

Better Off

by Peter Maurin

The world would be better off
if people tried to be better.
And people would become better
if they stopped trying to be better off.

For when everybody tries to become better off, nobody is better off.
But when everybody tries to become better, everybody is better off.

Everybody would be rich
if nobody tried to become richer.
And nobody would be poor
if everybody tried to be poorest.

And everybody would be what we ought to be
if everybody tried to be what we want the other one to be!