

legislation for the purpose of making jobs available; but the only jobs that they are likely to be able to make available will be those office jobs which the people are compelled to support by paying taxes.

Sixty years or so ago, Dr. Max Nordau wrote a book, entitled *Conventional Lies of Our Civilization*, which brought an invitation from his government to leave the country, while the book itself was suppressed. One has only to read his chapter on "The Political Lie" to perceive why. Dr. Nordau wrote a book later on a subject that he knew none too much about; and lost prestige in consequence; but he did know something about politics, and he perceived clearly the iniquity which appertains to much taxation in all lands.

He wrote: "The fiction that the citizens are bondmen . . . has been the foundation for the rights of the State ever since the Middle Ages. . . . This fiction is still accepted in our times; and in the form of Fiscalism we find it prominent in our modern State, with all its constitutionalism and Parliaments, supposed to embody the sovereignty of the people." "When a government is so simple in its construction that every citizen knows all about its purposes, can supervise its work and has a voice in the direction of its energy, then he looks upon the taxes he pays as an expenditure for which he receives direct return. He knows what he is getting. . . . But in the State as at present organized, the taxes are necessarily odious impositions; not only of the enormous expense of running the government machine owing to its defective construction, but also because they are founded upon and surrounded by injustice in every form, due to the historical organization of society and its blundering laws, and principally owing to the fact that the expenditure of the public funds derived from taxation, is regulated by Fiscalism and not by rational common sense for the benefit of the State. . . . Fiscalism does not ask: 'What sacrifices are indispensable to carry on the legitimate and necessary functions of the State,' but 'How can we manage things so as to get the largest possible revenue out of the people?' It does not study and inquire: 'How can we protect best the interests of the individual without allowing the community to suffer by our indulgence?' but 'In what way can we remove drivers get the money of the people with the very least expenditure of mental energy, attention, and consideration of others?' . . . Fiscalism recognizes in us merely slaves of the State. We call ourselves citizens, Fiscalism calls us subjects."

Dr. Nordau also had much to say of the public functionary supported by taxation. "His position," he wrote, "is below that of the head of the State, but it is above that of the masses to be governed. They are the flock, the ruler is the shepherd, and he is the shepherd's dog. He can bark and bite and the sheep must hear it. And what is the most remarkable of all: the sheep do bear it. The average citizen . . . accepts without question the pretensions of the office-holder. He admits his right to command and assumes the duty of obedience upon himself. He comes to the public bureau not as to a place where he could insist upon what was due to him, but as if he had come to beg for a favor."

Abraham Lincoln at Gettysburg called our nation one that had had a "government of the people, by the people, for the people; but time appears to have changed our nation, so that it is now become a nation of the office-holders, by the office-holders, for the office-holders." The persons in office and the persons in the poorhouse are both supported by the taxation of the people. The only difference between them is that those in office

are well cared for, while those in the poorhouse are not.

Charles E. Moore Returns From the Pacific

(See Picture on Cover)

CHARLES E. MOORE, president of the Joshua Hendy Iron Works, founder and active head of Moore Machinery Corporation, and director of the National Association of Manufacturers, has just completed a 42-day mission to major American trans-Pacific bases under War Department auspices. His trip carried him as far as Manila, Okinawa, Tokyo, and Shanghai.

The purpose of his mission, on which he as chairman was accompanied by six other representatives of labor and of industry, was to give enlisted men an honest picture of the employment opportunities that they would find on their return to civilian life.

Speaking before 150,000 men in uniform, the panel members indicated to the soldiers and sailors and marines that there is a great debate now in progress in the United States between the defenders of free enterprise, which Mr. Moore represented, and the union groups who held out the dismal prospect of eight to ten million unemployed by next spring.

Mr. Moore was an outstanding example of the personal value of the free enterprise system, because he developed a sound business from scratch and was able during the war to contribute to his country's defense the immense practical benefits of his knowledge and executive competence.

Privately Owned Power Pool

JAMES B. BLACK, president of the \$900,000,000 Pacific Gas & Electric Company, who, ably supported by his board of directors, has made a remarkable record, is now carrying forward the case for privately owned utilities with definite plans to invest \$30,000,000 a year in expansion of facilities in northern California. With a power pool available 100 per cent greater than Boulder Dam and 60 per cent greater than the Grand Coulee and Bonneville Dams combined, the P. G. & E. is able to finance extensions as fast as the growing population and industry of northern California can use the power. Work has already started on \$3,000,000 extensions in San Francisco, \$10,000,000 in the East Bay, and \$6,000,000 in rural electrification.

Where any manufactured article needed for this expansion can be made and bought locally, P. G. & E. will give preference locally, thus increasing job opportunities not only on its own payroll but throughout the entire western business community.

The performance of the P. G. & E. under the enlightened leadership it has enjoyed, its equitable treatment of approximately 100,000 stockholders and of employees, demonstrates that there is no need in the power business for public ownership. The P. G. & E. has taught thousands of small private investors the satisfaction of receiving steady dividends from an honestly and wisely managed utility. Its employees do not need to cultivate a politician in order to be promoted.

Rising Crime Rate

THE Federal Bureau of Investigation estimates that the crime rate has risen ten to fifteen per cent in recent weeks throughout the United States. In Los Angeles the increase has

been three per cent and the great city of the south feels angelic compared to New York, San Francisco, Boston, Denver, and Chicago. In Detroit the percentage of female offenders has increased 100 per cent. Many offenders in all cities are juveniles; in Boston school vandalism alone has cost \$68,000 this year.

Why view with alarm? Who cares?

Home-Made Peace

NEW YORK STATE reports that on a single day there, 600 young soldiers, returned from the war, filed action for divorce. They did not seem to understand that the nation for which they had fought is essentially a home-made nation. Nor did they realize that in breaking up their homes, they were cutting at the very root of our national life.

Sound homes—little democracies, where people voluntarily agree to live and work together—are the basic units in democracy. Destroy this idea—let home become a little dictatorship, a man's castle, country club or cave, a legalized love nest or a battle-ground for selfish parents and children—let wedlock, for any reason, drift into deadlock soluble only through divorce—and we lose not only the idea behind democracy but any possibility that democracy can work.

Millions of displaced persons and children, homeless, without training or direction, wander through Europe. Suffering and hatred, bereavement and fear shuffle across all the "liberated" lands. Class-room instructions in democracy will not avail if we simply restore their rubble houses. The idea of a sound home must be recovered.

On the first Christmas a home was made in a barn. Too many well furnished homes today have become as chilly as barns through coldness and lack of generous affection.

Strong homes will make strong nations; they will mean a home-made peace and a home-made peace can last.

San Francisco Needs To Be Modernized

SAN FRANCISCO needs to be modernized if it is to meet its opportunities. The war is now over, yet San Francisco retains its gray and dingy appearance. It needs paint; it needs refreshing of thousands of houses; many downtown business buildings are relics of the first building boom after the earthquake and fire. They should be torn down and new buildings erected. It needs slum clearance and the erection of modern apartment houses within walking distance of the main shopping and financial centers, and above all Market Street should have its face lifted. It is the main street of the city which invites the world to come to it, but it is an incongruous street, with an antiquated and dismal appearance.

The most important problem that faces science today is to bring up to date our methods of transmitting and reviewing the mass of research which has accumulated through the years. We have so much knowledge that we are engulfed in a sea of publications in which we flounder. In the age of airplanes we must plow through this in square-rigged ships. We have not employed the inventions that we have to make this easier.—*Fannear Bush.*

When we know how to read our own hearts, we acquire wisdom of the hearts of others.—*Denis Diderot.*

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