

any Gentile author of the ancient world. The thing the patriot strove for, the prophet preached for, the hero died for, it never was the mere external, empirical fact, the state as it happened to be, the government of Ahaz, the dynasty of Omri, the monarchy of Saul.

No, often and often the chosen of the Lord is David, head of a new, more righteous house; or Jehu, leader of a revolutionary movement; or again the Maccabees, patriots in arms against a godless state.

And the prophets are the great radicals, the great democrats; Nathan rebuking King David to his face because he had taken the poor man's wife; Elijah denouncing the utter vengeance of God against King Ahab because he had taken the poor man's land.

The thing the patriot strove for, the prophet preached for, the hero died for, was the ideal of the nation, the true Israel, God's commonwealth, the nation as it ought to be. Study the Old Testament and learn God's idea of patriotism—the devotion in the state to all that is best and to all that is going to be better, the fiery war with abuses, the reforming zeal of the prophets, the splendid vision of God's great, free, democratic ideal.

Israel had the holy law: Justice between man and man and equal justice to all men; not infinite delays of justice for the rich and the "third degree" for the poor. Israel was a democratic commonwealth, the land equally secured to every Israelite and no monopoly or privilege for the few.

Israel was a holy nation, a peculiar people, where individual purity and cleanliness of living, exalted family life and simple, economical conditions, were the nation's ideal. Tyranny came indeed, and special privilege, and drunken luxury. In the end they brought defeat, captivity, and exile beyond Babylon. The prophet never lied for them, the patriot never bowed to them. When the bitter days came Jeremiah mourned over the sins of Israel, denouncing the judgment of sin. At a yet more tragic day, one greater than Jeremiah mourned for Jerusalem and for the daughters of Jerusalem. He, the Holiest, denounced woes more awful than the woes of Jeremiah upon the sinful state.

So we come back to our text taken out of the ancient law. There is the religious basis of patriotism and the true spirit of reform; the devotion, not to the faults and errors of a nation's life, but to the national ideal.

"Hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments which I teach you, for to do them, that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the Lord God of your fathers giveth you." (Deuteronomy, iv: 1.)

There, from the Old Testament, the inspired oracles of God, is the lesson of the true patriotism

for you and me to-day. It is the devotion to the national ideal; to justice and democracy, to liberty and to equality of opportunity for every citizen of the Republic.

Such were the ideals that Washington fought for, that Lincoln died for, that Jefferson taught, that Wendell Phillips and Lloyd Garrison achieved, that Beecher preached and Whittier sang.

There is a false patriotism that supports abuse because it is our own, that refuses to pull down the flag although maybe the flag never ought to have run up in that particular faraway land, that breathes national hatred and nurses sectionalism and war.

The real patriotism is a holy thing, a religious thing, a moral thing. The real patriotism is the prophet's preaching, the reformer's labor, and hero's service to bring about a better world.

It is not my duty to-day to discuss the living issues of this time, to indicate how public officials ought to act or how the citizens should vote. It is my duty to sound the high note of a consecrated devotion for every man and woman here to the cleanest, freest, broadest ideal of national policy and public life that he or she can understand. In office or out of office, through the influence of the women as well as through the votes of the men, there is work for every one of us to do. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. Each succeeding generation has its own political, social, and economic problems that must be met by new expedients and new reformers. Without being blinded by prejudice, without undue subservience to party when our own party may be in the wrong, without a selfish devotion to what we narrowly consider our own class interests, let us go forth from this great service to-day, determined, in the spirit of an enlightened, an ideal, a religious patriotism, to do our little share toward making our America God's Commonwealth.

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WORK OF THE CHICAGO CITY GARDENS ASSOCIATION.

Portions of an Article by Laura Dainty Pelham, Published in *The Survey* of June 19.

If any lingering doubts exist as to the possibility of vacant-lot gardening for those in need in large cities, the present experiment in Chicago, although in its infancy, will materially aid in casting them out. Every suggestion of difficulty in connection with the movement has been triumphantly met and swept aside. Land in plenty was to be had for the asking. Tools and material required in the preparation were at once offered, and the question most frequently raised by the skeptical, "Where will the people come from to till the gardens?" soon resolved itself into the puzzle of how to keep them off, so greatly in ex-

cess of space which could be made available the first season, the demand for lots became. . .

At first the committee considered small scattered gardens in various sections of the city, and a canvass was made and permission secured for the use of much such property, but the International Harvester Company's generous offer of twenty or more acres in one tract made it seem wise and best to concentrate our first year's work on a single piece of land, and the "Harvester Garden" became our initial effort.

This land is located on Marshall boulevard, in a really ideal spot for such a purpose. Off to the south the clay banks of the drainage canal form a fine barrier for possible marauders; the great McCormick works are to the east; the beautiful grounds of the House of Correction are just opposite, while on the northern boundary we have the Chicago river which at this point is clear and attractive. Marshall boulevard, always gay with automobiles and carriages, forms an angle here and bounds the gardens on two sides.

The land has been divided into eighth-acre lots, 150 feet by 36. Between the lots there is a path two feet wide, and between the sections, A, B, C, and D, there is an eight foot roadway. Another year we hope to have several more sections on this tract, but this season, four, with twenty-five lots in each, seemed all that the committee could successfully manage. This furnishes land for 100 families and every inch of space is now occupied. Lots which were taken and given up for any cause, were eagerly seized by waiting families, and already many of the workers have spoken for their lots for another season. Most of the farmers have been sent by the various settlements and charity organizations, but the immediate neighborhood furnishes some, and the tuberculosis institute has several of its charges successfully working. A large number of applicants are friends of those who already have secured land for this year, and it seems quite plain to the management that the difficulty in the immediate future will be, not in securing farmers, but in finding suitable places for them to carry on their work. . . .

The bungalow, which is to be built by the Outdoor Art League, will be a welcome addition to the garden, and the roomy porches on three sides will give shelter to many tired mothers and sleeping babies. The bungalow will occupy the southwest corner of the tract, and will contain two large rest rooms, tool closet and lavatories. Adjoining the bungalow on the east side, the United Charities will establish a playground for the children and nearby will be the model garden of the superintendent.

An abundant water supply protects the gardeners against possible drought, and provision is being made for helping hands for those whose strength may fail on occasion. The wise leadership of our superintendent, backed by the enthusi-

asm of the committee, we feel sure, will hold in line the few stragglers who, unaccustomed to systematic effort, might, if left alone, fall by the wayside, and so the very small per cent of chance of failure is minimized to practically nothing.

Next year we hope to give results that will show our effort is worth while. At present we can only state our purpose, which cannot be done in better words than to quote from the Philadelphia Vacant Lot Association: "Not to give charity, but to open an opportunity for those in need, to help themselves by their own work."

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MR. FELS'S ENGLISH "BACK TO THE LAND" EXPERIMENT.

From an Interview With Joseph Fels, Written by Llewellyn Horbury for the Christian Commonwealth of June 9.

Let Mr. Fels tell the story.

"Opportunity is what the small man wants, and if there is one thing the land-owning employer is determined he shall not have, it is opportunity. Now it was to provide this opportunity that, something under three years ago, I bought Mayland,* which was then an abandoned farm of about 600 acres, which had employed three men and two boys. Today there are about three hundred souls dependent directly or indirectly upon the industry carried on there.

"Part of the land is divided into twenty-one small holdings of five to six acres, half of each being planted to fruit and the balance set aside for market garden produce, poultry, pigs, and intensive culture under glass and frames. French gardening is carried on to a large extent with the cultivation of large quantities of early vegetables and salads for the watering-places, of which the nearest is Southend, about fourteen miles distant, with a permanent population of about 60,000, and an equally large summer population in addition. This place forms a very active market for our produce, vegetables, and fruits. Then we have a large experimental garden for the benefit of the small holders, where we find out what new fruits and vegetables can with profit be introduced into the district. Here the intensive cultivation is not extreme, but is more intensive than that of ordinary market gardens. Also there are hot-houses in which are grown ordinary dish fruits under glass."

"How do you distribute the produce of your small holders?" I asked.

*The "Fels Small Holdings and French Gardens" are situated at Mayland, in Essex county, England.—Editors of The Public.

†Intensive cultivation is that by which, through the assiduous application of labor and fertilization, the soil is made to yield the greatest results, both in the size and quality of the crops, and in the number of crops harvested successively in the year.—Editors of The Public.