

April 21, 1939



This morning while doing my morning walk in the company of Jake (Mr. Rosenthal), a man came to me and said: "Mr. President, I am just out of bilibid prison and I am looking for work and nobody gives me work. Unless I am given work I am afraid I shall have to go back to jail." "Why have you been in Bilibid?" I asked him. "Because one day I was very hungry and having no work I had no money with which to pay my food. So I intered a native restaurant and asked for food. After I ate they asked me to pay and I frankly confessed I had no money, whereby I was taken to the court and convicted to go to jail."

I was shocked to hear this story. I felt in my bones the injustice of human society in its organization and so I told this man to get into my car and gave him a few cents to buy his breakfast, and after that I sent him to the City Mayor with the instruction that they give him work.

There was a man who wanted to work and could not find work. He had to live and ask for food, and because he could not pay for his meal they sent him to jail. No ~~Commits~~ are necessary. If I have been the judge, I





would have absolved him, and if the matter would have been brought to me I would have pardoned him.

I am not surprised that there are communists and anarchists. As long as people who want work cannot find ~~find~~ work and yet they are sent to jail for their inability to pay for their food, there is always reason for destroying the peaceful status of society.