



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

THE PROBE

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"WORK" AT HARRISBURG

Harrisburg, Pa., Feb. 10.—Representative Brady of Philadelphia introduced a bill to raise "the pay of the chief justice of the Supreme Court from \$13,000 a year to \$18,500, and of the associate judges from \$13,000 to \$18,000 a year. The salary of the president judge of the Superior Court is jumped from \$12,500 a year to \$16,500, and of the associate judges from \$12,000 to \$16,000. The salaries of the president judge of the Common Pleas courts of Philadelphia are raised from \$11,500 to \$14,500, and the other Common Pleas judges from \$11,000 to \$14,000, while the salaries of the Common Pleas judges in Allegheny County are raised to \$14,000."

If we are to deport Bolsheviks, what shall we do with the judges so corrupt that they will accept such outrageous salaries? No judge ever lived whose services were worth more than a machinist's or a bricklayer's or an engineer's. What then shall we say of judges so devoid of common honesty as to accept for their few hours work a day, from ten to twenty times the salary of the skilled mechanic. And they who accept such salaries are to be our judges! Judges, such as are back of this salary grab and political hucksters of the Brady type are the despair of the state.

As protesting citizens we stand helpless while these politicians plunder the public treasury.

Say that the judges of Allegheny County work 200 days a year. They don't but allow that they do. At \$5 a day that gives them \$1,000, which is ample compensation for what they do. If they now get \$11,000 a year they get \$10,000 for taking a hundred days' vacation. Can you beat it? A hundred dollars a day for going fishing or playing poker. And some people think they are honest—those judges. What shall we think of our judges if they accept an increase from \$100 a day to \$140 a day for the time they were off duty?

I hope there will be enough common human virtue and honesty among the Allegheny County judges to not only refuse the increase in salary, but to return at least two-thirds of the pay they now get. It is not decent that the total income of ten other workers should be paid to one judge.

We maintain courts of justice but such salaries make them courts of

injustice. How can we respectfully plead before a court in whose favor we know we have been robbed? Yet let us be generous. Let us pay our judges \$1,000 a year if they can work only half time and \$2,000 to any judge who puts in, say, 48 hours a week. If they can't live on that they can resign.

A NEW BODY OF TAX EATERS

Harrisburg, Feb., 10. — Pennsylvania's new Welfare Commission, organized originally as the Pennsylvania Commission of Public Defense for purely war activities, is to be a permanent body with new, varied and important duties under legislation drawn by Attorney W. I. Schaffer, and which will shortly be introduced in the Legislature with the state administration's backing.

"The commission," said Mr. Schaffer, "will be a continuous body. It will not exert its efforts among the families of the men who served in the war, but its business will be general welfare work. It will exert its efforts among all classes of people with the purpose of improving them spiritually and materially."

I daresay this "Welfare" commission will fare well. Salaries paid to welfare commissioners will look as good as if paid to Commissioners of Public Defense.

The Commission of Public Defense served the same purpose as a fifth wheel on a wagon; it added a useless expense. The new Welfare Commission will do as much; the members will sign their pay vouchers no matter how unpleasant the weather may be.

Note the last sentence quoted: "It (the commission) will exert its efforts among all classes of people with the purpose of improving them spiritually and materially." Any one going through our city halls and court houses can realize the spiritual uplift coming from our public chair warmers.

Yes, and they will improve you materially, too. That is, they will give you more work. If you are already carrying two politicians on your back a third will make you work harder. Their's is the welfare, yours the hell-fare. Aside from paying their salaries we will probably not see much of these commissioners.

When the saloons and distilleries close the Allegheny mountains will be about the safest place to let the new

product age. As our spiritual dispensers, these commissioners will need a lot of refilling, and they will find it convenient to stay close to the sources of supply.

As a useful line of activity, I suggest, that these commissioners be designated as our official testers of spirits. That it shall be their duty to locate and taste and publish their findings as to where the best moonshine whisky is made and where it can be bought.

ALSO AN "EDUCATOR"

"America must exclude those elements in Europe represented by Bolshevism and anarchy, Dr. John C. Acheson, president of Pennsylvania College for Women, told the members of the Pittsburgh Association of Credit Men at the Hotel Chatham in discussing the pending immigration bill. He contended that America's doors have always been open to the world; that the immigration problem must be attacked with a sane mind; that Americans owe it to themselves to exclude those who would bring about such chaos as has been witnessed abroad; that this country is not big enough to contain any man not 100 per cent American."

Since the tyranny of landlordism brought ruin to the toilers of Europe, it was necessary to keep armies and

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.

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.)

WANTED—Repairing of all kinds, locks, keys, guns, lawnmowers, etc. General repair work promptly attended to. R. G. Williams, 560 Greenfield Avenue.

FOR SALE—Baby buggy in first-class condition. Inquire at 524 Farnsworth Street.

Weekly Price List

Read this list carefully, prices revised every week.

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Store opens at 8, closes at 6
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Turkish Towels, each35c
Turkish bibs, large19c
Fine face cloths15c

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medium brown and blond, 15c;
two Nets for25c
"Close Fit" Hair Nets in grey,
each25c

Fringe Hair Nets, sometimes call-
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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
Longcloth30c
Shoe Polishes, 10c, 13c and25c
Sewing Machine Belts, long enough
for all makes of machines, 30c
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
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,
yard50c
Hump Hair Pins, all sizes5c and 10c
Flannelette, pink, white, yard27c
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, yard48c
Dark brown Silk Hose\$1.25

HIGH GRADE INFANT'S AND CHILDREN'S WOOL GARMENTS



Infant's Knit Bands, with-
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Fold Over Shirts,
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centage at this price,
per garment55c
Same as above in all
pure Australian Wool
(up to 3 years)\$1.50



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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,
bat19c
Flannel: Pure all wool Saxony
yarn flannel, 33 inches wide,
yard\$1.09

Ladies' pure Linen Handkerchiefs,
30c and50c
Ladies' Cotton Handkerchiefs
10c and25c
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, yard20c
Chambray Gingham, yard30c
Mersey cloth, black, for lining,
yard55c
Cambric lining, white, yard25c
Pillow tubing, 40-in40c
Mohawk Sheets, 81x90\$2.00
Boys' Knees Pants, 60c to\$2.25
Window Shades69c
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
Towelings, part linen, yard27c
Towelings, all cotton19c
Laces and Embroideries, 5c yard up.
Curtain poles and brackets, poles 25c
each, brass brackets, 50c a pair.

All sizes of Children's Fleece
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navies. Thus were the people subdued for a long time. But armies do bring war, and if the war lasts long, revolution.

American landlordism is a perfect pattern of the European kind. It, too must have a large standing army and a large navy to defend its vast estates.

Dr. Acheson is president of a college which is in part supported by unrequited toil. His scholars do not pay enough to support him and his institution. The loss has to be made up from endowments. Dr. Acheson draws part of his pay from people whom he does not serve directly. Is it possible that speeches on 100% Americanism are exacted from him by those who furnish the endowments? If Dr. Acheson is a servant of the forces of monopoly as his speech would indicate, is he a fit teacher to American boys and girls? He condemns the overthrowers of tyranny probably because they did not wear silk gloves. But he takes pay from those who are running a hot house for breeding a new tyranny. Does the Doctor ever think of the future when Americans will have to overthrow the institution of landlordism or perish?

And, by the way, if Dr. Acheson can pull such raw stuff over on the Credit Men—well, pity the poor students in his charge.

John Reed calls the National Security League, our own Black Hundred. Perfectly obvious after Reed points it out to us.

Under free trade both parties gain, but under the protective tariff swindle the victims lose more than the beneficiaries gain. In results it is therefore more inequitable than pick-pocketing or burglary.

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UNEMPLOYMENT—HOW TO PREVENT IT

Plan No. 1.

How can we prevent it? There was no problem of unemployment while the boys were in camp or in France. Why not keep them there? That will keep the rest of us busy to provide them with grub and tobacco. Of course the boys will object. But they objected to going in the first place and with the choice of twenty years in the penitentiary or staying where they are, their objections are disposed of.

Plan No. 2.

Better still we can have a new selective draft. It need "not in any sense be a draft of the unwilling." Included in the drawing should be all workers, men and women. Select by lot twenty per cent. of these, whose duty it will be to labor no more. This demon of unemployment must be destroyed. He has cursed the human race altogether too long. We must make the world safe for employment and no worker will shirk his or her duty to that end. Therefore be it decreed that in order to have sufficient work for eighty per cent. of the workers, the twenty per cent. shall have the choice of committing suicide or be executed.

Plan No. 3.

The same mortality among the workers will be accomplished by the process of the statesmen; namely six or seven years of grueling hard times. The statesmen's process has nothing to recommend it. It kills too many old people and too many children. That's why it takes several years of agony before it becomes effective.

Plan No. 4.

The Socialists' plan would be to reduce the working hours. It has the fatal defect of not reducing unemployment, but increasing it. Socialism has faith cure skinned a mile because you can see the "cure." The writer tends store all day and gets a living from it. A fellow-worker out of a job comes along and as a good Socialist, I take him in. I work six hours and he works three. The next three hours he works in my neighbor's store. Thus two stores support three workers where before it supported only two. This method increases employment like dough for two loaves of bread made into three loaves, makes more loaves.

A Common Sense Plan.

(A State Law to this Effect).

Any man or woman not already a land owner is hereby authorized to occupy as much VACANT land of his or her choice as he or she can use. If any holder of title to such land demands rent or purchase price from the new occupant, the said title hold-

er shall be considered a trespasser and be subject to fine and imprisonment.

The local assessor shall appraise the value of abutting street improvements, if any, for which the occupier shall pay the former owner; the taxing authority guaranteeing the payment.

And be it further enacted that:

After the passage of this bill no State, County, City, Borough or Township taxes shall be levied and that in lieu thereof a ground rent shall be collected in proportion to the value of the sites occupied and same shall be apportioned to the various governing bodies according to their need.

Prohibitionists quote life insurance statistics as conclusive proof that alcohol drinking shortens life. It is true that a drinker is a poorer insurance risk than a total abstainer. Without having any insurance man's confirmation, I will risk an explanation that goes beyond the "drink." Constant worry over matters of income and expenses is the thing that kills. Insurance statistics cannot, or, at least do not, show mortality records of people who worry as against those who do not. But drinking gives temporary relief from worry and that fact causes many men to drink.

Insurance men can observe the progress of the drinking man, more or less accurately, from the one who takes an occasional drink, to the one who gets soused regularly. And so drinking records get into the statistical tables but not the underlying and more vital causes of short life.

Also another thought occurs to me and if I am wrong I hope some one of my physician readers will correct me. Some men drink a glass of whisky before meals as an appetizer. If I am not mistaken it helps their digestion as well as their appetite. This appears to be harmless to men who do hard physical labor, and of serious injury with shortening of life to those physically inactive. Shortening of life from this cause is probably set down against drinking when it might just as well be set down against over eating. Insurance statistics prove certain things. These proofs are used as a basis for acceptance or rejection. But there is no hard and fast line for accepting or rejecting a man who drinks.

I know a hard working man who takes a real "spree" at certain intervals, and drinks moderately between times, who was accepted by the most strict insurance company at the lowest rate for his age. In his case drinking made no difference although it was well known.

Did the President leave the United States Constitution in France, or did he bring it back home with him?

Dear Editor:

"The antidote for this social infection, (Bolshevism) as we shall apply it in Pennsylvania, is good public administration, the best of popular education; generous, progressive humane laws, and thorough justice, backed by an alert, forceful and God-fearing public sentiment"—Governor Sproul's inaugural.

To all of this the Single Tax Party will agree, but in the acceptance of its truth, it demands that fundamental changes must be made in our treatment of land or thorough justice will remain illusory.

Let us suppose the Governor successful in giving to the State good public administration, best system of education, generous progressive and humane laws, there will most certainly result an enormous increase in the price of land. In other words, all these things, all our good citizenship, and all the millions of dollars of public money spent in making the State a desirable place to live in, will become a valuable and ever-increasing source of income to the owners of Pennsylvania land.

Can we call this even an approach to thorough justice?

The Single Tax Party claims it is the rankest, deadliest and most far-reaching form of injustice and the Party is pledged to destroy it and all its poverty-breeding influences. The Governor will find that an "alert, forceful, God-fearing public sentiment" can never exist in human society, until at least a start is made in removing injustice—especially where that injustice is so law entrenched and selfishly powerful as to demand the recognition and support of leaders in Church and State.

Let us hope the Governor, who cannot be accused of insincerity will soon be able to vision the injustice of the present system and the courage to apply the only cure—the justice of the Single Tax.

Very truly yours, Oliver McKnight.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Those who have not yet lost faith in President Wilson should read Mr. Villard's cable from Paris, printed in The Nation of January 25, 1919.

Friends of Mr. Wilson had better pray that he will not irrevocably compromise the United States and tie us hand and foot to the designs of Europe's royal hucksters.

For any man to get an income from land, he does not himself use is immoral. Institutions or laws or courts that tolerate this immorality can not deal justly with men. "Justice" from such sources is like water from a polluted stream. It contaminates all with whom it comes in contact.

LUKE NORTH IS DEAD

Such is the sad news from California. It sort of stunned us; it came so unexpectedly to his friends in the East.

Luke North was gifted with unusual talent and a great heart. Sick unto death and knowing it, poor and without any worldly power of office, he yet electrified a continent with his appeals for justice.

He was the fire of the Great Adventure. He was land monopoly's most powerful foe. And what a people's advocate he was. How he pleaded and pleaded for them. And what thankless disagreeable tasks he assumed. I remember of an incident here in Pittsburgh three years ago. North had been here a short time before. A wealthy Pittsburgh man was telling a little group of two or three that North had called on him pleading for funds for the first Great Adventure campaign. First North had asked for a large sum. Being denied that he had pleaded for a smaller, and, said the wealthy man, "He finally came down to five dollars." Yes, North, thousands of miles from home, doomed with tuberculosis, wearing a cheap suit of clothes, accepting gladly the humiliation of pleading for five dollars that poverty might be banished from the earth. Yes, he tramped the dust and took rebuffs, that the poor might have a little more comfort.

If Jesus were to meet our well-to-do reformers on the street and told them "sell all that ye have and give to the poor and follow me," it would be an embarrassing situation. But Luke North, far more brilliant than the money grubbers, had given his all to the poor so long ago he had forgotten it. And he continued to give his all to the poor unto death.

Luke North had his faults, they tell us, and then they tell it again as though we hadn't heard them the first time. And the more they tell it the more we wish they, too, would have Luke's faults. If the traducers of the servants of human freedom only possessed Luke's faults, let alone his virtues, the world would be vastly better than it is.

Mr. Joe P. Hoffman, of Oakland, Cal., writes:

"Luke North was a superman. We might disagree with him as to method, but his ultimate aim was always right. He never did a wilful injury. He resented being called a humanitarian. "selfish, purely selfish," he would say. "I cannot be happy while so many others are in misery." But "purely selfish" will not explain away the fact that he consciously shortened his life in his work for humanity, and did it without whining or seeking after sympathy."

Land value is evidence of power to levy a fine on those who work.

Luke North is dead. He long had tried To open gates of Earth, so wide, That the poor could freely enter in, And in joint possession, wealth could win.

Luke North is dead. He would have freed The lives of men from monstrous greed. Of those who'd sell what God did't give, Who charge a price for letting men live.

Luke North is dead. He sat not in chair Of those who knew but seem not to care; For mankind, he took a manly part, For he had the humanity heart.

Luke North is dead. No estate left he, (It costs to serve humanity). Of worldly goods could have won a share, But for gold ne'er sold a genius rare. Luke North is dead. But his work will live,

And to the end of time new strength will give To the hearts and minds that valiant fight, For Freedom and Justice, Truth and Right.

—Oliver McKnight.



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