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Newspaper Article #2 – For Passive Citizen Distinction

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For Passive Citizen Distinction

A constitutional monarchy can’t work without a good economy

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My Fellow citizens: now that we have discussed several legislations in the national assembly, with a particular focus in the constitutional monarchy, I hope it’s clear for you that this is the right path for France to take. We are not only resembling and keeping together out traditions but we are also trusting a king that knows how to rule and has the necessary experience that lacks in the National Assembly. And you might disagree with me and think he has an absolute power, but he doesn’t. According to a previously established legislation that we already checked and voted for, the king would only have the power to make a suspensive veto, appoint ministers, and suggest legislation to the National Assembly. Now that we have left that clear, Economic power needs to be discussed, and with it, the current distinction between the active and passive citizens of France.

Changes are important in our nation, otherwise, how could we have gotten here. The National Assembly is in charge of making those changes happen and as a candidate that tries to represents both, the citizens and the crown, my only will is to see both sides in peace and happy with the agreements we make. This being said, I believe that no change should be made when keeping the distinction between passive and active citizen for the good of everyone and the maintenance of a strong and prospered France. When it comes to the economy of this nation, we need to look for a way in which we can properly sustain both, the nobility and the citizens. As John Locke, once mentioned: “the property is not a symbol of one’s man subjugation to another, but rather an expression of and safeguard for his freedom”. With this in mind, we have to reflect on whom should really have the right to vote and decide whom should be part of the National Assembly, to successfully achieve all what we once fought for. If we think about it, a man that has no property, has no right to say he’s free to do whatever he wants or carry out his duties as a citizen. Property, is a magnificent good that has been given to us to generate wealth and consequently, improve human happiness of all. However, now that we have passed a legislation that allows women, slaves and other passive citizens to have rights, we have to decide which path France should take so that the French economy doesn’t face chaos. We can’t lose our fellow investors and businessman that with all their effort have put their money on our society to see it prosper. We can’t show them our back when facing such a crucial decision that will put the future of France in stake.

I know we are not in a good situation right now and I know that it’s hard to make decisions when the masses are complaining they don’t even have bread to eat. My citizens, you are not looking to the scenario as a whole. You are just focusing on one small part of the problem and you’re not taking into consideration possibilities that can be beneficial for all of us. We have to deeply reflect on what we are missing and that is the necessity of a healthy economy that will generate wealth and sustentions wages to buy bread and all the food that the citizens are demanding. However, this can only be made if we keep our active citizens, who are able to pay taxes equal to three days of work a year. These men, whom I think are wiser in the aspect of voting and nominating electors and members of the councils, are also very helpful when it comes to helping In the [French National Guard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French_National_Guard) and in the military bastion of the middle class. All I want for my French nations is to fulfil the general Will of the people, but this can only be made if we keep the distinction between passive and active citizens. It’s crucial to have established and guarantee property and property rights to people that have the experience and the knowledge to manage and administer both. Believe me when I tell you that this will bring prosperity to all Frenchmen and citizens. Don’t misunderstand me if I say, active citizens are being benefited more, than women, slaves, children, and foreigners. As I said before, you now have rights, however the right to vote is still property of the active citizens. We are all members of a nation and as members of it, you have the right to express yourselves and to claim what is yours. You can freely speak and let your voice be heard, however not by means of violence and chaos.

By this means, we want all of you to feel considered and we want everyone to be benefited out of this. The system of elections would then be based on the decisions made by people who have the necessary experience to do it, avoiding common people with unchecked power to be part of a political involvement in which first of all, have no right to be part of and second, are better contributing the nation in other aspects. The law, as established, will be applied equally, with the idea that everyone has passive citizenship rights. However, it’s important to make a distinction here and establish that women haven’t yet gotten the necessary reason and logic to deliberate and be part of political decisions that carry a significant level of importance, so only men, can take role in this aspect. And I refer back one more time to John Locke, when he says that “The improvement of understanding is for two ends: first, our own increase of knowledge; secondly, to enable us to deliver that knowledge to others.” In the present times, only active citizens have the ability to do this and so, we should be thankful that we have this people that really know what our nation needs to make it better every day.  
 We are giving the masses what they are asking us for. If the Revolution wishes to make beneficial changes, then we must come together and realize that the power of a king has to be checked by some sort of constitution and that active and passive citizens should be recognized. Then, we must realize that if it’s the will of the people, then the general will is truly what a government must adhere to, and so, it should be reflected in every part of not only the French government but the nation as a whole.

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