

PROPERTY TAX IN JAMAICA

To the Editor of LAND & LIBERTY

SIR,

The following may interest you as being illustrative of how things are done in this Colony. The information is official, having been elicited by questions asked in the local Legislative Council.

A property 64 acres in area on the western confines of Kingston changed hands about 11 years ago for £800. Since that time about 25 acres have been sold to 488 "small" people for the sum of £8,575. When the 64 acres were in the hands of one man the property tax collected from him was £10 7s. Now that 25 acres are held by 488 people the tax collected from them annually is £293 1s.

There remain about 39 acres, of which about 14 acres have been devoted to roads, leaving about 25 acres still for sale. The property tax on these last year was £10 1s.

So you see the 25 acres in the hands of 488 people pay over 29 times the amount paid by the 25 acres which remain in the hands of the landlord. Can you beat this?

Yours, etc.,

B. ANSON.

Cross Roads P.O.,

St. Andrew, Jamaica; 3rd August, 1921.