

January 17, 1933

Dear Mr. Deputy:

Certainly I am using the word "Plan" in the present tense and if you did me the honor to read the first of these articles in The Cosmopolitan you will see what I mean by it. The Plan is the one that the Constitution of the United States, under which we still are operating, lays out for us - the Plan intended to give us the largest possible opportunity for working out our individual bents. The fact that we have abused our liberties and are at the present moment in serious confusion does not change the fact that we are still operating or trying to under this Plan.

It may be that our scheme of Government supposes too large a degree of self-respect, of willingness to labor and sacrifice if necessary in order to preserve freedom of action. Certainly at the moment a great number of people seem willing to shirk responsibility and are crying for some kind of mechanism which will make everything safe and easy for them.

What I am trying to do in these articles is to show that in spite of the general confusion efforts are being made all over the country by industrial groups to work out the technique for co-operation, of self-correction, of education, as well as to get at the causes of our depression.

What we need today, each of us, difficult and almost impossible as it may seem in many cases, is to find out what is sound, worthwhile, in our environment, and back that. I see a great deal more hope for a stable recovery in the continued operation of healthy units than from dictatorship whether centered in a man or oligarchy.

We must remember that no Plan can do away with that large percentage of people who are looking for somebody

to take care of them, make things easy for them, nor with those whose greed is so strong that they will swindle their neighbors, steal, abuse the law, gamble, nor can any Plan prevent people whining when trouble comes. But look over this country today and you will find that the great mass of the people, even those in very dire distress, are not whining; they are tightening up their belts and putting their hands to any job within their reach. As I see it that is the only sure hope as long as we try to operate under what I call the American Plan.

Very truly yours

Mr. F. R. Deputy
Newark, New Jersey