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The Homestead; A Withholding Action

Protest is popular these days — protest against poverty, exploitation and war. Letters to editors and officials criticize government and leaders. Civil rights marches, sit-ins, peace walks all show that people are worried, frightened and aroused by the destructive trends all around us.

How effective is this protest? If "action speaks louder than words" then one can say that going to Washington, D. C., joining a crowd at the Pentagon, seeking an audience with a government official, is "action." But what actual changes in the life of the actors, in the economic system that produces war, or in one's relationships have occurred as a result of these "actions"? In the last analysis, such "action" is just another form of expressing or trying to shape opinion. More dramatic of course than writing a letter, but still in the area of propaganda.

A more potent protest is boycott, withdrawal, or non-participation in the process or system that causes exploitation and war. Those who refuse to pay taxes for the support of war are in this class. A late report indicates 1,000 persons refuse such taxes. A great many more arrange an income below the taxable level. They are withdrawing from, not participating in, and boycotting, as far as possible, the causes of the evils they abhor.

How do you see your homestead, or the homestead you seek, in this regard?

In general, most people prefer a "positive" approach. For years the School of Living has been presenting the homestead as a source of independence, security, creative living. Thirty years ago, people rated Ralph Borsodi's terms too "negative" (*This Ugly Civilization, Flight from the City*, etc.). But in reality he saw further and deeper than most. Today more people are readier to see the homestead as a protest, a withholding action in relation to the over-riding trends of the time.

Health Independence

For years many have seen the homestead as a way to withdraw to health independence. They could withdraw from chemicalized soil, poison sprays and devitalized food the way they preferred. It was their way of non-participating with the medical, hospital and drug cures to which they did not want to submit.

Now that Medicare has been jubilantly signed into law under a many-penned ritual by a former and current president, the pressure of hospitalized care is greater than ever. In many hospitals each patient and his relatives sign a contract that permits the hospital to do whatever is "necessary," without consultation with the patient. This means that any drug, any operation, any treatment can be administered and the patient is helpless.

One must admit that in case of accident or unavoidable surgery, some hospital care warrants the admiration accorded it. But in general, let us regard the homestead as a preferable way out — a withholding action, a way to self-determination of health, longevity and self-control of the manner in which we both live and die.

In the next few months we hope to develop the withholding aspects of the homestead way of life. We welcome articles and letters giving *your* ideas and experience.

Vaccination: A Threat To Health

"Smallpox, diphtheria, typhoid and other diseases declined to the vanishing point when sanitation and nutrition measures were promoted. . . . During my 20 years of research, I have uncovered data showing that our government, medical and military authorities know that vaccination has killed and crippled thousands, but the facts have been suppressed. . . . All vaccines are highly toxic (poison). The sales propaganda promises immunity by supposedly creating antibodies which are claimed to combat germs. This is a false theory that has not worked out in practice.

"The Office of Vital Statistics at Washington (1949-51) reported 33 deaths from vaccination; only 3 deaths from smallpox. Thomas Morgan, researcher, reported, "During the past 5 years we have collected from the newspapers over 500 cases of injury and death from vaccination." The *Boston Herald* listed names and addresses of 47 soldiers who were killed by vaccination in only one month of army life. . . . The rigid compulsory vaccination law in the English army was abolished in 1958 when the many expensive damage suits against the government made it manda-

tory. Before abolishing vaccination over 1,000 infants developed syphilis in just one year, after smallpox shots.

"Amendment IV to the U. S. Constitution guarantees the right of people to be secure in their persons. Therefore, all states, schools, hospitals, business firms, military units, or others who require vaccination of anyone are violating the Constitution of the U. S."—quotes from Dr. Eleanor McBean's Open Letter to California Governor, in January 1965 *Herald of Health*.

"I have very little faith in vaccination even as modifying the disease and none at all as a protective in virulent epidemics."—Dr. R. Hall Bakewell, formerly Vaccinator General and M.O.H. for Trinidad.

"The most common source for the vaccine is the pustule of someone who has died from smallpox. It is nonsense to think that you can inject pus into a little child and in any way improve its health. What is true of vaccination is exactly true of all forms of serum immunization, so called. There is no such thing as immunization. . . . The body has its own methods of defense. These depend upon the vitality of the body. If it is vital enough

Letters to the Editor

Seeks Partner in Nursery

To the Editor:

I made a great decision last summer — to start a nursery specializing in California native plants. I rented some land here for a year to try it out. Now I sense the need to work with someone. Hopefully that someone is experimenting and growing as a person as well as with plants. Do you know any creative plantsman—with an interest in natives, conservation, plants for biological control, who needs extra hands and more capital—which I have. (This might mean my going some place else, or persuading someone to come here.) Or, do you know of someone who is searching for a location for a nursery in a small community? I am still very much interested in community. Feel that life is relationships. I have always thought a vocation important, as a means of sharing oneself, which is one reason I'm so delighted to have been chosen by the world of plants. This is wonderful, wild country, full of healing herbs and old-time people who know about them.—Patricia Herron, Box 453, Lakeport, Calif.

Small Community Or Change the World

To the Editor:

I would like to live in a community where authoritarianism and dogmatism are non-existent, and where there is a non-competitive upbringing of children. I have often thought of life in such a community. But have been busy in the futile task of changing the destructive trends in our country. I now realize that this is akin to absurdity. . . . I reject and detest industrialism with all its life-sapping "conveniences." I would very much like to have addresses of any who are interested in founding a non-religious, non-political and non-industrial community.—Jon Stickle, 514 E. Johnson St., Madison, Wis.

Reform American Scene?

To the Editor:

Glad to see that School of Living is somewhat anarchist, decentralist and seeking and probing. Sounds like a living School of Living. Too many think they have found the answers, and are afraid to be non-dogmatic. To search can be a way of life in itself! What do you think of the chances of reforming the American scene? I sometimes feel like working for it like mad, and then I get to feel that it's so futile.—L. G., Camp Robinson, Crusoe, Mass.

Call For Organic Producers

To the Editor:

San Bernardino has 150,000 people. So far as we know there is just one over-worked, elderly couple who raise and sell non-sprayed, organic foods here. Many desiring such food have to drive to Riverside, Escondido or Los Angeles. . . . Organic farmers can dispose of their produce in health food shops. In areas where the soil is too poor for immediate growing, customers can form cooperative buying clubs; members pay in a fee, which is used for food-buying trips to stock their "store," where others

News From Allies

(Note: The concept we call "green revolution" is a broad one, including all groups which, as Henry Beston said, encourage the family and its responsibilities, the community and its obligations, and our universal but neglected duty to the earth. In our journal, *The Green Revolution*,

it will resist all infections; if it isn't vital enough, it won't, and you can't change the vitality of the body for the better by introducing poison of any kind into it." From an address by Dr. W. H. Hay, Pocono, Pa., on June 25, 1937 before the Medical Freedom Society.

come to select and buy. Volunteers can operate the store, package fruit, nuts, etc. . . . Individuals or single families cannot successfully oppose spraying, fluoridation, etc. But groups can be effective against such regulations. . . . I hope your green revolution will spread. Send me copies of your paper for distribution to shop customers. — Mrs. De Mayola, Box 2853, San Bernardino, Calif.

Commercial Farming Errors

To the Editor:

A single large grower-packer-shipper in Los Banos is bringing in 1,000 Texas women to work in the tomato harvest. I wonder about their husbands and babies. The women are here to replace lost braceros. The federal government is aiding and abetting this family breakdown by providing child care centers in some places for women working in the fields.—Paul Marks, Los Banos, Calif.

Differ on Interchange

To the Editor:

I was very much impressed with your description of Interchange. Can you refer me to more literature on it? — Stuart Levine, 33 62nd St., West New York, N. J.

(Write to Miles Roberts, Rt. 2, Villisca, Iowa.—Editor)

To the Editor:

"Interchange," a new system? . . . God save the world from the superficial and the naive. If I thought you were, in fact, serious, this letter wouldn't be written, because I wouldn't, then, think you were mature enough to comprehend its contents.

Your "new" system is as new as the current crop of people needing the approbation of what they regard as infallible leadership. As well as those who still regard money as a value in itself and seek to simply change its mode from easily convertible certificate to credit of very limited acceptability for reasons unknown to me.

I am reasonably certain your more educated devotees have discerned the elementary psychological and economic principles that prevent interchange, per se, from being more than the mail-order pen pal club which it is.—J. E. Work, Framingham, Mass.

Nature and Neurosis

To the Editor:

Many "neurotic" persons are victims of circumstances beyond their control. To look upon congested urban life as something to escape from on weekends (permanently when retired) is the essence, I believe, of mental health. To hoe onions, live on a raft in the wilds, or join a gypsy band may cure neurosis because such escapees are no longer driven to desperation by daily experience and news of our bankrupt way of life under machines. It is one thing to support government killing of peoples across oceans; it is a completely different thing to avoid earning enough to be taxed by politicians chosen and sponsored by the weapon-makers. — Gus Goltz, 1517 N. 27th St., Milwaukee, Wis.

(Editor's Note: We do well to be aware that often our personal,

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inner pressure (from a mistaken goal of approval of others rather than self-acceptance) is felt as outer pressure from our environment. This concept is well developed in the book, *Normal Neurosis*, Chap. 13, "Under Pressure."—M.J.L.)

Oregon-Washington Group

To the Editor:

We had our much-anticipated Green Revolution Weekend here over July 4. We'll send a report when more evaluations have come in. Jean and John Rouse of Renton, Wash., Abe and Betty Bialostosky of Gresham, Ore., and Eleanor Woods have already sent theirs to us. We'll duplicate our report and send it to anyone interested.—Nina Johnson, Rt. 1, Box 247, Newberg, Ore.

Young People Report

To the Editor:

We certainly enjoyed the June Youth Rally at Old Mill, and would have liked to accept the interesting and profitable offer that Bill Anacker made for us to stay on there. But we were eager to start building our life in Oregon. . . . I've gotten a job in a lumber mill; we planted a small garden; we have hints of 80 acres of land hidden in the forest for about \$2,000. This would be great for a community base. The country here is unpopulated and very beautiful and I believe is fulfilling our desires well. We are living with a group of four Ohio State couples in rented houses. As we become more settled we'll try to get in touch with persons interested in homesteading and communities, out here.—Steve & Sue Frankhouser, Star Route 1, Westlake, Ore.

To the Editor:

We have the use of the Robert and Ann Stowell 10-acre place in Cabot, Vt., on which we hope to build next spring. We shall eventually have a school where love and freedom will be the basis of our functioning. Both my husband and I are still attending Goddard College, but our homestead-school is in the making. We shall be hitch-hiking around and across the country during September and October and would appreciate suggestions on where, what and who we might contact during our travels. — Juanita Restuccia Kyle, Stony Brook Rd., Norwalk, Conn.

Country Life Movement

To the Editor:

Evidently you had a very encouraging week in Maryland in July. Active interest is developing on several fronts here in New Hampshire. Friends at the Uni-

(continued on page 3)

Each Reader Find A Reader

The growth and outreach of School of Living and The Green Revolution depends, of course, on our members and readers. The editorial, administrative, secretarial, and homestead duties of Mrs. Loomis leave little time for her to do "promotion." If each reader will send addresses for sample copies, and make a special effort to secure one or more new readers we will make satisfactory progress. Extra sample copies are available for YOU to mail or give to prospects in your area. Order some today.