A LETTER TO YOUTH

Dear Youth

Recently the Press appealed to you as the 'saviours of civilization", that appeal has been changed you are now being urged to become a Fascist; your attention is directed to Italy and Germany for you to note that they have solved their unemployed problem, and that they have a new society. Both are deliberate distortions of the truth. In Italy the unemployed have increased and capitalism still persists; but there has been a change which was so graphically described by a traveller in one phrase "the trains keep time and the people starve".

Both in Italy and Germany civilization has been thrown back hundreds of years, we see millions of people suppressed by mentally unbalanced creatures. Goering, the head of the police, has three times been placed under restraint, and in one asylum he had to be placed under physical control. Colleges, libraries containing valuable collections of books, and other centres of culture for the people have been closed down, the property confiscated, and in many cases destroyed; individual liberty and freedom of speech are no more. Mentally degenerate Fascists have resorted to unnatural and barbaric acts that are a blot on human nature.

Here we have Sir Oswald Mosley surrounded with a bodyguard equipped with knuckledusters and similar "sportsmanlike" implements, Mosley himself boasts of his machine guns, and had his name been. "Tom Mann" he would have been given two years for his threat, but Mosley is a member of the "cultured classes".

You are told that, this mad state of society is the aftermath of the war, history proves this is not, true. It is the result of the "ruling of man by man" this being unnatural the results must be unnatural. Ruling of man by man is an outgrowth of primitive religion, it dates back to the far off time when man in his ignorance mistook the forces of nature, wind, storms, thunder and lightening, as the voices of invisible spirits. Gradually the medicine man evolved who in time became a chief Later as they grew in numbers there commenced a war between them for supremacy and that conflict has continued to the present day, with terrible results for the people. Wars between clans and tribes were also an outcome of these magicians blunders, for when their statements, prophesies or prayers failed they blamed the neighbouring peoples. War is unnatural; no normal person desires to kill. Nationalism is an outgrowth of war; the history of mankind proves beyond question that all wars have been generated by 'rulers''. When England was ruled by Barons there was continual warfare between them but when the Barons lost their power those wars ceased. Nations are the same, one nation does not desire to war on another until their hatred and passions have been inflamed by governments, diplomats and the press.

Before war can be abolished we must cease to elect rulers; get control of the means of life, and establish an administrative system, where the people will make what few laws they need, and select those with administrative ability to carry them out.

Newspapers draw your attention to the shortage of money, and say that inflation will remedy the ills of society, another red herring! America has enormous gold reserves yet went bankrupt. After the war Germany had so much money that marks were forty a penny. Now these same Germans are blaming the Jews. Let us see. Not so many years ago we had a Dr Palmer known as "Palmer the poisoner; His crime came through borrowing money. When payment was due, he invited the moneylender to dine with him then poisoned him.

The Fascist Jew baiter is the modern Palmer.

Dr. Palmer was hanged !

A Jew's religion forbids him marrying with another kind of religious person; this has naturally prejudiced other peoples against him. He was refused citizenship not allowed to own land etc; these conditions forced him to become a shopkeeper or trader in some direction or other, hence the Jews have evolved into naturally keen business men enabling them to get control of large sums of money and accumulations of wealth. Other business men the world over have become their debtors and for many years capitalists have hated the Jews because of this but have used religious fanaticism to cover the real object for "Jew baiting" but the Fascist applies no such screen to his Jew baiting he just kills or robs him.

You have two paths open to you, one on the side of the ruling classes, that section of the people which has brought us to the present "mad phase" the like of which there is no historical parallel.

This path is the one that leads to Fascism that is, Barbarism; and if you become sufficiently degenerate, outdo the brutes in brutality, the beasts in bestiality become a torturer and brander of women, you may, if you are a member of the working class, become one of Mosley's bodyguard, but if of the "cultured classes" you may become one of his chiefs.

The other path leads to human brotherhood; by taking this path you will receive very faint praise from the cultured classes, and a good many sneers from your fellow workers; but you will live a life worthy of man. Over the gateway to this path a single word will be seen which symbolises the object man has been seeking for thousands of years that word is "Liberty" to travel this path you need a new vision of life, a vision of life based on mutual aid and having for its moral code the Golden Rule "Each may do as he pleases providing he does not interfere with the liberty of others", and for its economic basis "From each according to his ability and to each according to his needs".

The money system has failed, all capitalist countries are unable to meet their obligations or supply the needs of the people. But no government will reorganise society governments are elected to maintain the existing system the political being the reflex of the economic, hence so long as man is content to continue the present money system so long will a government be needed to keep the people in subjection.

Many people beside myself have for long considered that America would be the first to start the economic change; that opinion seems to be coming true, for in America two million people have formed "pools" for the purpose of exchanging goods without the use of money In this country there are several oganisations who have been organising relief works, but none have a desire for an economic change. One of these has adopted the right title "The Production For Use League" thus creating the correct psychological atmosphere.

These centres have been started in the towns, this is obviously the wrong place, food being the first need: but there are many smallholders who would be willing to co-operate with town dwellers: hikers, bikers and those with other means of transport could do the needed propaganda and cartage.

The reorganisation of society can be commenced at once by the unemployed assisted by those who are in work; this should also appeal to war resisters and those who desire to avoid making war material, pensioners or those retiring could be of great assistance.

Since the war seven hundred million pounds have been spent on relief, yet unemployment has increased; had this amount been spent on equipping self-supporting holdings or colonies one million families would by now be supporting themselves plus giving work to another million in the towns.

Ever since the magicians gained the leadership of the tribes or clans, man has gradually degenerated into a subjective mentality, always crying for someone to do something for him, he is so willing to elect a delegate on whom he can thrust his responsibility. If you wish to regain your freedom then you must cease to elect leaders, and get on with the job yourselves.

U.S.A. was peopled by pioneers from all parts of the world, these were from the so called common people, yet what have they not achieved. The common people again are the pioneers for they have commenced to establish a new system. In Newllano they have a colony of 500 people living happily without the use of money, they make their own free agreements, without bosses.

The common people in Palestine have gone even further for they have over forty small communes all living by common agreement.

Our advice to you is therefore, that you cease to go cap in hand begging for the crumbs from the rich man's table, shoulder your own responsibilities, go out and seek the co-operation and mutual aid of those who can assist you and so help to establish the co-operative commonwealth. J. Humphrey

Reprinted from FREEDOM By The International League Of Peoples At 2 Malden Crescent, Chalk Farm, London, N. W. 1.

A JOURNAL OF LIBERTARIAN THOUGHT, WORK AND LITERATURE.

Monthly one penny twelve months 1/6 post-free

AN APPEAL TO THE YOUNG By Peter Kropotkin. Price 2d By Post 24d

Donations Invited To Publications Fund. Fund. Orders To The HON. TREASURER. 2. MALDEN CRESCENT, LONDON, N.W.1