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To All Friends of Peace:

Always far ahead of his time, but keen to sense the direction of social evolution, Scott Nearing twenty years ago came to realize that only in worldwide unity of the human race does there lie any hope of putting an end to war.

Since that time he has worked tirelessly on the problem, here and abroad, reading, discussing, studying plans and proposals for bringing the nations and races into harmonious relations.

Four times he drafted his conclusions and as many times put the manuscript aside in favor of a new approach.

The final result of these twenty years of research and writing was issued in the fall of 1944 under the title, "United World." Published modestly, without fanfare, it quietly made its way among serious thinkers, winning respect and earnest approval from all who read it.

A new and much larger printing has now been issued to meet the steady demand. It is commended to the attention of all who desire to help bring peace to a blood-stained and war-torn world. They can render no better service to the cause of lasting peace than to make this book as widely known as possible.

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SCOTT NEARING'S MASTERPIECE

By Dr. John T. Miller

HORACE MANN, America's greatest educator and the father of our public schools, said that George Combe's *Constitution of Man* is the greatest book that has been written for centuries. I predict that progressive teachers and students of sociology will see in Scott Nearing's *United World* the most helpful book on human relations that has been written. If it were given its proper place, it would be the leader among the best-sellers for some time.

Before World War I, Dr. Nearing's books on human culture were most popular in the schools of America but, when he began defending the rights of the masses, the profiteers fought him. He has been true to his conscience and has paid the penalty that all come-outers have to pay. I attended his class in sociology and economics years ago and was very much pleased with his work. His book, *The American Empire*, made a deep impression on my mind.

Last year we reviewed Scott Nearing's *Democracy Is Not Enough* and found it a book that everybody should study. His *United World* is the best survey of past, and plan for future human relationships that I have ever read, and I have read at least 1000 books on that subject.

The key to the first part of *United World* is, "Unity—not victory—is the first condition of world peace. People who want wars to end must get together."

The title of Part Two is "The World Is One." Page 36, Scott Nearing says, "The growth of world-wide activities and of world institutions has broadened the neighborhood until it includes both the planet and the human race."

Part 3 is "First Steps in World Organization," and begins thus: "Under our eyes the world is being welded into working unity. Invention after invention is providing the means for establishing a United States of All People."

Part 4 is given more space than the other three combined and is "Worldism, the Next Stage in Social Organization." The first subtitle is "Mutual Aid and Collective Action." Page 140 Nearing says: "Millions of human beings are today earnestly asking the question, what must we do to avert disaster and to enjoy a more abundant life? A part, and a very large part, of the answer to that question is summed up in the social principle, mutual aid and collective action applied to the outstanding problems of western society."

On page 184 is this: "Thru the era of economic and political expansion that extended from the Renaissance to the beginning of

the present century, historic forces rushed the western world along a path that seemed to lead to an earthly paradise of peace, progress and abundance. The War of 1914 registered a change in the direction and character of social forces. The forces of construction yielded the center of the stage. The forces of destruction took their place. The vast apparatus of western culture began to crumble. Thru decade after decade these destructive forces, equipped with the latest devices of science and technology, have been battering down the structure of civilization."

Page 187: "A point has now been reached where men must concentrate their ability and energy on the task of world organization. Heretofore it has been sufficient to control and direct historic forces locally. From this point forward, they must be controlled and directed on a world-wide scale. The advance from nationism and empireism to world organization involves a major culture transition.

"Such a transition, like any process of death and birth, is complicated, filled with contradiction and conflict, frequently dangerous to life and limb and always costly in terms of immediate human happiness. This is true for the individual; it holds true on a much broader scale for the social group. Death and birth are painful enough when they are confined to single families. The extension of the death-birth process to include millions of families and tens of millions of individual human beings multiplies the cost of disorganization. Infinite pains are taken to save the individual from unnecessary suffering during periods of bodily transition. Social transitions, like that thru which the western world is now passing, call for a supreme effort to save the masses of humanity from hardship and loss.

"There can be no question as to the immediacy of the danger and the wholesale character of the suffering and hardship. Three decades of war, revolution, economic catastrophe and social chaos, with their accompanying uncertainty, fear and widespread loss, are so many incidents in the social death-birth process that marks the passing of the old and the coming of the new social order. They



Earl Brooks Arden, Del.

Scott Nearing

are taking their toll in life and happiness. They are twisting and warping whole generations of young people and they may be expected to continue their devastations thruout the present period of unplanned, unorganized transition.

“Men and women brought up in a boastful, enthusiastic era of expansion that thought of social progress as inevitable, inexorable and practically automatic, are baffled and upset when the foundations of their social philosophy are swept away by a succession of unexpected disasters. They, who had believed in gradual, regulated advance, under the reign of law, see an entire social system apparently run wild and shaken to pieces by forces that seem beyond their control. They, who had learned to believe that institutions like private property and private business enterprise were permanent foundation stones of the structure of human society, are forced to witness the destruction of these institutions and the substitution of utterly new ones, organized in terms of scientific plan and social discipline. They, who had looked forward with confidence to a future in which their children and grandchildren would enjoy a good life in terms of the work they had done and the institutions they had helped to rear, must stand helplessly by while their dependents are torn from them by war and by economic disasters. Worst of all, they are called upon to make a choice between the old and the new—perhaps to take up arms and fight for one or the other in the course of some civil war, as in Russia, China or Spain. And thru the whole period of transition they are forced to pay a fearful toll of uncertainty, anguish, devastation and death.

“The transformation of infancy into youth and of the bud into the fruit is a process of development that includes both gradual modification and sudden and profound mutation. Gradualness dominates the process, but it is gradualness interspersed with sudden leaps. Unless these leaps are made, the flower withers and dies without ever becoming a fruit and the infant ceases to unfold and remains infantile. The social process resembles the biologic. For long periods it changes gradually. Then comes a sudden break and a transition from one culture level to another. Culture transitions are points at which a pronounced change occurs in either the direction, the velocity or the magnitude of the social process.”

Will humans now unite to build the United World, so that those who have sacrificed their lives will not have died in vain? Social engineers like Scott Nearing are showing us the way to peace, love, harmony, unity, health, tolerance, self-control, temperance and happiness thru right living, individually and socially. Will we help them build World Unity, or will humans go down the road to destruction?

“Unity—not victory—is the first condition of world peace.”