

The campaign against "that obsolete scrap-iron," the Czech intellectuals, goes on as before, and subservient declarations have been wrested from the new Premier, Dr. Krejčí, from the Government party, from what is left of the trades union organisation and even from the heads of learned societies. The thin pretence is put forward that Hacha and his phantom Government are statesmen who have accepted the irrevocable politically, and thereby accepted the supremacy of German culture for all time; and as a sort of reward the curfew has been relaxed in certain districts, and the reopening of theatres, even of the National Theatre itself, has been permitted. The Quisling Congress in Berlin is, of course, hailed by the controlled press as the symbol of European solidarity against the crumbling Bolshevik régime. England is playing her last card—Russia: while America, in the words of *Ceské Slovo*, is "disunited, bewildered and partly chaotic." But only such misreaders of national psychology as the Nazis could fail to realise that the more they acclaim the congress and its motives, the more they compromise the New Order throughout the territory of the republic. For what Czech or Slovak—even the most separatist and anti-Czech of Slovaks—can seriously believe in a settlement which maintains the fiction of an "independent" Slovak State, while not allowing the Czechs to have a national State at all? And which of the vassal States is likely to have been reassured by Ribbentrop's fatuous assurance that Europe—in other words the Reich, with its string of obedient Nibelungs—could continue the war for another thirty years?

POLAND

General Sikorski has arrived at Kuibyshev. According to the press, he has since proceeded to Moscow in order to see M. Stalin. In an interview which he gave to the "Tass" correspondent in Tehran, the General stated that the Polish army in the U.S.S.R. would be entirely independent. M. Stalin had expressed the wish that it should consist of several divisions: their exact number would, however, depend on the supply of equipment. Besides regular forces there would also be volunteer corps; some of the younger volunteers would be sent to this country for training in British aviation schools. Some of the Polish divisions would be sent to the southern front and the whole Polish army in the U.S.S.R. would be under the command of General Anders. After expressing great admiration of the resistance put up by the Soviet armies, General Sikorski said he was hopeful that, after his conversation with M. Stalin, he would be able to broadcast from Moscow a speech expressing sincere friendship with the nations of the U.S.S.R.

The news from the General Government continues to be extremely harrowing. The food situation is very bad in the large towns and there is fear of famine, complicated by epidemic diseases, at hand. The most recent reports indicate that conditions in the terrible internment camp of Oświęcim, west of Cracow, have of late become even worse than hitherto—if that is possible. Finally, there is reason to fear that a new wave of repression is beginning. In the Incorporated Territories there is clear evidence of dastardly reprisals against eminent Poles who have refused to lend their names to an appeal to their compatriots to take part in the German crusade against bolshevism. In these circumstances it speaks eloquently for the vitality of the Polish race and for the stubborn patriotism of the Poles that they should continue to offer active resistance to the German authorities. Within the last few weeks these authorities have found it necessary to establish three special courts in Polish territory to deal with cases of "economic sabotage," by which is meant primarily the smuggling of food-stuffs from the Incorporated Territories into the General Government. Another special court has recently been established at Lublin to deal with accusations brought by the authorities against peasants for failing to furnish their quotas of grain, &c. At least two cases are known to have occurred in the first half of November, in which serious damage has been done—no doubt by Poles—to the railway lines in the General Government. The director of the German Communications Office in Warsaw and his chauffeur were recently killed as the result of an explosion while travelling between Warsaw and Białystok. In consequence the Germans have had to organise a special force of over 40,000 men, to guard the lines of communication, both roads and railways, across Poland. None the less, the acts of sabotage continue.

The city of Lwów has been divided into four quarters—German, Ukrainian, Polish and Jewish. The boundaries of the Jewish quarter have been fixed. Within them 40,000 Jews are living already and 80,000 more are to move in from other parts of the city. As it was in Warsaw, so it is in Lwów. The transference of population is arranged to take place at an inclement season of the year—between the middle of November and the 12th December—when the maximum of hardship will be entailed for the victims.

M. Kost Lewickij, a lawyer by profession, who played a great part in Ukrainian political life in Eastern Galicia between 1900 and 1920, has just died at Lwów at the age of 82. He was for many years member of the Austrian Parliament and was for some time in 1919 at the head of the Government of the West Ukrainian Republic. After the collapse of that State and the establishment of Polish rule in Eastern Galicia, he did not again take any official part in Ukrainian politics, but none the less he continued to exercise a good deal of influence. In fact, he was perhaps the most influential personality among the Galician Ukrainians after Archbishop Szeptycki. When the Germans entered Lwów they confirmed him in the position of chairman of the Ukrainian National Council.

SOVIET UNION.

Nearly twenty-four weeks have passed since the Germans launched their attack on the U.S.S.R.; the bulk of the Reichswahr, plus the whole of the Finnish and Roumanian armies, not to speak of formations from Slovakia, Hungary and Italy, have been thrown into the fight, yet Murmansk, Hangoe, Leningrad, Moscow, Tula and Rostov are still in the hands of the Red Army. In the first half of November Field-Marshal Mannerheim told a neutral observer that Field-Marshal Keitel estimated the German *dead* to amount to 750,000. The same observer learnt that the Finnish army had lost 32,000 *dead*. The strain must, however, be very heavy on the Russian side, too, and it is perhaps significant that on the 26th November the Leningrad radio broadcast a talk by a well-known writer, the purpose of which was to give a sharp warning to the sluggards, the defeatists and the war-weary, especially among the youth of the city. He referred first to the veterans of the World War and the Civil War who were "now setting an example in energy, in will-power, in fearlessness," but he complained that there were "people among the younger generation who only think in terms of rations, and complain because they have been cut down. They have been cut down in the name of the people and economy. They should compare their rations with the rations which the veterans received in 1920, which they received for years, not for a month or two, and on which they pulled through. This tradition of endurance lives, and must live, in the town of Lenin, the fortress town." Finally, although Leningrad was besieged, it was itself part of the ring that was tightening round Hitler and would press so hard that his bones would crack. "The enemy is aware of this danger, and tries to persuade us to capitulate with his leaflets and promises. . . . But those who whisper that it is possible to come to some arrangement with the enemy and to resume peaceful occupations will be stood up against the wall and shot. We only parley with the German usurpers with guns. When we, the Soviet people, undertake a job we see it through."

The recapture of Rostov will, of course, encourage the whole of the Red Army to exert, if possible, still greater efforts, and M. Stalin did not fail to have a personal message of congratulation broadcast to the commanders and formations concerned in it. One of the most important effects of this, the first offensive victory achieved by the Red Army over the Reichswehr, must be to postpone considerably any eventual capture of the oilfields at Maikop and Grosny on the north side of the Caucasus range; added to the inevitable delay which must occur before the present military situation can be stabilised, Rostov recaptured and a crossing of the River Don staged, a very thorough destruction both of plant and wells may be counted on to deprive the Germans of actual oil for a considerable period.

The warnings, amounting indeed to ultimatums, directed by His Majesty's Government to the addresses of Finland, Hungary and Roumania, are referred to in the Scandinavian and South-Eastern Europe portions of this *Summary*, and