

# HOW MINORITIES LIVE

## CZECHO-SLOVAKIA

### GRUESOME TALES OF ATROCITIES COMMITTED BY CZECH SOLDIERS AND UKRAINIAN TERRORISTS

With the liberation of the restored areas life there begins to run in peaceful and normal channels again. The people who were driven out of their homes by the Czech troops, or were forced to flee from violence, are slowly returning, and from them we learn the details of the brutality and cruelty displayed towards the Magyars and Ruthenians by the Czech troops and the bands of Ukrainians. A few instances chosen at random will serve as an illustration.

After the arrival of the Hungarian troops, the dead bodies of two men were discovered near a timber-yard belonging to the State at Fluder. The tracks leading away from their bodies were those of military cars, and their death had been caused by shooting. John Gyurcsák and Ferdinand Krivus, two inhabitants of Ungvár, were shot dead without any reason by a Czech sergeant. The one received four, the other three bullets in the abdomen. Alexander Basa, a national guard, was beaten unmercifully by Czech soldiers and Ukrainian terrorists because he was wearing a national badge. A Czech official called Brichta, who was employed at the power station, threatened the tenants of No. 5 Hajnal-utca with a hand-grenade, saying that he would kill every Magyar with it. One evening, as they were on their way home from a public-house, Stephen Borsiczky and Alexander Pletenyik, municipal officials, were set upon and severely beaten. Their assailants were the 14 members of a Czech patrol, and their two victims were almost killed. All the inhabitants who offered their services to the Hungarian National Council were attacked by the Czech gendarmes. A Slovak policeman named Stofa was an eye-witness when the Czech gendarmes kicked the corpse of a Ruthenian insurgent whom they had tortured to death. Stofa tried to prevent the desecration of the corpse, whereupon he himself was maltreated so badly that he could hardly get away. For five days he hid from the Czech soldiers, wandering

from village to village and concealing himself in the neighbouring woods, and it was only after the arrival of the Hungarian troops that he dared show his face again.

A cousin of M. Bródy, former Ruthenian Premier, was maltreated and his jaw-bone broken. One night two unknown people were buried while Czech soldiers armed with bayonets kept guard. Their graves were covered with sods, in order to remove all traces of the earth having been disturbed. One of the sextons of the Ungvár cemetery was an eye-witness of the burial. In the days before the Hungarian troops arrived the Czech soldiers made a habit of shooting at the electric lamps. They also stopped motor-cars, made the chauffeurs get out, and drove away with the machines, which for the most part have not yet been restored to their owners. On one occasion twenty Czech soldiers with bayonets broke into the premises of the National Guard and carried away all the documents and reports referring to the cruelties and atrocities perpetrated by the Czechs. From that time on the National Guards were not allowed freedom of movement. During the last days prior to the evacuation the Czech tore about the town in motor-cars shooting wildly. Life in the city practically came to a standstill, as it was dangerous to walk about the streets. Matters were most critical the day before the Hungarian troops marched in, but shooting continued even next morning, and it was not allowed to put the flags out before noon. All this cruelty and the sufferings endured by the Hungarian population, however, did not prevent them giving the Hungarian troops an unforgettable enthusiastic and hearty welcome. — y —

### HLINKA GUARDS' ATROCITIES

According to a report received from Pozsony Paul Mahachek, former police superintendent of Révkomárom, who left that town immediately before it was re-occupied by Hungary, was set upon in the street in Pozsony by Hlinka Guards, who beat him cruelly. Mahachek had to be taken to hospital. He was a man much respected by the people of Komárom because his measures were always just. The reason for the assault is said to be his friendly feelings towards the Hungarians. — y —

### EXPULSION EN MASSE

Thousands of the autochthonous inhabitants of Ruthenia, especially Hungarians, are being expelled by the Czechs. Numerous families have had to leave their homes at ten minutes' notice, without the barest necessities. In many cases they arrived at the Hungarian frontier minus shoes and stockings. For the

present they have been sent to refugee camps at Beregszász and Munkács, where they are being provided for by Hungarian charities. They say that owing to a lack of foodstuffs prices are soaring higher day by day in the parts occupied by the Czechs.

— y —

THE REV. JOHN DOBRANSZKY, FORMER M. P., DRIVEN  
OUT OF EPERJES BY HLINKA GUARDS

The "Felvidéki Magyar Hirlap" of 8th November contains the following item of news:

"It is reported from Eperjes that the Hlinka Guards, who are wont to take the law in their own hands, have been guilty of atrocious behaviour towards the Rev. John Dobránszky, Dean of Eperjes, a much esteemed leader of the Hungarians of Eastern Slovakia as well as of the native Slovak population. The Dean's house was entered and he was told in a threatening manner that if he did not leave Slovakia within 48 hours, the Guards would not be responsible for his life or property. But he was not even allowed the promised 48 hours, for the Guards put him across the frontier before they had expired. This was not the first time Dobránszky had to suffer political persecution. In 1929, at the time of the general Parliamentary elections, he was arrested on various grave charges by the Czechs. Dobránszky was a thorn in their flesh because, as the candidate of the Opposition, he rallied nearly ten thousand electors to the standard of the autochthonous Hungarian and Slovak Autonomist Party. At this election he received a mandate from the alliance of Hungarian Parties, and by virtue of his privilege as a member of Parliament was released from prison. For a session he represented his constituency in the Prague Parliament. Dobránszky was not the only man to be expelled from Eperjes by the Hlinka Guards. Another who shared the same fate was Stephen Hegedüs, the head of the Eperjes Labour Bureau, who had previously been deprived of his post on the pretext that he had declared himself to be a Hungarian. Simultaneously with this, 21 men of Slovak nationality were arrested by the Czech authorities in the villages of Nagykürtös and Kiskürtös in the Kékkő hundred. They were suspected of having been making propaganda in those villages and inciting the inhabitants to demand their restoration to Hungary. Several Hungarian families were immediately expelled from Kékkő and report states that more expulsions are to follow."

— y —

TWO VILLAGES BURNED DOWN

The "Kárpátaljai Magyar Hirlap" of November 25 reports fresh outrages committed by Ukrainian terrorists. So many



houses were set on fire in Ljuta and Csontos that both villages were burned to the ground. The officials who fled from Ungvár cannot stay in Ruthenia and confusion is complete in the public offices at Huszt.

— y —

### CZECH SOLDIERS TREAT EVEN CHILDREN WITH CRUELTY

However strictly the frontiers are watched by the Czechs, their frontier guards are powerless to prevent people escaping across them. In many places, on the trunks of trees near the posts of the Hungarian frontier guards, appeals written in Ruthenian or broken Hungarian are to be found almost every morning. The people of the villages over the frontier place them there under cover of darkness. As grown-up people are not allowed to leave the villages, they send little children to beg food from the Hungarian soldiers. On 21st November a little girl of eight years was found near the frontier at Salánk with a serious wound in her arm. She had been shot by a Czech soldier.

— y —

### CZECHS PLUNDER UPPER HUNGARY.

In terms of the Munich Agreement the Czech Government was put under an obligation to see that the areas assigned to Hungary were in a sound economic condition at the time of their surrender. This provision of the Agreement was flagrantly infringed, for the areas restored to Hungary were thoroughly despoiled by the Czech military before evacuation. In consequence, a ravaged and plundered territory was handed over to Hungary. No medieval host ever wrought such havoc in the lands it conquered as did the Czechs in Upper Hungary.

In Beregszász there was a three-storied modern hospital with an enormous roof-garden. The Czechs carried away the whole of its magnificent equipment, even the beds, so that 600 patients who were not seriously ill had to be sent away. Among the things carried off were a fine Roentgen apparatus, operating tables and instruments, wash-stands and lamps. The telephone switchboard and the lift were dismantled, and even the water-taps were torn out of the walls, so that part of the building was flooded. All the finest plants were carried away out of the park.

Similar havoc was wrought in the secondary school building and the post office. In both buildings the empty walls show how the Czechs interpreted the terms of the Munich Agreement. In other public buildings, not content with carrying away the furniture and equipment, they also did damage to the walls.

In the villages they forced the peasants to hand over their seeds and farming implements. About 40% of the live stock was carried off. The Hungarians who had to provide the Czech soldiers with quarters suffered considerably; even their civilian clothes were stolen by the Czechs.

The cultural institutions in the Hungarian towns of Ungvár, Munkács, Komárom, Kassa, etc. were so thoroughly dismantled that their activity cannot be resumed until they are newly furnished. In many places even the libraries were not spared; the books were thrown in heaps into the streets and burned.

In terms of the Munich Agreement the Hungarian Government has ordered a list to be made of the damage done by the Czechs, and when its full extent is ascertained the Government will take steps to ensure that the despoiled inhabitants receive full compensation from the Czech Government.

— y —

## RUMANIA

HUNGARIAN PUBLIC FUNCTIONARIES DISMISSED AS  
THE RESULT OF UNSUCCESSFUL LANGUAGE TESTS MAY  
NOT REGAIN THEIR POSTS, UNLESS THEY CAN PROVE  
THEIR "RUMANIAN ETHNIC ORIGIN"

Those Hungarian public functionaries who were dismissed from service as the result of unsuccessful language tests have now applied for their re-appointment in a memorandum to the Government. Some of them have received the notice of dismissal accompanied by a document of royal acknowledgment of their merits. In their memorandum the dismissed functionaries refer to Art. 12 of the "Minority Statute", according to which no Rumanian subject may be prevented from filling a public post on account of his ethnic origin, religion or language. — Though the memorandum has not been answered so far, the principles of the Ministry of Communications are evident from a recent decision in the case of a minor railway employee named John Kovács. In reply to his application for a re-appointment this person was instructed by the Rumanian State Railways (CFR) to send in his certificate of birth, which he did accordingly. Thereupon the Directorate of Kolozsvár (Cluj) informed him under Order No. 179.674/Ra-1938, that his request could not be granted because *he was not able to prove his "Rumanian ethnic origin."* ('Magyar Ujság', November 16, 1938.)

— y —

ANTI-MINORITY PROVISIONS IN DRAFT OF  
NEW RUMANIAN LAWYERS BILL

The draft of the new Rumanian Lawyers Bill stipulates in principle a perfect knowledge of the Rumanian language, and authorizes language tests to establish the same. It also deals with the ethnic origin of lawyers and determines a certain nationality quota, investing the president of the Chamber of Lawyers with the discretionary right to accept or reject new members. In various memorandums the German, Ukrainian and Bulgarian lawyers have protested against these provisions and the curtailment of their vested rights, and now the Hungarian lawyers have also lodged a similar protest. In it they protest against the unnecessary language tests and the ethnic quota established, pointing out that by right their proportion in the Chamber of Lawyers should be 24.4% instead of the present 20.4%. ("Keleti Ujság", 13th Nov. 1938.)

— y —

## GERMANS IN RUMANIA DISSATISFIED

Rumanian propaganda boasts that under the new minority system the nationalities in Rumania have no reason for complaint, and that the Germans, for instance, have a splendid life compared with their situation during the Hungarian régime. How far this is from the truth may be gathered from the speeches made by the leaders of that minority at a meeting of the German Racial Community of Rumania held in Temesvár on 6th November.

*John Lindacher*, a district leader, protested against the Germans being classified as second-rate citizens. The Germans, — he said, — who had settled in Transylvania centuries ago, had a mission to fulfil and fulfil it they would.

*Anthony Peter* spoke of the grievances of the Swabian peasantry. They demanded German schools with German teachers, German judges, parish clerks and mayors, and the Government would have to take cognizance of their wishes, the more so as the interests of the Government were identical with those of the German minority. The speaker complained that the Rumanians were arbitrarily trying to take the management of the German co-operative societies out of German hands. First of all they had planned to establish co-operative centres of a mixed nature, and when that failed, an edict was issued authorizing the authorities controlling the co-operative societies to amalgamate them and appoint their managers.

*Dr. Casper Muth*, one of the leaders of the Banate Germans, declared that the German Minority had been very hopeful when it was announced at the historical meeting held at Gyulafehérvár that every nationality would be allowed to use its own language in the schools and courts of justice. Most of their hopes had been



disappointed, for the present at least. The trouble was that the so-called democratic parties had vied with one another as to which of them could better curtail the rights of the minorities. When one Government levied a double tax on sign-boards with inscriptions in a minority language, each succeeding Government raised that tax until it became eightfold. The result was that even a bill of fare could not be written in German today.

Dr Muth also mentioned the Protection of National Labour Act under which many German workmen had been deprived of their jobs.

*Fritz Fabritius*, head of the German Racial Community of Rumania, was the last speaker. In his closing address he established the fact that the Germans had no wish to be a State within the State. Rights, not privileges, were what they wanted. Rumania would not need to build fortifications were her frontiers peopled by a contented German people. ("Brassói Lapok", 9th Nov.)

— y —

#### DENATIONALISING ACTIVITIES IN COUNTY OF SZATMAR

The Rumanian Ministry of Education has appointed seventy new Rumanian teachers in the County of Szatmár. *In the County of Maros-Torda only the Germans are allowed to learn in their own language, but not the Hungarians.* A recent order issued by the Chief Inspectorate of Education in the Province of Maros has now been published in the official educational gazette of that province. According to this order, Art. 7 of the Private Education Bill must be applied and *German teachers must be appointed* for the teaching of German and possibly other subjects in every school where there are at least 30 German pupils. Furthermore, it provides that if there are several nationalities represented in a school the Germans must be placed in a separate section of their own. The same gazette contains only general statements concerning Hungarian educational matters. *It may be seen, therefore, that while the problem of the vernacular teaching of German children has now arrived at a practical solution, the Hungarian children are still compelled to attend the Rumanian classes,* in spite of the unmistakable provisions of the "Minority Statute" concerned. ("Keleti Ujság", Nov. 9, 1938.)

— y —

#### SENTENCES OF MILITARY TRIBUNALS

Dr. Gergely Köntzey, a doctor living in the village of Küküllővár has been sentenced by the Military Tribunal of Kolozsvár (Cluj) to a fine of 500 lei and 2000 lei costs, because a domiciliary visit by the gendarmes resulted in the discovery of a

number of empty sporting gun cartridges, an old sword, a little paper flag; the latter had been made by the doctor's little son, who had covered a sheet of white paper with the colours of all the coloured pencils he had.

M. Joseph Farkas, a Hungarian craftsman in the village of Szaniszló (County of Szilágy), who visited Budapest at the time of the Eucharistic Congress last May, has been sentenced to a fine of 500 lei for wearing the Congress badge.

M. Julius Kjubusz, a citizen of Kolozsvár (Cluj), has been sentenced by the Military Tribunal of that city to six months' imprisonment and a fine of 1000 lei for an alleged "outrage on the Rumanian nation". He was accused of having declared that he lived with an "Oláh" (i. e. Wallach) family, because his landlady was called Juliet Oláh. (It must be noted that the Rumanians were called "Wallachs" before they assumed their more elegant title "Rumanian", adopted to signify their affinity with the Romans; the name Wallach is a frequent Hungarian family name in its Hungarian form "Oláh", and is also used as a less elegant name for the Rumanians. The use of this word is strictly forbidden in Rumania, because it is regarded as a nickname and, therefore, as an insult to the Rumanian people). — M. János Borbély, a farmer in the village of Marosszentjános, has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment, also on the charge of "insulting" the Rumanian nation. — y —

## DIFFICULT SITUATION OF GERMANS IN RUMANIA

A memorandum submitted to the Governor of *Kolozsvár (Cluj)* on August 25th describes the situation of the German nationality in Rumania as follows:

"The State administration has, in recent years, inflicted many heavy and painful blows on the German nationality. The German burgomaster and three German councillors of the city of Beszterce (Bistritz), which was originally a German settlement, and several other German municipal employees have been dismissed without having committed any palpable offence. The remaining officials were forbidden — under pain of prosecution — to speak German in their official intercourse with clients of their own nationality. The new employees of the city have a very poor command — or none at all — of the language spoken by the overwhelming majority of the population. As regards the names of streets, another great injustice has been perpetrated against the population, in spite of obligatory agreements with responsible factors. Great anxiety was also caused in the villages by the possibility — provided for by legislation — of the amalgamation of several villages into administrative units. This amalgamation will, it is feared, deprive the German population of the possibility of electing German burgomasters of their own. The German officials have been dismissed



from the country and district administration." (Nation u. Staat, Nov. 1938. p. 118.) — y —

### HUNGARIAN JOURNALISTS SEVERELY SENTENCED BY MILITARY TRIBUNAL

M. László Bélteky, editor of the Hungarian newspaper "Néplap" appearing in Nagyvárad, has been sentenced by the Military Tribunal of Kolozsvár (Cluj) to six months and one day's imprisonment on the charge of political agitation. His guilt consisted in publishing in his paper ("Néplap") on October 10th, without any comments, an address by Count János Eszterházy, President of the United Hungarian Party in Czechoslovakia, broadcast by the radio station of Pozsony (Bratislava). The publication of this speech was not forbidden by the censor, and a number of Rumanian papers published it in its original text. A warrant was issued for the arrest of the editor, who was arrested two weeks before the above sentence was passed. (Néplap, Nov. 18, 1938). M. Lajos Daróczy-Kiss, a Hungarian journalist in Nagyvárad (Oradea Mare), has been sentenced by the Military Tribunal of Kolozsvár (Cluj) to one month's imprisonment and to the payment of a fine of 3.000 lei and 2.000 lei costs on the charge of political agitation; he was arrested immediately after sentence had been passed. During the Rumanian parliamentary elections in 1933 M. Daróczy-Kiss had appeared at a political meeting as the delegate of the Hungarian Party and criticized the policy of the Liberal Party which was then in power. (Magyar Lapok, November 10, 1938.)

— y —

### THE RUMANIANS TOO ARE COMPLAINING

The convention concluded on March 10th., 1933, between Yugoslavia and Rumania adjusts the position of the Rumanian and Serb-Croat-Slovene minorities respectively of the two countries on the basis of reciprocity, the relevant provisions endowing the minorities in question, as compared with the other minorities living in the respective countries, with exceptional privileges — that is, would have endowed those minorities with these exceptional privileges if the provisions of the convention had been honestly carried into effect. That that has certainly not been done, is shown among other things by the Memorandum presented quite recently to Premier Stoyadinovitch by a deputation of the

Rumanians living in Yugoslavia in which that minority demands that as provided in the said convention new elementary schools with Rumanian as the language of instruction should be established, that Rumanian teachers should be appointed to the State elementary schools, that the Rumanian youth be granted special facilities to travel to Rumania for the purpose of continuing their studies, that the statutes of the "Astra" Rumanian cultural association be approved, and that the said association be granted the right to function, etc. The deputation also announced that they expected the Government Party list to include a candidate of Rumanian nationality, particularly as the Rumanians of Yugoslavia had not been represented at all in the Skupshtina which had been dissolved on October 10th. last ("Banater Deutsche Zeitung," November 16th.)

### PROTESTANT MINISTER CONVICTED BY RUMANIAN COURT FOR DEFYING VILLAGE CLERK'S ORDERS TO CELEBRATE A SERVICE

The "Minority Statute" published on August 1st, 1938, provides (Art. 10) that the Government authorities are not allowed to interfere in questions of divine service. Nevertheless, the Rev. Daniel Cs. Nagy, a Presbyterian minister in the village of Ottomány, was convicted on November 18th by the High Court of Nagyvárad (Oradea Mare) because he did not obey the orders of the village clerk to celebrate a divine service on December 1st, 1937, since that date had not been included in the official list of national holidays. In the first instance the minister was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, but the High Court changed it to a fine of 5000 lei, in consideration of the clergyman's advanced age.

— y —

### EVEN HEAD BOARDS NOT ALLOWED TO BEAR INSCRIPTIONS IN MOTHER TONGUE

The Presbyterian Diocese of West Transylvania discussed at its recent meeting the recent orders of the gendarmerie of Bihar-diószeg, according to which *the head boards in the village cemetery must henceforth bear Rumanian inscriptions only, no Hungarian inscriptions being allowed*. The Diocese thereupon appealed to the Ministry, where it was informed that "cemeteries must be considered as public places in which the inscriptions on head boards must be bilingual". That is to say, the inscriptions on the head boards must give the names and the date of death of the deceased both in Hungarian and in Rumanian. The Diocese has now decided to appeal to the King against this most impious regulation.

— y —

ALL NEW HOUSES IN ARAD MUST BE BUILT IN  
RUMANIAN NATIONAL STYLE

The Rumanian authorities of the city of Arad have issued an ordinance saying that the erection of all new public or private buildings will be allowed only when the plans submitted correspond to the requirements of the specifically Rumanian style and character of architecture. The same principle is to be observed in connection with the restoration of houses. ("Brassói Lapok", Nov. 16, 1938.)

— y —

PUBLIC CONTRACTS TO BE GIVEN PRIMARILY TO  
RUMANIAN APPLICANTS

The recent order issued by the Ministry of Labour is a flagrant denial of the equality of rights allegedly obtaining in Rumania. This order — which has already been enforced in Szatmár — stipulates that in future public contracts must be given preferential to Rumanian applicants, even if their tenders are 5% dearer than those submitted by minority firms. ("Brassói Lapok", 9th Nov. 1938.)

— y —

HUNGARIAN THEATRICAL COMPANY MAY NOT GIVE  
MORE THAN THREE PERFORMANCES A WEEK IN  
SZATMÁR

Charles Mihályi applied for permission for his Hungarian company to give performances in Szatmár. The Town Council issued the licence, but only for three performances a week from 2nd till 26th December. ("Magyar Lapok", 25th Nov. 1938.)

— y —

MINORITY CITIZENS MAY NOT PURCHASE  
BUILDING-SITES

When some land belonging to the Kolozsvár management of the Rumanian State Railways (C. F. R.) was recently parcelled out among railway employees, those belonging to the minorities were not allowed to purchase building-sites. ("Ellenzék", 11th Nov. 1938.)

— y —

AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS MUST ALSO APPLY FOR  
PERMISSION OF MILITARY AUTHORITIES

According to recent orders of the Divisional Headquarters no amateur photographers in the counties of Csik and Szilágy or in the city of Nagykároly may take open-air photographs without



the permission of the Divisional Commander. Anyone caught in the act of photographing without a permit bearing his name is liable to prosecution and will be severely punished. ("Brassói Lapok", Nov. 24, 1936, "Keleti Ujság", Nov. 18.)

## YUGOSLAVIA

### UNFULFILLED PROMISES

We have already pointed out on several occasions that the promises made repeatedly to the leaders of the national minorities — in particular to the Hungarian minority — the Government has either failed to keep at all or has only partly fulfilled them, doing so only after a considerable delay. Now this circumstance has impelled the various sections of the Hungarian ethnic minority in Yugoslavia to apply again and again for a redress of the grievances so often complained of and for the fulfilment of their legitimate demands. Quite recently, for instance, the local organisation of the "Jugoras" (Jugoslovenski Radnicki Savez: Yugoslav Labourers' Union) functioning in the purely Magyar village of Kishegyes (Nali Idjos) decided to send a deputation to submit to Premier Stoyadinovitch the demands of the Hungarians living there. One of the most important of these demands related to the abolition of the system of "name analysis" still employed despite repeated ministerial promises to the contrary; another related to the re-opening of the Hungarian infant school which had been closed a year previously and to the appointment without the slightest delay of a Hungarian infant mistress. ("Reggeli Ujság" November 14th.)

A similar movement is in evidence among the inhabitants of the Hungarian homestead-settlements lying on the confines of the village of Ada, who have for years been applying in vain for the re-opening of the homestead schools which have been closed and for the appointment of Hungarian teachers. ("Uj Hírek", November 22nd.)

### SITUATION OF GERMANS IN YUGOSLAVIA

A long account of the situation of the German nationality in Yugoslavia was published in the German review "*Deutschtum im*

*Ausland*" in October. The following are quotations from that article:

"Following the official abolition, three years ago, of the first local cultural groups in the Drave Banate the cultural activity of the German settlement there — which had already been reduced to a minimum — was handicapped by an ever-growing oppression. Today, when there are no more local cultural groups and even the few existing choral societies are handicapped in their work, it is impossible to speak of such activities at all. The German press service of the Drave Banate is — according to the "Deutsche Zeitung" appearing at Cili — restricted to a single paper, the "Gottscheer Zeitung", which appears three times a month. The situation of education, too, shows a growing decline; the number of German schools was far from being sufficient even in the past, but the existence of 18 German elementary schools (12 of these in Gottschee) in an area inhabited — according to official records — by 30.000 Germans is indeed a farce. Moreover, the staff of these schools is composed partly of Slovene teachers whose command of German is very defective. Their numbers are, furthermore, reduced by such methods as the analysis of names and the admission of children of Yugoslav nationality.

"The same decline is in evidence in the economic situation. The statutory limitation of trading in immovable property is one of the powerful weapons against the German nationality to prevent it from acquiring land. The German merchants, craftsmen and members of the liberal professions suffer more and more from the effects of a well organized boycott propaganda against them.

"Owing to the anti-German measures introduced in the main German settlement in the Danube Banate — where conditions were at least tolerable before this — it was feared that a further aggravation of the situation of the Germans in the Drave Banate would ensue.

"Even in the past Germans in the Drave Banate have frequently applied in vain for passports, but now they can obtain them only in exceptionally important cases. An innocent meeting of a few Germans at an inn is already put down as a "forbidden assembly" and involves a heavy fine. Old men who cannot speak Slovene and, therefore, address people in German are also fined under the charge of "violation of the State language". Such cases are particularly frequent in the frontier regions of the Drave Valley, e. g.

in Mahrenburg. In Marburg the hatred against Germans takes the form of public insults without any official prosecution of the offenders, Socialists or others. During the "Marburg Week" the Germans were assaulted and insulted in the open streets and entertainment places. Wearers of white stockings (a garb worn by German nationals) are in constant danger of their lives. The mouthpiece of the Slovene Government Party, the "Slovenes" appearing at Laibach, recently published reports from Marburg saying, with evident satisfaction, that it has at last been possible to make the white stockings disappear from the streets altogether. This shows that these circles, too, have had something to do with the persecution of Germans.

"At the present moment no tension can yet be felt in the main German settlement in the Danube Banate, though, owing to recent events, almost all cultural activities have been suspended, and official inquiries — though in a limited sphere only — are still being continued. In many places the windows of the Habag House in *Neusatz (Ujvidék)* have been smashed twice already, but the offenders have not been prosecuted."

— y —