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Col. Kelly's Letter WHY A LABOR COLLEGE?

In the "Daily Express" of Saturday last appears a letter from Lieut-Colonel Sherwood Kelly, V.C., C.M.G., D.S.O., who has just returned from North Russia, where he went at the call for volunteers, and was in command of the 2nd Battalion of the Hampshire Regiment.

This is what he says about the "Relief Expedition:"

Sir,—I have just returned from North Russia under circumstances which compel me to seek the earliest possible opportunity of making known in England certain facts in connection with North Russia, which otherwise might never come to light.

I wish to state that in so doing I am actuated by no personal motives, but solely by considerations of public policy. I know that my action will render me liable to professional penalties, and will prejudice my future in the army, but I am prepared to take all risks in carrying out what I know to be my duty to my country and to my men.

I volunteered for service with the North Russian Relief Force in the sincere belief that relief was urgently needed in order to make possible the withdrawal of low category troops, in the last stages of exhaustion, due to fierce fighting amid the rigors of an Arctic winter.

The wide advertisement of this relief expedition led myself and many others to believe that affairs in North Russia were about to be wound up in an efficient and decisive manner. And we were proud to be accorded the privilege of sharing in such an undertaking. I was placed in command of the 2nd Battalion of the Hampshire Regiment, in the brigade commanded by Brigadier-General Grogan, V.C., C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O.

Disillusionment.

Immediately on arrival at Archangel, however, towards the end of May, I at once received the impression that the policy of the authorities was not what it was stated to be. This impression hardened as time went on, and during the months of June and July I was reluctantly but inevitably driven to the following conclusions:

That the troops of the Relief Force, which we were told had been sent out purely for defensive purposes, were being used for offensive purposes, on a large scale and far in the interior, in furtherance of some ambitious plan of campaign the nature of which we were not allowed to know. My personal experience of those operations was that they were not even well conducted, and that they were not calculated to benefit in a military or any other sense a sound and practical British policy in Russia. They only entailed useless loss and suffering on troops that had already made incalculable sacrifices in the great war.

The Puppet "Democracy."

I discovered, what is now a matter of common knowledge even in England, that the much vaunted "loyal Russian army," composed largely of Bolshevik prisoners dressed in khaki, was utterly unreliable, always disposed to mutiny, and that it always constituted a greater danger to our troops than the Bolshevik armies opposed to them.

(By William Paul, from the "Socialist," Glasgow)

THERE are many signs which indicate that the forthcoming winter is going to be a record one for Marxian educational classes. The proof that we are going to eclipse all our previous efforts next winter has caused a great deal of consternation in the ranks of the ruling class. During the past few weeks the press has been instructed to write up special articles on "Labor and Education." These articles have been written as a counterblast to the many Marxian classes which are at present being organized throughout the land by the Plebs League, the several Labor Colleges, the S.L.P., and many other kindred organizations. In addition to the Labor College, which reopens this year in London, there are several other colleges opening in provincial industrial centres. Manchester has now its Labor College. Liverpool, Glasgow and Newcastle, expect to have their colleges in full swing in a few weeks. With a little effort Labor Colleges should be established this winter in Sheffield and Leeds. In South Wales there were so many applications received from young Socialist miners to undertake a two years' course of study in Marxian economics and history that the Aberdare Miners' Federation decided to send an additional student to the London Labor College this year.

These facts have deeply impressed our financiers and their parliamentary automatons. Hence their sudden awakening to the fact that revolutionary education—"Bolshevik education" they correctly term it—is sweeping its way through the ranks of the wage-earning masses. And in its sweep it is gathering into its net the most acute and brilliant minds of the younger workers in the Labor movement. This modern successful educational movement on behalf of independent working class education has been the work of the young men of the Marxian school. For over ten years they have had a terrific struggle against the capitalist enemy, and their task has been made doubly arduous by the sneering opposition of the "intellectual assets"

was tragically demonstrated early in July, when the Russians mutinied and murdered their British officers.

I formed the opinion that the puppet Government set up by us in Archangel rested on no basis of public confidence and support, and would fall to pieces the moment the protection of British bayonets was withdrawn.

At the same time I saw British money poured out like water and invaluable British lives sacrificed in backing up this worthless army and in keeping in power this worthless Government, and I became convinced that my duty to my country lay not in helping to forward a mistaken policy, but in exposing it to the British public.

I ask you, Sir, to publish this letter, so that people in England may know the truth about the situation in Archangel and may be able to take steps to right it.

J. SHERWOOD-KELLY, Lt.-Col.

Late Commanding 2nd Batt. Hampshire Regt.

inside the Labor movement. The sentimental Parliamentarians of the Labor Party have chided the Marxian educational enthusiasts as "impossibilists." They have, in stinging invectives, sought to humiliate them by disparaging what they call their "scientific" conceptions of Socialism. A good example of their ignorant impertinence may be seen in last month's Socialist Review, in which Mr. Ramsay MacDonald criticises our friend Noah Ablett's little book on "Elementary Economics." It is a potent fact that neither Mr. MacDonald nor any of his ilk has lifted a finger to assist the now vigorous and successful educational movement on behalf of independent working class education.

Nevertheless, the work has succeeded even better than the most optimistic had dared to hope. Regarding the demand for education on the part of the workers, we have last Sunday's Observer admitting that:

"We are, in fact, in the midst of a profound educational ferment, the results of which will be very far-reaching. When public attention is being drawn to disputes and rumors of disputes, it is well to remember that there is another side to the Labor movement. Amid the turmoil of the industrial world and removed from public gaze there is in progress an educational movement amongst working men and women of a very considerable size. It is probably not an exaggeration to say that the number of adult students who are taking advantage of educational facilities provided through numerous voluntary agencies and pursuing a systematic course of study is greater than the number of undergraduates in the Universities of Great Britain. People are afraid of violent revolution; but this educational ferment is the real revolution which is taking place at the present time."

So far as our educational movement is concerned we are only interested in the mental revolution as the first step in a process which will culminate in revolutionary activity. The press is perfectly aware of our aims and objects. And the surprising success of our work compels even a Conservative journal like the Observer to acknowledge our influence as a power amidst the educational forces of today. While recounting the work of various educational agencies, the Observer says:

"Nor can we omit the work of the Labor College and its propagandist side, the Plebs League: The teachings of the Labor College are based upon the theories of Marx and the activities of the Plebs League have been more particularly successful in such districts as South Wales and on the Clyde where many classes have been held. Recently it was decided to establish a Scottish Labor College on the lines of the Labor College in London and financed by Labor organizations."

The vital difference between the Marxian educational bodies and every other educational organization in this country lies in the difference between reaction and revolution. It is a popular notion that education means progress. But under capitalism, wherein everything is perverted and

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