

especially in the event of a definite split among the radicals and of a collision between the leaders of the Democratic Party.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
John Dyneley Prince⁵⁴¹
John Dyneley Prince,
American Minister.

File No. 800-Quintuplicate.

99. 1927., rujan 19., Izvješće privremenoga otpravnika poslova Carla A. Fishera State Departmentu o rezultatima provedenih izbora s posebnim osvrtom na rezultate u Hrvatskoj.

NARA, M 358, R 4, 860H.00/327

[...]⁵⁴²

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Belgrade, September 19, 1927.

Despatch No. 283.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

Referring to the Legation's telegram No. 30 of September 12th, 11 A.M. summarizing briefly the results of the general elections, which took place with less than the usual coercion, on September 11th, I have the honor to report that the official returns of the elections are as follows, the figures in brackets showing the composition of the Chamber on the date of its dissolution:

Radicals (all fractions) 113 (141)
Democrats (Davidovitch) 61 (37)
Croatian Agrarians (Raditch) 61 (61)

⁵⁴¹ Vlastoručno.

⁵⁴² Državni pečat.

DOKUMENTI

Independent Democrats (Pribitchevitch)	23 (22)
Slovene Clericals (Koroshets)	21 (20)
Yugoslav Mussulman Organization (Spaho)	18 (15)
Serbian Agrarian Party	8 (5)
Germans	6 (5)
Croatian federalists (Trumbitch)	2 (6)
Montenegrin Federalists ⁵⁴³ (joined Raditch)	1 (3)
Socialists	1 (-)
Total	315 (315)

It will be observed that while the Radical Party has lost 28 seats, the majority of which were gained by the Democrats, the other parties have retained practically their former numbers.

The present Coalition Government (Radicals, Democrats, Mussulmans) have exactly the same number of seats which they controlled in the former Skupschina, and profess to be well pleased with the result of the elections, as it had been freely predicted that the Government parties would suffer considerable losses.

One of the most instructive results of the present elections is to be seen in the fact that the intricate situation which has prevailed in the Radical parliamentary Club ever since the death of Pashitch has now been cleared to a great extent by the victory of Prime Minister Vukitchevitch partisans over the so-called Pashitch fraction of the Radical Party. Mr. Vukitchevitch claims that out of the 113 Radicals elected not more than ten might refuse to support his Government, whereas the former composition of the Radical Club did not even guarantee a safe majority to the Prime Minister. It is interesting to note that over fifty of the Radical deputies have been elected for the first time, and that the leader of the "Pashitch" fraction, Mr. Trifkovitch, former President of Parliament, was defeated in both districts in which he presented his candidature.

It should be remembered that Mr. Vukitchevitch and most of his colleagues in the Cabinet are comparatively new figures in Yugoslav politics, and their present efforts to gain a predominance over the old Serbian leaders, Messrs. Ousounovitch and Nintchitch, prominent deputies of what could be called the Radical center, and particularly over Mr. Davidovitch, leader of the Democratic Party, may sooner or later meet an active and powerful opposition. Meanwhile it has been decided that the Cabinet will not submit its resignation but will be reconstructed, prior to the constitution of the Chamber on October 5th, so as to include one or two representatives of the Slovene Clerical Party, as provided for in the agreement between Mr. Vukitchevitch and the Slovene leader, Father Koroshets (See despatches Nos. 262 and 275).

The fact that the Croatian Agrarians of Stephan Raditch have succeeded in electing almost as many deputies as two years ago shows how the Raditch Party has been

⁵⁴³ Crnogorska federalistička stranka.

avored by the peculiarities of the Yugoslav non-proportional representation system, since Raditch actually lost over 200,000 votes, or approximately 40 per cent. It is also to be noted that the Raditch party has actually lost four parliament seats, since in 1925 the six Croatian Federalist deputies mentioned in the above list as a separate group, were elected on the lists of the Raditch party. The Croatian Federalists, who represent the Croatian intellectual class, have since completely disavowed Mr. Raditch's demagogic policy, but have failed to succeed, now being represented in Parliament by only two deputies, both of whom are the selection of the city of Zagreb where Raditch was decisively defeated.

I shall include further comments on the political parties and leaders in Yugoslavia based upon the outcome of the elections in a separate report, in accordance with the Department's Instruction No. 92 of July 18, 1927.

As a matter of possible interest to the Department, I am transmitting herewith a comparative statement of the electoral returns in 1925 and 1927, showing, besides the composition of the Chamber, the total number of votes obtained by each party, as well as a statement as to what the returns would have been if a system of proportional representation were adopted; that is, by considering the whole country as one election unit, instead of dividing it into 58 electoral districts as is now the case.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
 Your obedient servant,
 Carl A. Fisher⁵⁴⁴
 Carl A. Fisher,
 Chargé d'Affaires ad interim.

Enclosure:

1.- Comparative statement showing the returns of the general elections in 1925 and 1927.

File No. 800-Quintuplicate.

100. 1927., rujan 24., Izvješće privremenoga otpravnika poslova poslanstva u Beogradu Carla A. Fishera State Departmentu o rezultatima provedenih izbora s posebnim osvrtom na rezultate u Hrvatskoj koji su pokazali da su osjećaji „za nacionalnu jugoslavensku zajednicu još uvijek podređeni lokalnim vjerskim i rasnim idejama.“

NARA, M 358, R 4, 860h.00/328

[...]⁵⁴⁵

LEGATION OF THE
 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Belgrade, September 24, 1927.

⁵⁴⁴ Vlastoručno.

⁵⁴⁵ Državni pečat.