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WHAT THE ENEMIES OF SUBCARPATHIA AND THE RUTHENIAN PEOPLE DREAM OF

BY

ALEXANDER ILNICZKY Adviser for Subcarpathia

In the March of 1936, the 18th year of the former Czechoslovak Republic's existence, a sort of almanach, 330 pages in volume and illustrated with photographs, was edited by *Jaroslav Zatloukai*. Its title was "Podkarpatské Rus"; it was published by the club of the Pozsony "friends" of that area, and it dealt with the economic, cultural and political problems of Subcarpathia. Articles written by Czech and Ruthenian men of note in politics and public life were scattered through the book, on the 9th page of which the editor put the following question: — "Have we done and are we doing everything for Subcarpathia that this neglected but important part of our country expects and deserves?" He then went on to answer it in the following sentences: — "By no means. We ought to do much more systematic work, we must become better acquainted with Ruthenian conditions, and Czechoslovak public opinion must show much greater interest in them than heretofore. We have devoted very little attention to Ruthenian literature and art. We have — very wrongly — neglected Subcarpathia in that respect. We ought to foster Ruthenian literature and art, encourage the production of native works of art and do many other things for that province. *In the interests of the security of the State we would need to show a greater measure of goodwill and political honesty.* With goodwill that manifests itself in work and deeds, we ought to bridge the gulf that yawns between the eastern and western parts of this country." Farther on the editor writes of Hungarian, Polish and German propaganda in Subcarpathia, and finally comforts himself and his readers with the following words about the detested but ever-present idea of revision: — "Our enemies abroad should not forget what was said by Alexei

Tolstói on one occasion, — that the Soviet respected her Czecho-Slovak allies and was determined to strike with all the terrible force of her 175 million subjects, should any attack be made by an enemy on the independence of the Czecho-Slovak Republic."

Today it is interesting to read this frank confession made by a Czecho-Slovak patriot about Subcarpathia and the Ruthenian people, particularly in view of the fact that those Czecho-Slovak patriots *were much too late with their unprejudiced ideas*, and never succeeded in bridging the gulf that yawned between Prague and Ungvár. *That gulf was widened by the behaviour of the more shortsighted among them.* Even in the last year of the Republic's existence, for instance, both the writers and readers of the "Podkarpatské Hlasy" of Ungvár, a Czech daily newspaper, were guilty of repeatedly deriding, disparaging and slandering the Ruthenian people. The gulf was bound to grow wider in any case. Two peoples arbitrarily forced to live in one Republic within wholly impossible frontiers, and forced to do so although all the geographical factors, historical traditions and psychological differences were against this union, would never have been able to co-operate in a brotherly spirit or join hands in the work of state-building. The Czecho-Slovak plans were bound to prove a failure, *even although the Czechs were prepared, should the security of the Republic demand it, to allow the Soviet to take possession of Subcarpathia, if by doing so they could save their own skins.* The Czecho-Slovak hope that the terrible fist of a nation 175 million strong would strike down on those who attempted to bring about the dissolution of the Republic, proved an empty illusion. For now, three years after the collapse of Czecho-Slovakia, her protector himself is on his back, with both shoulders on the ground, struck down by the relentless hand of historical justice. The armies of the Axis Powers, together with our own heroic army, are now, in spite of all the struggles of the Soviet colossus, enforcing that justice a thousand kilometres distant from the frontiers of St. Stephen's Realm.

But the Czecho-Slovak "patriots" who, headed by Beneš, saved their own skins by flight to a foreign country, cannot

resign themselves to the vanishing of their illusions. They are again making propaganda abroad, as they did decades ago, and are *foolish enough to believe that they can revive their Republic, which was a puny nursling from the moment of its birth, in its original form.*

In particular their National Council has cast its net to take the Ruthenians of America in its toils, and by fishing in troubled waters hopes to make a good catch. It is but natural that here and there their efforts should meet with success.

In the person of Ivan Ladisinszky, a man from the Eperjes district, Beneš has found a willing tool for his "redivivus" propaganda, an instrument wherewith to begin his little game among the Ruthenians in overseas countries. The dollars belonging to the Prague Treasury which "Papa Beneš" managed to send abroad roll into the pockets of Ladisinszky and his associates, and immediately there is formed under his leadership a society calling itself the "Union of Carpatho-Russians of America" the aim of which is to re-attach Subcarpathia to a Czecho-Slovak Republic which they hope will arise from the dead at the peace negotiations following the close of the present war.

It is characteristic of Ladisinszky and his associates, (men who, in point of fact, have no connection with Subcarpathia, but are determined to play a role in its affairs) that they have no pity to waste on the some 200.000 Ruthenians left outside Hungary. *Instead of concerning themselves with the impossible political, cultural and economic conditions under which those people live, they confine their activities to the self-appointed task of representing the Subcarpathian areas restored by virtue of ancient right to the Crown of St. Stephen.* Among their small number of adherents they are spreading false information about those areas, when they would do better to hasten to the aid of their sorely oppressed Ruthenian kindred in the countries adjoining Hungary.

There they might learn how those 200.000 Ruthenian brethren of theirs are living their own "racial and cultural life", and see for themselves how ardently, with heart and

soul, they long to join their kindred within the confines of St. Stephen's Realm. *Instead, by means of lying pamphlets couched in impossibly bad Ruthenian, Ladisinszky and his friends are trying to poison the minds of the Ruthenians at home and abroad against Hungary and the St. Stephen principle.* Their spiritual guide and master in this work is a certain Emmanuel Handelsman, a former agrarian politician who hates the Magyars and who with propaganda money received from Beneš managed to escape from Ungvár to America.

Ladisinszky & Handelsman, this "*nobile par fratrum*" with the American business spirit, are lauding Czecho-Slovak democracy to the same Ruthenians of America who at the time of its "flowering" were so disgusted with certain manifestations of the "brotherly love" existing between the Czecho-Slovaks and the rest of the Slavs that they adopted an attitude so decidedly antagonistic to the Czecho-Slovak Government that *their Press organs were put on the black list and not allowed into the Republic.*

In one of the Ladisinszky-Handelsman pamphlets we read that "hundreds of thousands of Czecho-Slovaks are ready to sacrifice their lives for their country" (including naturally Subcarpathia, for it was *their* "country" through twenty bitter years and not the country of the Ruthenians). Well, this statement is such a good joke that all we can do is to laugh at it. That same pamphlet also states that during the Czecho-Slovak era there were 7 Ruthenian chief magistrates in Subcarpathia, whereas now there are none. The truth, on the contrary, is that *as soon as civil administration was introduced, the Hungarian Minister for the Interior immediately appointed 9 Ruthenian chief magistrates and 2 other Ruthenian agents, most of them young men who, with one single exception, continue to hold these posts.* And need we mention the number of other administrative officials appointed the great majority of whom are either Ruthenians or of Ruthenian extraction?

The pamphlet contains utterly false data about education in Subcarpathia. Without repeating them, we shall merely note that teaching is going on in 2175 elementary classes and that the 119.420 elementary school children are

distributed in 1171 classrooms. As regards nationality, the distribution of these school children is as follows: *Ruthenians 97.074, Jews 13.165, Slovaks 4415, Magyars 3007 and Germans 1759. The teaching staffs consist of 2027 elementary school teachers and 75 matrons.* The slight shortage of teachers still existing will be eliminated in the shortest possible time.

The Ruthenian secondary schools at Ungvár, Munkács and Huszt continue to function. Together they represent 50 classes. This year 1943 pupils were registered, of whom (deducting the 195 who attend the eight-class Magyar grammar-school at Huszt) 1746 are students of the Ruthenian secondary schools. In the Ruthenian secondary schools at Munkács the first class for girls was opened this year and 51 pupils were enrolled in it. The Ministry of Education is preparing to take further welcome steps to do away with the pernicious co-educational system of the Czecho-Slovak régime. In the Ruthenian secondary schools mentioned above the staffs of teachers consist of 3 headmasters and 87 teachers. The only Ruthenian secondary school closed was the grammar-school at Beregszász, which was a typical creation of Czecho-Slovak Slav nationalism and an anomaly in a purely Magyar town and district. Subcarpathia also possesses one women and two men teachers' training colleges (at Munkács and Ungvár), where all the classes are taught in Ruthenian. The number of students attending them is about 360. There is therefore no sign of any educational retrogression since the restoration of this area.

The 2621 pupils attending the 12 board-schools situated in Subcarpathia are taught by 118 teachers. Of the total number of classes 40, with 1610 pupils, are Ruthenian. A few board-schools had to be closed, because they merely added to the number of the half-educated proletariat in Subcarpathia, for whom no Government would have been able to provide a livelihood. Today Ruthenian parents are beginning to realize that the vocation of these schools is to prepare the children for further education in practical subjects (economy, industry and trade) and not to produce a semi-educated class incapable of making good in life.

No mention is made, naturally, in that tissue of lies of

the 200 Czech elementary schools and the superfluous number of secondary schools established in Subcarpathia by the Czech educational authorities; nor is anything said about the fact that during the three years that have elapsed since that region was restored the Hungarian Ministry of Education has opened ten times as many Ruthenian elementary schools there — and this despite war conditions — than the Czechs did in the course of twenty years of peace.

The assertion contained in the pamphlet that only one-third of the members of both Houses of Parliament for Subcarpathia are Ruthenians, is also a falsehood, for after the death of two and the resignation of a third *the number of Ruthenian members of the Lower House is eight, and only the ninth member for Subcarpathia is of Magyar nationality. In the Upper House all the three members for Subcarpathia are Ruthenians.*

Ladisinszky and Handelsman shed crocodile tears over the three former Ruthenian "governors" (Zsalkovics, Beszkid and Hrabár), forgetting to say that with the best will in the world they were but spiritless puppets in the hands of the Czech centralistic administration.

They also deplore the flight from Subcarpathia to Slovakia and Russia of 1400 (?) teachers and their supporters. It is indeed true that the Ukrainian emigrants and their friends fled from the area restored to the thousand-year-old Realm of St. Stephen. They were literally swept off its soil as traitors and enemies of the Ruthenian people after their welcome restoration to Hungary.

Those who feel drawn towards the regions beyond the Carpathians may now safely betake themselves there. The monster of Bolshevism has sacrificed hecatombs of Ukrainians and Russians to further its own vile plans, so that there is room and to spare for men in the Ukraine. Let those who are itching for something to do hasten — if they are the idealists they pretend to be — to the aid of their Ruthenian kindred in the regions beyond the Carpathians.

In conclusion the pamphlet declares that "by law Subcarpathia still belongs to the Czecho-Slovak Republic..." Our answer is that according to the "law" of robbery Sub-

carpathia belonged to Czecho-Slovak Republic for twenty miserable years. Today, however, thanks to Providence and the logic of historical justice, it does not; and the brave Hungarian army will see to it that no band of gangsters ever sets foot in Subcarpathia again. *In this task the Hungarian soldiers will be assisted by their Ruthenian comrades, the descendants of men who for a thousand years loyally and heroically helped to defend their beloved Hungarian fatherland against all aggression.*

The best answer to Ladisinszky's and Handelsman's ridiculous and feeble arguments was given by a meeting of the Subcarpathian Advisory Board held on 29th October last, at which the following resolution was passed: —

"On behalf of the Ruthenian people, we the members of the Subcarpathian Advisory Board unanimously and wholly repudiate the aims and endeavours of Beneš's Czecho-Slovak propaganda loudly proclaimed, especially among the Ruthenians of America, but also in other foreign countries, *as we resolutely oppose the idea that the areas of Subcarpathia should ever again be separated from the Holy Crown of Hungary.*

"During the two decades of Czecho-Slovak oppression the Ruthenians of Subcarpathia had ample time and opportunity to discover the real meaning of Beneš's "Slav Brotherhood" and see what a terrible curse it was to them. For this reason they will have none of that false, so-called "Brotherhood". They wholly reject it as the greatest menace to the interests of the Ruthenian people.

"On the question of Czecho-Slovak oppression the Ruthenians of America for two decades held the same views as ourselves. The Subcarpathian Advisory Board therefore hopes and believes that their leaders and all the sober elements among them will not let themselves be deluded by Beneš's propaganda.

"As against all this propaganda and calumnies, *the Subcarpathian Advisory Board is convinced that the religious, cultural, economic, social and racial interests of the Ruthenian people are protected in the thousand-year-old Realm of St. Stephen.* On behalf of the Ruthenian people the Board expresses entire confidence in the Royal Hungarian

Government and in the person of the Governor appointed by the Regent."

This resolution, of which the above is a literal translation, was signed by Alexander Ilniczky, Adviser in Chief and Chairman of the Board, and by the following members thereof: John Rabár sen., Dr. Julius Marina, Michael Demkó, Dr. Peter Hepka, Julius Földesi, Alexander Csuha, Dr. Anthony Stéfán, John Retyiznek and Ladislas Balog. Copies were sent to the leaders of the Ruthenian societies and the Ruthenian newspapers in America.

In the resolution passed at *Szereďnye* by the members of the Ruthenian youth society named after *John Kurtyák*, the vain, illusory aims of Beneš's propaganda and the vile calumnies spread by it were condemned in a similar fashion, and Ruthenian public opinion in America was informed of the fact.

These resolutions were undoubtedly conceived in the soul of the Ruthenian people. They were called into being by a serious and scrupulous study of the latter's vital interests and by the faithful watchfulness that stands guard over them.

Országos Széchényi Könyvtár

CAROL I OF RUMANIA (I)

BY

ZSOMBOR DE SZASZ

In the middle of the nineteenth century "Rumania" as such was not yet in existence; in the twentieth century she played, for a short space of time, the role of a Great Power. Before 1860 there were only two insignificant Rumanian Principalities under Turkish suzerainty; in the thirties of the present century "Greater" Rumania was represented by Ambassadors in Paris and Warsaw. In 1940, after a few years of existence, the glory of Greater Rumania waned, and the Rumanian State shrank back to its former size and insignificance. The story of its rise and subsequent decadence is one of the most curious and instructive presented by these modern times. The foundations of the country's development were laid by its first king, Carol I, the honest and enlightened ruler of an unruly and backward nation. Its decline was materially hastened by Carol II, the clever but unscrupulous monarch now in exile. Ferdinand I, who reigned between these two, was a man of no consequence, a mere puppet in the hands of his omnipotent Minister, Ion Bratianu.

Carol I, the founder of the dynasty, was a German and a Hohenzollern, but he became a good Rumanian, without whose strong and wise rule Rumania could never have risen to play an important part in European history. Three momentous events marked his career as a ruler: his election and arrival in the country as Prince of the united Principalities; Rumania's participation in the Russo-Turkish war, by which she gained independence and subsequently elevation to the status of a kingdom; and finally the beginning of the first world war, when Carol I did his best to guide his country towards the adoption of an honest and straightforward policy.

In the early nineteenth century, — as we mentioned above — there were two Rumanian Principalities, Wallachia

situated on the southern slopes of the Carpathians, and Moldavia lying to the east of these mountain ranges. By the middle of the century a strong movement arose for the union of these two provinces and the creation of a united Rumanian State. In 1857 the legislatures of the two provinces, the so-called "divans", declared that they wished the Principalities to be united — while maintaining their separate autonomous administrations and legislations — under a foreign Prince elected from one of the ruling European dynasties. The conception of this plan was easier than its execution. In view of Rumania's geographical situation, on the threshold of the Balkans and in Russia's way towards Constantinople, the Rumanian question, the union and independence of the provinces, was invested with a more than internal significance; it was a European problem concerning which the Great Powers were far from seeing eye to eye; France, Russia and Prussia were in favour of the union, while England, Austria and Turkey were strongly opposed to it.

The solution arrived at by the Paris Conference of 1858 which regulated European affairs after the Crimean War, was somewhat similar to that contained in the demands of the two divans: it united the two provinces under the name of „United Principalities of Moldavia and Wallachia“, with separate administrations and legislatures and a "central commission" for the making of such laws as concerned both provinces. These were half-hearted measures, but, as a Rumanian politician, V. Boerescu, said; "they achieved a partial union on which, with tact and prudence, a full union could be built up."

After the conclusion of the Conference it became incumbent on the Principalities to choose their new Princes.

On January 5, 1859, the Moldavians elected Colonel Alexander Cuza.

Nineteen days later, on January 24, Wallachia elected the same person, thereby bringing the two provinces under one sceptre.

For three years Cuza governed the two provinces in the prescribed manner, with separate administrations and separate legislative bodies; but in January 1862 he



summoned to Bucharest a common legislative assembly, whereby the union became an accomplished fact, although the Porte, for one, refused to accept it and subsequently recognised Cuza's election in two *firmands*, one for each Principality.

This first Prince of the united Principalities did not reign long. In the night of the 22—23 February, 1866, conspirators made their way into his palace and forced him to abdicate. He offered no resistance either then or when, a few days later, he was escorted to the frontier and bidden to leave the country. The night of the 22nd—23rd February is known in Rumanian history as *noaptea nefasta*, the calamitous night.

The conspirators did not let the grass grow under their feet. Parliament assembled immediately, and elected as Cuza's successor Philip, Count of Flanders, brother of the King of the Belgians. But Napoleon III, at that time supreme arbitrator in Continental affairs, forbade the Count of Flanders to accept the election, so that it had to be dropped. The situation was delicate. The Austro-Prussian war was imminent. Russia, on her side, was carrying on a secret but active propaganda against the perpetuation of the union by the election of a common ruler. Prompt action was indispensable.

In March 1866 the family of Prince Charles Anthony Hohenzollern was assembled in Düsseldorf for the Easter holidays when a Rumanian statesman, Ion Bratianu, arrived unexpectedly and offered the Rumanian crown to the Prince's second son, Prince Charles. The latter was inclined to accept the offer, but his acceptance was naturally contingent on the consent of the head of the Hohenzollern family, the King of Prussia; and he hesitated to give it.

Hitherto, he argued, Prussia had viewed Balkan affairs as a neutral, having no interest or concern in them; but if a Hohenzollern became ruler of Rumania, a moral link would be established which might entail unwelcome political consequences for Prussia. Moreover, continued the King in the letter he wrote on the subject to Prince Charles Anthony, „the ruler of Rumania would be a vassal of Turkey; would that be an enviable or honourable position for a Hohen-

zollern? One might hope for an alteration in this situation, but only in the distant future and after serious political convulsions. Is not, "asked the king", the present situation of your son, and the future before him, much more advantageous and enviable?" Prince Charles was at this time a Captain in the Dragoon Guards.

Events took a different course from that desired by the king.

On April 14 the Berlin evening papers unexpectedly published a telegram from Bucharest to the effect that the provisional government had proclaimed Prince Charles' candidature to the Rumanian throne and submitted the matter to a popular vote; when, a few days later, the plebiscite was held, 685,960 votes were cast in favour of the candidature and only 224 against it.

The King of Prussia still wavered, fearing the opposition of France and Russia. But at this point Bismarck entered on the scene and promptly solved the question. Inviting the young Prince to come and see him, he said to him:

"A whole nation has unanimously elected you its Prince. Follow the call, go straight to the country, and you will gain the confidence of the entire population."

The Prince objected that the preliminary permission of the king was necessary.

"It is not", said Bismarck. "Apply for leave to go abroad — the King has fine instincts, he will understand. You will relieve him of all responsibility, and he will be grateful for it."

Bismarck's advice to the Prince was to visit Napoleon III and to obtain his consent.

As regarded the other Powers — "Russia and the Porte will protest against your election; France, England and Italy will be on your side, while Austria will do all she can to upset your candidature. But there is not much to fear from that quarter, as I think of keeping Austria busy for some time to come." He was alluding to the impending war between Austria and Prussia. Prussia's position was the most difficult. "As a result of her political and geographic situation", said Bismarck, "Prussia has kept consistently aloof from oriental questions, only making her voice heard

at Conferences. In this case I, as Prussian Prime Minister, would be obliged to oppose your candidature, as I do not wish to break with Russia at the present moment. By acting on your own account you will save the King from an awkward situation, and I am certain that he would not be ill-disposed, though he could not give his consent as head of the family. If Your Highness is once in Rumania, the question will soon be solved, for if Europe sees itself faced with a *fait-accompli*, the Powers will protest, but a protest remains on paper and the facts won't be altered."

To the objection of the Prince that Russia might employ coercive measures, he replied:

"The application of coercive measures might have the most fatal consequences for Russia herself."

He advised the Prince to write a letter to the Tsar telling him that he, Prince Charles, regarded him as his mightiest protector and that he hoped to solve the Balkan problem with the help of Russia. A Russian marriage would also be of advantage.

"A *fait accompli* will be the most fortunate and the most honourable solution of the question", were the concluding words of Bismarck's homily.

After leaving the Prime Minister, Prince Charles had an audience with the king, who received him with the utmost cordiality, while telling him that he could not share Bismarck's opinions or overlook the difficulties which lay in his way, the most serious of which, he repeated, would be the submission of a Hohenzollern to the suzerainty of the Sultan.

The Prince assured him that this would be merely a temporary matter and that he would achieve his own and his country's independence as soon as feasible, by armed force if necessary. He begged the king to believe that he would never forget the honour of his name.

The king gave him leave of absence from his regiment, embraced him, and dismissed him with the words: "God be with you."

The greatest difficulty had been removed from Prince Charles' path. Nevertheless some feverish days were in store for him: the final decision had yet to be taken.

There was not much diplomatic activity in connection with the question of the Rumanian throne. The Conference of Paris simply ignored the election and expressed the desire that a Rumanian should be elected to fill the throns.

The Paris decision impressed neither the Prince nor the Rumanians, and gradually King Wilhelm also gave up his rigid official standpoint. When, on the 3rd of May, Prince Anthony, Prince Charles' father, visited him, he declared that he had no wish to influence Prince Charles in his resolve, and would accept a *fait accompli*. Bismarck's standpoint had carried the day.

The Austro-Prussian war being now imminent, the Rumanian question was relegated to the background.

On May 7 Prince Charles had a long interview with the two Rumanian emissaries, Balaceanu and Bratianu, who had come to Düsseldorf from Paris, and told them that he had made up his mind to leave at once for Rumania.

There remained the difficulty of deciding by what route he was to reach that country. The sea voyage via Marseilles or Genoa, all round Italy and Greece, was too long; it would take three weeks, not to mention the fact that he might be detained by the Turks in Constantinople. The Russian route was equally impracticable, so that the only way open to him was through Austria-Hungary. This, needless to say, was the most hazardous route of the three. War between Austria and Prussia was expected to be declared at any moment, and the Prince, a Prussian cavalry officer, would, if recognised, be infallibly taken prisoner. Balaceanu, with some want of tact, even implied that he might be shot.

There was, however, no choice, and the Austro-Hungarian route was decided upon.

On May 9 orders were given for the mobilization of the Prussian army, and it looked as though Prince Charles' trip had become an impossibility. But his resolve was taken and he did not waver. The date of his departure was fixed for May 11, a Friday.

His route took him through Switzerland, and in Zürich a Swiss passport was procured for him in the name of "Karl Hettingen", his destination being given as Odessa. He travelled second class, while his two travelling companions,

Baron v. Mayenfisch and Councillor v. Werner, travelled first. From Zürich he wrote letters to the French and the Russian Emperors, disclosing his enterprise and expressing the hope that they would not "disapprove" of it. A third letter was dispatched to the Sultan, containing the assurance that he "knew his obligations towards His Majesty and would endeavour to fulfil them."

He travelled by way of Augsburg and Munich to Salzburg, the first Austrian frontier station. As he was about to enter the waiting-room, a passport official asked him rudely for his name. The Prince, in his excitement, had forgotten the name he was travelling under, but he pulled himself together and mutely held out his passport. In the waiting-room new perils awaited him, for the room was filled with mobilized Austrian officers, some of whom had been his comrades in the common Austro-Prussian campaign of 1864. He sat with a beating heart behind the screen of a large newspaper, fearing every moment to be recognised in spite of the spectacles which he had assumed as a disguise.

The train was due to leave Salzburg at 6 p. m. Before its departure a railway official entered the compartment and to the prince's excited imagination seemed to observe him with special attention. He then wrote something in his note-book, which convinced the Prince that the man's suspicions had been aroused and that he was going to send word to Vienna to have him kept under observation. This fear proved groundless, for nothing untoward happened.

In Vienna, where the train arrived next morning, the station was likewise crowded with mobilized soldiers, and here, too, Prince Charles recognised several generals with whom he had fought in the Danish campaign. He hurriedly left the station and jumped into a cab, forgetting even to tell the driver where he wanted to be driven. It was imperative for him to betake himself at once to the South Station, whence the trains leave for Hungary.

At midday the Hungarian frontier was passed and at 5 p. m. Budapest was reached. After leaving the Hungarian capital, the train crossed the Great Hungarian Plain, passed through Szeged and Temesvár, and in the morning of May 18 arrived at the terminus of the Hungarian railway line, the

frontier station Baziás. The journey was uneventful, except that all the stations were crowded with mobilized military.

From Bazias the trip should have been continued immediately by steamer down the Danube, but owing to the transport of troops the earliest available steamer was only to leave in two days.

On Sunday morning, ten days after the departure from Germany, the steamer arrived at last, and Prince Charles went on board at once. An hour later Bratianu arrived from Bucharest but ignored his future ruler for the time being.

Turnu Severin, the first station on Rumanian soil, was reached at four o'clock in the afternoon. Charles's new country lay before his eyes at last.

He hastened to leave the boat, but the Captain as he passed the bridge, who knew that his passenger had a ticket for Odessa and believed him to be labouring under a mistake, called after him to stop him. The passenger did not stop, however, and the Captain, seeing him surrounded by obsequious Rumanians, exclaimed in open-mouthed amazement: "By Heaven! That must have been the Prince of Hohenzollern!"

As the Prince landed, Bratianu, hat in hand, stepped forward to greet him on Rumanian soil, after which he drove with him to the Town Hall, where a dazed Prefect received his future ruler. It was however decided to preserve the Prince's incognito for the time being, as a Turkish army under the command of Omer Pasha was stationed in inconvenient vicinity, on the opposite bank of the Danube.

The day was spent in the little town, and it was not till the evening that the journey was continued, in a carriage drawn by eight undersized Rumanian horses; there were as yet no railways in Rumania. The trappings of the horses left much to be desired; every moment some part of the cobweb-like harness gave way, but the mad gallop of the eight small horses never slackened.

This course across the plains of Wallachia, through some of the most primitive and neglected country in Europe, must have presented all the charms of novelty to a member of a German ruling House, coming from one of the cultural centres of the Continent. Now and then halts were called

for a short rest or a meal, and everywhere the Prince was enthusiastically acclaimed. Before entering the town of Pitesti they met the 2nd infantry regiment, and Prince Charles passed it in review, subsequently remarking to Bratianu: "The joy with which the soldiers saluted me impressed me very much; but when I get the army into my own hands it must have a different aspect."

May 22 was the last day of the journey. The last night far from the capital. The Prince refused to put on a Rumanian military uniform and wore evening clothes. His carriage was now drawn by twelve horses.

In Baneasa, a suburb of Bucharest, he was received by an immense crowd and by the Mayor, Demetrius Bratianu, who presented him with the keys of the town on a velvet cushion. At that moment a shower came on, to the great delight of the masses, for rain is considered a lucky omen in Rumania. The Prince remembered that in the course of his African travels in 1861 rain fell when he visited an oasis and the Arabs had kissed his hands and feet.

His first impression of Bucharest was not favourable. The streets were so badly paved that he could hardly keep himself from falling out of his carriage; the houses were low and dirty. Seeing a one-storied house with a sentinel in front of it, he inquired of General Golescu what it was? "*C'est le palais*", answered the General. The Prince could not believe his ears. "*Ou est le palais?*" he asked, looking round him; and the General was forced to repeat that the one-storied building before them was the royal palace.

This "palace" had previously belonged to the Golescu family and, having been bought by the State, had been used alternately as a military school, a barracks, and a hospital. The rooms, though not spacious, contained some fine Parisian furniture.

Prince Charles established his quarters in the northern portion of the house, whose windows looked on to some military buildings; Prince Cuza, before him, had preferred to live on the opposite side, which looked on to a square where gypsies were wont to camp and where pigs wallowed in the deep mud. It was here that, a far months earlier, Cuza had been made to abdicate. The men who, in the night of

February 23, had made their way into the palace for this purpose, had found him in the company of his mistress, Marie Obrenovitch, while his wife slept in another wing of the building.

But if the palace was mean and shabby, the reception accorded to the new ruler was magnificent in the extreme. As he passed in state through the streets, flowers, verses and even pigeons were showered down on him from the windows and balconies.

After a solemn *Te Deum* in the Cathedral, the Prince took the oath to observe the laws of the land before a Constituent Assembly in Parliament. At that time Rumania had as yet no Constitution. Henceforth Prince Charles of Hohenzollern was Prince Carol of Rumania. He was greeted by the President of the Chamber, and answered in the following speech, delivered in French:

"Elected Prince of Rumania by the spontaneous will of the people, I have unhesitatingly left my family and my country to respond to the call of the nation which has confided its destinies to my care. From the moment when I set foot on this sacred soil, I became a Rumanian... I offer you a loyal heart, a firm resolve to make good, and a devoted allegiance to my new country. A good citizen to-day, if necessary a soldier to-morrow, I shall share your destinies in evil days as in good..."

At ten o'clock the same evening the *Kaimakamia* and government appeared at the palace and tendered their resignation. The Crown Council lasted until one o'clock in the morning, when it was announced that a new government had been formed with Lascar Catargiu at its head.

The first foundations of the new State had been laid, but the building of modern Rumania took many long years and is not even yet completed. A few days after his arrival in Bucharest, Prince Carol uttered the following words to a deputation of army officers: "*N'oubliez pas que je suis venu pour créer un avenir et non pas pour faire d'un passé que j'ignore et ne veux pas même connaître, la base de mon activité*", — "remember that I have come here to create a future and not to base my activities on a past which I ignore and with which I have no wish to become acquainted."

THE NUMBER OF MAGYARS LIVING IN SLOVAKIA

BY

LOUIS KARPATI

So far we have *not* available *any* certain data respecting the number of Magyars in Slovakia. There are all kinds of estimates in circulation which appraise the number of Magyars living in Slovakia at figures ranging from 67,000 to 120,000. Here particular interest attaches to *the lower figure. This figure is that determined by the 1931 Czecho-Slovak Census* in respect of the territories now forming the Slovak State. It goes without saying that the figures of the Czecho-Slovak Census relating to the Magyars living in present-day Slovakia are not accepted by any one, seeing that *the whole world knows all about the anti-nationality methods employed in Czecho-Slovakia in connection with the collection of Census data.* The above Czecho-Slovak figure is in consequence corrected by every one and supplemented, the object of this process of "appreciation" being to express the fact that every one is perfectly well aware of the anti-minority tendency of the Czecho-Slovak Censuses of former days.

The only question is — how far does the correction and the supplementation of the figure to the maximum referred to above really reflect the actual number of Magyars living in Slovakia?

Seeing that so far no investigation of the matter has been made, we consider it necessary to make the first experiment in that direction.

The starting-point of our inquiry must be the number of Magyars living in the territory of present-day Slovakia prior to the detachment of that territory (taking the figures of the 1910 Census); and we must try to find out what disruptive influence have since affected the numerical strength of the Magyars?

According to the Hungarian Census of 1910 the number of Magyars living within the territory of present-day Slovakia was 265,000. The number of Magyars living at the same period in the territories now restored to Hungary was 747,000 — that showing an aggregate total of 1,012,000 souls. Now what disruptive influences can have affected the development of this numerical strength? The first cause of the decline in the number of Magyars was expulsion: *the number of persons expelled from Czecho-Slovakia having been 107,000* — that being 10.52% of the total number of Magyars. Now if we take the quota of this number falling to the share of the territory of present-day Slovakia, we find that the number of Magyars expelled from that territory must have been 27,878. *The number of Magyars remaining in that territory after deduction of this quota was therefore 237,122.*

The second disruptive influence was that of *dissimilation*. This process must necessarily be regarded as only natural in this territory, where the Magyars have come into contact with other ethnic elements. *The extent of dissimilation has been estimated at 10—15% by Stephen Révay*, one of the leading authorities on the ethnographical conditions prevailing in the Highlands (the Upper Hungary of pre-Trianon days). The lower figure — placing the extent of dissimilation at 10% — applies to the southern districts of the Highlands; whereas the higher (15%) scale of dissimilation applies to the territory of present-day Slovakia. For there is every reason to presume that the process of dissimilation was more extensive in the more northerly areas. We must therefore deduct from the original number of Magyars living in the territory of present-day Slovakia a quota of 15% as being that subjected to the process of dissimilation down to the year 1930; the number involved being 39,750. That is therefore the concrete effect of the working of the second disruptive influence — that of dissimilation.

Now, *the number of Magyars remaining in 1930 in the territory of present-day Slovakia after deduction of the above two quotas was 197,372.* The Czech Census decreased this number to 67,000. We see, therefore, that the work effected by this Census, though perfect from its own par-

ticular point of view, produced results infinitely ridiculous from the point of view of reality.

The Magyars living in the territory of present-day Slovakia were subjected to *further disruptive influences* after 1930. In the first place, the process of dissimilation did not cease in the 'thirties, but continued to work its havoc also in the second decade of the existence of the Czecho-Slovak Republic. The Magyar national minority developed the intensity of its ethnic and national consciousness and offered resistance to outside influences. Nevertheless the process of crumbling still continued; for that was inevitable where several different peoples were living in symbiosis, while the ruling nation was using every effort to divert the process of development into a channel favouring its own interests. But the shrinking due to dissimilation must undoubtedly have been restricted in the 'thirties to the northernmost peripheries, — i. e. to the territory which forms the pivot of present-day Slovakia. The only question is how great was the scale of this dissimilation. Stephen Révay has concluded that during the period when the process of dissimilation was most rapid and most extensive (i. e. between 1925 and 1930) *the number of persons withdrawn by this process from the ranks of the Magyars was 57,057, — that being 5% of the total strength of the Magyar minority.* The greatest (numerically) and the most serious losses suffered by the Magyars were those prior to the year 1921. There is not the slightest reason for estimating the scale of dissimilation to have been greater after 1930 than it was between 1921 and 1930. We shall therefore be using the utmost generosity if we take into account as having taken place down to 1938 a decrease by dissimilation of 5%, and in consequence deduct 13,250 souls from the number of Magyars living in Slovakia in 1930. We shall find, after effectng this deducton too, that *the number of Magyars remaining within the territory of present-day Slovakia at the time of the dissolution of the Czecho-Slovak Republic and of the establishment of an independent Slovakia, must have been 184,122.*

It is true, of course, that the consequences of the first Vienna Award had a decreasing effect; but the decrease involved was not a material one and cannot be estimated at

more than a few thousands. In this way we find that *the number of Magyars in Slovakia may be estimated at roughly 180,000.*

Is this number in keeping with the facts? We believe it to be correct in every respect. For when making our calculations we have taken into account all disruptive influences; and we believe that we have actually made generous concessions in enhancing the effect of the disruptive influences at the expense of the numerical strength of the Magyars. We have therefore no hesitation in commending this figure to the attention of all those who are interested in minority policy. Today the rational husbanding of materials is assuming an ever-increasing importance. So why should we not devote the utmost care to husbanding the numerical strength of our nation?

The figure ultimately reached above may of course be called in question. But in that case we must be initiated into the methods by the aid of which the figure obtained as a result of our calculations can be lowered either theoretically or practically. There will be no danger in facing such an attempt. The only way in which such a decrease is to be obtained is by having recourse to the same methods as were employed in drafting the Czecho-Slovak Censuses — methods which were greeted with such ridicule all over the world.

PROGRESS IN HUNGARIAN TRANSYLVANIA

BY

LADISLAS SZENCZEI

The Hungarian Budget recently voted appropriates enormous sums for the development of the restored Transylvanian areas. The appropriation for road-building in the whole country is more than 50 million pengő, *a very considerable part of which is to be devoted to widening the Budapest—Kolozsvár—Sepsiszentgyörgy highroad. The main road between Marosvásárhely and Gyergyósztmiklós will also be widened*, especially the section between Marosvásárhely and Parajd.

Besides the enormous sums appropriated in the Budget, mention must also be made of the *100 million pengő Transylvanian Premium Loan*, subscriptions to which are pouring in. It is estimated that the 100 million originally fixed will be over-subscribed. The whole of this substantial sum is to be devoted to the development of the restored Transylvanian areas.

A very interesting report on mining affairs in the eastern parts of Hungary was published recently by the Ministry for Industry. In the rich mining districts of Northern Transylvania work is in full swing, and this although, when these parts were restored, the mines were in a most deplorable condition, so much so that *it cost several million pengő to set them in working order again*. These mines, which are of great importance, especially as regards the country's supplies of lead and zinc, are Kereszthegy, Felsőbánya, Erzsébetbánya, Veresvíz and Kapnikbánya. They are all situated in the Nagybánya district. The machinery of each one of them was in such a state of disrepair that the Hungarian State was obliged to expend large sums to make up deficiencies. Today, we may say with satisfaction that their output has risen considerably. This is of great value, not only as regards the country's requirements, but

also because of the immediate advantages that Transylvanian industry and the industrial classes there will enjoy. In one year the above-mentioned five mines produced 178.000 tons of raw ore. *In 1942 the Hungarian Ministry for Industry proposes spending five million pengő on a further improvement of their equipment*, on modernizing the plants and building houses for the miners and mine officials. These investments will largely increase the output and thus the earning capacity of the mines. The output of the privately-owned mines situated in the Nagybánya district is also increasing by leaps and bounds. This is shown by the fact that in the State Budget for 1942 over seven million pengő have been set aside for the redemption of the products that must be handed over to the State, chiefly auriferous and argentiferous ore. *The industrial secondary school of mining, smelting and deep drilling named after Anthony Péch* (to which in the autumn of 1939 a fourth class and a smelting section were added) *has been removed to Nagybánya by the Ministry for Industry*. This secondary school is destined to play an important rôle in the development of the Hungarian mining industries, and, thanks to its present situation, will recruit its pupils primarily from among the youth of Transylvania. *The Budget for 1942 sets apart 250.000 pengő for the buildings and equipment of this school.*

The Lord Lieutenant of County Háromszék, Baron Peter Apor, has conducted important economic negotiations in Budapest, as a result of which it has been decided to establish *the second tannin factory in the country* at Gyergyószentmiklós. Because of the increasing difficulty of obtaining imports, the Government is obliged to make provision for leather to be dressed here in the country. The factory to be established at Gyergyószentmiklós will be a large one. It will be able to deal with all the oak and pine bark produced in the Székler districts. In Kézdivásárhely the building of a distillery for making spirit from sugar-beet has been begun. It was also found necessary to reorganize the textile mill at Sepsiszentgyörgy in order that it should be able to deal with hemp and flax. To promote flax-growing it was decided to give effective assistance to the Székler farmers of the districts. Next year, in order that the Sepsis-

szentgyörgy mill should be able to work at its full capacity, flax and hemp will be grown on about 1500 yokes.

The Transylvanian action undertaken by the so-called "Industrial Workers' Organisation Institute" has made possible further industrial investments totalling 20 million pengő.

To encourage production the General Land Mortgage Bank has decided to double the amount hitherto issued as medium-term agricultural loans to Transylvanian farmers. This welcome decision means that a healthy flow of credit has begun in the direction of the Transylvanian villages.

Both the Government and the people of Hungary are eager to help to bring about an improvement in the social welfare and public health of the population of the restored Transylvanian areas. Special mention must be made of the *Health Institute established at Csiksomlyó, the first modern institution of its kind in Széklerland, a district badly neglected by its alien rulers.* The Health Institute at Csiksomlyó was created by the Transylvania Society of Social Sisters. Its beginnings were made on an extremely modest scale during the Rumanian era; but its real development dates from the time when the restored areas returned. Today it boasts of absolutely up-to-date medical equipment, with water and electricity laid on, and it is certain to make further progress in the near future.

The Family Welfare Foundation has decided to build no fewer than 50 family houses in County Maros-Torda alone. Last year the Marosvásárhely committee of that Foundation distributed 10 pairs of horses and harness to families with many children, as well as 19 cows and 90 rabbits to needy families. Many large families received garden plots to grow vegetables, and willow groves are being planted to provide the withes needed for basket-weaving. The Family Welfare Foundation devotes 24,000 pengő to the upkeep of day-nurseries. A similar social and public health work is being done by the so-called "Family Welfare Self-Help" organization, which in one single town — Kolozsvár — in three months distributed 37 layettes among poor families. Dr. Valentine Hóman, Hungarian Minister of Public

Education, has made a donation of 5000 pengő to be given to the poor of Kolozsvár.

On 4th January a permanent People's Academy is to be opened at Ákosfalva. During the Rumanian era it was proposed to create a denationalizing centre there, and for this purpose extensive building operations were begun in the middle of the village. The Vienna Award, however, put a stop to them. The building was completed by the Hungarian authorities and handed over to the village for a People's Academy. About thirty young eighteen-year-old Székler lads living in the surrounding villages are waiting for the courses to begin on 4th January. The students will receive a general education, but many practical questions will also be discussed, — economic and commercial questions an understanding of which will help these young men to do their work at home with much greater self-confidence and efficiency.

OSZK

Országos Széchényi Könyvtár

THE SITUATION IN SERBIA

BY

IMRE PROKOPY

When the war between Germany and Russia broke out on 22nd June, in beaten and defeated Serbia the extreme nationalistic elements, — obviously incited thereto by foreign influence, — joining hands with the Communists, began a ruthless campaign of guerilla warfare. With an unbridled work of destruction and the wrecking of irreplaceable economic assets they are striving to make things difficult for the occupying German, Italian, Bulgarian and Croat troops, in the vain hope that in time the fortune of war will perhaps turn in their favour. Since this situation began in Serbia, which has now been reduced to its original size, *it has been the scene of a civil war* the magnitude of which may be gathered from the eloquent statistics of the losses sustained by the insurgents as published by the Neditz Government, which since 1st September rules the country under the supervision and direction of the German General Headquarters. In spite of the report issued concerning the result of the work of "clearing up and establishing order", fighting with heavy losses on both sides and the destruction of indispensable economic resources is going on in many parts of Serbia. That in certain places some of the insurgents, trusting the Government's promise of a general amnesty, have in response to its appeal returned to their homes, by no means signifies that the rebellion has been definitely crushed. Most probably it merely means that to escape the harshness of "General Winter" and provide themselves with food they have taken refuge with their families, leaving their weapons well hidden in the depths of the forests and the caves of the mountains, and that when spring comes they will renew the fight against the Government's troops and the occupying armies.

To throw some light on the real situation we shall

quote from the addresses to the Serb people broadcast from Belgrade on 16th November by M. Radosavlyevitz, Minister of Agriculture and Public Supplies and on 4th December by General Neditz, Prime Minister.

In his speech addressed chiefly to the agricultural population of Serbia M. Radosavlyevitz, amongst other things, said: — "*Serious tasks await this country, and if they are not performed with sober deliberation the whole of Serbia will be a true cemetery tomorrow*". He therefore appealed in the first place to the farmers, to those who built up the country and who — should they refuse to listen to reason — might ruin it.

He warned the village people that the paid agents of foreign countries were among them, leading them astray and bent upon thrusting them and their country into utter ruin. He begged them not to be deluded by those who were merely bent on creating disturbances and confusion to gain their own ends, which at the same time meant the complete destruction of Serbia. "*What is happening in Serbia today*" — said M. Radosavlyevitz — "is suicidal. Do not listen to foreign propaganda in the radio, for that would lead to our utter extermination. We have lost the war, but that does not mean that everything is lost; if, however, we lose the peace, we shall lose everything. Drive out your evil advisers, return to your homes, and cultivate your fields; that is what would be important for yourselves and the country too."

The Minister said that there was no salt or petroleum in the villages. The war was not the sole cause of that; it was also due to the fact that the enemies of the Serb people were ruining the country from within and making it impossible for the Government to supply the villages with their needs. He asked the peasants not to follow those who were inciting them to boycott Belgrade and the other towns. *If they continued to follow the advice of foreign agents, the result would be the destruction of the Serb people and the Serb race.* He had faith in the healthy instincts of the ancient Serb race, for if their fathers had done as they were doing and had listened to foreign trouble-makers, there would not be one single Serb in the world by now.

The following are interesting passages from the notable speech broadcast by Premier General Neditz:

"I am speaking from Belgrade, of which bad tongues on the other side of the Ocean alleged that the German aeroplanes would shortly raze it to the ground as they are said to have done to *Csacsak* and *Uzsicé*. All of you know that this assertion was a malevolent falsehood believed by nobody with any sense" . . .

"When on 1st September I appealed to you on behalf of the Government of National Salvation to fight with all your strength against the dragon of Communism waiting to devour the Serb nation, I was convinced that you would understand my plea and come to my aid. Thanks to your great faith in me I have accomplished this task. *The pacification of the nation has begun, as has also the establishment of order and security. This work will be continued until final peace and the extermination of Communism are assured . . .*"

"I have firm confidence in the Serb people and their vital energies. Our people will recover fully, though they have been seriously ill. I have appealed to every good Serb to rally round the Serb flag. I did not do so for my own sake, but for the sake of yourselves, for the Serbs, for our mother Serbia. I promise you to exterminate and annihilate the scum who have infected the healthy Serb people. They will never rise again, but be reconciled as soon and as fully as possible, that our strength may be restored and *that we may save our youth, our hope of the future*. Let us give back to them what they imbibed with their mother's milk: their Serb character and a desire to live for Serbia alone . . ."

"Great events are taking place. They demand much strength and unity. *The tragedy that overtook us in April would never have happened had we been united*. Major catastrophes can be avoided only by nations with a united national spirit. The future great national programme of all Serbs must be to think and work in unity. What has happened to us, what we have suffered, was a sore punishment inflicted by the Almighty. Let us put our hands on our hearts and confess that we deserved it. We had forgotten the traditions of our noble past, we had forgotten our homes and our

families, which are the nurseries and cradles of our Serb spirit. Our enemies trampled on our hearths, broke up our families, and introduced the poison of internationalism and Communism among our ranks. *Cast aside materialism, the greatest curse of mankind. Be good Christians and good Serbs.* The Serbs have always been merciful. We must do everything to ensure that in future no good and honest Serb shall lack a home, bread and work.

"Serbs, come with me! The future is ours. The sun has appeared on the horizon. The spreaders of false propaganda say that the Germans are our greatest enemies and want to exploit and ruin us. But I say they their sense of justice greatly resembles our own, *all we must do is show goodwill and compliance in order that work and our regeneration should begin.* I am convinced that the great German Reich will not deprive us of the possibility of contributing to the new order in Europe. Germany was not our enemy, and it only depends on ourselves to prevent her being our enemy tomorrow."

OSZK

Országos Széchényi Könyvtár

POLITICAL MOSAIC

DEATH OF M. NICHOLAS DE KOZMA, HIGH COMMISSIONER OF SUB-CARPATHIA

The political and social world of Hungary has suffered a serious loss. On December 7th. *M. Nicholas de Kozma*, High Commissioner of *Sub-Carpathia*, died at the age of fifty-seven. The Deceased was a distinguished personality of great ability. The versatility of his ability and his exceptional capacity as organiser and leader he placed at the service of his nation in many various fields of Hungarian life. During the first Great War he won distinction as a dauntless soldier; and after the War was advanced to the rank of colonel of hussars in the reserve. As president and general manager of the official news agency — the *Hungarian Telegraph Bureau* — and of the *Hungarian Broadcasting Corporation* (Radio), during the period following the collapse of the Dual Monarchy he organised and developed those institutions on a large scale. For a time he served also as *Minister for the Interior*. Later on the Regent appointed him *High Commissioner for Sub-Carpathia*.

With his name is connected the initiation of the Golden Age of Sub-Carpathia; for — as he was fully justified in saying — the people of Sub-Carpathia never experienced such welfare (and certainly not during the days of the Czecho-Slovak régime) as has fallen to their share since the return of this territory to Hungary. He used superhuman efforts to further the economic prosperity of Sub-Carpathia and to solve the burning social problems with which that province was faced. The provision of opportunities of work galore, the establishment of undertakings, large-scale constructive work initiated in the interest of small existences, the building of railways and roads and the opening up of new sources of energy, — these were among the principal achievements recorded to the credit of Nicholas de Kozma. This zealous activity displayed by Kozma was accompanied by an affection of unparalleled intensity, not only for the Magyars, but more particularly for the Ruthenian inhabitants of this province; the primary object of his untiring efforts being to ensure a living, human rights, cultural and linguistic liberty to this national minority which has at all times clung so loyally and so unswervingly to the Magyar people.

The funeral was attended also by the Hungarian Prime Minister and the Hungarian Minister for the Interior; the funeral oration was delivered by *Alexander Illiczky*, Adviser-in-Chief

(Administrator) for Sub-Carpathia; there being present a large delegation representing the people of Sub-Carpathia, the said delegation including many simple Ruthenians. Among the wreaths placed on the grave of the great Deceased were those of the Regent of Hungary and of Dr. *Frick*, German Imperial Minister for the Interior.

DEATH OF JOSEPH SZENT-IVÁNY

The death of Joseph Szent-Ivány, onetime leader of the Magyar minority living in Czecho-Slovakia, has evoked a feeling of sincere sympathy everywhere in the re-incorporated districts of the Hungarian Highlands and among the Magyars of Slovakia. Joseph Szent-Ivány was one of the outstanding personalities in the political world of the minorities of the former Czecho-Slovak Republic. His political schooling dated from the period prior to the first Great War and its foundations were laid in Greater Hungary. He displayed a many-sided activity in particular in the organisation of small-holders. After the upheaval in 1918, when the Highlands were wrested from Hungary, he was the first to set to work to organise the political movement of the Magyar minority. At *Komárom* he established the *National Magyar Small-Holders and Farmers Party*. This organisation was the first militant association of the Magyar minority separated from the main body of the nation and incorporated in Czecho-Slovakia. Joseph Szent-Ivány's original party was later on amalgamated with the older Magyar *Law Party*, the amalgamation being organised into the *Magyar National Party*. When the new minority life began Joseph *Szent-Ivány* was barely 36 years of age; but he was already the leader of the Magyar minority, a body comprising over a million souls. It is to his undying credit that from the very first moment his principal object was to weld into a single unit the Magyars of Czecho-Slovakia. At hte first elections in 1920 he figured on a joint list with the Christian *Socialist Party*, the result being that despite the monstrous terror employed by the Czechs in their endeavour to intimidate the electors the Magyar minority obtained two seats in the Prague Parliament. From that period onwards the *Magyar National Party* and the *Christian Socialist Party* worked in close co-operation on behalf of the Magyar minority. Joseph *Szent-Ivány* started the work of organisation in all fields alike. The first thing that was done was to lay the foundation of political organisation everywhere in Czecho-Slovakia. The large-scale work involved was not long in showing results: at the second Czecho-Slovak parliamentary elections held in 1925 already five Magyar deputies were delegated to represent the Magyar minority in Prague.

Szent-Ivány's activity was not however confined to the

political field. He was responsible also for organising the intellectual and cultural life of the Magyars living in Czecho-Slovakia. He was one of the founders of the political daily of the Magyar minority, the *Prágai Magyar Hirlap*. Later on it was due to his initiative that the cultural periodical of the Magyars — "*Magyar Irás*" — was called into being. Once a year he convened an assembly of Magyar writers and intellectual leaders to meet in his country mansion and take part in the deliberations of the "Szent-Ivány Curia". At these meetings of unforgettable memory the cultural problems of the Magyar minority were discussed and the questions of intellectual tendencies and of the publication of books were talked over. He himself preferred to speak of the matters discussed as "*problems of intellectual production and distribution*". He rendered services of unforgettable value also in respect of the book-publishing activity of the Magyars of Czecho-Slovakia. It was he that called into being the *Kazinczy Book-Publishing Institute*, which for twenty years provided for the publication of the works of minority writers. He also functioned as a writer himself, using the "nom de guerre" *Joseph Zerdahelyi*. His prose writings contributed in no small measure to develop the literary consciousness of the Magyar minority of Czecho-Slovakia. He was also President of the *Evangelical Magyar Association of Slovakia*.

After the events ensuing in the autumn of 1938 he moved to Budapest and became Member of the Lower House of the Hungarian Parliament.

The deceased minority politician was a many-sided personality. The speeches made by him in the *Prague* Parliament were always "events", not only for the Magyar minority of Czecho-Slovakia, but also for German and Czech political circles. He was a formidable opponent of *Beneš* and his henchmen, who all feared his startling interruptions and his witty method of debate. The Magyars formerly playing the role of a minority — with whom Szent-Ivány shared better and worse alike in the true spirit of a leader and a brother — received the news of his death with feelings of profound mourning. The Magyar minority will ever treasure his memory.

HUNGARIAN PARLIAMENT UNANIMOUSLY PASSES BILL RELATING TO RE-INCORPORATION OF SOUTHERN HUNGARY

Despite the intensive constructive work being done there, until the middle of December no measures had been taken to adjust the political status of Southern Hungary; it was to remedy this state of uncertainty that the Prime Minister submitted the Bill relating to the union of this territory with the

mother-country. *This Bill provides for the parliamentary representation of the re-incorporated districts of Southern Hungary; and the Prime Minister proposed that 26 Deputies should be elected by those re-incorporated districts to sit in the Lower House. In addition the Regent is to appoint four Members to sit in the Upper House.* This Bill also adjusts the questions of citizenship. In terms of the Bill every Hungarian citizen who possessed Hungarian citizenship already prior to the Treaty of Trianon is to obtain Hungarian citizenship today without any need for special measures on the part of the authorities, even if he resided in the re-incorporated districts of Southern Hungary without interruption from June 1st., 1931, to June 1st., 1941. The Hungarian citizenship thus re-acquired shall extend also to the wife and such children of every male thus re-naturalised who have not yet completed their fourteenth year. By this Bill the districts of Southern Hungary re-incorporated in April, 1941, become organically united with the mother-country.

At its meeting held on December 15th. the Lower House of the Hungarian Parliament passed the Bill with enthusiastic unanimity. *The chief speakers of the several Parties expressed their grateful acknowledgment of the wisdom shown by the Regent in making it possible for the brave National Defence Army to recover the land which had for a thousand years at all times belonged to Hungary.* The speakers stressed that Hungary had been provoked into taking her war measures, being compelled to do so because bloody attempts threatened the lives and property of the Magyars living in that region, — because aerial attacks had already been launched against undefended Hungarian towns, — because armed bands had crossed the Hungarian frontier, — and because in any case Croatia had declared her independence before Hungary took any war measures, that meaning that Yugoslavia had *de jure* ceased to exist.

The Prime Minister expressed his gratitude for the unanimous approval of the Bill and established the fact that *Divine Providence had now for the fourth time made it the duty of the Hungarian Parliament to solemnly incorporate in law the return of territories illegally and unjustly wrested from Hungary.* The Hungarian Parliament was passing a law which would for ever proclaim that *victory lies with right and justice* and that it is impossible for any length of time to break the bonds inseparably uniting the parts of a country and the peoples living there by the irresistible force of interdependence and the laws of historical conditions rooted in centuries of symbiosis.

The Premier then continued: — "Every nation is liable to have blows inflicted on it and to experience suffering; but if the vital force of a nation is intact, the blows inflicted and the sufferings experienced will remain merely passing episodes in its life the memory of which will enable it to triumphantly rebuild

what the storm has shattered or broken down. The tree of Hungarian life has oftentimes been shaken by storms; but the lodged trunk has always straightened out and become erect again, and the inner power permeating the whole has always re-set the torn branches firmly in the trunk. *This is our greatest historical experience and the most convincing proof of our national power. In it we sense the assertion of deep-seated natural forces, of truths written in the lines of mountains and rivers, — truths of which this nation is the self-sacrificing servant and standard-bearer.*

"We greet the districts of Southern Hungary that have returned to us, — districts which for nearly 23 years were compelled by the machinations of men daringly gambling with the destinies of peoples to live in symbiosis with elements mentally and morally foreign to them. The community into which these districts had been forced was the Yugoslav State, which last April provoked the fate to which its artificial and fragile organisation doomed it in advance. This State deliberately provoked the fate which overcame it when the irresistible military power of our mighty friends, Germany and Italy, swept down upon it.

"When the hour of action struck, — when it became a question of ensuring the lot of our racial brethren and of the other nationalities loyal to us who were living beyond the artificially demarcated frontiers, and of safeguarding their security, the glorious Hungarian National Defence Army too started on its way to bring to the southern peripheries the liberation so long yearned for. Our best thanks and our profound gratitude are due to the National Defence soldiers, — to the brave rank and file and to their fine officers and their excellent leaders — for having done their duty on the present occasion too, as so often during past centuries.

"But now *let us with happy hearts welcome those who during 23 years of bitter oppression too maintained intact the Magyar character of these districts of Southern Hungary*, personifying the bonds which during the period of separation too linked these areas with the Dismembered Hungary created in the Trianon. In is due to their faith, their refusal to abandon hope, their courage and their actions that all the forces of the territories liberated from foreign oppression the very first moment — like rivers returning to their natural beds — gravitated in the direction and towards the framework in which they had for long centuries thrived and developed and served European culture — *towards the ancient framework of the Hungarian State.*

"We greet affectionately the Magyars of the re-incorporated districts of Southern Hungary, who during years of hard trials built up new forms of life to suit their status as a minority, — forms of life in which all alike, throwing to the winds

individual interests, pleasures and ambitions, toiled and laboured, ready to sacrifice their energy and endure ordeals and sufferings (even, if so required, sacrificing their lives) for their racial brethren. We greet affectionately the loyal German inhabitants of Southern Hungary, with whom, ever since their settlement in the country, the Magyars have lived in a symbiosis based upon mutual respect and esteem, — who proved their unswerving loyalty to their Hungarian fatherland by shedding their blood when in 1848 they fought bravely and unflinchingly on our side. *We greet with affection the Bunyevatz and Shokatz peoples, which have never failed in loyalty to the ties binding them to the Magyars, the ever faithful people of the Muraköz district — Count Nicholas Zrinyi's gallant people —, and the Serbians now returning to Hungary, who during the period of separation too at all times remembered where they really belonged.*

"In this solemn act of re-incorporation we embrace all alike with the same affection and offer all alike a hearty welcome. The people living in the re-occupied territories have now for nearly ten months been living once more in symbiosis with the people living in the other parts of the country. Its blood circulation has once more been joined up with the life rhythm of the mother-country. In those territories too the spirit — the moral code — is being enforced which we have held in esteem for ten centuries in this country of ours, which we cling to and by which we steer the course of our life in mutual understanding and support.

"Every one must give of his best and all forces must be applied to the furtherance of common interests" — that has been the fundamental principle underlying this symbiosis; and this fundamental principle we profess and enforce today too, a principle for the enforcement of which we appeal for the sympathy and co-operation of all those of our brethren who have now returned to us. The completeness of the re-incorporation in the life of our nation of the districts now re-annexed, is shown most strikingly and most convincingly by the fact that during the ten months that have just passed these districts have already become enriched by the addition of a new colour and a new element, — the Magyars of Bukovina, whom the people of Southern Hungary have received with delight and brotherly affection and a fellow-feeling prepared to offer every assistance.

"A shoot of the Hungarian trunk exiled to foreign soil has now returned to its native home, finding there the old homeland which it left more than a hundred and seventy years ago. What a touching symbol" — continued the Prime Minister — "lies latent in the fact that the land restored to us should in the first happy hours of a consciousness of Magyar interdependence have given a home to a family of Magyars exiled to a foreign country which was also returning to the bosom of its mother. A province that had suffered 23 years of slavery is found welcoming home

again a branch of the Magyar people which had suffered 170 years of thralldom under a foreign rule! And it is our sacred duty — the duty of those of us whom Trianon permitted to remain Magyars during the last two decades — to make the people of the liberated districts of Southern Hungary forget the bitter memory of their slavery."

RESULTS AND AIMS REVEALED DURING LOWER HOUSE DEBATE ON HUNGARIAN ESTIMATES

During the debate on the budgetary Estimates in the Hungarian House of Deputies the Members of the Hungarian Cabinet made very many interesting announcements and submitted reports of many valuable results achieved.

During this discussion on the Estimates, which began on November 11th. and came to an end on November 27th. Dr. Valentine *Hóman*, Minister for Education, reported that *the number of teachers in Dismembered Hungary had advanced from 16,000 to 24,000*, that total including 19,000 persons teaching in non-State schools. The social position of the teaching staff had considerably improved, and their advancement was much more rapid. The Government had allotted the amount of 4.2 million pengő for student welfare organisations. The non-Magyar inhabitants had been ensured the free use of their languages and the right of cultural development; and *at present instruction was being given in non-Magyar languages in 59 secondary schools*. In 6123 public elementary schools there had been a change of system, the eight-standard type being adopted there, while that type was very shortly to be introduced in all public elementary schools alike. The Minister was delighted to be able to establish the fact that *80% of the pupils attending school had received instruction either in eight elementary or at least in four secondary school classes*. The Government was doing everything in its power to further the spiritual and national training and culture of the younger generation.

Francis *Keresztes-Fischer*, Minister for the Interior, then announced that the new public administration reform would be ready soon — the reform scheme which was to render public administration simpler, more rapid and more modern and to devolve greater responsibility on the officials. There had been considerable progress in the development of the public hygiene of the villages; in particular in respect of the prevention of diseases, though also of up-to-date nursing and of the preservation of health. There was no disputing the fact that *the Ruthenian inhabitants of the country had never enjoyed such well-being as they had since the restoration of Sub-Carpathia to Hungary*. And despite the war Hungary was spending more on social purposes than in the pre-war days of peace.

The discussion of the Estimates of the *Ministry for National Defence* could indeed scarcely be described as a parliamentary debate at all; for the deputies speaking on behalf of all parties alike united in enthusiastically acclaiming the National Defence Army, giving such unanimous expression to their profound appreciation for the Minister for National Defence and for the supreme military authorities that *this manifestation of absolute harmony raised the session far above the level of customary debates and converted it into what was practically a festive assembly*. Vitéz Charles Bartha, Minister for National Defence, presented his report of the splendid development of the army effected with a rapidity practically without a parallel. He was proud to be able to say that the Hungarian army is excellent in respect of organisation, of training, of spirit and of equipment alike. This was due, apart from the soldierly qualities of the Hungarians, also to the exemplary generosity of the nation. The Government was making the most far-reaching provision for the families of the men at the front, for the wounded and disabled and for the widows and orphans and other dependants of soldiers killed in action. Commissions of officers visited the relatives of the men at the front to inquire whether there were any complaints? *The pay of the rank and file of the army at the front was being raised five-fold, and the family allowances of officers considerably increased.*

During the discussion of the Estimates of the *Ministry for Justice* M. Ladislas Radocsay, Minister for Justice, pointed out the difficulties involved by the incorporation in the Hungarian legal system of the territories restored to the mother-country. *When drafting laws the Hungarian Government had abandoned provisional and desultory methods*. It had passed the Rehabilitation Act, which *in the course of 8 months had removed the stigma of previous conviction from the certificates of character of 5000 repentant offenders*. Bills were in preparation for the regulation of the question of deputies' privileges, for the revision of company legislation and for an amendment of the criminal code of laws providing for the possibility of inflicting more severe penalties for crimes against society, family life or religion, as also for certain crimes and offences against property. Everything was being done to reduce the number of divorce cases.

The *Minister for Agriculture* announced that in a few days he would submit a Bill relating to the outlay of a milliard pengő for the development of Hungarian agriculture. Hungarian agriculture showed a noteworthy development in respect both of quality and of volume of production. *The area of land sown with oleaginous plants had increased by 50% and would next year increase by a further 50%*. The number of model villages engaged in cattle-breeding had been increased from 240 to 500. The great floods of last spring had inundated 1,000,000 cadastral yokes;

but of this area, by dint of strenuous efforts, 950,000 yokes had been successfully reclaimed for the purposes of production. *The work of protecting the land against inundation had been made difficult by the illwill of the so-called Succession States; but now it would be possible, in the Hungary which had regained so much of its territory, to provide by a more comprehensive and uniform system of protection to reduce the measure of the danger threatening agriculture. There had been a noteworthy development in the field of agrarian professional education.*

M. Joseph Varga, speaking in his capacity as Minister for Commerce and Communications, began by saying that continuous headway was being made by the spirit which demanded for commerce an authority greater than that previously enjoyed by that branch of economic life. The Bill relating to market administration was ready; as was also *the Bill for ensuring in a greater degree than hitherto the Sunday and feast-day holidays of commerce and industry.* Hungary's principal economic connection was that with Germany, though there had been an advance also in the trade with Italy, Switzerland, Sweden, Finland, Bulgaria, Turkey and Slovakia. Hungary had at present a network of roads 96,000 kilometres in length; but only 32% of that network was dust-free, so that the work of freeing the roads from dust was being considerably accelerated. *Next year 160 villages and homestead-settlements were to be connected up with the network of roads.* The work of building the bridge over the Danube at Ó-Buda and that over the Tisza at Polgár was proceeding without a hitch. *Three Danube-oceangoing boats of 2300 tons each had also been finished;* while the total length of air-routes served in 1940 by Hungarian civil aviation was 800,000 kilometres. The number of telephone subscribers showed an advance from 142,000 to 162,000, and that of radio subscribers had increased to 670,000. The work done by the railways had been superhuman; that is why the number of employees had been increased by 11,400, while 122,000 pengő had been appropriated for investments. Wages had been raised everywhere; and the 39,500 children of the 24,000 employees under the control of the department of commerce had received schooling allowances.

In his capacity as Minister for Industry M. Joseph Varga announced that *the value of the 1940 output of Hungarian industry was 4.4 million pengő — as against 3.6 million pengő in the previous year.* The number of working hours in our manufacturing industry had advanced in the course of a single year from 69 to 73 millions. The experiments made with substitute materials had on the whole shown satisfactory results, though industry had felt the shortage or indeed entire lack of certain foreign raw materials. There was a shortage of building materials still in evidence, though in the first quarter of the year *the*

output of building materials was 60% in excess of the peak point previously recorded, while during the same period the building activity showed an increase of 75%. The number of hands engaged in the factories in June, 1941, had been 371,000, as against 355,000 in June, 1940. Unemployment had practically ceased altogether; and the number of workers employed had reached a peak point. The Government had naturally been compelled to introduce a system of control of materials, and had, for instance, been driven to enforce exceptionally severe restrictions in the textile industry; while there were serious obstacles impeding the provision of shoes. There had been an enormous development in the manufacture of aluminium. The power stations of the electric works showed an increase of 10.7% while the consumption of industrial electrical energy showed an advance of 13%. Very favourable were the results shown by the mineral oil prospecting operations. The Minister announced that there was in preparation a Bill relating to the nationalisation of labour exchanges and employment agencies, this leading to an elimination of the role played in this field by party politics. A *Chamber of Labour* was also to be established. Hungarian industry was developing magnificently, offering splendid prospects for the future; unfortunately, however, the war was creating difficulties in industry and demanding sacrifice of the labourers too.

The *exposé* of the Minister for Foreign Affairs is being dealt with in a separate article.

In the name of the Prime Minister, who was absent, Secretary-of-State Francis *Zsindely* announced that the Press Chamber Bill was being drafted. He stressed that *the Magyars were showing the greatest goodwill in their treatment of the non-Magyar minorities, not only ensuring the rights of those minorities, but taking the greatest care to provide that there should not be any hitch in the exercise of those rights.*

General Alexander *Györfly-Bengyel*, Minister for Public Supplies, announced that *the yield of corn was sufficient to ensure the population of the country being provided uninterruptedly by a judicious distribution of the supplies available.* The stocks of fats and bacon were to be kept on record in order to prevent a perpetuation of the difficulties. Bread coupons (for use in restaurants) and a uniform system of food tickets were to be introduced. The Minister desired to increase the production of milk and proposed to introduce also fat coupons. *Provision was to be made for cheap footwear for labourers. In Transylvania, within the framework of a separate action, 16,800 pairs of shoes had been distributed at low prices; and among the workers of the country generally 100,000 pairs of cheap buskins with leather soles had been distributed.* He desired with the aid of a popular clothing action to render possible the supply of

cheap clothes and linen. He would take up the cudgels against all unjustifiable raising of prices; though a certain advance of prices was a natural consequence of the abnormal conditions prevailing.

M. Louis *Reményi-Schneller*, Minister of Finance, was delighted to be able to establish the fact that *we had succeeded in maintaining the stability of value of our currency, which we should ensure in the future too*. He proposed to bring about a harmony between agrarian and industrial prices on the one hand and the emoluments of public employees on the other hand. The cause of the increase in the note circulation was the aggrandisement of the country; and in consequence that increase had not acted as a factor inducing an advance of prices. *There had been a material improvement in respect of the conscientiousness of tax-payers, — a circumstance proving that the nation trusts the Government and is prepared to make sacrifices to ensure its future*. He had no intention of interfering with the serious investment of capital, but would exterminate all unjustifiable speculation. He proposed to effectuate a small-scale increase of the emoluments of employees in the lower categories; but the centre of gravity was to be a material raising of the scale of family allowances. He could not but feel moved when telling the House of the enormous crowds of people subscribing the *Transylvanian Premium Loan* or of how very large numbers of small existences had offered their mites — 50 or 100 pengő — for the support of the noble cause.

SOUTHERN HUNGARY BEGINS TO THRIVE

The regions of Southern Hungary which returned to the mother-country barely six months ago are developing with intense rapidity and making such rapid strides forward that the advance made seems almost incredible to those familiar with the conditions brought into being by Yugoslav rule. This ancient Member of the Hungarian body politic has already become once more so closely united with the mother-country that travellers are scarcely aware at all when their train or their car crosses the former Trianon frontier. During the six months that have just passed the Hungarian Government has left no stone unturned to heal the wounds inflicted on this veritable Canaan by the incompetence of a foreign people.

Southern Hungary is perhaps the most fertile wheat-growing territory in the world. In this territory the problem of the land is the pivot of life. It is the soil and the corn springing from that soil that determine the form of life, the culture and indeed also the spiritual attitude of this region. It is for that very reason that the Hungarian Government made it its primary and most important business to adjust the conditions of landed property

rendered so chaotic by the Serbians during the twenty-two years of their rule. As is well known, at the time of the change of rule two decades ago the Yugoslav authorities *simply turned the Magyar landowners out of their estates without offering any compensation, and replaced them by the importation of Balkan peasants who in many cases were totally ignorant of agriculture, doing so in order to further the serbisation of this Magyar region and to thereby prove to the outside world that the Southern Hungary allotted to Yugoslavia was Serbian territory.*

In earlier numbers of our Review we have repeatedly spoken of the work of settlement and of the allotment of land to the poor. Those estates which prior to the Peace Edict of Trianon were in Magyar hands have now been distributed by the Hungarian Government among landless agriculturists. *During recent months the town of Szabadka allotted 8500 cadastral yokes of land to poor villagers, doing so in order to ensure the honest cultivation of the soil by creating small independent existences.* The town of *Ujvidék* has also allotted land — 2500 yokes — for a similar purpose, stipulating that of this area 500 yokes should be reserved for the purposes of kitchen gardening, that ensuring the provision of the vegetables required by the consumers belonging to the jurisdiction of the town. In the environs of *Zenta* 150 families (with altogether 970 children) have been allotted about 1500 yokes.

Apart from the allotment of land, the Government is using every means to support the cause of agriculture. At *Szabadka* an agricultural college and at *Ujvidék* and *Kula* secondary schools of agriculture have been established. At *Ujvidék* an agricultural experimental station has been set up to assist farmers in Southern Hungary by giving them advice. Trained agricultural inspectors have been placed in control of the villages.

Apart from constructive work and measures in the field of agriculture the Government is using every effort in all branches of life to assist the inhabitants of Southern Hungary. *A measure of great importance in the field of industry is the enhanced emphasis laid on the training of apprentices, — a measure intended to prevent the botchery previously so luxuriant in this territory.* Today, apprentices are already in a position to present themselves for examination fully prepared to qualify as journeymen or masters respectively, that being calculated to effectually further the development of the Hungarian industry of these districts. The Government has rendered the labouring classes too a signal service by the adjustment of the question of wages. In the Serbian world of former days the standard of life of the working classes was far lower in these districts than it was in Hungary proper. *For that very reason wages in the districts of Southern Hungary recently re-incorporated have been adjusted to the scale in force in the mother-country, that*

involving an advance of some 20% in the standard of life of the workers of those districts.

A measure for the development of industry of exceptionally great importance is the construction of an export slaughter-house at Ujvidék. The operations for the extension of the slaughter-house were begun last month; and, once they are completed, Ujvidék will possess the largest slaughter-house in the country — a slaughter-house the importance of which consists, not only in its being the largest, but also in its producing primarily for export.

In the field of social policy *the social regulations prevailing in the mother-country have been introduced in Southern Hungary too.* Begging has been stopped; and the towns have undertaken to themselves provide for the indigent. People's kitchens have been established, actions initiated for providing the poor with clothing, and hundreds of social mission sisters are engaged in looking after the welfare of paupers. In illustration of this poor relief work it will perhaps suffice to note that the town of Ujvidék alone is spending more than 250,000 pengő on the indigent, while at Szabadka more than 500,000 pengő are being appropriated for the family and people's protection fund.

In the districts of Southern Hungary now in a state of recovery fresh life is being poured into the deserted towns; and the European civilisation exiled from that region for more than twenty years is again gaining ground. At *Ujvidék* during last month the sum of 500,000 pengő was spent on road-paving and house-repairs, while at Szabadka the work of extending and modernising the railway terminus has been begun — at a cost estimated to amount to 200,000 pengő.

In the field of culture special mention is due to the people's college at Palics, the object of which is to provide trained leaders to take over control of the villages. As an interesting, living refutation of the charge of minority oppression brought against Hungary we would note that the teaching of Serbian has been made an ordinary (obligatory) subject in the Magyar schools — and that despite the fact that the Serbians constitute only a minority in the "Bácska" region.

POLITICAL ECONOMY

BULGARIA

BULGARIA'S FOREIGN TRADE BALANCE

A recent issue of "Aussenhandel", a magazine appearing in Sofia that deals with Bulgaria's foreign trade, gives the following figures for the first half of the present year:

	Imports	Exports
	million levas	
First half of 1940	2853	2696
First half of 1941	3301	2628
plus:	448	minus: 68

In other words *the balance for the first half of 1941 is unfavourable by 673 million levas as compared with 157 million in the same period last year.* The balance does not, however, take into account the quantities supplied to the German authorities in Bulgaria, but as these in fact may be considered exports, it is obvious that the balance is not more unfavourable this year than it was last year. We get an entirely different picture if instead of the balance of value we examine the balance of volume, for compared with last year's 483.000 tons this year's exports were only 142.000 tons. The average value per ton has risen from 18.000 to 55.800 levas, the explanation of which is that the exportation of cheap and bulky goods has fallen off and that of tobacco, vegetables, strawberries and other kinds of fruit has increased.

The figures given by the Bulgarian Statistical Office for the period from January to August present the balance of foreign trade in an even more unfavourable light.

	Imports		Exports		Balance
	1000 t. mill.	levas	1000 t. mill.	levas	mill. levas
1940 Jan—Augt	230.6	3845.7	686.9	3632.9	— 212.8
1941 Jan—Augt	254.4	5164	217.2	3975.5	— 1188.5

While imports have increased both in volume and value, and much more greatly in value than in volume, exports have considerably decreased in volume, but slightly increased in value. The increase in imports is accounted for by State orders of machinery and war materials, the decrease in exports by the circumstance that less grain, coal and ore was exported. That despite this the value of Bulgaria's exports has increased is due to the higher price of the small quantity of tobacco exported.

The unfavourable balance for the half of the year is not regarded with anxiety in Bulgaria, since it is in the autumn months that her exports are the greatest, and it is hoped that by the end of the year exports and imports will balance each other. The situation of the leather and rubber industries, however, has become very difficult owing to their dependence on foreign countries for their raw materials. ("Stud", November 29.)

CROATIA

MAIN PROVISIONS OF THE PAYMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN HUNGARY AND CROATIA

In terms of the payment agreement between Hungary and Croatia that came into force on 1st December 1941, in Croatia payments must be made into the *National Bank of Croatia* by way of banks authorised to deal in foreign currencies and exchange; in Hungary they must be made into the *National Bank of Hungary*. The collective accounts will be kept in pengő, therefore liabilities owing to Hungarian creditors must be made out in pengő. *The rate of exchange has been fixed at 1206 kuna: 100 pengő.*

This rate of exchange applies to new contracts, but it may also be used in the case of contracts made before 1st December if the contracting parties are agreeable, or if their contracts have been made on the understanding that settlement will be made according to the clearing rate of exchange.

The settlement of older liabilities, especially those contracted before 10th April 1941, will be arranged by negotiation at a later date. For the present it has been decided that the payment of these older liabilities may be made on the above terms if the contracting parties are agreeable.

Private compensation accounts approved before 1st December 1941 must be settled in terms of the approbation. In future dealings of this nature will be subject to the permission of the foreign exchange authorities in both countries. Clearing payments are to be effected in their chronological order, but that creditors should not have to wait long for their money advance payments may be made. ("Deutsche Zeitung in Kroatien", December 6.)

HUNGARY

1.200.000 CADASTRAL YOKES REQUISITIONED IN TWENTY YEARS BY HUNGARIAN LAND REFORM TRIBUNALS

On 31st December 1941 the Hungarian Land Reform Tribunals ceased to exist. These Tribunals were created under Act XXXVI of 1920, and for two decades, doing pioneer work

and overcoming great difficulties, they strove to perform the tasks assigned to them. The main achievements of these two decades of work were as follows: In order to have land to distribute they asked permission to institute expropriation proceedings in 3567 villages. To collect the data required an official was sent by the competent Tribunal to each village, and on the basis of the data thus collected orders to institute those proceedings in 3326 villages were issued. Land has now been requisitioned in 3212 villages. All in all, the Tribunals acquired 879.550 cadastral yokes. Of these 259.927 were allotted for building-sites, 412.537 were made into small holdings and on the rest 251 model and small family estates were created, 936 common pastures established and 55 mediumsized estates formed. In connection with the allotment of land for building-sites, 37 separate settlements were established, and these may later become independent communities.

The area of the land that has been used for the purposes of the Land Reform, including what has been bought and what has been turned into small leaseholds, exceeds 1.200.000 cadastral yokes.

As the tasks of the Land Reform Tribunals can now be performed more efficiently by the other authorities entrusted with affairs connected with land policy, the former have ceased to function.

SERBIA

SERBIA WILL PAY THE LIABILITIES CONTRACTED BEFORE THE OUTBREAK OF THE WAR

The following statement was issued by the National Bank of Serbia: In terms of the agreement concerning the settlement of debts contracted before 13th April 1941, notice is hereby given to all concerned that in order to satisfy the claims of creditors living in Hungary (except those in the former Yugoslav areas now restored) the National Bank of Serbia has opened a Dinar Settlement Account with the National Bank of Hungary by means of which the following payments may be made:

1. Payment for goods imported or exported to Hungary. Goods which were delivered from former Yugoslav areas that now belong to a third State by Serb exporters on their own invoices count as goods exported from Serbia.

2. *Incidental expenses connected with the delivery of goods classed under heading 1.*

3. *The cancelling of advance payments* in cases where the goods ordered could not be delivered because of the war.

4. *Payments for services unconnected with the exchange of commodities.*

5. *Other payments agreed upon by the National Bank of Serbia and the National Bank of Hungary.*

Should the sum owing have been calculated in pengő, debtor and creditor shall agree as to the rate of exchange. Should they fail to agree, the Serb debtor shall turn to the National Bank of Serbia. If the sums involved are calculated in foreign exchanges (not dinar or pengő) the rate of exchange shall be determined at the time of payment by way of the National Bank of Serbia according to the official average rate of exchange quoted in Belgrade before the outbreak of hostilities.

Liabilities contracted between 13th April 1941 and 28th July 1941 may also be settled in the manner described above, but in this case the consent of the National Bank of Serbia and the National Bank of Hungary is required. The time limit for payments to be made on this basis is 31st December 1941. The question of the settlement of liabilities between persons living in Serbia and in the areas restored to Hungary will be decided at a later date. ("Reggeli Ujság", December 13.)

SLOVAKIA

VOLUME OF EXCHANGE OF COMMODITIES BETWEEN HUNGARY AND SLOVAKIA INCREASED

The *Slovak Telegraph* Bureau reports: The questions of trade between Slovakia and Hungary were discussed lately in Budapest. As a result certain quotas were increased. *The value of that trade has now reached the amount of 316 million crowns.* Slovakia will send a larger quantity of mining timber to Hungary to make up the shortage in the quotas of other commodities stipulated by the trade agreement between the two countries.

The Ordinance issued by the Slovak Ministry of Economy, which became operative on 30th November, — says the Slovak Telegraph Bureau, — introduces new regulations applying to the exchange of certain commodities between Slovakia and Hungary. In terms thereof a licence to export to Hungary goods that come under the heading "miscellaneous commodities" will be issued only to those who in compliance with the orders of the Slovak Ministry for Economy subjoin to their application for an export licence a certificate from the National Bank of Slovakia to the effect that they have paid into the "*Separate Hungarian Settlement Fund*" managed by the Bank 17% of the value of the goods to be exported by them.

Slovak importers importing into Slovakia from Hungary goods belonging to the category "*miscellaneous commodities*" whose contracts were made after this Ordinance came into force, and who pay for these goods within 30 days of their passing through the customs, are entitled to a refund premium of 17% of the actual sums paid, to be assigned to them out of the "*Separate Hungarian Settlement Fund*". The certificate entitling them to this refundment is to be issued by the National Bank of Slovakia

on production of a receipt of the payments effected on the "Hungarian Invoices" dealt with by the I. Savings Bank of Pozsony.

These new measures do not apply to exports covered by the export licences issued before 30th November, but under the Ordinance a prolongation of export licences is possible.

PIG-BREEDING COMPULSORY IN SLOVAKIA

To ensure an adequate supply of fat, the central bureau dealing with this problem has issued an order making the breeding, fattening and sale of pigs compulsory in Slovakia. The chief provisions of this order, which appeared in the latest issue of the Official Gazette, are as follows:

Every person who farms at least one hectare of land must make arrangements to produce the quantity of fat required by his own family and his farm servants. Besides this, *each farmer must, in the period between 1st January and 31st December 1942, breed, fatten and sell to the "Slovpol" a certain number of pigs.* That number is determined as follows: In the sugar-beet and wheat-growing areas the farmer who cultivates at least 4 hectares of land and whose family does not exceed five in number, must sell to the "Slovpol" one fattened pig weighing 110 kilogrammes live weight; in the fodder and potato-growing districts the ratio required is one pig of this weight to every six hectares. If the farmer's family consists of more than five persons, the ratio is one fattened pig of the above weight to every six hectares in the sugar-beet and wheat-growing areas and one to every eight hectares in other areas. Irrespectively of the nature of his crops and the number of his family, the farmer must sell to the "Slovpol" 35 kilogrammes live weight for every further entire hectare he possesses. All pig breeders who in 1942 sell more pigs to the "Slovpol" than they are obliged to, in terms of the order, will receive a premium of one crown per kilogramme live weight for every kilogramme above the stipulated 110. All breeders must have their pigs inoculated against contagious diseases.

Commenting on this order, the "Slovak Telegraph Bureau" says: — "*We must be prepared to find that the supply of grain for the fattening of pigs will be insufficient this year.* This is the reason why the order applies to the whole of 1942. Farmers who have some grain left over from this year's crops may fatten the pigs in the spring of 1942. Those who have none can for the present fatten them up to 70 or 80 kilogrammes on kitchen refuse (swill), and then fatten them up to the required weight when next year's crops have been harvested.

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Address: **Döbrentei-tér 9. Budapest.**

SZÉCHENYI MEDICINAL BATHS

Sulphuric thermal water, 76° centigrade, springing from a depth of 1238 metres. Psychotherapy department with modern equipment.

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The **Hungaria**, **Attila** and **Juventus** radio-active springs in the **Rudas Park**. Splendid results in cases of kidney, stomach, intestine and gall troubles, high blood pressure and premature old age. Ask your doctor!