

Typical Broadcast Items.

"A PLAGUE ON BOTH YOUR HOUSES!" This is invited by both the great 'Belshazzar's Feasts' at the beautiful Mayflower in Washington:—each of them were gatherings of all the wise men from their millions of camp followers, to come and read the handwriting on the wall, and interpret it; and if they didn't pick, and give the floor to, the ones that could give the answer, there is still something wrong—in this case, with management; and it boils down to the economic illiteracy of the leaders, because this handwriting, as everyone knows, involves economic questions; what is the best available economic test of these two ex-Governors of the Empire State, and present contenders, as handwriting experts?

There are a hundred items of evidence: we have time—or need—for only a few; and the first of these is what happened to one great Jefferson principle in the last Presidential campaigns. The President after saying the protective tariff had made wars, and would make others, and also had ruined our home trade, he said farmers needed the same protection that commerce had, from the tariff; and Al Smith naively said, in his campaign, that there was no reason why the democrats could not give as much tariff protection as republicans.

IF WE COULD ONLY NARROW DOWN THE CAMPAIGN TALK, ISSUES, AND PLATFORMS, SENSIBLY, we might get somewhere:—this should be absolutely accomplished by a clean cut statement of 'Jefferson principles' that are being bandied by all the politicians:—while 'least governed is best governed' is of vital importance in cutting our administration in half or perhaps down three-quarters, the vital Jefferson principle,—as distinguished from method or policy, or administration—is 'equal rights to all, special privilege to none.' This campaign should be run on that proposition alone, because it includes the subject of monopoly, which in turn includes practically all of our economic troubles. To complete this simple analysis, we must determine what monopoly means. While conceding that it may include a lot of detail, we may be sure that its basis is the earth itself; and therefore we must correct the private, personal and corporate absorption of monopoly values in these three grand divisions of social wealth:—(a) our natural resources, (b) our utility franchises, and (c) our unearned increments or economic rents in cities; these values amount to about 200 billions, which is also about the amount of our created private wealth.

THE HEADLINES INDICATE GREAT UNREST ALL OVER THE WORLD, about gold, money and exchange. In this

country, always in the offing, there is much the same unrest, and now especially because of the two and one-half billion bonus expenditure. This has been the danger spot of inflation talk, with greenbackers and silver senators standing by, with fuel for the inflation flames. I have never been able to understand how intelligent people, with business experience and some education, in finance, and possibly a little in real economics, could be so ignorant and illogical as they are, about money.

The idea that a nation's money requires some form of security, seems little less than insane. That metal is a good security, seems not much saner; and this necessarily savors of special interest graft, such as gold and silver mines. Then, the idea that the kind of money could possibly make—or unmake—inflation, completes this trinity of money jokes. The big underlying fact about money, however, is that, as a representative of debt, it, or bonds in any form, would not exist if the government collected and used, the values it creates, in franchises, natural resources, and economic rents. The government would then be so rich, there would never be occasion to borrow, or issue money, except as a mere medium of exchange.

IF YOU HAVEN'T SEEN 'TRANSATLANTIC TUNNEL' with Dick Dix, Madge Evans and Helen Vinson, you'd better; and then you can read about the thousand workers being stricken with silicosis in the 'tunnel of death' at Hawks Nest, W. Va. This is a typical contest between labor and capital, and like the munitions inquiry and a lot of others in Washington, is using the government facilities and personnel to umpire the contest.

The setting of both the film and the reality, is intensely realistic, and makes a terrific appeal to human sympathy. The ability of capital, invested in these great enterprises, to command labor under adverse conditions, involving their existence, is an economic problem of the first magnitude. It is one which the kind of investigation and trial going on in Washington, does not even approach the solution of. Men labor for low wages, and send their women and children to work, and risk their lives in tunnel building, and in mining, only because of the excessive competition of labor for jobs. The cure is to double the demand for labor by taking taxes off labor products that make them cost two prices, so only half normal need can be supplied, causing millions of unemployed; these taxes, put upon natural resources, would open them to labor, again creating two jobs for every worker.

President Ingersoll's Weekly Radio Schedule—WOV, Wed., 10 a. m.; WHOM, Tue., 3:45 p. m.; WCNW, Mon., Tues., Wed., Thur., 2:30 p. m., Sat., 7 p. m.; WWRL, Wed., 1:15 p. m.; Sat., 11 p. m.; WLTH, Mon., 3:45 p. m.; WDAS, Fri., 1:00 p. m.; WILM, Fri., 3:15 p. m.

JEFFERSON

HENRY GEORGE

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democracy

The Entering Wedge between Monopoly, the Disease, and Communism, the false Remedy, is Democracy.

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THE REAL MEANING OF 'SOCIAL'

Probably the most manhandled known word in the English tongue is the six letter word 'SOCIAL'; and it is perhaps the most important and expressive word of any the human race knows. Man's expansion and evolution should be mainly social. It is the companion and complimenting word to 'INDIVIDUAL.'

Man is naturally self-centered, selfish and self-satisfied. These traits are the great energizers, and make man a great producer—of things, business, profits, wealth. If man could only preserve his individual status and stay away from other humans—however undesirable that might be—the word SOCIAL would be unimportant, perhaps non-existent.

But man has another quality almost as persistent as his selfishness—he is what is known as 'GREGARIOUS' which is quite the opposite to selfishness. He is social; he is cooperative. He likes to move in crowds; he likes the white lights of the cities. So the individualism that would go to the extreme of leading an existence alone, is impossible for the human animal called men—and especially with WOMAN included. Only the hermit or freak can do that.

So there you have that 'wonderful animal, man,' in his two counterbalancing elements, INDIVIDUAL and SOCIAL, both admirable and essential, when rightly balanced. But both destructive when not balanced; and there we also have the answer to our 'business depression, unemployment and poverty'—the social element is undeveloped and grown to weeds; leaving the individual to run wild.

Another manhandled and wonderful term gets in our way here, 'LAISSEZ FAIRE.' 'Leave man alone' and he will pile up wealth fast. "Money to buy the baby a dress" is his urge, and so 'laissez faire' has been anything but lazy. It has built over 200 billions of wealth, however.

MEN, COLLECTIVELY, unconsciously and automatically are also just as great producers as they are alone; when they get into crowds, when they eat and wear things out, when they go to church and the theater, and school—in all these and 1000 other ways—they produce SOCIAL VALUE that is all intangi-

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ble, but equals all the tangible wealth—in this country, 200 billions. As you can see, this value should pay for all the collective or social needs of the people; that is, their government. That is the main agency through which the people create this 200 billions.

Finally, defining social, brings democratic individualism into the picture to unpire the age-old struggle between monopoly, that now takes society's share; and socialism that, in guise of a remedy, would take all. Defining SOCIAL brings the science of Economics to the rescue of the people, and the wedge of democracy driven between monopolism and communism drags in the Georgian system of collecting all Economic Rent in place of all present taxation.

Strangely, those most ignorant of the true meaning of 'SOCIAL' are the socialists, who should be the authority. They are such poor interpreters as to believe nearly everything is social and therefore to know of practically no distinction between social and individual. So, claiming everything 'for society,' they deserve to get nothing which is not very sensible management. The arch enemies of social interests, the 'respectful' individualists or monopolists, can do no worse than socialists do; both being extremists, one wanting all, and the other conceding nothing.

EDITOR BECKWITH'S BROADCASTS

Of course, I am not satisfied with my broadcasts. I am attempting the 'impossible' task of hypodermically administering the dismal science of economics to radio fans; meaning that I am trying to build and hold an audience of 'illiterates' while I shoot a few Georgist punches into them, or at them, in a fifteen minute miscellaneous talk.

Editor Beckwith is utilizing one fifteen minute spot a week to far greater advantage to the cause, and the whole question is whether he can hold enough audience to listen to simon pure economics, to make it a real job of broadcasting; or whether his is such an appeal to the 'intelligentsia' that other means of reaching them are more profitable.

I have not had time to study his broadcasts, but am agreeably disappointed in one respect. While they are heavily laden with economics and philosophy, they are duly lightened, and to the point of almost making them popular entertainment, by the brilliance and ingenuity of his composition, by the simplicity of his formulas, and by his own interruptions and interjections of humor pervading these talks. Furthermore, he has broken them up by the wonderful device of vox-pop questions and answers, which method I believe public speakers have not yet plumbed, the value of, and also that enlightened editors are utilizing, finding that these letters are so much better than their editorials.

I shall pursue Mr. Beckwith's broadcasts, looking to them for the 'northeast passage' of radio broadcasting as the answer to our problem of distribution of economic truth, distinguishing sharply between teaching the teachers, and teaching the public, and believing that broadcasting is only available for teaching the public.

NOW WE ARE GETTING TO THE 'INNERS' OF THE INFLATION SUBJECT. The Federal Government, at this mo-

ment, is authorized to issue 32 billions of paper money, and whether this is considered enough or not, there are plenty of inflated senators standing by, to propose silver deflation, and an assortment of inflation laws. Here is enough paper money to pay our whole national debt, the headline says; and that would be the reverse of inflation, if we had the nerve to do it. That would put Uncle Sam's credit so high, that it would be a real menace, so long as we are in the hands of politicians ready to exploit Uncle Sam's credit.

Using paper money to get Uncle Sam out of debt is a very different thing from going ahead with that death-dealing burden of debt and printing 32 billions more to buy bonus goodwill and farmer goodwill and labor union goodwill. In other words, 32 billions more of the same kind of debt we now have. I know of no reason why every dollar of our interest bearing debt should not be liquidated over night, with non-interest bearing money. Doing this would prepare us for the next step; that is, collecting something like fifteen billions of social revenues now going to racketeers, to displace every dollar of present taxation. Then, the third step, burn up all this money except what is needed in trade.

A BIG 'DEMOCRACY' MONTHLY!

Here is the latest suggestion of a means of evolution for this 'entering wedge' to Georgian democracy—to have every fourth issue—or the first of every second month—a 16 page 8 1/2 x 11 number, the same as Vol. 1, No. 1, published a year ago. This will make the next following step easier—the wedge (this) edition weekly, and the regular edition on the first of every month. If you like this 'line of least resistance,' let this be the occasion of some hard work or hard paying. Your subscription dollar should, as a minimum, be forthcoming, and trial subscriptions for your friends, in clubs of 5 or more, at 15c, 25c or 50c each name, for 5, 13, or 26 issues, would be most helpful. 'democracy', 1165 Broadway, N. Y. City.

The Manhattan Single Tax Club was organized over fifty years ago by Henry George, and has always been the leading force for land value taxation, which the only remedy for Business Depression, Unemployment and Poverty. Led by James R. Brown for 20 years, and now by Charles H. Ingersoll, it has kept the Georgist torch burning, with lectures and general activity.

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