

MP and member of the British delegation in Paris, recalled in his memoirs that he 'never moved a yard without previous consultation with experts of the authority of Dr. Seton-Watson'.¹⁵

On 19 November, Masaryk arrived in London from the US, greeted with a guard of honour from the Grenadier Guards at London Euston Station. On 1 December he visited Seton-Watson at his London residence

returned to Slovakia, where he 'met with an almost embarrassing welcome on all sides, [and] was inundated with the details of every conceivable grievance, public or private'.¹⁸ His findings culminated in his book *The Situation in Slovakia* in 1924. In June 1925 and 1927, Seton-Watson embarked on extended tours of Yugoslavia and Romania, and on the second occasion stayed in the Hrad (Prague Castle) on the way home, having long discussions with Masaryk, Beneš, and Hodža. This same year, the Slovak People's Party joined the coalition government in Prague and an administrative reform was approved, partly thanks to Seton-Watson's observations in *The Situation in Slovakia*, thereby easing Slovak discontentment with the centralised government. In 1928, Seton-Watson lectured at the Charles University in Prague and in Brno, before seeing President Masaryk at Lány Castle, then embarking on an extended visit to Slovakia, hoping to 'study political conditions and in particular to compare them with the conditions in 1923'.¹⁹ By this time Seton-Watson could comfortably read Czech and Slovak, though he preferred to communicate in English, French, or German when speaking. On 20 June, Seton-Watson returned home, where he spent the next six weeks composing a memorandum on 'The Situation in Slovakia and the Magyar Minority', in which he detailed the diminution of Slovak grievances since 1923, but admitted that the Hungarian situation was deteriorating. He sent a copy of the Memorandum to President Masaryk, who assured him that 'the Memo you sent me will have the needed effect I hope I'll see to it'.²⁰ In May 1929, Seton-Watson departed on another extended tour of Yugoslavia, followed by a short visit to Transylvania, then meeting his wife May and sons Hugh and Christopher for a

logically at one and the same time democratic, Francophil and Anglophil, will reap its fatal fruits'.²² In a copy presented to Christopher Seton-Watson he added in his own hand 'And may your generation do better than mine!'²³ In June 1938, Seton-Watson made three broadcasts for the BBC in which he set out his analysis of the background to the crisis in which Czechoslovakia now found itself. On 2 July, Seton-Watson, May, and their son Hugh departed for Prague to attend the sixtieth anniversary of the Sokols. They stayed at the Hrad as the President's guests, accompanied by the Steeds, dining with the Beneš's and Jan Masaryk, According to May, Beneš was 'in great form' but looked 'a good deal older', as he gave a 'complete exposé of the Central E uropean situation' and the 'Hodža-Henlein negotiations'.²⁴ They then attended the Sokol festivities in the Stadion and the main square, before lunching with the Hodžas on 8 July. On 9 July, Seton-Watson travelled with May to Luhaovice to a Congress of the Československá jednota, where he made an 'appeal to the whole nation to sink party differences in the face of danger to the whole state' which was 'received with a tremendous ovation . . .

