

tan—and incidentally diminishing an ugly encumbrance on his ground.

And then the County Council proposed to build a new hospital. Our friend angled to get it built on his land but was unsuccessful. However, he managed to get a share of the swag in another way. The site chosen required a great deal of levelling, so he interviewed the contractors and prevailed on them to take his dirt mountain at 3d. per ton; the contractors to do the removing. The "Golden Dustman," indeed!

Perhaps this does not finish the story of the laird's estate, for I learn that investigators are working on a scheme whereby household fuel can be manufactured from moss, heather, peat, etc. Something in the way of briquettes is the idea. If this plan materializes the laird's "land of brown heath and shaggy wood" may yet become a small Klondyke. And he maintained that land had no value in his parish!

SELLING THE BOOKS

Volunteers are wanted to emulate work of this kind:

Mr David Gibson of Cleveland writes: "Every outstanding Single Taxer in every community everywhere in the world should constitute himself a wholesale salesman to every book store for *Progress and Poverty*—see to it that they are kept in stock and well displayed. There is one book store here in Cleveland that sells 25 copies per month, and as a result of a sale that I made four years ago. I regard this as particularly important and effective propaganda; for every single taxer in the world to-day is directly or indirectly the result of reading *Progress and Poverty*. My secretary goes around to all local book stores about every three months and always wholesales quite a few copies."

Price lists, catalogues and display cards will be provided to anyone who can help in such useful service with particulars of the wholesale terms for the book-selling trade. The publications of the Henry George Foundation (the "little red books" as they have been called—bound in cloth) are on sale in Great Britain at 1s. each—*Progress and Poverty*, *Social Problems*, *The Condition of Labour*, *Protection or Free Trade*, and the *Gems from Henry George*. The last-named two are also available in paper covers, price 6d. each.

FROM A NEW READER

S.C., County Durham, writes:—"I am in receipt of your communication of 31st March, and the enclosed yearly report of Committee for the Taxation of Land Values. I thank you. My delay in replying is due to no discourtesy. I have held over my reply till I had concluded my reading of *Progress and Poverty*. The work is one of the noblest I have read. With its penetrating analysis of economic cause and effect, its burning love of Justice and Liberty, and the artistic merits in presentation, the work should be in the hands of every sociological student. The activities of the United Committee in propagating the work of Henry George is deserving of widespread interest and sympathy. It has mine. Please send me the current issue of *Land & Liberty*."

LAND AND FREEDOM. By FREDK. VERINDER. 2s. 6d.

THE STORY OF MY DICTATORSHIP. By BERENS and SINGER. 1s.

CITIES HELD TO RANSOM. By M. 1d.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE LAND. Fifth Edition. By W. R. LESTER, M.A. 1d.

LIBERAL POLICY

The Liberal Party held national convention in the Kingsway Hall, London, 18th and 19th June, with some 1,800 delegates present from all parts of the country. The chief business was to consider and agree upon a new constitution for the Party drawn up by a Reorganization Commission, the Chairman of which was Lord Meston. This included a definition of the Liberal social ideal reading as follows:—

"At home its (the Liberal Party's) ideal is a country in which the powers of the State will be steadily used to establish social justice, to wage war against poverty, to ensure that the country's resources are wisely developed for the benefit of the whole community, and to create the positive conditions which will make a full and free life possible for all citizens; a country in which under the protection of law all citizens have the right to speak freely, write freely, and vote freely; power through a just electoral system to shape the laws which they are called upon to obey; an effective voice in deciding the conditions in which they live and work; liberty to buy, sell, and produce; freedom from the tyranny of monopoly, whether exercised by individuals or by the State; opportunity to work at a fair wage, a decent home and healthy surroundings, good education, and facilities for training; access to land and an assurance that publicly created land values shall not be engrossed by private interests, and, as a safeguard of independence, the personal ownership of property. These are the conditions of liberty which it is the function of the State to protect and enlarge."

One amendment that had been moved sought to omit the word "land" in the sentence: "an assurance that publicly created land values shall not be engrossed by private interests." Mr Ashley Mitchell (Huddersfield) resisted the amendment and it was defeated. Mr Mitchell is to be congratulated on his success.

Sir Archibald Sinclair's declaration in his opening speech at the Convention: "We stand for the Taxation and Rating of Land Values" was loudly applauded.

The Fife Herald and Journal, 27th May, had a two column report of the address by Mr James T. Haxton, St. Andrews, on the "Economics of Service," at the Cupar Rotary Club's luncheon. It was a clear exposition comprising the economics as well as the ethics of the land question and taxation.

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The one essential for the removal of poverty and unemployment in the midst of wealth is to take in the form of taxation all those values given to land by reason of the presence and industry of the people, and abolish all other forms of taxation.

E. F. HOBLEY in the *News Chronicle*, 22nd June.

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Mr Laing's letter to *The Times*, referred to elsewhere, evoked some correspondence in that paper, a protest against his misleading "weaker brethren" in the Conservative Party being printed in large type and a letter by Mr Dundas White pleading for the untaxing of improvements and the taxing of land value for public revenue being in small type. The *Daily Herald* devoted a leading article to the matter, in which it said: "Social progress creates the high prices, which then become an obstacle to any further progress." *John Bull* said: "Land nationalization must inevitably be a slow process. Let us begin by imposing a stiff Land Values Tax."