

Freedom vs. Mr. Laski

By A. P. Christianson

In a letter to the editor of The Nation, I stated that Mr. Laski in his article 'The American Myth and the Peace' speaks of the American business man's mythology, and rightly so. But Mr. Laski has his own mythology; in the idea that we suffer from freedom and can remedy this with government control. If we cannot trust an individual in a private enterprise why trust him with far greater powers as a government official?

"Before Mr. Laski finishes his third paragraph, he explodes the business man's mythology, that we have free enterprise, and part of his own mythology, that we suffer from free enterprise, with these words, "In a world increasingly controlled by the practice of monopoly, increasingly haunted by the specter of mass unemployment.

"In a world where a vast majority of the people have insufficient food, clothing and shelter, if they are not in actual need, must it not be apparent that what is needed is free enterprise, free from monopoly of all kinds? Does not Mr. Laski see that the greatest amount of wealth is produced where men have the most freedom? If man's

desires are free to stimulate him to action, there will not be want unless nature fails, and no government can prevent that.

"May I suggest that Mr. Laski read Democracy versus Socialism by Max Hirsh, or the works of Henry George. These works have considerably dimmed the "genius" of Karl Marx in my estimation. Karl Marx, after writing 700 pages of Vol. III of 'Capital,' a word he never defined, had to admit that exploitation by capitalism is a myth; that only monopoly can exploit, and the only effective monopolies are government granted privileges, the most important of which is the private ownership of the natural resources.

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