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30. 1921., prosinac 16., Izvješće poslanika Henryja Percivala Dodgea State Departmentu o „političkoj situaciji u Kraljevini SHS“ u kojem se govori i o lokalnim izborima u Zagrebu na kojima je Hrvatski blok osvojio pobjedu, a „Radić u najmanju ruku dobio prigodu ujediniti sve protucentralističke snage“ što je odmah uzrokovalo i reakciju NRS-a koja se ogledala u trenutnom „pomirljivom stavu prema Bloku“.

NARA, M 358, R 2, 860h.00/132

Belgrade, December 16, 1921.

Despatch No. 1132

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

Referring to my Despatch No. 1078 (860h.00/129) of November 12th last, relative to the parliamentary situation and the latent Cabinet crisis, I have the honor to inform you that shortly after the Cabinet resigned, owing to the impossibility of reaching any understanding between the Radical and Democratic groups which mainly compose the Cabinet. Although a number of grounds for disagreement are mentioned, these are superficial and the only real ground continued to be the possession of the portfolio of Minister of the Interior. Each party claimed this portfolio. Upon the resignation of Mr. Pasitch, the King, upon the advice of the President of Parliament¹⁷³, and in view of the Radical party being numerically the strongest in Parliament, again entrusted Mr. Pasitch with the formation of a Cabinet. Mr. Pasitch began his consultations with Mr. Ljuba Davidovitch, leader of the Democratic party and pursued them also with Mr. Protich, the somewhat dissident member of his party, with Dr. Korochetz, leader of the Popular Clerical party and with practically all the minor party leaders excepting the Croatian Bloc. With the latter, he is believed also to have come into less formal touch. As he continued to insist upon the Interior portfolio for his party, he failed in his conversations with the Democratic party. With the other parties, he apparently was not able to effect such an understanding as would hold together their divergent interests.

¹⁷³ Ribar, Ivan (1881. – 1968.), odvjetnik i političar. Bio je član Glavnoga odbora Narodnoga vijeća u Zagrebu 1918. Jedan od osnivača JDS-a. Predsjednik Narodne skupštine 1920. – 1922. Godine 1938. bio je isključen iz JDS-a. Tijekom Drugoga svjetskog rata priključio se Komunističkoj partiji Jugoslavije, postao članom Vrhovnoga štaba. Bio je i predsjednikom Narodne skupštine Federativne Narodne Republike Jugoslavije (1946. – 1953.), (*Hrvatska enciklopedija*, sv. 9 Pri-Sk, (Zagreb: Leksikografski zavod Miroslav Krleža, 2007), 321).

Mr. Pashitch thereupon returned his mandate to the King who then, again on the advice of the President of Parliament, entrusted the formation of a Cabinet, to Mr. Ljuba Davidovitch, leader of the Democratic party, the next most numerous parliamentary group. It was practically a forgone conclusion that Mr. Davidovitch would also fail in his efforts and in a few days he also returned his mandate, having been unable to induce Mr. Pasitch to enter his Cabinet except on the understanding that a Radical should hold the Interior portfolio. Mr. Davidovitch realized that he could only obtain a parliamentary majority in cooperation with the Radicals. Thereupon Mr. Pasitch was again asked by the King to form a Cabinet.

At this stage considerable delay occurred owing to the meeting in Belgrade of the general convention of the Radical party. At this meeting Mr. Pasitch, as President of the Party, made a speech outlining the situation. He advised strongly continuing to cooperate in the Cabinet with the Democrats as the only combination possible at present. He spoke of new parliamentary elections to be held but only after the new electoral law, the budget and certain other urgent legislation had been passed. Regarding the Croatian Bloc, he intimated his willingness to meet their wishes so far as possible and said that the Radical party had always stood for as much local autonomy as possible without destroying the entity of the state. Mr. Pasitch obtained an overwhelming success and this with the strict discipline shown by the Radical convention, no doubt helped him greatly in his further conversations with the Democratic leader.

At present it appears that a new Cabinet is practically agreed upon in which Mr. Pasitch remains as Premier and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Mr. Voja Marinkovitch¹⁷⁴, a mild Democrat, becomes Minister of the Interior, flanked however by Mr. Kostich¹⁷⁵ a staunch Radical in the newly-created office of Undersecretary of the Interior. Thus party influences it is believed will be neutralized in this all-important Ministry. In addition the Democrats will obtain an Undersecretaryship in the Agrarian Reform Ministry¹⁷⁶. This combination appears to be accepted by Radicals and Democrats but at the least moment the Bosnian Musselman party have objected and claimed for themselves an Undersecretaryship. It seems practically certain however that a Cabinet will now soon be formed, the remaining portfolios remaining with few chances of importance.

Meanwhile an unexpected event has occurred at Zagreb. In the Municipal elections held there a few days ago, the Croatian Bloc has won an overwhelming victory, electing 36 out of 52 Municipal Councillors.¹⁷⁷ At the last elections, it will be remembered that Raditch's Peasant party polled a small minority of votes in the Municipal area while the Communists elected 20 Councillors. In the present election, the Communists

¹⁷⁴ Marinković, Vojislav (1876. – 1935.). Sudjelovao u osnivanju JDS-a. Bio ministar unutarnjih poslova (1921. – 1922.), vanjskih poslova (1924., 1927. – 1932.) i predsjednik vlade (1932.).

¹⁷⁵ Kostić, Lazo M., državni tajnik u Ministarstvu unutarnjih poslova za vrijeme ministra Vojislava Marinkovića.

¹⁷⁶ Ministarstvo za agrarnu reformu.

¹⁷⁷ Općinski izbori u Zagrebu održani su 11. prosinca 1921. Hrvatski blok, osnovan iste godine, činile su HRSS, Hrvatska stranka prava i Hrvatska zajednica.

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only elected 2 Councillors. It is accordingly believed that the Communist vote was cast for the Croatian Block, or more properly for Raditch. Attempts are made here to minimize the importance of this election but it would appear to show that Raditch has at least been able to unite all the anti-unionist elements. Whether he will long be able to maintain the union of such discordant elements remains to be seen. An immediate effect of the election has been the more conciliatory attitude of the Radical Party towards the Block. It is believed here that they will be satisfied with relatively small concessions not affecting the unity of the state.

I enclose in this connection a report from the Consul at Zagreb, Mr. Alfred Thomson, regarding the Municipal election, and translations of articles from Belgrade newspapers, containing details of and comments on the voting.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
H. Percival Dodge¹⁷⁸
American Minister

Enclosures:

No. 1. – Report of Mr. A. R. Thomson, Consul at Zagreb¹⁷⁹

No. 2. – Translations of articles from the press.¹⁸⁰

File No. 800-D

31. 1921., prosinac 21., Dodatak izvješću br. 1150 Henryja Percivala Dodgea State Departmentu: Dopis konzula Alfreda Thomsona iz Zagreba poslaniku Henryju Percivalu Dodgeu o „gradskim izborima u Zagrebu“ u kojem kaže da je uspjeh Hrvatskoga bloka bio rezultat „općeg raspoloženja u Hrvatskoj“, a nadalje opisuje namjeru prvaka Hrvatskoga bloka; Radića, Košutića i Šurmina da se odreknu gradskih zastupničkih mjesta što bi „dozvolilo reizbor Vjekoslava Heinzela za gradonačelnika, kao i omogućilo ostalim članovima gradskoga vijeća da prisegnu vjernost kralju“.

NARA, M 358, R 2, 860H.00/133

Enclosure no. 3, Despatch dated December 29, 1921.

AMERICAN CONSULATE

Zagreb, Kingdom of the S.H.S
December 21, 1921.

¹⁷⁸ Vlastoručno.

¹⁷⁹ Izvješće nije priloženo.

¹⁸⁰ Prilozi o izborima u Zagrebu iz: *Pravda* (Beograd), 12. prosinca 1921.; *Beogradski dnevnik* (Beograd), 12. prosinca 1921.