

themselves." There is very little in their basic ideal with which Georgeists could quarrel, and there is much in their achievements which we must admire.

Speaking also as a member of the League, we are desperately concerned in awakening our members to the dangers of isolation and trade barriers. This, definitely, is of great concern to us and calls for all out cooperation. The broadsides and the literature on this subject are available, and can be distributed by any one without fear of political taint.

One particularly good questionnaire on "Am I an Isolationist?", would surely help to clarify this term for the average person. There are ten questions to which is required nothing less than a 100% grade to excuse one from this damning cognomen. Two questions will illustrate our stand: "We are fighting this war for only one reason—because Japan attacked us. Yes or no?" and "We are carrying 'friendliness' too far when we allow other countries to sell goods in the United States in competition with our own. Yes or no?" And the League's answer like the Georgeist, is, "No."

A broadside entitled "Isolationism Again" warns against the growing reactionary desire to return to "normalcy" just as we did in 1919. "If we are to escape this fate we must beware of Congressmen speaking soft words about America's responsibility after the war, while at the same time condemning every step toward international good feeling." The League gives several slants on what to observe in one's Congressman on this score. The League believes that any Congressional action that violates the principles of postwar planning for free access to raw material, and removal of excessive trade barriers, will definitely shake the confidence of the United Nations in our good intentions. "United States' policies cannot be divorced from the problem of world peace and, good or bad, whatever is done now will be the foundation on which we must build later. The issue will be confused by the old arguments about protecting the American Market and Standard of Living." Surely, these quotations from our educational material parallel those realists who want a world-wide free economy.

Another subject of current mutual interest to both the League and Georgeists is the bill introduced recently by Senator McKellar of Tennessee proposing "the most brazen patronage raid since the Civil Service act was passed sixty years ago." The League is definitely alert to the dangers of distracting Congress from its principal function of making laws at this time. As everyone knows this bill would be a rich addition to the political gravy bowl, and would cause an excess of Civil Service as well as patronage. The League is lay-

ing great stress on this among its members, and Georgeists would gain much by cooperating with the League.

The function of this organization is to simplify political problems to such a degree that it becomes possible to educate great numbers of people who will not or cannot take time to read and study by themselves. It would seem that, with the League's idealistic ambitions coupled with economic Georgeist knowledge, the two movements could work together toward a better world. Undoubtedly, greater progress could be attained by Georgeists cooperating with not only the League of Women Voters, but with other socially aware groups.

Imperial Sugar

A SOLDIER stationed in Puerto Rico writes: "Food is scarce outside the army. The people live mostly on rice and beans. But the rice is gone and beans are scarce. So they are living on cornmeal. Eggs, meat, butter, most other foods are not to be had on the outside. When food does come in, it is too high to buy."

This substantiates newspaper reports that the islanders are on the verge of starvation. It is a slap in the face of every American who continues stupidly enough to believe that a paternal government can do for him better than he can for himself.

The problem is not peculiar to Puerto Rico. U-boats sharpened the crisis, but did not make it. It reflects the growing want of the many in a world amazing for its increasing abundance.

Sugar dictates to Puerto Ricans. Sugar owns the fields. Sugar turns a deaf ear to the needs of the tillers, the reapers, the mill hands, the stevedores. Sugar claims for itself American backing, American skill and brains.

Sugar is imperious, self-willed. Sympathy? It offers not even a shred for the workers who raise Sugar to eminence. Sugar is cruel, rapacious.

Not a pretty picture, eh? A lush land, rich in its possibilities. A patient people, half slave, half free. Free now to starve. For the ships that carried the sugar now carry soldiers or lie riddled hulks at the bottom of the sea. Sugar for the nonce is unthroned. But still Sugar holds the fields—holds the land out of use!

Looming before the islanders is the spectre of Death By Starvation. Starvation! Say! have you seen the pictures, the bodies racked and twisted, all skin and bone, sights that leave you trembling, sick, mad clear through?

That's for Puerto Ricans. Our more than neighbors, our brothers, our fellow Americans.

Patriot, what will you and I do to help this tragic people? Shirk it? Or do we fight.

CLAYTON BAUER.