

HOW MINORITIES LIVE

CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

THE SOLUTION OF THE CZECHO-SLOVAK PROBLEM HAS BECOME AN URGENT INTERNATIONAL TASK

Since the appearance of our last issue Czecho-Slovakia's nationality problems are no longer a question of internal politics, but have become the most pressing of international ones. Not only public opinion in Germany, Hungary, Italy and Poland, but also the Press in Great Britain and France is fully aware that a further postponement of their solution may lead to incalculable results. Luckily, in France several most prominent men (Joseph Barthélemy, for instance, — a name to conjure with among French jurists, — whose article in "Le Temps", the semi-official organ of the Quai d'Orsay, has practically turned the scales) clearly see the flaws in Czecho-Slovakia's nationality construction, her erroneous treatment of the minorities, and the difficulties of her geo-political situation which tend to lower her value from a military point of view and as an ally. The voice of France's conscience and of reason has spoken at last in Paris, pronouncing that Czecho-Slovakia is not worth the sacrifice of one single French soldier. The downtrodden peoples of Czecho-Slovakia, oppressed now for two decades, take hope from this that the present leaders of France will repair the mistakes committed at the Peace Conference by Clemenceau, mistakes for which not only they, but also his own country had to pay.

While the whole world of diplomacy is waiting for Czecho-Slovakia to act, Prague, in an easy-going bureaucratic way, is slowly elaborating a "Minority Statue", of which the Czechs themselves are not sure whether it is to be an Act of Parliament, or simply a codex of regulations, or, more probably still, a publication destined to mislead public opinion in Western Europe anew. Meanwhile the subordinary Czech authorities continue to employ the same methods which for two decades have made the lives of the non-Czech inhabitants of the Republic unbearable: the minorities are not permitted to voice their grievances at public meetings; their Press is muzzled; their party premises are being searched and their associations dissolved; many of them are not allowed to visit their mothercountry, while under the Defence of the State Act others are being discharged from their posts. The authorities even go so far as to arrest people arriving

from the country of their ally, France, if they dare tell their friends the contents of any articles criticizing Czecho-Slovakia in the French Press. The machinery which for twenty years has been an instrument of torture for every minority subject of the Republic has not ceased to function, nor will it cease to function until it is forced to stop by strong hands from without.

The conference of British and French statesmen held in London at the end of April was devoted to the Czecho-Slovak problem. According to newspaper report Great Britain and France wish to co-operate with Germany and Poland with a view to solving this question. Public opinion in Hungary has stated its views: Hungary demands a solution of the Czecho-Slovak problem that would be in keeping with the nationality principle and the right of the nations to self-determination. Hungary naturally follows with sympathy the struggles of the Hungarians, Slovaks, Ruthenians and Germans of former Upper Hungary, and is convinced that the day is not far off when they will be able to possess the land of their forefathers in peace. The Hungarian revision movement, which unites every single member of this nation in one body, is fighting for lofty ethical aims, and those who imagine that this nation may be diverted from a pursuit of those aims by the hope of economic advantages, will find they are sorely mistaken.

The Great Powers of Western Europe now see the situation clearly and will surely not repeat the error of postponing the obvious solution until it is too late again.

Henlein's Ultimatum

Though all meetings are prohibited, the Sudeta German Party, on 24th April, held a Party Day in Karlsbad, on which occasion Henlein, in a long speech, voiced his demands. In the sphere of foreign policy he demanded the revision of that unfortunate notion that it was the task of the Czechs to be a bulwark against the so-called "Drang nach Osten" and of the political trend which had hitherto ranged Czecho-Slovakia among the enemies of the German people. This in other words is a demand that the Czechs should turn their foreign policy towards Germany, as at the time they had demanded of Austria-Hungary a Slavophile foreign policy.

As regards domestic politics, Henlein's demands were summed up in the following eight points.

1. Restoration of complete equality of rights and status as between Germans and Czechs.
2. In order to ensure this equality in the State, the recognition of the Sudeta German group as an artificial person.
3. Delimitation and recognition of the German settlement areas.

4. Organization of German autonomy in every sphere of public life in the German settlement areas in matters relating to the affairs and interests of the German racial group.

5. Establishment of legal measures to protect the interests of those citizens who are living outside the actual settlement areas of their own people.

6. Cessation of the injustices practised on the Sudeta Germans since 1918, and reparation for the losses caused by those injustices.

7. Recognition and effectuation of the following fundamental principle: German public officials in the German areas.

8. Complete liberty to declare that they belong to the German people and are in favour of German ideology.

In connection with the latter Henlein said: "Like the rest of the German people all over the world, we, too, are followers of the principles of National Socialism. These principles pervade all our sentiments and thoughts, and within the framework of the law the life of our racial group will be shaped by them."

At the conclusion of his speech Henlein said: "We do not want war either at home or abroad, but we can no longer tolerate a state of affairs which, for us, means war in peace-time."

Hlinka Continues His Fight.

In his Easter article the grey-haired leader of the Slovak Autonomists, telling his adherents that his physical strength was on the wane and that the time would shortly come when he would be no more, said:

"Thanks to our work and our loyalty the Slovak question is now one that cannot be eliminated from international politics. We are not to be intimidated by any threats and shall continue the work begun until it is completed. The present critical times encourage us to do so..." ("Slovák", Easter issue).

The "Slovensky Dennik", the Slovak mouthpiece of the Prague Government, reproaches the Slovak People's Party with "furnishing material" to Hungarian revisionist propaganda by its conduct. To this accusation the "Slovák" replies in a dignified manner as follows; "It is Czech centralism that furnishes the best part of the material of Hungarian revisionism, not the Slovak People's Party. It is enough for the revisionists to quote particulars as to how the various posts are being filled, how Slovakia is being exploited economically and how her cultural values are being destroyed: all this furnishes them with sufficient material for many months." (April 28).

Ruthenian Autonomists Demand Immediate Establishment of Autonomy.

Andrew Brody and Ivan Jjescák, Deputies, and Senator Földesi in the name of the Ruthenian Autonomist Farmers' Alliance published a statement in the organ of the Party, the "Ruskij Vistnik" on 28th March, that is to say, the day before the Parliamentary session at which the leaders of the German, Magyar, Slovak and Polish minorities announced to Parliament their demands for autonomy.

In that statement it was said that "Everybody can see and judge for himself that nothing will reassure the inhabitants of this country (Ruthenia, *Ed.*) until the conditions indispensable to our existence are ensured by the immediate establishment of the most extensive autonomy as guaranteed to the "territory lying to the south of the Carpathians" by the international treaty concluded at St. Germain.

The continuation of the statement was deleted by the censor ("Kárpáti Magyar Hírlap", April 17).

With this statement the ring of the autonomist front is now complete.

Domiciliary Visits To Hungarian Party.

Domiciliary visits were undertaken — by orders of the chef of the district of Beregszász — on April 28th and 29th in the premises of the Hungarian Party at Munkács. Documents, together with the lists of names, were seized. Here is another proof that the persecution of minority parties has not been mitigated. (The domiciliary visit to the premises of the Slovak People's Party at Aranyosmarót is described elsewhere.)

All Public Meetings and Gatherings Banned.

As from 1st April, the Minister of the Interior has forbidden the holding of public political meetings and the organization of processions and has even revoked the permits hitherto issued for public meetings convened within doors and for the demonstrations and processions planned to take place in the open. The meetings of members of political organizations and public lectures on politics, as well as musical and choir practice(!), are also prohibited. The only meetings allowed are those to which a limited number of people are invited. In consequence of this decree the meetings of the United Hungarian Party arranged to take place on 3rd April at which all the Hungarians of the Republic had intended to insist on the most urgent demands of the Hungarian minority being granted, could not be held. Tens of thousands of Hungarians had been making preparations to attend those meetings. Several thousand of Hungarians had gone from the neighbouring villages to Érsekújvár (Nové-Zámsky), and

owing to the delay in proclaiming the decree, they did not learn that no meeting was to be held until after their arrival.

Dissatisfaction with Easter Amnesty.

The amnesty proclaimed in the official gazette on 16th April by the President of the Republic had been awaited with tense expectation by the national minorities. The political offences enumerated in the proclamation as those to which the amnesty and acquittal extend are: practices against the Republic and the Constitutional authorities; military treason if committed without malice prepense; violence against the Constitutional authorities or usurpation of their authority; insults to the President of the Republic; omission to report crimes; propaganda dangerous to the State; incitement to refuse the discharge of legal obligations; the approval of crimes; the formation of societies dangerous to the State; the spreading of false reports; "gross disrespect" (disparagement of the dignity of the Constitutional authorities, defamation of the name of the Republic, the damaging or removal of emblems, flags and colours or of the portrait of the President of the Republic); the publication of forbidden texts; behaviour endangering the defence of the Republic; the recruiting of soldiers for a foreign Power; and the circulation of forbidden printed matter and forbidden newspapers, whether domestic or foreign. The amnesty does not extend to persons who "inspired by hostile sentiments" towards the Czecho-Slovak Republic have left the country ("Prager Presse", April 17).

According to the semi-official newspaper of the Prague Government this decree means acquittal in the case of 2620 political offenders and free pardon for 247. Besides this President Beneš has reserved the individual right to pardon at discretion a further 1320 offenders, providing the Minister of Justice recommends their reprieve on grounds of the delinquents' political immaturity and thoughtlessness.

A perusal of these semi-official data allows us to form an opinion of the extensive political persecution to which minority citizens in Czecho-Slovakia are subjected by the authorities and of the great number of political offences codified in the Czecho-Slovak criminal law. About 4500 persons are now to be reprieved; from this may be computed the large number of those who are still in prison or against whom criminal proceedings have been instituted simply because their political behaviour is not pleasing to the Czech authorities. We may also make a fair guess at the number of minority citizens who have been imprisoned and persecuted by the Czechs during the two decades of their rule. And, besides those, how many there are who were fortunate enough to make their escape from Czecho-Slovakia in time! It is no exaggeration to put their number at ten thousand.

President Beneš' amnesty does not provide the refugees who have fled to Germany, Hungary, Poland and other States, with a possibility of return to their fatherland. No wonder if the souls of these men, who have been driven out of their native land, are filled with the same bitterness as that found in the hearts of those who were driven out of Austria during the Schuschnigg régime and who naturally strained every nerve to bring about conditions in which they could return to the land of their forebears, the graves of their fathers, and the place where their own cradles were rocked.

Partial Parish Council Elections

Instead of acceding to the demands of the minorities and ordering general Parliamentary elections, all the Czecho-Slovak Government has decided to do is to fix the Parish Council elections, due last autumn, but postponed because of a clash between the Sudeta German Party and the Czech authorities, for 22nd and 29th May and 15th June. It is evident that these elections, which are to take place only in some of the parishes, will merely give a very superficial idea of the mood of the population and will certainly fail to reflect it as a general election would.

A sign of the nervous restlessness of the Administration is afforded by the circumstance that the municipal elections in Pozsony (Bratislava), fixed to take place on 22nd May, have been indefinitely postponed, although a considerable outlay had already been incurred by the several parties in preparing for the elections.

What the autonomy of the Hungarian Parish Councils is actually worth is proved by Order No. 63.565(5)38, issued on March 12 by the Provincial Office of Slovakia, which again dissolved the Municipal Corporation of the borough of Szepesi (Moldava) for having appealed against the order of the District Office to expropriate certain sites for the purposes of the local Slovak board school and for having lodged a complaint with the Supreme Court of Administration when the appeal had been rejected by the Provincial Office. We have repeatedly written in these columns of the struggle of the Hungarians in Szepesi to achieve autonomy. On three occasions the Municipal Corporation elected as mayor a man belonging to the United Hungarian Party, and each time the Minister of the Interior refused to confirm his election, till at length he was persuaded to confirm it last year. The proportion of Hungarians in Szepesi is 72%, yet the only board school in the borough is a Slovak one.

Why Are Not Czech Papers Confiscated?

The urgent question addressed to the Minister of Justice by two German deputies, Herren Jobst and Kundt, and the Hungarian deputy M. Géza Szüllő, runs as follows:

"On March 18th a circular was issued by the Tribunal of Prague to several subordinate tribunals, containing — inter alia — such provisions as the following:

"Such rumours as are apt to raise doubts as to the possibility that Czecho-Slovakia's allies (viz. Soviet Russia, France and the Little Entente States) would hasten to the assistance of the Republic in case of emergency, as well as any such characterization of the internal conditions of these States as are designed to create the impression that they would be unable to fulfil their obligations, are to be suppressed as evil sensations. The same measures apply to rumours concerning the attitude of Great Britain and the U. S. A."

On April 1st an interview took place between the Premier, M. Hodža, and the representatives of the Sudeta-German Party, Herren Kundt, Richter and Pfundtner; this discussion, however, did not produce any definitive results. Next day Herr Franke, deputy-leader of Herr Henlein's party, addressed a party meeting at Leitmeritz, and declared that the Sudeta-Germans have never given up their right of national self-determination. The provisions of the minority agreements are insufficient for the solution of the Sudeta-German problem, because their articles have not been ratified in the Czecho-Slovak Constitution, while those articles that have been ratified are left to the free interpretation of the agents of bureaucracy.

According to the protest lodged with Premier Hodža by the Parliamentary Club of the Sudeta German Party, the following German papers have been confiscated by the Censor: 6 numbers of the "Die Zeit", the organ of the Party, from 20th March to 10th April; all issues of the "Volk und Führung" since 1st March, all issues of the "Rundschau" since 15th March and all issues of the "Igel", a satirical periodical, since 1st January.

When the "Die Zeit" had been confiscated five times, the editorial offices published the following communication:

"This is the fifth confiscation within the past four weeks, and thus, in terms of the law, there is a possibility of suppressing the newspaper. We, therefore, are obliged for the time being to refrain from expressing any opinion on the subject of internal politics. For this reason our leading article today is merely a mirror of Czech public opinion. Our readers will be able to read between the lines and form their own opinions."

In their appeal addressed to the Czecho-Slovak Government in the National Assembly on April 5, M. Sokol and his fellow deputies belonging to the Slovak People's Party referred to the confiscation of the "Slovák" on March 29th; an article in that

issue, entitled "Prague is going to settle the Slovak question. How Slovaks in Košice live under the Hodža Régime?", had been suppressed together with its title, the deputies complained. The suppressed article protested against the fact that a Czech sweet-merchant in Košice, named Mikl, had been given a license to sell spirits, although there were a great number of Slovak legionaries and disabled soldiers in Košice who would have been more worthy of that privilege. Moreover, a Czech called Sapák had been appointed director of the apprentice school at Košice; this man, though he had no higher qualification whatever, had received the title of "qualified engineer" in 1928 and was subsequently appointed schoolmaster in 1933. At the same time, a large number of qualified Slovak schoolmasters had been passed over. Two vacancies in the Attorney's Department of the Tribunal of Košice had been filled by two young Czechs, on whose diplomas "the ink was still wet", — in preference to Slovak applicants with a long juridical practice. The newly appointed president of the Tribunal of Rimaszombat (Rimavská Sobota) is also a Czech. Among the applicants for a vacancy (departmental chief surgeon) at the city hospital of Košice were a professor of medicine, a chief surgeon, a specialist, and practising surgeon, — all of them Slovaks; yet the vacancy had been so divided between two applicants that the more lucrative city post was filled by a Czech called Dr. Perlik, while the less advantageous country post had been given to a Slovak doctor who was older than his more fortunate Czech colleague. Not a single line was allowed to be written in the "Slovak" about these occurrences. — On April 5 the same paper was again confiscated on account of an article attacking those "comrades" who were advocating the idea of class war.

The entire text of an article on the front page of the "Slovak" of 17th April was expunged by the Censor. The article in question contained the gist of one published in the "Gazeta Polska", the semi-official newspaper of the Polish Government, and related to France and Czecho-Slovakia. The reason the Slovak newspaper published it was to give its readers an idea of the opinion of the semi-official Polish paper concerning the political situation between France and Czecho-Slovakia.

On 8th April the Censor banned a leading article in the same newspaper. It was written by Ferdinand Durčanský and the author recommended the dismissal of certain men and the appointment of others to take their place, in order to facilitate a settlement of internal and external problems. The issue of the "Slovak"

(April 9) which protested against these acts of the Censor, was itself confiscated.

Finally, we wish to point out — as a matter of curiosity — that the tribunal of Prague has ordered the confiscation of a paper entitled "Policejni Listy". The most curious thing in this matter is that the paper in question is the official review of the Czecho-Slovak Police. If this rage for confiscation continues at this rate the Czech Press will one day be surprised by the confiscation of one of its organs owing to the publication of Dr. Beneš's speeches.

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THOROUGH SEARCH MADE IN ONE OF SECRETARIATS OF SLOVAK AUTONOMISTS

On 5th April the Czech gendarmes paid a domiciliary visit to the local secretariat of the Slovak People's Party in Aranyosmarót (Zlaté-Moravce) as well as to the home of the secretary, M. Moravcik, and to those of M. Rakovsky and M. Boleček (the parish priest of Nemcimány). The search was conducted on so big a scale that gendarmes from other district had to be called in to assist. This incident gave rise to much excitement among all the Slovaks of the district and it was only thanks to the behaviour of the functionaries of the Party that no tragic results ensued ("Slovák", April 6).

According to the "Slovák" of 9th April, there was some connection between the domiciliary visits and speeches addressed to the Slovak Catholic youth of Aranyosmarót on 1st April by Messrs Tiso and Sokol, M. P. and M. Hargas, Secretary of the Post Office.

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RUMANIA

DISSOLUTION OF POLITICAL PARTIES

At the first Cabinet Council following the reconstruction of Miron Christea's Government held on March 30th, a new *décret lége* was framed decreeing the dissolution of all political parties. Among other things it was decreed that in future no new political organization may be formed except under conditions to be stipulated in a special law. The dissolution of the political parties seriously affects the minority nations, but especially the two million Hungarians, of whom the "Magyar Party" was not merely the political representative, but also and primarily a collective organisation far removed from any of the warring political interests. The question arises: what organization is to represent the Hungarians in future abroad? The Hungarian Alliance created in 1921 was dissolved by the Government in 1922. For the Administration refused to accept the basic idea of the Hungarian Alliance that the international treaties had

created the conception of minority rights and that on these grounds the Hungarian minority was entitled to form its own public organization on the principle of national solidarity.

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OLD NAMES OF PROVINCES BURIED IN OBLIVION BY NEW ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION OF COUNTRY

The draft of the new Administration Act divides Rumania into seven administrative provinces the boundaries of which will coincide with the areas occupied by the various army divisions, the capitals to be towns where the headquarters of the army divisions are situated. This new division does away with the old provincial frontiers. That it is directed against the minorities is plainly evident from a brief quotation from Nicholas Jorga's speech — as reported in the "Neamul Românesc" — at the last Cabinet Council meeting before the formation of Christea's Government. "The system of counties inherited from foreigners" — said M. Jorga — "must disappear. The old names: Bukovina, Bessarabia and Transylvania ought to have been forgotten on the first day following the realization of national unity." ("Estilap", April 2 and "Néplap", April 7).

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HUNGARIAN LANGUAGE GRIEVANCES

In Arad, a town with a large Hungarian majority on the western frontier of Rumania, the police on pain of a heavy fine has forbidden all street vendors — newsmen and sellers of sweets too — to offer their wares in any language but Rumanian. ("Népujság", April 9).

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The ultra-chauvinistic "Universul" (March 22) states with satisfaction that the Mayor of Torda has complied with the demands made by that newspaper and has replaced the two last remaining Hungarian street names by Rumanian ones.

Eugene Boros, the owner of a stationery shop in Nagyvárad, addressed an official of the local Chamber of Commerce in Hungarian, who replied in Rumanian, asking him to use that language. Another official also replied in Rumanian when Boros spoke to him in Hungarian. At this Boros lost his temper and said that it was not the members of the Chamber of Commerce who were bound to speak Rumanian but its employees. For this he was arrested and his case will be tried by Court Martial ("Universul", March 26).

The Management of the Rumanian Railways (C. F. R.) has issued an order that railway employees when on duty must speak only Rumanian with the public and among themselves. Those infringing this rule will be dismissed ("Keleti Ujság", April 14).

Under the Act establishing martial law in Bessarabia the commander of an army corps has issued an order forbidding

State officials, pupils of State schools and their teachers, to speak any language but Rumanian in their official intercourse. This order extends also to shop assistants, who are henceforth obliged to speak Rumanian with those of their customers who know that language. Russian may be used only if the customer cannot speak Rumanian ("Magyar Lapok", March 24).

In a circular letter the Chairman of the Rumanian Lawyers' Alliance has ordained that all minority lawyers must pass a language test. He had no right to do so, for that body is not entitled to exercise this right. The result of the language tests held last autumn was that 250 out of 800 minority railway employees failed and were discharged ("Keleti Ujság", March 31). By order of the Minister of Transport navvies must pass a language test. At the same time 120 minority Post Office and Telephone employees will have to pass an examination ("Keleti Ujság", March 30).

In practice hitherto contracts drafted in two columns, one Rumanian and the other a minority language, were considered valid. The Revenue Office in Kolozsvár (Cluj) now states that in future the authorities are forbidden to endorse such bi-lingual contracts ("Magyar Kisebbség", April 16).

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YUGOSLAVIA

FOR THE NINTH TIME, HUNGARIAN LEADERS OBTAIN — PROMISES OF THE GOVERNMENT

Two leading representatives of the Hungarian minority, Dr. Imre Várady and Dr. Ferenc Deák, have appeared before M. Stankovitch, the Minister of Agriculture, and questioned him on the restrictions concerning the sale and purchase of land, and movable property in general. Afterwards they went to see M. Magaresevitch, the Minister of Education, and discussed with him the outstanding questions of Hungarian minority education. The Minister of Education promised the representatives of the Hungarian Minority that he would consider the question of supplementing the teaching staff of the parallel sections of the State elementary schools; he also assured them that the first class of the parallel Hungarian section in the Teachers' Training Centre at Belgrade would be opened at the beginning of the coming school year. This was the ninth in the series of discussions held between the leaders of the Hungarian minority and the members of the Yugoslav Cabinet, including even the Premier, M. Stoia-dinovitch, himself; but, apart from slight modifications, these discussions have never led — so far — to the fulfilment of those promises which the various cabinet ministers have made on these occasions. In connection with the discussions the Hungarian

paper "Nép" appearing in Ujvidék (Novisad) remarks that it is not to be considered as a satisfactory result if one or two Hungarian State functionaries are appointed under Government, so long as the Hungarian minority is not represented in the civil service in proportion to its percentage. Nor can it be regarded as success if one or two Hungarian cultural societies are allowed to exist or one or two Hungarian school sections are opened and a few Hungarian teachers are appointed. Real success would mean the extension of full minority rights to the entire Hungarian minority in Yugoslavia.

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CLOSING OF CROAT UNIVERSITY

Riotous demonstrations against the present system of government were held on March 26th by the students of the University of Zagreb, in commemoration of the death of the Croat patriot and martyr, Stefan Jávör, who died two years ago in consequence of injuries inflicted by the police in the prison of Mitrovitza, where he had been serving his eight years sentence. The students demolished the premises of the pro-governmental "Union of Yugoslav Lawyers" in the college buildings, not sparing even the portraits of the Yugoslav royal family. The severe action of the police against some of the rioters has only aggravated the situation.

As a sign of protest against the action of the police, an assembly of the Croat students was convened in the hall of the University. One of the speakers called upon his fellow-students to remain faithful to their ideal: the creation of an independent Croat State. A huge crowd, assembled outside the University, joined in the demonstration, gave loud cheers in token of sympathy with the idea of an independent Croatia and with the exiled leaders of the Croat nation, especially M. Anton Pavelić. The crowd was thereupon dispersed by a detachment of police armed with rifles and rubber batons; 160 students were arrested, many of them being lifted into the police vans with very severe injuries. Most of the students arrested were released after a few days, but 12 students will be prosecuted under the Defence of the State Act.

Owing to these riotous demonstrations the University of Zagreb has been closed until the beginning of May.

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PLACE-NAMES IN SERBIAN — REMOVED BY CROAT PEASANTS

In about 156 villages in Croatia, Dalmatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina the peasants recently removed the Serbian (Cyrillic) inscriptions from the façade of the parish halls, replacing those by Croatian inscriptions where they had been missing

before. When the gendarmes ordered the Serbian inscriptions to be restored, they were again removed by the Croat peasants.

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"NUMERUS SERBIANUS" IN TRADE AND INDUSTRY?

For some years past the industrial undertakings and business establishments have been obliged to submit reports to the political and military authorities and to answer some thirty questions in them. This year, for the first time since the existence of these regulations, they had to submit also an exact statement of the percentage of the various nationalities among their employees; they have been asked to state how many Yugoslav and foreign citizens are employed by them, and what the percentage of the Slav element as against the non-Slav elements was among the Yugoslav nationals. ("Középbácska", March 19).

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HUNGARIAN SCHOOLS WITHOUT TEACHERS

The servants of the Léderer estate at Csóka (the "Macafarm") have not been able to send their children to the elementary school for many years now, because the former Hungarian teacher has retired and no new teacher has been appointed to the school so far. The same situation prevails in the Trlja-farm of the same estate. In both places there is a school building available with the necessary requisites, and the number of pupils would also be enough, but the estate has been unable so far to prevail upon the Ministry of Education to send teachers to the two schools.

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EQUALITY OF MINORITIES IN PRACTICE

The municipal assembly of the city of Ujvidék (Novisad) recently voted a subsidy of 200.000 dinars to be divided among various local (charity, sporting, cultural and other) societies. Out of this sum the various Yugoslav societies received grants totalling 166.000 dinars, while of the various societies of the Hungarian minority — which forms 1/3 of the total population — only one has received a small subsidy of 5.000 dinars. The same inequality of treatment of the Hungarian minority may be observed in several other towns and villages in the detached areas of Southern Hungary (now called the Voivodina), where the societies of the minorities receive very insignificant (or no) subsidies from the supertaxes paid by the minorities themselves.

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