

The Stone Christ. From the New Nation. She drew her hair more closely. As she passed through the biting blast; And the stones of the pass were icy To her hair and breathing feet; But none of the passers noted Her anguish, or turned with scorn. And she passed through the open portals Of the house of God—Furtive. For she thought in his clustered precincts, The sacred haunts of prayer, To look for a white her burden Of sorrow and want and care. Above from a niche in the pillared aisle, A stone Christ looked with a piteous smile.

we were approaching the adoption of a state socialism; not a socialism of the poor and unfortunate, but of the rich and powerful. Nationalists abhor not only the latter as well as he, but the former also. The predominance of no interest whatever, be it rich or be it lowly, is to be sought, but the economic and political freedom of the entire people, which can only be attained through the administration of their industrial services by and for the people.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS. The Advantages of Public Ownership Explained by Prof. Ely.

At a recent meeting of the Johns Hopkins Historical Seminary in Baltimore, Prof. Richard T. Ely read a paper upon the "Railways and Social Democracy in Germany," and among many excellent other things he said: "I was very much impressed during my stay in Germany this summer by the superior service of the state-controlled railways of that country as compared with the careless management of our own lines. There was scarcely an accident in Prussia during the whole summer, while in this country nearly five times as many passengers are injured or killed outright. The American railways have not enough employees to secure safety and attention. England has four times as many men and Germany even more.

"We are fully thirty years behind Germany in safety for passengers. There are no unguarded crossings; a 'looked' or 'men' is the public. Even at the stations there is no crossing the tracks to reach out going trains, as is the case in our own Union Stations. To get on the other side in Germany you must descend a flight of steps and pass through a tunnel under the track. The stations themselves are models of beautiful architecture. The new one in Frankfurt cost \$3,000,000. When the government intends to erect a new station it offers a prize to architects for ornamental designs. There is a maximum of comfort received in railway travel, at the stations as all union stations, which is possible since the government controls all the lines.

"Since I was in Germany 10 years ago many improvements in speed have been made, 50 miles an hour being the scheduled time for many trains. The express from Berlin to Hamburg made 59 miles an hour all stops included. Government ownership also opens the way for the use of the railway for a social purpose. The general opinion is that the population is too much centralized in the large cities, and by the cheap zone or belt railroad system, soon to be opened in Berlin, workmen may live in the suburbs and work in the city without much expense.

"The government management of the railway finances has also been a brilliant success, surpassing all expectations. In Prussia alone last year, after paying the interest and part of the principal on the bonded debt, there was a surplus of \$25,000,000. The reduction in fares and freights annually amount to an annual distribution of over \$25,000,000. I must also say a word for the high quality of the freight service, which is fully equal to the express traffic in many parts of our country. A trunk can be sent all over Germany with perfect safety and convenience for a mere trifle, while a few cents extra will insure it, and a few cents more guarantee its delivery at a certain hour.

All Profits Are Taxes. New Nation.

All forms of profit in business are taxes upon the people. The profits of a telegraph company are a tax on the transmission of intelligence. The profits of a railroad company, local or interstate, are a tax on transportation, adding just so much to the cost of all articles transported. The profits of the cotton mills are a tax on cotton cloth. The profits of the Standard Oil are a tax on kerosene. The profits of the mine operators and handlers are a tax on coal. In this way we might lengthen out the list indefinitely, for every commodity which is produced and every service which is rendered for profit, is taxed, and thereby raised in expense to the consumer or patron, by the amount of that profit.

Compared with the taxes we thus pay to private persons and corporations in the form of profits, all the taxes which the most extravagant form of government ever collected are but trifling in volume. The taxes which are paid to the government moreover are, as a rule, returned to the people in some form of public service or protection, while the taxes paid to capitalists and corporations are to a large extent squandered by a small class in luxurious living and vain ostentation, which mocks the misery of the masses.

Nationalism proposes to put an end to the taxation of the people in the name and form of profits on commerce and industry. Its plan is that the people shall themselves, through their public agencies, assume the conduct of all forms of business, as they have already assumed many forms, such as the post-office, light-house department, and (in many countries) the telegraphic and railroad services. As of course the people would not seek to make a profit out of themselves, all things they did for themselves would be done in the cheapest possible manner, at cost. In this way the tax called profits, which now enhances the cost of all things, and diverts the fruits of toil to feed the wasteful lusts of a few, would forever be abolished.

There are some excellent people who fancy that they occupy a defensible position in proposing that a few businesses, such as railroads, telegraphs and others should be nationalized, but that the process should stop there, and not be extended to business in general. It is indeed true that those mentioned and some other businesses are already in so highly centralized a form that it is more convenient to bring them immediately under public control than it would be to organize the business in general. That is a good reason for beginning with such businesses, but there is no reason at all for stopping with them. The fact that a business conducted for profit is ground enough for arguing for its public assumption, because that profit, be it large or small is a tax upon the consumer and patron, of which public management would relieve him. As all business conducted by private persons or corporations are necessarily conducted for profit, the conclusion follows that there is no logical stopping place in the process of nationalization of industry short of a

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The Living Soil. Some of my readers may say that this is a strange term to apply to the brown clove which the rude swain writes with his share and trends upon," writes W. E. Massey in the Practical Farmer. They see that living things grow out of this brown soil, and are apparent to the eye, but to comprehend the soil as living, they do not comprehend. But the term may be truly so used. This brown mould on the upper surface of our fields, as far down as cultivation enables the air to penetrate, absolutely swarms with life, both vegetable and animal. In such minute forms that, to the ordinary vision, unaided by a microscope, all seems lifeless. These low forms of life have a wonderful influence upon the fertility of the soil, and on the health of those living upon it. Darwin long ago showed the wonderful amount of work done by the earthworms, which every one can see, but it is only in recent years that the work of the microscopic forms of plant and animal life in the soil has been made apparent. The animal life in the soil is mostly apparent in earthworms, the larvae and pupae of insects, etc., but the unseen forms of vegetable life are infinitely more numerous.

DANGERS OF OPPRESSION. A National Slavery of Both White and Black Toller.

The movement that is agitating the minds of the masses at the present time is one that should interest every American citizen. Their interests as a people and their pride as a nation, are embodied in the principles of the reforms that are now being advocated. Through the chicanery of trusted leaders we have drifted into a condition that is becoming unbearable.

Human nature naturally revolts against oppression, and an inevitable result follows. The dangers to which Lincoln pointed us are here. He, with a far seeing eye, saw the cause, and knew what the effect would be on this nation of people. A few have grasped (as he said they would) and are holding the wealth of this country. If he would come upon the earth to-day he would not only denounce, but would release himself from a party that has become so corrupt.

With his strict sense of justice he could not do otherwise than wish for the emancipation of the masses from the slavery into which they have been thrust. To assist in lifting them out of the pit into which they have been unconsciously cast, he proclaimed the glad news of freedom to an enslaved race; and twenty-five years built an institution of greater magnitude than the enslavement of the colored race. An entire race of toilers and producers, both blacks and whites, are writhing in his shackles.

The colored slaves, although denied their freedom, had no fear of starvation as long as they had masters; but the slaves of to-day embrace the entire population of working people and producers, black and white, and the chances are on each alike.

Now, at this stage of affairs, what do we see? On one side a hideous monster whose name is Avarice, and he sways his rod of gold over the people. With merciless grasp he has seized the results of the toiling masses. On the other hand, we see justice trampled in the dust. Her time-worn garments are wrapt around her form, and she lifts her eyes to heaven in prayer a distant star greets her vision, and throws its gleaming light about her. Hope rekindles in her breast, and faith points to this guiding star, which shall attend her as she guides the wronged, the weary and the hungry through the wilderness. Its light is gleaming into the minds of the masses, and they have discovered the causes of their present dilemma, and are seeking a remedy. They are seeking to dethrone Evil, and secure to themselves, their children and generations to come, the sacred rights earned for them by the blood of our forefathers.

They are seeking for just and equitable laws; laws that will benefit this entire community; and not for a few only; to whom we must bow in awful homage. We are seeking to put down monopolistic rule in all its branches, and have an equal distribution of rights and privileges for the benefit of the entire population. That is what we want, and through enlightenment, and determined unflinching effort, we are going to have it. We are going to dethrone evil and set up a standard of good.

Now we ask those 30,000 owners of this country and their tools; if they expect to run this government forever; and if so, we beg leave to point them to a history of a like nature in the events that have preceded the downfall of empires, ancient and modern, they can read their destiny. Such a state of affairs cannot exist forever, else agriculture would cease and starvation follow.

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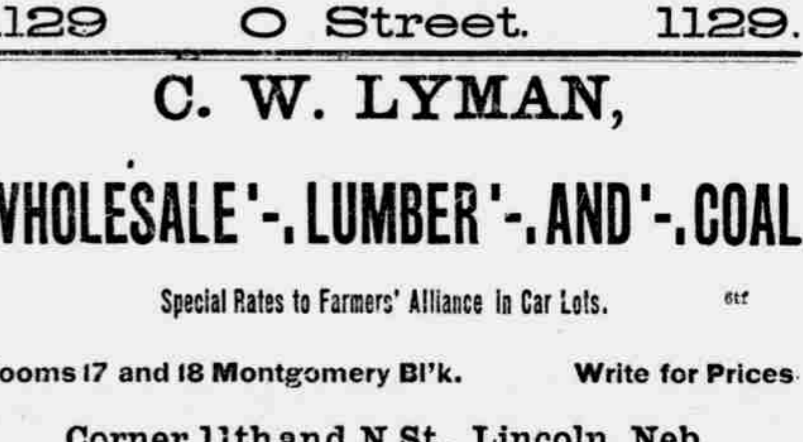
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