

# Another Letter from G. K. Ness

When Peer Gynt got into "Dovregubben's" palace everything looked ugly to him, even the princesses who in the sunshine had seemed so fair. This was due to the fact that he couldn't see conditions in the right light, said Dovregubben, who wanted to make Peer cross-eyed by cutting a gash in his eye.

Making me mentally cross-eyed is the only way I could ever be made to see the purported beauty of the present politic-economic conditions of Norway.

Norway, as is well known, is a democracy with a constitution fully as liberal as that of the United States. A king is at the head of the government, but that's in name only. The governing of the country is actually vested in the Storting (Congress) the members of which are elected every three years. Since last year there are 150 members of the Storting. Formerly there were only 115. Five political parties are represented among these 150 members. But in actuality Norway, like North Dakota, has only two political groups, those for state socialism and those against it. The three radical or state socialism parties have 80 of the 150 members in the Storting. These three are communists 28, socialists 9, and venstre 43.

All three of these parties, who, working in harmony as they do, have a majority of 10, are working with the same goal in view, that of having the state or its sub-divisions take over every industry which under private control shows a profit. In other respects the three groups may differ. Some, for instance, on the tariff question, prohibition, and the religious education in the public school, abolition of which has been incorporated in one party platform.

Neither must it be understood this way that all the thousands of "venstre" voters are unconditionally in favor of public ownership. But the members in the Storting are, and people have voted the party ticket for years, perhaps the family have voted "venstre" for several generations and many would believe it as dangerous to vote against that party as a lot of North Dakota republicans feel it impossible to vote for O'Connor for U. S. Senator, because his name appears in the democratic column on the ballot.

Opposing the socialist-communist combination are the "høire" and "bondespartiet" (farmers' party) with 70 members in the Storting. "høire" with 53 members, the farmer party with 17.