

Publishers of  
ONE-SENTENCE ECONOMICS  
AND WORLD LEPROSY

- Howard W. L'Hommedieu

An end to monopoly — in government, banking, land, patents, mergers, trade unions, medicine.

Rational, humane laws. Prisons abolished; replaced by fines, with psychiatric treatment if necessary.

## PUBLIC PRESS

P.O. BOX 71

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS 60006

### THE SOCIAL CONTRACT

-Jean Jacques Rousseau (Updated)

Assess full ground rent, without exception, for ethical revenue source, low improvement taxes, an end to speculation. Choice of sites at true rental value will ensure a surplus of safe employment, at wages equal to one's production.

Government restitution for official or private injuries. Polygraph tests to be accepted as evidence.

Peace Organizations: "We agree not to insist upon this country's withdrawing financial and/or military support from any tyrannical government—our puppet or otherwise—so as to be deprived of its resources at a fraction of their value, its slave or virtual slave labor, and tax exemptions. We also agree not to insist upon our making appreciable restitution (adequate restitution would be impossible) for the horrendous damages—personal and material—we have inflicted upon our victims; nor that we halt our formal and guerrilla warfare throughout much of the Third World, to maintain or expand our exploitation; nor that we replace our fiendish puppets with civilized governments, and free all prisoners—political or otherwise—as victims of our political and economic destruction, usually incarcerated and horribly tortured at our expense, and according to our instructions. We further agree not to state that no national purpose is served by building armaments which can destroy the world several times over, some of which are more dangerous to the sender than to the target, and with no workable control over their usefulness, legitimate or illegitimate cost. (See THE HIGH PRIESTS OF WASTE) Although the C. I. A. is largely occupied with the dirty business of overthrowing popular governments, and setting up subservient puppets for us, we will not demand its abolishment; nor will we publicize the fact that our thoroughly disgusting behavior is solely for the benefit of our power elite and their supporters."

Civil Rights Organizations: "We agree not to press the point made by Anatole France when he said, 'Equal justice for unequals can lead to the greatest injustice of all.' We will not advocate surplus jobs and adequate charity, which would eliminate the need for most crime. We will not insist that mediation by competent, independent judges replace the Greco-Roman so-called 'positive law,' which is actually unpredictable, and utterly incapable of providing for the infinite combinations of human circumstances, especially where the laws are loaded against the poor and weak, and permit wide discretion; and are further interpreted and applied with extreme favoritism to the strong and discrimination against the weak, in addition to taking little or no account of the dire needs of the weak. We also agree not to work for the abolition of all sumptuary laws (creating crimes with no victims, where the Law plays God); and certainly not in the direction of protecting life and property only—an extension, to society, of all that the individual has a right to do for himself, as Plato and many others advocate. We agree not to demand free, independent and competent checking of all sentences, to insure reasonableness, consistency and humanity; the replacement of penology with monetary restitution and paroles, with detention only for the dangerously disturbed, as advocated by experts for years. We will not insist upon constant independent checking of all places of detention until most are abolished; with voluntary polygraph tests accepted as evidence of innocence, degree of guilt, and official injury, warranting restitution from the state, although not of itself convicting anyone, police or prison guard. This would end the perpetual reign of terror for about 360,000 men, women, boys and girls—wretched, frustrated, caged animals, an estimated 5 % innocent, with many serving unjustifiably long, even fantastic sentences, with unwarranted solitary confinement, with sentences extended, and denied parole. We agree to let them remain in this reign of terror, a large percentage always in fear of overwork or idleness, rotten food, torture and rape. We also agree not to demand an end to all secret wire taps, mail covers and mail interference, used mainly to harass those justifiably opposing government policies, but not monopoly business and their servants in government, who commit by far the greatest crimes."

**Ecology Organizations:** "We agree never to insist upon the abolition of all nuclear fission power plants, with their uranium mining, plant operation plagued with dangerous radiation, and the certainty of eventual disastrous explosions, and underwater poisoning from waste container failures; nor the ending of nuclear explosions to release gas, dangerously contaminated, however diluted; nor the development of the many non-polluting sources of energy, wherever most feasible. We also agree not to insist upon the humane, natural raising, and humane slaughtering of livestock, an end to the cruel and ecologically damaging hunting and trapping; the denial of the use of any but fully tested injections, additives and preservatives; the practice of organic farming, and pest control by the numerous means available other than pesticides; an end to environmental damage through strip mining, the channelization of rivers, the building of dams, the clear cutting of timber, the retention of flood plains, and the prohibition of overgrazing, and of farming on unsuitable land. Nor will we press for greatly needed reforestation programs, to even rainfall, retain moisture, moderate the climate, prevent and replace losses from forest fires, dust bowls and mud slides. We will not try to develop a rational transportation system, using the best type in each situation, and for each distance, balancing fuel consumption, pollution and expense with travel time. We know that the best way to correct pollution is to enable producers to refuse work in industries or on projects dangerous to themselves or to others, or to move from polluted areas. We also know that land would not be used for unsuitable purposes if other land was available at its true rental value, but we will not advocate the means necessary to open up a choice of either jobs or land. Nor will we point out that the demand for power would be greatly reduced in an equitable economy, purchasing more necessities and less destruction."

**Economic Organizations:** "We agree never to advocate economic justice, by ending land speculation and hoarding, bringing all site costs down to their true rental value, through the full assessment of ground rent, which would quickly force all land into its best use, to pay the assessment, or cause it to be released for others to use, thus creating surplus work opportunities. We will never state that the scientific, economic wage is the equivalent of one's production, which can be determined and obtained only through a free choice from a surplus of opportunities, and that this situation, of land seeking labor, would enable almost everyone, of any skill, to support himself, receiving training on the job, if necessary, whatever further schooling he might desire. We agree, instead, to advocate the indirect subsidizing of landholders, by allowing them to keep the difference between the rental value of the land alone, created by nature and community development, and assessments of a fraction of that value, thus encouraging hoarding for a speculative rise, or demands for speculative rentals or sales prices, and so keeping millions unemployed, or with wages reduced by excessive costs. We propose to placate the unemployed with job training programs for nonexistent jobs, and inadequate unemployment insurance and charity; also with government spending programs, which only transfer buying power, and thus jobs, from one place to another, without increasing the total. We will never state that only equalizing site costs of the same value can bring surplus jobs, and that only full employment, at wages equal to one's production, making it possible for people to buy or rent their own housing, can end slums. Surplus work opportunities are necessary to ensure free speech to the school system and the media, to authors and publishers. They are necessary if people are not to be driven into poor workmanship, shady business practices, countless nuisance phone and house calls, throw-away junk mail, thievery, prostitution, drunkenness and drug addiction, but we promise never to publicize these facts; we'll simply advocate more restrictive and repressive laws. Also more "stimulants" (subsidies) to big business, at public expense."

**The ESTABLISHMENT:** "We, in return for all that, will provide a rationale to numb your intelligence, soothe your conscience and mollify your frustrations over every type of robbery, idiocy and atrocity we employ. We'll make sure that the basic monopoly, in land, is never abolished, to give you the economic freedom to make a choice; and in addition, will make "an offer you can't refuse." We'll refrain from purging you from politics, blackmailing you, putting a tap on your home and office phones, intercepting your mail, getting you discharged and blackballed, beaten, fined, imprisoned or shot."