

Count Apponyi's Speech.

To the Editor of The New York Times:

As a former citizen of Hungary who knows well the conditions prevailing in pre-war and post-war Hungary, I should like to comment on statements made by Count Apponyi in his speeches. Count Apponyi stated that Hungary was "the furthest outpost of civilization in Europe." This remark sounds indeed very strange in Count Apponyi's mouth, for while he was Minister of Education Slovak schools were closed down, Slovak people suppressed and Slovak political leaders jailed. Such is the pre-war record of the "furthest outpost of civilization." However, by the Treaty of Trianon the Slovaks were joined with the "inferior" Czech race and, as a result of this incorporation into an "inferior civilization," they have now nearly 4,000 public schools, while in the "superior" Magyar civilization they had none at all.

Count Apponyi says that "the war should be followed by a peace, just, fair and permanent." The Treaty of Trianon put an end to the racial oppression of the non-Magyar races. It has liberated the Slovaks, Serbo-Croats, Ruthenians and Rumanians and has given them their due place among the free civilized nations of Europe. Is this not "just, fair and permanent"? Pre-war Hungary was an artificial State, a "survival of medieval times," as President Masaryk once stated, a State incompatible with the people's right to self-determination and held together by brutal force and oppression. The passing away of such a State can only be regarded by the Magyar feudal oligarchy of which Count Apponyi is a typical representative but not by a free democracy like America. If we remember the sufferings of the liberated nations under the Magyar rule, then we can fully realize the great good done by the Trianon Treaty. To unmake the great work cannot be the duty of America, as Count Apponyi tries to persuade us.

CLEMENT HIRISKY,

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