

hold the means of production by revolutionary industrial and political action." According to this precious document, which is based on Marxian theories, which have long been abandoned elsewhere as unsound, "the working classes produce all value, the greater the share which the capitalist class appropriates the less remaining for the working classes, therefore the interests of those two classes are in constant conflict."

HOW THE REVOLUTION IS TO BE EFFECTED

So long as the Labor Party in Australia deliberately acts on the belief that the interests of Labor and Capital are naturally antagonistic there is absolutely no hope for any real reform, but the workers generally are not quite so imbecile as the above declaration would seem to imply, for one of the strongest of the unions, that of the United Laborers, only recently circularized the whole of the trades unions throughout New South Wales declaring that "the vain, illogical theories" held by those "who now mislead labor must be overthrown," and making the significant admission that "Labor and Capital must be brought into active unity before a more equitable social system can be evolved." This could easily be done if the views taught by Henry George and advocated by large sections throughout the civilized world were adopted. But in the event that the community rejects the sane and reasonable reform involved in the appropriation by the community for communal purposes of the land value now held by private individuals for private purposes how is the individual revolution advocated by the workers to be brought about? How is the transfer of the means of production from the private owners to the community at large—in other words, the expropriation of the capitalists—to be enforced? These are pertinent questions, the answer to which must be found in the action of the Melbourne Conference in supporting the citizen army now being trained for the defence of Australia so that when "The Day" comes round the workers may utilize it for the purpose of enforcing their demands. Which means a civil war in our midst such as will deluge Australia with the blood of our own citizens and bring about a saturnalia of crime and misery such as we have had glimpses of in France, Russia, and Ireland, but never so far, thank God, on Australian soil.

PERCY R. MEGGY.

Stagnation

IN a land of plenty, where production has been multiplied many fold we encounter stagnation. The producer is idle, the world is begging for our wares. During the war it was demonstrated that this country could produce enough in four months to carry us twelve and the producer worked with one hand tied behind him, with four million men in the service. We can do no business abroad with foreign countries because their money is depreciated and we have a tariff law that makes it difficult to exchange merchandise. The majority believe that trade is an exchange of dollars,

but in reality trade is an exchange of merchandise, the dollar being used as a convenience to make the trade easy.

At this time there is no sound measure being discussed by our government to right the situation. We must have an entirely new deal. Men that know must come forward and show the way. So important an undertaking must be by men who are economists. This cannot be left to politicians or to poor country town lawyers that could not earn a living practicing law and yet assume to be legislators.

The burden of taxation must be shifted to land values, the created value of the community that belongs to all. We must stop taxing people because they are industrious, because they want to trade, and because they are a credit and benefit to the community. The time has come when all Single Taxers must boldly assert themselves. Every thinking man knows that there is something radically wrong, and he is looking for a remedy that will make it possible for production to begin, that willing hands may no longer remain idle. Should we that know sit by and allow the situation to drift from bad to worse? Or should we allow others that do not know to experiment with high tariff, low tariff, income tax, outgo tax, profit tax, sales tax, excess profit tax, sky blue tax, or any other conceivable tax?

The people are more willing to listen now than they have been in nearly twenty years; they have more time to read, to think, to listen than ever before. Experience has taught us that high wages and low prices are a physical impossibility under the present arrangement. Prices advance as wages advance and the producer is not in as good a position as he was before the increase took place. Twenty-five years ago a producer was better paid at \$9 per week than he would be if he now received several times the amount, yet how immense are the advances in the arts and sciences, in the production and distribution of wealth within that time.

It is self evident from the above that inasmuch as the producer does not receive the benefits that accrue to civilization they are dissolved in land values. There is no time more opportune than the present to advance the cause of economic freedom and the taxation of land values.

GEORGE J. FOYER.

A Challenge to a Reactionary

THE *Chicago Journal of Commerce* carries the following at the head of its editorial column.

All the wild ideas of unbalanced agitators the world over, in their ignorant and pitiable quest for happiness through revolution, confiscation of property, and crime, cannot overthrow the eternal truth that the one route to happiness through property or government is over the broad and open highway of *service*. And *service* always means industry, thrift, respect for authority, and recognition of the rights of others.

W. G. SIBLEY.

Under the heading, "Economic Study, a Present Day Economic Need," the *Chicago Journal of Commerce* says:

The student of a university, who wrote in his examination paper that the Single Tax system was a tax on bachelors,