

FROM COUNT APPONYI.

He Replies to Hungarian Criticism of His Visit Here.

To the Editor of *The New York Times*:

Professor Jászi, under certain form, assails my American tour with the open purpose of making it unefficient. He presents me as a man, not dishonest indeed, but behind time, anti-democratic, an agent of the Hapsburgs, &c. What he writes amounts to this: "Personally he (meaning myself) is not a bad sort; you may grant him a civil reception, but do not take him seriously, because he represents feudalism, the cause of bygone times and so on."

At the same time he must own that I made a firm show against the acts of violent reaction, which were the offsprings of the rule of his set and of the abhorrence that rule had inspired; he must own that I was not against universal suffrage, that I even have made some speeches on its behalf; he might have added that I took office to bring it through and left office when it was tampered with, and he might have added that every one in my country, his own small set excepted, considers me as one of the representatives of democratic progress and that on that account I enjoy the confidence of non-Communist Socialists and radical Democrats. True that I consider democracy in my country under the form of constitutional monarchy, just as Mr. Lloyd George considers it for England, because that form is rooted in our traditions; certainly I do not identify it with mob-rule, which is the form it took when Professor Jászi's set got into power through the most useless and most frivolous of revolutions, and which is to a large extent responsible for the anti-democratic current that was noticed after the collapse of Communism.

But all this is immaterial; let every one enjoy his peculiar amusements; let a man who, when a countryman of his undertakes a mission for the benefit of the country to which they both belong, delight in assailing the former and prostrating as far he can his efforts, take his pleasure. I would not do it, but there is no accounting for taste.

What is beyond a mere joke, what deserves to be put in its proper light is Mr. Jászi's campaign against the Hungarian loan. Hungary stands in need of that loan to save her from financial catastrophe; the affair is in good progress and now appear on the stage certain Hungarians who take action against its success—which means against their country, because they happen to disapprove of its present Government. I consider this fact, which I need not characterize, as a complete vindication of my own personality against the attacks of Mr. Jászi, because it is clear that there can be nothing in common between me and a man, or a set of men, whose patriotic conscience allows them to take such a course.

I must, however, add that my American tour has nothing whatever to do with a Hungarian loan or any Government business. I am here not on a mission but on invitation by prominent Americans.

ALBERT APPONYI

New York, Oct. 9, 1923.

The New York Times

Published: October 11, 1923

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