

ernment of Denma. < have conclusively proved to the world that the cost of living can be reduced and kept down to a minimum by cutting out the middlemen who live as parasites on the rest of society and by putting the railroads and banks, packing houses and cold storage and markets under public control and operation. And until Canada does the same we shall never have anything but high prices, profiteering, industrial strife and social unrest.

You may say that such a scheme of things is impossible. But I answer No! It is not only possible but it is absolutely imperative and, above all, it is Christian. If the society of the future is still to be based on the present system of profits for those who can squeeze them out of their fellows instead of on service for the good of all, then we have no business to call ourselves a Christian people. The present system is fundamentally opposed to the teaching and principles of Jesus Christ.

Emile de Laveleye, the Belgian economist, was perfectly right when he said, "If Christianity were taught and understood conformably to the spirit of its Founder the existing social organism could not last a day." And James Russell Lowell was also right when he said, "There is dynamite enough in the New Testament, if illegitimately applied; to blow all our existing institutions to atoms." "If a man wants to be a Christian he must stand over against things as they are and condemn them in the name of that higher conception of life which Jesus revealed. If a man is satisfied with things as they are he belongs to the other side." We do not want "to blow all our existing institutions to atoms," but we do want to remould every one of them. And they must be remoulded according to the pattern laid down by Christ. He did not bow down and worship "the god of things as they are." He did not accept the social customs and conditions of His day as final. He did not revere the man of wealth or the man who bossed the rest of his neighbors. He flung the grafters out of the temple. He declared that the man who would rule should be the servant of others. He repudiated self-interest as the motive of life. He demanded brotherhood in all its relations. He insisted on love as the compelling motive to all conduct. Not profits and gain, but service and sacrifice must rule men's lives in the Kingdom of Christ. There is no room for the profiteer nor the millionaire in that Kingdom, for no man can rob his neighbor, nor cheat his customer, nor seek his own interest when he loves his neighbor as himself and follows the Christ who lived and toiled and died for humanity.

The high cost of living will no more be a problem, and the business system that exploits the hunger and thirst of the people will disappear from the earth for ever, when World-service becomes the standard of all the nations, World-love their motive and World-brotherhood their goal.