

deny the right of the many to freedom to work in partnership with Nature and to enjoy both the work and the result without any "raiding or pillaging" on the part of the Government, is the practical politics of both the trusted and discredited leaders of all parties.

The C. L. P. has answered the question many times. Not until Land Monopoly is quietly but firmly and entirely abolished as a consequence of the people's demand that the rent of their countries be collected for their use and benefit will it be realized what is the truth, which the C. L. P. has endeavored to proclaim, viz., not only that

OURS IS A NICE WORLD, OURS IS,

but that it *is ours*, in the real sense of the word (although we are ignorantly or fraudulently deprived of the natural rights and advantages of life in it) whenever we acquire sense enough to make it so.

Who will help by joining in the demand for Justice? That is all that is needed. A little commonsense, which it would not hurt any of us to acquire, would soon make it clear that

OURS IS A NICE WORLD, OURS IS

London, England.

"X"

Ruth White Colton Talks to the Lions

MRS. RUTH WHITE COLTON spoke before the Lions Club at West New York last month.

She said in part: "Either we may continue the hit-or-miss, hodge-podge method of penalizing industry, agriculture and home-owners, through taxation, or we may, as is advocated by over five hundred of the leading manufacturers of this state, shift the burden from the back of industry and thrift onto the site value of land. How will such a change benefit the average man and woman? The answer is very simple.

"The less revenue that is collected from site-value, the higher is the selling-price of sites—factory sites, farm sites, home sites, and the higher is the selling price of all raw materials, such as lumber, coal, clay, etc., and the more difficult it is to get sites and materials for productive uses. High prices for sites and raw material increases the cost of production and decreases the demand for the products of industry and agriculture alike. This, of course, restricts production and restricted production means unemployment, industrial strikes and general social unrest.

"With site-values and building materials sky-high we are faced with the housing problem, which carries with it a tremendous social significance. Congested housing is responsible for more of disease and crime than we are yet generally aware, and our state institutions are filled with the victims of these conditions, for the cost of whose maintenance all of us are responsible. The sooner these facts are understood and recognized the sooner will labor and capital intelligently combine to fight this rising cost of sites and raw materials."

Our British Letter

WHY WAGES ARE LOW

"AN incident, reported from Colchester, Essex, in which unemployed men fought for work, provides yet another contradiction to those people who assert that the unemployed man has no desire for a job.

"Fifty men were required in connection with the laying of electric cables. It was hard toil, but some 200 men turned up to be taken on. The man in charge told them that the first 50 who got the tools would be put on the job, and immediately there was a wild rush for the implements. Fortunately, none was seriously hurt, but many received hard knocks. One man said to have had his coat ripped off by a pick, and others were badly bruised."—*Daily Herald*, London, May 9, 1925.

"James D. Graham of Montana, an acute observer of conditions in the Western States, writes that unemployment in this region 'has been on the increase for four years. Wages are going down and shop conditions are becoming poor.'... The Colorado coal fields present another situation that adds to the general distress. The Rockefeller company 'unions' in that State signed an agreement last month reducing wages twenty per cent. . . . If we turn to agriculture the economic prospects are just as black. There is no relief in sight, and the national administration has neither the knowledge nor the ability to handle the situation. The Woolworth stores that deal in the cheapest wares that workers buy are curtailing business in the Western States. They have reduced the wages of their girl employees to nine dollars a week, and the trade unions are fighting this policy with but little success."—*The New Leader*, New York, April 18, 1925.

These extracts from the Labor press of Britain and America expose the utter futility of "organization" alone as a means to prevent the wages of workers in civilized countries from being forced continually lower and lower. Lament is made by Mr. Graham that "the conditions are black and there is no relief in sight." But he makes no suggestion to help his readers out. The comment of the writer in *The New Leader* who quotes him is that "Unemployment is by no means confined to the Western States. It is general, but little is being said by the newspapers about it. *The New Leader* will try to get more data regarding this miserable by-product of capitalism." What the editor of the paper in question expects to be able to do with that extra data should he obtain it we do not know, but it is certain that one who only sees unemployment as a "miserable by-product of capitalism" is in the same hopeless condition as the national administration, and unlikely, therefore, to contribute anything to the solution of the problem.

ONLY CIVILIZED WORKERS WORRIED OVER WAGES

It never occurs to these publicists to enquire how it comes to pass that it is only in "civilized" countries that such conditions obtain. Here in Britain there has just died one of the greatest capitalists the Socialists and trade