



To the Editor:

The article in the November issue, "Scandinavian Control of Inflation," extols the attainment in Sweden of half-statist, half-free, but democratic; a "practical course between laissez faire and socialism;" centralized planning on a national basis; centralized economic power in the hands of employees and employers. This is a bit startling to me, and I wonder if you should not fill in the specifics for the reader as to precisely what socialist practises should comprise half of a nation's economy?

Reference is made to the proud dedication to integrity in Sweden. I believe he is absolutely correct in this, so far as it relates to the long, historic tradition of the Swedish people as a whole. But this is evidently not the author's meaning, because he speaks of an integrity "that Norway and Sweden have evolved"—presumably of recent date, while socialism has been advancing. I believe it would be helpful to readers, too, if you would review facts in the light of this claim, such as the trend of theft (violation of rights of ownership) especially among young men.

F. A. HARPER  
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The article referred to was a summary of four articles in The New York Herald Tribune. My comment was briefly stated in the final paragraph. As to "what socialistic practises should comprise half of a nation's economy" my answer is *none*. I do not like socialism any better than Mr. Harper does, but I have great respect for what the Scandinavian countries have achieved.

To me it seems that of the factors mentioned as being responsible for the working of the system, the most important by far is the recognition that wages come from production. This is the much-needed lesson that we in the United States can draw from the Scandinavian experiment—that we can improve our standard of living only as we increase production. And perhaps we can use a bit more of integrity, too.

JOSEPH JESPERSEN  
Flushing, New York

To the Editor:

Here is my two bucks to renew my subscription to HGN for another year. You publish many fine articles which I am happy to read and pass on to some of my friends. Then sometimes you publish something which never, never ought to appear, and I am compelled to quietly file it away.

Let's get this one fact straight, commercial banks are the only institutions, financial or otherwise, which are permitted to create and loan out money as credit. Savings and Loans, mortgage companies, insurance companies, credit unions, retail outlets, etc. cannot loan a single dollar (extend credit) which they have not first acquired from some other.

I hope the single-tax Georgists will not become so single-idea minded that they cannot see over a dime. I have read just about everything George wrote which has been published in book form, and also many of his supporters, and I find many are misinformed on what George believed on the matter of money.

ROBERT G. GROSS  
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