Report from San Francisco

By J. Rupert Mason



There is an air of expectancy and hope here in this City by the Golden Gate, such as has not been felt before. One can almost sense the approach of an event which may

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most important involving the Rights of Man and the fundamental economic and sociological principles requisite to abolish the major causes of wars in all history.

It is indeed a coincidence that this epochal Conference is being held in the city where Henry George penned his "Progress and Poverty" in 1879. Think of the wars that have since been waged, most of which would have been prevented had mankind generally understood and acted upon the fundamental principles so clearly and simply explained in that world renowned classic, in which is written, as though for today:

"Liberty calls to us again. We must follow her further; we must trust her fully. Either we must wholly accept her or she will not stay . . . This is the lesson of the centuries. Unless its foundations be laid in justice the social structure cannot stand."

Whether any of the delegates chosen to participate in this Conference have the grasp of the fundamental principles without which World War III is inevitable, and the moral courage to affirm them and insist on their adoption it is too early to know. There was a time when the Rt. Hon. Winston Churchill understood them, and made a gallant effort to get them accepted by his leaders. His book, "Liberalism and The Social Problem" (Hodder & Stoughton, Pub.)

centains full and frank explanation and endorsement of these principles, which his Government refused to accept when Mr. Churchi.l proclaimed them in 1909. Subsequent events in Mexico, Russia, Germany, Japan, Spain and elsewhere would not have occurred in a manner that caused so much bloodshed and suffering, had the responsible officials in those and other nations understood and been willing to abolish the special privileges that cause wars, as ex-! plained in both "Progress and Poverty" and "Liberalism and the Social Problem."

But the time comes for everything, and as 100 years ago the time came for the abolition of man's supposed right of property over his fellow man, so the time is now here for the abolition of the supposed property right in the gifts of nature which affords the opportunity of appropriating the fruit of other men's work. I appeal urgently to all who oppose the philosophy of Planned Economy, national and international, with its inevitable concomitant totalitarianism, to send wires to the delegates, and air-mail letters to the editors of the Chronicle and the Dai'y News, San Francisco, without delay. "One big heave" cannot but have its effect.