

Havas, Emil

"Czechoslovak honor
Masonry's" letter to Mr. Tim
1942 March 7 1946

"Masonry, our Lincoln"

Rumania and Hungary

Their Leaders, It Is Held, Present Difficulties to Peace

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:

I read with great amazement the letter of D. Dem Dimanescu in a recent issue of THE TIMES under the title "Magyars Seek a Leader."

Mr. Dimanescu, a Rumanian, writes about the difficulties of finding a Hungarian leader whom the neighbors would trust and who could also win the cooperation of the Danubian peoples.

To me there is no difference between Rumania and Hungary. Both are satellites of Hitler, both support him with all resources at their command and both are fighting against the Allies—when they are not fighting each other—and both were betrayed by their leading classes, who, rather than give in to their own workers, peasants and artisans where democratic rights were concerned, gave in to Hitler instead.

With the present leaders of Rumania and Hungary in exile no statesman can work. Unlike Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia, who now have brilliant leaders in exile, no democratic leader escaped from Rumania or Hungary. Of the two outstanding Hungarian leaders, Count Michael Karolyi, has lived for more than twenty years in London, and Oscar Jászi, professor at Oberlin College, is an American citizen, but a recognized authority and a great leader.

I do not think it is possible today to find either a Czechoslovak or Yugoslav leader who would start political talks with any of the Hungarian or Rumanian leaders until they denounce the shameful Munich pact and all the "arbitration" by Hitler. They must recognize Czechoslovakia as do the United States, Great Britain and Russia. That does not mean any prejudication about the future border, because we know very well that after the destruction of Hitler the peace conference will draw new borders according to the Atlantic Charter.

No Czechoslovak ever recognized, or will recognize, the Munich agreement, and despite what followed I know they never lost the dream of Danubian cooperation.

With the tenets already written in the Atlantic Charter to inspire them, and with the example of the unity of the United States to guide them, I am sure the suffering peoples of Central Europe will find a way for a full economic, political and cultural cooperation through a Central European Union or Federation. But before that happens retribution must overtake the traitors of Hungary and Rumania. Then and only then will we find a way to live in peace. That is what is important. That is what we are fighting for.

EMIL HAVAS.

New York, Sept. 4, 1942.

Sept 6, 1942