

gests that it may end in co-operation. But Sir John Cadman was only endeavouring to smooth away the growing differences between English and American interests. Co-operation they may achieve against the workers of Russia, but co-operation to supply fuel for essentially rival navies is a contradiction that cannot be removed by capitalist states. So the workers see a consortium formed which unites

the oil interests in their attacks on Russian workers, but they see at the same time English and American Governments defending each other's oil magnates. Before these governments find a passive defence inadequate to protect the profits of the oil mongers,—let the workers remove the obstacles which prevent real co-operation in the production of a vital fuel.—“Inprecorr.”

day among the ruins of nations, there will be some who will remember, and they will say France was the cause.

France (furiously): Cause! I!! Am I to blame for what has happened? Have I a free choice in the matter, or is my course, like that of the individual, determined by circumstances over which I have no control?

Myself: You argue well, madam, but it is the argument of people who will not think about reflex action. Even though you succeed in forcing Germany to give you a share in her material resources, you cannot make the world buy. Nor could you get rich by making Europe an exclusive market for Franco-German goods. It is not more wealth that the people of the world in general and Europe in particular need, it is the charge upon wealth that needs to be reduced. And this step, madam, that you have taken, it is more likely to increase the charge upon industry.

France (puzzled): I do not comprehend! But prophets are cheap, they have always been cheap. Go back to school, monsieur, you are too young—(rising). This interview must end here.

* * *

To the Reader.—The presentation of this subject in its present form may lend itself to misinterpretation, but the purpose of the writer, who is neither pro-French nor anti-British, is to offset the propaganda of newspapers, which is obviously intended to produce a “war psychology” in time.

R. KIRK.

K. K. K. AND THE PROLETARIAN PARTY

MAX ROSE, speaker for the Proletarian Party, who, with his wife, was seized by a mob of Ku Klux Klansmen actively assisted by a large squad of city police at a street meeting in Toledo, Ohio, Tuesday night, August 7th, taken in automobiles 23 miles out of town and rescued from being hanged only by the last minute intervention of a policeman in the mob, will bring suit for damages against the city of Toledo, according to the American Civil Liberties Union.

Rose and his wife were scheduled to speak last Tuesday night at an open-air mass meeting in Toledo with five other speakers, three of whom were Rationalists, one a member of the I. W. W. and one a member of the Workers' Party. A crowd of 5,000, among whom were members of the American Legion and the Ku Klux Klan gathered at the meeting, which proceeded peacefully until Mrs. Rose got up to speak. As soon as she began to speak five automobiles loaded with Ku Klux Klansmen and city police in uniform came upon the scene. They forced their way through the crowd, seized Rose and his wife and threw them into the waiting automobiles. Pistols were stuck into Rose's face as the automobiles, with sirens shrieking, rushed down the main street and out into the country.

When the lynching party had proceeded about 23 miles out of town Rose was taken out and a rope put around his neck. He was then searched and robbed of \$100.30 which he had in his pockets at the time. At this an old policeman, unable to withstand the pleading of Mrs. Rose, protested: “Petty larceny, too, eh? This thing is going too far. I thought it was only a kidnapping party, not a hanging.”

When the “citizens” heard this, their decision to hang Rose wavered. Then the policeman, gathering courage, declared: “If you hang this man you'll have to hang me, too, or I'll tell the whole story when I get back.”

The mob, in which Rose could identify a police lieutenant, the prosecuting attorney, two police sergeants and a Toledo lawyer, then held a hurried consultation and decided not to hang Rose. Instead, he was forced to sign a schoolboy declaration pledging allegiance to “this flag and the republic for which it stands.” The mob then drove away leaving Rose and his wife, who had become hysterical, to walk back the 23 miles to town. As a result of the lynching bee, Mrs. Rose's health today is in a serious condition.

What France Proposes to Do With Germany

An Exclusive Interview, by Myself

(I was ushered into a palatial chamber in which France stood in front of an open window looking out upon a busy scene of workers and time servers.)

France: You are—Monsieur?

Myself (interrupting): A student, Madam, a humble student of history.

France: Hm! and your business—here?

Myself (nervously): I am trying to discover, if possible, your real intentions toward Germany, and to make them known to the people of other countries, who are obsessed with the belief that you desire to ruin Germany; that, blind to all but your own material interest, you wish to rule Europe. I am convinced. . . . if the world did but know the truth, a great change could be wrought in its opinion. If you were to tell me this, I could become as famous as the man who tried to set the world at peace.

France (seating herself, a faint smile breaking the thin, delicate lines of her mouth): Since there have always been Quixotes, I suppose there must also be Panzas. You want to hear my side of the case from me?

Myself: Exactly, madam, but I would prefer to have your answer to certain questions which would bring this interview quickly to the desired end.

France: Proceed, Monsieur.

Myself: Did you take a legal step when you occupied the Ruhr?

France (note ascending): Legal! Monsieur, that has been the time honored custom among nations.

Myself (interrupting what I thought would be a defence of the popular theory concerning such matters): I do not mean you to take the common point of view in this case,—that all helpless and backward countries,—for example, Haiti, San Domingo, Mesopotamia, or China,—must serve the interest of the more advanced, the powerful. Did you act in agreement with your friends, the Allies, and according to the Treaty of Versailles?

France (playfully): You are so innocent, Monsieur—it is a pity. The question, I am afraid, is one over which there can only be interminable quibbles for the time servers and posturers. In occupying the Ruhr, I did what we had all agreed to do in 1921, to act together, but which was impossible— for joint action, in 1923.

Myself: Impossible! But you did take mutual action in other parts of German territory, after the London Ultimatum in 1921; why not in the Ruhr?

France: Monsieur, it is not for me to answer that question.

Myself (abashed by the squareness of her reply): What was your purpose, then, in seizing the Ruhr mines and railroads; did you think you could force Germany to pay reparations?

France: Yes.

Myself: Events, since your occupation, have shown that you have not succeeded, and it is quite reasonable to suppose that you could have anticipated these; Why do you still persist?

France: No one has suffered more than myself. No one has more obligations than myself. How can I be compensated? How can I meet the demands of

my creditors, if not out of German industry? No nation has had to practice more economy, because of agricultural and industrial needs; no people are poorer; no industries more heavily taxed. Yet, you must know, Monsieur, that there is a point beyond which people as well as industries must collapse. I am reaching that point rapidly. There is no other way to get relief except from German industry.

Myself: Admitting that all this is true, can you not see that it is the old method you are resorting to, to rob Peter in order to pay Paul?

France: Monsieur, you are very young—it is a pity. What I am doing is not robbery unless robbery be the common practice of nations, the general order of life and the scheme of creation, in which case robbery loses its meaning. You trifle, monsieur, with a serious subject and unless you can remember your position here I must dismiss you.

Myself (humiliated): Madam, I will take back my words, I do not wish to give offence. But the reparations, have they not been proved to be beyond the resources of Germany to pay; and even were it possible for her to pay, it would only be at the expense of industry everywhere? You can not take a pail of water from the Mediterranean without affecting the position of every water atom in the Aegean Sea; no more can you take reparations from Germany without affecting the price of all commodities in the world market and, incidentally, the whole industrial life of nations. Even your own experts on this matter will so inform you.

France: Monsieur, your tongue wags too freely. You desired to hear a declaration of my intentions toward Germany; instead of which I have listened patiently to you. Do not again remind me of reparations — which no one wants, except the time servers and posturers as something to wrangle over. What I am doing with Germany is what the larger capitalist does with the smaller fry every so often; I am reducing Germany to a condition in which she must submit to my terms. In her industries and resources only can I compensate myself for all injuries.

Myself: But what of these other countries, they have suffered too; shall they not also be justified in asking a share in Germany's resources?

France: You would preach, Monsieur, and like all preachers you forget the urge of necessity. The needs of others, however pressing they may be, are not my needs. The industrial life of my people needs to be renewed, my entrepreneurs must find a wider field for their activities, and the burden of the taxpayers lightened as much as possible. Can my army and navy and air force be sustained forever out of the meagre resources of this country? They cannot; therefore, I am forced to take these measures towards Germany.

Myself: But in the end shall you not engender a hatred which will provoke another war; and would not such a war prove more costly than if you were to give up your present design?

France: Monsieur, what is, is, and what will be, will be. No matter when such a war comes, no matter what its result may be, or who shall prove the victor, I shall suffer no less than my enemy.

Myself: Madam, like the man who came to settle the problems of little nations, I go back from here unable to set the mind of the world at peace. It is a pity, as you have previously remarked. Some