willingness to settle the question of the nationalities in principle and *de jure* than the Czechs did. He also recalled the fact that the Czech delegation had promised the Peace Conference that the Czechoslovak Republic would adopt the system of nationality rights in force in Switzerland, and declared that within the framework of the Czechoslovak State his Party was determined to obtain autonomy in their national affairs for the Sudeta Germans too. (Three blank spaces in Henlein's statement witness to the work of the censor.)

This is the first instance since the creation of the Czechoslovak Republic of the minorities in Slovakia taking a common stand for autonomy. The result will probably be that closer co-operation will be established among them against Czech centralism. It is also a sign of the times that in publishing the above statements the "Slovak" of 27th February added the following commentary: "For centuries Germans, Magyars and Ruthenians have lived together with the Slovaks in Slovakia. They have a common native land and a common past; their present and future must also be common. The old saying "Here shalt thou live, here die" (quotation from a Hungarian national song, the "*Appeal*", by Michael Vörösmarty) applies to all the inhabitants of Slovakia." The "Slovak" has indeed hit the mark.

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REVIEW OF RUTHENIAN SITUATION

During the Budget debate in the Senate, Senator Julius Földesi made an important speech on behalf of his party (Ruthenian Farmers' Union). Here are a few extracts from his speech:

"The Woods and Forests Office does not permit the inhabitants of Verchovina, a place situated among the forests, to gather even dry brushwood. Anyone unfortunate enough to be caught in the act by the rangers is punished immediately."

He then went on to speak of the pastures which had been taken away from the people and continued as follows:

"For eighteen years we Ruthenians have fought for better conditions, for autonomy, but without avail... I should never have believed that we should have to fight for a brighter future. (*Ten lines deleted by the Parliamentary censor.*) All we want is what was guaranteed to us in the peace treaties; we want our rights, for what we have hitherto received (the rights of the Governor of Ruthenia, for instance) are no rights, but only an attempt to mislead foreign countries into thinking that we have received something and that our Governor really governs. But how does he govern? He himself told me that once when a schoolmaster under disciplinary procedure appealed to him and he asked the Czech *rappporteur* on educational matters for the man's papers, the latter refused to let him have them, saying it would be a breach of official secrecy."

After speaking of how rich Ruthenia was in natural resources M. Földesi said:

"Our forests and our salt represent assets worth thousands of millions. But the salt from our mines is carried to Bohemia to be milled and is then sold to us at a high price. The State has a net income of 56.000.000 crowns per annum from Ruthenian salt."

According to M. Földesi, Ruthenia gets no share of the thousands of millions estimated as revenue in the Budget. The Czechs ignore the fact that Ruthenia supports 40.000 Czech officials and their families, while for eighteen years the youth of Ruthenia have been demanding posts in their native country in vain. He opined that if the Ruthenian was a good soldier, he would also make a good gendarme. Then he sarcastically asked whether the Czechs imagined that the Hungarians were robbers. He had also been educated in a Hungarian school, but nevertheless he was a Ruthenian. Speaking of the abuses of the Land Reform, M. Földesi mentioned the Latorica Company to which the Czechoslovak State had leased the vast Schönborn estates confiscated in the course of the reform, and demanded that they should be taken from the Company and distributed among the landless poor. He next spoke of the anomalies in the way taxes were collected and in particular complained that the bailiffs did not adhere to the letter of the law (*Here two lines have been deleted.*). He also stated that he had asked a question in the interest of Ruthenian wine production, but could not say when he was likely to receive an answer. Dealing with educational matters, M. Földesi pointed out that 170 Czech schools had been built in Ruthenia and that 700 Czech teachers were employed in them. An interesting part of M. Földesi's speech was that in which he stated that the organ of his Party, the "Ruszkij Vistnik", had been confiscated 17 times in one single year. Then he laid the calendar published by the Party, which had also been confiscated, before the Senate and

requested the competent authorities to re-examine the parts deleted by the censor. In conclusion he affirmed that not only manufacturers but also certain political parties were making a profit out of the cartels. Until Government had acceded to the demands of the Ruthenians his Party could not vote the State Budget.

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HOW THE AGREEMENTS CONCLUDED ON FEBRUARY 18TH, 1937, ARE BEING CARRIED INTO EFFECT

Count John Esterházy, President of the United Hungarian Party, in a speech made on February 8th., during the debate in Committee on the Estimates, *inter alia* noted that so far no attempt had been made to carry into effect the agreements concluded on February 18th, 1937, between the Czech Government Parties and the German Activists, — agreements which were discussed at the time in the columns of our Review and which contained promises of securing the minorities a more equitable share of the posts in the Civil Service and of an adjustment of the educational grievances. Count Esterházy pointed out that there was not a single Hungarian official in any of the central administrative offices in Prague. The Chairs of Hungarian in the Pozsony and Prague Universities had not yet been filled by the appointment of Hungarian professors. Not a single Hungarian was to be found in the ranks of the school inspectors. Nor was there a single Hungarian chief of district (sheriff), though in Slovakia and Ruthenia there were 15 districts in which the Hungarians constituted an absolute majority. In 69 Hungarian villages there was no Hungarian school. At the stations and in the post-offices of the Hungarian villages there was still no sign of any Hungarian inscriptions. Owing to the shortage of Hungarian schools 13,000 Hungarian children are compelled to attend foreign elementary schools, while 2940 Hungarian children have to attend "city" schools and 1348 Hungarian children secondary schools where Hungarian is not the language of instruction. The "Slovenská Liga" (an organ of slovakisation supported by the authorities) had established schools in pure Magyar areas, using these schools in an endeavour to denationalise 1500 Magyar children.

WHAT THE HUNGARIANS OWE TO HODŽA

On the occasion of Premier Hodža's sixtieth birthday (on February 1st) the "Prágai Magyar Hírlap" ("Prague Hungarian News") published an article entitled "Hodža and the Hungarians" in which *inter alia* it says: — "It is with his name — as that of Minister of Agriculture — that the great achievement of the

years following the change of régime (the gigantic Land Reform measure) is connected... 130,000 cadastral yokes of land were wrested from the possession of Hungarian big landed proprietors; and only 20% of that area was distributed among Hungarian claimants of land. The historical result of Hodža's greatest creation is that in the pure Hungarian districts of Southern Slovakia and Ruthenia 73 settlements (villages and homesteads respectively) have been established, those settlements — with their Slovak schools — having destroyed the hitherto distinctly Magyar character of the area inhabited by Hungarians. As to how far Hodža the Minister of Agriculture himself was convinced of the effect of this measure is shown by his prophecy to the effect that "in fifteen years there will be no Hungarian question in the *Csallóköz*" (Isle of the Danube). And it is with Hodža's name that we connect also that other endeavour to achieve reform which has materially affected the Hungarian character of the Hungarian area, — viz. the endeavour dating from his term of office as Minister of Education, to smuggle into the Hungarian villages *en masse* the so-called "Slovak Minority Schools" of the "Slovenská Liga". — y —

SUPPRESSION AND CONFISCATION OF NEWSPAPERS IN SLOVAKIA AND RUTHENIA.

It is characteristic of the nervous mood prevailing in Czechoslovakia, where the suppression and confiscation of newspapers was anyhow common enough, that nowadays the Public Prosecutor and other authorities are having resort more frequently than ever to this by no means democratic weapon. In the past few weeks, for instance, the following newspapers have been suppressed or confiscated: The "Nástupoz", a monthly magazine of the Slovak Autonomist youth, has been suppressed for six months. On February 5th, by order of the Public Prosecutor's office in Munkács, the "Kárpáti Híradó", a Hungarian daily, was confiscated, because it published the news that a St. Stephen Album was to appear in Budapest. The February 17th issue of the same paper was also confiscated. On 2nd February the weekly organ of Henlein's Party, the "Deutsche Stimmen" appearing in Pozsony (Bratislava), was confiscated, as was the 4th February issue of the "Sajóvidék — Az Újság" of Rozsnyó (Roznava). The February 5th issue of the daily of the United Hungarian Party, "Prágai Magyar Hírlap", was confiscated for publishing a speech delivered by M. Géza Szüllő, Chairman of the Parliamentary Club of the Party. The February 2nd and 11th issues of the "Kárpáti Magyar Hírlap" of Ungvár (Ushorod), as well as the February 10th issue of the "Kárpáti Híradó" appearing in the same town, were confiscated, as were the "Slovak" (the organ of Hlinka's Party appearing in Pozsony) of

11th February and the Pozsony "Národné Noviny" (the organ of the Lutheran Slovak Autonomists) of 19th February — the latter because it urged a reconciliation with Germany.

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CONCERNING THE LIBERTY OF THE SLOVAK PAPERS IN PRE-WAR HUNGARY

Commenting on "the impossible censorship and practice of suppression (How papers could write in the past?)" in the "Národné Noviny", (an old and highly reputable organ of the Slovak National Party) M. Gustave Slezák quotes a number of passages from the writings of Slovak politicians and authors before the War, which were passed freely by the Hungarian censor in spite of their sharp tone of criticism and attack against the Hungarian régime. The present situation, on the other hand, is criticized as follows: "The fact that censorship is allowed to interfere with our printed thoughts here in Slovakia is all the more painful, since we see that the papers appearing in Bohemia or Moravia are allowed to use a much sharper tone than the Slovak papers... And this causes an ill feeling in the heart of our Slovak people. Our dissatisfaction with the present order of things is greater still when we come to read the sentences which could be printed and published at the time of the Hungarian régime." (December 28).

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HUNGARIAN EPITAPHS OF LONG-DEAD SOLDIERS TO BE REMOVED

We have already mentioned that the Czecho-Slovak authorities have ordered the removal of the Hungarian memorial tablet in Selmečbánya of Imre Erdős, a brave clergyman of Slovak extraction who died in the Hungarian War of Independence in 1848. In addition it is now reported by the Prágai Magyar Hírlap (January 30) that the Hungarian inscriptions in the museum at Selmečbánya, as well as the Hungarian epitaphs of 17 soldiers who gave their lives for Hungarian liberty in 1848, have also been ordered to be removed. The United Hungarian Party has lodged a solemn protest against this step, which is an outrage on the reverence for the dead observed all over the civilized world, and even among uncivilized peoples.

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280 HUNGARIAN CHILDREN IN POZSONY WITHOUT A HUNGARIAN SCHOOL

In the Domkappeln district of Pozsony (Bratislava), the capital of Slovakia, a district inhabited mainly by Hungarians, 280 Hungarian children have no Hungarian school to attend. In this matter a delegation has once more visited the Mayor and begged him to provide a Hungarian school for those children.

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RUMANIA

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS IN RUMANIA'S
DOMESTIC SITUATION.

For the past few months the attention of international public opinion has been much engaged by the internal ferment and successive Cabinet crises in Rumania. The international Press attributed these conditions to a variety of causes, but though approximately correct in its estimation of the situation, it failed to disclose the real origin of the trouble, which is to be found in the structural defects of the Rumanian State.

For after the War Great Rumania was created out of five different territories: 1. The Regate (Old Rumania), which consists of Oltenia, Muntenia and Moldova, each a province with a separate historical past; 2. Bukovina, which formerly belonged to Austria; 3. Bessarabia, which was wrested from Russia; 4. the Dobruja, wrested from Bulgaria and 5. the territories wrested from Hungary, which may again be divided into three distinct parts: Transylvania, the Banate and the fringe of the Great Plain of Hungary. Rumania's pre-War area of 137.903 square kilometres was increased to 295.049 by the Paris Peace Treaties, that being a territorial aggrandisement of 114%. To her pre-War population of 6.966.000 was added that of the new territories, — according to the 1910 Census 8.738.000 inhabitants. Of these about 5.000.000 are of Magyar, Russian, Ruthenian, German, Bulgarian, Turco-Tartar and other nationality.

Rumania obtained this enormous increase of territory quite unexpectedly. M. André Tardieu, former French Premier and one of the persons chiefly responsible for the Peace Treaties, writing on the subject in the "Gringoire", a Parisian weekly, on 14th January, 1938, says:

"Then in 1916 Rumania entered the war, and did so in such a deplorable manner that I myself brought the matter up — although without result — in the Secret Council... In 1918 we won the War. Fifteen days before we did so, Rumania, under the command of the French General Berthelot, again started fighting. This led the Rumanians to believe that they were participants in our victory. When, however, in December, 1918, my old friend Jonel Bratianu arrived in Paris, he had to be thoroughly disillusioned. Wilson, Clemenceau and Lloyd George established the fact that Rumania had concluded a separate peace with Germany and therefore refused to recognize her as an ally any longer. It cost me fifteen days of hard work to persuade them to recognize Rumania as an ally again. Then it became possible to form the Little Entente to serve as an important element in French policy. This is over now."

The enormous growth of her territory and population has confronted the Rumanian Dynasty and Administration with well-nigh superhuman tasks. The States from which three of her new provinces, Transylvania, Bessarabia and the Dobruja, were forcibly wrested, refuse to relinquish their moral claim to them. The problem of retaining possession of the territories acquired, i. e. of maintaining the present *status quo*, is a burden weighing heavily on the general policy of Rumania. To attain this end Rumanian foreign policy for many years took refuge under the wing of Franco-Soviet policy. When, however, after the re-occupation of the Rhinelands by Germany, King Carol realized that the friendship of France and the Soviet would not suffice to maintain the *status quo* against Germany's encroachments, he dropped M. Titulescu, the most enthusiastic advocate of that policy, and began to approach the Rome—Berlin axis. And three months ago, in the person of M. Octavian Goga, he appointed a Premier whose connections with Germany and Italy were well known. As soon, however, as the Anglo-Italian negotiations were inaugurated and the internal changes in Germany seemed to point to a weakening of the Rome—Berlin axis, King Carol — induced by other reasons as well — quickly dropped the Goga—Cuza Cabinet and with the Patriarch Miron Christea as Premier, appointed a Government the construction of which signifies a return to the orbit of French policy. This double-dealing is certainly not calculated to inspire confidence in either camp.

The main cause of the present chaos in Rumania's internal policy is the endeavour to maintain the *status quo* at all costs. The Administration, afraid of losing the recently acquired territories, is determined to create a united Great Rumania in as short a time as possible, not, however, by pacifying and winning over the non-Rumanian inhabitants of the new provinces, but by terrorizing them, forcibly assimilating them or driving them out of the country. The successive Governments and their Parties have vied with one another in their persecution of the national minorities and so keep the country in a permanent state of excitement. For years Captain Codreanu and the Iron Guards were the pampered favourites of the régime, when they were engaged in terrorizing the nationality districts, especially Transylvania. In time the Iron Guard became a State within the State and gradually began to prove a menace to the Throne itself.

The difficult task of preventing an internal revolt now devolves upon Miron Christea and his cabinet. It is a wellnigh impossible task for, precisely as a result of Rumania's double-faced foreign policy, today various mutually antagonistic forces are at work in the country, and in matters of internal policy Rumania is divided into two camps, each supporting a different Great Power. For the present French policy has won a Pyrrhic victory, and the new Constitution dividing the nation into Estates

promulgated on 20th February has dealt a severe blow to the Iron Guard and the Goga—Cusa political trend.

It is, however, questionable whether the new Constitution will be able to exorcise the spirits previously conjured up. The Iron Guard and the National Peasant Party under the leadership of Maniu have gone so far in their demands for a popular policy that it will hardly prove possible to restrain them from one day to another by means of a Constitution dividing the nation into Estates. Moreover, the new Constitution will plunge the nationalities of the recently acquired provinces into a worse position than before, for it states unambiguously that "Rumania belongs to the Rumanians". The lot of the non-Rumanian inhabitants of the new provinces has thus simply grown worse again. These territories will provide the most suitable soil for the play of the mutually antagonistic foreign forces striving against each other in Rumania, and in the struggle between the various forces — domestic and foreign — unrest is bound to increase, and the possibility of a revolutionary outbreak must be seriously reckoned with. The only thing calculated to save Rumania from this catastrophe would be if she were, by means of suitable territorial concessions, to effect a reconciliation with her neighbours and thus voluntarily rid herself of a part of her numerous and indigestible nationalities.

The New Rumanian Constitution and the Minorities.

The events of the forty-four days' rule of the Goga—Cuza Government are familiar to everybody. The ill-starred measures taken by that Government led to unrest, chaos and economic uncertainty in Rumania, and in foreign countries — in the countries of Rumania's allies — there ensued a feeling of mistrust. The sudden fall of Goga was due to a very considerable extent to the Russian Soviet, which addressed to the Rumanian Government an energetic Note protesting against the "kidnapping" of M. Butenko, Russian chargé d'affaires in Bucharest, — an affair which, originally attributed by the Soviet to the machinations of elements belonging to the Extreme Right, finally ended in a farce.

The first measure taken by the Totalitarian Government which replaced the Goga Cabinet was to proclaim a state of siege in the whole territory of Rumania. The maintenance of public order was vested solely and exclusively in the military authorities, the county prefects (chief constables) being at the same time replaced by military commanders. The parliamentary and administrative elections which had already been fixed were postponed. The Iron Guard was disbanded and a new Constitution drafted and submitted to the approval of the people of Rumania, who passed it by open plebiscite.

The new Rumanian Constitution abolishes the democratic parliamentary system and replaces it by a Corporative Chamber and Senate. Deputies are to be elected for a period of six years by Rumanian citizens aged 30 and over who are engaged in agriculture or manual labour, commerce and industry or are members of the liberal professions. The new Constitution also abolishes trial by jury, introduces the death penalty. It confers far-reaching powers on the King and divides the nation into Estates.

From the point of view of the national minorities the new Constitution does not involve any progress as compared with the older one. The new Constitution has also neglected to incorporate the provisions of the Minority Treaty. As its fundamental principle the new Constitution also insists on proclaiming a united and indivisible national State (Article I.). It further maintains the supremacy of the Orthodox Church and the precedence of the Greek Catholic (Uniate) Church over all other churches. (Article XIX.) The bishops of the Churches not possessing at least 200,000 members — i. e. the Roman Catholic, Királyhágó District Reformed, Unitarian, Hungarian Evangelical — are not accorded Membership of the Senate (Article LXIV.). Applicants belonging to the Rumanian state-building majority enjoy preference in all cases of admission to public employments. (Article XXVII.). This provision means in practice that no citizen belonging to a minority will be admitted into the Civil Service. Article XVII. also precludes in principle the possibility of a person belonging to a national minority ever becoming a Minister, for it stipulates that none but Rumanians of the third generation may become members of the Cabinet. As a consequence of the introduction of the Estate system the political parties of the minorities cannot in the future provide for representation of the minorities in Parliament. And, in view of the fact that the various professional corporations were "nationalised" very long ago, — which means that the minority citizens have either been entirely refused membership of it admitted, not in proportion to their ratio of the population —, the national minorities are in consequence institutionally excluded from Parliament. Thus it is evident, that the new Constitution is a radical realisation of the nationalist endeavour to compel the minorities to seek political self-assertion, not in parties of their own, but within the framework of some Rumanian party.

The First Edicts Issued by the Military Commands.

Citing the Royal Decree published sub No. 856 in the Rumanian Official Gazette, the "Monitorul Oficial", of 11th February (No. 34.) which extends the state of siege to the whole territory of the Kingdom, certain military commands have issued

orders imposing severe restrictions on public and private liberty.

On 26th February the Command of the Sixth Army Corps in Kolozsvár issued Order No. 1 which amongst other things included a provision prohibiting the holding of any meeting or gathering without the permission of the military authorities. Even for betrothals, weddings, christenings, balls, soirées and lectures permission has first to be obtained, in towns from Police Headquarters and in the country from the Prefect. All political propaganda and the spreading of political ideas in any way, are strictly forbidden. Any manifestation that may be construed as an outrage on Rumanian national feeling is also forbidden. Such, for instance, is "a disrespectful attitude towards the official language of the country." Public servants may not use any language but Rumanian. Bus and tram conductors must not announce the names of stations in any other language. In public places hawkers and vendors may not use any language but Rumanian, and all posters and bills must be drafted in that language. The use of any but the official names of places, counties and provinces in the press and other publications is strictly forbidden. All commercial or other sign-boards must bear only Rumanian inscriptions. Press publications may not appear until they have been passed by the Censor. ("Keleti Ujság", 26th February.)

The Command of the Temesvár First Infantry Division in addition has forbidden the presentation of films until they have been released by the Censor. The order issued by this Command has also put a ban on the activities of numerous religious societies. Such, for instance, are the Millenium Society, the International Bible Society, the Martyrs of Jehova, the Bible Society, the Apostolic Church of God, the Nazarenes, the Repentants, the Reformed Adventists, etc. The headquarters of these societies are to be closed and their archives handed over to the Ministry competent to deal with them.

All who offend against these regulations are to be tried by the military tribunals and are liable to be sentenced to a term of imprisonment extending from one month to two years, as well as to pay a fine ("Aradi Közlöny", 27th February). — y —

NEW MEASURES BY AUTHORITIES TO RUMANIANIZE THE CAPITAL OF SZEKLERLAND.

In the "Orasul", a paper publishing the official news of Marosvásárhely (Turga Mureş), the predominatly Hungarian Capital of the Szeklers, there recently appeared an order decreeing that all official documents and notices issued by the municipality must be drafted in Rumanian alone. An order has also been issued to examine all sign-boards and street names with a view to Rumanianizing them. Another measure decrees

that in the market bakers must be placed in a certain order. The best places must be given to bakers of Rumanian nationality, and those who distinguished themselves in the "struggle for unity" are to have priority. The rest of the places are to be allotted according to the age of the firm. The Interim Committee (Interimar) of the town intends to approach the police with a view to obtaining an order forbidding the orchestras to play any but Rumanian songs in cafés, restaurants and other public places ("Magyar Szó", Feb. 8.).

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HUNGARIAN SONGS AND DANCES BANNED. CUSTOMERS NOT TO BE ADDRESSED IN HUNGARIAN.

In Kolozsvár (Cluj), Capital of Transylvania, the Police Headquarters have issued an order that 70% of the music played by orchestras in public places must be classical and 30% Rumanian. As Hungarian songs cannot be classified as "classical" music, the order is in effect a ban on them ("Keleti Ujság", Febr. 5.). In Szatmár (Satu Mare), the great majority of the population of which is Hungarian, the police have forbidden the gypsies to play the Hungarian national dance, the csárdás ("Brassói Lapok", Feb. 11.). The Interim Committee of Arad has issued an order forbidding tradesmen to address customers in any language but Rumanian. ("Brassói Lapok", Feb. 4.).

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JEWS DEPRIVED UNDER GOGA RÉGIME OF FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT.

According to orders issued during the Goga régime by the Prefects of Arad and Szatmár Counties, Jews were not allowed to go from one village in the county to another without passports. These passports were issued by the village notary on the recommendation of the gendarmes ("Keleti Ujság", Feb. 7. and 11.).

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PUBLISHER SEVERELY FINED BECAUSE OF ARTICLE CONCERNING ITALIAN KING'S VISIT TO BUDAPEST

The publisher of the "Szalontai Lapok", Armin Székely, has been fined 2.000 lei by the military courts because of an article about the King of Italy's visit to Budapest last year. The article in question had been deleted by the censor, but a few copies containing it were in circulation ("Keleti Ujság", Feb. 5.).

YUGOSLAVIA

GRIEVANCES OF BUNIEVATZ POPULATION

The city of Szabadka (Subotica) has more than 100.000 inhabitants, 90% of whom are Roman Catholics. It is the largest Bunievatz settlement in Yugoslavia. (The Bunievatz people are Roman Catholic Yugoslavs.) A Bunievatz paper, the "Subotičke Novine", pointed out (in one of its articles published in January) the great discrepancy of the denominational quotas of the teaching staff in Szabadka. The proportion of Catholic teachers in the various schools of the city is as follows: in the boys' grammar school 5 out of 53, in the girls' high school 4 out of 24, and in the senior school: 6 out of 22. — y —

FRESH PROMISES TO THE HUNGARIAN MINORITY

On February 2nd Dr. Imre Várady and Dr. Andrew Marton, leaders of the Hungarians living in the Banate, again called upon M. Stankovitch, Minister of Agriculture, then residing at Nagybécskerek (Petrovgrad), and submitted to him the minimum demands of the Hungarian minority of Yugoslavia a compliance with which would find the Hungarians ready to join the Government Party and to take part in its work. The Minister again promised to undertake to act as mediator between Government and the Hungarian minority and declared that he believed a favourable change might be expected very shortly in the situation of the Hungarian minority. ("Napló" and "Reggeli Ujság", February 4th, 1938).

HUNGARIAN PAPER WHICH EXPRESSED APPRECIATION OF M. KÁNYA MUTILATED BY CENSOR

The interview given by M. Kálmán Kánya, Hungarian Foreign Minister, to a representative of the Budapest "Esti Ujság" was discussed in its February 17th issue also by the "Napló", a Hungarian daily appearing in Szabadka (Subotica). In the introductory part of its article the "Napló" wrote a few words in appreciation of the five years' activity of M. Kánya: but the Yugoslav Censor deleted the few lines in question. — y —

DESPITE GOVERNMENT'S PROMISES NAME-ANALYSIS IS STILL IN FORCE

On 9th January Dr. Peter Batta, leader of the Hungarians in Magyarkanizsa (Pavlograd), a town with a Hungarian majority of 96%, went at the head of a deputation of 100 persons to see M. Svetozar Stankovitch, Minister of Agriculture, who was staying at Torontáljózseffalva, a village in the Banate. M. Stan-

kovitch is in charge of the political and minority affairs of the Voivodina, a region wrested from Hungary; and the complaint laid before him by the Hungarian deputation was that despite the express promises given by Government the educational authorities had, in September, at the time when the pupils were being registered, ruthlessly applied the system of name-analysis and had forced many Hungarian children against the wishes of their parents to attend Serb elementary schools, and that though expressly forbidden to do so the same authorities had pensioned off three Hungarian teachers of the Hungarian sections of the elementary schools and had transferred six without making provision for others to take their places. The vacancy caused by the death meanwhile of a Hungarian teacher had not been filled, so that altogether 10 teachers' posts were vacant in the most Hungarian town of Yugoslavia. The Minister listened patiently to Dr. Batta's complaints and promised to make representations to the Ministry of Education and to urge a redress of the wrongs enumerated. This is the sixth ministerial promise within one year's time, and now the Hungarians of Yugoslavia are curious whether it will prove more valid than the other five.

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THE ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP OF SERAJEVO TO BE EVICTED

On January 31st by judicial decree Dr. Sarić, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Serajevo — who, apart from championing the rights of the Roman Catholic Church, has always been a fearless apostle of the national demands of the Croats — was given notice to quit. Before the outbreak of the Great War the (Hungarian) State rented premises in the building of the Chapter of Upper Bosnia to serve as offices for the archiepiscopal authorities and as apartments for the archbishop himself. The rent was at all times paid by the (Hungarian) State; later on, however, the (Yugoslav) State ceased paying the rent and has now evicted the Croatian archbishop and instructed the Chapter to resume possession of the building. ("Reggeli Ujság", February 3rd, 1918).

"Treaties would only be kept if they were just and right, and if the conditions which obtained when they were made remained the same. Article VIII of the Covenant had never been implemented" (Lord Arnold's speech in the House of Lords. February 16. See The Times February 17.)