

COUNT PAUL TELEKI ON THE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT'S WORK

THE JEWISH QUESTION. PREMIER LAYS STRESS ON THE NECESSITY FOR A HIGHER MORAL TRAINING OF THE CHRISTIAN POPULATION

America Blocks Hungarian Assets.

On 20th March, the Hungarian Life Party held a Party meeting at which Count Paul Teleki gave a detailed description of the Government's work. Life today — he said — presented an enormous number of difficulties, both as regards relations between State and State and also as regards the internal economic machinery of the various countries. The procuring of raw materials, the keeping of our economic life from coming to a standstill, the constant necessity of comparing our own situation with that of other countries, involved very much work and no little worry; added to which the great difficulties caused not only in this country but also all over Europe, by last year's bad crops had to be coped with.

One of the problems that had caused no little worry was how to supply the Hungarian State Railways with sufficient coal. This had at last been successfully solved, but there were always new problems awaiting solution. At several enquetes the Government had discussed the idea of repatriating the Magyars of Bukovina. This was a question both of foreign policy and internal settlement. During the past few weeks the Government had met five times to discuss the passing of a third anti-Jewish law, in connection with which the Premier laid stress on the necessity of simultaneously raising the level of the moral training of the Christian population. He also spoke of Transylvania,

of the preparatory work being done and of the discussion of questions bearing on Transylvanian ecclesiastical matters, church policy, education and economy, and the preparation on foot to bring in more members of Parliament from that province.

Other matters that provided the Government with constant work were the questions of the army and of military equipment, which were yet far from being solved, also the problems of the rivers which because of the country's dismemberment had been neglected for so long. Today from the point of view of navigation alone a new set of problems presented themselves which would have to be uniformly solved. An uniform plan would have to be worked out, an ideal plan that in the present circumstances would overtax our capacities, but would embrace everything required to effect a harmonious and perfect solution of these questions. Besides this, we should have to elaborate another plan which would contain a solution of all the urgent and important questions of so-called controlled agriculture for a certain period of time.

Transylvanian Land Reform.

Re-evaluation of the War Loan.

Several conferences had been held in connection with preparations for the census and with its observation while it was in progress. The Premier specially mentioned the discussions about sites for building, one of the problems of the Transylvanian Land Reform. *The question of sites for dwelling-houses would have to be settled before the final instructions for the execution of a general Land Reform were issued.* The Minister of Finance had devoted much work to the reorganization of credit institutes in Transylvania and to many other needful measures connected with credit in general. An Ordinance would be issued shortly

making provision for the credits required for agricultural investments. Steps had been taken to assist the owners of vineyards ruined by elemental catastrophes; *the framework of the National Fund for helping people to set themselves up in business had been extended as far as possible; and progress had been made in the question of the re-evaluation of the War Loan.* A new taxation law was in course of preparation, as was also a reform of death and donation duties.

Foreign Trade Negotiations and Agreements.

The management of the only bitumen field in Hungary had been taken over by the State; preparations were being made to establish a State Harbour Exchange; the bye-laws regulating engineering were being framed; provision had been made to establish and equip works for the manufacture of fine mechanical instruments and foundries, as well as for the development of our mineral oil refineries. *The Government had been obliged to enter into negotiations with various States for an exchange of commodities; new agreements had had to be concluded in consequence of the changed possibilities of transport or the changed value of money; we had increased our export and — import quotas with Soviet Russia, and had also concluded various agreements with Italy.*

The question of roads and railways in Transylvania was a very serious problem, the solution of which would have to be effected in a way satisfying both military and civilian interests. Numerous measures had been necessary, especially in Transylvania, in order to improve cattle-breeding. The question of supplying wine-growers with sulphate of copper was a difficult one requiring international negotiations. To aid the owners of vineyards who had suffered great losses owing to last year's elemental catastrophes, a production

loan would be negotiated in a few days. Preparations were also on foot to solve the problem of the parcelling of land, which must be done by the State. Here 1960 villages and about two million cadastral yokes were involved.

M. Bárdossy in Germany.

The Premier next went on to speak of M. Bárdossy's visit to Germany, emphasizing that *the Hungarian Foreign Minister's sojourn there had no special significance*. It was only natural that on taking office the Foreign Minister should seek an opportunity of making the acquaintance of the German and Italian Ministers of Foreign Affairs, since personal and closer contacts would be of service to all concerned. During the past few days *Hungarian public opinion had been occupied with the question of the blocking of Hungarian assets in the United States*. There was no reason — said Count Teleki — *for any undue excitement; we were the twelfth State to which this had happened, and means would be devised to protect our interests from any special injury*.

The Premier laid particular stress on the point that the Hungarian Nation was seeking the best path for the future. If we did not *lose confidence in ourselves we should be able to surmount every difficulty*.