

CZECH

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

POLITICAL ECONOMIC & SOCIAL CONDITIONS

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& Social Conditions

(Xref)

Czech

INTRODUCTION

1. Wartime changes in Territory (Poland and Czechoslovakia and China only)

In one paragraph describe briefly the changes in territory resulting from the war. Give prewar and 1946 area. Describe the character of the territories taken away from and added to the country - i.e. population, principal economic pursuits, degree of self-sufficiency, etc. (Mission)

2. Population

In one-two paragraphs give (a) total population, prewar and 1946; (b) an explanation of changes - i.e. losses due to change in area, expulsion of certain elements in the country, war casualties; (c) table of distribution of population, prewar and if available, 1946 among major occupational groupings; (1) agriculture, including animal husbandry, (2) mining, (3) industry, (4) transportation, (5) trade, (6) services, (7) government service, (8) other. (Missions)

3. General character of Economy

In one-two paragraphs describe the general character of the economy: (a) its predominant economic activities, (b) its degree of self-sufficiency before the war in (1) foodstuffs, (2) agricultural raw materials, e.g. fibers, (3) mineral raw materials and supplies, including fuels, (4) manufactured goods; (c) its major imports and exports. Describe briefly its present situation in these respects, indicating any structural changes which may have occurred or are in prospect, and any short-term alterations in its position. (Washington)

4. Balance of Payments

In one paragraph, describe the structure of the country's balance of payments before the war and in 1946, pointing to any structural changes which have occurred or are in prospect and commenting on its present situation, if necessary. (Washington)

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

1. General Description of Agriculture

In 2-3 paragraphs, describe the general character of the country's agriculture. Describe very briefly its agricultural potential - i.e. the percentage of total area in arable land, in pasture, in forests, and in nonarable land. Name the principal crops grown. Indicate the degree of self-sufficiency of the country before the war and its export surpluses, if any. For Poland, note the changes resulting from the change in boundaries. Describe the land tenure system and any major changes since the war. Describe farming methods - i.e. the extent of mechanization and the character of livestock raising. (Washington)

2. Crop Production

a. Give for all major crops, food and nonfood, for average prewar period 1945 and 1946, statistics on area under cultivation, yield per hectare and harvested crop. For Poland, prewar figures should cover present territory. (Washington)

b. Give reasons for production in 1945 and 1946 falling below prewar, discussing the limiting factors - seed, labour, draft power, tools, fertilizers, pesticides, war damage, absence of markets (domestic and foreign). Give figures on agricultural supplies made available in 1945 and 1946 out of domestic production and through UNRRA and compare total with prewar use. Estimate the extent to which the limiting factors have been overcome, or will still make themselves felt in 1947 and thereafter. (Missions)

3. Livestock

a. Give for all major classes of animals, for average prewar period 1945 and 1946, number of animals. For Poland, prewar figures should cover present territory. (Washington)

b. Describe contributions of country and UNRRA to recovery of flocks and herds and effect of limiting factors - e.g. fodder shortage - upon the situation. Estimate the extent to which the limiting factors have been overcome, or will continue to make themselves felt. (Missions)

c. Give production of animals foods, average prewar period (preferably 1935-38) 1945, 1946.

4. Food Position

a. Give for average prewar period, 1945 and 1946, total and average per capita supply from all sources of all major food items. Note differences in levels of consumption as among different areas and rural vs. urban consumers. (Washington)

b. Describe the Government's policy on food production and collection, and the success achieved in collecting food from producers for distribution among non-producers. (Missions)

c. Describe the Government's policy on food distribution and its success in achieving equitable distribution, or, at least, in making foodstuffs available for nonproducers. (Missions)

TABLE 1

Area under Cultivation, Yield and Harvested Crops

Average Pre-war, 1945, 1946

Crops	Average Pre-war			1945			1946			1945 as % of Pre-war			1946 as % of Prewar		
	Hec- tares	Yield Per Ha.	Crop	Hec- tares	Yield Per Ha.	Crop	Hec- tares	Yield Per Ha.	Crop	Hec- tares	Yield Per Ha.	Crop	Hec- tares	Yield Per Ha.	Crop

TABLE 2

Fertilizer Supplies Available Prewar, 1945, 1946

Fertilizer	Consumption Average Pre-war	Available Supply 1945				Available Supply 1946			
		Domestic Supply	From UNRRA	Other <u>1/</u> Imports	Total	Domestic Supply	From UNRRA	Other <u>1/</u> Imports	Total

Itemize

1/ Specify source.

TABLE 3

Livestock Numbers, Average Prewar, 1945, 1946

Class of Animal	Numbers			1945 as % of Prewar	1946 as % of Prewar
	Average Pre-war	(1) 1945	(1) 1946		

Horses

Cattle and calves

Milk cows

Calves

Sheep and lambs

Milk ewes

Lambs

Goats and kids

Milk ewes

Kids

Buffaloes

Pigs

Poultry

(1) Specify date of census or estimate.

TABLE 4

Production of Animals Foods, Average Prewar, 1945 and 1946

Food Item				1945	1946	1946 as
	Average Pre-war	1945	1946	as % of Prewar	as % of Prewar	% of 1945

Meat

Beef and Veal
Mutton and Lamb
Goat
Pork
Poultry

Eggs

Dairy Products

Milk
Butter
Cheese

TABLE 5

Total Food Supply for Human Consumption

Average Prewar, 1945, 1946

(000 M. Tons)

Food items	Average Prewar			1946		
	Indig- enous	Impor- ted	Total	Indig- enous	Impor- ted	Total

List only

major

food

classes

Total

Calories

Per head

Per day

INDUSTRIAL RECOVERY

1. The object of this section is to show the rate of industrial recovery since liberation and the degree of recovery with reference to prewar output.

2. Organized information on the general industrial situation as follows:

(a) A general index of production based on prewar, with such breakdowns by industries as available. In default of a general index use an index of industrial power consumption, railway freight car mileage, total industrial employment or other substitutes, with appropriate safeguards and within appropriate limits. Indices of production (or substitutes therefore) to be given for prewar (average of 1935-37), for the date of liberation and for successive months to the present.

(b) The facts about the general distribution of the labour supply, the changes in its total and measures of its efficiency. The essential facts should also be given about demobilization schemes and statutory arrangements for the allocation of labour, including wage fixing arrangements where relevant. Any facts throwing light on bottlenecks in labour supplies, e.g. skilled labour or managerial personnel, should also be given.

(c) Where industries have been nationalized, report the arrangements as fully as possible, giving the number of industries and firms and proportion of output affected.

(d) The fullest possible explanation of trends, with particular emphasis on the general factors impeding industrial recovery.

3. Information on the situation of the chief industries of the country:-

(a) Figures or an index of output and employment based on prewar. Use quantities or units produced or capacity in operation (e.g. for textiles, the number of spindles operating) or an established index. Use the following form:-

	<u>INDUSTRY X</u>		
	<u>Output and Employment</u>		<u>Output</u>
	<u>Nos. Employed</u>	<u>Nos. Unemployed</u>	
1935			
1936			
1937			
1938			
1939			
1940			
1941			
1942			
1943			
1944			

Since liberation
by months

(b) Any complementary series of figures obtainable on the productivity per man hour worked, fluctuations in stocks of fuel and raw materials, frequency of plant breakdowns, etc., which throw light on the speed and evenness of recovery.

(c) The raw material position with appropriate notes on the use of substitutes. Provide table of main raw materials of industry, as follows:

	000 Tons		Net Imports		Total Available
	Home Production		UNRRA	Other	
Ave 1935-37					
1945				1)	
1946				1)	

1) Specify countries

Critical explanation of observable trends in the figures with particular emphasis on the impediments to recovery in the industry, e.g. lack of raw materials (only X% of prewar consumption available), labour shortages (only X% of prewar skilled and Y% of prewar unskilled now available), etc.

Note: Reports on the situation of individual plants are of limited use unless their importance in the total output and their significance as a reliable sample of conditions throughout the given industry can be established.

4. Provide tables on the transportation system as follows:

TRANSPORTATION						
1. Approximate Distribution of Internal Freight Traffic						
	Average 1935 - 1937		1945		1946	
	Ton-Miles	Per Cent	Ton-Miles	Per Cent	Ton-Miles	Per Cent
Railways						
Internal Waterways						
Roads						
Sea						
Total						
	100		100		100	

2. Volume of Internal Freight Traffic	
(Ton-Miles)	
----- (Each month since liberation) -----	
Railways	
Internal Waterways	
Roads	
Sea	

3. Transport Installations

<u>Kind of Installation</u>	Prewar	On Liberation		Additions to date speci- fying source	Additions expected by end 1946 speci- fying source	At Present		Forecast end 1946	
	<u>Available</u>	<u>Available</u>	<u>Usable</u>			<u>Avail- able</u>	<u>Us- able</u>	<u>Avail- able</u>	<u>Us- able</u>

Railway

Length of
standard gauge
Length of
Other gauge
No. of loco-
motives
No. of freight
cars
No. of passenger
cars

Road

Length of main
roads
No. of trucks
No. of passenger
automobiles

Inland Waterways

Length of Waterways
No. of barges

Sea

Tonnage of Merchant
fleet

One of the principal objects of these tables is to show the adequacy of the transportation system to its tasks. Thus in appropriate cases the tables should be supplemented by comparisons between monthly clearance at the ports, the quantities warehoused, and the corresponding volume of freight traffic on the railways, roads and waterways. If truck traffic is held up by lack of fuel, tires or spare parts, show the monthly proportion of the truck fleet unused for any of these reasons throughout the UNRRA period. If railway traffic is impeded by single track working and frequent stops on account of improvised repair work, show the average speed at which volume of traffic is moved or the number and length of trains over sample routes compared with prewar.

Describe the economic effect of the transport situation - such as difficulties of supplying certain areas, export difficulties, great price spread between areas, etc., and the extent of which these difficulties have been overcome.

EXTERNAL FINANCIAL POSITION

1. Prewar balance of payments. Short statement for a few prewar years. All figures in millions of U.S. dollars. Only main items.^{x)}

2. Development with respect to each of the main items in 1945 and 1946 to extent available.

(a) With respect to exports (for which give short survey prewar composition) remittances, shipping and other sources of foreign exchange revenue, explanation of development in 1945 and 1946 with reference back to productive activity, transport, monetary situation; as far as possible give monthly figures. As regards exports, give main countries of destination and main items; discuss structure of foreign trade since liberation - individual barter deals, payments agreements, barter agreements, etc.

(b) With respect to imports, give UNRRA imports and other imports; as far as possible monthly figures. Give main countries of origin and main items.

3. Forecast of balance of payments for 1947. Data requested and outlined separately.

x) See documents on Yugoslavia and Poland prepared for ability to pay subcommittees.

JJP-EA-cm
June 11, 1946.

Currency, Prices and Government Finance

1. Government expenditure and revenue. (a) Give actual figures as much as possible. Where budget figures, comment on extent to which they can be regarded as measurement actual expenditure and revenue. Give monthly or quarterly figures where available and development of expenditure, revenue, (including changes in taxation), deficit, means of meeting the deficit since liberation. Main sources of revenue, main objects of expenditure.

(b) Proceeds from sale and distribution costs. Explain gross proceeds to date in comparison UNRRA deliveries, government price policy, policies as to capital goods, accounting practices (charging of UNRRA supplies against budgets governmental agencies). Estimate of total proceeds of entire UNRRA program. Nature of distribution costs (transport, industrial processing). Magnitude of net proceeds compared with revenue and expenditure. Use of net proceeds by time periods (amounts to be used in 1946 and in later years), and by objects.

2. Other important factors affecting the inflationary situation. Discuss where of importance such factors as internal credit expansion, remittances from abroad, expenditure by foreign armies, gold sales.

3. Currency. (a) Summary of currency reform, reduction of currency in circulation by it.

(b) Subsequent currency expansion. Refer to both note circulation and bank deposits. Monthly figures on circulation. Bring these figures in relation to those under 1. and 2.

4. Prices. Index numbers wholesale prices, cost of living, monthly. Explanation of movement with reference to 1, 2, 3 and any other factors. Where movements are significantly divergent, refer to and explain price data for various regions or towns.

In discussing prices, distinguish between controlled and black or free market prices, scope and effect of rationing. Discuss extent of black or free markets and government's policies with respect to them.

Give composition of index numbers. Particular care to be taken that index numbers of the cost of living should not be based on quantities of consumption far in excess of what is available for the bulk of the population (or that such index numbers are properly qualified as to their significance).

Wage developments, compared with cost of living. Non-monetary payments of labor.

5. Summary as to extent inflation is under control, forecast for near future. Effect of such inflation as has occurred or is occurring on collection of agricultural supplies, industrial production, general willingness to work and exports.

BUREAU OF AREA OFFICES
RECEIVED

AUG 31 1944

31 August 1944

TO: Welfare Division
FROM: Central European Branch T.S.
Bureau of Areas
SUBJECT: Social Legislation in Czechoslovakia

The Central European Branch of Bureau of Areas has made a short study on Social Legislation in Czechoslovakia which may interest you and, therefore, attach a copy for your information.

Attachment

✓ cc: Michail Menshikov

Trander: kay
31 aug 44

SOCIAL LEGISLATION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

In the Czechoslovak Republic the principle of collective agreements was developed in an extensive and systematic structure. This was facilitated because of the concentration of the workers in the large trade union bodies which at the end of 1937 numbered 1,241,000 out of a total of 2,300,000 workers in the vocations concerned. In addition, there were 1,000,000 organized officials, public employees, teachers, et cetera, whose salaries were fixed by law and not by collective agreement.

In 1936, 2,860 collective agreements were concluded for 45,500 enterprises covering a total of one million workers. In 1937, the principle of the binding character of collective bargaining for certain areas and branches was adopted. Accordingly agreements were declared to be binding in 123 areas for 1,000 textile concerns employing 125,000 workers.

Another law was enacted in 1937 restricting the employer's right to close his factory or dismiss workers en masse. In such cases the Industrial Inspector had to come to an agreement both with the owner and with the Shop Council (of the workers). If the Inspector did not consider the reasons for the closing to be adequate he could order the firm to continue work. The law further guaranteed the workers who had been dismissed en masse, 14 days' wages and to workers from factories closed by the owners, three weeks' wages to be paid out in advance.

Another measure to protect the workers was the establishment of Labor Courts. The assessors from the ranks of the employees were appointed on the proposal of the trade union organizations. The president of the

court was a professional judge. The courts had jurisdiction in disputes arising out of violations of the law on working hours, wage disputes, et cetera. It was possible to appeal against the verdict to the Supreme Court.

The Law on the Working Hours was one of the first laws of the Republic issued on December 19, 1918. It laid down the principle of the eight hours a day. The working hours over a period of four weeks were not allowed to exceed 192. Night work was prohibited except for concerns whose permanent working was in the public interest.

Holidays were granted according to period of employment beginning with one week after one year's employment. Wages were paid during holidays.

A law on Shop Councils required factories with 30 to 60 workers (not in smaller factories) a total of three members to be elected to the Shop Council and a correspondingly higher number in cases of more workers employed. They had to protect the economic, social and cultural interests of the workers.

In 1937 there were 1932 Shop Councils in industrial enterprises. In 2101 enterprises they were not established because they had not sufficient workers employed. But analogous councils were set up in the mines and railroads. In large plants the leading members of the Shop Councils were freed from work during the period of this function. All members enjoyed special protection from dismissal.

Besides the Shop Councils the workers were protected by the State Control of the plants by Trade Inspectors, supervising the application of all labor health, wages, prevention of accidents and similar regulations.

To take care of the Unemployed, the so-called Ghent system was established. It was a combination of assistance paid by the trade unions with a contribution from the State Treasury. One quarter of the sum was paid by the trade union organization and three quarters by the State Treasury.

In 1936 a total of 420 million Kc was paid in assistance grants, of which sum the trade unions paid 116 million Kc. In addition to assistance the unemployed worker had the right to medical care for himself and his family.

Social Insurance was divided into the following categories:

1. Accident insurance
2. Health Insurance
3. Old Age and Invalidity Insurance for industrial workers and laborers.
4. Contributory Pension Schemes for Office Workers
5. Miners Insurance

Accident insurance was a long term insurance and provided the insured person with an income amounting to two thirds of his insured wages during periods when he was unable to work as a result of an accident. Money was also paid out to widows and orphans. If the insured had to rely on the help of a second person, payment was raised to one and a half the insured wages. The widow could claim 20% of the insured wages and every orphan 15%. Two million workers were insured against accident. The accident insurance centers (administration) were run by autonomous bodies elected from the employers and insured persons in equal numbers.

Health Insurance was compulsory not only for industrial workers but for all wage and salary earners irrespective of the amount of income. Insured workers were affiliated with local health insurance centers organized on the principle of self-administration of the insured with equal representation of employers and employees.

The health insurance centers received contributions from the workers (2 to 3 per cent of the insured wages) and from the employer (same amount) and provided medical care. They had at their disposal 1450 hospitals and clinics, nursing centers, sanatoria, convalescent homes, et cetera. The insured person as well as all the members of his family, could claim medical attention in case of sickness. If the insured was unable to work he had a right to sickness assistance in accordance with the wage class to which he belonged. In the framework of health insurance there were also fixed allowances for women during the period of pregnancy and special bonuses at childbirth and during confinement.

There were also health insurance centers for white collar workers, miners, civil servants, railway men, postal employees, et cetera.

The total number of those insured was 2,961,582.

Old Age and Invalidity Insurance for Workers was administered by the Social Insurance Center which also supervised the workers' health insurance.

Old age insurance for public officials was administered by the State which paid pensions from the State Treasury. Private office workers had their special insurance center in the General Pensions Institution together with the Ministry of Public Works and the Ministry of Social Welfare.

In all, the Social Insurance Center paid out to insured persons in 1935, 771 millions Kc.

In 1935 there were in Czechoslovakia 500,000 pensioned workers, widows and orphans.

The accumulated reserves of the social insurance institutions in 1935 had reached a total sum of five billion Kc (invested in mortgages, et cetera.)

Welfare Work for Young People

The Ministry of Social Welfare comprised the following:

1309 milk depots in schools

360 clinics for mothers and infants

31 free dispensaries

51 children's holiday centers

11 children's convalescent homes

44 orphanages with 2000 children

Special protection by law was granted to women as follows:

Women could not be employed in night work and in mines.

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Old people not included in the social insurance, at the time of their establishment or who were without family were cared for out of public funds. (Masaryk Homes in Prague).

Grants in aid were given by the State for the construction of family houses or communal blocks of flats.

Before Munich there were in Czechoslovakia 1309 milk depots in schools

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In 1935 the Working Class Cooperatives had 1,675,000 members in 17,000 consumers production and credit cooperatives (11% of the total population.)

Tony Sender:kay

28 August 1944

SOCIAL LEGISLATION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

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Another law was enacted in 1937 restricting the employer's right to close his factory or dismiss workers en masse. In such cases the Industrial Inspector had to come to an agreement both with the owner and with the Shop Council (of the workers). If the Inspector did not consider the reasons for the closing to be adequate he could order the firm to continue work. The law further guaranteed the workers who had been dismissed en masse, 14 days' wages and to workers from factories closed by the owners, three weeks' wages to be paid out in advance.

Another measure to protect the workers was the establishment of Labor Courts. The assessors from the ranks of the employees were appointed on the proposal of the trade union organizations. The president of the

court was a professional judge. The courts had jurisdiction in disputes arising out of violations of the law on working hours, wage disputes, et cetera. It was possible to appeal against the verdict to the Supreme Court.

The Law on the Working Hours was one of the first laws of the Republic issued on December 13, 1918. It laid down the principle of the eight hours a day. The working hours over a period of four weeks were not allowed to exceed 192. Night work was prohibited except for concerns whose permanent working was in the public interest.

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Besides the Shop Councils the workers were protected by the State Control of the plants by Trade Inspectors, supervising the application of all labor health, wages, prevention of accidents and similar regulations.

To take care of the Unemployed, the so-called Ghent system was established. It was a combination of assistance paid by the trade unions with a contribution from the State Treasury. One quarter of the sum was paid by the trade union organization and three quarters by the State Treasury.

In 1936 a total of 420 million Kc was paid in assistance grants, of which sum the trade unions paid 116 million Kc. In addition to assistance the unemployed worker had the right to medical care for himself and his family.

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Tony Senderikay

28 August 1944

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Legislation Social Security in Czechoslovakia

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wage during periods when he was unable to work as a result of an accident. Money was also paid out to widows and orphans. If the insured had to rely on the help of a second person, payment was raised to one and a half the insured wage. The widow could claim 20% of the insured wage and every orphan 15%. Two million workers were insured against accident.

The accident insurance centers ~~with the~~ administration) were run by autonomous bodies elected from the employers and insured persons in equal numbers.

Health insurance was compulsory not only for industrial workers but also for employees in the higher services, state employees, miners etc. Insured workers were concentrated in local health insurance centers, organized on the principle of self-administration of the insured with equal representation of employers and employees.

The Health insurance centers received contributions from the workers (2 to 3 percent of the insured wage) and from the employers (same amount) and provided medical care. They had at their disposal 1450 hospitals and clinics, nursing centers, sanatoria, convalescent homes etc. The insured person as well as all the members of his family could claim medical attention in case of sickness. If the insured was unable to work he had a right to sickness assistance in accordance with the wage class to which he belonged. In the framework of Health insurance there were also fixed allowances for women during the

period of pregnancy and special bonuses at childbirth and during confinement.

There were also health insurance centers for white collar workers, miners, civil servants, railway men, postal employees etc.

The Total number of those insured was 2.961.582.

Old age and Invalidity Insurance for workers was administered by the Social Insurance Center which also supervised the workers' Health Insurance.

Old age insurance for public officials was administered by the state which paid pensions from the State Treasury. Private office workers had their special insurance center in the General Pensions Institution together with the Ministry of Public Works and the Ministry of Social Welfare.

In all, the Social Insurance Center paid out to insured persons in 1935 771 Millions Kc

In 1935 there were in Czechoslovakia 500.000 pensioned workers, widows and orphans.

The accumulated reserves of the social insurance institutions in 1935 had reached a total sum of five Billion Kc (invested in mortgages etc)

Welfare work for young people
The Ministry of Social Welfare comprised:
1309 milk depots in schools
360 clinics for mothers and infants
31 free dispensaries

- 51 children's holidays centers
- 11 children's convalescent homes
- 44 orphanages with 2000 children

Special protection by law was granted to women:

Women could not be employed in night work and in mines.

Pregnant women had the claim to six weeks absence from work with full pay before the birth of the child and six weeks after birth. For a further twelve weeks period the health insurance centre granted them special assistance to the amount of half their daily wages.

Old people not included in the social insurance at the time of their establishment or who were without family were cared for out of public funds. (Masaryk Homes in Prague)

Grants in aid were given by the State for the construction of family houses or communal blocks of flats.

- Before Munich there were in Czechoslovakia
- 1309 milk depôts in schools
 - 360 clinics for mothers and infants
 - 31 free dispensaries
 - 51 children's holiday centers
 - 11 children's convalescent homes
 - 44 orphanages with 2200 children

In 1935 the working class cooperatives had 1.675.000 members in 17.000 consumers-productive and credit cooperatives (11% of the total population)

CZECHOSLOVAKIA UNDER GERMAN OCCUPATION

The Munich agreement brought vast losses of the national wealth. Czechoslovakia was the first occupied country. All its assets, foreign and domestic, were seized by the enemy including a substantial part of the monetary gold. An efficient system of looting was organized; all economic facilities were made to serve the enemy. Efforts at organized sabotage became very effective because of the industrial importance of the country. Mostly unheralded, the sabotage and underground activities inflicted heavy losses to the industrial production simultaneously often destroying Czechoslovak assets and fortunes. The general oppositional attitude of the nation tied great numbers of enemy troops within the borders of Czechoslovakia. Germany reorganized the entire industrial production. Most of the consumer goods industry was closed, the machinery dismantled and scrapped.

Although Czechoslovakia up to the occupation by Nazi Germany was to a large extent able to take care of herself in the agricultural field, the situation has been deteriorating under the impact of the Nazi domination.

Most of the food is under rationing regulations, the rations being reduced under the pre-war level and the quantities assigned not always available.

The Germans have divided the working population into normal, heavy and very heavy workers, the two latter categories working for the German war purpose and being privileged by a higher number of ration points. But that half of the working population which is unfortunate enough to fall under the category of the normal consumer is in a more precarious position. A characteristic fact illuminating the situation is the following: Czechoslovakia in normal days was the main sugar exporting country in Europe. Now the Germans have forced upon them sugar rationing, using the Czech sugar surplus for the German population. So complete is the regimentation that even horse meat is rationed.

The situation has to be considered separately for the so-called "Protectorate" of Bohemia and Moravia on the one hand and the so-called "autonomous" Slovakia on the other. To take Slovakia first: Very conservative estimates state that its per capita food consumption fell 12% below its pre-war level. The reduction was most important in fat consumption which fell by 15% while carbohydrates were reduced by 12% and proteins by 4%.

More serious is the situation in Bohemia and Moravia. Studies made in this country on the basis of data available bring out the fact that there is not only a very substantial deterioration of the quality of the food, but a serious decline especially in the quantity and consumption of protein and fat. Worst off of all is the normal consumer, and foremost among them the person engaged in non-manual occupations. They and their families saw -

the protein in their diet reduced to	73% of pre-war level,
and fat in their diet reduced to	46% of pre-war level.
While in pre-war years, protein and fats contributed to the	extent of 45% of all calories
consumed, in 1942-43 they contributed	not more than
consumed.	29% to all calories

The clothing situation is most precarious. Reserves have been used up and strict rationing made replenishing almost impossible. Czechoslovakia's textile industry was to a great extent located in the Sudetenland, incorporated into greater Germany, and work in the remaining textile plants in the Protectorate was stopped, most of the plants shut down, the main reason being the need of the German war machine for more hands.

Housing conditions were also deteriorating, not only for the lack of new construction under war conditions, but also on account of crowded conditions as a result of the Nazi Government's sending German women and children from the bombed areas into the Protectorate. In addition to this, German workers were sent into Czechoslovakia and took away shelter from the native population.

With the increasing air raids over Germany and the dislocation in housing and of the transportation system, the repercussion on Czechoslovakia's living conditions is becoming most serious.

About 50,000 Czechoslovak citizens were killed in concentration camps or by execution. They came from all classes of the population, however, the most severely hit were the educated classes as the potential leadership, and nearly the entire officer corps of the army. About 400,000 lives were lost through deportation (including the Jews). Punitive expeditions by the occupying forces eliminated the population of entire villages - the name of the Czechoslovak village, Lidice, had become the symbol for this kind of cruelty.

As a result of measures by the occupying forces, the health of the population is undermined.

When the Czechoslovak Government in London received reports around the middle of August that the Germans may put Slovakia under complete German military occupation, it advised the Army Command to order Partisans and troops in Slovakia to rise up against the puppet Slovak Government and hinder the Army from occupying important communication and production centers.

Slovak Partisan activities, which had become conspicuous in March with the advance of the Red Army toward the Carpathian Mountains, were intensified. Slovak guerrillas attacked German transports and railroads and other strategic points. They blew up rails, bridges, and killed many Germans. The rapidly spreading uprising among the Slovak military garrisons and the refusal by the gendarmerie, police and administrative officers to enforce orders directed against the population led to the proclamation of martial law by the Bratislava Government.

The Czechoslovak Government in London decided to approach Allied Military Chiefs with the request that fighting formations in Slovakia should receive adequate equipment and military assistance. It has appointed a Committee of the Home Front, and has deprived of their functions all officers and collaborators of the Slovak Army.

Heavy fighting is reported daily in many places in Slovakia, and German armed units were thrown into the struggle. Czechoslovak forces are holding a large

part of the territory of Slovakia with the exception of the border areas in the east and in the west.

A Slovak National Committee has been formed which broadcasts regularly since early in September. The station is located in Banska Bystrica, where are also the central administrative offices of the liberated territory.

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CZECHOSLOVAKIA

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With the increasing air raids over Germany and the dislocation in housing and of the transportation system, the repercussion on Czechoslovakia's living conditions ~~will~~ become most serious.

is becoming

AUSTRIA

Austria having been incorporated into the Reich, it is submitted to the same rationing system as the inhabitants of Germany. The difference is that the Austrians do not always receive the full rations to which they are entitled on account of scarcity of certain kinds of food. In addition, one has to consider the fact that wages in Austria always were below those of Germany.

Housing conditions in Austria even before the German occupation were very difficult and they have worsened considerably since. The Nazis send their soldiers in a high number into Austria and a still greater number of wounded soldiers are crowding the Vienna hotels and apartment houses which were transformed into hospitals.

With the collapse of the entire Nazi welfare system after the downfall of Hitler, it must be expected that conditions in Austria will be such that they can only be relieved with help from the outside. Already it is difficult to get medical assistance and also dentists are restrained in the application of their care.

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STUDY OUTLINE FOR

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

As Czechoslovakia may be one of the countries whose liberation may be envisaged as being possible in the earlier stages of operations, the following study plan is suggested:

1. Government

A short statement on the formation and on the government of the republic, to be followed by a topographical description of the country, its component parts and a description of the climate.

2. Population

A more detailed presentation of the picture of the population, its size and distribution in pre-war Czechoslovakia, its number and composition in the various parts of the state, the dislocation caused by the war, age composition, the balance of births and deaths, the occupational composition and, finally, literacy and religion.

3. Organization for Relief, etc.

A general description of the governments operating inside the country and the authority existing outside prior to liberation. Arrangements with UNRRA with regard to relief activities. A statement on the price control and rationing system, government and private health and welfare organizations; on the population movements.

4. UNRRA Standards of R. & R.

An analysis of the standards of relief and rehabilitation according to decisions of the UNRRA Council. To be followed by a listing and analysis of the various estimates of requirements of the area for relief and rehabilitation supplies.

5. Production

These statements to be supplemented by a description of the national productive capacity in the agricultural and industrial field and the importation and export prior to occupation and, if possible, after it.

6. Housing & Health

Information, if available, on health and shelter, and the welfare situation. A statement on public utilities.

7. Transportation

The transportation system will be described in the field of railroad, waterways, roads, port facilities.

8. Displaced Persons

A special chapter will have to deal with the population movements, the homeless and displaced people, their probable location and composition, the order in which they may be repatriated.

9. Supply and Distribution

In case UNRRA will be responsible for distribution, suggestions for the integration of UNRRA supplies into the general distribution system, and for the use of the cooperatives.

10. Field Program

At a later stage a detailed plan for the UNRRA Field Mission - if it will be sent out - will have to be worked out with a description of the responsibilities of each member of the mission's staff.

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A Survey of General Conditions
in the PROTECTORATE, SLOVAKIA and SUDETENLAND
during the period June to October, 1944

In this selection of information, from available sources only, the actual text has been quoted.

The sources covered are: (1) The B.B.C. Daily Digest of World Broadcasts; (2) E.H. News Digest; (3) Czechoslovakian News Flashes from America; (4) E.R.O. Notes of the Week; (5) The London Press.

With the exception of (4), the material has not been subjected to any process of sifting by experts and is therefore submitted without guarantee for the accuracy of each item.

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New Minister to Berlin

The President of the Republic has appointed Dr. Galvanek, Minister in Sofia as Envoy and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Slovak Republic in Berlin. The present Minister, Cernak, who had occupied his office since March 1939, is leaving Berlin because he required treatment in a sanatorium.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service,
15 September, 1944)

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

The following personnel changes have been made in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bratislava: Dr. Ivan Milec, Slovak Minister to Bucharest, has been appointed Head of the Organizational Section of the Ministry. Dr. Josef Mikus, former Chargé d'Affaires in Madrid, has been made Chef du Protocol. Councillor Dr. Jan Holak becomes Head of the Administrative Department.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service,
2 October, 1944).

APPOINTMENTS

New Government

President of State, Dr. Tiso has accepted the resignation of the Tuka Government and has appointed the following new Government:

Premier: Dr. Stefan Tiso, President of the Bratislava Chief Provincial Court, who has been given the Foreign Ministry and the Ministry of Justice at the same time.

Minister of Defence: Stefan Hassik

Minister for Economic Affairs: Dr. Medricky

Minister of Finance: Dr. Pruzinsky

Minister of the Interior: Sano Mach

Minister for Public Enlightenment and Schools: Aladar Kocis,

Secretary-General of the HSLS.

Minister for Transport and Public Works: Ing. Ludwig Lednar,

Secretary-General of the Association of Municipal and State Employees.

The following members of the former Government are therefore out: Premier, Dr. Tuka; Minister of Defence, General Catlos; Minister of Justice, Fritz; and Minister of Transport, Stano.

TP (In German for Europe) 5.9.44. announced that the newly appointed Premier is the brother of President Dr. Tiso.

(E.H. - D.N.B., 5 September, 1944)

District Commissioners

The Slovak Government has appointed Government Commissioners as heads of Administrative Departments for territories which have difficulty in maintaining contact with the Central Administration. The Mayor of Presov, Sabol-Palko, has been appointed Government Commissioner to the districts of

1. ADMINISTRATION

I. PROTECTORATE

Criminal Police

Under Government Decree SB No. 77/1944 regarding the Protectorate Police, criminal departments are to be established as offices of the Government Criminal Police.

At the same time the tasks of the municipal police are to be transferred to the Government criminal police.

(E.H. - Protectorate Press,
16 June, 1944)

New Appointment

Regierungspräsident (Head of Regional Government) Hans Krebs, introduced SS-Standartenführer (SS-Colonel) Karl Jäger into office as kommissarischer Polizeipräsident (Chief of Police) of Liberec.

(E.H. - Protectorate Press,
22 September, 1944).

Total War Measures

The measures now being taken for the total war effort in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia are largely similar to those of the Reich. For the duration of the war, for instance, the Finance Administration in Brno will be closed. The 21 industrial trade groups (Wirtschaftsgruppen) have been amalgamated into six main groups and calculations of wages will only be made once a month in future. As a result of these measures, much manpower has been released for the armament industry.

(B.B.C. - German Telegraph Service,
19 September, 1944).

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

II. SLOVAKIA

Slovak-Hungarian Citizenship Agreement

A Slovak-Hungarian Agreement, in addition to that signed in Budapest on 15 February, 1941, concerning the mutual solution of certain questions regarding citizenship, was signed in Bratislava yesterday. The additional clause deals with the citizenship of Stateless persons of Hungarian nationality resident in the Slovak Republic, and with that of Stateless persons of Slovak nationality resident in Hungary, on the basis of a certain period of permanent domicile. The additional agreement furthermore deals with the prevention of cases of dual citizenship; here, too, the basis is that of permanent domicile.

(B.B.C. - German Telegraph Service,
11 August, 1944)

PROPAGANDA AND PRESS

Propaganda Office

The head of the Slovak Propaganda Office, Tido Gaspar, today announced that the University Lecturer Dr. Stefan Polakovic has been appointed his Deputy.

(E.H. - Slovak Home Service,
4 September, 1944).

Press

The President of the Republic has appointed the Secretary-General of the Party, Dr. Kocis, President of the Press Chamber.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service,
31 July, 1944).

PARTY ORGANISATION

II. SLOVAKIA

Dr. Weingartner, in an article on the history of the German Volksgruppe in Slovakia writes inter alia:

Active branches of the "Deutsche Partei" are the Women's Association, the PS (Volunteer Defence Corps) the Einsatztruppe, the DJ (German Youth) and the Carpatho-German Students' Association. Affiliated societies are the Labour Corps, the Carpatho-German Educational Association and the Association for Trades and Commerce, to mention only the most important organisations

Next to the Party, the PS is alone responsible for the Training of manpower. From this body go forth the eventual leaders of the Volksgruppe. Its formation in its inner structure is based on that of the SA in the Reich. Next to the PS there has recently arisen the Einsatztruppe, whose tasks are primarily of a military nature, and which can best be compared with the SS.

Soon after the organisation of the Party, the Volksgruppe set up its voluntary labour service, which embraced all men between the ages of 18 and 50 who were capable of serving. By the law concerning the labour service of March, 1942, a new position was created. The members of the Volksgruppe constitute, in the framework of the Slovak Labour Service, a group of their own which bears the name of Deutsche Arbeitsdienstgruppe (German Labour Service Group).

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 19 June, 1944)

People's Party

President Tiso, in his capacity as Chairman of the HSLS (Hlinka Slovak People's Party) has appointed Dr. Paul Oplustil as the new Secretary-General of the Party. The previous Secretary-General, Kocis, was some time ago appointed Minister of Education.

(E.H. - German Telegraph Services,
20 September, 1944).

Saris-Zamplin, Poprad, Kezmarok, Gelnica. Levoca, (two names indistinct). Kniha, Secretary of the Hlinka Party of the Tatra region has been appointed Government Commissioner for other areas in that district.

(E.H. - Slovak Home Service in Hungarian,
7 October, 1944)

DISMISSALS

The Slovak Government decided yesterday to approve the law concerning extraordinary administrative measures. The Minister of the Interior has dismissed from the Civil Service the Councillor of the Public Service of the Interior, Dr. Juraj Kazar, and the Commissioner-in-Chief in Zlate, Moravce, Jan Kovac, because they deserted their posts and joined the partisans. The Chief of the Propaganda Service has dismissed the editor Imrich Zavodsky.

(E.H. - German European Service in
Slovak, 5 October, 1944).

The Board of Directors of the Slovak Danube Shipping Company has removed from his office Ing. Droppa, who was the Director-General, and all other employees who had not reported for duty by 9th September. Dr. Bela Kovac, the former Mayor of Bratislava has been appointed Director-General.

(E.H. - DNE, 27-September, 1944)

The German military Attaché to Bratislava, Lieut. -Col. Bockor, was replaced 15 July by Lieut.-Col. Alfred Elger.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 22 July, 1944)

From Civil Service

The following persons have been dismissed from the service of the State for abandoning their posts and for treason: From the Public Works Department: Valentin Paulicka, Ing. Jan Korinek, Ing. Vincent Straka, Ing. Vladimir Kozlik, Jan Ziska, Pavol Nagy, Ing. Anton Bohac, Vladimir Jura, Ing. Juraj Wild, Frantisek Nabelek, and Jozef Zavrel. From the Ministry of Education: The teachers Frantisek Pajensky, of Gymes, and Frantisek Patek, of Sucany.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 19 October, 1944).

The supply authorities endeavour to fix the rations on a basis which can be maintained throughout the whole year. This, however, is only possible if consumption is regulated according to the yield of the harvest. The harvest this year, generally speaking, is expected to be satisfactory, although it does not come up to last year's results. On the other hand, consumption by the Army and armament industrial workers has increased, and therefore it is necessary to economise in time, even if this necessitates a small cut in the rations. The new bread ration of ordinary consumers, which will be 2,225 g per week, is 175 g less than at the beginning of the war, but it is nevertheless 225 g higher than the lowest bread ration, which was in force from April 1st to October 19th, 1942.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, Prague,
27 September, 1944)

Transport Permits for Fruit

The Bohemian-Moravian Gardeners and Vine Growers Association announces that it is prohibited to forward apples, pears, plums and apricots unless a transport permit by the fruit collecting centre is procured. A permit will not be issued until it has been ascertained that the fruit which is not liable to surrender may be forwarded without a transport permit, but for larger quantities a permit is required.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, Prague,
13 September, 1944)

Compulsory Surrender of Milk

An announcement of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry regulates the minimum surrender quota of milk, cattle and oil-seed for the year 1944/45. The quotas remain essentially the same as last year....

Of the compulsory 1,000 milk units farmers must surrender 300 milk units in the form of milk; for the remaining he may choose to surrender either milk, cattle or oilseed. As last year, the deliveries of lard from private slaughtering will be put to the credit of the milk quota, one kg. of lard being equal to 25 ME; the same applies to sheep's cheese, one kg of cheese being equal to 15 ME, and for the compulsory delivery of timber, the rate is one load at Kc 20 equal to one ME (20 Fuhrlohn = 1 ME)

The value of the milk units remains unchanged, except for fodder and sugar beet seeds, one kg of seeds being equal to two ME (against the previous rate of one to one). For farms with too small a stock of milch cows the minimum quota of milk from draught cows has been reduced from 1,200 kg to 900 kg. If a farmer has failed to fulfil the prescribed minimum quota, thus making himself liable to punishment, the missing quantity is to be made by reducing his allocation for self-supplying needs by 100 ME (in milk) per head per year.

(E.H. Der Neue Tag, Prague,
30 July, 1944)

No Potatoes for Foreign Civilian Workers.

Instead of the potato allowance on the special section "W 11" of the ration card for the third week of the 6th supply period, foreign civilian workers will receive 600 g of bread or 450 g of rye flour (or rye meal).

(E.H. - Slovak Press,
15 July, 1944).

2. ECONOMIC FINANCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL SITUATION

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

AGRICULTURE & FOOD

I. THE PROTECTORATE

Compulsory Surrender of 1944 Crops

An announcement of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry..... regulates the compulsory surrender of grain, leguminous plants (Hülsenfrüchte), oil-bearing fruits and oilseed as well as of hay and straw of the 1944 crops.

For bread grain (i.e. wheat, rye, and similar kinds of grain), buckwheat, millet and for oilseed the quotas remain the same as last year. For fodder grain (barley, oats, leguminous plants for fodder, and mixtures of these crops and maize) as well as for edible leguminous plants the compulsory quotas will be prescribed as for last year.

Growers will be allowed to use for their own needs the quantity of grain remaining after fulfilling their obligations as regards compulsory surrender. Compulsory surrender is not to be imposed on growers whose cultivated area does not exceed 1.50 ha.

With regard to edible leguminous crops, no compulsory quota is to be imposed on growers possessing an area of less than 0.10 ha. The compulsory quota for growers of edible beans is 500 kg per ha, for growers of lentils 250 kg per ha under cultivation of these crops. The compulsory quota of edible leguminous crops may be substituted by the delivery of peas, lentils or beans, or by the delivery of peas in the pod, in which case four kg of peas in the pod are equivalent to one kg of shelled peas. The quantities of edible leguminous crops delivered in excess of the compulsory quota per ha will be put to the credit of the compulsory delivery of fodder grain at the rate of one to four.

The compulsory surrender quotas for fodder grain have been newly regulated. Maize growers are to surrender 400 kg of maize in grain per each ha under maize cultivation... All deliveries exceeding 400 kg per ha will be put to the credit of the fodder grain quota at the rate of one to three.

As regards hay, growers whose total area of meadow land and that under ~~lucerne~~ lucerne does not exceed 0.5 ha are exempt from compulsory surrender.

(E.H. Der Neue Tag, Prague,
6 July, 1944).

Bread Ration Reduced

As in the Reich, the bread rations will be decreased in the Protectorate as from October 16th. The reduction will be 200 g of bread a week for ordinary consumers, and 100 g for children up to six years of age. Very heavy workers will receive 100 g less, and the weekly bread rations of self-suppliers will also be reduced by 100 g. The rations of children from six to ten years, juveniles from ten to 18 years, night-workers and those working long hours remain unchanged, and as the rations on the ordinary ration cards have been cut, their supplementary rations will be correspondingly increased.

II. SLOVAKIA

The "Ten-Year Plan" for Slovak Agriculture

..... In accordance with the ten-year plan Ks 100,000,000 are spent in Slovakia every year for the raising of the product of each ha and for the improvement of the quality of the crops. Artificial manure is to be used to a greater extent. It is distributed to the farmers with a price reduction of 30%. The 165 institutes for the cleansing of seeds are to receive a further 250 machines within the next six years. Farmers receive 137,000 metric quintals of pedigree seeds (Edelsaatgut) every year at reduced prices. Within ten years all potato seeds are to be changed, because the present seeds have proved in many cases to be degenerate and bad. The planting of oleaginous plants and fodder plants, as well as livestock breeding, is to be fostered. Ks 300,000,000 are to be spent on plant production, Ks 150,000,000 on cattle and pig breeding Ks 28,000,000 on horse breeding and Ks 100,000,000 on small animal breeding. The establishment and development of model farms is being planned.

(E.H. - N.P.O.
23 August, 1944).

[E.H. - N.P.O. 26 September 1944, reports the passage of the Bill through the Slovak Parliament.]

State Premiums to Farmers

The following premiums will be paid to farmers by the State: Ks 0.50 per litre on milk and Ks 10 per kg. on butter. For live cattle the premium is to be Ks 1.50 per kg live weight cattle belonging to categories A and A, Ks 1 categories B and C and Ks 0.50 for category D. Thus the farmers will obtain the following prices per kg live weight: Ks 12.50 for cattle, category A, Ks 11.50 for category A, Ks 10 for category B, Ks 9 for category C, and Ks 6 for category D.

^ belonging

(E.H. Slovak Press, 2 June, 1944)

Food Prices in Bratislava

The consumer prices remain unchanged, being Ks 3.20 per litre for rich milk in Bratislava and Ks 3 elsewhere, Ks 1.20 per litre for skimmed in Bratislava and Ks 1.10 elsewhere, Ks 42 per kg for butter Ks 23 per kg for beef and veal in Bratislava and Ks 22 elsewhere. The better cuts of beef will cost up to Ks 29 per kg, the better cuts of veal up to Ks 31 per kg. In Bratislava these prices will be increased by Ks.1.

As it has been reported that during the last few weeks butchers have sold pork on the black market at exorbitant prices, the MZ draws the attention of the public to the fact that the official maximum price of pork is Ks 30 per kg in Bratislava and Ks 28 elsewhere.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 2 June, 1944)

* For the purely Financial aspect of this Bill see FINANCE

Fodder Cards for "Non-Agricultural" Animals.

For the distribution of fodder for draught animals and dogs owned by other than agricultural keepers, fodder ration cards will be introduced as from August 1st, which will consist of three types, i.e. those marked SP for heavy-weight horses, MP for medium-weight horses and LP for light-weight horses, draught oxen, mules and donkeys; and finally, HU for watchdogs, draught dogs, hounds, and for the dogs of the blind.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, Prague,
30 July, 1944).

Price Control

On September 1st the head of the Supreme Price Control Office issued directions to the price control officers for the duration of the war effort. The activities of the authorities which fix prices have been restricted or stopped, whereas price control has received greater importance. Its task is to maintain the present prices completely and to check, by all available means, infringements of the price regulations.

The decree deals with the collaboration of the Supreme Price Control Office with the Ministry of Economics and Labour and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, which have also established a control service. As is known, the Ministry of Economics and Labour has stopped the manufacture of a great number of articles in the interest of armament production. The collaboration between the Ministries aims at making sure that these restrictions are obeyed and that the articles in question are not sold at excessive prices when supplies cease.

In the food sector, the collaboration aims at ensuring a regular distribution at the official prices, especially as regards fruit and vegetables. In cases of infringement the culprits, not only the supplier but also the buyer, are to be arrested, according to Para. 12 of the Government's decree contained in Slg.d.G 293/41. The purpose of making arrests is to prevent the buyer from getting into touch with the seller in order to find a common excuse to prevent the truth from being stated, or to influence witnesses or experts or other persons involved.

The penalties have been increased. Those who disturb the operation of national economy will encounter the ruthless arm of the State authorities, and in single cases the penalties can even exceed those provided in the decree. Persons who have infringed the price regulations will be withdrawn from the distribution of goods and used for other work. Cases which are regarded as punishable according to the Volksschädlingsverordnung, are to be handed over for examination to the Chief Public Prosecutor of the German Landgericht.

There are three different groups of infringements, viz: (1) Intervention in trade without a trading licence (chain trade); (2) Demand for or payment of a higher price than that entered in the invoice, by an authorised producer and dealer (black market); (3) Deliberate increase of prices of foodstuffs by the trader.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, Prague,
10 September, 1944).

Harvest Estimate

According to preliminary estimates the Slovak harvest yielded approximately the following quantities: Spring wheat, 5,500 tons; winter wheat, 300,000 tons; spring rye, 1,500 tons; winter rye, 200,000 tons; spring barley, 300,000 tons; winter barley, 1,000 tons; oats, 200,000 tons; maize, 50,000 tons; maize mixture, 10,000 tons; potatoes 1,700,000 tons.

The potato crop was much better than last year. The above-mentioned harvest is normally sufficient to cover the country's requirements and provide a surplus for export purposes. Beets are developing very well on the whole, being above the average and yielding 24½ tons per ha, with a sugar content of 17.75%. The output of sugar is expected to be smaller than in 1943, but public supplies are ensured, and there will be an export surplus available.

(E.H. - Novo Wiener Tageblatt, 24 October, 1944)

Extra Sugar Ration.

In the next few days the chairman of the NUZ will issue a notice regarding the extra allocation of sugar for jam and fruit preserving for the year 1944. The allocation will be distributed in July, and the quantity will be the same as the monthly ration. Everyone who is registered for sugar may claim the extra ration.....

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 11 June, 1944)

Sugar Beet

The sugar beet harvest began on 10th October and will last till the end of November. Alcohol distilleries must send up to 30% of the beet to sugar refineries for processing. Farmers must deliver their entire crop to the refineries. Sugar beet must be used only for sugar and alcohol production.

(E.H. - D.N.B. 10 October, 1944)

General Situation of Food Supply.

After some initial misgivings, interest in economic affairs, and particularly in the problem of supplies for the population, has returned. Supplies are still under the control of NUZ. There has however, been a change in the organisation of supplies for the Armed Forces; German units now in Slovakia will be supplied from outside the country. As regards flour supplies, the situation is at present best in western Slovakia, and shortages must be expected in the central parts of the country. Certain quantities of rice, coffee and salt are stored in the towns held by the insurgents. The meat shortage in Bratislava can be remedied by large-scale purchasing. Sugar is the commodity in most ample supply.

(E.H. German European Service in Slovak,
19 September, 1944)

Extra Butter Ration

The OVA (Supreme Office of Supply for Slovakia) announces that on 16/17 June the inhabitants of Bratislava will receive an extra ration of butter. Every family which possesses the appropriate ration book can claim this extra ration. The extra butter ration will be supplied by the dealers with whom the customer is registered for milk, in the following quantities: Families comprising one to three members will receive $\frac{1}{4}$ kg of butter; families consisting of four to six persons will receive $\frac{1}{2}$ kg of butter, and families consisting of more than six persons will receive $\frac{3}{4}$ kg of butter.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 14 June, 1944)

Private Sale of Fruit Banned

The head of the Provincial Food Estate Office (Landesernährungsamt) has decreed that as from October 8th, all fruit must be surrendered in the districts where collecting centres have been established, in order to ensure a fair distribution. Fruit growers are therefore now obliged to surrender even the quantities of fruit which they were previously allowed to keep and sell freely after they had surrendered their stipulated quotas. It is forbidden to sell and forward fruit direct to consumers. Previously the purchase of fruit direct from growers by consumers was allowed, as the early fruit was perishable and had to be consumed as soon as possible. However, it has been proved that direct sales have reached such large dimensions that they are unjustifiable, both from the point of view of the total war effort and of transport. Since winter fruit which can be stored is being harvested, particularly apples, stricter measures had to be taken in order to make sure that the whole of the fruit is surrendered. This is the only way in which the supply of fruit can be secured for hospitals, the Army, children and expectant mothers.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 6 October, 1944)

Millers to Make a Return of Grain

The Ministry of National Economy has decreed that millers must report to the Slovak Millers' Cooperative Society, not later than July 15th, the quantity of grain, peas, millet and beans which was processed in their mill in 1943. For each 100 kg of these products they must pay a fee of Ks 0.15 to the Cooperative Society.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 28 May, 1944)

The Harvest is not up to Expectations

... So far the threshing has proved that the corn harvest is poorer this year than last year, although the harvest is not to be regarded as really bad. The unfavourable weather in the spring which delayed the sowing, and which later also delayed the ripening, has greatly affected the quality....

E.H. - Slovak Press 1 September, 1944).

CLOTHING AND TEXTILES

I. THE PROTECTORATE

Shortage of Shoes

The Secretary General of NOUZ (National Trade Union Centre of Employees) Frantisek Kolar, comments in a leading article on the NOUZ appeal to the population to contribute shoes to the NOUZ shoe collection for Czech workers, from 1st July to 15th; Kolar mentions that according to the decision of the Ministry of Education, all 9,000 Czech schools, and according to decision of the Ministry of Agriculture, the supply commissioners in all towns, will collaborate. NOUZ have issued special subscription lists to schools and to landlords in 55 towns.

(E.H. - Protectorate Press, 28 June, 1944)

Fifth Clothing Card for Juveniles Only

The fifth clothing ration card for children and adolescents (of between one year and 18) will be issued for the period starting on 1st July, 1944, and ending 31st December, 1945. The ration cards will presumably be available in the second half of August. Children from one to 12 will receive shoe ration cards in addition to the clothing cards. For boys and girls between 12 and 15, and adolescents, the shoe allocation will be regulated on the same lines as for adults.

The validity of the third clothing card, including the supplementary clothing card, has been extended up to 31 December, 1944, that of the fourth ration card up to 31 December, 1945. As regards the points of the fourth clothing card which are valid on announcement, ten points will be valid as from August 1, 1944. Furthermore, from the ration card of the fourth clothing period for men, the sections e. d and c. and for women the sections d, c and b. will be available (i.e. one and a half points) for the allocation of sewing accessories on 1 September, 1944, 1 November, 1944, and 1 February, 1945. There will be no fifth clothing card for adults. All urgently needed clothing for adults will be distributed on special permits.

(E.H. Der Neue Tag, Prague, 30 July, 1944)

Forestry: General Situation

At the general meeting of the Presov Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dr. V. Sokolsky spoke about the situation of the timber trade in Eastern Slovakia. He stated that the timber trade is experiencing a depression, the reason for which is partly psychological as a speedy end of the war is anticipated both at home and abroad, partly the radical intervention of the State in the policy of loans, and finally the question of prices both at home and abroad, for example with regard to exports to Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey.

In spite of the above-mentioned obstacles, production in the East is satisfactory. No new enterprises have been founded and no existing ones closed. During the first four months of 1944, the production of charcoal, as compared with last year's remained unchanged. A charcoal control station has been established in Humenné. Producers showed a reserved attitude towards the production of other kinds of timber, owing to the general situation. The prices of cut timber have been fixed, because of the larger profits made when the timber is exported. The wages of forest workers have been increased by 20% on an average.

The export business is also beginning to become sluggish, which tendency began when the Italian market was lost. The Swiss purchases of coniferous sawn timber and deciduous round timber have also declined. The export to Hungary has been affected by the disparity between the prices of the timber exported and of the commodities for which the timber was to be bartered; there were difficulties in the export of pitprops and telegraph poles to Bulgaria and Turkey, owing to price differences as well as barter difficulties.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 16 July, 1944)

[A similar report, dated 23 April, is available on request; it deals principally with the question of Export Trade].

will hardly be in a position to guarantee the delivery of fuel to the consumers' houses. Therefore, consumers should make their own arrangements to have their coal collected.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, Prague 25 July, 1944)

FUEL

Embargo on Motor Fuel

In accordance with a decree of 22nd September by the Commissioner for Motor Vehicles, an embargo has been placed on all liquid motor fuel, i.e. petrol, diesel oil and motor kerosene, with the exception of the quantities allotted for September, 1944. Stocks are to be reported by 15th September

(E.H. Der Neue Tag, Prague 12 September, 1944)

II. SLOVAKIA

Coal Problem: Decline of Hungarian Imports

Hitherto, the industrial enterprises have been comparatively well supplied with coal, apart from single exceptions which were due to transport difficulties. It is impossible to predict how the situation will develop, particularly as regards coal imports from Hungary. Hungarian coal has been imported within the framework of the "Dredona" barter agreement [export of Slovak timber against Hungarian goods], but imports of Hungarian lignite to Slovakia have been declining from year to year. It will be necessary to find a new basis for an agreement, particularly as regards the prices, as many Slovak factories have been using Hungarian coal exclusively and cannot be converted for the use of other coal.

(B.B.C. - D.N.B. 30 October, 1944)

Economy in Coal and Coal Distribution

The coal dealers have been advised that they must only supply coal to consumers in accordance with the stipulated urgency decree. It is necessary to economise in coal, as no extra allocations beyond the fixed quotas will be allowed.

The following quantities will be delivered against pure asiling licences: Consumers belonging to group 1 will receive 100%; group 2, 75%; group 3, 75%; group 4, 90%; group 5, 75%; group 6, 100%. Consumers must manage on their rations until March 31st, 1945. Only one room may be heated in each flat; this also applies to flats with central heating where the radiators in other rooms, and corridors, are only to be opened when there is a danger of their freezing.

In really urgent cases the ration may be increased, or coupon-free coal, that is coal from upper seams, etc., may be supplied. The coal dealer can deliver such extra coal only if the consumer, despite having economised, is in urgent need of it, and if there are no other urgent deliveries of ordinary coal. All public institutions which have vehicles of their own, such as the Army, Police, Fire-brigades, the CT, Postal

FUEL, POWER AND TRANSPORT

I. The Protectorate

Transport

Increased Passenger and Goods Traffic

Wirtschaft publishes a survey by the Bohemian-Moravian railways. In 1941-43 workers travelling on season tickets comprised 40% of the total passenger traffic. The number of journeys was 4.18% greater in 1941 than in 1940, 21.91% greater in 1942 than in 1941, and in 1943 it was 23.76% greater than in 1942. Compared with 1941, the total number of journeys increased by 50.85%. The increase was much greater in the First Class, being 307%, while in the Second Class the increase was 262%.

The motor buses belonging to the Bohemian-Moravian railways conveyed ten million more passengers in 1943 than in 1938 in the whole Czechoslovak territory. The number of passengers conveyed in 1943 was 100% greater than in 1941. Business journeys had naturally to be given preference.

The quantity of express goods forwarded in 1941 was 101.28% greater than in 1940, in 1942 it was 64.90% greater than in 1941, and in 1943 it was 37.56% greater than in 1942. Forwarding agents organised a common collection service in order to utilise the loading space of waggons to the utmost. For civilian purposes, 2.49% more waggons were loaded in 1943 than in 1941, and 3.97% more in 1943 than in 1942.

(E.H. Der Neue Tag, Prague 27 May, 1944)

Speed-up of Goods Transport

On account of the increased strain on railways in the autumn, the Bohemian-Moravian Railways have ordered that the circulation of wagons must be speeded up. Transport which is not essential must be postponed. Whenever possible, consignments must be despatched by inland waterways. The weight must be entered on the way-bill by the consignor, as trucks will not be officially weighed. The Bohemian-Moravian wagons must be loaded to the stipulated capacity, and the Reichsbahn wagons must be overloaded by two tons. The reconsignment of unopened van loads is prohibited.

A full truckload must be made up by collecting as many consignments as possible. Wagons must be loaded and unloaded in the shortest possible time, and also on Sundays. The Railway Administration has authorised a fivefold increase in demurrage.

(E.H. Grossdeutscher Verkehr, 5 October, 1944)

No Transport Facilities for Fuel Distribution.

Coal consumers should collect their fuel allocation without delay, as owing to the shortage of transport and labour many of the coal dealers

FINANCE

II. Slovakia

State Guarantees for Export Losses

The Slovak Parliament, at its last meeting, passed a law concerning State guarantees for exports, which has now been published in the Slovak Gazette. The law authorizes the Minister of Finance, in agreement with the Minister of Economics and the Chairman of the Supreme Office for the Allocation of Materials, to take over by means of State guarantees, a part of the loss which Slovak exporters or importers may suffer in foreign trade transactions. The maximum of State guarantees must not be more than Ks 100,000,000, the maximum of guarantee deposits not more than Ks 200,000,000. The Ministry of Finance will set up a guarantee fund.

(E.H. - T.P. 4 August, 1944)

The Difficulties of Slovak Banking Policy

In his speech at the general meeting of the Association of the Slovak Banks, the Secretary, Dr. Rudolf Briska said, inter-alia, that one way to solve the problem of the German-Slovak clearing bank would be to exercise economy in public expenditure, but this was almost impossible today; another way would be to increase the supply of consumption goods to the public, which was already comparatively good, and to improve the distribution. Another important measure by which inflation could be prevented would be the regulation of investment activity. There was also another solution, viz., to allow high prices to be charged but to take the excess profits by taxation; this method however was less favourable than adhering to low prices, as the increased profits were connected with increased sales prices which resulted in an inflationary tendency. He added that the simplest way to overcome the difficulties connected with the clearing problem would be to print bank notes....

Speaking about the position of private banks, Briska stated, inter alia, that the profitability of banking had begun to fall at the end of 1943, and that since then the position had grown continually worse.... The banks made the following demands: 1. To be allowed to charge a "general costs fee" amounting to 15% of all incomes derived from interest, commissions, etc. 2. That loans granted to Jews should be liquidated as soon as possible so that money could be obtained. 3. That the commission for stock exchange business, for the deposit of securities for clearing transfers and the hire of safes, should be increased. 4. That the rate of interest on deposit accounts be reduced by $\frac{1}{2}\%$.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 16 June, 1944)

Two Banks to Amalgamate

The Ministry of Finance has issued a decree authorising the amalgamation of the Prievidzská Gazdovská Banka with the Tatra Bank in Turčiansky Svätý Martin.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 30 April, 1944)

Service, RAD, etc., must fetch the coal themselves.

Free delivery to the cellar has been suspended, and coal must in future be unloaded in front of the house. The consumers must see that the street is cleared as soon as possible. Consumers are ordered to fetch their coal themselves if they are able to do so, for example by handcart. Consumers must accept whatever coal they are given, otherwise they lose their right to supplies.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, October 7, 1944)

Electricity Prices.

Electricity prices have been made uniform throughout Slovakia by a decree of the Supreme Office of Supply. They have been fixed at Ks 3.30 per light unit and Ks 1.95 per power unit (per kw). This regulation was necessitated by the merger last year of the five largest power stations in Slovakia. Hitherto electricity prices in Eastern Slovakia were Ks 0.60 above the prices in the western part of the country.

(E.H. - D.N.B. 12 June, 1944)

Fuel Shortage:

Synthetic Kerosene for Tractors

Owing to the shortage of kerosene, which must be saved for lighting purposes in winter, alcohol and petrol mixture and $\frac{1}{2}$ crude oil has now been allotted for kerosene driven tractors in the proportion of one part to two. This mixture is equal to good kerosene. The fuel quota is based on the quantity of grain threshed last year.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 21 July, 1944)

No Liquid Fuel for Cars

The NUZ announces that from January 1st 1945, liquid fuel will no longer be issued in Slovakia for motor vehicles. Car owners are therefore asked to convert their cars to producer gas in good time.

(E.H. - D.N.B. 10 October, 1944)

Construction of New Power Station

The Water Supply Cooperative in Nitra and the Slovak Electricity Company have worked out a plan to harness the Nitra, which will enable them to construct five power stations along that river. The Ministry of Economics has organised a public competition for the construction of one of these power stations.

(E.H. - D.N.B. 26 August, 1944)

"Ten-Year Plan" for Agriculture

A bill on the financial basis for the so-called agricultural 10-year plan was submitted to Parliament. The Bill provides for an expenditure of from KR 50,000,000 to Kr 100,000,000 in the annual Budgets for the years 1945 to 1953. The entire financial expenditure for carrying out the 10-year plan is estimated at approximately Kr 1,000,000,000. Under the plan, approximately Kr 300,000,000 will be expended for agricultural cultivation. Kr 129,000,000 has been set aside for cattle breeding while approximately Kr 121,000,000 will be spent on necessary agricultural improvements, live stock, insurance, agricultural schools and model estates. The 10-year plan was put into practice in 1944 and, for the current year, Kr 80,000,000 have been made available for agricultural improvements.

DNB (for Europe), 26.9.44 reports from Bratislava: The Slovak Parliament has passed a Bill to assist agriculture to the extent of Ks 100,000,000

(B.B.C. - German Telegraph Service
26 September, 1944).

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

President Tiso has appointed Dr. Stefan Ondrusek, Director of the Moldavia Generali Securitas Insurance Company in Bratislava, as Chairman of the Supreme Supply Office [NUZ]. This morning Dr. Ondrusek was sworn in by the President.

(E.H. Slovak Home Service
14 September, 1944)

On 22 September the President of the Republic appointed the Minister of Economics, Dr. Medricky, as permanent Deputy President of the Supreme Office of Supply. He will be in charge of legislative affairs.

(E.H. - Slovak Home Service,
2 October, 1944)

Slovak National Bank's New Governor

By decree of 25th October, President Tiso has relieved the Governor of the Slovak National Bank, Dr. Imrich Karvasim of his post and cancelled the appointment of the Director-General of the Slovak Mortgage and Communal Bank, Anton Mederly, who had been charged with the temporary administration of the Slovak National Bank. The same decree appoints Rudolf Kubis, Director-General of the Tatra Bank, Governor of the Slovak National Bank. The New Governor has taken the oath today before President Tiso.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service,
25 October, 1944).

Slovak Savings Bank

In June, 1944, deposits in the Slovak Savings Banks passed the milliard level. At the end of the first six months, the Slovak Savings Banks administered deposits amounting to Ks 1,061,000,000 which is an increase of Ks 115,000,000 compared with the end of December, 1943.

(E.H. - N.P.D. 29 September 1944)

Slovak Bank to Issue New Notes

The Slovak National Bank will start issuing new bank notes of Ks 10 and Ks 500 on October 26th. The old bank notes will remain valid.

(E.H. - D.N.B. for Europe
24 October, 1944).

Delay in New Note Issue: Transport Difficulties

Reporting on the issue of the new Ks 10 and Ks 500 notes: The old notes remain valid until further notice. Owing to transport difficulties the new bank notes cannot yet be sent to eastern Slovakia, so that the Presov branch of the National Bank cannot be supplied with them. Should, however, notes get there privately, they will be considered as legal tender.

(E.H. - Slovak Press 25 October, 1944)

CURRENCY

The Bratislava organ of the Fascist Hlinka Party, Slovak, published on March 14 an article by the Slovakian lawyer and economist, Dr. Jozef Fundarek, which described the activity of the Slovak National Bank and admitted that Slovakia is being exploited by the Germans. Fundarek wrote among other things:

"The most difficult task connected with our currency policy has been financing the German-Slovak clearing. Germany has been compelled to direct her production toward the manufacture of armaments. Consequently, the production of goods for civilian consumption has diminished. As Germany cannot supply the same quantity of consumable goods as in former times, the clearing credit in favour of Slovakia has been increasing. Now the question is no longer how to reduce the clearing credit, but rather how to prevent it from increasing to a greater extent and to see to it that the increase is not greater than the growth of Slovakian capital can afford. Private firms are chiefly interested in making the greatest possible profit. This means that they try to export to countries from which they can receive the highest price and to import at any price. Naturally this attitude does not always conform with the interests of the Slovakian economy currency policy and the balance of payments."

The paper also disclosed that Slovakian banknotes are being printed "abroad" and that the "Slovak National Bank" honoured forgeries of their bank-notes amounting to more than one and one fourth million Slovakian crowns. The paper admitted that more banknotes are being printed and said that "the printing of 500 crowns has unexpectedly been delayed for technical reasons, and they will probably not be issued before the middle of the year."

(News Flashes from Czechoslovakia
under Nazi Domination
7 August, 1944)

II. SLOVAKIA

FOREIGN TRADE

Trade Agreements with Hungary

A new commercial agreement between Slovakia and Hungary was signed on 12 May. The Agreement provides for an exchange of goods valued at Ks 900 million in both directions. Thus Hungary will become one of our most important commercial partners, apart from Germany.

As before, the exchange of goods will be carried out within the frame of three groups, viz., the "Dredona" group, the "Rima" group, and the "Mixed" or "Industrial" group. In the "Dredona" group, Slovak timber will be exchanged for Hungarian agricultural products valued at Ks 224 million. The Slovak quota of telegraph poles and soft timber has been increased. The Hungarians have increased their export quota of maize seed, rye seed and vegetable seeds. The Agreement also provides for imports of peas, lentils, apples and other fruit, cattle, pig and sheep pedigree stock, agricultural machinery and machine tools. The contract for cultivation of oleaginous seed in Hungary valued at 15 millions, on behalf of Slovakia, has been eliminated from the "Rima" group and included in the "Dredona" group.

The quotas in the "Mixed" or "Industrial" group have been considerably increased and it is expected that goods valued at 500 millions will be exchanged. The Agreement provides for exports of artificial fibres, yarn of artificial fibres, clays and minerals, glass articles, etc. The quota for pulp has been increased from 5,000 to 7,000 tons and this quantity can be further increased by credit operations of the National Bank. The paper quota has also increased as the Hungarian demand of paper is increasing. The cement export quota has been increased from 6,000 tons to 25,000 tons. Hungary will deliver "train oil scouring" (degras), hemp yarn, hemp, refined petrol, machinery, tiles, chemical and medicinal products.

Within the frame of the "Rima" group, goods valued at Ks 180 million will be exchanged. As Hungary proved to be unable to deliver the quota of 7,000 pigs which was agreed upon last year and has so far only delivered about 2,500 pigs, the difference will be made up by supplies of sunflower oil. As before, 10,000 tons of crude mineral oil will be imported within the "Rima" group. The Agreement also provides for imports of locomotives.

Apart from the above-mentioned groups, so-called "Inter-state Quota Agreements" will also be arranged as before. Last year pit-props and charcoal were delivered in exchange for lignite; pulp and timber was exchanged for pulp, etc. With regard to the difficulties which are connected with pulpwood and the fact that at present large quantities of pulp are available, the quota has been reduced to 25% of last year's quantity. Negotiations will take place in July in which the definite quota will be fixed. The textile quota agreement provides for exports of textile raw materials, viz., artificial fibres and yarn of artificial fibres, in exchange for finished textiles. The quota has been increased and will reach about 100 millions. The prices will be the same as in the previous agreement and must not be altered. The system of premiums remains in force and will be made more elastic on the part of Hungary.

(E.H. - D.N.B. 16 June, 1944)

INDUSTRY

I. PROTECTORATE

Production Committees

The Official Gazette of 10th May publishes a decree of the Minister of National Economy and Labour providing for the establishment of production committees for the following industries: Iron and metal industry; processing of timber; printing; processing of paper and pasteboard; ceramics, stones and clays; glass; chemicals; processing of leather; clothing.

The committees are to prepare production plans and to issue production orders to the enterprises. They are to regulate production, to limit the types of goods manufactured and to prohibit the production of unessential articles, to see that the enterprises are equally employed, to take all measures necessary to increase output, such as amalgamations of enterprises, and their rationalisation, to assist in the assignment of labour to production essential for the prosecution of the war, to preserve production goods by seeing to repair work being carried out, to distribute raw and auxiliary materials to the enterprises, and to inspect the enterprises belonging to the sphere of the committee. The production committees are competent for all industrial and handicraft enterprises, including public enterprises of their particular branch.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, Prague, 11 May, 1944)

Problems of Industrial Reconstruction, shortage of plant.

The economic committee of the State Council, discussing reports on the economic reconstruction of Czechoslovakia, submitted by various Government departments, has expressed its anxiety about the difficulties Czechoslovak industry and commerce will have to face after the liberation. The old structure of Czechoslovak industry has been disrupted by the creation of new wartime undertakings in old factories and by dismantling important industrial plants which had secured Czechoslovakia her pre-war place in world trade. In Brno, for instance, the centre of Czechoslovak textile industry - called "The Czechoslovak Manchester" - only four of 26 great textile plants have been left, the machines of the rest having been either dismantled and taken away to Germany or scrapped. The machinery of the remaining four factories is either worn out or spoiled by adaptation to wartime requirements. The machinery of the numerous textile factories of Liberec, Trutnov, Terev and Sumperk is being adapted to production of war material, too.

The Committee spent much time on the Government's agricultural programme. A further measure of land reform in the liberated country on an even more democratic basis than that of 1920 is inevitable. All land given by the German and Hungarian authorities to their adherents or acquired by such adherents in any other way during the occupation must be seized for purposes of such a measure. Amelioration of agricultural conditions throughout the Republic, and especially in Carpathian Russia, is essential.

(NewsFlashes from Czechoslovakia
under Nazi Domination 7 August, 1944)

good and the firm is not able to satisfy the demand, as its working capacity depends on the quantity of raw material allotted.

The factory manufacturing enamelled goods and galvanised articles complains of a shortage of sheet iron. The profitability of production was ensured by an increase in prices at the end of 1943. The factory has worked to 60% of its full capacity. So far it has not been possible to start manufacturing fertilisers, as this is dependent on supplies of raw materials from abroad. During the last few months the firm has succeeded in producing a certain quantity of crude phosphate and it is therefore to be hoped that operations can start soon.

The STONE INDUSTRY has been unable to work to full capacity and employment has fallen compared with last year. The brick works are not expected to be fully employed this year, as building activity has declined. Lime-kiln owners also report that their sales have dropped, due to the stagnation in the building trade. Orders for lime for the chemical industry have been maintained and it is gratifying to learn that shortage of labour has been overcome, which is connected with the slump in the timber industry. The demand for cement goods has fallen.

The BREWERIES are well supplied with raw materials and their sales are good. One of the large malt factories produces a high quality malt extract ("Silomalt"), which has also been exported to Switzerland. This malt factory has a large development programme for 1944.

During the last SUGAR campaign, the sugar factory [in Trebisov] worked up more than 50,000 tons of beet, the sugar contents of which was rich. Contracts have been closed for the delivery of beet this year. The starch factories received no potatoes, due to the bad potato harvest, and were obliged to close down. The stocks of starch are sufficient to cover requirements until the new campaign begins. One of the starch factories is working up the old stocks of starch into syrup and sugar.

(T.H. - Slovak Press, 31 May, 1944)

Features of Slovakia's Independence established under German Control.
(in a speech by Julius Stano, Former Minister of Transport).

The Slovaks were able to declare the complete independence of Slovakia on 14th March, 1939.....

.....They have replaced about 20,000 Czechs employed in the State Administration and Institutions. In addition the State built new State offices which were non-existent before Slovak independence.....

State Expenditure

State expenditure was covered by State revenue, and large sums were available for State Investments which were only partly covered by loans. The State expenditure was naturally growing year by year, but State revenue was also growing, as can be seen from the following: The State revenue in 1939 was Kr 1,657,000,000, in 1940 Kr 1,927,000,000, in 1941 Kr 2,432,000,000 in 1942 Kr 3,305,000,000 and in 1943 Kr 3,959,000,000. The investments of the State Administration were also covered by revenue and amounted in five years to Kr. 2,644,000,000....

Foreign Trade

Foreign trade grew year by year and in 1939 exports and imports amounted to Kr 3,756,000,000; in 1940 to Kr 6,408,000; in 1941 to Kr 6,677,000,000; in 1942 to Kr 9,450,000,000 and in 1943 to about Kr 10,000,000,000. Although these figures include the increase in prices of raw materials and finished goods, production capacity has increased during the last five years.

Swiss-Slovak Trade Increase

According to Slovak information Swiss-Slovak goods exchanges have during the last few years showed a rising tendency. Between 1940 to 1943 this trade rose from Kes 106,000,000 to Kes 637,000,000. In each of these four years the value of the goods Switzerland received was greater than that she delivered. Slovakia's biggest credit balance was in 1940, when it amounted to Kes 70,000,000. Switzerland imports - as from all other countries to her east - consisted mainly of agricultural and mineral products, while her exports consisted mostly of machine tools, textiles, clocks and watches.

(B.B.C. - D.N.B. European Service,
25 October, 1944)

Chamber of Commerce Report on Industry

The Presov Chamber of Commerce and Industry met on 26th May and the following report was published:

With regard to AGRICULTURE, the winter grain stood the frost well and although work on the spring cultivation was commenced very late, due to the long winter, the warm weather which followed facilitated the work and the sowing of the spring seed was completed in due time. Generally speaking it can be said that the situation has greatly improved during the last two years, and there is reason to anticipate that this favourable situation will be maintained.

With regard to MINING, the production of iron ore has been maintained on the same level as last year. One mine was closed down at the end of 1943 and the machinery and workers were transferred to a new mine which has begun to operate. The production of copper ore and electrolytical copper remained unchanged. The mining of manganese ore gave good results last year and is being expanded. A decrease in the production of pyrites must be expected as the mine has been exhausted. The production of mercury remained unchanged but the Gelnica mines have been temporarily stopped. There are deposits of barytes at Jaklovce, but these have not been exploited owing to low prices and to the fact that there was no demand. An attempt is being made to maintain the production of salt on the present level.

With regard to INDUSTRY, the manufacture of artificial fibres by the firm "Beta" in Batizovce has been maintained on a high level, and during the last few months the production of artificial wool has been increased at the expense of the manufacture of cellophane, which has proved to be unprofitable due to low export prices. The factory where hosiery is manufactured has been well employed, although the winter season was very mild. The production of this firm has continued unchanged and the number of its employees is increasing. The clothing industry is well employed, although consumers have displayed a certain reserve in purchases during the last few weeks. The factories manufacturing linen complain of a decline in demand. The boot-lace factory has received orders from Finland.

FOUNDRIES AND FORGES complain of inadequate supplies of scrap metal and work had to be restricted. One iron and metal goods factory was obliged to restrict its activity considerably. The Poprad railway wagon factory is very busy. Investments had to be restricted in some industrial enterprises on account of the restrictions of loans. The manufacture of metal goods in Spišské Vlachy has been maintained on last year's level. Sales have been

3. LABOUR

I. THE PROTECTORATE

Total Mobilisation of Czech Population

The Government of the Protectorate, Bohemia and Moravia, announces: "On 14th August, the Government expressed its resolution to the German State Minister for Bohemia and Moravia that it would use all means at its disposal to carry out the total war mobilisation of the Czech population. This announcement was based on the view that the Protectorate, as a part of the Reich, should carry the same burdens as other Reich territories, though the particular conditions prevailing in Bohemia and Moravia were considered in the detailed measures to be taken. A substantial simplification of public life in the Protectorate has already been carried out. In the next few days, restrictions in the Nation's and Bohemian and Moravian cultural life will be enforced, as they have been in German cultural life.

(B.B.C. - Protectorate Home Service in Czech, 26 August, 1944)

Control of Labour

In future the consent of the Labour Office will be required for the termination of employment, even if both parties agree. Administrative bodies of the Reich provinces and municipalities are exempted.

(E.H. Protectorate Press,
21 September, 1944.)

The President of the Gau Labour Office reminds the heads of households for the last time that they must report within three days any "Arbeitskraft" (domestic help) which is employed in their household for more than 12 hours a week.

(E.H. - Protectorate Press,
19 September, 1944.)

Recruiting of Czechs for Military and Labour Purposes

There are three chief methods for drafting Czechs:

1. Czechs living in those parts of Czechoslovakia which were incorporated in the Reich following the Munich Agreement, became Reich citizens and were called up for military service as early as December, 1938. They were trained in the Wehrmacht and were drafted to those divisions in which the other conscripts from the so-called Sudetenland had to serve. The same applied to the large Czech colonies in Vienna and other parts of Austria.

2. After the final dismemberment of Czechoslovakia and the military occupation of Bohemia and Moravia, a compulsory revision of nationality took place. Those with German names were declared to be Germans and were granted German Reich citizenship (the rest remained "Protectorate nationals" without either the benefits or the disadvantages of full Reich citizenship). In some cases it was enough to have one grandparent or even great-grandparent of German nationality. In the nationally very mixed Tesin (Teschen)

During the same period the Minister of Economy gave permission for the construction of 250 new undertakings and the expansion of 83 existing ones. In five years about two milliard crowns were spent on expansion and improvement in methods of production and investments..... In 1939 there were still 30,425 unemployed; in 1943 there were 4,315. On the other hand, the number of insured workers grew steadily. In 1939 there were 216,511 and in 1943 317,879.

Agriculture

In agriculture the Slovak State followed two aims: to increase the productivity of the land and to secure increased income from agriculture. In five years the Ministry of Agriculture invested Kr 486,000,000 for the improvement of agriculture. Particular tribute for the removal of unemployment and the supply of the population with all necessary commodities should be paid to the economic specialists and financial and diplomatic leaders who contributed to the strengthening of the Slovak political and economic connections abroad, introducing Slovak production to foreign markets, and secured the import of goods not produced in Slovakia. This also contributed to an improvement in the economic and social standard of life shown by a constant increase in bank deposits, which in 1938 amounted to Kr 4,212,000,000; in 1939 to Kr 4,757,000,000; in 1940 to Kr 5,554,000,000; in 1941 to Kr 6,456,000,000; in 1942 to Kr 7,148,000,000, and in 1943 to Kr 8,102,000,000.

State Enterprises.

The most promising chapter of the life of independent Slovakia is investment in buildings during the five years. Tens of thousands found employment in this work. The investments of the State Administration and institutions amounted in 1939 to Kr 493,000,000; in 1940 to Kr 659,000,000; in 1941 to Kr 1,137,000,000; in 1942 to Kr 1,397,000,000, and in 1943 to Kr 1,173,000,000. These figures include Kr 1,737,000,000 for railways; Kr 272,000,000 for post and radio; Kr 1,597,000,000 for public works, including Kr 8,000,000 for civil aviation in 1939-1940, over Kr 134,000,000 on waterways, Kr 798,000,000 on roads and bridges and Kr 277,000,000 on public buildings. The State-owned mines contributed Kr 39,000,000 to our total investments, the Ministry of Economics Kr 486,000,000 State-owned forests and land estates Kr 130,000,000, State-owned spas Kr 16,000,000, the Post Office Savings Bank Kr 13,000,000 and the tobacco monopoly Kr 7,000,000. All these contributions were used for work done by the Ministry of National Defence and other State enterprises. During the five years of our State we have built 95 km. of new railways; 113 km. of parallel railway lines and 71 km. of railways were reconstructed. We have built 280 km. of new roads, 138 km. were reconstructed, and 962 km. were given a macadam surface. We have laid 382 km. of new main cable lines and 182 km. of district cables. Our railways and postal services were fully modernised and we have electrified many of our railway lines. We are constructing automatic telephone communications. The State has spent a great deal of money on the construction of hydro-power stations and on regulation of streams and waterways. Our hydro-power stations supply 95,000 kw. power, thus providing extensive sources of electricity.

The Slovak State also paid great attention to State enterprises, which number 16. The most important are the railways, post, post office savings bank, mines, tobacco factory and the State-owned forests and estates. After 14th March 1939 all these had to be taken over by the Slovak State.

All our economic enterprises made great developments owing to the care of the Slovak State and to the investments by the authorities. Many made a profit instead of the usual loss. These profits were a help to the State and assisted it to carry out its programme of investments. During the first five years of Slovak State independence approximately Kr 1,975,000,000 were delivered to the exchequer; in 1939 225,000,000, in 1940 216,000,000, in 1941 364,000,000 in 1942 538,000,000 and in 1943 632,000,000

district of Moravian Silesia, for instance, special registers were set up for those who declared themselves to be of Slonzak (Silesian) nationality. Any non-German who wished to keep his property and employment had to declare himself a Silesian; otherwise he was treated as a Pole, i.e., he received smaller rations of food, tobacco, and clothes, had greater deductions taken from his wages for the benefit of the Reich, and was made subject to a curfew. In 1942, an order was issued to the effect that all Slonzak nationals were subject to military service.

3. Czech nationals were drafted to compulsory labour service without regard to their previous occupation and sent to Germany or German-occupied territory. Most of those of military age were sent to the Todt organization, the members of which wear a kind of military uniform and are subject to military training and discipline. As the manpower position of Germany became worse, the military authorities carried out systematic combings in the formations of the Todt organization. Able-bodied young men, regardless of their nationality, were marched off to the nearest military barracks, where they had to change their dark grey Todt uniforms for the light gray of the Wehrmacht. Any protest meant a summary court martial. Czech labour conscripts of other categories employed in occupied territories were and are being pressed to join the Wehrmacht.

(News Flashes from Czechoslovakia under
Nazi Domination, 7 August, 1944.)

A Government mission, led by the Head of the Slovak Health Service, Prof. Dr. Frantisek Subik, has gone to Vrutky to look after the population and secure first aid help. The Supreme Supply Office and the Slovak Red Cross sent foodstuffs and all the necessary material for first aid for the wounded and poverty-stricken inhabitants. Competent Government authorities provided administrative and health service. Similar help will gradually be granted to other districts liberated from the Czech-Bolshevik bands.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service,
29 September, 1944).

EDUCATION

I. THE PROTECTORATE

State grants for Education

For those studying at German higher schools and Czech secondary schools, as well as at professional, agricultural and art schools, allowances of Kc 800 to Kc 4,000 and college scholarships up to Kc 8,000 are awarded annually; the highest scholarships are usually given to students coming from large families. The total expenses for the students' social welfare increased from Kc 1,655,000 in 1939 to Kc 3,750,000 in 1940, and to Kc 7,071,000 in 1943. Students receiving support can devote themselves wholly to study without doing extra work for a living which is particularly important for students of industrial and special professional schools, many of whom study after previous experience of practical work and have families to support. Special attention is paid to the students' health by students' clinics which regularly examine pupils of local schools; such clinics are in Prague, Hradec, Kralove, Chrudim, Tabor, Brno, Olomouc and Moravska Ostrava.

(E.H. - Protectorate Press,
17 May, 1944)

II. SLOVAKIA

Schools and Education in Slovakia

Julius Stano, delivering a national "Progress Report", in October 1944, made the following statement:

The Slovak language is now not only the language spoken by the plain man but it is also taught and spoken at universities and higher schools. It has become the official language of the State. Eleven thousand Slovak teachers are employed in elementary and central schools. Under the Hungarian régime we did not have one Slovak secondary school. In the Czechoslovak period our schools were Czechoslovak, apart from small numbers run by the Church. To-day we have 46 Slovak secondary schools, 19 Slovak teachers' academics and training colleges, 15 industrial and professional

4. PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

PUBLIC HEALTH

I. THE PROTECTORATE

Medical Instruments Wanted

The Landrat of the Kreis Litomerice has issued an order for the appropriation of medical and dental installations and instruments from private ownership. These are to be reported immediately to the Health Office.

(E.H. - Protectorate Press,
25 June, 1944).

HOUSING

New Office to solve Housing Problems

A Government decree provides for the setting up of a "Housing Control Office" within the Ministry of the Interior.

The task of the new office is to take measures which will guarantee an equitable and just solution of the housing problem caused by the war.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, Prague,
13 August, 1944)

Housing Shortage in Prague

An announcement of the Housing Office (Wohnungsamt) of the City of Prague appeals to all owners of apartments to offer single furnished rooms for immediate use, saying: The strained situation in the hotel trade makes it necessary for the Housing Office to engage in the work of providing accommodation. Owners of apartments are requested henceforward to report any vacancies.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, Prague,
27 August, 1944).

RELIEF MEASURES

II. SLOVAKIA

Reconquered Areas

The Minister of the Interior has nominated Government delegates to supervise measures to be carried out immediately in liberated areas. The measures cover administration, social welfare, supply and traffic organisation.

Special Office to deal with Berlin Evacuees

The Gau Berlin has set up an office (Dienststelle) which will deal with the affairs of the Berlin Volksgenossen evacuated to the Kreise of Teplice-Sanov, Usti, Docin, Litomenice, Zatec, Chomutov and Duchcov.

(E.H. - Protectorate Press,
1 September, 1944)

Treatment of German Evacuees

A late report states that thousands of German refugees from Poland are living in the area of Moravska-Ostrava-Prorov. They are said to be accommodated in railway wagons placed in the large stations and, as supplies are irregular, to be obliged to sell their personal effects (watches, etc.) in order to get food.

(E.R.O. Notes of the Week,
10 September 1944).

A.R.P.

II. SLOVAKIA

Mach's Speech in the Diet

Mach speaking in Parliament on the Bratislava air raid said that according to expert opinion more than 1,000 explosive and incendiary bombs had been dropped on Bratislava; so far 181 persons had died, 111 were seriously injured and 584 slightly injured; and 15 to 20 bodies were still under the ruins.

Mach announced that injured persons and members of the victims' families were entitled to invalids', widows', orphans' and parents' allowances if their annual income did not exceed Ks 12,000.

In Friday's attack (June 16th), owing to a disturbance in the electric circuit, the sirens did not work and some remained silent, but the sirens had now been connected with two electrical circuits; moreover observation measures and an alarm system on church towers had been introduced in order to ring bells or blow trumpets in case the electric current should fail. As the work of clearing up did not proceed swiftly enough, several year-groups had been called up for labour service and were obliged to work 20 hours a day. The evacuation of certain threatened parts and the compulsory evacuation of children had been organised.

(E.H. - Slovak Press,
23 June, 1944)

Shortcomings of ARP Measures

The mistakes and shortcomings which were discovered in connection with the first air raid have naturally been remedied or are being remedied. There is no reason to provoke distrust of these measures and there is every reason that ill-willed or thoughtless individuals who misuse an alarm or preliminary alarm to avoid work or cause confusion should be punished. We are informed that very well-known and influential persons have been put on the lists of these saboteurs of order and discipline.

(E.H. - Slovak Press,
23 June, 1944)

schools, 31 commercial academics and commercial schools, 23 professional schools for women and 79 schools for apprentices with 206 branches. During the last school year 19,985 pupils went to secondary schools, 1,868 to teachers' academics or training colleges, and 5,445 to commercial academics and schools. Our university and the other high schools in Bratislava during the last school year had 4,500 Slovak students. On 1st October 1938 our secondary schools and teachers' training colleges had 780 teachers of whom there were 713 Slovaks and only 38 Czechs. In 1938 Bratislava University had 14 Slovak and 55 Czech professors. In the 1943-1944 school year the University had 42 Slovak and 40 Czech professors. Great support was granted to cultural, scientific and other institutions. The Slovak Book Jubilee Exhibition held in 1943 displayed 3,927 books published during the first five years of Slovak State independence. From 1939 to 1943 the State spent 1,715 milliards on Slovak schools and cultural institutions.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service,
4 October, 1944)

Czech Teachers Dismissed

By decision of the Minister of Education, all teachers of Czech nationality at Secondary Schools and Teachers' Training Colleges have been granted indefinite leave without pay, or relieved of their posts in the State schools.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service in
Hungarian, 13 October, 1944)

The Ministry of Education has discharged the following teachers of Czech nationality or origin from secondary schools and teachers' training colleges: Vlasta Baranikova, Marta Benkova, Bozena Bickova, Dr. Jarmila Dverska, Stanislav Felder, Miroslava Fundarkova, Konrad Hofman, Vladimir Horinek, Frantisek Janovsky, Dr. Josef Jelinek, Vojtech Knor, Dalimil Konecny, Vlasta Kristenova, Oldrich Kuchyna, Vlasta Lukacova, Augustin Nenicka, Oldrich Nuska, Vladislav Petrak, Maria Petrovicova, Vlasta Raposova, Anton Storch, Dr. Jan Safranek, Maria Simova, Dr. Vladimir Vacklavik, Maria Vidova, Josef Filip, Alzbeta Zaunerova, Edenek Hochwut.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 15 October, 1944)

A.R.P. EVACUEES AND REFUGEES

I. THE PROTECTORATE

Child Evacuation Camps

The inmates of the KLV (Child Evacuation Scheme) camp in Bohdanec have been transferred to other camps: Group "Essen" to Policka near Ceska Trebova, Group "Mulheim" to Chlumec, district Hradec Kralove, and Group "Oberhausen" to Zamberk district Hradec Kralove.

(E.H. - National Zeitung, Mulheim
edition 30 August, 1944).

Refugee Control Measures

Rationing

The Supreme Supply Office announces: Directives have been issued to all District and Borough offices re food supplies for refugees, who have left their permanent abode in consequence of the present extraordinary events. Refugees who intend to settle permanently in their new place of residence, should be issued ration cards even if they have no endorsement from the office of the district in which they last resided. Refugees intending to stay only temporarily, should be supplied out of the permanent food reserve, in accordance with regulation 114.850/1944 - IV/1, dated 2nd May, 1944. These emergency rations should be issued for two weeks at a time.

(B.B.C. Slovak Home Service,
25 September, 1944)

Refugees to Report to Police

All refugees are informed that they must report at the Welfare Centre for Refugees of the German Party, Vajansky Lane 9, where a Refugee's Certificate necessary for rationing purposes will be issued to them. Refugees are reminded that they must report to the police. Refugees living in Bratislava must, moreover, obtain a permit from the Municipal Billeting Office.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service,
2 September 1944)

Welfare Office Opened by German Party

In the building of the German Party in Bratislava, a welfare office for refugees has been opened. All refugees must register at this office. Here they will receive information about allowances, billets, feeding, and travel permits. Refugees who do not register with this office will not be entitled to any support.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service,
29 September, 1944)

Winter Relief Campaign

Report from Bratislava: At the inauguration of the Winter Relief Campaign Dr. Karol Mederly, Chairman of the Social Institute of the HSLS (Hlinka Slovak People's Party) and Vice-President of the Diet, acting on behalf of the State President, spoke of the Party's constructive social work and the Winter Relief Campaign's importance for the elimination of unemployment and for the intensification of the community's feeling of social responsibility.

(E.H. - D.N.B. (for Europe)
25 October, 1944).

Shelters

A tunnel is being built under Bratislava Castle which will connect the quarter near the Hurbanovo Namestia with the Danube embankment. The tunnel will have a total length of 795 m and is to serve traffic in peacetime. During the war it will be an excellent air raid shelter, as it will be connected by an emergency exit with the street Na Palisadech, where many schools and tenement houses are situated. There are 480 workers employed on the building of the tunnel.

(E.H. - Slovak Press,
23 July, 1944)

Transport Permits for Evacuees

The NUZ (Supreme Office of Supply) has entrusted the Central Association of Forwarding Agents in Bratislava with the issuing of transport vouchers to forwarding agents and removal permits to evacuees. Furniture may be moved only by permission of this Association. Permits will be issued according to the following priority schedule: First, persons who have been bombed out, second, public offices, third, families of public employees who are themselves obliged to remain in Bratislava, fourth, families of physicians, nurses, and ARP officials who are obliged to stay in Bratislava, fifth, people in reduced circumstances, sixth, other persons.

(E.H. - Slovak Press,
23 June, 1944)

REFUGEES

1. Arrival of Polish and Ukrainian Refugees

Polish and Ukrainian refugees are coming to Slovakia in two main streams, i.e. via Cadca and via Stara Lubovna where sanitary stations for disinfection have been established. Refugees are entered in a file and all those over 15 received a yellow refugee identity card which serves as an entrance and working permit. The refugees' labour exchange allocates the people to places of work according to their professions. Refugees who are unemployed will be accommodated in southern Slovakia, and the Slovak State will pay the expenses. If refugees come by routes other than via the above-mentioned places, the district offices must examine and disinfect them. To prevent infection the public is warned against associating with refugees unless they produce an identity card.

(E.H. Slovak Press, 5 August, 1944)

Refugees from Partisan Warfare

Over 12,000 refugees from the bandit camps have reported, or were handed over by German auxiliary detachments, to the garrison of Nitra. Many of them have been set free in accordance with the amnesty decree.

(E.H. Slovak Home Service,
20 September, 1944)

formation of a Home Guard. This formation has taken part in the suppression of risings.

(B.B.C.- German Home Service, 8th September, 1944)

In the presence of President Tiso, the First Regiment of the Slovak Home Guard (Domobrana) was sworn in today at Bratislava Military College...

(B.B.C.- Slovak Home Service, 8th October, 1944)

The Gendarmerie

The Minister of the Interior has issued a Decree dated 30 August, according to which, all gendarmerie units in Slovakia come directly under the Ministry of the Interior in Bratislava. All gendarmerie commanders must consult the Ministry of the Interior in Bratislava on all matters concerning the gendarmerie.

(B.B.C.- Slovak Home Service, 31 August, 1944)

ANTI-SEMITISM.

Hlinka Guard and the Jewish Question

Speaking to the HG Anton Vasek reported that...Owing to economic interests, the Jewish question, which is very complicated in Slovakia, could be solved only in stages. In Bratislava Zupa, where in 1940 the Jews numbered 21,000, there remained 6,000 on June 1st, 1942; the corresponding figures for Nitra Zupa are 10,000 and 2,000; for Trencianska 12,000 and 3,300; for Tatranska 10,900 and 3,900; for Zemplenska 32,000 and 4,3000; for Pohronska 5,000 and 1,600.....

Public utility work by the Jews in several labour camps is a positive contribution to the building of our State. The Jews working in these camps get regular pay, but it is not delivered into their hands; part of this pay is used to cover the expenses of their maintenance, and the rest goes to the State in the shape of more investments. In 1943 the Jewish labour camp had a turnover of Ks 48 million.

(E.H.- Slovak Press, 1 June, 1944)

Expropriation of Jewish Land

The Land Office has transferred land, formerly owned by Jews, to aryan ownership in another 85 communities. The land affected covers 212 catastral yokes. Among the applicants who were granted land were 37 front-line soldiers.

(E.H.- T.P., 11 July, 1944)

Deportations

During mopping-up operations in Nitra, it was established that over 2,200 Jews were living there. These have now been taken to labour camps...

(E.H.- German European Service in Slovak, 10 October, 1944).

5. REPRESSION AND ANTI-SEMITISM

I THE PROTECTORATE

Czech Woman Executed

The Special Court of the German Landgericht in Brno has sentenced to death Marie Bláhová, born on 11.8.1916, of Brno, for rendering assistance to enemies of the Reich, although she was aware that they were wanted by State Police.

The execution was carried out on October 5th, 1944.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, October 7, 1944)

II SLOVAKIA

REPRESSION

Special Powers for Slovak Commander-in-Chief

The Slovak Government has empowered the C-in-C of the Slovak Army to take any special measures he deems necessary.

(B.B.C. - German Telegraph Services 9 September, 1944)

Volksdeutsche to fight Partisans

The leader of the German national group in Slovakia, Franz Karmasin, has announced the formation of an organisation for the protection of the homeland in a speech over the wireless addressed to all Germans in Slovakia.

He announced that all Volksdeutsche men between the ages of 16 and 50 will be included in it.

(E.H. - German Telegraph Service 7 September, 1944)

Leaders Tried in Absence

The Military Prosecutor of the Field Court in Bratislava has started a suit for high treason and desertion against Col. Canyi, Lt.-Col. Marko, Lt.-Col. Vesel, Lt.-Col. [? Zádžora], Major Ing. Krátký, Major Tóth, Major Dobrovodský, and Lt. Brzac.

(E.H. Slovak Press, October 19, 1944)

REPRESSIVE MEASURES

The Home Guard

The Chief of Staff of the Slovak Hlinka Guard foreshadowed close collaboration between the Hlinka Guard and units of the German Armed Forces. The leader of the German minority in Slovakia, Karmasin, announced the

Though they had to yield ground in the first few days against these overwhelming forces, the patriots on the whole succeeded in denying the Germans their strategic aims.

Contact has been established between the patriots and Russian scouts who have crossed the Carpathians, and strong forces of the Red Army, accompanied by the Czechoslovak Army Corps formed on Russian soil, have reached the Polish-Czechoslovak frontier and at several points have entered Czechoslovak territory.

The Slovak patriots' morale is high, and there is complete order in the areas they hold.

The events in Slovakia have had their repercussions in the Czech provinces of the Czechoslovak Republic. In spite of severe German counter-measures Czech youths, former members of the Army, police, and gendarmerie, not only from neighbouring Moravia, but - as the Nazis themselves admit - even from the distant parts of Bohemia, are crossing the western Beskids to join the Slovak patriots. The tension in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia is indicated in a speech by Frank, the deputy Protector, who last week advised the Czechs not to follow the Slovaks but to take "Warsaw as a warning." The Germans, he said, had taken "all measures to meet any Czech folly".

(The Times, 5 October, 1944)

Freed Slovakia under National Council.

The Czechoslovak Government delegation which arrived from London six weeks ago has left Moscow.

A few members of the delegation, with its head Minister, Mr. Nemec, are already in the liberated part of Slovakia. The bulk have only just left by train, carrying a large cargo of supplies for their countrymen.

One of the delegation stated that roughly one-fifth of Slovakia, with a population of half a million, has been freed.

This territory is being administered by a Slovak National Council, which consists of the main political parties organised in two blocs - the Communist-Socialists and parties of the Centre and Right like the Agrarians, National Democrats and the Catholics.

The Hlinka Party, to which the collaborationist Tiso Government belonged, has been dissolved in liberated territory.

Each department of temporary administration is directed by two trustees, one from each bloc, who run affairs as a coalition.

Similarly the post of President of the National Council and head of the administration is of a dual nature, being fulfilled by the leaders of the two blocs, one of whom is a well-known politician of the pre-war régime.

There was no interference from the Czechoslovak Government in London and no attempt to take over control.

6. RESISTANCE

SLOVAKIA.

The Outbreak of Resistance.

Events in Slovakia have developed quickly since the collapse of the Antonescu regime in Rumania. Martial law was proclaimed over the whole country on Thursday last week. Then Mach, Minister of the Interior and Deputy Prime Minister in the puppet Slovak Government, admitted in a broadcast on Saturday that the country was virtually in a state of war, temporarily imposed upon it by underground forces, "parachutists", as he called them. The Government were therefore compelled to proclaim martial law, he said, and were determined to clear Slovakia of subversive elements by their own forces without appealing to Germany for help.

Mach tried to make his listeners believe that it was only parachutists who had attacked Slovak military units, police posts, and nests of collaborationists, but his further description of events and reports issued by various Slovak Government departments made it clear that large areas were in a state of revolt. Slovak patriots, faithful to the Czechoslovak Republic, who had been in contact with their Government in London, have been reinforced by trained officers and men, the latter arriving mostly by parachute. Stores of weapons and ammunition, well hidden in the Slovak mountains, were supplemented by more modern arms dropped from the air, and headquarters in London was informed that such formations of the Slovak Army as had been left in possession of their weapons could be considered reliable allies when the order to rise came.

Everything points to the fact that the Slovak Government up to the last moment tried to save its face and made frantic efforts to avoid a complete German military occupation. Its efforts however were useless. Three days after Mach's appeal to the Slovak people his colleague in the Cabinet, General F. Catlos, the Minister of National Defence, went to the microphone in Bratislava and told the people that, their own military forces being insufficient to "protect" them against the assaults by partisans, formations of the German Army were entering Slovakia.

(The Times, 31 August, 1944)

Military Progress: Czech Collaboration with Slovak Patriots.

The Czechoslovak forces and partisans have now been fighting for five weeks in Slovakia. On Tuesday, 29 August, two German infantry divisions, the 68th and 108th, which had set out from the north and west to occupy Slovakia, were met by the bulk of the former regular Slovak Army, which rose against their puppet Government and took the oath to the Czechoslovak Government, and by strong groups of partisans.

The Germans had not expected to find the main gates into Slovakia strongly held. Two more divisions, this time crack S.S. divisions, the 19th "Lettland" and the 20th "Estland", were sent in, and the Luftwaffe gave them support. The Germans' main objectives appear to have been to secure a firm hold on the two main railway lines, Bohumin-Zilina-Kosice (linking the Reich with the Rumanian-Hungarian battlefield) and Bohumin-Zilina-Budapest, and to seize supplies from the coal mining and industrial centre around Handlova.

To be revised

2000.0

Revised 12 Aug 44

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Government and Political Parties

Before Munich

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The first President of Czechoslovakia was Thomas Masaryk, a scholar and statesman.

The government of Czechoslovakia always depended upon a coalition of five or more political parties. In the twenty years of the country's independence all the major parties had taken part in the government, including representatives of the Slovaks and of the German minority. Only the Communists and the Nazis had been excluded.

The Constitution of the Czechoslovak Republic provided for a

Chamber of Deputies with 300 members elected by proportional representation by all citizens over 21 years of age for a period of six years and a

Senate with 150 members elected by the citizens over 26 years of age for a period of 8 years.

The legislative was to meet at least twice a year. Bills could be introduced in either house. An absolute majority of all the members of the Chamber made a bill law. In case a bill was defeated in the Senate, the Chamber could override this vote by an absolute majority. The Chamber of Deputies alone could force the resignation of the government by a vote of non-confidence.

In periods when Parliament was not in session, a permanent commission of 24 members - 16 deputies and 8 Senators - was acting.

The President was elected in a joint session of the two chambers for a period of office of seven years. He could not serve a third term without the expiration of another seven years, although Masaryk was an exception to this rule.

The four provinces - Bohemia, Moravia, Slovakia and Carpatho Ukraine - each had their own governor and diet, partly elected and partly appointed; they possessed a limited jurisdiction in provincial matters.

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(1) Republican Party of the Farmers and Small Peasants

(Agrarian) It had a republican and democratic philosophy and adhered to the principle of private property and free competition. It stressed the defense of agricultural interests and

was in favor of customs protection for agricultural products. After the revolution the party worked out the land reform measures, transferring many large estates to the small farmers. The Republican party from 1925 on was the strongest of the Czechoslovak parties.

The leader of the Party was Rudolf Beran; other leading members were: Dr. Milan Hodza, Jan Malipetr, Dr. Leo Zadina, Dr. Fr. Stanek, Vaclav Donat, Fr. Masata, Fr. Udzzal.

The party had 45 Deputies in the Chamber and 23 Senators.

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They were the strongest party up to 1925. Other leaders were B. Stacek, Jan Dostalek, Jos. Samalil, Dr. I. Dolansky. The party had 22 Deputies and 11 Senators.

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The program was the same as that of the Czechoslovak Populist party. The party was for Slovak autonomy. In 1935 it became federated with the Slovak National party (one mandate) and the Polish Parties (one mandate)

The leaders of the Party were Andr. Hlinka, Dr. Josef Tiso.

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The leaders of the party were K. Gottsald, Jos. Haken, Aut. Zapotocky, Dr. B. Smeral. The party had 30 Deputies and 16 Senators.

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The leaders were Kourad Henlein, W. Brand, K. H. Frank.

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Czechoslovakia was partitioned as a result of the Munich Conference of September 29, 1938 and later by Polish demands of October 1, 1938 and Hungarian demands of November 2, 1938, losing a total of 16,056 square miles and 4,922,440 people. The losses were as follows:

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After the President's resignation the rump Czechoslovak National Assembly elected a new President, Dr. Emil Hacha, on November 30.

A few weeks before this election, on November 8, the Prime Minister, Joseph Tiso, declared himself in favor of a totalitarian government in Slovakia with the abolition of all parties except the Hlinka (fascist) party.

After Hacha's election the Syrový government resigned and a new government was formed by the chairman of the Agrarian Party, Rudolf Beran, Germanophile head of the dominant Agrarian Party. The Beran government aimed at neutrality and cooperation with Berlin. At home it went a long way to meet most of the National Socialist demands. Anti Nazi tendencies were suppressed and permission was given to the third Reich to build a highway through the heart of the country.

After March 1939

On March 15, 1939 the German armies marched into Prague, destroying the independence of Czechoslovakia and preparing the way for the conquest of the greater part of Europe.

On March 16 Bohemia and Moravia were declared a "Protectorate" of Germany with only those "autonomous" rights" which fall to it.....in accordance with the political, military and economic importance of the Reich. "The Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia" is thus "autonomous and administers itself" but the interests of the Reich are guarded by a Protector appointed by Berlin who has authority to:

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In return the Protectorate has the right to accredit one representative to the Reich government with the official title "Minister" (Gesandter)

By a later ordinance of June 27 "the Protector can change this decree and thereby the nature of the autonomous status of the provinces whenever common interests warrant".

Theoretically there are two parallel administrative systems, one for the autonomous Czech government and one for the Protector, but actually the autonomous administration cannot adopt any measure without the approval of the Protector. The Protector becomes in practice the source of legislative and administrative power.

The Office of the Reich Protector in Prague was assisted by 19 Councillors strategically placed throughout Bohemia and Moravia as well as by Reich agencies - military attaches, Schutzpolizei and Gestapo.

Reich Protector is - Dr. Wilhelm Frick, appointed by Hitler August 24, 1943.

State Minister	Karl Hermann Frank
President	Dr. Emil Hadravský
Premier	Dr. Jaroslav Krejčí
Minister of Economics and Labor	Dr. Walkur Bartsch (German)

Slovakia after March 1939

By treaty of March 18, 1939 Slovakia became a "Protectorate" of Germany constituted as an independent Sovereign State with army, currency and diplomatic representation abroad.

A president, according to the Constitution of June 22, was to be elected for a period of seven years.

The Slovak government gave the German armed forces the right to erect military plants within certain zones and to maintain ~~them~~ strengths deemed necessary.

During the night of August 28 the German army took possession of the whole of Slovakia introducing Nazi martial law.

Slovakia theoretically is ruled by:

President: Reverend Josef Tiso - elected by the Slovak
Parliament Oct. 26, 1939
Premier: Bela Tuka, assuming office vacated by Tiso
on Oct. 26, 1939.

The Slovak Republic was not recognized by the United Nations governments.

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(2) The affiliation of every citizen with one of the five "Corporations" organized along Fascist lines (Agriculture, Industry, Finance, liberal professions, Public Service)

(3) The State Council replaces the Senate and is composed of the representatives of the corporations, delegates of the Hlinka Peoples' Party, members of the Cabinet and delegates sent by Parliament.

The Government in Exile

At the outbreak of the War between Great Britain and Germany in September 1939, Dr. Eduard Benes, who had resigned as President of Czechoslovakia, following the Munich Conference, declared from London that the Czechoslovak people were at war with Germany. He set up a Czechoslovak National Committee and pressed for its recognition.

Following negotiations by the Czechoslovak National Committee, agreement was reached with the French government on October 2, 1939 for the Czechoslovak army to take its place on the Western Front as a separate unit.

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Members of the committee, when constituted November 17, 1939 were:

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Monsignore Jan Sramck	Vice President, former Czechoslovak Minister, Leader of the " " Catholic movement.
General Sergey Iugr	Former divisional commander of the Czechoslovak Army
Dr. Stefan Osusky	Czechoslovak Minister to France
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Dr. Hubert Ripka	Former Editor of "Lidove Noviny"
Dr. Turaj Slavik	Member of Several Czechoslovak Governments, later Czechoslovak Minister to Poland.
General Rudolf Viest	Former Inspector General of the Slovak Army

The first act of the Committee after its organization was to declare President Hacha's agreement with Germany "nil and void" and not recognizing the creation of Bohemia-Moravia as a Protectorate of Germany or of Slovakia as an independent state.

On July 18, 1941, an agreement was reached with Soviet Russia providing for the exchange of Ministers and mutual aid in the war and for constituting the Czechoslovak military units in Russia under a Czechoslovak Commander. On December 12, 1943 a treaty of friendship, mutual assistance and Postwar cooperation was signed by Czechoslovakia and the U.S.S.R.

The Allied Supreme War Council decided December 19, 1939 to recognize and cooperate with the National committee. On December 20, 1939 an announcement was made of recognition of the Committee by the British government. Recognition by the Union of South Africa, Australia, and New Zealand soon followed.

On July 21, 1940 the British government recognized the Committee as the Provisional government of Czechoslovakia.

On July 18, 1941 the Soviet Union recognized the government and provided for an immediate exchange of Ministers.

Formal United States recognition was granted July 31, 1941.

The Committee is now (June 1944) recognized by 25 governments.

In 1942 the British, United States and the U.S.S.R. raised the rank of their representatives from Minister to Ambassador.

Temporary seat of the government is London, England.

The Cabinet formed on December 11, 1940 was reorganized on November 13, 1942 and composed as follows:

Premier	Monsignor Jan Sramek (Czechoslovak Populist Party)
Deputy Prime Minister	
Minister for Foreign Affairs)	Jan Masaryk, diplomat.
Minister for National Defense	General Sergej Ingr
" of the Interior	Dr. Juraj Slavik, diplomat
" " Economic)	
Reconstr. and Trade)	Franteseck Nemec (Social Democrat)
Minister of Finance	Dr. Ladislav Feierabend (Agrarian)
Minister of Justice	Professor Dr. Jaroslav Stransky (Czechoslovak National Socialist Party)
Minister of State, in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Dr. Hubert Ripka (Czechoslovak Nat. Social Party)
Minister of State in the Ministry of National Defense	General Rudolf Viest
Minister of Agriculture and Public Works	Jan Lichner (Agrarian)
Minister of Social Welfare	Jan Becko (Socialist-Democrat)

The Cabinet has organized two committees, one political and one economic Committee.

It also appointed a State Council to assist the government.

Further institutions created by the Cabinet in London were the

Research Institute

Law Council

Supreme Control Office

The office of the President is divided into a civil and a military section.

Embassies have been created in London, in Moscow and in the United States.

Other offices created in the United States are:

Consul General in New York
Consul General in Chicago
Consuls in Cleveland, Pittsburg, San Francisco,

and a number of honorary Consuls.

In Canada there is a legation in Ottawa, a Consul General in Montreal and a Consul in Toronto.

Legations are in the South American countries with the exception of Argentine. Legations also were established with the other governments in Exile, in most cases as charge' d'affaires.

In Russia, besides the Embassy, a military Mission has been created and military formations.

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Justice
Agriculture

Transport
Kamenicky
Chvalkovsky
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Former Inspector General of the Slovak Army

The first act of the Committee after its organization was to declare President Hacha's agreement with Germany "nil and void" and not recognizing the creation of Bohemia-Moravia as a Protectorate of Germany or of Slovakia as an independent state.

On July 18, 1941, an agreement was reached with Soviet Russia providing for the exchange of Ministers and mutual aid in the war and for constituting the Czechoslovak military units in Russia under a Czechoslovak Commander. On December 12, 1943 a treaty of friendship, mutual assistance and Postwar cooperation was signed by Czechoslovakia and the U.S.S.R.

The Allied Supreme War Council decided December 19, 1939 to recognize and cooperate with the National Committee. On December 20, 1939 an announcement was made of recognition of the Committee by the British government. Recognition by the Union of South Africa, Australia and New Zealand soon followed.

On July 21, 1940 the British government recognized the Committee as the Provisional government of Czechoslovakia.

On July 18, 1941 the Soviet Union recognized the government and provided for an immediate exchange of Ministers.

1st Foreign Minister
Formal United States recognition was granted July 31, 1941. *The Czech Minister to the US, Col. Vladimir Hurban was recognized.*
The ~~Committee~~ *Government* (June 1944) recognized by 25 *governments. Nations up to Jan. 1944.*

In 1942 the British, United States and the U.S.S.R. raised the rank of their representatives from Minister to Ambassador.

Temporary seat of the government is London, England.

The Cabinet formed on December 11, 1940 was reorganized on November 13, 1942 and composed as follows:

Premier Monsignor Jan Sramek
(Czechoslovak Populist Party)
Deputy Prime Minister
Minister for Foreign Affairs) Jan Masaryk, diplomat.

Minister for National Defense General Sergej Ingr
" of the Interior Dr. Juraj Slavik, diplomat (Slovak)
" Economic)
Reconstr. and Trade) Frantisek Nemec (Social Democrat)
Trade)
Minister of Finance Dr. Ladislav Feierabend (Agrarian)

Minister of Justice Professor Dr. Jaroslav Stransky
(Czechoslovak National Socialist Party)

Minister of State, in *Active* ~~the Ministry of~~ Foreign Affairs *in the Min of Affairs* Dr. Hubert Ripka
(Czechoslovak Nat. Social Party)

Minister of State in the Ministry of National Defense General Rudolf Viest (Slovak)

Minister of Agriculture and Public Works Jan Lichner (Agrarian) (Slovak)

Minister of Social Welfare Jan Becko (Socialist-Democrat)

(Slovak)

The Cabinet has organized two committees, one political and one economic Committee.

The Bureau ~~It also appointed~~ ^{an} a State Council ^{as the advisory body} to assist the government.

Further institutions created by the Cabinet in London were the

Research Institute

Law Council

Supreme Control Office

The office of the President is divided into a civil and a military section.

~~Embassies have been created~~ ^{are} in London, in Moscow and in the United States. ^{in other United Nations countries}

~~legations~~ ^{legations} are established. Other offices created in the United States are:

Consul General in New York

Consul General in Chicago

Consuls in Cleveland, Pittsburg, San Francisco,

and a number of honorary Consuls.

In Canada there is a legation in Ottawa, a Consul General in Montreal and a Consul in Toronto, ^{and in Mexico}

~~Legations are in the South American countries with the exception of Argentine.~~ Legations also were established with the other governments in Exile, in most cases as chargé d'affaires.

In Russia, besides the Embassy, a military Mission has been created and military formations.

-15-

In July 1944 Minister Nemec announced that all questions concerning UNRRA including the purchase of raw materials and foodstuffs are now concentrated in the Reconstruction Ministry headed by Mr. Nemec.

A Special Advisory Board has been formed in the Ministry consisting of representatives of commerce, industry and trade unions. The Czechoslovak Purchasing Company (Ceskoslovenska Nakupni Spolecnost), will act as the purchasing centre for all ministries with decisions on purchasing resting with the Cabinet.

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Co-ordination of Social Services in Czechoslovakia.

Social services in the Czechoslovak Republic can be divided into two main branches: Public, which means services administered by public bodies and directed by laws of the country, and private services, which means voluntary organizations - administered by voluntary social service organizations. A semi-official social service institution of great importance, working side by side with the public as well as the voluntary bodies is the Social Insurance.

An Austrian Poor-law passed in 1863 places the care of the dependent citizens into the hands of their respective Local Communities. A local community, being the smallest political unit had to care for the "poor", "the sick" and "the destitute" at the decisions of its Community Council, its Social Service Committee, within the Community Budget.

Where the task surpassed the possibilities of the local community, it was handed over to a larger political unit, the County (orphanage, hospital, maternity home, home for the aged). Next came the Province, a politically autonomous unit - a territory comprising several counties (Czechoslovakia had 4 provinces). The social service department of the Province administered institutions and provided public funds for services of which all citizens automatically could make use, provided they were not existing in their local community or county (mental hospitals, approved schools, special institutions for defectives etc.)

The State as the highest political unit provided some social service institutions of state wide importance (prisons, homes for delinquent youth etc.) Two central offices dealt with the social services: The Ministry of Social Welfare and the Ministry of Public Health. Their first task was to prepare the legislation. They also maintained contact with the official international bodies (e.g. The International Labor Office). The State also provided education for social welfare and health work and possibilities of research in both fields at the four State Universities and two special institutes: The Social Science Institute was attached to the Ministry of Social Welfare and the State Institute of Hygiene worked in close collaboration with the Ministry of Public Health. Both were in close contact with the Universities and with the Rockefeller Foundation.

The private social services in their development and their effort for co-ordination followed on the whole the scheme outlined by the Public Bodies. Large number of charitable organizations soon realized that their real task was to supplement the services given by the state and by autonomous governments. This was done by filling

in possible gaps in the public scheme, giving more individual attention where necessary, experimenting with and trying out new methods of approach, new techniques, before handing over the task to a public body. Much was achieved by a very close collaboration of voluntary organizations with public bodies and social insurance in all stages and in all divisions.

The small welfare organizations in towns and villages were encouraged to form larger county units - these again united in the province for the wider tasks and for closer contact with the provincial government. Finally, the well established organizations formed state wide associations.

One of the best examples of semi-public social service was the Czechoslovak Child Welfare founded in 1912. In the last decade it was one of the best organized state wide associations and acquired a semi-official character. Its most important working units were the County Child Welfare Organizations with independent branches of mothers and children's welfare attached to them. They administered together with the County Council the well known County Child Welfare Bureaus, Mothers and Children's clinics and a number of other child welfare institutions. Their work in local communities was carried out by small local branches or individual representatives, in most cases members of the local Councils, or of the Local Education Committees. Very closely related to the provincial governments were the Provincial Child Welfare Association closely related to the Child Welfare departments of the central offices was of great importance. The Czechoslovak Child Welfare Association was in direct touch with the International Child Welfare (Save the Children Fund etc.) The work of this organization was regulated by an act passed about 1921, based on the equal right of every child to proper care, physical and social as well as educational.

Another very well organized field of work was that of prevention of tuberculosis. The Masaryk League for the Combat of Tuberculosis an example of a state wide health and social welfare organization with well established detailed contact with the public services and social insurance units especially in the provinces and in the counties. Its working centers were the County Dispensaries fully equipped for the purpose of diagnosis, social investigation and prevention, but not for treatment. (This was done in hospitals, health insurance clinics and special institutions.) The provincial branches administered larger institutions and were united in a state-wide League for the Combat of Tuberculosis.

An example of an unspecialized organization with a very wide and varied peace-time program was the Czechoslovak Red Cross Association. Its structure was given by an international convention. A state-wide organization, member of the League of Red Cross Societies had four provincial divisions with a large number of local chapters. Its smallest unit was the First Aid Squad in a local community. There were no county units.

Other welfare organizations had their structure built up according to this pattern or were gradually building it up with variations to suit the purposes of their work.

In 1921 about 20 state-wide organizations united and formed a federation: The Council of Private Social and Health Work. Its aim was to represent the voluntary welfare services as a whole at the central offices of the state, to carry out various tasks for the benefit of several organizations (administration of a school of social work, state wide conferences, exhibitions, the edition of a common bulletin, etc.).

The German speaking population of Czechoslovakia administered their own social services organized on the same lines as the Czech and the Slovak ones. Their highest coordinating unit was the German Working Community for the Promotion of Public Health. This central organization stood in close cooperation with the Council of Private Social and Health Work. Both together represented Czechoslovak private social services as one whole at the International Conferences for Social Work.

Attempts to form Provincial Councils of Private Social Service were made and promised good results. Very good results could already be observed in several County Councils or Federations of Private Social Services. Their work was usually centered round the County Welfare Center where all clinics, advice bureaus and offices of the county welfare organizations were housed. Experiments with common activities, (collections, bulletins, campaigns, etc.) proved very successful.

To realize the idea of detailed co-ordination, two counties were chosen for the demonstration of the most advanced social services. One was a mining and agricultural district, the other one part of the Capital inhabited mainly by working class people. Both demonstrations were planned and supervised by experts of high standing and based on scientific principles. The results were elaborated upon and where satisfactory, were recommended to be introduced in other districts.

The coordination of social services was subject to constant research and study. A rather popular scheme was to center the work in one district, usually one county round the Child Welfare Bureau. Another plan which aroused much discussion was based upon the very close co-operation of social and health services. This scheme placed the County Hospital into the center and attached to it all voluntary social and health services in the county. The authors of this plan, outstanding public health workers greatly stressed the part of the hospital in the preventive care for the population. According to their opinion a hospital which they called "the House of Health" should not only mean a place where diseases are being treated and cured, but where the health of the population is being preserved through the application of the most modern preventive measures.

None of the mentioned plans have been carried out. There was a deep understanding for the two inseparable components of public welfare: health and social service. On the other hand child welfare was very much in the foreground and had long ago been freed from the stigma of charity. The whole structure of private social and health services bore the sign of freedom and the widest recognition of the right of each citizen to normal physical and mental development.

...

London 1942. (Outline of a lecture).

Government

1 June 1945

TO: George Xanthaky
FROM: Howard Daniel
SUBJECT: Statement on Czechoslovakia for OWI

Attached are two copies of the statement on
Czechoslovakia requested by OWI.

Attachments (2)

cc: F. Weisl

Ogish

STATEMENT ON CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND THE IMPACT OF WORLD WAR II

In file

THE PRE-WAR ECONOMY

Until it was swamped in September 1938, the Czechoslovak Republic was an island of democracy, prosperity, and social progress in Central Europe. During the twenty years of its existence the hard work of the Republic's 15,000,000 people and the skillful use of its not too plentiful resources had given it a comparatively high standard of living.

A picture in broad outline of the pre-war Republic emerges from the following basic data. The Republic's economy was highly diversified but well-balanced, about 5,000,000 citizens depending on agriculture and forestry, 5,000,000 on industrial production, and the remaining 5,000,000 on the non-productive and service trades. Among the most important items of its somewhat limited natural resources were pit-coal and lignite. Other valuable resources were iron, graphite, silver, copper, lead, glass sand and raw materials needed by the ceramic industry. Significant agricultural products were cereals, beet sugar, malt, and other food stuffs.

Agriculture

Rye and wheat were the major agricultural products. Of animals reared, poultry (40 million), cattle (4.4 million), pigs (3.3 million), goats (1 million) and sheep (.5 million) were the most important. Dairying was of considerable importance. Lumber was a major industry providing direct and indirect employment for over 600,000 workers.

Selected agricultural and food statistics for 1937 with some yields for 1938 follow:

<u>Crop</u>	<u>Area</u> (in '000 acres)	<u>Production</u> (in '000's)	<u>Average Yield</u> (in cwts per acre)
Wheat	2,100	51,268 bushels	97.5
Rye	2,400	58,446 "	90.2
Barley	1,660	51,216 "	92.0
Oats	1,920	94,551 "	87.5
Potatoes	1,910	454,248 "	-
Sugar beets	440	5,987 metric tons	1,284.0
Hops	29	26,896 lbs.	-
Flax	48	24,251 lbs.	-

Industrial Production

Among the more important products were high speed steel, all types of machinery and machine tools, cotton and woolen textiles, shoes, gloves, linens, china, glassware, leather, furniture, malt, beer, ham, and sugar. Industrial production rested on rich brown and black coal deposits and the iron and steel output of seventeen blast furnaces.

In 1936 production of electric energy in public utility and industrial power stations amounted to approximately 3 billion KWH. A pre-war estimate of motive power was 9,200,000 HP made up as follows: 25% engines in industry and agriculture; 30% railway locos; 30% motor vehicles and 15% steam driven engines.

The following table lists production (1937) of selected commodities.

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>'000's</u>		
Coal	17,000	metric tons	
Lignite	18,000	"	"
Coke	3,270	"	"
Iron Ore	1,800	"	"
Pig Iron	1,600	"	"
Steel ingots & casings	2,300	"	"
Manganese ore	106	"	"
Salt	181	"	"
Alcohol	26,000	gallons	
Beer	216,000	"	
Rayon	8,693	lbs.	

Transportation

In 1938 the Republic had 43,790 miles of roads utilized by 92,000 passenger autos, 30,000 trucks, 4,000 buses, and 60,000 motorcycles. An 8,650 mile rail net covered all parts of the country. This system, almost exclusively steam power, operated some 5,000 locos, 9,000 passenger cars, and 97,000 freight cars.

Extensive use was made of inland waterways, the Labe and the Vltava connecting the country with the North Sea, the Oder with the Baltic, and the Danube with the Black Sea. Czechoslovakia's geographical location made it an important air center.

Foreign Trade

Foreign trade was vital to the Republic's economy. Local production was sufficiently wide-spread to meet most essential domestic needs. However, many industries depended on imported

Foreign Trade. Continued

raw materials, such as cotton, wool, silk, hides, rubber, chemicals, metals, fertilizers, fats, vegetable oils, and some foodstuffs. Principal exports were lumber, hops, malt, beer, sugar, textiles, shoes, machinery and machine tools, iron and steel manufactures, leather and leather goods, earthenware, glass, paper, and furniture. In 1937 exports amounted to \$418 millions and imports to \$384 millions, leaving a favorable balance of \$34 millions.

In 1937 principle EXPORTS (\$ Millions) were:

Metal products	\$100
Textiles	100
Glass	27
Paper	15
Agricultural products	47.

In the same year principle IMPORTS (\$ Millions) were:

Cotton, raw	34.8
Wool, all types	27.9
Machinery, all types	28.3
Non-ferrous metals	18.4
Petroleum products	12.5
Oil seeds	12.3
Hides and skins	17.5
Chemicals	9.9
Fruit and nuts	11.5

THE IMPACT OF WORLD WAR II ON CZECHOSLOVAKIA

For Czechoslovakia World War II started in September 1938. The "Munich Settlement" destroyed the Republic, politically and economically. Thenceforth the "Protectorate" figured as an armament center for the Nazi program of world conquest. All sectors of economic life were converted to war time production. Unconvertible industries were liquidated and substantial quantities of valuable machinery were shipped to Germany for scrap. Chief industries hit were timber, foodstuffs, textile, building and construction. Thus, textile capacity was reduced to 75% of pre-war production and the sugar industry was destroyed although sugar beet crops were increased for production of alcohol.

What follows is an outline picture of the Czechoslovakia which emerged from six years of German occupation and a war which raged from one end of the Republic to the other.

Czechoslovakia was the last country to be liberated. There has, therefore, not been time for a survey of damage done or the country's total essential needs if the basis of normal life is to be restored. However, in late 1944 officials of the Czechoslovak Government estimated relief and rehabilitation import needs for the first twelve peacetime months at \$920 millions. For the first six months the principal items would be:

<u>Commodity</u>	<u>Millions of \$</u>	<u>Thousands of Metric Tons</u>
Food	98	788
Clothing, textiles & footwear	166	188
Medical Supplies	8	4
Agriculture Rehabilitation Supplies	12	187
Industrial Rehabilitation	163	1,261

It should be noted that these figures represent import needs only, needs which it is impossible for the Czechoslovak Government to meet other than by imports. A major disaster for the Czechoslovaks has been the loss of their entire foreign assets and gold holdings. For a long time in the future considerable portions of the national income will have to be devoted to relief and rehabilitation, particularly of a social nature - for orphans, slave laborers, victims of malnutrition, and other victims of nazi vampire economics. Reparation payments from Germany and Hungary cannot be expected for some time.

To repeat, it has not yet been possible to survey the damage to the country's industrial and agricultural capacities. The greatest damage has been done in the last 3 - 4 months when such basic industrial centers as the Skoda works and the industrial concentration at Moravska-Ostrava were severely damaged.

The industrial facilities which remain intact will lack raw materials and will have to be reconverted to peacetime production. This problem is second only to that of transportation, the crux of which is the destruction of railroads and rolling stock during the intense fighting of the last months of the war. Roads have suffered to a lesser extent. The use of water communications has come to a standstill. As urgently needed as repairs are adequate quantities of locos, rolling stock and motor trucks.

For the first six peacetime months the Czechoslovak Government has indicated minimum needs of industrial rehabilitation supplies amounting to 1,261,000 metric tons, the percentage breakdown being: transportation equipment 33%; raw and semi-fabricated materials 63%; and public utilities and industrial equipment 4%.

On the agricultural front it suited the Nazi plans to maintain pre-war production levels. There were, however, significant shifts in types of crop grown, the accent being on industrial crops. The long and hard job of reconverting to normal food crops will be greatly complicated by soil exhaustion and war damage to farm property. Livestock losses have not yet been tabulated but it is known that they are substantial as the retreating German and Hungarian armies killed off the livestock which they could not immediately use for food supplies.

An estimate of meat and dairy production for 1944-45 made in late 1944 compared favorably with 1935-37 yearly averages. Other food production was estimated to continue substantially at pre-war levels. However, these estimates will have to be corrected to take into account damage in the last savage burst of fighting, lack of fertilizers, worn-out agricultural machinery, and disruption through expulsion of German farmers.

Another serious war time loss, hard to measure, has been the damage to Czechoslovak manpower resources. The end of the war found more than a million Czechoslovak nationals displaced, mostly in Germany where they had been working as slave laborers. Many of the returning repatriates will be incapable of productive labor until they have undergone a long period of convalescence. It is believed that most of Czechoslovakia's 375,000 Jews were liquidated by the Nazis. The immediate and long term effects of the closing of technical schools and universities for 5 years are incalculable for a country whose prosperity was so dependent on its cadres of skilled labor.

Official statements have made it clear that two million of Czechoslovakia's three million Germans will be expelled to Germany. The temporary disorganization caused by this migration with its loss of peasants and skilled workers will be more than compensated by political quiet. Czechoslovak authorities have not yet indicated whether or not they will require German manpower for use in reconstruction. Some German prisoners of war are currently being employed as farm labor.

As early as the spring of 1942 approximately 97% of Czechoslovak food commodities were subject to rationing control. Czechoslovak citizens have suffered from a decreased calory consumption as well as a shortage of protein and calcium foods. Food rationing will continue, the major change being the elimination of pro-German and anti-Jewish discrimination. Clothing, footwear, and textiles have been subject to rationing control since 1939 but stocks available for civilians have been exhausted since 1943.

Damage to mines is not known but repeated air attacks on the industrial centers of Bohemia and Moravia leave little doubt

that the coal mines suffered substantial damage. The battle line ebbed and flowed through the heavy industry and hard coal center of Moravska-Ostrava for three months. Until a survey is made it is not possible to know the extent of the damage and the effect on Czechoslovakia's needs.

Damage to dwelling houses has not been as great as in other parts of Europe. The fiercest and most protracted fighting took place in the less densely populated areas, principally Slovakia. The extent of the damage in the heavily populated areas of Western Czechoslovakia is not yet known. The expulsion of some 2,000,000 Germans should provide emergency housing for homeless persons.

Health conditions in Czechoslovakia are extremely bad. Only the fear of epidemics and the necessity of safeguarding the health of the German population inside the country counted with the Nazis. Hospitals, with few exceptions, were taken over for German civilian or military use. Supplies of drugs and medical equipment was completely inadequate; sera for the public were not available. Mal-nutrition and a 12 hour work-day produced an immense increase in stomach disorders and tuberculosis. During the liberation of Prague the Nazis shelled the city hospitals. At the time of the Nazi surrender a series of typhus, typhoid, and diphtheria epidemics were reported. Urgent calls for doctors and medical supplies have been broadcast from the Prague radio. The return of repatriates from the Reich will provide additional epidemic hazards.

Prepared by:
Howard Daniel
Off. of Country Missions
(Central Europe)

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

Handwritten signature

29 May 1945

TO: Frank Weisl
FROM: George Xanthaky *gx.*
SUBJECT: CZECHOSLOVAKIA. Special report due Friday noon,
1 June 1945.

The Office of Country Mission Affairs has been asked to prepare answers to questions 5 and 6 of the O.W.I. questionnaire regarding the needs of liberated Europe.

Will you please prepare the required material for the country named above and have it in my office by Friday noon, 1 June 1945.

A copy of the cover page of the questionnaire and of questions 5 and 6 is attached for your use. The entire questionnaire is available in the Greek Branch, Room 314, Ext. 178.

There will be a staff meeting in my office at 10 a.m. tomorrow, Wednesday, 30 May, to discuss any questions which you may have concerning this report.

Attachment

OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION

May 24, 1945

The President has asked the Office of War Information to inform the American public as to the gravity of the needs of our Allies in liberated Europe and also to inform the people of the liberated areas what this country has done and is continuing to do.

As a first step, working with the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, it will be necessary to compile information on basic facts and policy for the purpose of developing a complete story for the American people and for use abroad.

To that end there follows a list of questions, to which you are requested to supply specific, detailed answers. Some of the questions may not be answerable and some of them may raise problems of administrative policy which should be determined in order to present a coherent report. It is almost as important, however, to be aware of the gaps in the information as to have a knowledge of what information is available. Furthermore, the suggested questions may not cover the problem. We ask that you supply any further specific information which you believe will be helpful, and to return the material not later than May 30, 1945.

The basic plan of these questions is:

First, general policy:

- a) What nations will be assisted?
- b) To what extent will assistance restore their economy?
- c) Why must the United States undertake this work?
- d) What will it cost and how will it be financed?

Second, the scope of the job:

- a) What was the condition of these nations before the war?
- b) What is their condition now?
- c) How much can they contribute to their own rehabilitation?
- d) What help must come from outside?
- e) How will this be apportioned?
- f) What will be the effect upon the United States?

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CONFIDENTIAL

5. What was the condition before the war of the specific countries now requiring assistance in clothing, housing, transportation equipment, industrial output, such raw materials as coal and oil, iron and lumber? How much did they produce? What did they import? Were any of them self-sufficient?

(This question is intended to elicit a picture of prewar conditions in the countries to which assistance now must go. It will not be possible to ask detailed questions on all phases, so that the following questions should be considered as merely suggestive. Any available material over and beyond that specifically requested will be helpful.)

- a) How many men and women were gainfully employed before the war?
In service trades? In agriculture? In mining? In fishing?
In transportation? In industry?
- b) For each country, what was the nature, diversity and value of pre-war industrial plants? What durable goods, consumer goods? Automotive supplies? Construction goods?
- c) For each country, what was the nature and extent of rail, highway, water and airborne transportation? Total of mileage? Vehicles? Facilities?
- d) What was the nature and extent of agricultural production? What foodstuffs? How much acreage? What were sample average acre yields?
- e) What was the nature and extent of power production - hydro-electric, coal, gas and light?
- f) What kinds of mines existed and what was the production, for example, of coal, iron, steel, copper?
- g) What other industries, such as fishing and lumbering, are in each country, and what was their production?

6. What change has war caused in the condition of these nations? How has it affected their ability to take care of themselves on food, clothing, housing, etc., in each of the categories specified above?

(These questions are intended to elicit a picture of conditions in the nations now, and to show how much they are contributing to their own recovery; how much they are dependent upon outside help. Here, too, questions are merely suggestive and supplemental material is requested.)

- a) What are the total needs of the countries which require assistance?
In tonnages and dollar value of goods, clothing, housing, med-

- ical supplies, industrial and transportation equipment, plus any other categories?
- b) ✓ How much of this total need can the respective nations supply for themselves?
 - c) ✓ Which nations require the greatest assistance and what are their specific needs in tonnages and dollar values as in (a) above?
 - d) ✓ To what extent has the industrial capacity of each country been damaged, by industries, such as agriculture, steel, electric plants?
 - e) ✓ What kinds and how much of major industrial machinery are needed for the restoration of industry in each country?
 - f) ✓ What is the estimated manpower in each of the liberated countries? What were losses during the war? How many will be repatriated to each country from among displaced groups? What kind of manpower shortages exist?
 - g) ✓ Will German manpower be used to help restore housing, agriculture and industry, etc., in allied nations? How much German manpower will be needed by each of the Allied countries?
 - h) ✓ What is the condition of the various transportation systems in each of the countries, i.e., rail, highway, waterway? How long will it take to restore them?
 - i) ✓ To what extent have communications -- telephones, telegraph, etc. -- been damaged by war in each country? How long will repairs require and to what extent can they be accomplished by local labor and materials?
 - j) ✓ What is the nature and extent of damage to agriculture in each country? How much acreage must be cleared of "land mines"? How long will this require? Who will clear it?
 - k) ✓ What is the estimated 1945 food production of each country? How much farm machinery and equipment is needed and how much is available in each country? How much fertilizer?
 - l) ✓ To what extent have mines in each country been damaged? What can they produce? How does this compare with the country's needs?
 - m) ✓ What number of dwellings were destroyed or damaged in each country? To what extent can they be rebuilt or repaired by facilities within the country? How many homeless persons require emergency housing? How much such housing can each country provide for itself?
 - n) ✓ What, in general, is the health situation in each country and how great is the need for immediate relief? What is the present incidence of epidemic diseases? What resources are available for protection? How many doctors, hospitals, nurses? What drugs are needed, and how much? What are sanitary conditions?
 - o) ✓ What types of rationing on food, clothing, shoes and textiles, etc. are in effect in each country?
 - p) ✓ What surpluses can the Allies leave in each country to aid rehabilitation?

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

10 June 1944 ✓

MEMORANDUM

TO: ✓ Michail Menshikov
Mary Craig McGeachy
Fred K. Hoehler

FROM: Harry L. Franklin H.L.F.

SUBJECT: Czechoslovakia - Social Problems After
the War --
A statement, by Dr. firi Fischer, London

Transmitted herewith is a summary prepared in the
Central European Branch by Miss Sender on the
statement of Dr. firi Fischer, of the Czechoslovak
Ministry of Social Welfare in London, entitled
Czechoslovakia - Social Problems After the War.

Attachment

RECEIVED
JUN 14 1944

TIME

AAA

Czechoslovakia
10 June 1944

Czechoslovakia

Social Problems After the War

Summary of a statement made by Dr. Firi Fischer, Chief of the Social Reconstruction Department of the Czechoslovak Ministry of Social Welfare in London:—

One cannot think of a mechanical return to the past, but must plan in advance. In this activity there must be a certain order of priorities.

In the first place, care must be taken of youth, women, and persons freed from concentration camps — the soldiers of the home front should be treated at the same level as the soldiers of the army. This implies:

Elimination of all decrees issued by the Germans increasing the hours of labor beyond eight hours and of those which permitted night work for women and youth.

As soon as possible the eight-hour day should be reestablished generally — free labor unions and a unification of the labor unions to be favored.

The shop councils as well as the regional councils and those in the mining districts will be reestablished. During the occupation great changes took place in industry and the mines, all the bigger enterprises having been handed over to the Germans. The labor representation will have to play an important part in the administration of these enterprises.

Another task will be the restitution of the cooperatives and the clean-up from collaborationist elements.

A general cleaning will also be necessary in the public administration and in the social insurance administration. The Germans had improved the latter by increasing the allowances — however, funds were stolen or made worthless by investment in German government bonds.

The social insurance was not only hit by loss of funds but also by the increase of the number of claimants by increase in cases of sickness and accidents. The rise in claims is so considerable that the funds will prove insufficient.

There are many cases not covered by the law — especially those of youth or of older persons who have already exhausted their claims or the cases of persons not insured.

Czechoslovakia -
Social Problems After the War

10 June 1944

Czechoslovakia will have to create an institute for social welfare similar to the British Social Assistance; more sufficient allowances will have to be paid and the whole institution to be freed of the taste of charity.

In a second category of measures the following steps should be envisaged:

A revolution of the structure of the labor market has taken place. The Germans have made a total mobilization of labor including women and youth. Mass transfer of labor into other occupations took place, mostly into less skilled ones.

During the first years of the occupation of Czechoslovakia labor mobilization was made for the needs of their own territory. With the start of the war the deportations began. The number of Czechoslovak workers deported amounts to 900,000 (120,000 Slovaks among them). 50% of Czechoslovak industrial workers are now in Germany — 80-90% of labor youth.

Mr. Ripka has announced that 200,000 Czechs have been interned in concentration camps. Many of them may have lost their skill which will add to the difficulties in economic life.

It will be necessary to repatriate a total of about 1,500,000 Czechoslovak citizens from abroad.

Facing the fact that about twenty million people will have to be repatriated in Europe, one must be aware of the difficulties of the task. Our preparations for repatriation include:

- a. Concentration and Registration: The task will be difficult where the persons are thinly scattered and in bombed regions.
- b. Transportation to their own territory: It will be necessary to estimate the extent of damage to means of transportation, danger of epidemics. A great percentage will start marching home before international action can begin. They will have to pass through a quarantine near the borders.
- c. The last phase will be the re-incorporation of all into peace time life: If we want to continue production we will have to plan carefully and to resettle the workers according to qualification.

It will be necessary to direct the labor market. Every planned national economy must have a planned labor market; — Not only to give a job to everybody, but to utilize all qualifications and skills. The Germans have revolutionized the structure of the population with regard to their jobs.

Czechoslovakia-
Social Problems After the War

10 June 1944

There is need for a broad system of schooling and reschooling. The old methods are no longer sufficient. We must plan vocational institutions to supply the country with skilled labor. The same need arises for professional people, teachers, doctors, scientists, etc.

The Germans have organized a widespread net of labor offices. These had become most powerful and most hated institutions. They cannot be continued in their present form, but we would be demagogues were we not to admit that by giving them a democratic form and organization they could become a useful instrument, especially in the first period after liberation.

Social policy should not only aim at restitution for damage done to the individual, but also preparation of an organization for a better national economy. This requires directing of the labor market, planning of public works, etc.

The best way to achieve the better future order is the voluntary collaboration of all classes.

7. SUDETENLAND

Total Mobilisation in Sudetenland

The Gauleiter and Reichsstatthalter, (Permanent Deputy of Reich Government and Head of Gau Self-Government), Konrad Henlein, in his capacity as Reich Defence Commissioner, has issued a decree to the offices and Authorities of the Reich Gau Sudetenland on the measures of total war effort.....

"I have appointed the following members of the Gau Commission for the Sudetenland:

"The Deputy Reichsstatthalter of the Sudeten Gau, Regierungs - präsident, (Head of Regional Government): Dr. Vogeler;

Deputy Gauleiter Hermann Neuburg;

The Chairman of the Armament Commission, Gau Economic Councillor Wolfgang Richter;

The President of the Gau Economic Chamber, Oberdirektor Anton Kieseewetter;

The Landesbauernführer, (Provincial (civil) Chief of Agriculture) Dipl.-Ing. Franz Stiebitz;

The Gaubmann of the DAF, (Gau Chief of the German Labour Front) Hubert Birke;

The Gaufrauenschaftsleiterin, (Leader of Gau Women's Party) Isabella Pompe;

The Gau Propaganda Leader, Franz Hoeller;

The Armament Inspector of the Armament Inspection IVb;

The President of the Gau Labour Office, Dr. Hans Boening;

The Commanders of the Wehrinspektionen (Defence Inspections).

"I reserve myself the right of appointing further members of the Gau Commission. The decisions made by me within the Gau Commission are final. There is no appeal against the decisions of the Gau Commission.

"The following are members of the Kreis Commissions, (County Borough Commissions):

"The Kreisleiter (Party Representative in Kreis) of the N.S.D.A.P. (National Socialist German Workers' Party) as Leader of the Commission of his Kreis;

The Landrat (Chief mayor);

"The Head of the Labour Office;

The Wehrbezirkskommandeur (Commandant of Army Sub-District);

The Leader of the Kreis Commission has the right to appoint further members. Within the Kreis Commission decisions are to be made by the Kreisleiter. In doubtful cases he is to apply to the Gau Commission for the (final) decision. The chiefs of the authorities and works managers may appeal to the Gau Commission against the decision of the Kreis Commission. The Gau and Kreis Commissions act according to the uniform directives of the Reich Trustee for Total War Effort. The Kreis Commission is also to take orders from me as the Reich Defence Commissioner. The Commissions are entitled to demand information from all authorities and offices.... The formation of local auxiliary commissions which may be of assistance to the Kreisleiter, is permissible.

One of the essential tasks of the Gau and Kreis Kommissions is the re-examination of the UK (reserved persons) cases and the supervision and regulation of the total Arbeitseinsatz, (Direction of Labour)."

(E.H. - Protectorate Press 27 August, 1944).

War Effort Appointment

Honlein has placed Gauwirtschaftsberater (Economic Advisor and Political Representative to Gauleiter) Wolfgang Richter in charge of the total war effort in the Sudetengau and has made him head of the planning and executive committee. Deputy Gauleiter Neuburg has appointed Gauorganisationsleiter (Gau Director of Trade Groups) Georg Wollner to be his permanent Deputy as A.R.P. Inspector.

(E.H. - Protectorate Press 19 August, 1944)

New Ration Cards for "Sudeten Germans"

New ration cards will be issued as from the 68th rationing period, i.e. from October 16th to November 12th alterations having been made in the various age groups. Henceforth the rations will only differ between ordinary consumers over 18 years of age, juveniles from 10 to 18, children from six to 10, small children from three to six, and babies under three years of age.

More beef, veal, and mutton will be available, as more cattle will have to be slaughtered than in previous years, on account of the long drought. It will also be necessary to kill more pigs because of the difficulty of procuring feeding stuffs. This surplus of meat cannot be preserved, and as there is a strained situation in the supply of fats, parts of the fat rations will be replaced by meat.

In the 69th rationing period, consumers will receive on coupon A, 200 g of pork or 160 g of fat pork, instead of 125 g of fat. Moreover, consumers over 10 years of age and persons catered for in public kitchens will receive on coupon B, 250 g of meat instead of 125 g of butter. On coupons C and D for ordinary consumers, and C.D. E and F for juveniles, 125 g of butter will be supplied on each coupon.

The coffee substitute ration will be reduced from 250 g to 100 g except for very heavy workers. As edible oil will only be supplied every second rationing period, it will not be allocated during the 68th period; therefore only cooking fat will be distributed on the margarine coupons.

Owing to the fact that the classification of consumers according to their age has been altered, persons from 14 to 18 years of age will also receive rations of jam and artificial honey. The rations will be either 200 g of jam or 125 g of artificial honey per rationing period. In order to make this increase possible, the rations for children between 10 and 14 years of age have had to be cut. Children from six to 10 years of age will obtain 200 g of jam and 125 g of artificial honey for each rationing period. Children under six years of age receive only 125 g of artificial honey.

(E.H. Slovak Press, 6 October, 1944)

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THE CZECHOSLOVAK REPUBLIC

Reports on and Plans for the

LIBERATED TERRITORY

with Supplementary Information on
Political, Economic and Social Conditions
in the

PROTECTORATE and SLOVAKIA

from Enemy-Controlled Sources

Covering the period September 1944 to February 1945

The following are the Sources of Information from which
the actual text has been quoted throughout:

B.B.C. Daily Digest of World Broadcasts; Central European
Observer; Czechoslovak News Letter; E.H. News Digest;
London Press; News Flashes from Czechoslovakia under Nazi
Domination; New Yorske Listy; Official Sources.

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pronunciation purposes only, have been omitted from the text.

LIBERATED CZECHOSLOVAKIA
ADMINISTRATION

CZECHOSLOVAKIA PLANS FOR HER FUTURE ADMINISTRATION

NATIONAL STATE

The structure of the Czechoslovak Republic after the war is planned to be that of a National State, based on decentralisation into four provinces: Bohemia, Moravia, Slovakia and Sub-Carpathian Ukraine. It is suggested that each of the provinces will have some kind of local self-government, with a provincial Diet.

Slovaks

The Slovaks will therefore be entitled to handle their affairs and they will be free to determine which departments they will control themselves, in the frame of their provincial rights, and which are to be left to the authority of the Central Government. It is expected that foreign affairs, defence, finance and economics will be unified and handled by the Central Government....

Sudetens

As to the German population of the Sudetenland, there is no intention of allowing them to remain as a large political body inside the Czechoslovak State. It is expected that the majority of the three million or so Sudetendeutsche will be transferred to Germany and only a minority of them will remain as citizens of Czechoslovakia. But no special minority rights will be granted to those that remain.

Political
Parties

Changes in the political structure inside Czechoslovakia are to be expected. It may well be assumed that the Communists, together with the three Socialist groups, will obtain a slight majority in the future Parliament. They are most likely to form one political bloc.

The other parties will probably be the same as before: the Catholic Party, the Peasant Party and the National Democratic Party. The period of the Hacha régime did not affect the pre-war parties at all. None of them collaborated as a party, although a few individual politicians, especially in the Peasant Party, became collaborationists. Only the Hlinka Party of the Slovaks, under the leadership of Tiso, has so bad a record of collaboration with the Germans as to cause it, most probably, to be wiped out altogether. 25 September, 1944.

DECREE FOR PROVISIONAL NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND LOCAL ADMINISTRATION †

On the motion of the Czechoslovak Cabinet the President of Czechoslovakia signed on 4 December a Constitutional Decree regarding the National Committees and a Provisional National Assembly. This Decree assigns the whole of local administration in the provinces, districts and communes to lay organs elected by the people, and thus establishes the fullest measure of self-government throughout the whole administrative structure of the Republic. Although it is only

† For Local Administration see Appendix I.

intended for a transitional period and leaves the final settlement to Parliament after it shall have been constitutionally elected, it initiates a new era in Czechoslovak local government. 12 January, 1945.

LOCAL NATIONAL COMMITTEES IN SLOVAKIA

Local National Committees are being set up in the liberated territories of Czechoslovakia in the wake of the liberating Red Army, according to reports from Southern Slovakia. The local committees are elected at mass meetings to elect the District National Committee. In the border districts with a mixed Slovak and Hungarian population only Slovak committees are elected, in conformity with instructions from the Czechoslovak Government in London.

The Committees are working under the authority of the Slovak National Council, whose delegates during their recent stay in London and Moscow, have reached agreement on the administration of the liberated parts of Slovakia on behalf of the Czechoslovak Government.

Though full-scale mobilisation for the reconstituted Czechoslovak Army is for technical reasons not yet possible in all the newly freed areas, volunteers are registering in great numbers anxious to be sent to the colours as soon as possible.

Transport Difficulties

As in Eastern Slovakia, roads, bridges and railway lines in the South are badly damaged but quickly repaired by the technical detachments of the Red Army.

Railway waggons, engines and most of the station equipment have been taken away by the retreating Germans.

Resistance to Evacuation

Appeal to Officials The Slovak National Council has appealed to the population to stay put and resist German evacuation of civilians, especially of doctors, technicians, officials and veterinary surgeons. In its appeal the National Council says that the Germans are organising evacuation to prevent men from entering the army and the population from helping the Red Army and also any reconstruction of the liberated parts.

Experience shows that the citizen evading evacuation can save his belongings from the German bandits and from irresponsible elements. Everybody must know, the appeal continues, that whoever helps the Germans to carry out the evacuation will be treated as a war criminal. Cases are known where the Germans, through the help of such traitors, have been able to depopulate almost completely such places as Michalovce and Humenne. Patriotic citizens realise that their duty is to prevent evacuation by sabotage of communications, by tearing down notices, by influencing people aiding evacuation, even by threatening them with violence or by direct removal of evacuation organisers.

The National Council declares collaboration with German evacuation punishable for all officials, directors of industrial establishments, banks, and agricultural concerns who obey the Bratislava orders and hand over official documents, equipment, deposits, machinery, instruments and goods.

19 January, 1945.

LONDON DELEGATION TO LIBERATED CZECHOSLOVAKIA LEAVES FOR THE EAST

The delegates of the Czechoslovak Government, Minister F. Namec and General R. Viest, accompanied by several departmental officials, left London during the latter part of August in order to reach liberated Czechoslovakian territory via the Soviet Union.

Delegation from State Council

A delegation from the State Council has been constituted as a political advisory body composed of Frantisek Hala, Bohumil Lausman, Frantisek Uhlir, and Josef Valo. General Nizborsky, Dr. Prokop, and Dr. Tina from the President's chancery are accompanying them. The youngest member of the State Council, Fedor Hodza, as the fifth in the advisory committee, will follow them with the next transport of departmental officials and welfare workers and Dr. Isidore Rosenberg, a special official, who has been entrusted with the task of dealing with all questions related to the rehabilitation of the Jews in liberated Czechoslovakia.

The delegation arrived in Moscow on 25 August, and was met at the aerodrome by Mr. Zorin (Chief of the Central European Section of the Commissariat of Foreign Affairs), Mr. Fomin (Chief of the Diplomatic Protocol), General Yevstigneyev (Chief of the Foreign Secretariat of the Commissariat of Defence), Mr. Fierlinger (Czechoslovak Ambassador for the U.S.S.R.), General Piker (Head of the Czechoslovak Military Mission), with the Embassy Staff and Councillor Vrbensky (member of the State Council) and Messrs. Gottwald, Sverma and Kopecky (members of the Czechoslovak Parliament). After a short stay in the Soviet capital, the delegation will proceed towards the frontiers of Czechoslovakia.

4 September, 1944.

Delegates from Free Slovakia in London

Report on Situation

The Czechoslovak Press Bureau reported, on 17 October, that three members of the Banska Bystrica Central Slovak National Council, representing the Socialist and non-Socialist party blocs and the Army, arrived in London on 13 October. They were received by President Benes and gave him a thorough report on the political and military situation. In an extraordinary cabinet meeting held on 16 October they repeated the report and interpreted the views of the Slovakian population.

Slovak National Council

The Slovak National Council in Banska Bystrica is the central body directing the uprising of the Slovakian people and army against the German and Hungarian aggressors. It consists of fifty members, half of whom belong to the United Labour bloc, including Social Democrats, Communists, and Czechoslovak Socialists; the other half includes representatives of the Slovak National Party (Razus) and of the Agrarian Party.

Members of Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is composed of the following members: V. Pauliny (National Party), Finance; Jan Ursiny (Agrarian), Economy; Dr. Josef Letrich (Agrarian), Popular Enlightenment; Dr. Husak (Communist) Internal Affairs; Dr. Josef Styka (Czechoslovak Socialist), Transportation and Public Works; Jozef Soltes (Social Democrat), Justice; Milos (Non-partisan), Information.

This Committee is presided over by one representative of the Labour and non-Labour bloc.

30 October, 1944.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND RELATIONS

FRANCO-CZECHOSLOVAKIAN ALLIANCE

On the eve of the liberation of Paris the renewal of the Franco-Czechoslovakian Alliance was concluded. It was signed in London, on 22 August, as a further step in the elimination of the Munich Pact.

The declaration reads as follows:

"While again declaring that they consider the Munich Treaty with all its consequences as null and void, the Czechoslovak Government and the Provisional Government of the French Republic, state that relations between the two States have been re-established to the same extent as they existed before signature of that Treaty. In confirming that traditional policy of friendship and alliance which unites them and their common attachment to the principles of liberty and independence and which has been strengthened by the struggle against the common enemy, the Czechoslovak Government and the French Government have agreed that at the appropriate time such modifications and amendments be carried out in the existing agreements as will be considered necessary in order that collaboration between Czechoslovakia and France in the sphere of general security and reconstruction of Europe and the world are rendered more effective." Msgr. Jan Sramek and Minister Jan Masaryk signed for Czechoslovakia - General De Gaulle and Minister Dejean for France.

4 September, 1944.

REPATRIATION PACT BETWEEN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND FRANCE

On 24 November an agreement was signed by Jan Masaryk, Foreign Minister of the Czechoslovak Government and the French Charge d'Affaires to the Czechoslovak Government providing for the repatriation of the citizens of their respective countries after the war.

4 December, 1944.

THE CZECHOSLOVAK LEGATION IN PARIS

The Czechoslovak Legation building in Paris is returning to its proper use. Some of the former staff of the Legation have returned. The secretary M. Steigerhof, is now a counsellor; the first secretary, Dr. Nosek, has been appointed Minister and occupies the old office.

2 February, 1945.

ECONOMIC AGREEMENT BETWEEN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND NORWAY

Norwegian sea products will be exchanged for Czechoslovak industrial commodities after the war under the terms of an economic agreement signed in London, 8 September, by the Foreign Ministers of both exile governments.

25 September, 1944.

RECOGNITION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA BY TURKEY

On 5 September the Government of the Turkish Republic renewed diplomatic relations with the Republic of Czechoslovakia. The official announcement was made simultaneously in Ankara and London, 18 September, 1944.

CHINESE AMBASSADOR TO CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The first Chinese Ambassador to Czechoslovakia, Qunsz King, presented his credentials to President Benes in London on 11 October, conveying to the President Chiang Kai Shek's message of cordial respects and good wishes.

for the early restoration of the great Czechoslovakian republic. Dr. Benes, in his reply, expressed pleasure that the diplomatic ministers have been mutually elevated to the rank of Ambassadors. 13 November, 1944.

ALLIED ARMISTICE WITH HUNGARY

The Czechoslovak Ambassador to Moscow, Mr. Zdenek Fierlinger, was present at the signature of the Allied armistice with Hungary. The armistice provides for the restitution by Hungary of the territory gained by her under the Vienna Award.

In the Slovak areas affected by this provision, Slovak National Committees are already at work on the resettlement of the land.

26 January, 1945.

RECOGNITION OF THE POLISH PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT

The Czechoslovak Press Bureau communicated that the Czechoslovak Government, at their meeting on 30 January, 1945, unanimously decided to recognise the Polish Provisional Government in Warsaw and to enter into diplomatic relations with it.

2 February, 1945.

On 31 January, the Czechoslovak Ambassador in Moscow, Mr. Zdenek Fierlinger, informed the Polish Ambassador there, Mr. M. Modzelewski, that his Government recognised the Polish Provisional Government (the "Lublin Government") and wished to enter into diplomatic relations with it.

Mr. Modzelewski replied that he had informed his Government and that he had been asked to inform the Czechoslovak Ambassador that the Provisional Government recognised the Czechoslovak Government in London and wished also to open diplomatic relations.

9 February, 1945.

LUBLIN ENVOY APPOINTED

The Czechoslovak Government following its recognition of the Lublin Administration in Poland, has appointed its envoy to Lublin. He is M. Heyret who before the war was Press Attaché to the Czechoslovak Legation in Warsaw and up to now has edited the "Central European Observer", published in London.

4 February, 1945.

LONDON POLISH GOVERNMENT

The Polish Government in London has severed relations with the Czech Government.

2 February, 1945.

REPATRIATION AGREEMENT WITH NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT

The Czechoslovak and Netherlands Governments have completed an agreement designed to facilitate and expedite the mutual repatriation of refugees and other displaced persons. The two Governments agree to receive and repatriate each other's subjects and to treat them, while they await repatriation, on a basis of equality with their own nationals. Each Government will admit a mission from the other to organize the return of refugees, and will accord it the necessary help together with free customs entry and transport facilities. 9 February, 1945.

A P P O I N T M E N T S

New Czechoslovakian Minister of Commerce

By a decree published on 3 August, the President, Mr. Eduard Benes, appointed Mr. Vaclav Majer, as a member of the State Council to be Minister of Commerce and Industry. Majer was sworn in on 4 August. Simultaneously with the decree of 3 August, the President retained Frantisek Nemed as Minister of Reconstruction and released him from the office of Minister of Commerce and Industry. 4 September, 1944.

Mr. Vaclav Majer, Minister of Commerce, has been entrusted with the temporary administration of the Ministry of Reconstruction. The Minister of Reconstruction, Mr. Nemed, is the Government's delegate to the liberated territories of Czechoslovakia and is at present in Moscow on his way to take up this appointment.

Dr. Z. Prochazka, Chief of the Legal Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has been promoted to ministerial rank. 6 October, 1944.

Netherlands

Mr. Karel Erban, hitherto Charge d'Affaires, has been appointed Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary to the Royal Netherlands Government. 6 October, 1944.

United States

Lt.-Com. Norman D. Deuel has been appointed United States Assistant Naval Attaché and Assistant Naval Attaché for Air to the Czechoslovak Government.

The Czechoslovak Press Bureau announced, on 17 October, that Capt. Edmond Kennedy was appointed Assistant Air Attaché, and Livingston Satterthwaite, Civil Flying Attaché to become members of the staff of the United States Ambassador to Czechoslovakia. 6 November, 1944.

U.S. Ambassador for Czech Government in London

Mr. Laurence A. Steinhardt, at present U.S. Ambassador to Turkey has been nominated by President Roosevelt as U.S. Ambassador to the Czechoslovak Government in London. 26 January, 1945.

U.S. Vice-Consul to Prague

Miss Susannah Mirick has been appointed United States Vice-Consul in Prague. She is attached to the U.S. Embassy to Czechoslovakia in London until she can take over her new appointment. This is the first nomination of a consular official to Prague. 16 February, 1945.

U.S.S.R.

Mr. A. Malyshov has been appointed third secretary of the Embassy of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the Government of the Czechoslovak Republic. 26 January, 1945.

F I N A N C E

Czechoslovakia and Monetary Conference

Dr. Ladislav Feierabend, Minister of Finance of the Czechoslovak Government, Chairman of the Czechoslovak Delegation to the United Nations Monetary and Financial Conference, Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, says, in an article written for the Mexican magazine "El Economista", on the Czechoslovakian attitude towards the institutions established at Bretton Woods:

Imports

"I fear that one day, when we return to our homeland, we shall find our factories and our households robbed and pillaged to a considerable degree. We will be needing help in order to start anew. Besides the assistance which we will receive from UNRRA, we will have to import machinery, raw materials and other essential commodities in an effort to feed, clothe and productively employ our population and inspire in it the hope of a rising standard of living. Even though we should like to compensate all this with the proceeds of our labour, we will not be able to start exporting immediately. We will be - contrary to our past - for several years a country with a passive balance of payment.

Currency

This will be the period when the assistance, which will be given to us by the newly created institutions - namely, the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development, will be most appreciated. The International Monetary Fund will accept our currency at the parity which will be agreed upon and will supply us with foreign currencies to the amount determined by its constitution. By so doing, it will eliminate fluctuations in the rate of exchange of our currency, which would certainly develop if the law of supply and demand would have its free course. Thus it will contribute to the stability of our new Czechoslovakian Koruna.

International monetary stability can hardly be achieved without an adequate solution of the problem of long-term credits, the fluid and satisfactory evolution of which can, in turn, be assured only by general stability of currencies. This is the reason why the Czechoslovakian Delegation supported so strongly the establishment of the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development. Moreover, owing to the fact that our country was entirely occupied before the actual shooting began, the Germans succeeded in liquidating, for their benefit, nearly all our assets abroad emanating from our active trade balance. And because we had neither colonies, shipping, nor investments outside continental Europe, we have practically no economic assets in friendly free countries. We will be obliged to begin to set our house in order with whatever assets we will be able to obtain from abroad in order to import raw materials, capital goods, and other instruments without which we would be unable to offer employment to our citizens and assure them of a decent standard of living. The reconstruction loans which will be made available for us by the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development will enable us to overcome the passive balance of payment without having to introduce drastic measures curtailing our imports, so harmful to the orderly development of international trade." 11 September, 1944.

No foreign
Assets

Reconstruc-
tion Loans

Initial Cost of Reconstruction

The cost of reconstruction in Czechoslovakia will be £150,000,000 in the first year of liberation. The sum of £30,000,000 will be needed for foodstuffs, agriculture and medical supplies, and approximately £120,000,000 for the rehabilitation of industry.

According to official Czechoslovak circles, only between 10 and 25 per cent of the entire requirements will be supplied by UNRRA. For the remainder the Czechoslovak Government will have to rely on credits.

13 September, 1944.

Czechoslovakia claims stolen gold

The Czechoslovakian Government notified Allied and neutral Governments, on 18 August, that it does not and will not recognise the transference of any title to looted gold which the Axis, at any time, has held or may yet hold or has disposed of in world markets. Like the Governments of the United States, Great Britain and the U.S.S.R., the Czechoslovakian Government further declares that it will be their policy not to buy any gold from any country which has not broken relations with the Axis unless and until they are fully satisfied that such gold was not acquired directly or indirectly from the Axis Powers or is not gold which any such country has been or is enabled to release as a result of the acquisition of the gold directly or indirectly from the Axis powers.

4 September, 1944.

Financing German Occupation

Slovakia's financial position is becoming catastrophic owing to the burden of financing the German occupation. The original agreement was that the Bratislava Government should pay 500 million crowns monthly. Now the weekly contribution amounts to 400 million crowns. This is pure inflation, being covered by short-term Government bills discounted by the Slovak National Bank. The present indebtedness of the Government to the National Bank in short-term bills alone is 1,500 million crowns. Banking institutions are compelled to buy Government bonds and bills.

26 January, 1945.

INFORMATION FROM ENEMY-CONTROLLED SOURCES

ADMINISTRATION

PROTECTORATE

APPOINTMENTS

New Chief of Supreme Court in Brno

The Minister of Justice, Dr. Krejci, accompanied by Ministerial Councillor Krieser, representing the German Minister of State (K.H. Frank) yesterday introduced Dr. Theodor Nussbaum into the office of President of the Supreme Court in Brno, to which the latter had been appointed, recently by the State President.

(E.H. - Protectorate Home Service, 22 November, 1944)

New Head of Protectorate Government: Richard Bienert

A change has occurred in the Head of the Protectorate Government for Bohemia-Moravia since Prof. Dr. Jaroslav Krejci, Minister of Justice and former Premier, requested President Hacha to relieve him of his post so that he could devote all his time to his tasks as Minister of Justice.

Hacha conformed with this request and commissioned Richard Bienert, Minister of the Interior, to become Head of the Government. Bienert will continue to remain Minister of the Interior. At the same time Hacha has commissioned Minister Bienert to deputise for him in case he (Hacha) should be prevented from officiating. The same function had previously been given to Prof. Dr. Krejci.

Richard Bienert was born in 1881, and comes from a Prague family of Czech Civil Servants. He entered the Prague Police Administration and joined its Central Office during the First World War. On 28 October, 1918, he took over as Police President from the German Police President Government Counsellor (Hofrat) Kunz. In December, 1925, he left the Police at his own request and became Vice-President of the Provincial Administration (Landesvizepraesident). In 1939, he was appointed District President. When the Krejci Government was formed on 9 January 1942, Bienert was appointed Minister of the Interior and in the following March he became the Minister President's Deputy.

(B.B.C. - Protectorate Press, 19 January, 1945)

Women Police

Physical Culture for Female Police Recruits

At the Reich Sports School for the SS and Police in Prague, a number of women criminal police officer recruits, who are now in Prague for a long training period, are also being given sports training. An experienced woman teacher of the NS (National Solidarity) League for Physical Culture is in charge of it.

(E.H. - D.N.B., 10 November, 1944)

SLOVAKIA

APPOINTMENTS

Members of Slovak Defence Council

The President of the Republic, by decision of 8 November, 1944, in accordance with Par. 10 of law No. 131/36, appointed the following members of the Government, members of Supreme State Defence Council: Dr. Pruzinsky, Minister of Finance; Hassik, Minister of National Defence; Dr. Medricky, Minister of Economics; Ing. Lednar, Minister of Transport and Public Works; and Dr. Ondruska, Chairman of the NUZ.

New District Chief of Kremnica

Karol Bodul'a has been appointed district chief of Kremnica.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 29 November, 1944)

Government District Commissioners Appointed

The Slovak Government has appointed Government Commissioners as heads of administrative Departments for territories which have difficulty in maintaining contact with the Central Administration. The Mayor of Presov, Sabol-Palko, has been appointed Government Commissioner to the districts of Saris-Zemplen, Poprad, Kezmarok, Gelnica, Levoca (two names indistinct). Kniha, Secretary of the Hlinka Party of Tatra county, has been appointed Government Commissioner for other areas in that district.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, 7 October, 1944)

Powers of New Government Delegates

The Government of the Slovak Republic has appointed Delegates for the Saris-Zemplin, Tatra and Hron districts. The Government delegate for eastern Slovakia, Anton Sabol-Palko, Mayor of Presov, explaining to a STK (Slovak Press Bureau) representative the delegates' tasks, said: "The Government Delegates' work has a wider scope and is more important than the function of a former Minister for the Administration of Slovakia. Within the existing law he is entitled to do everything to ensure public order. Limited only by the directions given him by the Government, he is entitled to acts otherwise coming into the scope of Ministers or other Public Officials. He is responsible to the Government, but his power does not go beyond the Minister's power. Ministers and representatives of other Central Authorities are entitled to give directives and instructions. In his district the Government's delegate holds the highest rank among Civil Servants and public employees."

(E.H. - Slovak Home Service, 15 November, 1944)

Government Plenipotentiary for Hron District

By a Government decree, Dr. Jan Durcansky has been appointed Government Plenipotentiary for the Hron district. Durcansky began his work for the political and administrative reconstruction of the district immediately after the liberation of Banska Bystrica.

(E.H. - Slovak Home Service, 11 November, 1944)

Bratislava's New Municipal Chief

The Minister of the Interior appointed Main Councillor of Public Administration, Dr. Anton Vasak, Head of Bratislava Town Administration. Ministerial Councillor Dr. Jan Novak, hitherto Head of Bratislava Town to the Government Praesidium.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, 7 November, 1944)

Trencin's New Mayor

The Mayor of Trencin, Dr. Jan Zatko, has resigned and Stefan Markovic has been appointed his successor.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, 16 February, 1945)

Changes in the Sudeten NSDAP

The Kreisleiter of Chomutov, Alfred Malcher, has been assigned a special task which necessitates his temporary absence from Chomutov. Landesgruppenleiter of the A.O. (Foreign Organisation) of the NSDAP (National Socialist Workers' Party) Karl Wilhelm Hubl, has been appointed Kriegskreisleiter of Chomutov. The Kreisleiter of Toplicenov, Hubert Pfeifer, who is joining the colours, is being replaced by Ludwig Prachtl.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 12 November, 1944)

Henlein's Executive Staff for Opava

Henlein has appointed the following (Executive) Staff for the Regierungsbezirk of Opava: Chief of (the Executive) Staff, Deputy Gauleiter Hermann Neuburg. For the international administration, Regierungspräsident Edler von der Planitz.

For supplies and agriculture, Deputy Chief of the Landesernährungsamt Franz Nitsch.

For questions of the NSB Board for refugee transports, Bereichsleiter Rudolf Schrepfer.

For economic questions, the Chief of the Gau Economic Chamber (Gauwirtschaftskammer) Oberdirektor Anton Kieseewetter.

For armament industry, the Commander of Rüstungskommando Lt. Col. Sussmuth. For problems of the Volkssturm, Gaustabsführer S.S. Obergruppenführer Franz May.

For problems of the Police, the Chief of the Aussentelle des Kommandeurs der Sicherheitspolizei, SS-Sturmabführer Grauel.

For questions concerning Propaganda, Gaupropagandaleiter, Franz Hüller.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 30 January, 1945)

SECURITY AND POLICE

Registration of Civilians: Confirmation of Identity Papers

The Official Gazette of the Ministry of the Interior contains regulations concerning the cancellation and confirmation of certificates of citizenship and identity papers with photographs. By this decree all certificates of citizenship and identity papers become invalid on 15 December or on 31 December in Bratislava. Certificates and identity papers previously issued can be considered valid personal credentials after these mentioned dates only if they are adequately confirmed. Identity cards must carry the words "Identity confirmed", with the date and the stamp and signature of the official in charge of the issuing authority. Confirmation will be granted by the competent district, police and notary authorities at the personal request of applicants, free of charge and stamp duties. Papers of evacuated persons will be confirmed by the competent authorities at their new residence; their identity must be verified by a certificate of citizenship, certificate of domicile, certificate of baptism or military papers, or by at least two reliable witnesses.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, 5 December, 1944)

Security Measures: Hlinka Guard

The Minister of National Defence in Slovakia, Hassik, has appointed the Chief of the Hlinka Guard, Otomar Kubala, as Head of the State Security HQ. It has been learnt that the entire security organisation of Slovakia, which failed in a large measure during the rebellion in central Slovakia, will have to be reorganised. The security will see to it that well-tried members of the Hlinka Guard and Hlinka Youth are employed.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 10 November, 1944)

New C.-in-C. of Gendarmerie

The President has appointed the Colonel of Gendarmerie, Timos Istok, to be C.-in-C. of Gendarmerie vice Col. Eduard Benko, recalled.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, 15 November, 1944)

New Chief of Opava Police

Walter Schuster was installed as Chief Constable of Opava, on 4 December. Schuster was a teacher in the eastern Sudeten territory.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 5 December, 1944)

New Police Headquarters in Zilina

The Government has decided to set up a Police directorate (Polizeidirektion) in Zilina in place of the Police office (Polizeiamt) as from 1 December.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 6 December, 1944)

New Police H.Q. at Banska Bystrica

The Slovak Government has decided that a State Police branch will be established in Banska Bystrica as from 1 January.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 11 January, 1945)

Customs Police Militarised

In accordance with the provisions of the statute-book, President Tiso has ordered that the Customs Police, during the present state of emergency, be incorporated in the Armed Services. They will continue to perform their own special tasks under the orders of the Customs Police authorities.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, 22 January, 1945)

Trencin's State Police Office

The Government established a State Police Office in Trencin, which began its activities on 16 January.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, 22 January, 1945)

ARMED FORCES

Armed Forces and Action Squads under Military Discipline

The Slovak Bureau reports: The Action Squads are part of the Slovak Armed Forces and covered by the regulations of both Slovak and international military law. Their members are under the jurisdiction of Military Courts and military discipline. The legal basis for the incorporation of these detachments into the Slovak Armed Forces is the Order issued by the President of the Republic who in accordance with paragraph 26, of the Armed Forces Act, ordered that the members of the Hlinka Guards, the Hlinka Youth and the Slovak Labour Service, should become part of the Slovak Armed Forces. The C.-in-C. of the Action Squads is Otomar Kubala, Chief of Staff of the Hlinka Guards.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, 26 December, 1944)

Hlinka Action Units Incorporated in Armed Forces

Bratislava: The action units of the Hlinka Guard, which have given an excellent account of themselves in the fight against bandits have been incorporated in the Slovak Armed Forces. Kubala, Chief of the Hlinka Guard, is C.-in-C. of the action units.

(B.B.C. - D.N.B., 28 January, 1945)

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND RELATIONS

New Addresses of Liaison Offices for Workers

Czech Workers' Offices in Western Districts of Reich

Comrades working in the western districts of the Reich are hereby notified that a Liaison Office for workers from Bohemia-Moravia has been established for the districts of Hesse-Nassau and Mosel. Comrade Mrtina will be in charge. The address: Boehmisch-Maehrische Verbindungsstelle, Schwerte in Westphalen, Gauverwaltung der WAS. All camp officials should immediately send their addresses to the head of this office.

The Liaison Office for Bohemia and Moravia in Dresden announces that all camp and factory officers are to meet each Tuesday following the 1st and 15th of each month. Meetings will be held at the Beim Reichsapfel Inn, Dresden, A467 Schweizerstrasse.

(B.B.C. - Protectorate Home Service, 20 November, 1944)

Bohemian-Moravian Office in Magdeburg

The new address of the Bohemian-Moravian Liaison Office in the Magdeburg Gau is Magdeburg-Wilhelmstadt, Kaiser Friedrich Strasse, Landesversicherungsanstalt.

Bohemian-Moravian Office in Nuremberg

Comrades in Nuremberg Gau who recently wrote to the Bohemian-Moravian office in Nuremberg, should repeat their questions to the new address: Nuremberg, Pestalozzi Strasse 16.

Breslau Liaison Office Transferred to Goerlitz

The Bohemian-Moravian Liaison Office at Breslau now has its offices in Goerlitz, in the house of the District Administration of the German Labour Front.

Weimar Liaison Office for Czechs

The Bohemian-Moravian Gau Liaison Office in Weimar has changed its office hours. It will now be open for our comrades in Weimar and its neighbourhood on weekdays from 07.30 to 16.30 and on Saturdays from 07.30 to 12.30.

(B.B.C. - Protectorate Home Service, January, 1945)

Foreign Trade

Slovak-Danish Trade Agreement Extended

Report from Bratislava: The Slovak-Danish Trade Agreement has been extended for another eight months. Exchange of goods between these countries has recently increased. In 1943 the turnover amounted to about Ks 30,000,000.

(E.H. - Slovak Home Service, in German for Europe,
18 November, 1944)

INFORMATION FROM ENEMY-CONTROLLED SOURCES

ADMINISTRATION

FINANCE

PROTECTORATE

The Board for Economic Relief: Fund for Closed-Down Enterprises

Dr. Minar, the head of the "Kuratorium des Fonds der Gemeinschaftshilfe der Wirtschaft" has published a report on the activities of the "Kuratorium" in 1943. The Fund was established on 22 July, 1942, for the benefit of the owners of enterprises which had been closed down in connection with the restrictions on economic life. To such owners subsidies were to be paid by the Fund if the enterprise in question was considered to be worth being maintained from a national-economic point of view.

The enterprises which are allowed to continue their work are therefore charged with the expenditure (watchmen's wages, rent, etc.) incurred by the maintenance of the enterprises closed down. As, however, the credits of closed down enterprises also had to be taken into account, the Fund has also undertaken to pay for those enterprises the amounts necessary for maintaining their financial independence, both as regards their loans and the payment of their insurance policies.

Insurance
Policies

This makes it necessary for the banks and insurance companies also to take part in the Gemeinschaftshilfe, and it is a gratifying proof of solidarity, that in 1943 the banks contributed as much as Kc 13,5 million and in 1944 Kc 12 million; the insurance companies' contributions amounted to Kc 4 million. (No reference is made to the date of payment by the latter companies.)

During 1943, industry refrained from accepting subsidies from the banks and insurance companies in favour of trade and the crafts. In 1944, however, industry will be compelled to claim subsidies, while the tourist trade (i.e. hotels and spas) can manage without subsidies.

Industrial
Enterprises

In 1942, the restrictive measures only affected industrial enterprises and consequently only the Central Association of Industry obtained subsidies from the Gemeinschaftshilfe. Altogether, 554 subsidies, amounting to Kc 20.7 million were granted, and 48 applications refused.

In 1943, the Fund granted first an advance equal to 80% of the sums paid in 1942, if the enterprises in question were themselves unable to procure the money needed, or if there were no profits from other factories belonging to the same concern which continued to work. However, the applications were thoroughly examined and 539 of the firms which had obtained subsidies in 1942 again made applications in 1943. Moreover, 180 firms which were closed in 1942 and 92 firms which were closed in 1943 applied for subsidies.

Personal
Allowances

Apart from the enterprises which are considered "worth being maintained from a national-economic point of view", the Minister of Economics and Labour agreed to a proposal by the directors of the Fund, according to which subsidies may also be paid to owners of enterprises who are normally not entitled to claim them, but who are no longer able to work owing to their old age, or for health reasons. Thus up to 27 July, 1944, 44 owners of closed enterprises received personal allowances totalling Kc 729,000 as they had no other source of income.

(E.H. - Protectorate Press, 4 November, 1944.)

BANKING

Bank Cover

A Government decree has made changes in the regulations governing the note cover of the Slovak National Bank. Apart from gold and foreign currency, securities with gold cover, bills of exchange, cheques, other securities, collateral certificates and loans on collateral securities (Warenpfandscheine und Anleihen auf Faustpfände) may be used as cover.

It is ruled that credits must be granted to the State by way of current accounts or by treasury bonds due in three months. The maximum of credits to be granted to the State free of interest has been fixed at Ks 250,000,000. Previously the maximum was Ks 100,000,000.

(E.H. - DNB - for Europe, 8 December, 1944)

100 Kc Notes to be Withdrawn

The green Kc 100 notes, type III, dated 10 January, 1931, are being withdrawn. They cease to be legal tender as from 31 October and may be exchanged by all branches of the National Bank until 31 January, 1945, by other banks and post offices until 20th January, 1945, and by the main branch of the National Bank up to 28 February, 1945.

(E.H. - Völkischer Beobachter (Niederdonauer Column) 3 November, 1944)

Banknotes: New Issue

The latest issue of the "Official Gazette" contains an announcement by the Minister of Finance, dated 15 January, about the issue of Kc 50 Banknotes dated 25 September, 1944.

(B.B.C. - Protectorate Home Service, 22 January, 1945)

New KR 100 Notes

Bratislava: The Slovak National bank has just issued new KR 100 notes.

(B.B.C. - German Telegraph Service, 27 January, 1945)

State Budget

Bratislava: The Slovak State budget for 1945 shows an estimated expenditure of KR 4,200,000,000, against KR 3,700,000 last year, and an estimated revenue of KR 3,300,000,000, against KR 3,100,000,000. Of the expenditure, KR 750,000,000, against KR 1,200,000,000, is earmarked for investments. The budget of the State enterprises shows KR 3,800,000,000 revenue and KR 2,800,000,000 expenditure.

(B.B.C. - G.T.S., 13 January, 1945)

Increased State Credits

The Slovak Minister of Finance was empowered by Government Decree to raise, by means of credit operations, funds to meet liabilities resulting from international payments and the relevant international agreements.

The Minister of Finance has issued 3% exchequer bills of the Slovak Republic totalling Ks 600,000,000; they are bearer securities and are issued at a nominal value of Ks 1,000, Ks 50,000 and Ks 100,000. Every security has ten coupons. Interest on exchequer bills will be payable in arrears on 16 June and 16 January. The exchequer bills have to be redeemed by a sinking fund by 16 January, 1949.

(E.H. - D.N.B., 13 December, 1944)

LIBERATED CZECHOSLOVAKIA
ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

NAZI COLONISATION

The clearance of an agricultural area of Bohemia by the Germans, and the German plan to turn it into a Nazi colony, was described last week in a Czechoslovak broadcast from London, which depicted how in November, 1942, the Germans started building a training centre for the Waffen SS in the area of Benesov in Central Bohemia. This area is bordered on the west by the river Vltava, in the north by the river Sazava, in the east by the highway Prague-Benesov-Votice, and in the south by a line running east to west through the locality of Sedlcany. The commander is SS Oberfuehrer Karrasch, former president of the police in Breslau and deputy SS Commander in the Protectorate.

Construction of Waffen SS Training Centre

With the construction of this Waffen SS centre there went on an evacuation of the Czech inhabitants. The evacuation was controlled by the Antsgruppe W. department of the chief administrative and economic office of the SS. The chief of this department is SS Gruppenfuehrer August Frank.

Mass Removal of Czech Inhabitants

The aim of this mass removal of the Czech inhabitants from this wholly Czech region of Central Bohemia was not only to remove the untrustworthy element from the area of the training centre, but also to colonise those Czech areas with members of the SS. For that purpose special SS farms (the so-called SS Gueter) were established. Czech farms were confiscated in this area and administered by SS economic offices, and served not only to provision the SS units at the training centre, but also as a basis for other SS agricultural colonies...

19 January, 1945.

SS Farms

Adequate Supplies during Liberation Rising

Supplies for army and civilians were reported to be adequate throughout September. There was sufficient milk, butter, eggs, cheese and other food. The allowance for the families of fighting partisans and soldiers was increased by 10 crowns daily.

The Slovak National Council granted 100,000 crowns to the inhabitants who suffered damage during military operations in Telgart and surrounding areas.

6 October, 1944.

Deterioration in enemy-occupied territory

The food situation in enemy-occupied Slovakia is deteriorating daily. there is a great shortage of meat, butter and cheese, and the fuel shortage has caused the closing of schools and universities. Because of the shortage of fuel, few trains are running, and locomotives have mostly been destroyed by Allied aircraft. Railway returns for November and December are down to one-tenth of previous returns.

26 January, 1945.

Russian FLOUR for Liberated Slovak Villages

The Czechoslovak Press Bureau reports from Moscow on 24 October that on General Svoboda's request the Soviet High Command gave 500 tons of flour for the disposal of the inhabitants of German-pillaged Slovakian villages in the Dulka Pass region. The bakeries of the Czechoslovakian corps are making the bread and distributing it among the population.

13 November, 1944.

INFORMATION FROM ENEMY CONTROLLED SOURCES

AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

PROTECTORATE

BREAD ration reduced

As in the Reich, bread rations will be decreased in the Protectorate from 16 October. The reduction will be 200 g. of bread a week for ordinary consumers, and 100 g. for children up to six years of age. Very heavy workers will receive 100 g. less, and weekly bread rations for self-suppliers will also be reduced by 100g. The rations of children from 6 to 10 years, juveniles from 10 to 18 years, night-workers, and those working long hours remain unchanged, and, as rations on ordinary ration cards have been cut, their supplementary rations will be correspondingly increased.

(Der Neue Tag, Prague, 27 September, 1944)

BISCUIT Deliveries to cease

Food retailers are notified that deliveries of biscuits will cease until further notice.

(B.B.C. - Protectorate Home Service,
9 February, 1944)

OIL SEED Harvest

The area cultivated with oil seeds in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia has increased during the last five years from 17,600 to 90,100 ha. Great progress has also been made in the intensification of oil seed cultivated so that the yields have substantially improved. The harvest just beginning promises very good results.

(E.H. - N.P.D., 15 November, 1944)

MEAT Products Display Ban

We emphatically remind the public that it is forbidden to exhibit meat products in shop windows. In case of damage or destruction of such products in shop windows in an air raid, the owner will in no case be compensated. The Cattle, Meat and Fat Association of Bohemia and Moravia will severely punish butchers offending against this regulation.

(B.B.C. - Protectorate Home Service,
19 November, 1945)

SUGAR Output Control

The sugar campaign is proceeding satisfactorily from a technical point of view, although transport difficulties and extremely unfavourable weather are hampering the progress. The authorities dealing with transport and labour intervened and so prevented the campaign from being stopped. The quantity of beet is expected to exceed that of last year's crop, but the sugar content is less, due to lack of sunshine in recent weeks.

According to the Industrial Press Service, there are 70 sugar factories now operating. The remaining factories are expected to begin working during November, but the season has been delayed and will continue until the middle of January.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, 8 November, 1944)

Night Transport of SUGAR BEET and POTATOES

The Bohemian Association of Agriculture and Forestry has made available a small quantity of kerosene for lighting farmers' carts which are transporting by night beet to the sugar factories and potatoes which are new being surrendered to the collecting centres.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, 8 November, 1944)

SUGAR Ration Distribution

Sugar for the two rationing periods will be distributed in advance to Prague consumers, covering their requirements until 7 January.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, 11 November, 1944)

Food Supplies - General Position: FAT Shortage

Minister Hruby's speech: The Provincial Union for Agriculture and Forestry to-day discussed the results of agricultural activity in 1944. The representative of the Reich Ministry for Bohemia and Moravia was present. The Chairman of the meeting made a report on the activity of the Union, and the meeting sent greetings to Dr. Hacha. Minister Hruby stated that the Czech peasants are keeping the standard of food supplies on an almost pre-war level. This year's crops, though not so good as last year, are good. The main problem, as everywhere in Europe, is fats. The Reich cannot be expected to continue providing half the necessary fat supplies. The lack of vegetable fats will be compensated by supplies of beef. The potato problem has been satisfactorily solved. He could not believe that the peasants would support the black market and leave the town population without proper supplies.

(B.B.C. - Protectorate Home Service,
1 December, 1944)

Forced Sale of DRAUGHT ANIMALS

The Ministry of Agriculture has published a decree by the Commissioner for horses and draught cattle according to which owners of horses and draught cattle must sell their animals if requested to do so by the district office. The district offices decide in agreement with the Association of Agriculture and Forestry if the animals are owned by farmers, or with the Fahrbereitschaftsleiter if the animals are owned by other persons.

These measures have been taken so that the draught animals may be utilised to the full for essential work.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, 24 November, 1944)

HORSE Control Tightened

Slg.d.G., No. 251, publishes a decree of the Minister of Agriculture whereby persons keeping horses and foals must report within 24 hours to the rural district office any change of place of such animals if the change is to be for a period exceeding eight days. The decree does not apply to legal sales or to horses belonging to the army, Waffen-S.S., Police, Protectorate troops, or to studs. Horses may only be hired or lent inside a district or town.

Infringements will be punishable by fines, imprisonment or confiscation of the animal. According to Slg.d.G., No.252, it is prohibited to give horses away. Previous sales regulations also apply to thoroughbreds who are no longer used for breeding. Horses sold in contravention of the decree of Slg.d.G., No.133, 1943, will be confiscated even if the offender cannot be found.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, 10 November, 1944)

SLOVAKIA

Slovakia's HARVEST: 1944

This year's harvest in Slovakia can be described as good. It is estimated at 55,000 metric quintals (1 metric quintal = 220,46 lbs.) of spring wheat, 3,000,000 of winter wheat, 15,000 of spring rye, about 2,000,000 of winter rye, 3,000,000 of spring oats, 500,000 of maize, 100,000 of maize mashlum, 17,000,000 of potatoes, 3,000,000 of spring barley, and 10,000 of winter barley. The sugar beet harvest will yield enough sugar for the needs of the population. With more than 20,000 hectolitres (1 hectolitre = approximately 22 gallons), the wine harvest is decisively above the average of 160,000 to 170,000 hectolitres. Most of the harvest operations can be finished in good time, and the food supply of the Slovak population is thus assured.

(German Telegraph Service, 25 November, 1944)

Cultivation of OIL SEED

To ensure an adequate acreage under oleaginous plants in the coming economic year, all Slovak farms of more than 30 ha. of arable land must keep 2% of their land under rape, poppy and linseed. Vegetable farms must devote at least a quarter of their land to poppy cultivation.

(E.H. - D.N.B. for Europe, 10 November, 1944)

Control of CROPS

To safeguard the Slovak food situation, the area under industrial crops must be extended to the detriment of the area under grain during the agricultural year 1944-45. Farms of more than 30 hectares which formerly have grown less grain must, in the coming year, grow grain on at least 5 per cent of the arable land. Acreage for potatoes, sugar beet, beets, flax and hemp must not be reduced below that allowed for these crops in the last agricultural year, but may be increased at the expense of land growing vegetables and seeds. At least two per cent of the arable must be devoted to cultivation of poppy seed.

(B.B.C. - German Telegraph Service, 13 January, 1945)

Commandeered CATTLE AND SHEEP

All farmers of district No.7, Dolni Spis, whose cattle or sheep were taken from Dolni Spis and handed over to the German Armed Forces in Ruzomberok, are asked, immediately postal communications have been re-established, to send their addresses to the District Office of the German Party, District

No.7, Bratislava. Farmers from Svedlar should also state the number of sheep taken away from the district.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service,
3 February, 1945)

Budget for the Agricultural Ten-year Plan

According to the Minister of Economics, Medricky, Ks 180,000,000 have been spent in Slovakia in the last five years on the promotion of agriculture. Meantime, an agricultural ten-year plan has been started on, which provides for a total expenditure of Ks 1,000,000,000.

(E.H. - D.N.B. for Europe, 3 January, 1945)

Slovakia's Agricultural Position: Address to Youth Congress by Slovak Minister

Engineer Lednar, Slovak Minister of Transport and Public Works, addressed the Slovak Youth Congress at Piestany on "Slovakia's Economic Self-Sufficiency" on 14 January, 1945. The Minister said:

"At the end of 1942 out of 3,739,783 hectares of the total area of the country, 1,983,416 were agricultural land. At first sight this might imply an overwhelmingly agricultural country, but this was not the case, and Slovakia could not be compared with the agricultural States on her eastern and south-eastern borders.

The developments of the last few years have been marked by a balance of agricultural and non-agricultural factors, with the former slightly predominating. We produced not only our entire home consumption of corn, potatoes and other essential foodstuffs, but also a surplus either for home stocks or export. The state of our stock-breeding is similar; the production of pigs has risen by over 20 per cent.

Agricultural schools and research institutes are giving increased attention to the education of young people. The transfer of previously Jewish or foreign-owned land, comprising over 130,000 acres (jutro) to Christian owners, is of nation-wide importance.

Forestry has played an increasing role in Slovakia's economy. Only half of the 5,000,000 cu.m. of timber produced is used at home; the other half is exported. By timber, either raw or half-finished, we assert our place in the European market, so that timber for us means gold. There are to-day about 1,000 industrial plants employing over 120,000 workers."

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service,
14 January, 1945)

LIBERATED CZECHOSLOVAKIA

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

INDUSTRY

CZECH ECONOMIC POST-WAR PROGRAMME

A useful amount of preparatory work for the transition from war to peace has been undertaken by the Czechoslovak Ministries of Economic Reconstruction and of Industry and Commerce in London.

Provisional
Government
Control

A short-term economic programme is in course of preparation, the main object of which is to provide immediate employment from the first day of liberation and to define certain measures in all departments of Government which achieve this aim. That programme is based on the assumption that during transition some important commercial enterprises will be under provisional Government control, and its aim is officially described as being to secure full employment and just distribution of incomes, perfect organisation of labour, a steadily increasing national economy, and an improved standard of life.

The Government has passed legislative measures, one of which lays down that all transfers of property subsequent to 28 September 1938, when the country lost its freedom, are invalid.

Last August the Czechoslovak Government laid its import and export programme before UNRRA, which is stated to have supported in principle the plans for industrial and agricultural rehabilitation, food supplies, etc. 14 November, 1944.

Balance between Agriculture and Industry

As regards the rebuilding of Czech economic life, it is worth noting that in two respects, one economic and one political, the situation of Czechoslovakia is different from that of most other countries. Economically she was exceptional in having both a highly developed agriculture and a highly developed industry. In foodstuffs she was practically self-sufficient and the bulk of her imports were either raw materials (54 per cent of the whole) or industrial products required for further processing. On the other hand 73 per cent of her exports were manufactured goods (notably textiles, glass, porcelain, iron and steel goods.)

This balance as between agriculture and industry may be expected to continue after the war, with possibly rather more emphasis than before on the industrial side, for Czechoslovakia's industrial fabric seems to have been extended by the Germans during the occupation. That will partly depend, however, on whether the Czech industrial districts escape war damage on a major scale....

Trade

Before the war, while Czechoslovakia's biggest trade was with Germany, her trade with Britain and the Empire was not greatly less amounting in 1937 to £12,240,000 imports from the British Empire and £11,750,000 exports to the British Empire. Her trade with the U.S.S.R. was negligible, less than 1 per cent of the total...

Currency

The problem of post-war currency will in some respects be a peculiarly difficult one, since at present there are no less than five different currencies, circulating in what was pre-war Czechoslovakia, namely, Czech crowns, German marks, Slovak crowns, Hungarian pengos and

now Russian roubles. It will be no easy task to fix fair rates of exchange between all these currencies and the new Czech notes which have already been printed, partly in this country and partly in Russia. All that can be said is that it does not appear that Czechoslovakia will have any intractable inflation problems to tackle. The available information indicates that in no part of the country are commodity prices more than double pre-war - black market prices excluded.

27 November, 1944.

Statements at Press Conference

Ministers Jan Masaryk and Vaclav Majer spoke at a press conference attended by representatives of the world press agencies and leading British and American newspapers on 10 November.

Measures for Transitional Period

Mr. Vaclav Majer, the Minister of Commerce, who has also been entrusted with the leadership of the Ministry of Reconstruction, described briefly the economic programme of the Czechoslovak Government. Its first task would be, he said, to separate the Czechoslovak economy from German domination. In the transitional period immediately following liberation it must provide foodstuffs, medicines, clothing, footwear, raw materials, machinery and means of communication. At the same time it aimed at easing the rapid transition from a war to a peace economy.

Transfers of Property

The decree on economic measures for the liberated territory stated that any transfer of property and any negotiations concerning property concluded after 28 September, 1938, during the period of vassalage under the pressure of national, race or political persecution, were invalid. Regulations would be made to cover those who acted in good faith, or cases where the property could not be returned in its original condition. Enemy property, and that of disloyal persons, would be confiscated.

Lack of Technicians

The training of specialist workers and technicians must be set in motion immediately upon liberation, for Czechoslovakia suffered from a lack of qualified people, as the Germans had reduced her technical schools and down-graded her higher workers. "We have in mind", declared the Minister, "the scientific planning of economic life. Our work and our plans, however, are only preparations. Only our people at home have the right to decide in a democratic manner on the plans prepared abroad."

17 November, 1944.

Export

Plan for Resumption of Trade

The Ministry of Reconstruction and Commerce is also taking steps to ensure that economic life shall be set going as soon as possible, for Czechoslovakia's prosperity has depended and will depend on the extent of her foreign trade. Mr. Majer said that there was great interest throughout the world in Czechoslovak manufactures and that he was trying to give this interest a practical result as soon as possible.

List of British Purchasers

As part of the preparatory work for the resumption of Czechoslovak export trade the Ministry of Commerce has drawn up a list of British firms who bought Czechoslovak goods before the war or wish to do so after it is over. With these firms, whose reputation has of course been carefully examined, the Ministry of Commerce has entered into negotiations to secure for Czechoslovak industry the most concrete bases possible for the planning of manufactures and resumption of export as soon as possible. In the course of these negotiations the

aim has been to secure from the British purchasers as clear a statement as possible of the kind of goods and the quantity which they propose to buy in Czechoslovakia during the first year after the war.

Planning
Production

The part played by the Ministry of Commerce in these negotiations has been limited under present-day conditions to the promise that the Ministry will help the purchaser to find manufacturers capable of supplying his needs and will enable them to get into direct contact with foreign importers and conclude suitable agreements with them.

In principle the work consists in an advance sounding of markets; it obviously has many shortcomings, but in spite of this the Ministry believes that the material procured may act as a guide in planning both production and export.

Deterioration of Industrial Position

Mr. Vaclav Majer also stated that, as recently as six months ago, one could still hope that Czechoslovakian territory would not become a battleground, and that a part at any rate of its last harvest could be saved. But things changed for the worse as a result of the fighting after the Slovak rising and of the battles now being fought in Slovakia, and the situation might well grow worse, for the Germans are carrying off everything they can. Reports from Bohemia and Moravia show that the food situation there, too, is markedly deteriorating from day to day. In certain industrial areas actual famine is beginning. Things may be really critical in the spring and before the next harvest.

Famine
Conditions
Developing

Adaptable Programme

The Ministry will, therefore, have to alter its plan of purchase and import worked out in brief outline last August and supplement it in accordance with the changed and changing situation.

The Ministry is conducting all its negotiations with UNRRA and Lease-Lend and other bodies so that its purchasing programme may be adapted and supplemented in accordance with the actual needs in the liberated territory; obviously it will have to alter and correct a great deal.

Clothing

Ready-made shoes and clothing are naturally heavy items, but there is a whole list of requirements which had not been taken into consideration at all. The Ministry's demands, for instance, include smiths' anvils, hatchets, signal lamps, dry pocket batteries, electric light bulbs, padlocks and things of that sort for which it has obviously been difficult to assess the need.

Tools
Lamps
Batteries

Mr. Majer said that provided the difficulties of communication are overcome, it is technically possible to adapt the original plan according to the reports from Czechoslovakia.

19 January, 1945.

Slovak Products and Labour for Germany

Germany is taking from Slovakia her lumber, cellulose, paper and cattle. The value of Slovak shipments to Germany has reached 7,500,000,000 crowns. The Germans have deported 100,000 persons for forced labour in Germany.

7 December, 1944.

Textile Industry

Immediate restoration of the Czech textile industry is provided for under a new agreement of great importance arranged between the Czechoslovak Government in London and the Economic Council of UNRRA. Under this agreement UNRRA will supply raw materials as part of the general plan for rehabilitation of European economy....

Centre of the Czech ready-made clothing industry before the war was Prosnitz, where the biggest firms were Sbor, Moravia and Nehera. The industry employed before the war some 30,000 people and its exports amounted to about 100,000,000 Czech crowns (about £6,000,000) annually. The agreement with UNRRA will ensure immediate full employment of the entire Czech textile industry. 26 January, 1945.

DAMAGE TO FACTORIES IN PROTECTORATE

Iron and Steel

The iron and steel works of the Witkowitz Bergbau-und Eisenhütten-gewerkschaft appeared on 19 November, 1944, to be in full production.

It appears that some damage was done during an attack, as repairs can be seen to a pattern shop, forging shop and a building in the coal mine.

Estimates of Annual Output

The annual output of pig iron from this works is estimated to be 750,000 tons. The works include two coke oven plants with a dry coal capacity of a million tons, and two blast furnace plants; the output of steel amounted in 1943 to 918,000 tons. It is also one of the most important heavy engineering plants in Europe, and is known to supply a large proportion of the armour plate and castings required by the C.K.D. tank assembly works at Prague, besides producing heavy plate of the type used in Panther and Tiger tanks. 3 February, 1945.

Synthetic Oil Plants

The Bergius Hydrogenation plant owned by Sudetenländische Treibstoffwerke A.G. will probably be out of action for at least two months. It has an estimated annual capacity of about 700,000 tons.

Much of the installation has been damaged and among the more important items are both the old and new power houses with their switch and transformer houses, both compressor houses, five injector houses, all parts of the coal preparation plant, the liquid oxygen plant, two fractionating columns and two low temperature carbonizing plants. Damage can also be seen in both labour camps and among storage tanks, minor plants, pipe lines and unidentified buildings. 17 February, 1945.

Destruction of Oil Refinery in Bratislava

Bratislava, a city of some 160,000 inhabitants, has already lost much of its economic importance as a result of the destruction last September of its oil refinery, which had a nominal crude oil capacity of 150,000 tons per annum, compared with 3 million for the whole of Greater Germany.

No effort has apparently yet been made to rebuild this refinery, which used to draw its supplies mainly from Rumania, Hungary and the Austrian Burgenland.

Several of the industries of the city and surrounding districts, such as the heavy chemical, explosives, electrical equipment and glass industries, still, however, contribute to the war effort. 24 February, 1945.

GERMAN Destruction in Slovakia

Particulars of the damage wrought by the Germans in Slovakia show that the worst destruction so far encountered was suffered by Spisska Nova Ves. The flour mill, starch factory, sawmill, electricity station, printing works, and museum were destroyed. 16 February, 1945.

INFORMATION FROM ENEMY-CONTROLLED SOURCES

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

INDUSTRY

PROTECTORATE

DYES: Sale Restrictions and Permits

The Official Gazette, 9 November, 1944, publishes a decree of the Minister of Economics and Labour placing an embargo on the following aniline dyestuffs: vat dyes, anthrasol (indigosol), sulphur dyes, substantive dyes, diazo dyes, wool and half-wool dyestuffs.

The decree applies to all stocks held by members of the textile industry, the economic group and others. A permit is required for sales. No permit is required when the dyestuffs are used by the enterprise itself for orders. The economic group can order an owner to sell dyes to other firms. Stocks must be reported by 30 November. Infringements will be punishable.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, Prague, 10 November, 1944)

PLATE GLASS Allocations

The Central Organisation of Glaziers points out that consumers cannot apply directly for an allocation of plate glass. Applications are only accepted from licensed glaziers; direct applications from consumers will be ignored.

(B.B.C. - Protectorate Home Service,
22 January, 1945)

SHOE Manufacture Restrictions

According to the Official Gazette, 11 November, 1944, no shoes must be specially manufactured for civilian purposes after 13 December.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, Prague, 12 November, 1944)

FUEL AND POWER

Electric and Gas Fires: Ban on Heating

"Der Neue Tag" quotes the Official Gazette of 28 October, 1944, for the decree by the Minister of Economics and Labour prohibiting the use of electric heaters. Houseowners must provide other methods of heating, but gas is also prohibited.

(E.H.- Der Neue Tag, 3 November, 1944)

Electric Current Consumption

Minister Bertsch has decreed that from 8 January there is to be a reduction in the consumption of electric current of 30% compared with the period from September to December, 1944. A minimum consumption of three kwh. per consumer per week will, however, be allowed.

(E.H.- Der Neue Tag, 7 January, 1945)

Gas Ration reduced in Prague

According to a decree by the Ministry of Economics, the Prague Gas Works have reduced the weekly gas rations for households from 11 November as follows: First group from 25 to 19 cbm; second group from 15 to 12 cbm; third group from 10 to 7 cbm; fourth group from 7 to 5 cbm; fifth group from 6 to 4 cbm.

Industrial and handcraft consumers may only use 80% of their previous allowance. There will be a control of consumption, and infringements will be punished.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, 25 November, 1944)

Day-to-Day cuts in Gas Supply

On 30 January the Prague Gas Works will not supply gas between 08.00 to 11.00, 13.00 to 19.30 and from 19.30 to 06.00.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, 30 January, 1945)

On 1 February the Prague Gas Works will only supply gas from 06.00 to 08.00, 10.00 to 13.00 and from 18.30 to 19.30.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, 1 February, 1945)

Gas Supply resumed in Prague

The Prague Gas Works announce that as from 5 February, the gas supply will not be cut off any longer. However, consumers must not exceed their rations. Gas rations which have not been consumed one week may not be used the subsequent weeks.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, 4 February, 1945)

Industrial Establishments: Cuts

Important announcement for hairdressers, tailors and milliners: As from Monday, 22 January, onwards, the consumption of gas for lighting must be cut by 50 per cent. This restriction applies also in cases where the working premises and the household are supplied from one gas meter. Other consumers who use gas from one gas meter for their business and household must cut their consumption by 20 per cent, as from 22 January.

(B.B.C. - Protectorate Home Service,
19 January, 1945)

Kerosene Rations

The Commissioner of the German Minister of State for Bohemia-Moravia has stipulated the following kerosene rations for November for those who possess purchasing permits: For illumination, one litre; for illumination with an additional allowance, two litres; for illumination with an increased additional allowance, three litres; for cooking, five litres; for heating seven litres.

Agricultural motor kerosene consumers are to receive six per cent and industrial consumers five per cent of their annual quota.

February Rations

The following are the kerosene rations for February: For lighting on "B1" Cards half a litre, on "B2" Cards one litre, on "B3" Cards 1.50 litres. For cooking - 5 litres and for heating purposes, 7 litres.

Consumers of motor Kerosene in agriculture, forestry and industry with an annual basic ration of over 600 kg. will receive 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ % of their annual allocation. If, however, their basic rations are below 600 kg. they will receive no kerosene allocation as their requirements are seasonal, that is for such purposes as watering, threshing, etc. If the requirements of small consumers are urgent, exceptions will be made.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, 1 February, 1945)

SLOVAKIA

Electricity Cuts

The Slovak electricity works have ordered Bratislava consumers to reduce their consumption of electricity in household, handcraft and industry by 50%. The handcraft and industrial enterprises of the categories B and C must stop work immediately.

Consumption will be controlled and those who fail to comply with the measures of restriction will be cut off. This provisional restriction is to remain in force until 27 January.

The Slovak electricity works appeal to consumers to reduce the consumption of electricity by using weaker bulbs. The use of electric heaters, the illumination of shop windows, etc., have been prohibited by a previous decree.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, January, 1945)

Firewood and Coal Shortage

There is a new shortage of firewood, because the wood cannot be transported from the forests owing to partisan activity. The same applies to the coal situation. Before the coup there were several trains daily bringing coal from the Silesian coal mines, but now that import is restricted owing to transport difficulties. Industrial enterprises and households which did not lay in a stock of coal in the autumn can scarcely expect that their stocks will be replenished, and must try to manage with the fuel which is available.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 24 January, 1945)

GRAPHITE DUST Utilised

In the Sumava graphite mines, production was stopped in 1942 as the deposits had become exhausted; however, millions of cubic m. of graphite remnants and dust remained in dumps, which are now being utilised.

The graphite residue is soaked and then dried in three big furnaces and further refined. The graphite is so fine that when put through a sieve of 6,400 meshes per square cm. it leaves only 5% remnants. The product contains 50% pure carbon.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 6 December, 1944)

LIBERATED CZECHOSLOVAKIA

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

EFFECTS OF SLOVAK RISING *

RESTITUTION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA PROCLAIMED ON FREED TERRITORY

Banska Bystrica Provisional Capital

The city of Banska Bystrica, in Central Slovakia, became the temporary capital of the freed territory of the Czechoslovak Republic, according to reports received by the Czechoslovak Press Bureau in London, on 4 September, from the headquarters of the Czechoslovakian army in Slovakia.

Most of Slovakia was won by the patriots. The new front adds greatly to German difficulties in central and south-eastern Europe by blocking many of the routes of supply, as well as of retreat from Poland, Rumania and Hungary.

The successful rising was started by the rebellious officers of the Slovakian army. On the morning of 29 August, the leaders of the rebellion proclaimed, in Banska Bystrica, the "restoration of the Czechoslovak Republic" and declared the "dissolution of the Slovakian State under the protection of Germany". A manifesto issued by the National Committee and signed by its chairmen, Prof. Vladislav Para and Julius Schovan, appealing to all Slovaks and Czechs to fight against the Germans, was broadcast from the Banska Bystrica radio station, which had been won by the rebels but was soon silenced by German bombers.

National
Committee
formed

According to reports received in London and Washington the activities of the Czechoslovakian Forces of the Interior are carefully directed with due regard to the military needs.

The uprising is led by the Slovak National Council in which all political parties are represented and to which general instructions are issued by the Czechoslovakian Government in London. 18 September, 1944.

Railway Lines Cut

Fighting continued last week along the main railways and roads of Slovakia. Tanks and artillery were employed on both sides, according to reports published in the Bratislava Government press. Air forces intervened in numbers on the German side only, and even the Bratislava press could not remain silent about German bombing which reduced the villages in the Vah Valley to rubble. In addition, German fighter aircraft machine-gunned incessantly the fleeing population on the roads.

Destruction
of Railway
Bridges

The outstanding feature in the military situation in Slovakia this week-end is that regular Czechoslovak forces and Slovak partisans have destroyed the railway bridges on the River Vah at Strocno, east of the important junction of Zilina, thus cutting the Bohumin-Kosice lateral railway which joins Moravia and Silesia with Eastern Slovakia and Subcarpathian Ruthenia.

* The Revolt in Banska Bystrica, centre of the Slovak uprising against the Nazis, lasted from 29 August to 28 October, 1944.

Since the parallel southern railway line in the Hron valley is firmly in the hands of the Czechoslovakian patriots, Eastern Slovakia has thus been practically cut off from the west of the country.

In the event of a Soviet offensive through the Carpathian passes the Germans will now have no direct railway line at their disposal either to rush reinforcements to the danger zone or to escape westward, and will be dependent on a roundabout route. 15 September, 1944.

Shipping on DANUBE Stopped

The Czechoslovak Press Bureau reports, on 8 September, that entire shipping traffic on the Danube Slovak sector has stopped. Ship crews, dock and office personnel have left their work and joined the partisans. The Government has appealed to them through the Bratislava radio, promising an amnesty if they return by 9 September, but after that date they will be declared and treated as deserters. 18 September, 1944.

Communications restored in BANSKA BYSTRICA

The first report from Banska Bystrica, the centre of the uprising in Slovakia, dealing with other than purely military events, has reached the Czechoslovak Press Bureau. This industrial town of some 15,000 inhabitants, situated on the Hron river, is the geographical centre of Slovakia. This is probably one of the reasons why it has become the headquarters of the National Council and the Patriot Forces.

The streets are crowded with military vehicles, regular troops, partisan detachments, and many civilians - all busy in their war effort. Here, as in most of the areas held by the patriots, the telegraph, telephone and postal services are working almost normally; and the buses connecting the town with neighbouring districts are operating according to schedules prepared by the military authorities. Industrial enterprises are working at full speed. reported 6 November, 1944.

Communications disrupted in BRATISLAVA

In a broadcast sent out on 20 October, the Slovak-Nazi minister of transportation in Bratislava announced that the postal communication in Slovakia is still completely disrupted because of "technical reasons".

These "technical reasons" are military reasons. All territorial connections between Western and Eastern Slovakia were severed by the Czechoslovakian Army of the Interior operating in Central Slovakia. reported 6 November, 1944.

Cutting German Communications

The actions of the Slovak partisans show careful planning and coordination with the Red Army's movements, their aim being to disturb and cut German communications with supply centres. 19 January, 1945.

Germans Burn Villages

According to reports received from the Czechoslovakian press correspondent in Banska Bystrica German soldiers are committing cruelties on the populace of Zilina. They have burned down the villages of Budatin, Zadovie, and Strazov, near Zilina, and have killed most of the inhabitants. The Czechs

and the Jews still at large in the territory held by Germans were arrested and sent in trains to Germany via Vienna.

The Czechoslovak Government in London declared, on 6 September, that German Panzer General, von Hübicki, and SS General Warts, responsible for atrocities committed at present in occupied parts of Slovakia, be declared war criminals and asked the United Nations War Crime Commission to put them on the War Criminal List, 18 September, 1944.

SUPPRESSION OF SLOVAK RISING

The Slovak fight continues in spite of the fact that superiority in numbers and material has enabled the Germans to capture Banska Bystrica the centre of liberated Slovakia. On 7 November the German Press Agency DNB and the High Command of the Wehrmacht put out an announcement from the Fuehrer's headquarters that German forces, including units of the Waffen S.S., had completely suppressed the national rising in Slovakia.

Similar statements had previously been made by the German Donausender and by Bratislava radio. Like them, the Wehrmacht made fantastic claims of aircraft, tanks and guns captured - naming figures far exceeding anything that has been in Czechoslovak hands at any time during the rising. In one interesting respect, however, the Wehrmacht statement differed from the preceding statements. It admits that the so-called "clearing operations" continue - which, put into clear language, means that the Slovak struggle goes on, though under new and more difficult conditions. Numerous reports now coming in from Slovakia of attacks on German troops and communications testify to the accuracy of this interpretation.

17 November, 1944.

Continuation
of
Resistance

BANSKA BYSTRICA REOCCUPIED BY GERMANS

By the end of October, the Germans considerably reinforced their forces operating against the Slovakian patriots in Central Slovakia. The Czechoslovakian war communiqué which was issued on 26 October announced that the elements of six enemy divisions, composed of Germans and Hungarians, engaged the Czechoslovakian forces which were defending Banska Bystrica, the capital of the liberated territory of Slovakia. On 27 October, Banska Bystrica was evacuated by the Czechoslovakian forces, and soon also the city of Zvolen, another bastion of the Slovakian uprising, fell to the enemy.

The Czechoslovak Press Bureau announced, on 28 October:

"The Czechoslovak Army and the Slovaks are now withdrawing into the wooded mountains and have forced the Germans to fight in disadvantageous territory.

Partisans Still Control Rail Junctions

"Though the Germans have penetrated to the Upper Hron Valley, they have not succeeded in freeing rail junctions for fighting at the main front. Two months of stubborn fighting in Central Slovakia has been important because the imperilled Germans are squeezed between the Red Armies in the Carpathians and Carpatho-Ukraine and the Hungarian plain."

13 November, 1944.

Union Labour organises rail traffic and arms production

Rail
Sabotage

The International Transport Federation reported, on 4 October, that the railway workers in liberated Slovakia have organised rail traffic and have agreed upon a method of rail sabotage in other sections still unoccupied by the patriots. In twenty-three liberated Slovak towns, shop stewards forming new union leadership have organised arms production.

30 October, 1944.

Transport Problems in Liberated Territory

Relief and reconstruction means an important transport problem, as on account of its geographical position Czechoslovakia is in the most difficult situation. It is dependent upon foreign shipping space and upon transport upon long railway lines... Negotiations with the European Central Inland Transport Office, that is the transport section of UNRRA, are going on. Czechoslovakia will have to transport from overseas 2,700,000 tons of goods and the same quantity from the Continent of Europe, which means 9,000 trains with 40 fifteen-ton trucks each. On the basis of the Bretton Wood Agreement Czechoslovakia could claim foreign currency to the sum of 120 million dollars, - after 1 May, 1945 - in four instalments of 30 million dollars a year.

The Czechoslovak Supply and Shipping Co. Ltd., which was founded in 1943 in London with a basic capital of £10,000, as a Czechoslovak State Company for purchases, will be the executive body for such purchases. A branch will be set up in the U.S.A. 8 September, 1944.

INFORMATION FROM ENEMY-CONTROLLED SOURCES

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

PROTECTORATE

TRANSPORT AUTHORITIES for Industry and Agriculture

There are two institutions which work under the direction of the German Ministry of State, that is: A Trustee for Economic Transport (Verkehrsbeauftragter für Wirtschaft), and a Trustee for Food and Agricultural Transport.

The Trustee for Economic Transport is in charge of 18 transport commissions which cover all the branches of trade (Gewerbliche Wirtschaft), while the area of the Trustee for Food and Agricultural Transport is divided into 12 sectors which embrace the whole of the food trade (Lebensmittelhandel), Food Economy (Ernährungswirtschaft) and Agriculture.

There are seven regional committees which are responsible for the regional transport measures, i.e.: Prague, Plzen, Budejovice, Brno, Hradec, Kralove, Moravska Ostrava and Olomouc.

(E.H. - Hamburger Fremdenblatt, 30 December, 1944)

RESTRICTIONS

RAIL Traffic

In connection with the withdrawal of express trains the following express trains have been introduced: D62 leaving Prague at 15.32 for Vienna, and D51 leaving Prague at 06.17 for Berlin. Travelling permits for both trains will be issued by the Railway Directorate in Prague. Permits for the use of slow trains will also be issued by other railway directorates and transport offices.

An identity card with photographs must be produced together with a travelling permit. Abuse of this will be punished. Durchlasschein (exit permit) alone is no longer sufficient for the purchase of tickets for journeys to the Reich.

Season tickets will only be issued for journeys up to 75 km. Persons who travel on season tickets for over 75 km. must try to find accommodation nearer their place of work. Until 25 January travelling permits will only be issued to public officials and Party officials for urgent journeys. From 26 January journeys of employees engaged in armament industry will be permitted to a limited extent.

POSTAL Service

The following changes have been decreed regarding postal service from the Protectorate to the Reichspostgebiet: No private parcels will be accepted. Exceptions will be granted for armament goods, medical supplies, consignments of the authorities, NSDAP, etc. Civilians are permitted to send only postcards. The authorities, NSDAP, armament factories, etc., may also dispatch letters up to 100 g. which must be handed in at the counter. Money remittances remain unchanged. Newspapers may no longer be sent to the Reichspostgebiet.

The restrictions do not apply to field post or mail going abroad. For internal mail no restrictions have yet been decreed in the Protectorate. Post Offices may sell a maximum of five 60-Heller postcards per person.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, Prague, 23 January, 1945)

TELEPHONE Service

As the telephone exchanges are overburdened, it is imperative that all telephone calls should be restricted. The duration of calls must be reduced to a minimum. Trunk calls may only be made for messages essential to the war effort. The Post Office Administration will be compelled to disconnect still more subscribers if the lines are used for non-essential calls.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, 21 January, 1945)

The Management of Postal Services announces that telephone operators are no longer allowed to tell subscribers the time. To maintain the widest possible trunk service, a number of services have been cancelled. Operators may no longer look up telephone numbers or give the name or address of the subscribers. They must not explain the delay of a trunk call nor give the charges, unless the enquiry is made at the time of booking.

(B.B.C. - Protectorate Home Service, 22 January, 1945)

Vrutky Express Service Resumed

The express train R8 leaving Bratislava 06.03 arriving Vrutky 10.07 and R3 leaving Vrutky 10.07 arriving Bratislava 17.12, will run again from 30 November.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 30 November, 1944)

Travel Restrictions

The President of the Bratislava Police has decreed that as from 15 January it is necessary to have a travel permit issued by the Bratislava or the Zilina notarial office, or the Presov police office, for any railway journey. Permits may be either permanent or valid for single journeys only. Permanent permits are valid for all trains until further notice and will be issued to public employees, to employees of registered enterprises who have to make official journeys, and to employees who have to go by train to their place of work.

Permits for single journeys will be issued in exceptional circumstances, such as cases of death or serious illness of relatives, or for important vocational or family reasons, etc. The permits will be valid for seven days for a journey between two stations. No permits are required for secondary school pupils who have to go to school by train, or for foreigners with a passport and Slovak visa, or for Slovaks going abroad with a Slovak passport and exit permit. Infringements will be punishable by fines from Ks 10 to Ks 5,000 or by a term of from 12 hours' to 14 days' imprisonment.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 3 January, 1945)

Check-up on Motor Vehicles

The Ministry of Defence and NUZ have ordered the registration of all motor vehicles, tyres and inner tubes in Slovakia. The Bratislava notarial office has ordered all owners of motor cycles, cars, buses, lorries, tank lorries, tractors, trailers, chassis, tyres and tubes, including vehicles which have been laid up, to register them between 20 and 31 December.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 23 December, 1944)

Control of Damaged Motor Vehicles

A ban has been placed on motor vehicles which have been damaged or destroyed through enemy action. Such vehicles must be reported at once to the Wehrersatzinspektion Dresden Gruppe K, Dresden N, Hausenstrasse 3. No component parts of such vehicles are to be removed or sold. Infringements will be punishable according to the Reichsleitungsgesetz.

Requisitioning of Motor Vehicles: Exemptions

The Ministry of Defence points out that owners of motor vehicles must apply for exemption as soon as possible. The Ministry will decide before 22 January whether the vehicles will be left to the owners. After this date no notice will be taken of applications and the vehicles will be seized for defence purposes. People coming under the following groups will be allowed to keep their vehicles: electricity, water and gas works, doctors, veterinary surgeons, hospitals, chemists, armament factories and factories connected with armaments, butchers, bakers, millers, big farms, taxicabs, post offices and official bodies.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 16 January, 1945)

German Lorries for Slovakia

NUZ announces that it may shortly be possible to import a certain number of one-ton to four-and-a-half-ton motor lorries from Germany. The German authorities think that the lorries will probably not be requisitioned for military purposes. NUZ asks those who are interested in the purchase of the lorries to apply to NUZ by the end of December.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 22 December, 1944)

New Telephone Exchange at Most

The new automatic telephone exchange at Most will begin to operate on 2 January.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 31 December, 1944)

Mail Restrictions: Strain on Telegraph Service

No restrictions have as yet been decreed on the dispatch of private telegrams. The facilities of the telegraph service, however, are often abused as in many cases the news sent by telegram could be sent by post card.

Since the suspension of postal service for private letters people have been using the telegraph service more frequently. If this abuse continues the Reichspost Directorate will be compelled to take restrictive measures.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 25 January, 1945)

LIBERATED CZECHOSLOVAKIA

LABOUR AND CONSCRIPTION

Labour Unrest in Factories

There is considerable labour unrest both in the Protectorate and in Slovakia. Bat'a workers in Zlin, Moravia, refused to work during the air raid alert and broke out of the factories when the Nazis tried to force them to stay at their machines. Slovakian workers at Povazska Bystrice and at the textile mills of the Mauthner concern in Ruzomberok quit work for wage increases.

4 September, 1944.

Czechs Join Italian Partisans

According to the Italian anti-Fascist newspaper, Libera Stampa, of 21 August, one hundred Czech workers employed by the Germans near Valtettine joined the Italian partisans who are operating in the rear of the Gothic Line.

The daily, Tribune de Geneve, of 19 September, also reports that three hundred Czech soldiers who were forcibly inducted into the German army deserted and joined the Italian partisans in the Piedmont Alps.

18 September, 1944.

Rural Population Conscripted for Defence Work

It was reported from Prague on 28 December that Frank (German Minister of State) had issued an order by which men of the Czechoslovak rural population up to the age of 45 would be required to work on digging trenches and building defence positions on the frontiers. This follows a previous call-up of young men.

5 January, 1945.

First Trade Union in Liberated Territory

According to a Czechoslovak report a Trade Union, the first to be set up on liberated territory, was formed in Micshlovce. The distribution of food, seriously affected by the removal of most of the livestock, is one of the major problems of the National Committees in this district.

10 February, 1945.

INFORMATION FROM ENEMY-CONTROLLED SOURCES

LABOUR AND CONSCRIPTION

PROTECTORATE

Czech Skilled Workers in Upper Silesia

SS-Standartenführer Fischer in his capacity as the Deputy of the German Minister of State for Bohemia-Moravia and Dr. Teuner as the Protectorate Government's representative visited Protectorate industrial workers in the Gau "Oberschlesien". On this occasion, 56 Protectorate subjects were awarded the Shield of Honour of the Reich Protector. For the first time this decoration has been awarded to Protectorate citizens in the Reich.

The people who have been decorated were technicians, engineers, foremen, armament workers and other skilled workers who have distinguished themselves by exemplary fulfilment of duty, excellent performance or determined efforts in air raids...

The visitors were accompanied by Gau-Obmann Pg. Potzsch and Deputy Gauleiter Rudolf Motzner.

(E.H. - Protectorate Press, 28 November, 1944)

Repair Work: Civil Engineers and Builders to Report

Civil engineers and builders who attended the Training Course for Building Repair Work (Arbee Stavebni Pomoci) are asked to report to-morrow Friday, at 10 a.m. at the training school of the National Trade Union Centre in Prague II, Sednihradská No. 5.

(B.B.C. - Protectorate Home Service, 15 January, 1945)

Czech 1924 Class to Report

The Bohemian-Moravian Gau Liaison Office in Berlin asks all members of the 1924 class who have been assigned for re-training and are still in Gau Berlin or Mark Brandenburg, to report to the Office either in person or in writing. Where the report is made in writing, please give the address of the firm in the Protectorate from which you were sent to the Reich and the address of the firm in the Reich with whom you are now engaged. Telephone number of the office is 670 013, Extension 536.

(B.B.C. - Protectorate Home Service, 15 January, 1945)

Armaments Production - Control of Labour

The Industrial Press Service reports: SS-Brigadeführer Dr. Walter Bertsch has been appointed chairman of the Armaments Committee for Bohemia-Moravia. His office will be managed by Regierungsdirktor Dr. Fremercy.

The Armaments Inspection (Rüstungsinspektion) of Prague, and the Armaments Commission (Rüstungskommandos) of Prague I and Prague II and of Brno, have been dissolved. Henceforward the State Administration will be in control of all labour.

The local Armaments trustees at the seats of the regional groups will come under the immediate competence of the Chairman of the Armaments Commission. The duties of the local Armaments trustees are: To see that orders are executed, promote armament production, point out all defects in armament production; they have to represent the Chairman in the case of air raid damage.

(E.H. - Der Neue Tag, Prague, 3 January, 1945)

SLOVAKIA

Organisation of Slovak Workers in the Reich

Labour Inspectors

The Slovak workers in the Reich are frequently referred to by foreign propaganda as slaves. The journal Praca (Labour) discusses the conditions and the organisation of the Slovaks.

The paper says: The historical situation brought about a shortage of labour in the Reich at the time when our State was created. Our workers went there to help in this emergency, and soon won by their industry a leading position among other foreign workers...

Central Office for Workers

The increase in the number of workers and the necessity of assisting them soon made the despatch of Labour inspectors to the Reich necessary, and a central office for workers from Slovakia, the "Ochrana robotnikov zo Slovenska" (Protection of Workers from Slovakia) was established.

Another office, the Welfare Office for Workers from Slovakia, was set up at the Reich Food Estate... The work of our labour inspectors was at first particularly difficult, owing to the complicated conditions insufficient knowledge of the language, and the large numbers with which they had to deal.

Gau Managers

The Central Office of the "Ochrana Robotnikov zo Slovenska" was set up with the help of the DAG (German Labour Front) and had its centre in Berlin. This office originally had under its supervision 12 Gau managers and their assistants. Every Gau manager supervised Slovak workers in several Reich Gaue, in an area sometimes three times as large as the whole of Slovakia, with some 12,000 to 15,000 Slovak workers. The Gau manager had only one clerk and one secretary under him. He is teacher, mediator, and legal adviser, all in one. He advises on questions of taxation, working hours and ration cards, and acts as interpreter in the courts. He has to inspect living accommodation in the so-called "camps" (sic). He must watch the discipline and political outlook of the workers. He is assisted by trustees who act wherever more than five workers are employed. Their task is to settle small differences on the spot and to refer their unsuccessful cases to the Gau manager.

Reich Labour Law

The foundation of the supervision of all Slovak workers in the Reich is the Slovak-German Agreement on the setting-up of Slovak Labour in Germany. Slovak workers in Germany are under the Reich Labour Law, and therefore many laws and decrees which apply to German workers equally apply to the Slovaks. There are also local regulations which apply only to certain Gaue.

The "Ochrana Robotnikov zo Slovenska" from time to time summons the Gau managers to conferences at which German and Slovak speakers give instruction on all questions concerning their work.

(E.H. -- Slovak Home Service, 17 December, 1944)

LIBERATED CZECHOSLOVAKIA

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

RESISTANCE AND EVACUATION

SABOTAGE IN CZECH MUNITION FACTORIES

Richard Tobin, London correspondent of the "Chicago Sun", confirms in a special article, sent on 24 September, that Czech sabotage of German war industry is highly effective and aids considerably in saving the lives of thousands of Allied soldiers on the Western front.

The article says: "A captured German document shows, according to the statement of the supreme headquarters, that the German high command now knows that one out of three German shells will not explode when it strikes.

"This document contains the report of an official munitions investigation which was made by the German Government. It contains a statement by a German battery commander that, out of 4,372 rounds inspected, 1,312 were found to be defective. In a practice shoot at a proving grounds in North Germany, the ratio of duds was even higher - almost one in two.

"Most of the German munitions have been made in the great Skoda Works in Czechoslovakia, which has been bombed several times, but never effectively because of the extreme range. In order to make munitions in this comparatively safe locality, however, the Germans have been forced to use most of the Czech labour available there. The results naturally, have been disastrous."

9 October, 1944.

Slovak Officials Deserting to Patriots

The quisling daily, Slovak, published in Bratislava, announced, on 30 September, that many high officials in Bratislava deserted to the patriots in Banska Bystrica. The Slovak names Eng. Kornel Filo, Councillor Julius Dvorsky, Dr. Peter Halasa, Dr. Kvetko, and others.

6 November, 1944.

EVACUATION

Nazis Evacuate German Minority from Slovakia

According to a message emanating from Bratislava and reported by the Czechoslovak Press Bureau, on 17 October, the German women and children of the Spis district in Slovakia were evacuated to Upper Silesia, Northern Bohemia, and lower Austria.

30 October, 1944.

East Slovak Population driven Westwards

The Germans and their Bratislava servants have begun to evacuate the offices of Tiso's puppet Government to Vienna. Tiso's Government is driving the population of Eastern Slovakia westwards. They have ordered a camp for 60,000 persons to be prepared near Ruzomberok, where Slovaks forcibly evacuated are to be housed. The population of Eastern Slovakia evades evacuation by all possible means. The people are hiding.

27 November, 1944.

German Schools Evacuated from Poland to Prague

German technical schools in the Polish Government General, and in Cracow, have been evacuated to Prague, where, in the Toskansky Palace, a special evacuation office has been established.

4 September, 1944.

LIBERATED CZECHOSLOVAKIA

PUBLIC HEALTH

A REPORT ON PRESENT STATE OF HEALTH OF CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE

Lack of Physicians

Czechoslovakia, which, even before the war, had a high death and infant mortality rate, now presents an alarming health problem. In 1937 there were only 11,000 physicians to care for the needs of the entire country - averaging one doctor to every 1,400 persons. When compared to England and Russia, where there is a physician for every 1,000 persons and to the United States, where there is one to every 800 persons, it can be seen how the German and Hungarian occupation, as well as the war, has made a bad situation still worse.

In Bohemia and Moravia, Czech universities were closed. The Germans evacuated all Jewish physicians, a group making up a large percentage of the available medical personnel. The German doctors now in the country will probably flee or be exiled and the collaborators ousted. This will leave these provinces with dangerously few qualified physicians.

Medical Men in Slovakia

Although about 300 Jewish doctors were exiled from Slovakia, medical students of the Bratislava Medical Faculty were allowed to graduate, so that the number of Slovak doctors this year is the same as in 1939.

In Carpathian Russia

Carpathian Russia will have 30 per cent less physicians than before 1937, at which time they had only one doctor for every 3,500 persons.

Low Resistance

Undernourishment, deplorable social conditions, caused by the longer working hours and forced labour among people physically handicapped, etc., have greatly lowered the resistance of the people against illnesses. Contagious diseases have been spread by the movements of the army and the population as well as the transportation of workers to labour camps. There has not been an increase in epidemic diseases, but deaths from tuberculosis and the infant mortality rate have increased as well.

For instance, in Slovakia and Carpathian Russia, there were 185 cases of typhus in 1937. In 1945 there were 600 cases reported from Slovakia and several thousand from Carpathian Russia, with the situation in 1944 still worse.

By 1942 fifty per cent of the infants in Carpathian Russia died before reaching one year, while half of the population suffered from dysentery.

12 September, 1944

Children from Hungary and Czechoslovakia in Orel

A large group of Soviet children who were for a long time in German enslavement arrived at Orel from liberated regions of Hungary and Czechoslovakia and were placed in Children's Houses in Orel Province. Everything is being done to restore their health as quickly as possible.

1 January, 1945

Hospitals

In Prague the majority of clinics have been ostensibly changed into departments of the general hospital, but actually they have ceased to exist and the few which remain drag out a precarious existence in ill-equipped temporary quarters where scientific work is impossible. The older university professors have either died or been turned out. Private medical institutions, with all but a few exceptions, have been taken over for military purposes or for German children; the same is true of the summer holiday resorts and watering places. Transport to the hospitals is extremely difficult as is also the question of drugs, instruments and sera; for ordinary purposes sera are simply not available.

Mal-nutrition

Malnutrition among the Czech population has resulted in gastric complaints and in a terrible increase in tuberculosis. The condition of young babies also grows worse and worse. There is no rising generation of doctors, because the universities are closed.

17 November, 1944

The First Medical Supplies

Mr. Majer told the State Council that the first consignment of medical supplies for the liberated territory was shipped from Washington on 2 January. There are two further consignments ready in Washington. One consignment which is to be despatched this month amounts to about 3,000 tons and contains about 90,000 pairs of boots besides milk, tinned meat (chiefly pork), peas, fats and bacon, margarine, cod liver oil, seeds, second-hand woollen clothes, leather for soles, medical supplies, lorries, down to needles and thread.

Clothing and Raw Materials

Besides this Czechoslovakia is to receive a ration of 100 tons of good second-hand clothes. Fifteen tons have already been sent.

Negotiations are in progress under which Czechoslovakia is to be allotted a certain quantity of raw materials to manufacture textiles and shoes for UNRRA's work in other countries. If Czechoslovakia's textile and boot and shoe industries have not been badly damaged or destroyed, she may thus secure a further allocation of raw materials for her own use.

19 January, 1945

Second Medical Expedition to Slovakia

Thirty-two men and women - including six doctors and eight nurses - with fourteen tons of medical supplies have left London for liberated Slovakia, as the second Czechoslovak medical expedition. The medical supplies, partly supplies by UNRRA and partly bought by the Czechoslovak Government, include not only drugs and instruments, but also laboratory equipment and two sets of X-ray apparatus.

2 February, 1945

INFORMATION FROM ENEMY-CONTROLLED SOURCES

WELFARE, SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND RELIEF

PROTECTORATE

Success of Social Relief Scheme

Report from Prague: The Czech Social Relief Scheme - a collection by Czech organisations for the social welfare of the Czech population - yielded in the second year of its existence 66% more than in the first year. In 1942-43 the sum of Kc 82,000,000 was collected, and in 1943-44 the sum of Kc 208,000,000. This was announced by Chalupa, Commissioner for Social Relief, in the Smetana Hall in Prague to-day at the inauguration of the third Czech Social Relief Scheme for Bohemia-Moravia.

Dr. Riha, Lord Mayor of Prague, and Emanuel Morevec, Minister for Public Enlightenment, spoke at the ceremony, which was attended by Dr. Krejci, Head of the Protectorate Government and members of the Protectorate Government and leading representatives of Protectorate authorities.

(E.H. - Transocean, in German for Europe,
11 November, 1944)

Clothing and Footwear Collection for Czech Workers

The Chairman of the Protectorate Government issued the following appeal to the Czech people, on the Government's behalf: There will be a collection of clothes and footwear for Czech workers during the next few days, among the Czech population of the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia. The collection will cover usable clothes, uniforms, footwear, old textiles of all kinds, which can be repaired and essential items of workers' equipment. Its yield will be devoted to Czech workers in industry and agriculture, especially those digging trenches. They are working under particularly hard conditions. Their clothes and boots wear out more and more rapidly and they themselves cannot replace them.

(B.B.C. - Protectorate Home Service in Czech,
17 February, 1945)

Czech Films for Czech Workers in Berlin

Attention of Czech workers in Berlin is drawn to the fact that Czech films will be shown at three large Berlin cinemas. Only citizens of the Protectorate, mobilised for work in the Reich and billeted in Berlin, will be admitted. Tickets may be obtained from the Bohemian-Moravian Gau Liaison Office in Berlin: S.O.16; Engeldamm 62.

(B.B.C. - Protectorate Home Service,
15 January, 1945)

SLOVAKIA

PUBLIC HEALTH

Health Insurance Institute's New Deputy Chairman

The President of the Republic accepted the resignation of the Deputy Chairman of the Health Insurance Institute of Public Employees, Minister Lednar, who was unable to carry on because of other duties.

On the suggestion of the Minister of the Interior, Josef Bezak, Inspector of Slovak Railways, was appointed Deputy Chairman.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, 28 November, 1944)

New Head of State Health Service

On the recommendation of Prof. Dr. Subik, former Head of the State Health Service, and Prof. Dr. Carsky, Chairman of the Chamber of Physicians, the Minister of the Interior has appointed Dr. Ladislav Straka, Chief Health Councillor, to be the head of the Slovak State Health Service.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, December, 1944)

Evacuees' Centre in Presov

An evacuee centre organised in Presov, attends to 1,200 refugees daily from the immediately threatened territory. Doctors and nurses look after the social welfare and poor refugees receive clothing and articles of necessity contributed by the regional authorities, private firms, individuals and the Red Cross. Up to date, 400,000 Slovak crowns have been spent.

(B.B.C. - German European Service, 11 December, 1944)

Extended Health Measures

Wartime conditions and events demand from the State greater preparedness in the health services, especially in connection with increased movement of the population. Owing to these circumstances and to the heavier State tasks in social welfare, the Government has extended the scope of the State Institute of Health and Social Welfare in matters concerning preparedness against epidemics. It has also empowered the Ministry of the Interior to charge this Institute with other tasks to improve health conditions.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, 5 December, 1944)

Doctors to Improvise Hospitals

In connection with the present war transport conditions the Head of the Health Service in Slovakia appealed on 5 February, 1945 to district and regional doctors in whose locality there is no civilian hospital or infirmary to improvise general hospitals, even on a modest scale, as isolation hospitals during epidemics. Such hospitals would help doctors to cope more easily with many sick or wounded people. They must be administered by the local community and marked with a red cross on a white circle, like other civilian hospitals and infirmaries in Slovakia, as protection against attacks from the ground and air, in accordance with Article 27 of The Hague Convention.

(E.H. - Slovak Home Service, 6 February, 1945)

Red Cross Activities

The Red Cross is organising a collection of clothes and footwear for war victims. As the Red Cross staff is now employed on other urgent work, the Red Cross asks caretakers to collect the gifts and take them to the collecting centres.

(E.H. Slovak Press, 17 December, 1944)

Evacuee Relief

Now that the war has reached Slovakia, the evacuation of the eastern districts has imposed new duties on the Red Cross - the welfare of evacuees. The Red Cross were giving first aid, food and medical aid to these evacuees, and looking after many homeless children.

A Red Cross relief column was now working in Presov, helping those uprooted by the war. For the discharge of these new and exacting tasks, more helpers and more financial support were needed.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, 23 December, 1944)

Red Cross Care for Evacuees

The Slovak Red Cross has organised a permanent service on the Ruzomberok railway station to look after the evacuees. The Ruzomberok students have organised a collection of money, clothes and footwear for the evacuees.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 1 January, 1945)

First Winter Relief Collection

Bratislava: The result of the first collection for the war Winter Relief Campaign yesterday and to-day has surpassed all expectations. In Bratislava, the total is 105,939 Slovak crowns, RM 2,492 and Peng. 126. The money will be used chiefly to relieve our German fellow-citizens who have suffered badly at the bandits' hands.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, 26 November, 1944)

Cost of Living Bonus

Bratislava Town Council decided to grant a Christmas bonus to all its employees and prolong the validity of the by-laws concerning cost of living bonuses.

It was also decided to incorporate Vajnory, Racisdorf, Prievoz, Lamac and Dubravka into Bratislava.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, 7 December, 1944)

Welfare of Disabled Men and Dependents

"Slovenska Politika" gives a survey of the measures taken in 1944 for the welfare of front soldiers, including the disabled and next-of-kin of those dead. In 1944, 2,370,356 Korunas were paid to the next-of-kin of dead and disabled soldiers. (Underwear and clothing, newspapers, books and games distributed; figures of those for whom employment was found.)

(B.B.C. - Slovak European Service, 8 January, 1945)

Insurance Scheme for Czech Workers in Reich

The next issue of "Cesky Delnik" publishes the most important part of the new agreement on the Health Insurance of Protectorate nationals working in the Reich. This agreement was concluded between the Reich and the Protectorate Health Insurance representatives.

(B.B.C. - Protectorate Home Service, 29 January, 1945)

EVACUATION

Camps for German Evacuees from Slovakia

The following camps were mentioned: Hennersdorf on the Neisse, district Grottkau, Upper Silesia; Camp 240; Breitenfeld on the Neisse, Upper Silesia; KLV Camps "Rothenstein" and "Ruebezahl" at Petzer, and a KLV camp in Johannisbad; KLV Camp at St. Gallen, Styria; KLV Camp at Krimml, near Salzburg, Austria.

All German national refugees from Slovakia, as well as families who have taken evacuee children from Slovakia, are requested to send at once their present and former addresses, with personal data of all concerned, to the Delegate of the Leader of the German Ethnical Group, Engineer Sigmund Keil, Reichenberg.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, 20 December, 1944)

Feeding Stations for Evacuees: Towns Named

Difficult transport conditions make it imperative to help people, particularly women and children, who forced by military events to leave home, are suffering hardship owing to inadequate food during their necessarily long journey. The Chief of the Slovak Health Services has therefore arranged for feeding centres to be opened at the more important Slovak railway junctions, where evacuees can have drinking water, tea, soup and other food.

The Red Cross is organising centres at Zilina, Puchov, Nove Mesto nad Vahom, Trnava, Bratislava, Topolcany, Prievidza and Zvolen. The Hlinka Youth will take over the centres at Vrutky, Trenc, Tepla, Leopoldov, Dubrava, Zahora and Jablonica.

Evacuation of Children Planned

Parents of children under 10 are urged to register the children with the Slovak Red Cross for eventual evacuation. The Slovak Red Cross has resumed the registration scheme and is now carrying it out for the entire territory of Slovakia.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 21 January, 1945)

LIBERATED CZECHOSLOVAKIA

E D U C A T I O N

Schools in Liberated Territory taken over by National Council

The Slovak National Council in Banska Bystrica has ordered all schools of all categories in the liberated Slovakian territory to be taken over by the State. German and Hungarian minority schools, higher than the elementary status, established even before the time of the Munich agreement, will be closed by 6 October at the latest.

9 October, 1944.

Music
Students
for
Labour
Front

The Prague and Brno Conservatories have not been opened for the new term and all students and professors have been placed at the disposal of the labour front. All other music schools for pupils above fourteen years of age have been closed.

9 October, 1944.

P R E S S

Free Newspapers Established in Liberated Territory

The National Council, which is directing the rebellion in the Zvolen district, started the publication of a newspaper, Hlas Naroda (Voice of the People), in the city of Zvolen. The quisling broadcast from Bratislava warns the people not to believe the reports of this paper. 25 September, 1944.

Free Press for Slovak National Council

After five years of totalitarian newspapers there is again a free press in Banska Bystrica and throughout Free Slovakia. The organ of the Slovak National Council is called Utok (The Attack); it bears the slogan, "Happiness in Freedom, no Freedom without Courage".

The organ of the local National Committee is called Hlas Lidu (The People's Voice). There is a Communist newspaper, Pravda (Truth), and the Army's organ, Bojovník (The Warrior).

6 November, 1944.

More than a Hundred Czech Newspapers were Suppressed

After the total mobilisation in the Protectorate was promulgated, 105 Czech newspapers were suspended. The following Prague dailies are among them: A Zet, Narodni Stred, Vecer, Cesky Denik, Narodni Prace. The daily Jesko Slovo, is published only on Sunday.

6 November, 1944.

In addition to the Czech dailies suspended in Prague, the following dailies in other Czech towns have ceased publication within the framework of the total war effort: Moravske Slovo in Brno; Cesky Denik in Plzen; and Narodni Prace in Moravska Ostrava. 186 Czech and 35 German magazines have been suspended and of the 15 Czech cultural magazines, only three have survived.

R A D I O

BANSKA BYSTRICA BROADCAST RESUMED

The Banska Bystrica broadcasting station, which had been raided by the Germans early in September, has resumed sending broadcasts of the Slovakian National Committee. All central administrative offices in the liberated territory are now concentrated in Banska Bystrica. 10 October, 1944.

AMERICAN FILMS FOR CZECHOSLOVAKIA

The Czechoslovak Cabinet in a meeting agreed to a proposal of the Ministry of Commerce concerning the post-war importation of American OWI films to Czechoslovakia. 13 November, 1944.

RELIEF FUND FOR WAR ORPHANS

The Oskar Kokoschka Fund

The Czechoslovak painter and writer, Oskar Kokoschka, last year gave £1,000 (his fee for a portrait of the Soviet Ambassador, M. Maisky) towards building a hospital in Stalingrad when the city is rebuilt. This year he has given another £4,000 (£1,000), received for his famous picture "The Philosopher T.G. Masaryk" to start a fund, which is to be called the "Oskar Kokoschka Fund", for the benefit of "war orphans of all the nationalities united in liberated Czechoslovakia". Mr. Jan Masaryk, Minister for Foreign Affairs, is the trustee of this fund, and the organisation will be guided by the principles of the famous Czech humanist, John Amos Comenius.

19 January, 1945.

INFORMATION FROM ENEMY-CONTROLLED SOURCES

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

SLOVAKIA

Syllabus for Schools

The Minister of Education has issued two decrees concerning the syllabus for elementary, secondary and technical schools and teachers' colleges. Their purpose is to increase the national spirit in education.

The Minister also appointed Prof. Dr. Anton Jilecky as the new Chief of the Cultural Department of the Ministry of Education.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, 29 December, 1944)

Schools Closed in Nitra

Tuition at the schools in Nitra has been discontinued for an indefinite period from 8 January, and will be resumed later.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 9 January, 1945)

Coal Shortage Reduces Classes in Schools

The restrictions which were imposed on tuition in schools by the decree of 4 January, in order to save fuel, are to remain in force until further notice, as the greatest possible economy in coal is required.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 25 January, 1945)

Vocational Schools remain closed

Vocational schools will remain closed until further notice. Permission for tuition may be granted exceptionally if the premises are heated for other reasons.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 28 January, 1945)

Bratislava University's New Professors

The President of the Republic on 9 February appointed the following new professors to Bratislava University: Dr. F. Hrusovsky, Headmaster of the Roman Catholic Grammar School in Klastor and Deputy in the Slovak Parliament as Professor of Medieval History; Dr. S. Meciar, Secretary of the Slovak Cultural Organisation as Professor of Slovak Literature; Dr. Henrik Bartek, Director of the Scientific Institute for Slovaks Abroad as Professor of Slovak Language, Dr. Joseph Timcik as Professor of Historical Art, Dr. Ernest Zatka-Bor as Professor of Romance Languages, Dr. V. Wagner as Extraordinary Professor of Historical Art, Dr. L. Straka as Professor of Social Medicine, Dr. L. Botjek as Professor of Surgical Propaedeutics, Dr. A. Binovsky as Professor of Hygiene, Dr. G. Ondrejicek as Professor of Radium Therapy, and Dr. G. Bardos as Professor of Experimental Pathology.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, 16 February, 1945)

P R E S S

Transport Difficulties affect daily press

Sturov Hlas which has been published in Zvolen since 29 October, is now a daily paper because no other newspapers reach Pohronie on account of transport difficulties.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 12 November, 1944)

Hungarian Paper in Bratislava ceases publication

Magyar Neplap, Bratislava, published Magyar Hirlap's farewell to the readers by Eszterhazy: I inform the Hungarians in Slovakia that from to-day I cease the publication of the Bratislava Magyar Hirlap. I have been the publisher of Magyar Hirlap from 15 December, 1941. (Signed): The publisher of Magyar Hirlap, Janos Eszterhazy.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 30 December, 1944)

News about Hlinka Youth activities

News about Hlinka Youth activities will be published regularly twice or thrice weekly in "Slovak", and other dailies. Reports should be addressed to the Culture and Propaganda Department of Hlinka Youth HQ, Bratislava.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, 13 January, 1945)

Slovak Armed Forces Journal - First Issue

To-day the first issue of "Domobrana", the journal of the reorganised Slovak Armed Forces, was published. The need for this became evident when the Home Defence Forces were created because problems of organisation requiring detailed discussion could only be thrashed out in an army paper. The leading article is by Dr. Tiso. He says:... "The Home Defence Forces are not organised for aggression but only for the defence of the homeland against the enemy outside and offenders inside the country."

"Domobrana" also publishes a message of greetings from Hassik, Minister of National Defence.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, 4 November, 1944)

New Propaganda Publications

The Bratislava Propaganda Office has published a book by Dr. Stefan Polakovic entitled "Slovak Politics and the Basic Ideas of its Development."

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 14 January, 1945)

R A D I O

Broadcasts from Hlinka Youth Camps

As from to-morrow, the Forces transmitter "Count Pribina" will broadcast each Sunday from 18.00 to 18.15 greetings to and from Hlinka Youth Task Forces, Hlinka Youth Labour Camps and Hlinka Youth Evacuee Camps. We draw the attention of Hlinka Youth members and the public at large to this broadcast. Greetings to be broadcast should be addressed to the Culture and Propaganda Department of Hlinka HQ, Bratislava.

(B.B.C. - Slovak Home Service, 13 January, 1945)

ANTI-SEMITISM

Bratislava Jews Removed to Labour Camp

The head of the Bratislava notarial office, Dr. Anton Vasek, has decreed that all the Bratislava Jews are to meet on 20 November at 08.00 in the courtyard of the Town Hall for evacuation to the labour camp of Sereď. The decree applies to all Jews irrespective of citizenship, profession, age or sex, including Jews to whom exemption has been granted by Slovak or German authorities and concerns, also Jews in mixed marriages who have no children, or if the children are over 18. Those who fail to comply with the decree will be placed in a penal camp.

Bratislava house owners must report that there are no Jews in their houses or state the names of persons who refuse to obey this decree, before 22 November.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 19 November, 1944)

Transfer of Jewish Estates

Last week the Land Office allotted 294 catastral yokes of land to 22 Slovak citizens in another six municipalities. The liquidation of estates which formerly belonged to Jews continues.

Land to the extent of 571 catastral yokes which formerly belonged to Jews in the villages of Velke, Kostolany, Ireg, Spacince, Ptackovce, Chtelnica, Cifer, Karna, Kumanova, Podhradie and Zeleneč has been allotted to 252 Slovaks, including 101 front line soldiers.

(E.H. - Slovak Press, 5 November, 1944)

LIBERATED CZECHOSLOVAKIA

FUTURE POSITION OF MINORITIES

Sudeten Germans

View of Czechoslovak Government in London

Replying for the Government to a question regarding the propagandist activities of the recently created "Sudeten-German Independent Democratic Committee" in London, Dr. Hubert Ripka, Minister of State, declared that this German political group is led by Mr. W. Jaksch. Contrary to the opinions held by that group, the Czechoslovak Government does not recognise the so-called Sudeten Germans as a particular national unit in Central Europe nor their status as a problem to be solved on an international basis.

The activities of Mr. Jaksch and his committee, Dr. Ripka emphasised, must be regarded as being opposed to the security of the Czechoslovak State.

German Committee of Anti-Fascists from Czecho- slovakia

There now exists in Britain a "German Committee of Anti-Fascists from Czechoslovakia", consisting of Czechoslovak Catholics, Communists, Social Democrats and Liberals of German nationality. This committee has fully endorsed the programme of renewal of the democratic Czechoslovak Republic, and the Government is glad to be able to recognise it as the sole body representing the truly democratic German nationals of Czechoslovakia and to maintain friendly contact with it. The Jaksch Group, therefore, is not entitled to speak on behalf of the German nationals in exile and still less on behalf of the majority of the so-called "Sudeten-Germans."

Dr. Ripka repeated the recent message of President Benes, according to which only those Germans and Magyars who are taking part in the fight against the Nazis, and who have never betrayed the Czechoslovak State, can feel their future secured in the Czechoslovak Republic.

1 January, 1945.

Conference in Stockholm

A conference of German Social Democrats from Czechoslovakia has been held in Stockholm under the leadership of Franz Krejci, a German Social Democrat and former member of Parliament for Trutnov (Bohemia) and Josef Ladig, ex-secretary of the metal workers' union at Chomutov (Bohemia). The Conference passed a resolution in which it completely identified itself with the declaration of the Czechoslovak Government on the removal of disloyal Germans from Czechoslovakia.

19 January, 1945.

SUB-CARPATHIAN UKRAINE

Pre-War Administration

In accordance with the Treaty of Saint-Germain of 10 September, 1919, the Constitution gave to this part of the Republic, inhabited by the Slavonic people known as Ruthenians, a special Provincial Diet with legislative powers in linguistic, educational, and religious questions as well as local administration. At the head of the administration of Carpathian Ruthenia there was to have been a governor nominated by the President of the Republic on the proposal of the Cabinet and responsible also to the Provincial Diet. It turned out, however, that the Ruthenian

people, who had been so direly and criminally neglected by the former Hungarian régime, were not yet ripe for such a high degree of autonomy and self-government. The Ruthenian autonomy had therefore to be put into effect gradually through a step by step evolution and the educative preparation of the people for their task. Nevertheless, the office of the Ruthenian Governor was established, while the Provincial Diet contemplated by the Constitution could not yet be brought into being. 12 January, 1945.

Administration of Liberated Area

The major part of Sub-Carpathian Ukraine, the easternmost province of Czechoslovakia, having been liberated by the Red Army, Mr. Frantisek Nemecek has taken over as Czechoslovak Government Delegate the administration of those parts of the province which have ceased to be operational areas.

Disturbed
State of
Country

Mr. Nemecek's first reports to his Government in London reveal the state in which the retreating German and Hungarian troops have left the country. Railways and roads are disrupted; long stretches of rails have disappeared; hardly a bridge is left intact. Practically all locomotives and cars were taken to Hungary. Mr. Nemecek and his staff are facing the greatest difficulties as regards communications and the distribution of food. He describes the food situation and the lack of medical aid and medicines as catastrophic.

17 November, 1944.

Movement for Union with Russia

Pan-
Ukrainian
Group

Recent developments in Ruthenia - or Sub-Carpathian Ukraine - the extreme eastern part of Czechoslovakia, are being watched with much interest. There is little direct news from this remote province, which owes its liberation to the Red Army; and such information as is available is derived from broadcasts from Kiev. The position is obscure, but it seems clear that the pan-Ukrainian group has begun a movement to achieve what is spoken of as "reunion with our mother Soviet Ukraine."

Own
Newspaper

It is gathered from the Kiev broadcasts that a Congress of People's Committees held its first meeting at Kunkachevo in November, 1944, and decided to bring about union with the Soviet Ukraine. The movement publishes its own newspaper called "Soviet Ukraine".

Agriculture
State
Control

The congress may exercise authority through a council, but it is not clear from the broadcasts, whether these are separate or identical bodies. Various decrees and regulations have, however, been issued. One of these provides for the allotting of land and woodland to peasants and farm workers; and this, it is stated, is being carried out. Other regulations cover the taking over by the State of electric power stations, distilleries and a brewery. It has also been decided to establish a State university and a forestry and agricultural institute....

Czech Agree-
ment with
U.S.S.R.

The Czechoslovak Government in London has had its own administrative delegation in the liberated parts of Czechoslovakia for some months now headed by M. Nemecek, who has been visiting both Ruthenia and Slovakia. The administration of liberated territory is regulated by the agreement signed in May of last year. This provides for supreme authority to remain with the Soviet commander-in-chief so long as the territory is an operational zone; thereafter the Czechoslovak Government is to be in full control of the administration of public affairs. How far, in Ruthenia, this is affected by the present pan-Ukrainian movement will doubtless be cleared up when M. Nemecek reports to his Government.

16 January, 1945.

A National Committee has been set up under a former member of the Czechoslovak National Council and is reported to be agitating for an autonomous status and affiliation with the Ukrainian Republic.

The Council claims that as the result of the massacre, deportation and flight all foreign elements, especially Jews and Hungarians, have been cleared from the country, which is now exclusively inhabited by Sub-Carpathian Russians, or in other words, Ukrainians. 14 January, 1945.

LAND DISTRIBUTION

National Committees' Resolution

The first Conference of the National Committees of the Sub-Carpathian Ukraine passed a resolution on the distribution of land to agricultural labourers and small-holders in the Sub-Carpathian Ukraine: 1) The land of all Hungarian and German landowners and of the enemies of the people who fled with the German-Hungarian invaders is to be confiscated; 2) The National Council of the Sub-Carpathian Ukraine will hand over the land thus confiscated to the local National Committees free of charge, for distribution among landless peasants and labourers; 3) The National Council of the Sub-Carpathian Ukraine allots the forest free of charge to the National Committees, so as to ensure the people's supplies of wood and building materials. 29 December, 1944.

Industrial and Cultural Rehabilitation

The Uzhorod paper "Zakarpatska Ukrajina" describes how, in liberated Sub-Carpathian Ukraine, the public libraries of Uzhorod have now reopened. Cinemas have reopened in the towns, and in the villages mobile cinemas have shown Soviet films. A Soviet military choir is giving concerts in towns and villages.

The electricity supply is working again, shops and pharmacies have reopened, and flour mills are working in the liberated territory. The factories of Mukacevo are starting work again. 5 January, 1945.

LIBERATED CZECHOSLOVAKIA

PLANS FOR REHABILITATION

ASPECTS OF SOCIAL WELFARE

Mr. Jan Becko, Minister of Social Welfare, in a recent report emphasised that the tasks his department is facing after the liberation of the country are difficult to assess owing to many unknown factors. No one can know at present in what condition industry, housing and the transport system will be found in Czechoslovakia and other parts of Europe or in the world at large.

Manpower As regards national manpower it must be borne in mind that more than one third of Czechoslovak skilled manpower has been taken to Germany or German-occupied territory.

Education Furthermore, for six years the whole educational and training system in Czechoslovakia has been adjusted to the needs of the German war machine and tens of thousands of adults have been directed to new occupations.

Industry Restoration of the former industrial and commercial potentials of the Republic will involve the tremendous task of re-education of whole classes, especially when the entire national economics will be re-organised on the basis of central planning.

It will be necessary to carry out general national registration of manpower; mobilisation and, if necessary, compulsory enrolment for labour service will be proclaimed.

Social Insurance

On 25 October, Minister J. Becko gave the Economic and Social Committee information regarding the proposals prepared by Professor E. Schoenbaum to re-establish social insurance. The proposals, which are now to be discussed by the Government and State Council, envisage the extension of health insurance to the whole nation. Old-age pensions and insurance for workers and salaried officials against disablement and accident during employment are to be linked with the central social insurance scheme.

Many features in the field of social insurance call for adaptation and changes. Professor Schoenbaum's programme devotes special attention to the problem of young people, and to population and housing questions. It starts from the basis that social insurance must be based on the capitalisation of incomes, but modifies the strict rules of the pre-Munich period.

Public Health

Minister J. Becko laid before the Council the plans of the Ministry of Social Welfare for immediate post-war public health measures. His report stated that health conditions in Bohemia and Moravia are desperate. All decisions regarding health and medical matters are in the hands of the Germans, who show no concern for the needs of the Czech people.

IN LIBERATED SLOVAKIA

Mr. Nemecek Czechoslovak Government Delegate in Kosice

Representative Office for Sub-Carpathian Ukraine

Mr. Frantisek Nemecek, Czechoslovak Government Delegate to the liberated territories, arrived on 1 February in Kosice, the biggest Czechoslovak town liberated so far by the Red Army, and established his offices there.

Office for
Sub-Carpathian
Ukraine

Only a part of his staff accompanied him to Kosice; some members remained in Uzhhorod where Mr. Nemecek has set up a representative office for Sub-Carpathian Ruthenia, appointing Mr. Ivan Petruscak, Ruthenian member of the Czechoslovak State Council in London, to be head of that office. Mr. Petruscak left London some two months ago and met Mr. Nemecek in Moscow.

The liberated parts of Slovakia are administered by the Slovak National Council in Kosice following regulations agreed upon with the Czechoslovak Government in London and in close collaboration with Mr. Nemecek. Elections of members of the local National Committees are being carried out everywhere as soon as the Germans are cleared out. Recruiting into the Czechoslovak Army is proceeding very satisfactorily under the authority of Mr. Nemecek.

16 February, 1945.

Restoration of Czechoslovak Laws

Mr. Frantisek Nemecek, Czechoslovak Government Delegate to the liberated territories, has reported from Kosice to his Government that the demarcation line in liberated Slovakia between the civilian and the military zone has been shifted further west. The area east of that line is now fully under Czechoslovak sovereignty with Czechoslovak laws restored.

Slovak National Council

Mr. Nemecek has handed over the administration of the liberated parts of Slovakia east of the demarcation line to the Slovak National Council, reserving to himself all matters concerning the State as a whole and acting as liaison between the Slovak National Council on the one hand and the Czechoslovak Government in London and the Soviet military and civil authorities on the other.

Restoration of Railway Lines

The railway lines badly damaged in the course of the fighting and the German retreat are being speedily restored. Slovak currency is circulating at parity alongside the provisional Czechoslovak currency notes issued by the Czechoslovak Government for payments of the Soviet and Czechoslovak Armies.

23 February, 1945.

RESUMED PARTISAN ACTIVITIES

It has been reported that partisan activity in Slovakia has again been resumed on a considerable scale. The guerrillas are concentrating their attacks on German supply lines, which are of such importance to the Wehrmacht in these critical days.

Food Dis-
tribution
Difficult

Owing to dislocation in the supply lines, the food distribution has become extremely difficult (in all parts of the country) with the exception of Bratislava. In central Slovakia the situation is catastrophic, for that is the part of the country which was devastated during the fighting

between the Germans and the partisans. Owing to acts of sabotage and Allied air attacks, the road and rail transport has become entirely disorganised.

Requisitioning Since a thorough requisitioning of all the existing stocks has been
by SS-Men carried out under the supervision of the SS these regions are practically reduced to starvation.

Passive The Germans have not only got to fight against the partisans but
Resistance by also against the difficulties caused by the passive resistance on the
Officials part of Slovak officials. A strong wave of opposition has come over that influential class (of officials), who - although they continue to remain in their places - have started to make a stand against German interference in Slovak affairs.

Slovak National Council The direction of the political affairs of the Slovak resistance is in the hands of the Slovenska Narodna Rada (Slovak National Council). The strength and importance of this organisation cannot be better characterised than by stating that in the territories which are controlled by the partisans there are four dailies and three political reviews.

In November, 1944, a Delegation of the Slovak National Council visited London in order to discuss the subject of the future status of Slovakia within the new Czechoslovakia. This delegation left London for Moscow where it is still at the moment. The radio talks by Novomesky broadcast from Moscow are of a strongly national character.
9 February, 1945.

Price The district of Michalovce is slowly returning to normal. The
Control food office has found food for everybody, carefully shared out and strictly price-controlled. Sanitation is being improved and postal collections and deliveries are being made throughout the district.
2 February, 1945.

CALL TO ACTION BY CZECHOSLOVAK AMBASSADOR, Z. FIERLINGER

"Deported Czechoslovak Workers in Reich:

Over 12,000,000 foreign workers and millions of prisoners-of-war are awaiting liberation. Hitherto, the German authorities have been trying to evacuate areas threatened by the Red Army. As the Soviet advance continues, such evacuation will become increasingly more difficult. Our workers deported to Germany have an excellent opportunity to escape and to speed up Germany's defeat. They must seek reliable allies among their comrades from France, Belgium and other countries who are in the same position. Our people must make their way home as quickly as possible. Otherwise they run the risk of being killed by Allied air raids, which will constantly grow in destructive power, or by the bullets of the SS and Gestapo, which will try to forestall a revolt of the suppressed proletariat.

In the region of Moravska Ostrava, resistance which had been fermenting underground for a long time, is now beginning to rise to the surface. Reports reach us from Ostrava, Karvina, Presov, and Brno about risings of our workers and railwaymen. Young people and men fit to bear arms are fleeing to the mountains and forests. Soon the Lysa Hora and Radhost areas will witness battles between our people and the invaders.

In the industrial regions of Northern Moravia, our workers are trying to prevent the evacuation of factories and the destruction of mines.
15 February, 1945.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S RETURN

At a recent meeting of the Czechoslovak Council of Ministers the Government approved a proposal by the Ministry of Finance that the President of the Republic should empower the Government to take steps to facilitate the country's financial recovery.

Legislative Power during Transition

The Government took cognisance of a proposal by the Ministry of the Interior for a constitutional decree on the exercise of legislative power during the transition period; the State Council was asked for an advisory report. The Government also approved a draft constitutional decree on the provisional National Assembly.

The Government took cognisance of the report by the Minister of Foreign Affairs on negotiations with the British Government about transport facilities for the return of the Government, members of the State Council and officials to Czechoslovakia.

Resignation of Government in London

It was resolved unanimously that before leaving for home the Government should resign. It has been approved that members of the Government travelling to Moscow for political negotiations shall be granted leave. The Prime Minister will take measures regarding the continuance of Government matters.

The Government approved a proposal by the Minister of Reconstruction for an agreement with UNRRA.

Rolling Stock in France

The Government took cognisance of the report by the Minister of Reconstruction on Czechoslovak rolling stock in France. 23 February, 1945.

Life Returns to Kosice

Public life is reviving in liberated Kosice. Political meetings are held daily by the two Slovak parties, the Communists and the non-socialist Democrats. Among the workers non-party trade unions are being formed and factory committees elected. Two daily newspapers, the Slovak National Council's "Narodne Obrodenie" and the Communist Party's "Pravda", are in publication.

Administration and Public Services

Pending the election of a National Committee, the administration of Kosice is being carried on by a Government commission headed by Mr. Stefan Kajfer. The commission is already procuring food at controlled prices. The electricity station and the gas works are supplying hospitals and public offices, and hope soon to serve households as well. The community is issuing free food to poor citizens. The public library is open, efforts are being made to open a theatre, and the radio station is broadcasting daily at 8 p.m. on 18, 41 and 295 wavelengths. Schools are reopening.

Land Reform Measures

The local National Committees have been authorised to prepare a land reform measure which is expected to include expropriation of the great estates of Andrassy, Esterhazy, Hadik-Barkoczy, and others. A commission has been formed to investigate Fascist crimes, and People's Courts to mete out justice to war criminals and collaborationists have been elected. 23 February, 1945.

RETURN OF THE LONDON GOVERNMENT

President Benes and members of his Cabinet have left for Czechoslovakia as soon as travel facilities can be placed at their disposal.

M. Jan Masaryk, the Foreign Minister, is one of the party. Diplomatic representatives accredited to Czechoslovakia will not follow until the Government has definitely settled in Prague, but one member of the British, American, French and Soviet Embassy staffs will follow M. Masaryk to maintain touch.

Composition of Government

President Benes will visit Moscow on his way to complete the negotiations as to the composition of his new Government, which, for the first time, will include Communists. Most of the Czech Communist parliamentarians have been living in Moscow since 1939. Two, or possibly three, will have important posts in the reconstructed Cabinet.

Kosice: Provisional Seat of Government

The provisional seat of the Government will probably be Kosice, in Eastern Slovakia, which has suffered very little in the war. M. Nemec, the Government delegate, went there last week to make the necessary preparations.

400 State Employees in London

Employees of the Czechoslovakian Government in London number some 400 about half of whom are regular Civil Servants. Those whose services are no longer required will be given unemployment relief until they are able to leave this country.

Dependent on developments on the Continent, it is expected that all Government employees will have left London by the summer, except those concerned with the liquidation of the different departments and the expert advisers for international negotiations on relief, rehabilitation and commerce.

Repatriation of Refugees

Czechoslovak refugees in British employment or of independent means have been asked to report for repatriation to M. Becko, Minister of Social Welfare. They comprise several thousands of families, but Czechoslovak officials believe that the last of their refugee nationals will have left Britain long before the first British soldiers are demobilised.

11 February, 1945.

CZECHOSLOVAK STATE COUNCIL

Termination of Activities in London

The Czechoslovak State Council in London, which acts as an advisory and controlling body to the Cabinet, agreed, on 14 October, to draft a constitutional decree according to which the State Council shall cease to exist on the day when a Government appointed by President Benes shall be established on Czechoslovakian territory.

On British soil, the activity of the State Council is to be terminated by a special decree. Mandates of validity which ended on 11 October and the present session of the State Council are to be prolonged until the termination on British soil of the State Council's activity. 13 November, 1944.

Army Appointment

Lt. General Antonin Nizborsky, chief of the President's military staff, who accompanies the Government Delegation to Czechoslovakia, has been commissioned by the President with the task of re-organising the Czechoslovak Army during and after the war. Such re-organisation will, no doubt, be based on the Army's experience within the British and Russian armies and with the new French armed forces.

5 January, 1945.

Radio

A team of nine broadcasting engineers has left London for liberated Czechoslovakia with small radio transmitters and loudspeakers. The loudspeakers are for use in town and village streets to help the new administrators in reaching the public quickly.

Films

The team of broadcasting engineers which has left London for liberated Czechoslovakia is also taking with it a further supply of films about the British war effort and war newsreels, all with Czech and Slovak sub-titles.

Press

The first numbers of a Slovak paper, "Hlas Ludu" (The Voice of the People) published at Backa in Yugoslavia, recently arrived in London. They tell the story of the liberation of Backa, an enclave of Slovak population in Yugoslav territory, by Marshal Tito's forces and the Red Army.

2 February, 1945.

National Front

The latest number of the Moscow Czechoslovak paper, "Ceskoslovensko Listy", has published a long interview with one of the vice-chairmen of the Slovak National Council, the poet Laco Novomesky. Novomesky answered several current questions and spoke about the broad national front in Slovakia.

2 February, 1945.

Czechoslovak Leader Dead

The death is announced of the Czechoslovak politician, Maj. Bohuslav Vrbensky, member of the Czechoslovak State Council and of the Czechoslovak Military Mission to the Soviet Union.

25 November, 1944.

Death of Minister Necas

Mr. Jaromir Necas, Czechoslovak Minister of Economic Reconstruction until November, 1942, has died in London at the age of 56.

Mr. Necas became Social Democrat member of the Czechoslovak Parliament and was Minister of Social Welfare from 1935 to 1938.

For a time he was also President of the International Labour Office. He escaped from Czechoslovakia at the beginning of 1940.

9 February, 1945.

UNRRA RELIEF FOR CZECHOSLOVAKIA VIA U.S.S.R.

Mr. Herbert Lehman, director of UNRRA, announced that the Soviet Union had cleared the way for the shipment of UNRRA relief supplies to Poland and Czechoslovakia by agreeing to the use of Black Sea ports and of inland transport facilities, for food, clothing, medical supplies and other relief goods consigned to Czechoslovakia. 20 January, 1945.

UNRRA: DISTRIBUTION OF SUPPLIES

An UNRRA Control Commission is to go to liberated Czech territory for the purpose of controlling distribution of relief supplies. The Control Commission will be chiefly of a supervisory nature - distribution will be done exclusively by the Czech authorities.

The mixed Control Commission will be headed by M. Alexejov, Head of the Foreign Trade Department of the People's Commissariat of Foreign Trade. M. Alexejov is at present still in Moscow and the British and American members have not yet been appointed. The Control Commission will receive weekly reports from the Czech authorities. 26 January, 1945.

UNRRA SUPPLIES FOR CZECHOSLOVAKIA

An agreement between the Czechoslovak Government and UNRRA for a general relief programme for Czechoslovakia was signed in London yesterday by M. Masaryk, the Czech deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, and Sir Frederick Leith-Ross, Deputy Director-General for the European Regional Office, UNRRA.

The supplies when they reach Czechoslovakia will be handed over to the Government, which will be responsible for their distribution. Provision is made for an UNRRA mission with the necessary staff to go into Czechoslovakia, and the Government will give it appropriate facilities. The agreement will be reviewed after six months.

Sir Frederick Leith-Ross said that UNRRA sent some medical supplies to Czechoslovakia by air more than a month ago, and the first bulk shipment of relief goods both from the United States and from this country had now been arranged, totalling about 8,000 tons, made up of food, medical supplies, clothing, agricultural machinery, and road transport vehicles.

In addition, they were exploring arrangements under which they would supply raw materials to the Czech industries for the manufacture of relief goods required in other countries. This would contribute to the restoration of Czechoslovak industrial production and help to relieve the shortage of supplies and the strain on production elsewhere. 27 February, 1945.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN LIBERATED TERRITORY

APPENDIX I

Provisions of the Presidential Decree of 4 December, 1944.

The Czechoslovak Cabinet, being throughout the whole course of the war in closest contact with the Czech and Slovak underground movements, and anticipating the wishes of the Czechoslovak people, issued as early as April, 1944, a formal declaration, urging the people to form national committees which would take over local administration in the liberated territory and laying down the main principles for their guidance.

Local committees were to be set up in the villages and townships, district committees in administrative districts, and provincial committees in the provinces. The number of their members was not to exceed the membership of the respective self-governing bodies from pre-Munich times and they were to be composed of reliable and irreproachable citizens, representatives of all social classes and all patriotic political tendencies. The committee was asked to take over and discharge the local administration until the normal organs of administration had been established.

In particular, they had to deal with law and order, to ensure the safety of public property, to suspend disloyal elements from office, to secure war criminals and enemies of the Republic and to provide for industrial and agricultural production to supply the needs of the population. They were to abide by the laws of the Republic and directions issued by the President and the Government.

Finally, the declaration promised that a Presidential Decree would be issued in due course to regulate the organisation and competence of the national committees.

Indeed, when the Slovak uprising of September, 1944, succeeded in setting free, temporarily, a considerable portion of Slovakia, national committees were established throughout the liberated territories and took over the local administration under the instructions of the Central Slovak National Council. And with the present gradual Soviet penetration into Slovakia, national committees are again arising in the liberated towns and villages and take the local government into their hands.

All these committees are, of course, only provisional. As soon as elections can be held, they will be superseded by new national committees set up in accordance with the Presidential Decree of 4 December, which will then become regular organs of local administration until the National Assembly has reached its decision regarding the final shape of local government in the country....

Besides administration proper, the Decree entrusts to the national committees another power of crucial importance for the future of the country. They are to elect the Provisional National Assembly. This will act as a provisional Legislature to whom the Cabinet will be responsible. Desiring the creation of a legislature with the least possible delay after liberation has been achieved, the President transfers thereby the power to elect this provisional legislative body from the people to the committees. For undoubtedly it would take much longer to prepare the country for a direct general election. The Decree leaves open, however, the question as to which of the three types of national committees will be called upon as electors. This and other problems are to be settled by a special Decree which is now under discussion.

9 February, 1945.