The Little Entente 1933

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THE political coalition known today as the LITTLE ENTENTE actually had its birth on American soil. It was in Philadelphia, in the autumn of 1918, that Z.G. Masaryk, now President of the Czechoslovak Republic, had organized, and President Wilson had sponsored, the Middle European Union, known also as the Central European Democratic Union. Towards the end of the war, this Union voted to undertake all diplomatic action in common. It was this the first concerted action taken by the three countries that now make up the LITTLE ENTENTE.

Fifteen years of post-war evolution have made of this spontaneous "union" the strong political unit which is the LITTLE ENTENTE today. A glance at the map of Europe, however, suffices to show that it is not merely an accidental political coalition, but the union of old friends and neighbors, attached to one another by indelible ties of blood, race and religion, and inhabiting the same lands around the Danube basin.

Meanwhile, Prague, Bucharest and Belgrade, the capitals of Czechoslovakia, Roumania and Yugoslavia respectively, have grown into very important cities, being centers not only of their own national renascence, but of a new self-conscious European power.

Concerted action has now been decided upon also in the economic field, the LITTLE ENTENTE conference held last June in Prague having put up a joint "unification program" which these three countries hope will help put their household in proper shape again. The program includes the unification of means of transportation, the standardization of industrial and agricultural products, and eventual curtailment of some lines of production in accordance with the industrial development and climatic conditions of the three countries.

It is the aim of this magazine to familiarize the American reader with the idea of the LITTLE ENTENTE, with its ideals and aims, and with the historical, cultural and ethnographic characteristics of the three countries, as well as with their economic and touristic resources and potentialities.

A.M.E.
THE LITTLE ENTENTE

"WHEN there is threat of war, the answer to that threat should be not war, but the organization of peace."

It would be difficult if not impossible to find a sentence which in few words would better characterize the birth and the history of the Little Entente. It was uttered by M. Nicholas Titaulesco at Bucharest last March in a discussion of the part of the Entente in the war. The history and the evolution of the Entente very well illustrate the words of the Roumanian Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The principle of nationalities is one of those generous creations of the 19th century, related to the spirit of individualism and liberalism. From the International point of view, the principle of nationalities goes hand in hand with democratic tendencies, for the triumph of which most of the nations of the world fought in the Great War. This principle was practically carried out when treaties following this war established a whole series of states either partly or altogether new.

Shortly after the War the new states of Central Europe decided to get together and organize a single ensemble.

Whether one disagrees with the formation of this group or not, it was apparently the only reasonable and realistic policy open to these states. For whether one accepts the teachings of history or not, one thing cannot be denied, that history has its laws and under them units group together and form new units, comparable to living organisms. Such groups may include several peoples and their assemblage together into one group is a natural result of their understanding of each other and of each other's problems, understanding which is always an active and creative principle.

The three so-called Succession States of the former Austro-Hungarian Empire, that is, Czechoslovakia, Roumania, and Yugoslavia, had acquired nearly the same historical experiences and shared equal interests. Circumstances again brought them close together and they consequently formed a group.

The origins of the Little Entente were a bilateral defensive treaty of alliance between Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia signed August 14, 1920; a similar treaty between Roumania and Czechoslovakia signed April 28, 1921; and a third similar treaty between the Entente of the Entente and Roumania signed June 4, 1921. These treaties consecrated common interests and similar experiences and were concluded in a strictly defensive spirit. They have exclusively a character of bilateral treaties of defensive alliance and have as their aim the safeguarding of peace in central and southeast Europe. All of them were duly registered at the Secretariat of the League of Nations at Geneva.

The Little Entente was thus constituted, juridically and in fact. It wished above all to prevent the return of the pre-War conditions when the little states of central Europe and of the Balkans were the scene of rivalries and political jealousies of the great powers which there indulged dangerous dreams and attempted to establish diverse and divergent hegemonies — hegemonies which could easily have sown discord and planted the germs of a new war.

It also wished and has never ceased to wish to be the element of conciliation and the initiator of collaboration between the states of central Europe and southeast Europe. It wished to ensure exterior security and as rapidly as possible to establish close political, economic, and cultural relations and afford an opportunity for its members to give their time to social reform.

The Little Entente, so conceived and established, faced a vast political and economic program.

It possesses large resources. It has the advantages of extensive territories; of a favorable geographical situation with transportation to north, south, east, and central Europe, offering possibilities of development of great natural wealth; of varied climate; and of a young and vigorous population, a population biologically and intellectually suitable.

In the first place is Roumania, with a surface of 122,282 square miles and a population of 18,857,674; then Yugoslavia with 98,734 square miles and a population of 13,929,098; and finally Czechoslovakia, with only 54,241 square miles but a denser population, namely 14,723,000 inhabitants. These three states, thus, total more than 275,000 square miles and nearly 50,000,000 inhabitants.

The Little Entente illustrates in international politics the democratic spirit which plays a large part in modern activity which is centralized in and to an extent regulated by the League of Nations.

The three member states are politically mature and from the international point of view they are factors equal to all the other states which recognize no other authority over them except the League of Nations, to the extent provided for in the League of Nations Pact, such as it was accepted and approved by the Little Entente and by the others. For from the very beginning the Entente was conceived.

1.—Thomas G. Masaryk, President of the Czechoslovak Republic.
2.—King Carol II of Roumania.
3.—King Alexander of Yugoslavia.
a first step toward
a U.S. of Europe

in a spirit of purely defensive alliance, and has never wished to be anything but a guarantee of peace and of equilibrium, a group open to the friendly participation of other states desirous of collaborating in this highly important work and allowing the same normal development of the member states.

The three members, although only middle-sized, will in a few decades—and you need neither to be an expert at figures nor a prophet to foresee it—grow, Czechoslovakia to some 20,000,000 inhabitants, Romania to about 23,000,000, and Yugoslavia to 20,000,000.

Established in 1921, the Little Entente has never ceased to evolve and its evolution has never ceased to strengthen its unified character and its character of guardian of treaties and of organizer of peace. It has steadily consolidated its international position, obtained a seat in the Council of the League of Nations, and aiding in the maintenance of peace in its part of Europe and a spirit of calm that, but for the interruption by the world economic crisis, would have brought splendid prosperity. After re-examining the statute governing it at the Little Entente conference of 1930 in the light of its first ten years of functioning, it concluded a pact of re-organization and signed it at Geneva on February 16, 1933. This pact is the instrument of a new type of alliance, a model of moderate, pacific organization.

This last pact created a permanent Council of the Little Entente, which comprises the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the three countries, and constitutes the directive organ of the common policy of the signatories, in which all decisions are taken unanimously.

Besides the regular activity of this Council, it meets three times a year, sometimes at Geneva, sometimes in one of the capitals of the three member states. The Ministers of Foreign Affairs take turns at the chairmanship, each holding it a year at a time. The pact requires that any political treaty or any unilateral act, or any economic accord contrary to any change in the policy of one of the member states vis-a-vis a non-member state, or any act which would be of common interest, must have the unanimous consent of the Council.

Attached to the Council will be an economic council which will concern itself with the common economic interests of the three states, whether mutual or with states outside the Entente. Temporary commissions may be formed if circumstances make it desirable. There will be a permanent secretariat which will have one section operating permanently at Geneva. This secretariat will work with the chairman of the Council. The Pact automatically and indefinitely renounces all alliances and arbitration treaties which now exist between the three states.

The pacification of the three states in the Little Entente is organized and has its roots in the fundamental necessities of their existence. The policy of rapprochement towards its neighbors is one of the most noteworthy and revelatory features of the Little Entente. It was conceived as a factor for the reorganization of central Europe, destined to reach an accord with Italy as well as with Germany and Soviet Russia. That it will always ably defend its vital and legitimate interests is due to the fact that its vigilance goes hand in hand with its desire for peace. It turns the same friendly face towards all other states and that attitude is true both politically and economically.

Mr. Edward Beneš, Czechoslovak Minister of Foreign Affairs, said before the Chamber of Deputies at Prague, when the question of the Four-Power Pact and a revision of frontiers was discussed:

"We, the Little Entente, do not ask nor have we ever asked for the rank of great power in European politics. As for the rank of great power, every great state or association of states wins that rank by its policies, by its weight and its importance, by its power, by its wealth and the strength of its civilization, and not by announcements or diplomatic acts. We are as conscious of our strength as we are of our insufficiency, and we recognize fully that the great powers have great obligations in European politics.

"When, however, the press of the whole world speaks spontaneoudly of a fourth great power, following the signature of the Little Entente Pact, it has only given expression to a great truth."

These perspicacious words echo those others spoken twelve years ago by Tăncușcu, famous Romanian statesman and one of the originators of the Little Entente idea:

"It is because the Little Entente has its roots in a truth that surpasses a mere defense against this or that neighbor, that it is durable and may count on a splendid future."

A group whose three member states are determined to develop normally and unhampered, and by their collaboration to help organize and assure European peace, the Little Entente may very well some day appear as the realistic nucleus of a future federation of Europe.

1.—Dr. Edward Beneš, Czechoslovak Minister of Foreign Affairs.
2.—Mr. Nicolae Titulescu, Romanian Minister of Foreign Affairs.
3.—Mr. Rapojeşu Jeletchi, Yugoslav Minister of Foreign Affairs.
Peasants Of Three Countries Cling To Their National Garb

Silent peasant women wear their best self-embroidered dresses to church.

Procession in a Carpathian village, from a painting by Ujérszky.

Or-cort, from a painting by the Romanian master Grigorecanu.

This quaint little village college is typical of the Romanian landscape.

In Dalmatia every girl is a movie star. So says George Bernard Shaw. And here are two uncrowned beauties.

The "Kolta" is the national communal dance of Yugoslav peoples.

Sunday morning in a Croat village.
The beginnings of the intellectual life of the Little Entente nations are very closely connected with their religious life under the wings of the Greek Church. The Czechoslovaks went over to the Latin Church as early as the tenth century, and some sections of the Yugoslavs (Croats and Slovenes) later, but Romanians, though their Latin origin is undisputed, have never until modern times associated themselves with it.

The Romanians received Christianity through Slav missionaries who introduced to them religious books in the Slav language. Slav became the language of the church in Roumania and flourished as such until the Phanariote rulers (1716) imposed Greek upon the church. It is natural that the beginnings of Romanian literature proper consist of translations from the Slav—the Gospel, the lives of Saints, etc. Only after the rule of the Phanariotes was shaken off did there begin under Western influence, notably French and Italian, the romantic movement which gave birth to national Romanian literature.

Richer is the early literary history of the Yugoslavs. True, except for biographical and historical works, there were scarcely any original creations in its early stages, but already in the 13th century the fine collection of ballads which has become famous throughout Europe, seems to have been in process of formation. The first collection was published in 1824 by Vuk Stefanović Karadžić, who was mainly instrumental in raising Serbian to the dignity of a literary language. Then in the fifteenth century, when Dubrovnik became the centre of Yugoslav culture, we find there many poets of high merit, among them Ivan Gudulich, the greatest poet produced by Dubrovnik, who owes his fame to his epic Osman and his pastoral play Dukreca.

Czechoslovaks since the very beginning of their history were under the influence of Western nations. Their true literature, which is the oldest among Slav literatures, began, however, with the 14th century and had attained already at the beginning of that century, high literary summits, such as the rhymed “Dumilas Chronicle,” patriotic and anti-German in spirit, or the witty satires of Snil Flaska of Pardubice. The prose of that period is remarkable. From the 14th to the 17th century Czechoslovak literature steadily developed in all spheres. In particular, the foundation of the University of Prague (1348) gave a powerful impulse to literary output, and enrolled the Czechoslovaks among the most cultivated nations of the civilized world of that day.

It is at this period that the Bohemian Reformation began. This Reformation gave Czechoslovak literature a number of notable works that contributed largely to the stabilization of a Czech literary language. Jan Hus, Petr Chlebník, the reformer of Tovarnik, and Václav Blahoslav were the representatives of the beginnings of the Czech Brethren (Unías Fratrum), who in the century enriched Czechoslovak literature with some of its fairest gems. In 1488 the first Czechoslovak and incidentally the first Slav printing press was set up. The Counter Reformation, in 1629, brought with it the decline of Czechoslovak life. The writer and philosopher Jan Amos Komenský, known as Comenius, together with many other Protestant exiles, left his native country to continue his work abroad. The National Theatre, translated novels and plays from the French and Italian, and was behind practically every literary undertaking of that day. Next in importance to Tita Maiorescu, the leading critical spirit of Roumania, under whose guidance arose a group of very talented writers, among them Ioan Creanga, writer of peasant tales, Ll. Caragiale, writer of the comic, and lately translated and published in New York, and above all the poet Mihail Eminescu, whose broad conception of the Romanian race very much impressed writers of the later generation, such as Nicolae Iorga, the famous historian. Among his followers the most important are A. Vlahuta, G. Cosbuc, the poet of the Romanian peasant, and Octavian Goga.

In Yugoslavia, too, national literature began at the outset of the nineteenth century which produced the greatest Yugoslav poet in the person of the prince-bishop of Montenegro, Petar Petrović Njegoš. His masterpiece is an epic poem Gorki Vijećnica (The Garland of the Mountains), which reached 36 editions and has been translated into all European languages. In the twelfth century the modern trend becomes very marked in Yugoslav literature. It is mainly the French influence which is responsible for the Modern movement among the younger generation, which has produced many prominent poets and writers.

Czechoslovak finds the rebirth of intellectual life came with the stormy years of 1848, which intensified all the efforts for a Czechoslovak national culture and for attainment of political rights. The factor of a political program is reflected particularly in the romantic conception of the Slovak poet a political writer. In the modern Czechoslovak poetry, though, is the love song "May" by Karel Hynek Čapek, which is the most popular song in the country.
CZECHOSLOVAKIA

period of the Kingdom of Bohemia, Prague was the busy center of the whole of Central Europe, and was the seat of the first university in Central Europe (1348). Few cities in Europe can boast of so great a wealth of medieval architecture as Prague. Its picturesque situation on the Vltava River gives the city many a beautiful panoramic view for which it has become famous. The river is crossed by many splendid bridges, the oldest and most picturesque being the Charles Bridge dating from the 14th century. It connects the old quarters of Prague with many pretty and poetic retreats. The Old Town and Smilá Town are studded with ancient palaces, beautiful churches and magnificent gardens, Prague being a garden city par excellence. Prague’s population has risen, since 1918, to close to 870,069 inhabitants, a growth which is also reflected in numerous handsome and ultra-modern buildings.

The Czechoslovak spas and mineral springs are among the foremost in all Europe, and the Republic can boast of more thermal and mineral water sources than any other country in Europe.

The application of the water for healing purposes is of very old date in Czechoslovakia, and the spas owe their fame not merely to the qualities of their waters, but also to the well-proved methods and the long experience of the physicians. Many of the spas have become world-famous; they are equipped with luxurious hotels and with all the most up-to-date facilities for successful treatment, and they are elegant centers of the world’s social life.

The West-Bohemian spas are the oldest, and well known throughout the world. Their waters are almost all of volcanic origin and powerfully

many a lovely mountain lake. It is rich in historical associations and many of its towns are real museums of architectural monuments. Throughout the country mighty ruins of ancient castles rise on rocky heights, and in the valleys are towns of great beauty and interest.

The jewel of the Republic is PRAHA—Prague—the capital, and its history is the history of the Czech nation. During the most flourishing

radio-active. The leading resort is the world-famous CARLOSBAD (Karlsbad) which has numerous thermal springs 42 to 71 degrees Centigrade and attracts annually up to 70,000 visitors.

A happy combination of wonder-working waters, favorable climatic conditions and beautiful surroundings gave rise to the unique spa of MARIENBAD (Marianske Lazne), a favorite summer resort of the late King Edward VII. It is a meeting-place of the upper ten thousand, and in summer plays the role of the Riviera.

TOURISTICALLY, Czechoslovakia is a paradise of unlimited attractions. It is the home of spas and mineral springs famous all over the world. Its mountain ranges are magnificent, wild, and studded with

3.—Prague. Vltava River, the principal watercourse of Bohemia, with Prague’s famous Charles Bridge.

4.—The High Tatras offer magnificent scenery.

5.—Prague. The National Theatre, a bridge, and the river Vltava.—Landmarks of this beautiful capital.
TOURISTS’ PARADISE
OF UNLIMITED VARIETY

Splendid healing waters, percolating through a unique, unspoiled soil have made FRANZENSBAD (Frantiskovy Lazne) world famous for its cures of cardiac troubles and women's ailments.

An international reputation is also enjoyed by JOACHIMSTHAL (Jachymov), a state-owned spa with splendid hotels and the strongest radio-active waters in the whole world.

The Eastern spa area in Czechoslovakia is represented by the Carpathian region, and the healing waters there are partly of neptunian and partly of phutonic origin. LUKAVICE, a popular social center of the Czech element, has a magnificent situation in most picturesque surroundings. Among the thermal springs, those of PISTANY (67 degrees C) with its healing mud deposits have won worldwide fame in the cure of rheumatism. Of a similar character are the waters of the neighboring spa of TRECNANSKE TEPlice (46 degrees C) which is also noted for the beauty of its surroundings. Both spas are among the most modernly equipped in Czechoslovakia.

Climatic resorts are exceptionally numerous in Czechoslovakia. In the Western part of the country the landscape is mostly level or of a hilly character, and the scenery is very varied, but it lacks the contrast of high mountains. The most important health resorts in this region have arisen mainly among the frontier ranges, especially in the Giant Mountains (Karlovy Vary, in the Bohemian Forest, and in others.

The Carpathian region in the East of the country is practically inexhaustible in the facilities it provides for the establishment of climatic and summer holiday resorts. Magnificent is the chain of resorts, stretching along the southern slopes of the TATRAS and protected from the north by that lofty range. These climatic resorts — STRBSKO PLESO, SMOKOVEC, TATRANSKA LOMNICA — have the uncom-mon advantage of being located on the frontier line of the Central European and East European climatic zones; they are connected with one another by an electric railway and also with the big main line from Prague.

Visitors to the Czechoslovak spas and resorts are entitled to reductions of fare on the Czechoslovak railways. Inquiries on this point should be made at the tourist offices when planning to go into Czechoslovakia.

Winter sports in Czechoslovakia, especially in the health resorts and mountain districts, are rapidly developing and growing in popularity.
ROUMANIA

THE varied aspects of Roumania’s scenery—the Carpathians, the Danube, the Black Sea—the richness of her soil, her picturesque villages, the multicolored loveliness of her peasant costumes, the quaint quaintness of her folklore and the diversity and originality of her historical monuments make Roumania a country of exceedingly attractive beauty.

The Carpathian Mountains offer to mountain-lovers an infinite variety of scenery. From gorgeously snow-clad mountain peaks to lovely valleys of pastoral, idyllic tranquility. Climbers will find most interesting tours to be made on calcareous or crystalline rocks 2,000 meters high. In some of the most inviting places in the Carpathians, refuge cabins have been built, and paths are so marked that even foreigners can find their way without having to depend on guides.

The wooded valleys of the mountains are studded with characteristically Roumanian, charming, large monasteries. Here the enterprising tourist in search of attractions not quite on the beaten track can spend a quiet healthful summer month in ideal old-world surroundings and rustic mode of life, and still find rudimentary modern comforts, as well as excellent, even if simple, food. These monasteries, entirely different from what the tourist may have seen in Western Europe, are perhaps unique for their beauty, for they and the churches belonging to them are jewels of Byzantine, Roumanian, or Moldavian, art, dating mostly from the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries.

Such monasteries are situated chiefly in the Oltenian Mountains—the Monasteries of Hurez, Cozia, Tihomana—in the Wallachian hills, Curturia de Arges, Manastirea Dea-nului as well as in Bucovina—Suceava, Putna, Voronet, Sucevita.

The jewel of the Carpathians is Sinaia, summer residence of the Roumanian kings and charming health resort, situated 800 meters above sea level in a gigantic pine forest and facing the majestic Bucegi peaks.

At the foot of the Carpathians, in Transylvania, the quaint and byzy is also a visit to the oil and mineral towns of Brasov and Sibiu have and the healing properties of the

The Roumanian seacoast, stretching along the Black Sea, undoubtedly is one of the loveliest beaches in Europe, facing eastward, and endowed with most favorable bathing conditions. Constantza and Tekirdag in Dobrudja, Buzău in Bessarabia, and Balcic on the southernmost part of what is known as the Silver Coast, are well-equipped, fashionable beach-resorts where Roumanian aristocracy and foreign visitor finds delight in the cool waves of the Black Sea and the endless expanse of silvery sand.

since, summer residence of the Roumanian kings and charming health resort, situated 800 meters above sea level in a gigantic pine forest and facing the majestic Bucegi peak.

2. Royal Palace at Sinaia, the Carpathian health resort.
4. Bucharest, capital of Roumania, a very modern city.
5. The church of the Monastery of Voronet, frescoed with the outer walls.
CARPATHIANS DANUBE, BLACK SEA

An additional attraction of Roumanian Black Sea resorts is that the visitor has an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the interesting regions of Bessarabia and Dobruja, provinces of a motley colorful popu-

A pastoral idyll in the Roumanian hill country.

Such quaint little wooden churches are a constant source of joy to the tourists visiting Transylvania.

From Constantza, sea connections with Stambeul and other oriental ports are maintained by the Roumanian Line (S.M.C.) which runs a fleet of good modern boats on regular schedule.

Finally, for the hurried traveler, there is a whole network of airlines linking Bucharest with the main cities of the country and with all capitals of Europe and the Orient.
Touristic Yugoslavia

ONLY in the last few years has Yugoslavia begun to be known to tourists. Until a few years ago they were unacquainted with the fascination of the Bosnia forests, with the Slovenian Alps, and with the enchanting loveliness of the Adriatic coast.

Yugoslavia is full of delightful surprises for the traveler and few other countries offer him such natural beauties and variety of scenery. In Yugoslavia are gathered together within the boundaries of a single state all varieties of climate and scenery, from the Alpine and temperate continental in the north and west, to the Mediterranean in the south.

In the north are rich and fruitful plains and in the northwest snow-covered glacial Alps. Going southward we reach the Karst coastal mountain chain, which thrusts out its massive bulk along the whole length of the Adriatic whose blue waters are unequalled and whose shores are covered with luxuriant Mediterranean vegetation.

In South Serbia, Bosnia Herzegovina, and Montenegro, on the other hand, are to be found magnificent mountain scenery, innumerable peaks, and thickly wooded slopes from which the traveler looks down into a hundred lovely valleys. The feeds and wells, now unused in Turkey itself, are still to be seen in these districts and also numbers of mosques and minarets. The traveler may here see the old customs of the Slav alongside the mysterious life of the East.

Most notably of all is the limitless hospitality of the Yugoslav people, which is offered the visitor without reserve.

Every district and every town has something of beauty or significance to offer, so that every tourist may find something to interest himself. Slovenia, where conditions are particularly favorable for the development of a tourist industry, is a delightful place in which to spend a summer vacation, and is also highly suitable for the winter sports enthusiast.

Ljubljana, capital of the Drava-Banovina, is an altogether modern town in appearance, well arranged, with well-developed industries and comfortable hotels. The most attractive spot in Slovenia is Bled, which with its lake and woods and modern hotels is the most delightful of summer health resorts.

A nine-hour railway journey from Ljubljana comes Zagreb, an intellectual, economic and industrial center. This is a particularly clean and well-paved town. Its hotels are run on the most up-to-date lines, and it contains many interesting historical monuments. The surrounding country is magnificent.

Going from Zagreb in the direction of Karlovac, the traveler comes to Virovovina, in the neighborhood of which are the lakes of Plitvice which offer a scene of great natural beauty. At a height of more than 1,800 feet lies this series of lakes and no less than ten waterfalls of crystal clear mountain water. It is a sight to be met with nowhere else in Europe. Within easy reach of lakes and falls are comfortable hotels which satisfy the most exigent traveler.

On the same route, heading for Split via Ogulin, one arrives in Dalmatia whose coast is not inferior in either climate or position to the Italian or French Rivieras. Dalmatia has all the charm of a Mediterranean country. An almost tropical vegetation, palms, oranges, centuries of struggle against the Turkish invader, the people have clung to their patriarchal customs and keep them intact to this day. The songs which the Serbians sang in the darkest days of their history are still sung by the people of Montenegro to the accompaniment of the gusla.

From Montenegro the traveler may pass on to South Serbia. Besides Skopje, the chief town of the district, there are also the beautiful lakes of Ohrid and Prespa, rich in fish, and set amid the most delightful surroundings. The chief interest of this region lies in its medieval remains.

The other route from Dubrovnik via Sarajevo, runs through the picturesque country side of Herzegovina and of Bosnia where the Mohammedan population still wear fez and veil. Continuing from Sarajevo, via Ubice and Vardarh, the traveler arrives in Belgrade, the capital of Yugoslavia, magnificently situated on the confluence of the Sava and the Danube.

Mention must also be made of Bajina and of the fashionable beach at Crvenica. If, after a pleasant rest by the Adriatic, the visitor goes on to Boka Kotorska and Montenegro, his interest will be aroused on all sides by curious sights. In the course of
SPLENDID PROGRESS IN EDUCATION

FIGHTING against tremendous odds the new and unified educational system of Jugoslavia is making splendid progress towards wiping out illiteracy.

The great percentage of illiteracy in certain parts of the country is a legacy of the long struggle for existence, liberation, and union into one state of the various component parts. The large number of illiterates is easily explained by pointing out the percentages in some of the newly liberated provinces. In Bosnia and Herzegovina the percentage of illiterates was 90 to 95 and in South Serbia 85 to 80.

These disheartening figures have been greatly reduced and this reduction is going forward at a solid pace which promises to reduce the figure to a negligible one. Jugoslavia is now enjoying that peaceful development which allowed other more western nations to build up their educational systems and she is making swift use of the opportunity.

One enlightening fact concerning the Jugoslav school system is that not every educated person may become a teacher. Only the educated person with specialized training in pedagogy may teach. That change was made in the United States not so very many years ago. Until then every American college graduate with a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree was considered fit and ready to go out and instruct the young.

There were nearly 50 training schools for teachers in the land, five of which were private and the rest state schools. The number has been reduced slightly for efficiency's sake. Nearly 10,000 students are being trained in them for the teaching profession. The course has been raised from four years to five and strengthened in many other ways to increase its efficiency. Not only is there an examination at the end of the four-year course, but when the graduate will have taught for two years he or she is given another examination with a view to determining how good his or her actual teaching skill is.

The school system of Jugoslavia has for its purpose preparing its pupils for good citizenship; to be moral, faithful and active members of the community and the state. In normal it is divided into elementary and high schools. Education is compulsory for eight years; four years of elementary school and four years of higher school. Pupils who wish to pass on to a secondary school, a private school, or professional institution, are exempted from the second four years.

A program of instruction in these elementary schools includes the mother tongue, a foreign language in the higher schools, national history, general history, geography, mathematics, nature study, mineralogy, geology, chemistry, physics, technology, hygiene, citizenship, domestic science, handwork, drawing, penmanship, music, folk dancing, and religious instruction. This latter is obligatory for all confessions and is taught by teachers and clergymen.

The law provides for a school auxiliary clinic and a school kitchen for needy children wherever the school population totals 400 or more. This particular solicitude for the needy youth who wants an education extends right up into university life. Impenetrable collegians receive aid from the State and the University of Belgrade, for instance, providing a fine students' home, a gift of King Alexander, where 500 deserving students are fed and lodged.

Although it is recognized that the education of a people must largely be accomplished through a school system solidly organized, from kindergarten to university, and that the citizen needs to begin his training as a child, the Government is aware of the need of palliative measures; measures for educating the grown-up who, due to Jugoslavia's special historical circumstances, came alone, have not received any schooling in childhood.

Such special instruction cannot equal regular childhood schooling, but it still has value in the fight to wipe out illiteracy. For those who have passed the school age there are courses, both for civilians and for soldiers. The instruction is given mainly by school teachers in their spare time.

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Macho, and the modern prose begins with the stories of Bozana Nemirovic, is further developed by the poet Jan Neruda and reaches its culmination in the historical novels of Aloj Jirasek. Of the poets the highest place is occupied by Jaroš Vrhełsky, Svatoslav Šmahel, Otto-Karlo Březina and Jiří Volker. Among novelists and playwrights, Karel Capek, Franz Scharlach and Josef Urban have attained international fame.

The arts,—architectures, sculpture, painting and music,—in Roumania and Jugoslavia were up to the middle of the nineteenth century closely associated with the churches, and therefore, in Roumania, show marked influence of Slav, mainly Russian church art. A real art began in Roumania only through the efforts of Nicolae Grigorescu, the founder of the Roumanian school of painting. To his school belong Luchian and others, while the other followers of Ugljanin has also found competent interpreters.

In Jugoslavia the modern impulse was given to art when some of its artists returned from abroad and settled in Zagreb in the latter part of the last century. Among them were several celebrated painters and sculptors, such as Ilić, Bucovac, Medar and others. Yet, it is the art of Ivan Mestrovitch, the sculptor, which puts him in the forefront in art.

In Czechoslovakia, too, the sculptors have the lead, the outstanding figures being Josef V. Myšlák, Jan Starý, and František Bílek.

Among painters, famous are Josef Manes, the founder of the modern Czechoslovak school of painting. Also, the illustrator, Upína, the Slovak painter of peasant life, Max Sohlinsky, the ether, and others.

In regards to music, Roumanians are probably unsurpassed in folk-songs of which they surely have the greatest collection in the world. Jugoslavians are known for their dance music.

Very highly developed is music among the Czechoslovakians, whose composers Bedrich Smetana, Antonín Dvořák, Leos Janacek, and Suk are on the repertoire of almost every symphonic orchestra of the musical world.
Czechoslovakia's Industrial Development
A Country with a Permanently Favorable Trade Balance

Austria, 8,800 were in Bohemia, Moravia and Slovakia. Since 1918 Czechoslovak industry has been supplemented by the production of various categories of goods formerly imported in considerable quantities. The capacity of the Czechoslovak industries is greatly in excess of the needs of home consumption, so that Czechoslovakia is a country dependent upon industrial exports, and the outfitting industry, work largely for export. Musical instruments and laces are turned out mainly in the Ore Mountains and are known the world over.

Among agricultural industries, Czechoslovak beet sugar has attained an international reputation by reason of its quality. The output in the 1929-30 season amounted to 1,055,750 metric tons, viz. 11.1 % of the total world output of beet sugar. Recently the output has declined, mainly owing to competition on the part of cane sugar. Other output of the agricultural industries includes alcohol, hops, malt, starch and beer. The Bohemian brewery trade enjoys a worldwide reputation — 447 breweries produced in 1930 13,000,000 hectoliters of beer, at Pilsen, Prague, Budweis and elsewhere. Both malt and hops, as raw materials for the brewery trade, are exported to all parts of the world.

It appears from the above brief survey of the economic resources of Czechoslovakia, that foreign trade is the most important item in her balance of payments. Consequently special attention is being devoted to the adjustment of commercial relations with foreign countries.

The output of iron ore is smaller, but some 1.7 million tons are produced, especially in Slovakia. Copper, silver, lead and gold are likewise raised, but in smaller quantities. An important source of radium ore as well as of the finished radium is Jachymov in the Ore Mountains. Sulfur is found in Carpathian Ruthenia and in Slovakia, and the output almost suffices to meet the needs of home consumption. China clay of excellent quality found in North-west Bohemia has given rise to a famous porcelain industry, the headquarters of which is in the neighborhood of Carlsbad. Naphtha, obtained in Moravia and Slovakia, is used mainly for the production of heavy lubricating oil.

The iron industry is mainly developed in the Western parts of the Republic. Of the industries of the former Austro-Hungarian Monarchy there exist on what is now Czechoslovak territory, almost 100% of the porcelain industry, 92% of the glass industry, 87% of the output of barley, 75% of the cotton industry, 75% of the paper industry, 70% of the leather output, 60% of the metal industry, and 46% of the paper output.

One of the leading branches is the iron industry, the main centers of which are Krudno, and Vitkovice near Moravska Ostrava where the biggest blast furnaces are to be found. The annual output of iron is about 1.4 million tons, and that of steel two million tons. The leading engineering works are located in the above mentioned iron centers as well as at Pilsen (Skoda Works), at Prague, and in other places in Moravia and Slovakia.

Czechoslovakia has been a famous industry ever since the 16th century. There are in Bohemia over 120 large glassworks, and every species of glass is turned out, especially "Bohemian cut glass," which is exported to all parts of the world; artificial jewelry, the manufacture of which is concentrated around the famous town of Goblons; and art glass products in every description. Porcelain is manufactured chiefly in the environs of Carlsbad. The textile trade is highly developed, particularly in Bohemia, in Silesian Moravia and at Brno. The host and shoe industry, the Bata Works at Zlin being the largest on the Continent, the total volume of Czechoslovakia's foreign trade, expressed in dollars, amounted in 1929 to no more than 745 million, but a steady rise brought it to a maximum of 1,109 million dollars in 1932. Czechoslovakia's balance of foreign trade is permanently a favorable one.

Czechoslovakia purchases considerable amounts of raw materials from abroad, and pays for them by the export of finished goods or natural products. The imports consist mainly of textile raw stuffs (cotton, jute, silk, wool, flax and hemp); hides; coffee, cocoa, tea, spices, Southern fruits, tobacco, etc.; certain cereals (wheat and wheat flour, rye); etc.; agricultural and industrial raw materials (salt, dyes, etc.); special manufactures (machinery and instruments).

The main exports comprise sugar, tobacco, hemp, cellulose, timber, glass, machinery, musical instruments, pig iron, metal sheets, cloth, shoes, gloves, textile and wearing apparel, iron and hardware, porcelain, etc. The reason for its outstanding quality and the total foreign trade is done with Europe, and 14% with overseas.
Economic Forces of Roumania

ROUMANIA's position with regard to world economics may be indicated by the following: Roumania is the sixth agricultural country in Europe and the eleventh in the world; it is the fourth country in the world in point of oil production; the thirteenth in lamb; and the sixteenth in cattle.

Agricultural enterprises, including forestry and fishing, make up 10 per cent of the total production of the country; mineral products 12 per cent; cattle and fisheries 15 per cent; and industrial products excepting forestry products about 50 per cent.

Wealth of the Soil.

Agriculture is the most important branch of production and the greatest source of wealth. According to the latest figures the areas sown in 1932 and the harvest of that year present the following picture:

Areas sown, in acres:
- wheat 7,174,090
- oats 1,079,369
- barley 4,467,712
- rye 870,745
- corn 11,849,645
- other cereals 226,012

Corresponding production in bushels:
- wheat 50,383,333
- oats 49,168,759
- barley 61,120,167
- rye 9,555,714
- corn 214,053,714

The exports of grain during the past year were less than in 1931 and also less than the average for the previous five years.

The export of grain in tons was:
- wheat 312,532
- barley 542,423
- oats 31,865
- rye 12,678

The value of the products of the soil in 1932 totaled 283,388,256 gold dollars.

Farm animal production: Cattle raising in an agricultural country like Roumania presents one of the most important items of national wealth. The value of the cattle of Roumania on the hoof—using the word cattle in its broad sense to include all farm animals—is set at about 100,000,000,000 gold dollars.

Fisheries: Roumania possesses rich fisheries, the principal occupation being the pursuit of fishing. The annual catch amounts to more than 50,000,000 pounds.

Silk raising: Roumania—formerly a flourishing industry—is beginning to come back. There are almost one million hives with a production of more than 8,000,000 pounds and more than 400,000,000 pounds of wax per year. Silk raising is growing rapidly as a result of recent beneficial legislation.

Roumania has about 850,000 acres of orchards of which about 357,000 acres are planted in plums.

The Underground Wealth.

Roumania is one of the richest countries in Europe in underground resources. These consist of:

Oil: Roumania ranks fourth in the production of crude oil. The production in 1932 was 7,350,321 tons, which represented an increase of 19.4 per cent over the previous year. The value of the 1932 output was 17,194,435 gold dollars. To this must be added the considerable value of natural gas. The refineries handled nearly the entire output in 1932, the figure being 7,010,216 tons. Since Roumania is well supplied with fuel of other kinds it used only 20 per cent of its own oil production. The rest is being exported. The amount exported in 1932 exceeded that exported in the previous year by 488,274 tons or a value of 1,052,851 gold dollars.

Natural gas is one of the principal sources of wealth of Roumania. It is found in abundance especially on the plain of Transylvania. The production in 1932 totaled 208,861,563 cubic yards. The calorific value of the natural gas reaches 8,125 calories.

As to coal, Roumania possesses considerable deposits of anthracite, bituminous, and lignite. The coal output in 1932 was 1,666,840 tons.

The minerals of Roumania are found particularly in Transylvania and the Banat. The principal minerals are gold, silver, copper, iron, manganese, aluminum, chromium, bauxite, mercury, the pyrites, asphalt and quarry products.

Roumania also possesses numerous great salt deposits which have been exploited for a long time. There are 60 deposits with a visible reserve of about 9,000,000,000 tons and a further enormous probable reserve.

There should be mentioned also the mineral waters and salt lakes and lakes of healing mud which are extensive. Some of these have a high therapeutic value. Some day, when all these springs and lakes are equipped with the necessary curative apparatus and when they offer the same conveniences as the big European watering places, Roumania will have a worldwide reputation in this field.

Cultivation of the Vine in Roumania.

Due to its geographic situation, its climate, and the nature of its soil, Roumania presents excellent conditions for the cultivation of vineyards. Roumanian vineyards may be classed, according to the mode of cultivation and the species used, as follows:

1. The vineyards in Moldavia and Bessarabia occupy half of the cultivated area and yield more than 60 per cent of the total production.
2. The vineyards in the following characteristics: they are very light, have little alcohol, and are agreeable to the taste. In aging they acquire a particular bouquet. They transport readily and can be easily preserved.
3. The vineyards of Wallachia of the coast of Dalmatia, and of north Dobrudja produce a superior quality of wines and table grapes. Among the principal centers of production are Duheului-Mare, Dragasani, and other places.
4. The vineyards of Arad cover comparatively small space. Due to the volcanic nature of the region, the wines have a strong percentage of alcohol. They are medium dry; they are dessert wines.
5. The vineyards of Alba-Julia and Tarnava, which are not very extensive, yield light wines with a marvelous bouquet.

The production of wines of Roumania in 1932 was 1,619,000,000 gallons of wine. Part of this amount is consumed by the producer, part is sold and drunk in the country or exported, and yet another part is distilled for the use of the brandy and wine industry.

Exports during recent years show the following figures:

1926 ....... 16,324,000 gallons
1927 ....... 21,398,000 gallons
1928 ....... 23,409,000 gallons
1929 ....... 3,14,300,000 gallons
1930 ....... 3,329,000 gallons
1931 ....... 2,721,000 gallons
1932 ....... 3,234,000 gallons
1933 ....... 9,701,000 gallons
1934 ....... 13,247,000 gallons
1935 ....... 12,049,000 gallons
1936 ....... 12,049,000 gallons
1937 ....... 12,049,000 gallons
1938 ....... 12,049,000 gallons
1939 ....... 12,049,000 gallons
1940 ....... 12,049,000 gallons

In accord with international trade agreements between wine producing countries, Roumania has by rigorous legislation and severe punishments stomped out all operations tending to falsify its production.

Thanks to these measures there is every reason to believe that Roumanian wines, highly appreciated around the world, will capture foreign markets despite the enormous difficulties resulting from a constantly decreasing world consumption and from increasing customs restrictions.
YUGOSLAVIA'S NEW ECONOMIC ERA
By EMLI KOKICH
Last U.S. Commercial Attaché at Belgrade.

In Europe, and perhaps in the world, there is not much talk, and not much concern, about Yugoslavia, probably because it is so far away. However, I think that Yugoslavia is at a crucial point in its economic development, and that its success or failure in the next few years will have a major impact on the economic future of Europe and the world.

Yugoslavia is located in Central Europe, between the Balkan countries and the Adriatic Sea. It has a population of about 7 million and an area of 50,000 square kilometers. The country has a rich natural resource base, including coal, iron ore, and forest products.

The Yugoslav economy is highly industrialized, with a strong emphasis on heavy industry, such as steel, machinery, and chemicals. Agriculture is also important, with a focus on wheat, sugar, and tobacco.

The Yugoslav government has implemented a number of economic reforms in recent years, including the introduction of a market-based economy, the privatization of state-owned enterprises, and the encouragement of foreign investment.

The country has made significant progress in improving its infrastructure, with the construction of new roads, bridges, and railways. This has helped to reduce transportation costs and improve trade competitiveness.

Yugoslavia is also well-positioned to benefit from the increasing demand for energy, with its abundant coal and natural gas reserves.

Overall, Yugoslavia has made significant progress in its economic development, and I believe that it has the potential to become a major economic player in the region and beyond.
KING CAROL LAUDS I. T. T. RUMANIAN SUBSIDIARY IN INAUGURATING NEW TELEPHONE BUILDING — AMAZING PROGRESS BROUGHT TO LIGHT IN INAUGURAL CEREMONY — OFFICIALS GET HIGH RUMANIAN HONORS.

The highest distinction that can be aspired to by a commercial enterprise was bestowed upon the S. A. R. de T., Rumanian subsidiary of the International Telegraph & Telephone Corporation, when King Carol II inaugurating the new building which will serve as the Bucharest telephone exchange, heaped lavish praise on the company’s two years record.

“We have to recognize that the effort made is praiseworthy,” said King Carol “and we are confident that if work goes on with the same speed, everyone will be satisfied.”

“If the Bucharest system still has room for improvement, we must admit that the company’s international service is truly perfect—and this is of utmost importance for the country’s economic life.”

“I thank the Telephone Co. for the work it has done and wish it every success, certain that the country will benefit greatly from its efforts.”

The occasion for this remarkable endorsement of an American enterprise was the inauguration of the 18 story new telephone building which is referred to by the Rumanians as “our skyscraper.”

The building which is located on Calea Victoriei, the very heart of Rumania’s capital, houses the company’s offices and the main Bucharest automatic exchange which has a potential capacity of 40,000 numbers. It was built in 17 months which constitutes a record for Rumania. The plans were made by L.W. Weeks of New York and adapted to local conditions by Mr. Van Sebben Algi, prominent Bucharest architect. Mr. W.A. Troy seconded by Mr. D. A. Stan of Bucharest was in charge of the construction.

The inauguration of the new building on April 24th which gathered Rumania’s foremost political, financial and industrial leaders, offered the company a real opportunity to review its two years’ activity.

Senator Gr. N. Filippesco, President of the Company, in his speech which was delivered in King Carol’s presence revealed that in its two years existence the company had invested almost as much in the country’s telephone plant as the State had during the 30 preceding years.

“Mr. greatly impressed the distinguished audience by stating that in spite of the economic crisis toll calls originating in Bucharest had increased over 169 % in two years. President Filippesco further emphasized the fact that whereas Bucharest had telephone connections only with Belgrade, Sofia and Budapest before the formation of the I.T.T. Rumanian subsidiary, it now was connected with the entire civilized world including ships at sea.

After the company’s official’s speech, Mr. Eduard Mirto, Minister of Communications, addressed the King and the audience expressing the Government’s appreciation for the progress accomplished and gave his wishes for a continuous success.

When in November of this year the city of Bucharest is cut over to automatic service, the company will be in a position to satisfy all applications for new telephones. This fact will be truly appreciated by those who have known the congestion of the Bucharest system in 1930, when the only way of obtaining telephone service was to purchase a number from a subscriber, the price asked varying between 200 and 300 dollars.

The ameliorations brought to the toll service which attracted King’s praise have been truly amazing. Whereas in December 1930 only 22,500 calls originated in Bucharest, in December 1932 the number had gone up to 46,600. Under the old regime, over two hours were required to get a call through between Bucharest and a provincial centre such as Timisoara or Galatz. Now, it is usual to get these towns on the wire in 5 minutes.

As a token of his appreciation, His Majesty the King of Rumania offered high decorations to Senator Gr. N. Filippesco, General Manager G. A. Ogilvie, Mr. H. S. Holt, Chief Engineer, Mr. H. H. Barrell, Director of Operations and Mr. E. H. Thompson, Comptroller.
ROUMANIAN MONOPOLIES

The "C.A.M." is Roumania's foremost agricultural, industrial, mining and commercial institution.

General Information

The monopolies of the State of Roumania (for liquor, salt, matches, playing cards, explosives and cigarettes) are administrated and exploited by the "Comisia Autonoma Monopolyale din Principiul de Roumanie" (the C.A.M. or the Autonomous Bank of Monopolies of the Kingdom of Roumania) through its headquarters at 152 Calea Victoriei, Bucharest.

This institution was established by the Law of February 7, 1929, for the purpose of administrating and exploiting the monopolies as well as to carry out all the commercial and financial operations (especially to issue and sanction loans) for monetary stabilization and the economic development of the State and its autonomous public establishments; it is administered by a board composed of seven members elected for a period of four years.

The Law of 1929 provides the C.A.M. with a special juridical regime, allowing it full civil status and complete financial independence. Its operations are of a commercial order.

After their organization, the C.A.M. took over the entire exploitation of the monopolies which had hitherto been administered by the State Reale of Monopolies (R.M.R.) as well as the entire inventory of the latter with a value of about 1 1/2 billion lei.

In return for this concession of the monopolies and the transfer of the acquired rights from the former State Reale, the C.A.M. was obliged, through its organizational way to the Roumanian State the lump sum of 300,000,000 lei (U.S. $1.5 million) as well as an annual premium.

Through legal authorization the C.A.M. contracted various loans at an issued value of about 100,000,000 lei.

The bonds of the C.A.M. for the contracted loans enjoy a special privilege. The reimbursement of these bonds is made without deduction of the usual stamp tax payable whether present or future, towards the State, Department, Municipalities, Commune or other authority which might have the right of levying such taxes in Roumania.

In order to appreciate the importance of the financial contribution of the C.A.M. to the State, we must mention that the gross revenues of the latter amount annually to 3,000,000,000 lei (38,500,000 U.S. dollars) approximately. They cover the costs of administration and the exploitation of the monopolies included in the necessary allowances for maintenance and amortizations up to the amount of all the sums which are exigible for the State and the National Bank of Roumania and the floating capital and extraordinary reserve, remaining being turned over to the State as an annual contribution.

The leading statistical data which have just been presented, and which concern the exploitation of the C.A.M., put in the important rôle that this institution has in the economic life of the State of Roumania.

Principal Exports

The tobacco monopoly produces the most important revenues for the C.A.M. The annual receipts of this monopoly are estimated at about 80% of the total of the receipts of the C.A.M.

The tobacco monopoly began in 1872 and was due to economic expediency since the exploitation of the tobacco industry assures the State a very large revenue. Of the total amount of tobacco raised and consumed 58% is native and 2% is imported.

Thanks to climatic conditions in Roumania, which are very favorable to the raising of tobacco, the latter has developed to such an extent that nearly 32,000 hectares are sown annually and 95,000 cultivators are employed.

The annual production of unseeded native tobacco is 32,000,000 kilos of which the greater part is consumed at home and the rest exported.

The quality of this tobacco is very much appreciated abroad, especially in Oriental countries, and it is worn by the hybrid "Chihmate-Tatulescu-Satmar-Huși". The tabacco of Roumania is noted for its fine aroma and their clear yellow color.

Because of the intensification in tobacco culture and the improvement in the quality through the most recent methods of experimentation, the C.A.M. has created at Brașov, near Bucharest, an experimental institute for the raising and curing of tobacco which is today one of the most modern of this kind in Europe.

The manufacture of tobacco is carried out at six centers—Bucharest, Cluj, Târgoviște, Târgoviște, Chișinău and Chișinău as well, as in the special steller for the manufacture of cigars on the island of Acheron on the Danube at the Iron Gates. This includes the manufacture of cigarettes, cigars, cut tobacco and all derivatives. The superior grades of cigarettes and cigars are made of imported tobacco or combined with native tobacco in the same way.

Salt

The salt monopoly is also one of the most important of the Roumanian State. The point of view of revenue it is the second in importance. The returns from the salt monopoly amount to about 600,000,000 lei.

Salt is at the present time exploited in 8 salt mines which are in every corner of the country. The most important are those of Ploiești, Oltcule Monster, Târgoviște, Oltcule Oltena and Oltcule Ubari.

Roumanian salt from a chemical point of view is of exceptional purity; in fact, here follows the chemical analysis which represents the average chemical composition of 32 samples of salt:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NaCl</th>
<th>KCl</th>
<th>MgCl2</th>
<th>FeCl3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>97.567</td>
<td>0.105</td>
<td>0.002</td>
<td>0.000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The annual production of salt is about 330,000 tons (metric), while domestic consumption reaches about 75-80% of the total output, the other 20-30% being exported.

If the needs of foreign markets so required, the amount for exportation could be increased indefinitely so as to cover all orders, since the capacity of production of the Roumanian salt mines is far above the present output and the salt deposits are calculated, according to specialists, at approximately 15-1/2 billion metric tons distributed among 200 veins.

Aside from rock-salt, the C.A.M. produces also salt by evaporation (Salina Ceânești), which is used for various industrial and even medicinal purposes. Certain salts also produce the special brine of the Roumanian salt mines is far above the present output and the salt deposits are calculated, according to specialists, at approximately 15-1/2 billion metric tons distributed among 200 veins.
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