

be a fair field and no favor. The influence of land ownership over the lives of the people was little understood and no way was known to correct its evils. The answer came within the memory of men of this generation and it is not surprising that the hoary headed iniquity of all the ages has not yet been overthrown.

With this clear answer, easily understood by all, why rush to socialism to escape the evils of land monopoly? Why rely on trade unionism with its arbitrary methods and selfish purposes when the right way of securing economic justice to all, even those that it appears to injure, is plainly in view?

Why in the interest of socialism destroy the safeguard which gives the Supreme Court the duty of deciding whether laws conform to the principles of the Constitution?

The government should be the protector of the rights of all. Members of Congress should not be subservient to pressure from those who seek special privileges and who would destroy freedom and equality.

We are most fortunate in having a court that will restrain our misrepresentatives from scrapping the Constitution.

We are most fortunate in knowing how social justice can be secured so that we are not tempted to throw away the civilization that has grown up by centuries of effort and reduce men to the senseless slaves of autocracy and despotism under the pretense of giving them economic freedom.

And we are most fortunate in having a programme of social reform which is easy of accomplishment, and which without any violent shock to existing institutions will secure to every citizen the economic freedom under which the progress of civilization to higher and higher achievement is assured.

Who Owns The Land Owns The Wind

YES, wind power may be had almost everywhere, but by landowners only. The wind-mill must be fixed in land as a base. The landless would be as completely disinherited if every want of man could be realized completely by forces generated by wind as they are now. Man is a land animal. Even his activities on the seas are initiated from the shore and if other men own the shore, he is in the power of those other men. If every form of slavery were abolished, the ownership of land with no exercise of the power of the community over it would still make the struggle for liberty the struggle for life. The men who own the earth are able to sell the wind, the light of the sun, the progress of science, and even the right to labor, to those who are disinherited of their right to the earth, and sell it at their own price.

HERBERT QUICK (*Syndicated*)

The Land Question In British Politics

WORK OF THE COMMONWEALTH LEAGUE
SINCE THE ARMISTICE

THE signing of the Armistice on November 11th, 1918, marked the close of one phase of the Great War, and that by no means the most difficult, as subsequent events have shown. At the outbreak of hostilities in 1914, a Liberal Government was in power in Great Britain, with Mr. Asquith at its head. Though elected as a Free Trade Government, it had shed its principles in this regard ere it gave place in December 1916 to the first of the two Coalition Governments which succeeded it. This is not the place to relate the story of the back-stairs intrigue which resulted in Lloyd George displacing his chief and succeeding to his position as head of the Government. Suffice it for our purpose to say that before this happened, the Asquith Cabinet, of which Lloyd George was an influential member, had outraged every principle of Liberalism. To it we owe the Paris resolutions and the McKenna duties (so named after Reginald McKenna, the Free Trade Chancellor of the Exchequer, in whose budget they were first imposed,) two admittedly protective measures. The former was to become operative only in certain events, but the latter forthwith. These import duties of 33-1-3rd per cent. have just been removed by the present Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Snowden. The Paris resolutions, as it happened, never became operative. This first breach in the walls of the Free Trade citadel was made, not by Protectionists, but by professed Free Traders!

Mr. Lloyd George was in the saddle until December 1918, when, after passing an Act enfranchising at the age of 18 instead of 21, soldiers and others on service with the Forces, he went to the country under circumstances which rendered it quite impossible for more than 25% of the new electors to record their votes, and sought a fresh lease of power on the fraudulent cries of "Hang the Kaiser" and "Make Germany Pay." It has to be recorded with regret that he found a sufficient number of the electorate so deluded as to give him a majority. These have since paid dearly for their folly, but it is doubtful if they quite realize this yet.

A striking feature of the period 1914-22 was the gyrations of politicians of all parties. No rudderless ship drifting helplessly at the mercy of wind and waves ever shifted her course so frequently, so completely, or with such expedition as these manifested in boxing the political compass. Such principles as the average politician had on board (usually a very light load) were speedily jettisoned to the cry "The War has changed everything." Of course, the War could *not* affect fundamental principles,