

## GOVERNMENT FOR THE PEOPLE

### *Patriotism and Politics*

By DR. HENRY GEORGE III

Since the election defeat which we Democrats received on June 2 I have been asked by many friends whether I will ever run again. Before I answer this question to my friends who read this column I must state my case. Two years ago I had the privilege of running on the Democratic ticket for Mayor because there was no other Democrat who wanted to be soundly beaten at the polls.

That was not my reason for running, but that was the reason why my party permitted me to run. I was politically unknown and untied. I was no politician and did not aspire to be a politician, but I did feel strongly that many social iniquities needed to be corrected, and it was to publically voice my protest at the cynicism of the rank and file politicians and the indifference of the public that I made the fight.

This time I sought the opportunity because I honestly felt that whether I won or lost I could champion the causes in which I believe, and that the few hundred dollars that I individually would be called upon to spend, and the time and effort dedicated to the campaign could be utilized in no better way.

My friends have repeatedly told me that I would be beaten, and that the public would be indifferent and unready for my ideas. They were quite correct, but I had the privilege of championing decent things, in which I believe.

#### WILL I EVER RUN AGAIN?

I lay my services to liberalism, and will strive in so far as I am able to support those causes, and the candidates who may represent them.

I do not propose to seek office save where I feel my services will best advance the cause by my making the personal issue.

As other men advance the common cause I will support them, and when I feel that they have deserted the common interest for the private interest then I shall stand against them with everything in my power.

I do not consider the election a defeat, for in advancing principles, ideas are engendered which survive the tides of politics and chance. We have an administration whose political platform for two successive campaigns was "We will make no Promises." What a pity it is when campaigns are conducted on the basis of making or not making promises. It is not promises that the public needs to have, but principles, that are openly stated, principles on which men are prepared to stake their futures.

I have been told by many friends that my views are those of a "wild eyed radical" — that they can never be put into effect — and that by stating them I only offend those who might help me. I beg to differ. It is not individual support that any of us need or want, but common interest in a worthy cause. If individually I may be one brick in the edifice of social betterment, whether that brick be a foundation piece or the capstone, then politically I have accomplished what I set out to do.

**For then politics is forgotten in the greater service of patriotism, the love of country, the supporting and upholding of our institutions, the defense of popular liberty!**

It does not matter whether I ever run again, save that by my effort other men, honest men, who would like to see government in the hands of the people, and an expressive instrument of liberty will join in the long fight that lies ahead.

To that fight I dedicate myself; alone if need be.