

Mr. Wrights of that day were advocating better education of the negro, gentler conduct by their overseers, even a little religion of the expurgated sort. The Ingersolls of that day saw no hope for the negro or for the white but through the total abolition of chattel slavery. Both Capital and Labor are subject to humiliating relations of subserviency to the relatively small group who, through our absurd and iniquitous fiscal laws, hold and exploit all access to American soil. Perhaps the closer intercourse between Capital and Labor, which is urged by Mr. Wright, may bring to both the realization of their common enemy, the cause of their own difficulties and distress. Let us hope so. As yet, however, we see very little fruits of the larger understanding from these internal adjustments in some of our larger industrial concerns. We shall welcome them when we find them. In the meantime, we trust that the leaders of the industrial conciliation movement are under no illusion regarding the efficacy of their various devices. Their little umbrella may keep a dry spot for a while, but is of no avail against the gathering storm and deluge. The ostrich's vain hope of escaping the whirlwind by hiding its head in the cosy comfort of the sand is typical of this hurrying of our big business to the cover of such frail little devices as profit-sharing, united industrial committees, etc. We expect better things from the leaders of big business.

IN its issue of Jan. 4, 1920, the *N. Y. Times* thus refers to a report recently made by Dr. W. S. Rankin, at a meeting of the American Public Health Association:

"He said that of the 110,000,000 citizens of this country, 45,000,000 are physically imperfect; 15,000,000 die annually; 3,000,000 are in bed all the time; 1,000,000 have tuberculosis, and from 2,000,000 to 3,000,000 have hookworm and malaria. Only 37,500,000 are fairly healthy and 19,500,000 in full vigor. With all our vaunted support of higher educational institutions, it is interesting, perhaps surprising, to find that there are more persons in the insane asylums in this country than in all the colleges and universities. It is also estimated that the former cost more to maintain than do the latter.

These figures offer a strong argument for a National Department of Public Health, he said, with extensive organization and personnel, that will have among its duties those of building up the health of the people of the country. Such a department could accelerate and support to a marked degree the work already undertaken by the State and other local departments, and by such organizations as the Rockefeller Foundation."

It will occur to an increasing number of thoughtful citizens, that the deplorable situation denounced by Dr. Rankin needs for its cure something more than the creation of a new bureaucratic machine. Poverty and economic injustice are the source of most of our social mal-formations.

IT is very gratifying news that Mr. James A. Robinson, National Organizer of the Single Tax Party, sends us from the Southwest. Missouri is organized; a representative State Committee composed of some of the finest of the "Old Guard" of that State are in control, as will be seen by reference to our news columns.

What Will Zionism Bring Forth?

FROM a belated report of the proceedings of the annual meeting of the Zionist Organization of America, held at Chicago in September last, we have pleasure in reproducing a significant paragraph or two from a message sent to the Convention by Dr. Max Nordau. It is a strong document, clear in its message and high in its purpose. Dr. Nordau defines five objects which he urges the Zionist Organization to strive for. The fourth object in the list is the land problem. It reads as follows:

"4 All the land in Palestine that has belonged to the late Turkish Government must be made over to the new occupants, but shall remain the perpetual and inalienable property of the Jewish nation, and proportioned to individual occupiers only on a system of a renewable emphytheusis, in accordance with our wonderfully prophetic law of Moses of the Sabbath and Jubilee Year, which Rivadavia practically in the Argentine, and Henry George theoretically in North America, have tried to modernize."

"You American Jews have behaved wonderfully in these horrible years of war and ruin. You have given lavishly your millions. You have shrunk from no sacrifice. You have realized works of solidarity, unparalleled in history. This will be recorded forever in our annals and remain your eternal glory. But money is not everything. We now ask of you, and expect from you, that you will make a new and far more decisive effort to act efficiently in the direction of the five points I venture to submit to you."

The conspicuous part already played by the Jewish people in the history of the world, their fidelity to their race and its traditions, gives exceptional importance to every step taken toward their resurrection as a nation. It is inconceivable that, at such a time, such a virile people, disciplined in adversity and inspired by high, intense ideals, should defraud the world's expectation. That, indeed, would be the Great Betrayal.

Absentee Ownership— An Increasing Problem

UNDER the above title, the *Weekly News Letter* of the U. S. Department of Agriculture of Dec. 31, 1919, contains a report by David F. Houston, Secretary of the Department. He says:

"Land, however, is peculiarly important to all the people, and the welfare and prosperity of the community, as well as its economic and social progress, depend so vitally on its use and the relationship of the population to it that serious thought must be given to the problem of limiting absentee ownership."

Beyond lamenting the abuse of the Federal farm loan system by speculators, Mr. Houston makes no suggestion