

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

THE REGENT OF HUNGARY SHOOTING IN AUSTRIA AND HIS VISIT TO HERR HITLER

Admiral Horthy de Nagybánya, Regent of Hungary, left Budapest on 20th August for Austria to take advantage of a long-standing invitation from the Austrian Government to shoot chamois at Hinter-Riss near the Bavarian frontier. On his arrival in Vienna, Chancellor Schuschnigg paid the Regent a visit, who it is said will return it somewhere in Austria on his way back. The Regent will also visit President Miklas at Velden. As the road to Hinter-Riss leads through Bavarian territory Admiral Horthy paid Herr Hitler a visit on 22nd August at Berchtesgaden. According to the communiqué issued, the meet-

ing was of an entirely unofficial nature. Since this is the first time during his 16 years of Regency that Admiral Horthy has been abroad, his trip has given rise to the most fantastic combinations and reports. Their circulators seem to forget that after so many years the Regent is really entitled to leave the plains of Hungary for a holiday among the hills of our neighbour, Austria, to enjoy a little shooting, and that etiquette alone is sufficient to explain why he paid a visit to the head of the state through which he passed.

THE REVISION OF THE TREATY OF TRIANON AND THE BRITISH PUBLIC

The following letter appeared in the Times of 5th August:

"In the debate on the Foreign Office Vote, on Monday, Mr. Lloyd George, who, perhaps, is more responsible for the terms of the post-War treaties than anyone else, referred to the "mistakes in regard to Hungary", and on the question of self-determination indicated that, in consequence, parts of Hungary were given to Czecho-Slovakia which were not justified. That Mr. Lloyd George is right in his contention, and that the same applies to certain other "parts" in the other Little Entente States, no one with any knowledge of the Middle Danube Basin will dispute.

"It is highly important, in the interest of securing a just, "natural", and equitable settlement of Europe, that all legitimate national grievances shall be removed. Hungary has steadily tried to reach a modus vivendi with her neighbours and her Prime Minister has expressed his desire to meet them at the green table. To this there has been no echo on the part of the Little Entente States. We deplore their attitude.

"We urge that the League should invoke Article XIX of the Covenant and endeavour to bring Hungary and the Little Entente States together with a view to a peaceful adjustment of outstanding differences being arrived at.

Yours faithfully,

Robert Gower; P. C. Loftus; H. A. Procter; W. R. Duckworth; J. A. Lovat-Fraser; T. C. R. Moore; G. S. Elliston; James C. M. Guy; Basil Neven-Spence; Philip Dawson; N. Grattan-Doyle; Arnold Wilson; Cyril S. Cobb; J. Milner; William Mabane; A. A. Somerville; Leonard F. Plugge; Victor Raikes; William Allom Reid; J. Potts; Samuel Chaoman; Arthur Evans; J. D. Birchall; Allan Chapman; Alfred Denville; Cyril F. Entwistle; John Haslam; Clement Davies; R. Reaumont; R. Bernays; W. W. Boulton; J. Baldwin-Webb; W. A. Wayland."

II.

The Morning Post of 22nd July contains a letter to the Editor signed "Scot Abroad". Sir Robert Gower replied to the pro-Czech letter in the same newspaper on 11th August as follows:

"Your anonymous correspondent "Scot Abroad", writing from Prague repeats the old, worn out statements so characteristic of Czech propaganda. What he writes regarding Hungary is misleading. It is true that all classes there, in consequence of the unnatural situation created by the Treaty of Trianon — Hungary has been deprived of most of her industrial areas, and left with mainly agricultural lands — and the political and economic campaign which the Little Entente States have waged against it, are suffering acutely, but they are bearing their misfortunes bravely and with a patriotism beyond all praise. On the question of revision the people are enthusiastically united — the Socialist Party recently passed unanimously a resolution demanding it. To suggest there is a danger of Communism in Hungary is simply drawing a red herring across the trail. There is no such danger.

"On the other hand, Czechoslovakia is seething with discontent. Slovaks are in almost open rebellion against Czechs, and the Government has been compelled to pursue a policy of repression against the large racial minorities which constitute so large a proportion of the population. It has recently passed a National Defence Law to increase its powers in this direction. If Czechoslovakia were to be seriously attacked from without, it would without question, rapidly disintegrate into its natural component parts. Apart from the published Treaty with Bolsevist Russia, the relationship between the two countries is such that in Hungary it is asserted that Russia's advanced military and air front is in Czechoslovakia. Knowing Hungary as I do, I am convinced it is essential for the safety of Western Europe that it shall become strong again, so that it can take its parts in stemming the tide of Communism that threatens Europe.

"With regard to Hungary's claim for Treaty re-

vision, it asks that the principle of self-determination shall apply to the disputed districts, and responsible Hungarian statesmen have declared that they will accept a line of frontiers drawn on the basis of a plebiscite taken under international control. If the contention of Czechoslovakia is well founded, that country has nothing to fear from the Hungarian claims, and its strenuous, almost hysterical opposition to them is inexplicable.

"I have no unfriendly feeling towards Czechoslovakia — on the contrary, I sincerely wish her well. I believe, however, the present situation in the Middle Danube Basin is, indeed, a very real menace to world peace, and I am anxious to see it readjusted on a basis of justice and equity."

III.

The "Kent and Sussex Courier" of 21st August also contains a very interesting article by Sir Robert Gower on the questions of the League of Nations reform, extracts from which are given below.

"I notice, with regret, that in this country, even amongst leaders of political thought, attention seems to be concentrated upon what are the most effective means whereby the League can enforce its decisions. Important, as this is, I suggest that it is equally essential that the League should apply itself to the endeavour to secure a peaceful adjustment of the "present unnatural and unscientific settlement" of Europe. It is impossible for peace to be other than in the balance all the time nations and peoples are labouring under legitimate grievances. A policy of oppression and repression may succeed for a time, but reaction, as in the case of Germany, is bound to come. One of the principal functions, to perform which the League was established was, to quote President Wilson, to remedy the inequalities and injustices inevitable in treaties of peace made after four years of war and propaganda. On the Continent it is realised that there are cases where the League has not been diligent, even in attempting to carry out its Covenant obligations and to ascertain and endeavour to right national wrongs. As an example of those, I would refer to the Hungarian claim that its dismemberment has inflicted grave and gross injustice upon the Hungarian peoples and has rendered their prosperity, nay, even their welfare, impossible all the time the territorial provisions of the post-

War Treaty remain unrevised. Mr. Lloyd George, who, perhaps, more than anyone else, was responsible for the provisions of the Treaties, has declared that in the case of the making of the one imposed upon Hungary, the Powers were misled. Those of us who have examined the question — there is a group in the House of Commons of two hundred members — are of opinion that Hungary has more than made out a prima facie case. However, whether we are right or not, the fact remains that if ever there were a case, which it is the bounden duty of the League to investigate and report upon, under Article 19 of the Covenant, it is the one question. But it has ignored it and the Little Entente States have declared that there can be "no revision without war". It is no exaggeration to say that this "neglect" — to use no stronger word — has had a terrible effect on the Continent so far as the League's usefulness is concerned. When I was in Italy last — before the outbreak of the Italo-Abyssinian war — this "neglect" was pointed out to me, on more than one occasion as evidencing the allegation that the League is "unreliable and not free from bias". Apart from general considerations, the danger to Europe from Bolshevism is so acute, that neither Italy nor Germany can afford that Hungary shall remain impotent to take her part in fighting the common enemy, if it becomes necessary to do so. I regard the situation in the Middle Danube Valley with very grave concern. At least, the League should give it careful and impartial consideration.

"I have some knowledge of Central Europe and I am convinced that au fond there is a strong, genuine and sincere wish for the maintenance of peace. Great peoples, however, are not willing to be treated as subordinate and inferior to others. More so are they resentful and being treated unjustly. Nor, are they prepared to have the sword of Damocles, in the shape of Bolshevism, hanging over their heads. I believe it is within the power of the League to restore international confidence in itself. I am convinced that, if this were to accrue, a very great step would be taken in the direction of nations submitting their differences to it, abiding by its decisions, and, in the case of a delinquent, applying collective action for their enforcement. It should not be beyond the wit of statesmanship for this to be achieved. Until it has the "League of Nations" will continue to be subject to humiliations and the danger of war will overhang the world."

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STATUE OF GENERAL BANDHOLTZ UNVEILED IN BUDAPEST

In that most tragic period of modern Hungarian history, when after the collapse of Béla Kun's Bolshevik régime, Budapest was occupied by Rumanian troops, Major-General Bandholtz rendered never-to-be-forgotten services to the Hungarian nation. Over and over again, often with whip in hand, he protected the inhabitants of Budapest and their institutions against deprivations of the Rumanian soldiers. It was he who prevented the Rumanians carrying off to Bucharest the Transylvanian art collections of the Hungarian National Museum — that is to say the collections most closely connected with Hungarian history — as they had carried away the bulk of the rolling-stock belonging to the Hungarian State Railways and of the live stock in the country.

On the suggestion of Mr. Eugene Boros, an American art collector, a movement has been set on foot to perpetuate the memory of Major-General H. Hill Bandholtz by placing his statue in the Hungarian National Museum garden.

August 24th saw the solemn unveiling in Szabadság-tér (Liberty Square) of the statue of the General. Amongst those present were Dr. Valentine Hóman, Minister of Education, representing the Prime Minister and the National Museum, Dr. Andrew Lázár, Minister of Justice, representing the Government, Mr. Steward, American Consul and Chargé d'Affaires, and many other important personages.

Baron Sigismund Perényi, Keeper of the Regalia, asked the representative of the Regent for permission to unveil the statue. A moment later the red-white-green (the Hungarian national colours) drapery fell away revealing the impressive figure of General Bandholtz in bronze, the excellent work of M. Nicolas Ligeti.

In his unveiling speech Baron Perényi said: — „The brave American General became a real champion of justice and a gallant friend of the oppressed Hungarian nation, because his noble heart was filled with a christian charity. When asked by someone why he was taking the part of the Hungarians, he replied in the words of the Bible, „We are all the children of God“. He knew our history, and the brilliant rôle played by Louis Kossuth in America had left a deep impression on his mind. He appreciated the abilities and virtues of a nation worthy of a better destiny. During his life we could not give adequate expression to our deep gratitude, for his puritan soldierly spirit would have nothing of formalities. Once he said to an American reporter, „The Hungarians overestimate what I did for them in 1919. I only did my duty as an American officer and gentleman“.

„At the instigation of the American Colonel Borsos, who is a compatriot of ours, collections were made among the Hungarians in America and at home for the erection of this statue. Brave General, we shall never forget what we owe you! Our grandchildren will flock to this statue to learn the lessons of courage and the love of justice from your example.“

In a few apt sentences Dr. Charles Szendy, Mayor

of Budapest, took over the statue in the name of the city.

Then wreaths were placed round it. The first was an enormous wreath with streamers in the Hungarian national colours from the Regent, Admiral Horthy, which was laid on the pedestal. The American wreath with the Stars and Stripes was carried by Mr. Steward, American Consul and *Chargé d'Affaires*. Wreaths were also laid on the pedestal by Dr. Andrew Lázár, Minister of Justice, on behalf of the Hungarian Government, by Baron Radvánszky on behalf of the Upper House, by Dr. Julius Korniss on behalf of the Lower House, by Lieutenant-General Guillaume on behalf of the Hungarian National Defence Army, by Dr. Charles Szendy on behalf of the Municipality, and by Dr. Valintine Hóman on behalf of the Hungarian National Museum. Miss Elza Petró, Miss Lola Gordon, and Mr. Andrew Dobos, Jnr. laid a wreath in the name of the second generation of American Hungarians. M. Andrew Tóth, Hungarian M. P., Dr. Charles Nagv, retired Deputy Chief Commissioner of Police, M. Stephen Majorossy, and Mmes. Alfred Lesner and Bódog Halmi laid wreaths on behalf of the Ex-Servicemen's Alliance, the Alliance of Social Unions, the National Alliance and the Pro Hungarian Women's World Alliance respectively, while Mmes. Géza Takaró and Arpád Gordon brought a wreath from the New York branch of the last-mentioned society. The last wreath to be placed on the crowded pedestal was that of the Rákóczi Alliance. While it was being laid on General Bandholtz's statue, a tune was played on the *tárogató*.

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PASSAGES FROM A CENSORED SPEECH OF M. JULIUS MANIU'S

M. Julius Maniu, former Prime Minister of Rumania, who with his party, the Rumanian National Peasants' Party, is now in the Opposition, made a sensational speech at Alvinc (Vintsul de Fos) on 28th June. The censor banned it, but it is being passed from hand to hand in Transylvania. The following are some of the most striking passages:

The great misfortune is that the crown is surrounded with visible and invisible forces, with a camarilla and a personal Government that weighs on the country with violence and chicanery. Above all others it is Madame Lupescu who has wormed her way into the Royal Palace. She has fouled the fair name of the Rumanian nation, compromised the Court, and tarnished the prestige of the King. In her audacity, that woman, who should never have been allowed to return to the country, even went so far as to accompany His Majesty when he went to England on the sad occasion of King George's death. It is extremely regrettable that M. Titulescu, Minister of Foreign Affairs, who so brilliantly defends the interests and honour of the country, has not been able to defend the dignity of the King by removing from his entourage a woman who is an offence in the eyes of Rumanian public opinion.

Many troubles disturb the country. This is but natural to a certain extent; for after all Rumania is

suffering from the world crisis too, but the immeasurable misfortune caused by the proximity of the camarilla and Madame Lupescu to the throne arises from the weakness of the Rumanian people, better said of Rumania's politicians who, instead of taking the bull by the horns and telling His Majesty the truth, are parvenues enough to endure conditions so immoral that they are likely to undermine the *morale* of the nation. These politicians suffer the camarilla and Madame Lupescu to interfere with matters concerning the State, and thus foster the corruption which is spreading to ever-widening circles of public life.

A foreign body has wormed itself in between the nation and the majesty of the throne, and that foreign body is a curse to His Majesty the King, the State, and the nation. Thanks to the influence exerted by it the outlines of a dictatorship begin to show themselves more and more distinctly, and ambitions emerge which compromise the ideals of national democracy.

At the close of his speech M. Maniu summed up his demands in six points. The first and foremost was that Madame Lupescu should be banished from the Royal Court and compelled to leave the country without delay. He also demanded the dissolution of the camarilla and the expulsion of all its agents from the neighbourhood of the throne and from all high positions in the civil service.

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THE MURDER OF STELESCU

At the beginning of the year there was a students' congress in Marosvásárhely. In reality it was a meeting of the Iron Guards, an organization of the extreme right wing, convened at the expense and with the help of the State. At this meeting a "Black League" was formed to punish "traitors to the nations", and the congress invested it with authority to apply the sanctions determined on.

The first on the list of the victims marked out was Michael Stelescu, who as a personal friend of Codreanu, the founder of the Iron Guards, secured a seat in Parliament under the Jorga Government in 1931, when he was scarcely 25 years old. After the assassination of Premier Duca, Stelescu and a few of his supporters left the Iron Guards and formed a new organization called the Crusade of the Rumanians (Cruciada Romanismului), which was Fascist in its ideology, and with the entrance into its lists of the Rumanian writer Istrati Panait, took on a distinctly Social Fascist character. Relations between the two

organisations became strained to breaking point and Stelescu published articles revealing what he knew about "the doings and murders of the Iron Guards".

On 17th July, when Stelescu — who had more than once asked for police protection — was lying ill in a Bucarest hospital, ten Iron Guards, three whom were candidates for the priesthood, broke into the ward like a band of Chicago gangsters, and with cries of "So perish all traitors!" riddled him with bullets and battered his skull in with hatchets. The assassins who had been chosen by casting lots to execute the sentence pronounced by the students' congress at Marosvásárhely were arrested and brought before the courts of justice. The Rumanian press considers Stelescu's murder a very sharp retort to the recent agreement arrived at between M. Titulescu and the Tatarescu Government in matters of domestic and foreign policy and which also aims at suppressing the movements of the right wing.

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YUGOSLAV TOWN DEMANDS BACK FROM THE RUMANIAN GOVERNMENT SHARES ILLEGALLY TAKEN WITH THEM BY RUMANIAN SOLDIERS IN 1919.

At its General Meeting in May the Town Council of Kikinda discussed the matter of an old loan, the developments of which fit nicely into the list of offences recorded in the American General Bandholtz's memoirs of the Rumanian occupation of Budapest in 1919. It happened that before the change of State the town of Kikinda borrowed 1,000,000 crowns from a Budapest bank, the security for which in the form of different Hungarian shares was deposited in the treasury of the bank is question. When the Rumanian soldiers were leaving Budapest they carried

away with them, among other valuables worth 1,000,000,000 crowns, these shares too. Now that Kikinda has received information that the shares are in Bucharest, the General Meeting instructed the Mayor of the town to take the necessary steps through the Government to induce the Rumanian authorities concerned to hand over without delay the shares which by right are the property of the town of Kikinda.

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THE ADVENTURE OF A HUNGARIAN POLITICIAN IN CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

In the last issue of this paper we mentioned the warning given to Hungarians not to go to Czecho-Slovakia, for they would expose themselves to the danger of arrest, simply because they were Hungarians.

That the warning was fully justified is proved by the treatment meted out by the Czecho-Slovakian authorities to Abbot Nicolas Griger, former member of the Hungarian Parliament and one of the leaders of the legitimist movement in Hungary. The way he was treated has aroused great indignation here even among those whose political views are diametrically opposed to legitimism.

M. Griger left Hungary to visit his relatives in Kőrmöcbánya (Kremnica), an ancient mining town which was detached from Hungary by the Peace of Trianon. The "8 Órai Ujság" of 12th August gave a detailed account of his unpleasant adventure. Some weeks ago his brother-in-law sent word that M. Griger's sister was seriously ill and that his presence was unavoidably necessary. At first the Czecho-Slovak Legation refused a visa, then later on gave it. Acting on the instructions received from the Czecho-Slovakian

Legation, M. Griger reported to the gendarmes on his arrival in Kőrmöcbánya. Three days later, he was summoned to the gendarmery to answer questions about his passport. Hardly had he been in the office a few minutes when the chief of police of Besztercebánya (Bánská Bystrica) entered, followed by a gendarm major and two gendarmes and began to question him, cautioning M. Griger to give truthful answers as every step in Budapest had been watched and they knew all about him. After the usual questions about his name, age, occupation, etc. he was asked about his relatives in Slovakia and in Hungary, and finally what his political convictions about Czecho-Slovakia were. The Abbot replied that he had openly attacked Benes and Masaryk in the Hungarian Parliament two years ago. The Czech major of the gendarmes put several questions to him about people in Slovakia and Hungary and asked whether he had ever been in Yugoslavia or Steenockerzeel; whether he had had conversations with Zita and Otto, had he been present when the latter received his doctor's diploma, if so who else were there; had he been to Besztercebánya and did he know the leaders of the

Hungarians there. The major concluded the hearing with the following words in German, „Aber danken Sie Gott das Sie ein Abgeordneter sind. Es wäre böß für Sie, wenn Sie nicht wären" (You may thank God that you are a Member of Parliament. It would have gone badly with you otherwise).

That M. Griger was not arrested and cast into

prison for some months was due solely to the fact that they thought he was still a Member of Parliament. One can imagine how Hungarians who have not the luck to be, or to have been, M. P.s are treated when they go to Czecho-Slovakia, or what the lot of the minorities there is, especially of the Hungarians, whom the Hungarian State is powerless to protect. — y —

PANEGYRICS ON THE SERAJEVO ASSASSINS

On the anniversary of the assassination of the Crown Prince Ferdinand in 1914 great festivities were arranged in Serajevo on 28th June, St. Vitus' Day. Peter II was represented by General Hadžić. When the church and other ceremonies were over a pilgrimage was made to the grave of Princip, where M. Bozic, a pravoslav priest and member of the Skupstina made a "patriotic" speech, lauding Princip and his accomplices. ("Obzor", July 2.)

The "*Le Monde Slave*" a distinguished Parisian periodical, devoted two articles in its May issue to the memory of the Serajevo assassins. René Pelletier published a translation in verse of the rhymes — which he compared to the "*Chanson de Geste*" — in which the Serb *guslars* (strolling singers) sing of the events which preceded the Serajevo assassination. The only thing Pelletier found needing correction in those songs, which teem with untruths and wild outbursts of fury, was that when Francis Ferdinand entered Serajevo the special police force was not so large as the *guslars* unanimously declare it to have been. This allows the conclusion to be drawn that Pelletier, and indirectly the "*Le Monde Slave*" agree with the *guslars*, who praise the Serajevo assassination as the

realization and splendid triumph of the national idea and of glorious Serb traditions. In another column Jacob Rappaport writes of Vladislav Gluck's essay on the assassination, in which Gluck says that the chief cause of the murder was the unsolvable nature of the agrarian question in Bosnia and Hercegovina, the growing radicalization of the Serb youth there and (but this is contrary to historical facts) the egoism of Hungarian owners of great landed estates. On the other hand not a word is said about the unbridled agitation and constant threats with which Serbia ever since 1913, but especially after the annexation of Bosnia and Hercegovina and the two Balkan wars, endangered the vital interests of the Austria-Hungarian Monarchy. Gluck refuses to know anything about those matters. The intentional character of the essay is further proved by the fact that its author calls the great ultra-nationalist organization of the Serbs, which is still active, a purely cultural society and that in the face of the decisive proofs given by Edith Durham, Ljuba Jovanović, M. Bogičević, Henri Pozzi and others, the author tries to clear the then official Serb circles of the suspicion of complicity.

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THE UGRO-FINNISH CONGRESS

The Ugro-Finnish Congress began on 26th June in Tallinn, Esthonia. Besides the latter country, Finland and Hungary were represented by large delegations. The opening of the Congress was preceded by Divine Service on which occasion Bishop Rahanagi of the Esthonian Lutheran Church spoke of the past of the Ugro-Finnish peoples. At the opening ceremony the first speaker was M. Päts, President of the Esthonian Republic, who declared that it was not politics but the call of the blood that had brought them together. The chief speeches were made by M. J. Mark and M. A. Veidermaa (Esthonia), M. O. Manners (Finland) and Professor J. Csekey (Hungary). On behalf of the Hungarian Government M. Andrew Tasnády-Szücs, State Secretary in the Ministry of Education, addressed the kindred peoples and invited them to the next Congress which was to be held five years later in Budapest. The invitation was received with great enthusiasm. Numerous scientific lectures were delivered, both at the plenary meetings and at those of the twenty special committees.

During the Congress preparations were made for

the conclusion of a cultural treaty by Finland, Esthonia and Hungary, which is to be perfected when M. Valentine Höman, Minister of Education makes his proposed visit to those countries in the autumn. The organisation of the highly successful Congress was the work of Professor Alo Raun (Esthonia).

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Nicolas Tesla, the famous electro-technical inventor, whose eightieth birthday was on 10th of July, is known to many in the U. S. A. as the "master of the flashing lightning". This anniversary is of particular interest to us Hungarians, because Tesla's career began in Hungary. He was born in Smilja, a village in Croatia, on 10th of July 1856 and finished part of his studies at the Budapest university. Then for many years he was an electrical engineer in the Ganz factory in Budapest. Later on, like two other Hungarian men in the same branch, viz. Theodore Puskás, the inventor of the telephone-news apparatus and Michael Puskin to whom we owe long-distance telephone service, he went to the United States to try his luck there, with the best of results.

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