

IS PLENTY TOO MUCH FOR THE COMMON PEOPLE? By George E. Kirkpatrick. Published by Florence H. Kirkpatrick, San Gabriel, Cal. \$1.00

When dreams paralleling one's own are painted with bold words by a zealot, it is difficult to be uncharitable or hypercritical. George Ross Kirkpatrick belongs to that host of warm-hearted writers who, recognizing the crime of poverty in the midst of plenty, would do something.

"Is Plenty Too Much for the Common People?" exhorts, wheedles, pulls your leg, tousles your hair. It runs the gamut of emotional appeal like a sort of printed composite of Union Square on May Day and a Sunday afternoon in Hyde Park.

Socializing industry is the only way to get plenty for everybody, declaims Mr. Kirkpatrick. "Nobody should be rewarded for simply owning a portion of the raw material supply (a portion of the earth)." We agree. Seventy pages later we read: "We could use the right of eminent domain to condemn for public use all natural resources and socially usable production equipment paying the owners in government bonds." How issuing government bonds for payment of condemned resources differs from paying rent, or makes the previous wrong right, is left for the reader's imagination.

Mr. Kirkpatrick presents his points with such power and zeal as to disarm casual and indiscriminating readers. It is too bad that his earnestness is not employed in a truly democratic cause; that is, one which, unlike the socialism he advocates, favors the fullest freedom—even the freedom to propose a planned society in which freedom would be abolished.

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