

Freedom," President Wilson's remarkable work, would call for the largest freedom of international exchange. But experience has made us familiar with the nice distinctions which must be observed by the teacher of economic ethics and principles who is called upon to reconcile these with party exigencies. And this is another reason why Single Taxers should scrupulously stand aloof so that such political strength as they possess may count for the final decision.

THE *Quarterly Review* (London), is authority for the statement that in spite of the five million men withdrawn from industry for military and naval purposes the production of the country not only has been maintained, but has actually increased for the years 1914-1917. This exhibits the worthlessness of these kind of figures. For if estimated in money value it is clear that the £ has greatly depreciated. And the production of 1914-1917 was destroyed as fast as produced. And largely it was not wealth at all, since the value of much of it in times of peace would be nil. It may also be suggested that a large number of those *apparently* drawn from the productive operations of peace times were not contributing to production of any kind—not through any fault of their own, be it said, but because society as now constituted maintains quite a number of men in occupations that are wholly non-productive. We do not doubt that statistics for almost all the countries at war would reveal a similar increase of production, from which the ingenious economists might conclude after their kind that the war had not resulted in any great destruction or depreciation of property. The fact that the people of Europe are on the verge of starvation would not count in such calculation to the economists reasoning after their kind.

Jersey Takes the Bull by the Horns

THEY have a way of taking the shortest cut to results in the neighboring State of New Jersey. Gov. Edge, in the proclamation just issued, takes the rent profiteering bull by the horns in a way that recalls the late Dr. Munyon's famous phrase: "There is hope." This typical Jersey executive informs the rent profiteers that they are a nuisance, a menace and a strictly non-essential feature of life. He tells them that if they do not stop gouging the helpless public forthwith, he will employ "extraordinary methods" to bring them to their senses.

Gov. Edge denounces the rapacious landlord and all his works in the terms that will make every fleeced and downtrodden tenant shout "Hear, Hear!" He points out that the unwarranted increases in rents from 50 to 100 per cent. have resulted in an "undermining of the war spirit at home and weakening of the morale of the American people."

All strength to the strong New Jersey arm of Gov. Walter E. Edge! The results of his "extraordinary methods" will be watched with breathless interest by the long and acutely suffering rent payers in the cis-Hudsonian neck of the woods!—N. Y. *Evening Mail*.

John D. Rockefeller's Vision of Brotherhood

MR. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, JR., has favored us with a copy of his pamphlet, "Brotherhood of Men and Nations." We welcome it as an example of the fine spirit, and, in many respects, the sound philosophy which the writer has acquired through a native hospitality of soul and intellect. It is doubly creditable when we reflect that he has escaped the hardening influence of the impersonal relationship that governs the conduct of a great corporation and has been able to look through the great network of machinery, the vast detail of organization and institutional mechanism at the man at work, not as a mere tool in the great scheme of things, but as a human being endowed with instincts and desires and with whom it is important to establish an entirely new relationship.

The old relation of lord and servant has passed away. In its place has come the industrial corporation with its entirely impersonal relation to its hired man. Passed away, too, are the mitigating circumstances of this old relationship. And it will go ill with us if the progress of evolution does not democratize and humanize the relationship of Labor and Capital. This may be done if the path is not rendered impassable by the obstructions of monopoly.

No words of ours shall be uttered to chill the fine enthusiasm of the writer of this pamphlet. On the contrary, what we might have to say would be all in favor of the belief that in the spirit of this pamphlet Mr. Rockefeller will conquer, not merely his enemies and detractors, if there be any, but the very forces he may not clearly see which stand in the way of the realization of his ideals. The important thing is the spirit in which he has set out on this new crusade.

It is creditable, too, to Mr. Rockefeller's intelligence that at a time when other great captains of industry are proposing schemes of socialism, and when even weak-kneed radicals are falling in line for these proposals, the head of the greatest industrial organization of modern times should set his face squarely against the doctrine of the implied sovereignty of the State in these words:

"Such a philosophy as this, utterly subordinating the individual to the State, must give way to the theory accepted by the free peoples of the world, that the well-being and happiness of the individual is the consideration of supreme importance, and that the State exists ultimately for the individual, not the individual for the State."

We do well to take the utterances of Mr. Rockefeller at their true value. It has been the habit of many radicals and reformers to seek the utterances of such a man for evidences of insincerity. This attitude of mind is ungenerous and may often turn aside from the true line of inquiry even so sincere and unselfish an intellect as Mr. Rockefeller's. We owe it to him and ourselves to welcome the formula he lays down that "It is in the spirit of brotherhood these great problems must be met."

On page 12 of this eloquent call to Brotherhood, Mr. Rockefeller says:

"Capital does not strive to look at questions at issue from Labor's point of view, and Labor does not seek to get Capital's angle of vision. When employers put themselves in the employe's place, the remedy for industrial unrest will have been found."

Is this any the less true because the relations of Labor and Capital are considered without reference to a third partner in the business of production, the great silent partner, Monopoly, not the monopoly that comes from mere combination and stands or falls by virtue of its inherent qualities, but the monopoly of the natural resources to which is diverted silently, almost imperceptibly, the great stream of Rent. This is the life-giving, nourishing spring intended to replenish and strengthen those functions of the State which are its own by right and essence. Instead, industry is bled to yield the State its sustenance; Labor and Capital grow anæmic through this cupping process that the State may be supplied with the needful, life-sustaining blood corpuscles. And all to what purpose? That the individual who is neither capitalist nor laborer may be enriched by the same life-giving stream. That the great natural resources from which production of all wealth proceeds shall lie idle and unused. That Monopoly, bloated and swollen, may tower, a fat Colossus, over Labor rendered helpless by denial of access to those resources save on exorbitant and ruinous terms to which both Labor and Capital must accede.

This is the riddle, the answer to which must be sought if the Brotherhood of Men and Nations which Mr. Rockefeller seeks to realize is to be ushered in. But he is right in believing that in the spirit of Brotherhood the solution of these questions are to be found. He does not argue that the realization of Brotherhood as a mere theoretic abstraction is sufficient. Men must live as brothers; it is not enough that they merely profess the relationship. The formal acceptance of the theological conception is again not enough; it must find its practical application to the affairs of life and to all social adjustments.

Mr. Rockefeller is right in believing that in this spirit must be sought the solution of the problems that beset us. We may not hope to find them in an atmosphere of suspicion and distrust.

JOSEPH LARONGE, a Cleveland lot speculator, writes in Cleveland *Leader* that it's easy to acquire the best of home environments. Another in same city wrote that "raw land" is becoming so costly, it would be necessary for people to live in small brick terraces, and that the one-family dwelling must disappear." Still another advertised that no one with red blood in his veins would live in dust and smore of a city.

DR. PAUL ROHRBACH, famous in Germany as a traveler and writer, advocated, in 1915 a German protectorate over China, and said: "Of course, one should take all land which one can get, for land is always valuable."—See "Germany's Annexationist Aims," (p. 131), by S. Grumbach.

To the Single Taxers of the Nation

NOW that peace has come, and a great shadow has been lifted from the world, we face new problems and new responsibilities. Upon Single Taxers especially do these problems press.

When the war began in 1914 the followers of Henry George experienced the humiliation of beholding how strangely blind were so many of our leaders to the catastrophe which threatened the world from a recrudescence of strange savagery and barbaric forces suddenly called into being by the Teutonic powers for the overthrow of neighboring peoples. It seems an immeasurable pity that the first of those to recognize the grave import of this phenomenon were not the men who had so long figured as leaders of a movement potentially powerful though numerically unimposing, but rather those whom for a long time we had regarded as the foremost conservatives. Whether the leaders of the Single Tax movement lacked the vision, or whether the natural love of peace had blinded them to the fact that there are times when peace means death, cannot now be determined. But the opportunity was not seized. As the old European civilization shuddered in the throes of dissolution, and a new spirit awakened that showed the Allied Nations leagued against Germany to have been born anew and purified by fire, our own so-called leaders were silent, some were swayed by conflicting impressions, and some at best were doubtful. Save Louis Post and a few others there were none who voiced the responsibility that all should have felt, nor saw with the vision that should have been theirs who had derived their inspiration from Henry George, foremost champion of human liberty.

This chapter is now written history. It has passed as a deplorable but completed episode in the movement. Nothing remains for us but to put the record by. That we shall be able to live it down under more inspiring and militant leadership, not so much of men as of new ideals, seems probable, and it is to this great task we must now address ourselves.

In one great crisis Single Taxers have failed. Let us not fail in the greater crisis that is to come. Not only is society to be reconstituted, having been in large part destroyed by the storms of war, but the whole world is to be built anew. Nothing can now happen even in the most distant countries of importance to their social and economic welfare that does not touch us to the quick. The great dead who died that a world might live have established a new fraternity of liberty among the peoples of the earth. Old race hatreds, old animosities have largely disappeared in the melting pot the great war has created.

We are hearing much of a League of Nations to conserve peace. We are told that the war through which we have passed must be the last. It is through the establishment of this League that peace is to be assured. This is very