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

W. Noren-Subscriptions: Locally by Carrier, 50c; By Mail, \$1.00. Edited by H. Publication Office, 601 Greenfield Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Vol. 4.

Pittsburgh, Pa., October 21, 1918.

No. 21

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.

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COMMENTS

BY NOREN

Fayette City, Pa., Oct., 13, 1918. Dear Friend Noren:

Money is an idea to facilitate trade and measure wealth. That seems enough for one idea or that is all I can think of it doing.

Free Land makes free men and women. Any one able to work has a credit of six to ten thousand dollars. He can issue a promise to pay that is sound up to \$6,000. For LOCAL use this money is as sound as Government money backed by the nation.

Four or five free men can cooperate and have a capital of thirty or forty thousand dollars. They could open a coal bank and run coal to market. Start a coke plant, or almost any kind of factory to manufacture some good thing. Think of every free person able to work and go at something alone or cooperate with three or six people, and not have to bother any one about financing them in any way whatever.

This is the difference between landless men today and free men. It is a big difference for good and prosperity. This definition of money is plain to me and it is a most wonderful economy and four-fifths of the people cannot use it on account of not being able to work at will. where and when they will. Therefore each of a nation of free people able to work inherits a property of not less than \$6,000 and those of greater ability more according to ability and each forced to be public benefactors for no one could invest their surplus in anything to enslave the people. No difference how greedy a man was in piling up wealth in the penitentiary. Many a man is

he must market it before it rots and that makes "eats" cheaper for the public. No one could corner the earth nor anything produced that the people need. Let me know how you like the way I handle the money question. It seems to me very different from The Equitist (Brokaw) way. Your paper I like very much. My purse is growing weak, I have been paying to Missouri and California campaign and hope one at least will win.

Your Friend, Calvin B. Power.

I rejoiced in receiving this letter and I have taken the liberty to publish it. For those of my readers who do not know Mr. Power, I will mention the fact that he is round about 80 years old, and writes with a hand apparently as steady as a young man.

In answer to his question on money: Power's plan is simplicity itself. Under singletax when every one possessed the one qualification, opportunity, to make his promises good, private promissory notes would probably supplant our ordinary money to a large degree. I am frank to say that I do not understand Mr. Brokaw's work-unit currency.

It seems to me that while one man possesses the power to charge another man a price for staying on earth, any question but the land question is of no importance.

There is considerable controversy in private correspondence that has come to my notice on how Henry George stood on war. I have not now access to George's works, nor to the letter or statement of George's wherein he regrets he could not join the Union army against the South. As I see it. George did not violate his own doctrine by wanting to fight with the North. Nor would he have violated his own doctrine by wanting to fight with the South. Until Lincoln proclaimed the freedom of the slaves, even the North maintained that the war was not to free the slaves, but to maintain the Union.

As to a mere division of territory or, no division, it is not safe to say where George would have stood. I can well imagine him surprising his friends by joining the "wrong" side on such issue.

But George would never have gone back on his principles. His clear expositions of a man's ownership of himself means just that, nothing less and nothing more. I can picture George

there now for saying less than George would have said. But I cannot picture George wanting to compel any unwilling man to fight for George. As I now recollect it, not even Louis Post in his mental somersaults last year tried to square himself by quoting George. Even Post would not defile holy ground while writing outside the realms of reason.

"BROTHER" WOOD

From the South Side Baptist, Sept. 14. The readers of the "S. S. B." always glad to hear from Brother Wood, and the following excerpts from a letter to his daughter Elizabeth will be read with interest:

"It seems hard to realize that my little daughter is becoming such a young woman as mother says, but this war is making so many changes in our thinking that I can believe whatever I hear from home.. The German foe certainly is brutal, and I assure you that everything horrible which has been said of his doings is only too true. I have seen his rotting carcass on the fair soil of France, and I have felt that this, with the horrible maggots, was more noble than his body and mind were before the shell or bullet sent him to his deserved destiny. I could tell you awful stories of his treachery, his cruelty, and his wanton, murderous deeds....l don't think I would take a German soldier as a prisoner, if I were a soldier-I would kill him."

I reprint "Brother" Wood's letter for what is contained in his first sentence: "It seems hard to realize," etc. You see if the war hadn't made such changes in "Brother" Wood's thinking, he would not have believed what "mother" wrote from home. "Broth-Wood gives "mother" a terrible er" reputation as to veracity and probably his decision not to tell those "awful stories" is prompted by modesty not to go her one better.

Eugene Debs, brave and noble soul, I never thought much of your philosophy, but my God, how you tower above your judges.

Last year we abolished the constitution but nothing noteworthy has happened this year.

Sometimes I think that life teaches this lesson, that: he who hopes deceives himself.

That kitten story was terribly ef-

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over shirts, made of all pure Aus-	Nainsook
tralian wool, at \$1.00 per garment. This is the shirt that we advertise	Boys' Overalls, 4 to 14 years75c
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Coupon is not good for the 95c	Bias Seam Binding, lawn and
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NOREN'S

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fective so long as the kitten was spiked to a barn door and a bomb exploded when he was released by pulling out one of the spikes. But the latest version as published by the Pittsburgh Post has it that a fourteen year old boy discovered the kitten fastened to a log by means of three bayonets. That looks like a lie by a fourteen year old.

Did you ever hear of a rich man sacrificing his automobiles or one of his homes to buy government bonds? If their loud mouthed claim to patriotism is not a lie, why don't they? I will let you in on a secret. Most rich men are despoilers of the poor. That is how they got rich, and the patrio-tism of the despoilers of the poor goes no deeper than their mouths. They are pests to be rid of, these despoilers.

When I see an unusually costly automobile I always speculate as to what particular lot of toilers paid for

"Labor must be allowed to cooper-59c value, pair45c ate with capital in working out a solution of the problems on which depends the future of our country." From the Toronto Statesman.

You are powerfully weak, brother. Labor must take possession of the land. That's the first essential. Having done that labor will naturally employ what capital it needs in developing the land.

Our British Allies pain us by their slow acceptance, or should I say no acceptance of President Wilson's first clear statement on open diplomacy and sacret treaties. Can their hesitancy be due to an unwillingness to repudiate their own acts? For let us not forget that the government now in power in Great Britain is the same government and the same men who made those secret treaties that the Bolshevik's exposed. So far as I have seen no British statesman has declared for open diplomacy.

For all the American public knows these British statesmen may think that their former secret treaties worked out fine. As an illustration of how thoroughly these satesmen are mistrusted nearer home I quote the following from the Toronto Statesman:

"Canadians have had a surfeit of Press propaganda designed to strengthen Liberal defaulters here, by parading Hughes of Australia and Lloyd George of England, as the true exponents of democratic thought. But time has revealed these men in their true light as the leaders of the reactionary forces that are organizing here and in Australia and Britain for the defeat of Democracy's war aims."

Reverend Dr. Willis A. Moore, formerly paster of the Universalist Church of Our Father of Detroit, implored his hearers to "try to forget, even if they cannot forgive" his lecture of five years ago which he called: "Superior Civilization of Germany."—From a Detroit newspaper.

Thus we have Moore's estimate of Moore, and which is a sufficiency, I should sav.

Here is one for Sam Lloyd: If hypocrisy supplants truthfulness in 75, under compulsion of 25; what is the percentage of truth in the whole?

The rich are sacrificing terribly to increase their fortunes.

I notice Charles Edward Russell is back from Europe. He went over as a special exhibit of a war-Socialist. I don't know what they have done to

"The Way of Happiness" a collection of extracts from various

a collection of extracts from various authors arranged and illuminated in water colors by M. Louise MacLaughlin, 4011 Sherwood avenue, Cincinnati, O. Sent postpaid on receipt of price, \$1.50.

Charley over there but he comes back in an awful huff. As soon as he landed he interviewed himself and he assures himself and all who hear him that the pacifists in Europe are in the minority.

From all the racket the militarists have been making over there I am inclined to think Charley is right.

Indeed I am at a loss to know why Charley should be so frantic about proving it. Can it possibly be that Charley Russell himself is in doubt? Perish the thought. But, listen Charley! The more effort you put forth to convince the Socialists of the United States to your view, the more surely will they throw you into the outer darkness. Is that what weighs so heavily on your mind?

The saddest story ever told: "He worked twenty years to buy the lot and thirty more to pay the mortgage."

The President's appeal to the antidemocratic senators from the South, to pass the woman suffrage amendment didn't go very deep. A few postmasterships in the hands of those senator's opponents would have been more potent.

A few days ago the Steel trusts' pride in the Senate, p. c. knox, wasted the other senators' time by pleading for a tax on state officials' salaries and on State bonds. One wonders who told him to do it or what the purpose was. The silly proposal of paying money out of the public treasury to officials and taking part of it away from them and putting it back into the treasury as a tax probably did not originate with knox. He would hardly make so silly an ass of himself except under orders.

His other proposal to tax bonds, no doubt served some camouflaging purpose or other. When the State sells bonds "tax free" and then sends p. c. knox to the senate to advocate that these bonds be taxed it assumes the character of a swindle, if I know the meaning of that word. It looks as though p. c. knox's clients didn't own any State bonds. No doubt that is part of their scheme to escape their own taces. We are told that these are the days when governments should keep faith. But I don't suppose that p. c. knox knows what faith is. He has so long been in the employ of corporations that his idea of honor probably consists solely in obeying the mandates of his bosse.s

Landlord—"Yes sir. We've a centenarian in this village. As a matter of fact, that is his grandson—or are you his great-grandson. Joa?"

Joe-'Great-great-great-gr-"
Visitor-"Oh, come, come! That's scarcely possible."

Landlord (confidently)-"He isn't

telling lies. He's only stuttering!"— Passing Show.

Gladys' beau took her youngest sister Mabel aside and confided in her as follows: "Now I am going to tell you something, Mabel. Do you know that last night, at your party, your sister promised to marry me? I hope you'll forgive me for taking her away?"

"Forgive you, Mr. Sparks," said Mabel. "Of course I will. Why that's what the party was for!"—N. Y. Times



Looks like a \$4.00 dress. Costs but \$2.00 at Norens,

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LIBERTY BONDS.
From the Prize Slacker, by Geo. J.
Knapp.

The expression "Selling Bonds to pay for the war," is entirely misleading. We are financing the war with bonds, but not paying for it. Every bond represents borrowed money that we must repay in the future with interest. We are paying for the war—as distinguished from financing it—only in so far as we are raising revenue through taxation, and applying it to defray the cost of the conflict.

War taxation, like other taxation, is of two kinds, direct and indirect. Direct taxation as we know it, touches the rich in some degree, but falls most heavily upon what is generally termed the middle classes, while indirect taxation falls most heavily upon the poor and middle classes, and permits the wealthy almost entirely to escape it.

Insofar as we are paying for the war, the money is being drawn mostly from the common people by means of indirect taxes, and insofar as we are



"USE INGRAM'S THERAPUETIC CREAM AND SHAVE IN COMFORT."

merely financing the war, the money will be drawn from the same people by the same means at some future time, unless they, in the interim, take the necessary steps to compel the taxation of those who are best able to pay; who received the greatest and permanent benefits of the war, and who, under existing conditions, are paying practically nothing at all toward its cost.

That there is a class of people numbering perhaps a million, who not only are not helping to pay for the war, but who have at their command a system whereby they can absolutely prevent the taxation of their incomes and excess profits, is not generally known. Were it generally known, it is reasonable to suppose that this condition would soon be remedied in response to public demand.

The great mass of the people of the United States pay only indirect taxes -taxes that are inceniously hidden by being added to prices-so that many of them are not even aware that they pay taxes, and therefore they take little or no interest in the matter of taxation. This lack of interest on the part of the many, enables the few to escape taxation estirely on a large part of their incomes and excess profits. It also enables them to shift onto others, who receive fewer benefits and are less able to pay, many other forms of taxation which are generally presumed to reach them. It is this class of wealthy people to whom we refer as the Prize Slackers.



DO YOU CARE?

Have you ever seen, my brother, the scornful gaze of men, Or felt the sting of bitter phrase or stab from cruel pen, For showing how—right here and now—they can—onthis old earth— Destroy all man-made poverty and rejoice in Plenty's birth?

Do you not see, my brother, this God-blest fruitful soil (Whereon we live and love and die, whereon we play and toil) is made a tool of barter, in the mart is bought and sold, And for the right to live on it, God's children buy with gold?

Have you seen great nations, brother, boasting a Christian name But in the War-Gods worship ever seeking martial fame, With all the cruel deviltries of a Satanic band, Despoil their weaker neighbors of their right to life and land?

Do you see them take, my brother, for collective revenue The values that are made by toil, that are justly Labor's due, That dwarfs the mind of Enterprise, making it a slave appear To the Earth-lords idle fancy—what his lust for gold holds dear?

If you see all this, my brother, and to stop it you're not lax You'll be giving, working, voting, for straight-out Single Tax, Which will unlock long closed gates, of Opportunity To the riches of Earth's storehouse—made by God for you and me?

Oh, hasten! then, my brother, discard thy slothful way, E'en now is seen the dawning of glad Salvation's Day, "Arise and gird your armor on!" and for the fight prepare! Do not be found in ranks of those WHO SEE BUT DO NOT CARE.

Did you ever read, my brother, in the books of History, Of the yearning and the longing of men for Liberty. Nothing has blocked their progress or so filled them with despair As actions of the careless minds WHO KNOW BUT DO NOT CARE. Oliver McKnight.