

Iowa Farmers Need Square Deal

THE McNary-Haugen bill is economically unsound. Of course. So is the protective tariff. Dr. Haugen who has traded in unsoundnesses all his life, contended that two injustices would result in justice to the farmers. The cure for the farmer's ills isn't going to be found in some magic system in which everybody can ride on somebody else's back, and everybody can pick somebody else's pocket. The cure is to be found in everybody standing on his own feet and everybody taking his hand out of everybody else's pocket. Under such an arrangement, the Iowa farmer, who farms the richest land that the sun shines on, who has the best machinery human mind has devised, and who uses the best farming methods on earth, will not need government aid, nor the sympathy of scheming politicians. What Iowa farmers need is not charity, but a square deal.

—*Decorah (Iowa) Journal.*

Henry George

EVERY young person should take the time to read carefully and to study Henry George's "Progress and Poverty."

Tolstoy said: "People do not argue with the teaching of Henry George. They simply do not know it. Those who become acquainted with it cannot but agree. The teaching of George is irresistibly convincing in its simplicity and clearness."

Anything that is thus wholeheartedly recommended by such a man as Tolstoy at least deserves our passing notice.

Many learned professors scout with scorn any suggestion coming from Henry George. They consider him as a faddist and a fanatical enthusiast.

It is certain, however, that there is something wrong with our present system of taxation. It does not bear equally upon the whole population and, in many instances, it is oppressive and unjust. Those who are doing the most to promote the welfare of the country are most thoroughly fined for their activities.

Do not take what other people around you say. Think for yourself. Read Henry George. I do not hesitate to say that it is the most instructive book on political economics that I have ever read.

Henry George's books have had a circulation of more than six million in English alone, and have been translated into Chinese, Japanese, Russian, Finnish, Danish, Swedish, French, German, Spanish, Dutch, Hungarian and Italian.

We cannot resist the conviction that there must be something to writings that have been so thoroughly appreciated by the population of the world.

Newton D. Baker, former Secretary of War, said: "I have re-read this address and come away with the con-

viction that Henry George should be studied in all our colleges as a master of style. I know no other man of American prose, with the solitary exception of Woodrow Wilson, whose elevation of thought and dignity of language are so overwhelming."

Elbert Hubbard wrote: "The logic of Henry George's 'Progress and Poverty' and its literary style have been so insistent, that it has been studied closely by economists of note in every country on the globe. Its argument has never been answered."

—DR. FRANK CRANE.

Hon. George Fowlds Knighted

HON GEORGE FOWLDS, of New Zealand, has been knighted by the King and the Auckland papers have been full of accounts of his distinguished public services. The *Auckland Star* contains the fullest and most satisfactory summary. We quote:

"Sir George Fowlds has for many years been one of the best-known figures in the public life of New Zealand. Born at Fenwick, Ayrshire, in 1860, he worked on the farm of his father and at the loom, and left school at the age of 12. His father was Mr. Matthew Fowlds, a hand-loom weaver, who died as the result of an accident at the age of 101. Many people in New Zealand have heard of his interesting life and the hand-loom which he worked until the last year of his life may be seen at the Auckland Museum."

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"The Parliamentary career of Sir George Fowlds dates back to the year 1899, when he was elected as one of the three representatives of Auckland City. In 1902 he became the first member for Grey Lynn, a seat which he held until 1911. He joined the Ward Ministry in August, 1906, accepting the portfolio of Education and Public Health, and for five years ably administered these and other Departments of the State. A happy event in the life of Sir George was when in 1910 he returned to South Africa, not as a private citizen, but as the representative of the first Union Parliament. Sir George has the distinction of having been one of the ablest Ministers of Education in New Zealand."

We Fancy Mr. McGroarty Knows

ONE day while we were talking with the owner of a very large tract of land which he had surveyed into comparatively small units and had advertised for sale on the public market, a man came up to him and said he would like to have about five hundred acres of the land.

The owner said very well, he said, and do you want to pay cash down or do you want terms, or is it that you merely are asking for an option?

The visitor made a strange reply. He said you would want money to pay for an option on your land, wouldn't you? And the owner said yes, of course. Then the man

said I have fifty families ready to move somewhere on land, improve it, make it valuable by their very residence and to make valuable all the vacant land around them. And this being a great opportunity for you, he said to the owner, I am here to ask your best bid on an option for these fifty families.

At first the big land owner was inclined to be angry at what he considered a piece of impudence. But, as the matter was argued pro and con, he began to see the light. It dawned on him that the presence of fifty families on a portion of his land would enormously increase the value of the vacant part of it in every direction.

Some of these days it will be better understood that every human being on the face of the earth has a specific value in dollars and cents. And when this doctrine is fully recognized and accepted, it ought to result in the total abolition of poverty and want.

The latest statistics tell us that there are six million idle men in the United States at the present hour. Of course, six million human beings out of a total of one hundred and twenty million is not very great. The wonder is that there are not a great many more men forced to be idle than there are. Our system of civilization is not only unwarrantably complex, but it is stupid to the last degree. Here is a country vast in proportion, inexhaustible in natural resources of every description, with almost boundless areas of fertile land unoccupied, and yet there are idleness and poverty and want.

Some day somebody will stumble upon a simple solution that will change all these unhappy conditions.—JOHN STEVEN MCGROARTY in Los Angeles, (Calif.) *Times*.

No Place for a Baby

GOD called a Baby into the World. Its father had died a week before it was born. Its mother died when it was born. A kind Samaritan kept it for two years. Then the Samaritan died. So the Baby fared forth into the World, into which God had called it.

It traveled along the highway, but the Motorists shoved it away. "You have no right on the road," they said.

"But the World is my Home," responded the Child.

"Don't you know that the Pedestrian has no rights? You'll have to get off."

Then the child got off the road and soon the Owner of the Land came along and ordered the Child off his property.

"But God called me here," excused the child.

"Have you no property?" asked the Owner.

"The World is my home."

"That won't help you. You must get off my land. The Sacred Rights of Property must be preserved."

"But where can I find land for me to stand and sleep on?" asked the ignorant Child.

"There is none. It is all owned."

So the Child came to the City. It kept to the sidewalks. Wearing by much walking it sat down on the curb-stone. A Policeman came and ordered the Child to move on. It walked, walked, walked, until the streets were lighted and the lights danced queer little dances, finally went out. As the darkness came, the Child murmured, "I think God made a mistake. He sent me to the wrong world."

That night the little body lay in the morgue. In the course of time, the governors, legislators, judges, land-owners and motorists died. Then God asked them some questions about Law and Property.

Editorial—Freehold (N. J.) *Transcript*.

Did Henry George Live in Vain?

THIS is the title of a three page article in the August number of *The World Tomorrow*, by Joseph Dana Miller, published at 52 Vanderbilt Avenue, New York City. In this article the editor of LAND AND FREEDOM reviews the history of the Single Tax movement and presents the formidable list of actual achievements in legislation, winding up with this statement: "Every instance given of land value taxation and accompanying exemption of improvements has occurred since Progress and Poverty was written in 1879."

Mr. Miller concludes his article by saying: "The sturdy little American who died in 1879 has set in motion an impulse which is felt in every Council Chamber and Legislative Hall in Christendom."

From A Conservative Democratic Daily

ONE of the primary causes for the delay in the opening of Delaware river fronts to manufacture has been landowners along the waterway insisting on holding their acreage for prices in excess of its fair valuation. Perhaps the Henry George Single Tax plan would have crowded the factory sites with humming industries long ago.

—Wilmington *Every Evening*.

"**T**HE landowner has a monopoly of what individuals and the community must use. He can exact the utmost the users of land can afford to pay. If they get relief in any direction, or if from any cause such as increased production, their capacity to pay is increased the landlord can command a higher rent."

—PHILIP SNOWDEN, M.P., in *John Bull*, March 24, 1928.

J. P. in *Land and Liberty*, for April writes: "No industrial equipment, no human ingenuity can better the conditions of things while land monopoly and land speculation exist to mop up the surplus and to force millions of citizens to search in vain for employment."