



The first essential change in government: Levy no taxes and collect the ground rent for public purposes.

THE PROBE

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NOTICE.

News and advertisements must be left at NOREN'S not later than 5:30 p. m. Thursdays in order to appear the following Monday.

ROOMS TO LET—Three rooms and use of bath and laundry; electric light. Inquire at Noren's. (W. S.)

COMMENTS BY NOREN

A number of plans are being promoted for a settlement of the land and the unemployment questions.

Secretary Lane's proposal deals chiefly with providing employment for discharged soldiers. Insofar as it touches the land question it tends to entrench the monopoly of private property in land and all the values attached thereto. At best it would benefit only a very few soldiers at the expense of the rest of the people. It is no settlement at all.

A More Important Bill.

The bill introduced in Congress by M. Clyde Kelly, and known as H. R. 13415, is probably the best proposal ever presented for dealing with that part of the public domain yet retained by the nation.

Mr. Kelly would probably not press the claim of it being effective as a relief for unemployed soldiers.

Still the fact that the soldiers' employment is mentioned as a reason for presenting it, will probably help its progress.

The meat of the Kelly bill is in these points:

"All costs for reclamation and improvement shall be charged against each farm allotment."

"The fee simple title to all land reserved or purchased for the purposes of this Act shall remain forever in the United States. Farm lands shall be allotted in areas, sufficient for family use, and during such period only as the settler shall continue to reside on and use such land."

"A yearly charge shall be collected by the board (Board consists of the Secretaries of Labor, Agriculture and Interior. Editor's note) for the use of each farm allotment, said charge to be a reasonable percentage of the productive value of the land. From the charge so collected there shall be

paid by the board equitable proportions thereof to the State, County and other local governments, rendering services within the area being settled."

Another clause provides that only such allotments be made as promise to be entirely self-sustaining and to provide the settler with a sufficient return for his labor.

An important part of the bill provides for handling the forests under national administration, and also for utilizing the coal lands of Alaska.

This bill deals sensibly with the natural resources still under the control of the United States directly and not owned by individuals.

It deserves the earnest support of the Singletaxers because it applies their plan to public lands and contains no features that will embarrass us when we come to extend our principles to privately owned land.

The Ralston Bill.

The Ralston bill proposes a tax on the privilege of holding land in excess of \$25,000 value. The bill has evidently been drawn with great care. Its first aim would seem to be to break up large estates, or rather, estates in land of large value. The natural attempt at evading the tax by apparent, but not real division of land seems to have been taken care of. How successfully only a trial could tell.

Of these three bills: Lane's, Kelly's and Ralston's, the latter is the most far reaching, or perhaps I should say the author attempted to draft a bill that would be far-reaching. What changes the bill would really make in social and industrial conditions probably no man can foresee.

Secretary Lane's effort to have the separate States pass a uniform soldiers' settlement law will probably fail. At any rate, its nature as put forth makes it deserving of failure.

The Kelly bill is at the mercy of a Congress, so absolutely reactionary that no good can come out of it. Among the people at large only the rich, looking for spoils and the idealist are interested in the disposal of the public domain. The former class has power and the ear of Congress and the Administration, and will oppose the Kelly bill. The idealists are poor, many of them in the penitentiaries and all of them candidates for persecution by the Washington autocracy.

The Ralston bill could not possibly pass unless it received very aggressive

support from the Administration.

It might receive such support if it exempted from taxes estates in land above \$25,000 and put a heavy tax on homes whose value did not exceed \$2,500.

We know what our famous artist in words can do. We know what picture of democracy he can draw of a condition where everybody is shot through and through with taxes.

Not even our most skillful shifter of words and meanings would be interested in finding democracy in a condition where all rich men were hunting forgotten but hopeful relations on which to deed \$25,000 worth of land.

I would like to see the Ralston bill made into law. But it would require an effort like unto removing a mountain. It does not make a popular appeal. Should it ever be voted on, no Congressman need fear to face his constituents for having voted against it. He might on the other hand find himself short of campaign funds had he voted for it. The average man does not care a thing about taxes. He does not know he pays any. You can tax the last rag off his back and make his family homeless, naked and starving. He pays taxes cheerfully because he does not know he pays them.

The Kelly bill tackles its problem where it touches human interest, as a land question.

Taxes should be considered only from one point of view, to abolish them.

James Speyer, in Forbes Magazine: "Every American has more reason than ever before to look with confidence to the future, in the belief that American commonsense and fairness will prevail towards both "capital" and "labor," so that while we have "Peace Abroad," we shall also have "Peace at Home," with goodwill towards all men."

By capital Mr. Speyer, explains he means "the savings of men and women of comparatively moderate means, which they have invested, either directly or indirectly, in industrial undertakings."

He also says, that: "For the immediate future, the return for both capital and labor is likely to remain high, but the time will come when in due course, through reduction in price of the necessities of life, and through natural causes, wages, as well as the income on savings, will become more normal again."

Weekly Price List

Read this list carefully, prices revised every week.

PAY NO MORE

Store opens at 8, closes at 6
Except Saturdays.

SPECIALS FOR THIS WEEK.

White Cotton Crash, value 19c,
price, yard9c

Clarks O. N. T. embroidery floss,
long skeins, white, value 7c,
price, 2 skeins5c

The Above Specials For This Week
Only.

Turkish Towels, each35c

Turkish bibs, large19c

Fine face cloths15c

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HAND MADE REAL HAIR NET

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black, dark brown, light brown,
medium brown and blond, 15c;
two Nets for25c
"Close Fit" Hair Nets in grey,
each25c
Fringe Hair Nets, sometimes called
straight; made in France,
of genuine hair: full size, 38x40,
10c; three Nets for25c

Boy's Leather Belts25c
Rit, washes and dyes10c
Gilt upholstering tacks, box10c
Curling tongs10c
Carpet Tacks, all sizes5c
No. 2 Tacks for window shades,
per box5c
Iron Holders15c
Men's Garters25c, 35c and 50c
Paint Brushes10c to 50c
Ingram's Talcum Powder25c
Ladies' flannelette night gowns,
one size\$2.50
Black veiling, fine mesh with and
without figure; high grade, yard25c
Children's sleeping garments, 2 to
8 years\$1.00
Bird's eye, diaper cloth, yard35c

Ingram's Milkweed Cream50c
Ingram's Zodenta Tooth Paste25c
Ingram's Therapeutic Shaving
Cream50c
Ingram's Face Powder25c and 50c
Sewing Machine Belts, long enough
for all makes of machines, 30c
and25c
Longcloth30c
Shoe Polishes, 10c, 13c and25c
Nye's Sewing Machine Oil, bottle10c
Diamond Dye10c
Peroxide10c
Vaseline7c
Box Writing Papers, Tablets, Inks,
Envelopes, Pens and Pencils,
Glue and Mucilage.
Scissors25c to 50c
Bees Wax4c
All colors of Crepe Papers10c
Bromo Seltzer10c and 20c
Silk Thread, all colors, 50 yards
only, 8c; two spools for15c
Black and White, 100 yards only15c
Meritas brand, white Oil Cloth,
1 1/4 yard wide, highest grade,
yard55c
Hump Hair Pins, all sizes5c and 10c
Canton Flannel39c
Flannelette, white33c
Flannelette, Pink and White and
Blue and White, yard35c
Grey, extra fine grade, yard45c
Boys' heavy Stockings, fast
black; 59c value, pair43c
Girls' fine mercerized Stockings;
59c value, pair45c
Celluloid Knitting Needles, pair25c
Steel Knitting Needles, 5c each; a
set of five for22c
P. K., extra value, yard,48c
Silk Hose, black, full fashioned,
will wear, pair\$2.00
Dark brown Silk Hose\$1.25

HIGH GRADE INFANT'S AND CHILDREN'S WOOL GARMENTS



Infant's Knit Bands, with-
out sleeves, wool plated,
mercerized finish, the
kind you have always
bought, all sizes50c
Same as above, in all
pure Australian Wool, all
sizes75c

Fold Over Shirts,
sleeves, Merino, mer-
cerized finish, sizes one
to six (up to 4 years);
this Shirt is 60% wool,
an unusually large per-
centage at this price,
per garment95c
Same as above in all
pure Australian Wool
(up to 3 years)\$1.50



Knit Shirts, button
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mercerized finish, 60%
wool; sizes, infants to
6 years85c
Same as above, all
pure Australian Wool,
silk finish; up to 6
years\$1.25

"Curvex" Brass Curtain Rods35c
Boys' Blouses, goods that will
wash; each\$1.00
Pee-Chee White Shoe Cleaner25c
Gas Mantles, 15c and10c
Bungalow Aprons79c to \$2.50
Fancy Aprons15c, 33 and 69c
O. N. T. Machine Thread, black
and white, sizes, 8 to 100, spool 6c
Electric Curlers, 2 for10c
Snap fasteners5c
Hooks and Eyes5c
Gas Globes, Upright and Inverted 15c
Lingerie Tape, white, pink, Blue 10c
Kleinert's Dress Shields25c
Middy Lacers5c
Thimbles (silver), all sizes5c
Pure White Cotton Batting,
bat20c
Flannel: Pure all wool Saxony
yarn flannel, 33 inches wide,
yard\$1.09
Ladies' pure Linen Handkerchiefs,
30c and50c
Ladies' Cotton Handkerchiefs10c and 25c
Boys' Gloves, Jersey25c
Girls and Boys Gloves, knit50c
Fancy Caps and Hockey Caps
23c to\$2.00
Infants' Mittens, white, pink and
blue25c and 29c
Boudoir Caps29c to 75c
Ladies' Dressing Combs25c to \$1.50
Longcloth, yard33c
Lancaster Gingham, yard25c
Chambray Gingham, yard30c
Mersey cloth, black, for lining,
yard55c
Cambric lining, white, yard25c
Pillow tubing, 40-in.40c
Mohawk Sheets, 81x90\$2.00
Boys' Knee Pants, 60c to\$2.25
Window Shades75c
Bias Seam Binding, lawn and
cambric, black and white, all
sizes, 12 yards15c
Ric Rac, all sizes10c to 19c
O'Cedar Oil25c and 50c

WAXED LUNCH PAPER

Roll of 20 sheets, 12x155c
Patent Leather Belts, black, red and
white50c and 25c
Avelva toilet paper, 2 rolls25c
Needles for all makes of machines,
a package of two needles for5c
High grade Nainsook35c
Extra fine Lingerie cloth, or Nain-
sook, yard50c
Dotted Swiss, yard22c
Dimity, yard25c
Toweling, part linen, yard27c
Toweling, all cotton19c
Laces and Embroideries, 5c yard up.
Curtain poles and brackets, poles 25c
each, brass brackets, 50c a pair.

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NOREN'S

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In plain speech wages and interest will come down. What can be Mr. Speyer's reason for ignoring the factor that will reduce wages and interest? Surely labor will not become less productive. And capitalists will not voluntarily reduce their interest charge.

Mr. Speyer writes a long article with capital and labor as the object of his kind consideration. As he says above: in due course they will both get less but he fails to tell why they should get less. Unless capital and labor become less productive why should they get less? Who will get the difference? What powerful enemy will rob them?

Mr. Speyer knows that labor does not get more at the expense of interest, and interest does not get more at the expense of labor. They pretty much fall and rise together. But he says they will both be defeated. And so powerful is this foe of capital and labor that Mr. Speyer dares not name him. So after all, Mr. Speyer reserves his highest consideration for the FOE of capital and labor, for land monopoly. Capital and labor must have land in the form of fields, ore deposits, coal deposits, timber and building lots. The increased tribute demanded by the owners of these natural resources is what reduces wages and interest. The increase in ground rent in Pittsburgh this year will be over three million dollars at a conservative estimate. On the same basis the increase in New York City will be thirty million dollars. Capitalized at 5% that makes six hundred million (\$600,000,000) dollars.

To the extent that capital and labor can not increase its productiveness to pay this new levy of extortion, interest and wages must come down.

Is it not strange that Mr. Speyer, the financier, in his considerate regard for the welfare of capital and labor,

should fail to mention the interest or institution that robs them? The landed gentry of New York will this year extort thirty million dollars more than they extorted last year. This, Mr. Speyer knows but dares not mention.

It is a mighty powerful extortioner that can shut the mouth of this world renowned financier. But what kind of a friend is Mr. Speyer to capital and labor that he can stand by and see this extortion take place without uttering a warning?

No wonder capital and labor get the worst of it if they place faith in that kind of friends. Mr. Speyer's friendship to capital and labor looks like that of a man who under the cloak of friendship finds out all about you, in order to render you the more helpless against your despoiler.

Nathan A. Smyth, Assistant Director-General of the United States Employment Service:

"Unless remedial measures are promptly taken the sight of stranded, workless, moneyless soldiers will be common throughout the state of Pennsylvania. * * * The great danger is that there won't be jobs enough to go around."

Mr. Governor Sproul, what are you going to do about this? You are at the head of our state? It is now up to you. We have enough vacant land in Pennsylvania to furnish employment to every able-bodied man in the United States. Whose interests are you going to champion, governor, the dogs in the manger who keep land vacant by putting a price on its use, or the soldier who risked his life? It is up to you, governor. Will you face your duty like a man, or will you shrink it? If unused and unoccupied land is not free to the laborer what "free" country did the soldiers fight for?

Is the land speculator's services to Pennsylvania so much greater that they shall have your protection as against both workmen and soldiers?

The land owners now have the right and they use it relentlessly to kick half the population out of the State every thirty days—or pay a bribe for remaining. Most of them pay and remain. Others go and their places are taken by fresh victims. Whose part are you going to take in this unholy business, the kickers or the kicked? Are you going to recommend a Single-tax law or are you going to strengthen land monopoly? It is up to you, Governor.

Attorney General Gregory found 11,809 Christians, and under the Selective Draft Act convicted 8,422 of taking their doctrine seriously.

The fourteen points were for home consumption.

The soldier went to France to fight for "his" country. Now since he is back if he will attempt to build a home on any piece of vacant land within the boundaries of civilization the government will arrest him and send him to jail as a trespasser. Where is "his" country that he fought for? Did the authorities lie to him when they sent him away? Surely if risking his life was worth anything to those who made him go, it is worth his pick of some vacant, unused, left-over land, that no one else is using.

Right across the street from where I write this is a nice plot of land. It has never been used since the Indians grazed their ponies on these hills. It has cost no human being a cent except to pave the street and lay the sidewalk in front of it.

If our government was half decent it would erect a sign on that lot: "FREE TO THE FIRST SOLDIER WHO WILL USE IT."

If the owner objected he should be fined a thousand dollars for having acted the dog in the manger so long.

If our government did that on all the vacant land in the city do you think soldiers would be out of work? Why every last one of them would have the choice of a thousand jobs, each one better than anyone they ever had before. Will the government do it? Not on your life. It is not a government for citizens. It is a government of land owners, by landowners, for land owners. For all the government cares the soldiers, and all other workers can pay rent or go straight to ———.

Therefore when a politician refuses a soldier the free use of vacant land and yet spouts consideration for him, that politician is just proving himself a servant of monopoly and tyranny in his own country. Such a politician should be shunned, ousted from his club and forbidden entrance to the Church of which he has proven himself an unworthy member.

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WORDS! WORDS! WORDS!

"We have used great words, all of us. We have used the words 'right' and 'justice' and now we are to prove whether or not we understand these words."—President Wilson at Buckingham Palace.

The Democratic Administration's treatment of women who dare to demand democracy and "right" and "justice" at home:

Mrs. Phoebe Munnecke, of Detroit, was not able to sit up or even take food until more than a day after her release.

Mrs. Munnecke, speaking of her jail experience, declared, "When I heard of the horrors of jail as described by suffragists, I believed them greatly exaggerated; I know now that they did not begin to equal the actual horrors of the District prison. I have often visited jails, and had a general impression of the misery in them, but it is necessary to become one of the inmates to realize the brutality of the treatment which they endure and the real terror of imprisonment. If every man and woman in the country could serve even a day in jail, our prisons would be wiped out. Jail officials, injured to suffering, have no idea how to treat human beings with decency or kindness. We were hustled about by the police, forced into filthy cells just vacated by groups of colored men, and no distinction was made between us and the lowest criminals."

Example of "Justice" and "Right" at Home.

From an inmate of the District of Columbia jail the following letter was brought as "facts that I know have happened in the jail in the past six months:"

"The food that we have been getting was not fit for a dumb animal to eat. We got stewed apples for breakfast that had worms and maggots an inch long, also hundreds of them. We were given codfish on Friday that was green on the bottom from standing in the pan; also worms about three inches long. When we complained to the Superintendent he said, 'Oh well, that could happen at anybody's home. We are given dry peaches that set in a brass kettle over night.

We are here mixed with the colored, also there have been inmates here that have been in an awful condition three months, full of sores and they have asked to go to the hospital and have been refused.

"There are rats in here that are as large as cats and walk on your bed at night.

"We are given horrible soup twice a day that I could not express the name of it.

"We are also deprived of having our clothes washed and ironed. There are some poor unfortunates here that are strangers and if they have no money they have to go dirty.

"I truly wish that somebody would please get busy and try and hurry those judges up. Some girls are kept here for months at a time before we are even brought to court and in the end sent away perhaps for two or three years in some other dirty place.

"We sure think the suffragettes are wonderful women and certainly appreciate the interest they have taken in us girls and I myself sincerely hope that they will get their rights. We only wish that we could be out there fighting with them all.

"From one who knows,

"An Inmate of District Jail."

Mayor Babcock wants to Prussianize Pennsylvania quickly:

"Mayor Babcock will recommend to the City Council that \$350,000 be set up in the proposed bond issue for the completion of the Eighteenth Regiment Armory. The State has set aside \$400,000 for this work and the city is expected to provide the balance.

"In a statement issued last evening, Mayor Babcock said:

"It will be the home of the Eighteenth Regiment, which has stood the crucial test of fire and whose glorious deeds on the battlefields of France the passing of time will never erase from the history of our Republic."

In the last four years ten million men have been killed in war. It equals 20 cities the size of Pittsburgh, having had every living soul killed. No estimate has been published as to those permanently disabled, but it is conceded that their number far exceed those killed.

Many millions have starved to death and many millions have died from the black fever or cholera, or whatever it is that we have named influenza.

The insane population of the world is supposed to have doubled. All these things are due to the war. One would think that this would be enough of deliberately produced misery for some time to come.

But no. Creatures infest this earth who are in fever heat about having the whole four years misery and death repeated. These creatures, who look like men and act like vultures, made easy money by the war. Therefore they want more war so they can make more easy money. Let half the human race perish, what's that to them if they can make money by it? What does it matter if fifty thousand American boys fill unknown graves in France? What does it matter if a hundred thousand youths come home minus a leg, an arm or an eye? What does it all matter so long as the creatures at home make money by it? So rush the building of an armory, where we can drill to kill, for the next glorious holiday of PROFITS, the like of which no Kings or Kaisers ever dreamed.

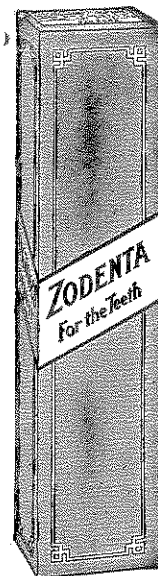
The New York Public: "Great as is the work that has been done in destroying militarism, a greater task remains."

You speak the truth. A greater task remains, namely, the task of carrying militarism on our own shoulders. It remains to be seen if we have destroyed German militarism. That is doubtful at this writing. But as to its establishment in the United States, that is an accomplished fact. The army strength of 500,000 will be five times the size it was before we started to transfer militarism from Germany to America. And, pursuant to the policy laid down by President Wilson three years ago, we are preparing to have the largest navy in the world.

Yes, the Public is right. Carrying the staggering burden of militarism at home will be a greater task than was its doubtful destruction abroad.

We lifted the yoke of militarism from the German people and placed that heavy burden upon the people of America.

FOR SALE—In Greenfield district, frame house with double lot, consisting of 9 rooms, bath and pantry, two sinks, two toilets, cemented cellar, porch, large chicken coop, hot water heat. House suitable for two families. Inquire at Noren's Store. (M. B.)



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