

# The Party Was Getting Dangerous

Comments on the November 15th Election in Denmark in the *Georgist publication*, *Vejen Frem*, translated by Joseph Jespersen.

"NEVER Give Up"—in an article with this title, Soren Olesen, after referring to the ups and downs of the Justice party, in Denmark, wrote "since 1945 our progress and influence has been on the upgrade, and the depressing effect of the election should not prevent us from seeing that understanding and sympathy created for our ideas were not extinguished because an election went against us, especially an election under an undemocratic election law . . . We had begun to be dangerous, therefore, the parties of the right and their hired press used all their resources against the Justice party. Rather than be discouraged we should increase our efforts."

In another article on "What the Election Taught Us," the author pointed out "that only 2.15 per cent of voters understood the simple truth that all progress results in increasing land values. The socialist parties got credit for the good work done by the Justice party in the three-party coalition government of which it was a part."

In an editorial headed "Our Own Triangle" the *Berlingske Tidende* is quoted as finding the result of the election a part of a Europe-wide tendency toward two-party politics, with the smaller parties being squeezed out of existence. The writer denies this, finding that in this case the liberal parties seem to be squeezed between two reactionary groups. "The government has tumbled, one of its legs was amputated, and thereby the most effective driving force toward legislation of liberal fabric disappears

temporarily. From all directions we hear that the Justice party must rise again in complete independence. And here we meet our own triangle: land value taxation, free trade, and limitation of state functions to absolutely common matters. Cooperation with other parties is possible, as we have seen, as to land value taxation and free trade. But the Justice party is the only party in Danish politics, in fact in the whole world, which builds its thought on the limitation of state functions on an ethical evaluation of what constitutes common matters."

In "The Election's Lesson," A. Mikkelson quotes the same three principles, emphasizing the last, and attributes the loss of votes to the inability of the Justice party, working within the coalition, to oppose effectively measures increasing the scope of governmental activity.

In "Forward with the Justice Party," P. U. Olsen stated "I have no doubt that the newspapers' dirty attack on the Justice party is the cause of its defeat."

E. G. Nielsen writing "On Truth and Justice," found comfort in a passage from *Progress and Poverty*, and quoted two paragraphs beginning, "But for those who see Truth," (page 556).

Holger Jensen attributed defeat to the attempt to cooperate with other parties, and called for complete independence. A prominent newspaper was quoted as calling for revision of the voting law on the grounds that it is unreasonable to deprive more than 52,000 Justice party voters of representation. A number of others expressed the same thought.

A campaign has been started to get the necessary signatures for a place on the ballot at the next election.