

nishes a product that can not, for instance, stand the light of free speech, a free press, and free assembly?

75. Denial of Rights Dangerous: Our present governments are compelled to deny these rights for the very reason that they have not functioned properly and have not truly represented the people's interests, but have more frequently represented "the" people, which "the" is usually spelled with capital letters. It is idle to talk of what we will do to the submerged minorities when, driven to desperation, they apply "direct action" and rebellion stalks abroad in the land. Our own British ancestors have accomplished too many non-pacifist revolutions,—and revolutions are but successful rebellions,—for us to be confident that in this generation we can, if we tarry too long, prevent a change in government from coming that way.

76. The Way Changes are Made: There are only two ways in which changes in government are accomplished. Either they are evolved through constitutional means, by the government responding to the needs of the people—which is the intelligent way; or, if the government is not sufficiently representative and pliable to change with the needs of the people, and retards the necessary progress, then the change comes about by violent means—revolution—the unintelligent way, that always exacts its full penalty of human misery.

77. Real Patriots Must Act: We hear much talk these days of "patriots" and "traitors." Whenever I hear a man use these words, I always ask myself, "Patriotic to what?" "A traitor to what?" For myself, I am unwilling to be a "patriot" to the profiteers, and I am perfectly willing to be a "traitor" to them. Real patriotism consists in earnestly desiring and being willing to fight for the good of one's country, even to the extent, as has been the case many times in past history, of being willing to overthrow, violently if necessary, a "traitorous" government.

78. Lincoln on Governments: In this connection it might be well for some of our self-styled "patriots" who, to my mind, are the worst enemies of good government in the country, to remember that the great and genuine American patriot, Abraham Lincoln, in his first inaugural address, said: "This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing government, they can exercise their constitutional right of amending it or their revolutionary right to dismember or overthrow it."

79. Dissatisfaction a Healthy Sign: It should be noted, I think, that Lincoln spoke of the people who "inhabit" the country; not merely the people who "own" it politically and otherwise. I do not believe this great man was ever heard to say: "Well, if they don't like our institutions, let them get out." He himself did not like the institution of chattel slavery, but, instead of getting out of the country, he remained to sign the Emancipation Proclamation. Dissatisfaction,