

(Idaho Falls3*

these, and raise barriers against their development when the nation needs them, is not true conservation; it is rather the policy of the miser who hoards his wealth with no conception of making it serviceable to himself or to the society which enabled him to possess it. We will always oppose monopolies and special privileges in these natural resources. We are committed to the program of making these resources serve the man of moderate means, the home-builder, the worker, the producer. Within these limitations upon free opportunity, we must cling to policies which shall envisage the fullest, the broadest, the most **generous** and intelligent utilization of these tremendous possibilities.

One of the most engrossing problems of our time, confronting all countries and all societies, is the exorbitant cost of living. We ~~realize~~ realize that the real producer, under our elaborate and costly system of distribution, is not permitted a fair share of his product for his own use and enjoyment. We have become convinced that somehow our system of distribution has grown too cumbersome, too costly, too complex, too indirect, too unrelated to the interests of real producer and legitimate consumer. We must find methods to take up as much as possible of the slack in the long line between producer and consumer; to give the producer a better share in that which he furnishes to the community, and to enable the consumer to meet his requirements at reasonable cost.

To this end many experiments have been made in cooperative production, transportation, distribution, and purchasing. To a great extent, these experiments have proceeded from the enterprise and initiative of the western people, to whom these problems have presented themselves with especial insistence. But for the spirit of cooperation, the willingness to be mutually helpful, the determination to give first