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Party Government vs. the New Era

IV.

(By Fag.)

THE object of Plato in his "Republic" was to arrive at what is good for the individual through the medium of what is good for the State. This theory, when put into practice by those whose interest it is to misinterpret it, may possibly lend itself to subterfuge and equivocation. On the other hand Aristotle in his "Politics" supported the converse of this idea and made the good of the individual the basic factor in achieving what is good for the State. Whether or not the welfare of the individual has been served by the statecraft of our rulers in the past may be gleaned from a sober contemplation of recent world events, and thus the mind may arrive at a just conclusion as to the choice to be made between these two allied but somewhat conflicting theories of government.

As noted at the conclusion of the June instalment of these articles, the present contribution will attempt to lay down a platform for the guidance of the members elect of an independent, non-partisan group of members of the Canadian House of Commons. The profundity and the prolixity of such a subject bring to mind two features which require a passing observation. The first is that even a perfunctory and inadequate platform of ideas and ideals strongly emphasizes to what extent the individual has been neglected in the Canadian State. The second feature is the impossibility of embracing within the limits of a magazine anything like a comprehensive survey of the improvements that must be added to the four systems into which the operation of Government are mainly divided,

i. e. The Political, The Economic, The Educational, and The Social. Notwithstanding all the limitations, a serious attempt will now be made to carry out this ambitious design. Ideas that have already received more or less attention in the press and elsewhere will be omitted or given only passing attention, and emphasis

visible and spectacular and demanded immediate and drastic action. Our boys who offered their lives and sacrificed their health, and the dependents of those who gave their lives, must receive all they need and a little more.

As of vast general significance, a reference and a record must here be made of

the platform of the Independent Labor Party of the United Kingdom, known as the "New Social Order." All men and women who desire to chart the cross currents and eddies of world movements should procure a copy of this article of faith for preservation upon a convenient library shelf.

The principles hereafter set down as a possible basis for a platform of our non-partisan league for Canada do not distinguish between controversial and non-controversial subjects. For instance, prohibition and woman suffrage and single tax may be controversial. They are nevertheless incorporated in this programme for purposes of discussion. Any of them may be eliminated in the interest of harmony and good will in accordance with the principles laid

down in the June contribution of this series of articles.

THE SECRET OF SUCCESS is this: There is no secret of success. ¶ Carry your chin in and the crown of your head high. We are gods in the chrysalis. Success is the result of mental attitude, and the right mental attitude will bring success in everything you undertake. ¶ In fact there is no such thing as failure, except to those who accept and believe in failure. The man who fills a position of honour and trust has first filled many smaller positions of trust. The man who has the superintendence of ten thousand men has had the charge of many small squads. ¶ And before he had charge of a small squad he had charge of himself. ¶ The man who does his work so well that he needs no supervision has already succeeded. And the acknowledgment of his success is sure to follow in the form of a promotion. ¶ The world wants its work done, and civilization is simply a search for men who can do things.—ELBERT HUBBARD.

will be laid upon those ideas which in the past bureaucracy has suppressed or prudence has concealed.

In General Terms

Provision for the returned soldier and for his dependents must be first of all established as the paramount solicitude on the part of the State.

Systems almost as bad as the German system exist in other countries of the world but the German menace was at once

THE PLATFORM POLITICAL

(1) Proportional Representation.

If Proportional Representation were an accomplished fact, it might be unnecessary to further pursue the subject of political reform. For under P. R. all the people would be represented and all the people would get what they desire and deserve.