

PANAIT ISTRATI'S DISPLEASURE WITH MR. TUDOR IONESCU

THE article "On the Verge of the Letter of a Worker" was written and handed over to the editorial office, and when the last issue of Crusade arrived, in which I read, on the last page, an article (with the title in three columns and with Mr. Mussolini's photo) entitled: *FROM THE HISTORICAL FRESCO OF FASCISM* and signed by Tudor Ionescu.

I don't know who Mr. Tudor Ionescu is, but I know perfectly well what fascism is, and I know how to declare to you that the publication of the aforementioned article in the columns of the Crusade has all my indignant disapproval. It is neither more nor less than a betrayal of my good faith and a breach of the pact we made together, when my disinterested collaboration was accepted, on the absolute condition that the Crusade be kept at an equal distance from fascism, from communism and from the hooligan anti-Semitism.

Or, in the above-mentioned article, the flattest apology for fascism as a method of government is made, while at the head of the same issue, Mihail Stelescu, burning the last idols worshiped yesterday (as I did myself), says that our line it is not "Neither RIGHT, nor LEFT", but that Romanianism that we want to be noble, humane, creator of moral values and an integral distributor of justice.

Let it be noted that I do not disapprove of the Italian nation's gesture of defending itself from communism and opposing fascism, just as I do not disapprove of Hitlerism for having broken the neck of the same hydra. And to add something more, if our governments would one day allow the communists to become the masters of the street, as is happening in France, I would declare myself ready to support any violent action that would choke the red terror.

But from here, to let it be believed that the wretched bitter bread that the people eat in Italy, in Russia and in Germany, will no longer be able to be eaten throughout the ages, except with the blessing of castor oil, of the G.P.U. - or racism - no, no, no!

Terror can be an ephemeral method of struggle, but it cannot be a method of government, it does not solve any kind of economic crisis. It is a disease and therefore we cannot apologize for any disease.

That's why I declare that if such apologies (why not that of communism aswell?) will find shelter in the columns of the Crusade in the future, my collaboration will automatically cease.