

POLITICAL MOSAIC

HUNGARIAN PREMIER VISITS THE FÜHRER.

On 6th June M. Nicholas de Kállay, Hungarian Premier, visited Herr Hitler, Führer and Chancellor of the German Reich. The Hungarian Premier's visit to the Führer took place as a matter of course, for Hungary's leading statesmen have always maintained personal contacts with the head of the German State and its prominent statesmen, just as they have with the Governments of other allied and friendly Powers. This was the main reason for the Hungarian Premier's present visit; but besides this, in the given circumstances, which demand the closest political, military and economic co-operation, a discussion of the political and military situation was perhaps of greater importance than ever before.

As a historical necessity co-operation between Germany and Hungary has always existed, even in the most critical times. Today the situation is the same as it has been for centuries: Hungary is the most important bastion in the defence of Europe, especially of Germany, against aggression from the East.

In his first speech to Parliament M. de Kállay left no room for doubt that he would continue to pursue the policy of his predecessors, and clearly stated that he was fully aware of the major tasks that awaited what he called his "War Cabinet". Premier de Kállay's policy is to make the attitude dictated by the present situation a conscious effort. Hungary has been quick to realize what is required of her in these fateful times, and in keeping with its character the Hungarian nation has acted with promptitude. In many respects the present war is a reparation of the first world war and the peace treaties concluding it; in other words it is a war of revision. In her conscious effort to win the war Hungary always keeps her own ultimate aim in view, — the defence of Hungarian soil, — and she is standing guard over her own frontiers.

Premier de Kállay is following the straight line of Hungary's foreign policy during the past two decades. When outlining his programme he said that *the trend of Hungary's foreign policy was not to exploit the situation; it was an unflinching Hungarian policy, that meaning that, faithful to its historical mission of being a bulwark of Christianity, the Hungarian nation was fighting against the menace of Asiatic Bolshevism.*

A report issued by the Hungarian Telegraph Bureau announced that on 6th June the Hungarian Premier, M. Nicholas de Kállay and his deputy as Foreign Minister paid a visit to the Führer's headquarters. They were accompanied by Major-General *vitéz Vörös*, M. Andrew *Szentmiklóssy*, Councillor of Legation, and M. Christopher *de Kállay*, attaché. The Hungarian Minister in Berlin, M. Demeter *Sztójay* and Herr von *Jagow*, German Minister in Budapest, were also present.

M. de Kállay and his suite were received by the Führer at his headquarters, where the political situation was discussed. This conversation, in which Herr von Ribbentrop, Germany's Minister for Foreign Affairs, took part, *was conducted in the traditional spirit of friendship and comradeship-in-arms that exists between Germany and Hungary and has found fresh expression and confirmation in the struggle of the nations allied against Bolshevism in the Three Power Pact.*

When politics had been discussed the Führer spoke with the Hungarian Premier and his suite about the military situation. At this stage of the *pourparlers* Marshal *Keitel*, General *Jodel* and Colonel *Poppenheim*, German military attaché in Budapest, took part in the conversation as Germany's representatives, while Hungary was represented by Major-General *vitéz Vörös*, and Major-General *vitéz Homok*, Hungarian military attaché in Berlin. On 7th June the Hungarian statesmen were entertained by Herr von Ribbentrop, on which occasion all actual political questions were exhaustively discussed in a friendly spirit. The Führer conferred on M. de Kállay the Grand Cross of the German Order of the Eagle. The decorations were handed over to their recipients at noon on Sunday by Herr von Ribbentrop, who addressed the Hungarian statesmen with great cordiality.

On 8th June the Hungarian Premier arrived back in Budapest, where he was welcomed with ceremony by the members of the Cabinet and many members of Parliament, as well as by General *Szombathelyi*, Chief of the General Staff, and the Mayor of Budapest. The German Legation was represented by Herr *Werkmeister*, Councillor of Legation. The Hungarian National Anthem, the *Rákóczi March*, the German National Hymn and the *Horst Wessel* song were played by the Police band. Crowds of spectators cheered the Premier and the German Minister, Herr von *Jagow*. In a short statement to the Press M. de Kállay expressed his satisfaction that *his visit had again set the seal on the friendship between Germany and Hungary, for in the course of the conversations it was made plain that there was the most complete harmony and a cordial comradeship-in-arms between the two nations.* Afterwards M. de Kállay paid a visit to the Regent at the latter's country-house at *Kenderes* to report on the results of his visit to the Führer.

HUNGARIAN PREMIER IN TRANSYLVANIA.

On his three days' tour of Szeklerland M. Nicholas de Kállay, accompanied by four ministers, M. Joseph Varga, Baron Daniel Bánffy, M. Béla Lukács and M. Stephen Antal, and four State Secretaries, M. Francis Zsindely, M. Stephen Fáy, M. Louis Szász and M. Tiborius Pataky, arrived at his first stop, Marosvásárhely, on 15th June. Here, as well as throughout the whole of Szeklerland, the Premier was welcomed with the greatest enthusiasm. In his Marosvásárhely speech he outlined his economic programme for Transylvania, and described the results already achieved. He told his listeners that, for instance, *600 locomotives and 10.000 railway coaches had had to be provided, since every single engine and railway-carriage in use on the 2200 kilometres of railway in the restored areas had been carried away by the Rumanians.* He voiced the nation's gratitude to the brave people who had remained Magyar in spirit through 22 years of suffering. Then he continued as follows:

"The fundamental basis of our nationality policy is equality of treatment. *We have never had, nor shall we ever have, resort to violence,* for it would be a mistake to think that violence would help to strengthen the Magyars. It is but natural that after all they have suffered and gone without the Magyars should be given their rights, but only *without detriment to others.*

"Our programme is dominated by *considerations of national defence.* This comes before everything else. The equipping of the Hungarian army and the reinforcement of its striking power are today our most important and most urgent tasks. *The equipment of the army means employment, and it is our intention to provide willing workers with steady work and a secure livelihood.*

"Hungary will never again go through years like 1916 and 1918" — said the Premier. "The future of the country depends on the Hungarian army, so we must sacrifice everything to national defence. If something still remains it must be spent on social welfare."

At Székelyudvarhely M. de Kállay said:

"All the inhabitants of this country are equals. Some of them serve their country with greater ability, a stronger will and more resolution than others, but none is more truly Magyar than his fellows. I emphasize this point, because the only way to promote the welfare of the country is to respect one another, to recognize that we are all equally good Magyars, diligent citizens, farmers, craftsmen, merchants and officials. In his welcoming address the under-sheriff of the County, speaking on the steps of the beautiful County Hall, said that *the people of this County were the most truly Magyar, but also the poorest people in the land.*" No riches can equal the value of being the

best Magyars in the land, but at the same time it is a moral obligation to see that *the best Magyars should not be the poorest.*"

At Sepsiszentgyörgy the Premier, amongst other things, said:

"My Szekler Brethren, never before in my life have I encountered so much goodwill, so much love of Magyar for Magyar, such eloquent and spontaneous manifestations of understanding and sympathy as you have shown to me and my companions. We have not come here, I repeat, to be fêted. We have not come here to enjoy your affection and thank you for it; we have come, in the first place, because we knew that we must visit Szeklerland, the most outlying fortress of the Magyar spirit, to prove to you that *in the present difficult times the whole Hungarian Government and every son of Hungary, armed or unarmed, stands by you to aid and protect you.*

"I know what cares your smiling faces conceal, and it is to your credit that, although you know we have come to be of help, you do not overwhelm us with complaints, you do not come forward with your own special worries at a time when there are so many difficulties everywhere in the country. *During the two days I have spent among you I have heard much more talk about our common Magyar affairs than about the individual problems and local troubles of the Szekler villages.* This self-restraint, this self-control and Magyar spirit are a guarantee that after so much suffering the Szekler people will again be what they should always have been, the most respected and cherished section of the Hungarian nation.

"I have not come to make long speeches. I wanted to see this part of the country and tell you what you must in any case know, that *every son of Hungary swears to keep possession of these regions for ever and ever. As we had the strength to recover possession of them, so we shall have the strength to keep them.*" (Loud shouts of "We swear it, we swear it!")

"In this common task, this common struggle, I know that you Szeklers will always take a prominent part. I have no fear for you. I have walked between rows of your boys and girls like through a garden of flowers. *If the past twenty years were unable to destroy this people, we shall never allow them to be destroyed in the future.*"

The Premier's last words were received with a storm of applause and cheers that lasted for several minutes.

When this had died down the crowds called upon M. Stephen Antal, Propaganda Minister, for a speech. He replied in a lengthy address in which, amongst other things, he said:

"A few days ago the Prime Minister told me he was going to Szeklerland, *in order to strengthen your faith, encourage you*

to persevere, and make you feel that the whole material and moral force of Hungary and its 15 million inhabitants, who are heart and soul at one with you, is behind you." (Loud applause and cheers) "Some hours ago, at Székelyudvarhely, the Premier said he had come here in person to give expression to the eternal Magyar creed that *this soil which had been Magyar for a thousand years would continue to be Magyar* (Applause and cheers), to state that the Hungarian Government, as well as the whole nation, was determined to defend this region from all dangers. We had had the strength, after 22 years of trials to regain possession of this ancient Magyar territory, and we should have the strength, will, resolution and self-sacrificing spirit to defend it in the difficult times ahead.

"In his Marosvásárhely speech, the Premier" — continued M. Antal, — "outlined the Government's programme of reconstruction for Szeklerland and told you what steps had been taken to strengthen Transylvania and solve the Transylvanian problems. The gist of the matter is that it is the wish of the Hungarian Government, Parliament and of Hungarian public opinion that the mistakes of the past should be rectified and that the Magyars of Transylvania should be raised to the highest possible material and moral level. We have already made many sacrifices to this end and shall continue to do so, but *it must be understood that today, and for some time to come, the chief Transylvanian task will be to strengthen the Hungarian army and increase to thee maximum the striking power of our beloved Hungarian troops.*

„This involves tremendous sacrifices, but let us not forget that *a nation unwilling to make sacrifices in order to maintain and develop its own army will eventually be forced to maintain an alien army.* This you have seen for yourselves during the past twenty-two years of bitter experience."

The Propaganda Minister then went on to speak of the social aspects of national defence, and concluded his speech by saying that *there was no separate Szekler problem, no separate Transylvanian problem, but only one common Magyar problem.*

Dr. VALENTINE HÓMAN'S SPEECH:

"HUNGARY IS A NATIONAL NOT A NATIONALITY STATE"

At a gala meeting held after the celebrations at which the degree of Honorary Doctor was conferred on General Mannerheim by the Nicholas Horthy University of Sciences of Szeged, the University decorated Dr. Valentine Hóman, Hungarian Minister of Public Education, M. Joseph Varga, Minister for Industry, and Dr. Kálmán Szily, State Secretary in the Ministry of Education, with the University's Nicholas Horthy medal, in

recognition of their services in connection with the foundation and development of the Szeged University.

On behalf of the recipients of this decoration Dr. Valentine Hóman made a speech thanking the University for the honour conferred on them.

"Humanity" — he said — "is passing through a fateful period. Since the migration of the peoples there has not been so stirring an era of movement during the whole course of European history. In this titanic struggle only the nations that are prepared in spirit and enter the arena with all their moral and mental strength in order to safeguard their rights and ensure their future, will be able to hold their own. *It is only by uniting and marshalling all its forces, by strengthening its Magyar spirit and national consciousness, and by creating an all-embracing racial unity and a sound Hungarian public spirit, that the Hungarian nation will be able to ensure its own future and realize its great national aspirations.*

"To do all this we must make our culture more profound and raise its standard to a higher level. The basis of national culture is sound and progressive national science, of which the universities are the workshops, each with its own special tasks to perform. The Kolozsvár University, for instance, is chiefly concerned with the cultural life of Transylvania, the Pécs University with the problems of Transdanubia, the Debrecen University with those of the northeastern parts of the country, while the Szeged University is making a scientific study of the questions affecting the Great Plain and Southern Hungary. *Scientific research also extends to the nationality problems.* A different non-Magyar nationality lives within the sphere of influence of each university; and a study of their problems is part and parcel of a scientific examination of the phenomena of Hungarian life.

"Of late much confusion has been introduced into the nationality question. From the Trianon vocabulary a conception has been implanted in Hungarian public opinion which we historians never heard of formerly, and which we do not wish to hear of in the future: the conception of a nationality State. *Hungary is not a nationality State. According to the ideas of St. Stephen, Hungary is a Magyar national State, because it was the Magyars who created a nation, organized a State, and built up a country here in the Basin of the Carpathians.* Racially Hungary is a definite historical entity; and this is not affected by the undeniable facts that in the course of time her population has been increased by the advent of alien elements and that owing to the extermination of large numbers of Magyars the Magyar quota of the population has decreased. The Hungarian State is a national State, but it never forgets that within its

confines there live other nationalities too. Adhering to the policy of the Arpád kings, Hungary recognizes the right of those nationalities to cherish their own racial culture.

"Today, where the Germans are concerned, the Vienna Agreement, which Hungary faithfully observes, regulates those rights; where the rest of the non-Magyar nationalities are in question ancient Hungarian traditions are what determine them. In the field of administration we allow non-Magyar nationalities to use their own languages; in the schools their children are taught in their own mother-tongues, if so desired by their parents, who alone have the right to decide to which nationality their children belong. In exchange for these rights all the Hungarian State demands of the non-Magyar nationalities is that they should be loyal citizens. By virtue of historical right the Hungarian State claims its prerogative to direct and control the country's educational policy in every field of culture. We cannot allow the sovereign right of the Hungarian State in the field of education (which it exercises together with the denominations) to be questioned. If we permit non-Magyar nationalities to maintain schools, they must first be invested with the right to do so by the Hungarian State. The Hungarian language must be taught in every school in Hungary, and anti-national creeds may not be taught in any of them. Magyar children, on the other hand, must be educated in Hungarian schools, and so long as they are of schooling-age they may not attend schools in which the language of tuition is not Hungarian. It is our task to ensure that the nationalities living within the confines of the Hungarian State shall live peacefully and enjoy the possibility of undisturbed development. Those who refuse to fit into this scheme and who cannot live at peace with the rest of the community cannot have a home in Hungary.

"We seek peace and not strife. We wish to make preparations for peaceful work, and we invite all our compatriots of whatever race to join us in that effort. I am convinced that, as in the past, so also in the future, our non-Magyar nationalities will find ways and means of walking hand in hand with us."

In conclusion Dr. Valentine Höman promised in his own name and on behalf of his colleagues that they would do all in their power to support the town and university of Szeged in their endeavour to accomplish their tasks.

TRANSYLVANIA'S RENASCENCE

At a recent meeting of the Transylvanian Economic Council a plan for the development of railway communications in Transylvania was discussed at the suggestion of the Chambers of Labour in Kolozsvár, Marosvásárhely and Nagyvárád.

The plan in the first place urges an extension of the network of railways in Szeklerland. When the line between Szeretfalva and Déda is ready, the next task would be to link up the line between Székelyudvarhely and Székelykeresztur — both ends of which have been lopped off — with the rest of the railways in the country. Seeing that there is no contact between the interior of Szeklerland and the so-called Szekler Circular Railway running along the frontier, and that in particular there is no railway line at all in County Udvarhely except the truncated one mentioned above, and that therefore County Udvarhely has no means of communication with Marosvásárhely, the capital town of Szeklerland, the plan suggests that Székelyudvarhely, (i. e. the truncated) railway line should first be connected with Marosvásárhely. This line, starting from Székelykeresztur, would run through Balavásár and Akosfalva down to Marosvásárhely. When it is built the ordinary gänge railway between Balavásár and Parajd, both ends of which have also been lopped off, would be linked up with the rest of the railways in the country.

The plan also urges the necessity of connecting Székelyudvarhely with Csikszereda and, through Okland-Barót, with Sepsiszentgyörgy. In also urging the construction of a direct line between the towns of Zilah and Szilágysomlyó and Kolozsvár, the plan voices a wish that has existed for several decades. This line would be important, not merely because it would serve to link up the region known as the "Szilágység" with the rest of Transylvania but also because, running through the Almás Valley, it would open up areas rich in timber and coal and bring them into contact with the economic life of the country. It would also promote the economic prosperity of the people of Kalotaszeg and the town of Bánffyhunяд.

The plan also stresses the importance of connecting Magyarlápós and its surroundings, which are rich in minerals and summer resorts, with Nagybánya and also with Erzsébetbánya and Dés by way of Salgó.

The question of the network of railways in the "Érmellék" district was also discussed. Besides the line connecting Tasnád with Margitta, the necessity of direct contact between Tasnád and Nagybánya, and Szatmár, respectively was also urged.

A new line starting at Érmihályfalva, or perhaps Vámosbércs, and joining the railway at Tasnád, would serve to supplement the deficient network of railways in the "Érmellék" region, and would also be part of a second trunk line between Budapest and Dés. *The plan naturally deals separately with the question of that second trunk line to link up Budapest by way of Füzesabony, Debrecen, Zilah and Zsibó with Dés and so with Szeklerland.*

This enormous programme of work, which would make the network of railways in Northern Transylvania complete and organically connect the whole of that region, as well as its several parts, with the lines of communication in Hungary, is, as a whole, of course, a peace-time plan, *but some of its most important elements, especially in Széklerland, would become immediate tasks as soon as the line between Szeretfalva and Déda is built.*

The great problem of industrialization is also receiving attention. In the Rumanian era the old "Energia" plant was closed down for about ten years. *The Budapest Hungarian Steel Manufacturing Co., one of Hungary's most important heavy industry undertakings has taken over this plant, which had fallen into disrepair, and has not only transformed it into a modern factory, but has also, at enormous cost, increased its capacity of production to several times its former volume.* Where lately stood a heap of ruins, a busy, modern factory stands today. The large area of the plant is covered with excellently furnished offices and premises, with bright, roomy workshops fitted up with new machinery, and separate buildings with all the requirements demanded by social welfare and hygiene. A new foundry 80 metres long and 40 wide is in process of construction, and even in its present semi-finished condition it is an impressive sight. Besides the workshops, visitors may view with pleasure the scrupulously clean dressing-rooms capable of accomodating 600 workers of both sexes. In the neighbourhood of those dressing-rooms are bathrooms with modern shower and but baths. On the ground floor there is a consulting-room where the employees may always obtain medical advice. *This new Kolozsvár branch of the Hungarian Steel Manufacturing Co. supports and gives a technical training to 150 Szekler apprentices.* A modern sports-field and swimming-pool are being constructed at the factory. Over five hundred hands and apprentices are already employed, — but it is the management's aim to increase that number fourfold in the near future.

The Hungarian Ministry for Agriculture is busily engaged in raising the level of farming in Transylvania. To mention only one matter: in order to free the 800 cadastral yokes of orchards around Kolozsvár of caterpillars, *80 spraying machines and 500 other implements have been given free of charge to the owners of those orchards.* This work is being carried out not only around Kolozsvár, but also all over Transylvania. One of the provisions made by the Government is that *50% of the price of the raw materials used for spraying etc. is being repaid to fruit-farmers.* Besides this, scores of spraying experts are being trained, who will later on continue their new craft on a professional basis.

To popularize the method of drying hay on piles, *the Ministry for Agriculture is distributing by way of the Green Fields*

Alliance, 15.000 stakes, the greater part of which will be given to farmers in Transylvania, where fodder-farming is in a backward state.

To improve the stocks of sheep owned by the peasantry, increase wool production and encourage sheep-breeding on a large scale, the Ministry has decided to distribute 20.000 lambs this year. Naturally most of them will go to enrich sheep-stocks in the Transylvanian areas so admirably suited for sheep-breeding.

In connection with co-operatives it should be noted that the farmers in the surroundings of Nagybánya have formed a dairy co-operative society. This big undertaking will lease the pastures in the district and set up a dairy products factory. The new organization certainly means a great step forward towards the solution of the problem of milk and dairy supplies in that mining district.

Work in Transylvania, as we see, is progressing everywhere with great impetus.

THE MAGYAR CULTURAL COMMUNITY OF SOUTHERN HUNGARY. ONE YEAR'S WORK.

After the restoration of Southern Hungary, the Magyar Cultural Community of that area continued the work for the Magyars begun during the Yugoslav era. This Community (officially sanctioned only at the end of November 1940) was an organization that dealt with practically all phases of communal life. It was formed by Magyars and functioned for Magyars. Today its members number about 300.000.

When Southern Hungary had been restored to the mother-country, the Community, if that were possible, intensified its labours. There is not a single town or village in that area where it has neglected to carry out systematic cultural work. It has been in constant contact with the people and has, arranged literary, musical and cultural meetings, and maintained courses of instruction for those past the schooling age. In the past year, to encourage literary efforts in Southern Hungary, the Community arranged a series of literary soirées, not only in the local towns, but also in Budapest and other cities of the mother-country, that they, too, might have the opportunity of enjoying the works of writers from the restored areas. *Writers from the mother-country and Transylvania have also been invited to visit Southern Hungary, in order that the people there should have some idea of the intellectual work being done in the mother-country.*

Assisting and organizing university students belonging to Southern Hungary were two of the chief tasks undertaken by

the Community. The Magyar students from those parts who were studying in Belgrade and Zagreb enjoyed — even if only for a short period — its material and moral support. Now that Southern Hungary has been restored, these students prosecute their studies at universities in Hungary, where the Community continues to assist them and strives to keep the flame of local patriotism alive in their hearts.

Particularly valuable work was done by the Community in connection with the repatriating of the Magyars who, as soldiers serving in the Yugoslav army, became prisoners of war in a foreign land when that country collapsed.

Within the framework of the Community women's charitable work and the care of children are being organized. Summer holidays for children are being arranged in various towns and villages, and poor children are being supplied with food and articles of clothing.

Special attention is being devoted to youth movements. Sport societies have been created and steps have been taken to ensure the young people making profitable use of their leisure time.

In every field of economic life the Community strives to promote the welfare of the Magyars, with advice, and when necessary, with material aid. Southern Hungary being mainly an agricultural area, the Community, in order to raise the level of farming, *has a number of expert advisers in various parts of the region, who are there to instruct farmers how to bring their farming up to the standard required in Hungary.* To further increased agricultural production a special advisory department has been established in the secondary school for economics at Ujvidék.

During the Yugoslav era the Magyar Cultural Community of Southern Hungary zealously performed its task of keeping the Magyars united. Now that these areas have been restored its aim is a different one, but with the same zeal it labours to assist the Hungarian Government in all its efforts to promote the welfare of the Magyars of Southern Hungary.