

The National Geographic Magazine October 1917

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in this major reinterpretation of the progressive era peter coleman argues that the american welfare state had its origins in what he calls the world wide crisis of capitalism here and abroad reformers no longer content to treat the symptoms of distress sought to achieve social political and economic justice by abandoning laissez faire in favor of governmental intervention this study thoroughly documents the external forces that shaped the american progressive movement and shows that the reformers agenda for change drew heavily on foreign ideas and models as well as the american reform tradition tracing the international cross currents of reform ideas coleman demonstrates that for nearly three decades american reformers of every stripe regarded the australasian colonies especially new zealand as examples of what the united states could become thus inspired american reformers worked for such goals as wage and hour legislation for women abolition of child labor workmen s compensation laws compulsory arbitration of labor disputes land reform cheap loans for farmers old age pensions and infant and maternal care programs through these and other measures that touched all aspects of the nation s life the role of government was enlarged by placing progressivism within an international context coleman deepens our understanding of a phenomenon previously seen as distinctively american thereby clarifying both the substance and process of change in this country he also argues that in the progressive era can be seen the origins of the regulations and mixed economy of the modern welfare state

connected to place looks at place based systems change as a real world solution to our growing environmental and social crises distilling lessons from a thirty year career in the social sector matt biggar offers a practical guide to creating conditions for societal transformation he presents a vision that reorients people s daily lives around their neighborhoods and communities and he shows us how we can get there when thinking

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examines a handful of famous ocean explorers and naturalists including jacque cousteau thor heyerdahl and rachel carson among others to demonstrate how their work helped shape the way many americans would think about and interact with the ocean

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