

# The International Free Trader

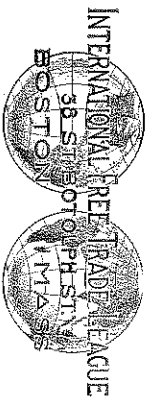
"MY COUNTRY IS THE WORLD"

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FRANK W. GARRISON, Contributing Editor

*Social reform is not to be secured by noise and shouting, by complaints and denunciations, by the formation of parties, or the making of revolutions,*

*but by the awakening of thought and the progress of ideas. Until there be correct thought there cannot be right action; and when there is correct thought right action will follow. Power is in the hands of the masses of men. What oppresses the masses is their ignorance, their shortsighted selfishness.*—HENRY GEORGE.

## WHAT CAN I DO?

Horace Tranbel

What can I do? I can talk out when others are silent. I can say man when others say money. I can stay up when others are asleep. I can keep on working when others have stopped to play. I can give life big meanings when others give life little meanings. I can say love when others say hate. I can say every man when others say one man. I can try events by a hard test when others try it by an easy test.

What can I do? I can give myself to life when other men refuse themselves to life.

## "Protection" Crumbling!

**Its High Priests Deserting—Imperative Need of World Trade the Deciding Factor.**

**Attacks on Tariff Applauded.**

"Protection" is crumbling! Its high priests are preparing to jettison the sacred tariff. We quoted in our last issue the editorial in the *New York Times* confirming Austin Harrison's prediction that the United States, become a great exporting nation, would abandon "Protection" for Free Trade. Further confirmation was given on September 25, in an interview with Senator Penrose, who declared that nearly all the protective tariff publicity agencies, such as the Protective Tariff League and the Home Market Club of Boston, oppose tariff revision at this time. The same view, he said, was held by business men all over the country. He even referred contemptuously to the bills which have passed the House and are now in the hands of the Senate Finance Committee as "popgun" tariff bills and said that the members of the Committee were not enthusiastic about this kind of piecemeal legislation.

But the most startling move in the new policy was allotted to Alba B. Johnson, ex-president of the Baldwin Locomotive Works and staunch Protectionist, who has come out for a revision of the tariff downward! (Our sympathy is extended to our colleagues in the Free Trade League who would be satisfied, "as a first step," with "the repeal of the obsolete navigation laws.")

## INTERNATIONALISM

The war has made it clear that it is impossible to produce a secure integration of the life of a single community while the relations between civilized countries are governed by aggressiveness and suspicion. For this reason any really powerful movement of reform will have to be international. A merely national movement is sure to fail through fear of danger from without. Those who desire a better world, or even a radical improvement in their own country, will have to co-operate with those who have similar desires in other countries, and to devote much of their energy to overcoming that blind hostility which the war has intensified.

Bertrand Russell, in "Why Men Fight."

Mr. Johnson's significant speech was made in Philadelphia in the night of October 27 at a dinner given to the trade missions of Belgium, France, Great Britain, and Italy. He said that many others, who had not expressed their opinions publicly, were thinking along the same lines, and his statements were greeted "with great bursts of applause."

Calling attention to the fact that the United States, from being a debtor nation before the war, had become the greatest creditor nation in the world, he urged that "the greatest advantage to a creditor nation lies in the exchange of commodities."

We are hearing already echoes of the protective tariff talk," he adds, and he declared it to be "the most detrimental thing in the United States, if we are to build up about us a Chinese Wall that would serve only to protect our industries."

With a high general protective tariff, foreign trade becomes an impossibility. . . . What we need is a tariff that will allow for the interchange of commodities. We must go into the question with the view of revising our tariffs so that all our interests shall be protected and that the United States may trade to the best advantage. But we must have goods coming in as payment as well as gold."

### Johnson Supported by Ledger.

On October 29 the Philadelphia *Public Ledger* devoted a leading editorial to what it termed "Changed Times, Changed Policies," in which it said, "Mr. Alba B. Johnson's pronouncement in the presence of the foreign trade missions now in America in favor of a revision of our ideas and policies with respect to 'protection' will perhaps straddle that class of economists which has believed in the past that the tariff policy of the United States is fixed and immutable and that prosperity for this country can only be found in adhering to the system under which our industries have grown to their present proportions. But Mr. Johnson only voiced the conviction that has been gaining ground in the consciousness of hundreds of thousands of convinced protectionists all over this land, that the time has come for a new study of the problem, for a revision of schedules and for a serious consideration of the question whether in maintaining a protection for industries long quite able to stand alone against all possible competition the United States was not doing itself more harm than good."

The *Ledger* admits that a change in policy has been impossible heretofore owing to the power of the beneficiaries, in whose plea for "infant industries" it

acknowledges "a bitter mockery and an irony, the source of discontent, an undoubted factor in the high cost of living."

### A Daniel Come to Judgment.

Senator Penrose not only found substantial truth in the Johnson statement, but seemed prepared to chuck the Full Dinner Pail fallacy and the balance of Trade fallacy after the Infant Industry fallacy, for he confessed to the reporters that "Of course the nations of Europe cannot carry on trade with the United States unless, in the last analysis, they have the commodities to send to the United States in exchange for articles and commodities imported by them from the United States." For it cannot be expected that these countries can continue to pour gold into the United States "with all the gold in the world being cornered here, with the ultimate stoppage of all purchases here."

Without further comment here on the Balance of Trade fallacy, we shall merely note the irony of the situation which finds the Wilsons, Posts and Bakers custodians of that ark of the Covenant which its late protectors now frankly admit to be nothing but a gold brick!

G.

## An Appeal To Socialists.

### Open Letter to Max Eastman, Urging Radical Action.

Dear Max Eastman:—Your penetrating criticisms of the League of Nations in the *Liberator* reveal clearly the "capitalist" nature of a peace dictated by diplomats of the old regime. When the allied and associated Powers made revolution in the Central Empires a condition of peace, they overshoot the mark, and they are now threatened with a kind of revolution they cannot tolerate. But they are nothing daunted, for they seem to control the physical forces necessary to restrain the communistic impulse.

At this supreme moment for Socialism it is unfortunate that Socialists should neglect the most powerful weapon in the armory of democracy. I refer to the ideal of equal rights as it bears upon man's fundamental activities in the production and exchange of wealth. The pillars of the "capitalist system" are land monopoly, trade monopoly, and credit monopoly, but instead of replacing monopoly with freedom, Socialists prefer to substitute monopoly for monopoly and to erect a "proletarian system" on the ruins of the "capitalist system."

Under cover of democratic forms of government the privileged classes mean to continue levying toll upon the laboring masses and the complacent middle class. The removal of legal barriers to the use of the earth and to trade would spoil their game. Yet Socialists remain cold to the great liberating movement summed up in the words, Free Trade. Is it because Socialism, with its proletarian emphasis and its weakness for bureaucratic method, feels a secret antipathy to freedom?

The case against Socialism lies not in its radicalism, but in its conservatism,—the tendency to continue the present abuses of bureaucratic nationalism, with its continental police system its spies, its prisons, its censorship and its militarism.

To banish the fear of Socialism from the hearts of men and women of good will everywhere it is only necessary to make a vigorous campaign for the abolition of legal monopoly in the interest of equal opportunity for all, special privilege for none. This is the only step which can hope to defeat the monopolistic forces left by the war in control of governments, the only means of achieving revolution without violence, the only way in which the revolution may be made secure and permanent.

Sincerely yours,  
Frank W. Garrison.

The love of liberty is the love of others: the love of power is the love of ourselves.—Hazlitt.

The great standing illustration of sabotage administered by the government is the protective tariff, of course. It protects certain special interests by obstructing competition from beyond the border. This is the main use of a national boundary.—horTstein Vebien, in *The Dial*.

Bessie had a new dime to invest in ice-cream soda. "Why don't you give your money to missions," said the minister who was calling. "I thought about that," said Bessie, "but I think I'll buy the ice-cream and let the druggist give the money to the missions."—*Christian Herald*.

## "WORK AND SAVE"

Samuel Danziger

Workers complaining of the high cost of living are being urged to "work and save" by the philosophers whose practical experience is confined to depriving the cost of high living. Still, good advice should not be rejected, whatever one may think of its source. The suggestion to work, addressed to the group that has done and is still doing about ninety nine percent of all productive work, is obviously superfluous. But it is different with the advice to save. American workers are the most extravagant of the world's spendthrifts. Their waste is criminal. To it they may safely attribute poverty, unemployment and high cost of living.

Let us consider some evidence of extravagance—Andrew Carnegie's fortune for instance. At the time of his death it amounted to \$25,000,000. Originally it was many times larger. One estimate puts the amount at \$450,000,000. But whatever it was practically all of it came from American workers who had received nothing in return. Like the prodigal spendthrifts they are, the workers had authorized their representatives in legislative bodies to empower Mr. Carnegie to help himself to their earnings. They insisted on the enactment of tariff laws that Mr. Carnegie and his business associates might get an extravagant price for iron and steel. Furthermore they allowed Mr. Carnegie's corporation to monopolize as private property the nation's iron ore beds, and thus threw away property worth billions. And Mr. Carnegie is but one of many similar examples. Here is a place where it is high time to substitute economy and thrift for reckless extravagance.

John D. Rockefeller is another witness who could easily testify to the prevalence of wasteful habits among workers. He has a fortune of one billion, consisting largely of earnings that American laborers have foolishly allowed him to appropriate through exorbitant charges for oil and in other ways. Mr. Rockefeller is one of the advisers who urge workers to economize. Why not take him at his word and save the \$60,000,000 a year lavished upon him?

The Astor fortune is another example of what the toilers are throwing away. In short, waste and extravagance have been indulged in so recklessly by the nation's wealth producers that 65 per cent. of the people, consisting entirely of the laboring class, own but five per cent. of the nation's wealth. Two per cent. of the population, including the greater part of those who do no work, are in possession of 60 per cent. of what 65 per cent have made.

Economy is a crying need of the workers. They should stop at once the wasteful practice of contributing their earnings as ground rent, exorbitant profits, unreasonable railroad fares, tariff spoils and tribute under other names to those who give no adequate value in return. They should put an end to the putting of billions into the public treasury out of the product of their industry while ample revenue for governmental purposes can be had from the rental value of land. Let them put into effect this economical policy and the high cost of living will cease.

By all means let the workers be urged to save, but at the same time let them be shown where the best opportunities for saving lie.

## IN PRAISE OF SOCIALISTS.

Acknowledgment of Their Stand for Liberty. Encouraging Signs.

An article in *Common Sense* by Philip Snowden, Chairman of the Independent Labor Party, calls attention to the manner in which the Socialists and the followers of Cobden have been thrown together during the last five years in defence of principles of a political and economic faith held in common. What has happened in England has been duplicated in the United States; the parties which called themselves liberal or radical joined in the general attack upon individual liberty, leaving the defence of fundamental rights to the Socialists. The situation in England was thus summarized by our colleague, R. L. Outhwaite:

"The Independent Labor Party alone provided a platform in defiance of 'Liberal' repression of free speech from which we could uphold the fundamental principles to which we owed allegiance. I prefer a party with a formula that may suggest repression, but which has upheld individual liberty in the darkest days, whose leaders have suffered for liberty, whose rank and file have gone to jail for liberty; to a party with a formula of liberty but which has betrayed liberty all along the line."

Now we find Socialists like Mr. Snowden, not only rising instinctively against oppression, but defining their aims as identical with the aim of the Cobden School, to secure the largest possible measure of individual liberty in a well-ordered State and in a well-ordered world. "No change," declares Mr. Snowden, "brought against Cobdenites and Socialists alike could be more unjust than that they are . . . men who have no concern with international policy and world affairs. On the contrary, Cobden was the first and greatest of internationalists; but he believed that international goodwill could be best attained by allowing each nation freedom to work out its own development in its own way, and by removing all artificial barriers to the free exchange of commodities and to the free intercourse of peoples."

If these are truly the aims of Socialism the time is at hand for a popular movement which will sweep away every monopoly without the aid of violence, but by the irresistible power of enlightened public opinion and the common will.

G.

It is a pleasure and a privilege to be able to announce that at the meeting of our Executive Committee on October 27th Mr. Ludwig C. A. K. Martens, official representative in the United States of the Russian Socialist Federated Soviet Republic, and Mr. Santeri Nuorteva, were elected to represent Russia on the Advisory Committee of the International Free Trade League.

## A LETTER FROM NEW ZEALAND.

Wellington, N. Z., August 5, 1919.

Dear Sir—

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 8th last, in which you inform me of my appointment to the Advisory Committee of the International Free Trade League.

Without international free trade there can be no real League of Nations, but without alternative taxation we cannot realize the ideal of free trade, and presumably your plan of action is to work for the concentration of taxation on land values. Of course if you can strengthen the sentiment in favor of free trade you will of necessity create a desire to find a practicable plan of obtaining it. Personally, I have long since come to the view that free trade should be yoked to the deep-seated and ineradicable aspiration for national self-determination. The prevailing idea for the federation of states, whether under written constitutions or not, is to my mind a heresy. In reality there are only two things which nations can do for each other—to trade with each other and to influence each other by their example. The necessity for trade proves that nations, in the scheme of Providence, are interdependent and to give free play to forces of trade must make that interdependence not only evident to all men, but so manifestly to their interest that wars would become impracticable. The realization of free trade, however, is quite consistent with complete control by each nation over its own internal affairs. Even though they may govern themselves badly, they will still govern themselves better than if interfered with from outside, because outside interference wounds the pride of nations, and intervention, no matter how noble its professions, by another and more powerful nation, is never disinterested. It is no doubt regrettable that there should be bad government in Mexico, for example, but it is best to allow the Mexican people to work out their own salvation in their own way. They will do it sooner or later. It is not without a purpose that mankind has been divided into nations, for if all mankind were one state and that state became politically corrupted, there would be no hope for reform. Nations sustain and inspire each other. In fact, they do for each other what individual men do for each other in society. By diversity of government, they point the way to better things. Consider how the example of the United States has influenced mankind in favor of republican government in France, aye how it stimulates republicanism throughout the world today! Again, the smaller the nation the more readily can corrupt systems be overthrown, and the more contagious will good example become. I am convinced that we must dissociate ourselves from the idea that free trade can be won by reciprocal agreements, by federal pacts, etc. Rather must we recognize the right of each nation to control its own government, but we must insist that free trade is a wise matter of domestic policy.

Now I have written you a longer letter than I

anticipated. Permit me to wish you and your fellow-laborers every success in the good work upon which you have embarked. In this remote country we are rather cut off from the great highways of thought, but we can still be with you in the common and world-prevalent desire for better things. With kindest wishes,

Yours very sincerely,

P. J. O'REGAN.

Kenneth B. Elliman, Esq.,  
Secretary, International Free Trade League.

Editor's Note:—Mexico's Government may not be perfect. But we have yet to hear of its invading its neighbors' territory; blockading friendly nations; robbing and murdering peaceful Hindus; carrying on war without a formal declaration—as provided by its Constitution; or torturing in jail those of its citizens who obey their consciences rather than murder the citizens of other countries. Neither does it tax its citizens to maintain an army of spies and law breakers to try and find grounds for persecuting lovers of the liberty for which our forefathers suffered and died. Nor has Mexico that badge of "higher civilization" compulsory military servitude. Is it Anglo-Saxon "law and order" that our sister Republic lacks?

## WHAT SHOULD REFORMERS ASK?

## Compromise Rejected by Successful Leaders.

When William Lloyd Garrison began his agitation for the abolition of slavery he had the political wisdom to perceive that a demand for immediate and unconditional emancipation was the strongest move that could be made against the forces of established privilege. This bold stand removed the temptation to compromise, and attracted real lovers of liberty as it repelled the timid and sentimental who serve as a drag upon all reform movements. The platform of the unknown agitator appeared dangerous and formidable to slave-holders because it offered no loophole of attack, for it was nowhere inconsistent with the moral truths upon which it was founded.

The lesson was learned by Joseph Sturge and applied by him to the Anti-Corn Law campaign in England. A few words from Sturge, said Cobden, "did more than anything else to determine us to adopt for our principal the total and immediate repeal of the Corn Law. . . . He pointed out the necessity of taking our stand on the rock of abstract truth and justice; and I must say we found it our rock of safety during our seven years' struggle."

It is our belief that the peace societies and economic leagues of our day have been ineffectual in so far as they have assumed the line of least resistance to lie in compromise rather than in strict adherence to abstract truth and justice. In demanding the immediate repeal of all economic privileges the International Free Trade League counts among its associates all workers for freedom everywhere, and arms itself with the invincible power of the laws of nature.

G.

## LIBERAL PARTY DISCREDITED.

English Radicals Joining I. L. P.—Hope for Economic Solution.

*The Commonwealth*, speaking of the by-election for the Rusholme Division of Manchester, a contest between Dr. Robert Dunstan (Labor) and Mr. Pringle (Liberal), says of the Liberal Party:

"It is absurd to suppose that such men would promote the social and economic revolution that alone can save the nation. It was Sir John Simon who drafted the Defence of the Realm Bill and carried it through the House of Commons in such form that but for the intervention of Tory Law Lords, right of trial by a Civil Court would have been denied where almost any act could be construed into an offence. It was Mr. Walter Runciman, who, as President of the Board of Trade, sold the Free Trade pass at the Paris Conference, and Mr. Asquith supported its reactionary and predatory decisions. It was Mr. McKenna who imposed the import duties and initiated the system of Protection which enables motor manufacturers now to operate behind a 33-1-3 per cent. tariff.

"Not one of these Liberal leaders had the courage to denounce the Treaty of militarism and spoliation. They have been weighed in the balance and found wanting; and Mr. Pringle is almost the last Radical left to them of those who made an independent stand in the last House, the rest having joined the Independent Labor Party, as had Dr. Dunstan before them."

It is a curious commentary on politics, conducted as a game of compromise, that Tories in power are sometimes forced to pass liberal measures, while a Liberal administration is more than likely to disavow its followers, if it does not openly betray them.

## The I. L. P. for Free Trade.

In a letter to Ramsay Macdonald the following reasons are given by James Dundas White for his change from the Liberal Party to the Independent Labor Party:

"The Independent Labor Party stands for Free Trade, which is essential for national well-being and International Peace. Both Unionist and Liberal leaders have been going backwards to Protection. The first Coalition Government under Mr. Asquith was responsible for supporting the Paris Conference Resolutions, and for the introduction of the protective duties on motor cars, musical instruments, clocks and watches. Mr. Lloyd George's Government has continued these duties, has introduced a system of what is called Imperial Preference, and has also sanctioned the setting up in India of protective duties on various manufactured cottons,—which are a tariff against these goods when imported into India and exploit the Indian peoples for the benefit of certain Indian mill-owners. We are learning again, even from our own experience, that privilege and Protection impoverish the people, promote the formation of rings and trusts, and prepare the way for jobbery and corruption. Their International effects are no less disastrous, because they obstruct the processes

of trade that would bind nations together, and they themselves are fertile causes of International antagonism. The Party which opposes them is entitled to support, even on this ground alone.

## Free Land a Complement of Free Trade.

"Another consideration is that, as shown by recent Resolutions, the Independent Labor Party is associating itself more closely with the Taxation of Land Values. This reform is the complement of Free Trade, because it is the key to Free Production. It seeks to enforce the rights of the people to the land which Nature has provided, by making those who hold the land pay a rent or tax to the community according to the market value of the land that they hold, whether they are using it or not; and it seeks to stop the present system of taxation which imposes heavy penalties on the building of houses and the making of other improvements. It is the first and necessary step to better housing, increased production, and the opening of the natural opportunities to the people.

## Liberty the Guiding Principle.

"If we are to escape disaster, we must turn again towards the guiding stars of Liberty, Justice, and Human Brotherhood. Free trade and Free Production are but applications of these principles in the economic sphere. Even economic justice, in its largest meaning, is not the ultimate aim; but it is a necessary condition for the development of a free co-operative commonwealth, with better opportunities for every one to realize the possibilities of life, and to develop those faculties and aspirations which are now so often starved and disappointed. It must be remembered that the well-being of each is bound up with the well-being of all, and the drawing together of the nations must be kept steadily in view.

"These ideals may seem far-off; but they will at least keep us heading in the right direction. They represent the direction in which the Liberal Party used to move, and in which the Independent Labor Party is moving now. Like many of that Party, I am strongly opposed to any policy that would narrow personal freedom or increase the power of a bureaucracy, from whatever quarter it may come. For the reasons already stated, I am fully convinced that, in this stage of our political progress, the course which I am taking is the right one." G.

## Resolutions of French Confederation du Travail,

July 21-22, 1919:

"The National Committee of the Federation, confident of expressing the popular feeling, demands that in the field of production, as well as distribution, the practices of Malthusianism, imperialism, and economic protectionism be shut out.

"In this spirit the National Committee of the Federation demands the suppression of customs barriers which can only fetter the industrial development necessary to the life and restoration of the country.

"That the manufactured products and the raw materials of all countries be enabled to enter France."

(Editor's Note.—Our readers will doubtless be interested in the following sketch of one of the English members of our Advisory Committee, which appeared in the London (England) *Daily Herald*, edited by another member of our Advisory Committee, Mr. George Lansbury.)

### "Jos" Wedgwood

By Our Parliamentary Correspondent.

Colonel Josiah Wedgwood, D.S.O., member for Newcastle-under-Lyme, is a fighter first, last, and all the time. To seek out tyranny and diligently slay it, to protest against injustice and proclaim the rights of man, are the consuming passions of his life.

In the first century he would certainly have fought alongside Paul with beasts at Ephesus. In the twentieth, when not employed in Antwerp, France, Gallipoli, or East Africa, he fights at Westminster.

He conducts a perpetual guerilla warfare against the exploiting interests. Scribes, pharisees, and hypocrites, Under Secretaries, Ministers, and the National Democratic Party:—Wedgwood is ever ready to lead an assault against them, careless whether any follow him or none.

He asks more questions than any man in Parliament. He is ready—and perfectly competent—to make a withering speech on any subject. No House of Commons, no debate, would be complete without him.

Wedgwood is a crusader for the cause of the underdog, whether conscientious objector or dispossessed native under the British flag.

He has done more than any single man to spoil the Russian gamble. His speeches on Koltchak, Denikin, Mannenheim, and Yudenitch make the "Friends of Russia" gibber in their seats.

It is related that, in a hot corner at Gallipoli, a certain man answered his call for prompt action at a critical moment. "I need hardly say," remarked Wedgwood, "that he was a single-taxer from Glasgow."

Violently interrupted recently in the House as to why, if he so loved the Bolsheviks, he did not go and join them, he replied instantly: "If it's got to come to a class war, that's my side."

The Radicals have lost, and the Labour Party have gained, a very able and dashing swordsman in "Jos." But he remains the most independent man in Parliament.

H. J. G.

The *Protectionist*, our esteemed contemporary, comments with calmness on the resumption of trade with Germany and Austria, but promises that the next (Republican) Administration will curtail it as much as possible.

It quotes with the tacit approval from *Fibre and Fabric* the sentiment that it does not matter what England or France wants or needs, but "America first for Americans." We are told that our foreign trade must be on purely business lines, and that "the price will be higher or lower according to the restrictions placed on imports by the countries we ship to." Who said the foreigner pays the tax? G.

### A SWISS SOCIALIST'S VIEW

We shall take the liberty, says Jean Debrit in *La Feuille*, of turning to the possessing classes, to the diplomats, the politicians, the military men and to the pitiful cohort of journalists who serve their homieidal cause; and we shall thus address them, not as Socialists, but simply as men inspired by humanity:

"You shout in anticipation against the promoters of disorder; but it is you who have created this disorder. You are horrified at a possible dictatorship of the proletariat. Do you think, perchance, that yours is any more agreeable? You cry up democracy. Have you not yourselves turned it to your own profit through the power of money; a process which the political Republic could not check, but which the economic Republic has successfully resisted—the only one, in fact, which really counts, because it is the only one which touches fundamentally the existence of the masses, their real liberty? . . ."

"But," say you, "if there is risk of bloodshed in the establishment of justice, will you countenance such horrors?"

We reply, "This is none of your affair. We, humanitarians, pacifists, have the right to be preoccupied with it, and by every means of persuasion, by every effective project to turn the proletariat from so-called catastrophic measures. But you war-mongers, you who have hysterically applauded all the crimes that your governments constrained your people to commit, you who cared little for the human hecatomb and for whom there was not enough blood so long as victory was still to be won, you degenerate sons, slaves of the Ludendorffs, the Foches, and the other glorious purveyors for cemetries, I ask you by what right you come here to talk of peace, of fraternity, horror and massacre?" —G.

### A COMPLAISANT ECONOMIST.

The tendency of college professors of economics to uphold existing institutions is illustrated anew by the arguments advanced in the *Montreal Star* by Mr. Stephen Leacock. His suggestion that the principle of "Protection" should be accepted in Canada, and a truce called to undignified controversy, shows how lightly he takes the obligations of science and how respectful is his attitude towards the ruling class. Like others of his profession he would doubtless argue that tariffs are a question of expediency and are not to be judged by moral standards.

Slender as is the thread of humor in his amusing commentaries on life, it should be acknowledged gratefully in this time of intellectual sterility, but his failure to see the enormity of robbery by means of legal privilege is suggestive of his limited range as a humorous writer. The great humorists have been essentially humanists—men whose hearts were wrong in the presence of misery and injustice. Among contemporary writers Anatole France and Bernard Shaw come within this definition. It would be difficult to imagine either of them acting as advocates for the protected industries. G.



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## NEED OF A PEACEFUL REVOLUTION.

All classes are to blame for social conditions which were so bad that many well meaning men and women looked hopefully to the war to awaken latent spiritual forces strong enough to establish a new social order. But the forces liberated by war are evil. Violence does not beget harmony. The easy moralists who predicted miracles have not been justified by the results. The spiritual awakening must come from actions which distinguish successfully between right and wrong.

Unfortunately, the opponents of violence have been crushed by rulers who are themselves slaves of the Frankenstein they have created. The pacifists have been crushed, but they will rise again to vindicate the power of truth. Their voices are already gaining in volume. Professor F. G. Nicolai, author of "The Biology of War," says truly, "If once the proletariat saw that a social revolution could take place without bloodshed and military dictatorship, no man thereafter would be foolish enough to resort to such methods. A peaceful revolution, ever in an out-of-the-way corner of the world, may be able to save the world."

Economic freedom, promising justice to all classes, is the means by which the peaceful revolution may be achieved. G.

## DID YOU READ

## "THE TRUTH ABOUT MEXICO" IN GALE'S MAGAZINE?

GALE'S is the only English Radical magazine in Mexico and is indispensable to all who want to know what the world is doing. Linn A. E. Gale is a former American newspaper man who was associated with ex-Gov. Glynn of New York for several years, and was for a time prominent in Democratic politics. Then he quit the Democrats, became a Socialist and finally moved to Mexico a year ago. It has been said that he writes "words that burn in letters that blister."

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So few people succeed greatly because so few can conceive a great end and work toward that end without deviating and without tiring.

—Arthur Symons.

## Editorial

"No Revolution ever rises above the intellectual level of those who make it, and little is gained when one false notion supplants another. But we must some day, at last and for ever, cross the line between Nonsense and Common Sense. And on that day we shall pass from Class Paternalism, originally derived from fetish fiction in times of universal ignorance to Human Brotherhood in accordance with the nature of things and our growing knowledge of it; from Political Government to Industrial Administration; from Competition in Individualism to Individuality in Co-operation; from War and Despotism, in any form, to Peace and Liberty."

Carlyle.

"The most dangerous obstacles to the success of any great undertaking are never the open opponents of that undertaking. They are the men and women who, while expressing their approval of the object, believe that it can be attained without work. They want reputation without endeavor, victory without wounds, glory without sacrifice, peace without struggle."—Hermann Hagedorn.

"The advocates of a great principle should know no thought of compromise. They should proclaim it in all its fullness, and should point to its complete attainment as their goal. Let the time-servers, the demagogues, the compromisers, those to whom nothing is right, and nothing is wrong—let them all go their ways. Any cause that may lay hold of a great principle is stronger without them."

Henry George.

With the imperialist governments of the world apparently on the verge of bankruptcy, and revolution stalking through Europe many Free Traders and other radicals seem to think they need only sit back and let revolution automatically bring about the millennium.

This is a dangerous superstition. No matter how right Free Trade is, and how bound to prevail sooner or later, it cannot be adopted by the masses of the people until they understand it. Were civilization to collapse tonight, it would be necessary to rebuild it tomorrow unless sufficient people understood how to replace it with a better system. And no revolution, economic or political, will bring about economic freedom unless those who understand freedom and how to secure it are on hand and active in establishing it.

More good causes have been lost through indifference or compromise than through the opposition of enemies. Are Free Traders going to lose the unprecedented opportunity to spread the truth they have to offer during the falling of the present economic system through a belief in the effectiveness of revolution to make everything right?

The International Free Trade League is organized to propagate the truth of Free Trade and its effect in abolishing war and reducing the cost of

living in all countries. No enemy can refute its logic. Is it to fail to accomplish its aim merely because its friends have not faith enough to support it adequately?

Many Free Traders have long suspected that Germany was not solely responsible for causing the war. Proof that the governments of England and France were equally culpable is furnished by the documents published and commented on in a special supplement published with the official organ of the Union of Democratic Control, "Foreign Affairs," for October. This excellent "Journal of International Understanding" may be obtained from Orchard House, 2 and 4 Great Smith Street, Westminster, S. W. 1, England, for only 2sh. 6d. a year. We recommend it to all our readers.

### DISCOVERING "KEY" INDUSTRIES

Protectionist manufacturers are displaying surprising ingenuity in finding new "key" industries. During the past week or so they have discovered that the following "key" industries are in vital need of "Protection": The making of furniture and of fireworks; the breeding of canaries, and the raising of bulbs. The list would be in danger of being taken as a joke did we not know that Protectionist are singularly lacking in a sense of humor, and are also in very grim earnest in their campaign for a raid on customers' pockets.

Some years ago an Australian politician got up in the Victorian Legislative Assembly and argued earnestly that Fijian bananas should be kept out by a heavy duty, since they competed disastrously with the sale of Australian-grown apples. That sapient legislator met with little success, but the same kind of thing is always found in any country where the poisonous weed of Protection is allowed to take root.

—Common Sense.

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