

# Noah D. Alper's Brief Cases

## BETTER LATE THAN NEVER

Now the women are doing it too. Males are barred from this exclusive land-speculation group in Tampa described by Sylvia Porter in her column "Your Money's Worth."

"The women have bought two tracts of land, and recent independent appraisals, demanded by the state securities commission, indicates the land already has risen one-third above the prices the corporation paid. . . . Tampa is in a 'conservative' rather than a sensational land boom now, but it's still a boom by any yardstick. The whole area is industrializing; in one area south of Tampa, land which sold for \$300 an acre 18 months ago sold for \$600; building in the first nine months in Greater Tampa was up 31 per cent."

Suppose everyone tried to live from such "productive" investments?

## THE HIGH COST OF UGLINESS

"High land values in the central sections of our cities are among the principal obstacles to making our cities attractive places in which to live. Even if a builder with great difficulty were able to assemble a sufficient plot of this land, he would be forced, because of its cost, to develop it at a density comparable to the crowded condition which originally contributed to its decay. Hence the paradox that the land which holds a large part of all that is mean and sordid in our cities is also among the most expensive."—from the Twentieth Century Fund survey "America's Needs and Resources: A New Survey," by J. Frederic Dewhurst and associates.

## "WHAT CAN YOU SAY TO ANSWER THAT ARGUMENT"

"We cannot buy wine, tobacco, or salt without paying that tax. And a part of the tax that we pay is given by law—in privileges and subsidies—to men who are richer than we are. Others use the law to raise the prices of bread, meat, iron, or cloth. Thus, since everyone else uses the law for his own profit, we also would like to use the law for our own profit. We demand from the law the right to relief, which is the poor man's plunder. To obtain this right, we also should be voters and legislators in order that we may organize Beggary on a grand scale for our own class, as you have organized Protection on a grand scale for your class. Now don't tell us beggars that you will act for us, and then toss us, as Mr. Mimerel proposes, 600,000 francs to keep us quiet, like throwing us a bone to gnaw. We have other claims. And anyway, we wish to bargain for ourselves as other classes bargained for themselves."

—from *The Law*, by Frederic Bastiat

## LES MISERABLES

"Killing riches is not distributing them. Encourage the rich and protect the poor, suppress misery, put an end to unjust exhaustion of the weak by the strong, adjust mathematically and fraternally the wages to labor. (These) two problems must be solved together in order to be properly solved. Know how to produce wealth and distribute it, and you will possess at once material greatness and moral greatness."

—Victor Hugo

---

YOU CAN STILL ORDER CHRISTMAS CARDS WITH THE QUOTATION FROM HENRY GEORGE: "Freedom is the natural state of man." One box contains 16 cards. Price \$1.25 postpaid. Order through The Henry George News, 50 East 69th Street, New York 21, N. Y.