

had 200,000 more employees in spite of all the new and modern equipment that it had installed over the years. A president of the C.I.O. once said that the industrial revolution in the United States had, in some 25 years, brought into the employment field an additional 20 million people. Even the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union and the Pacific Maritime Association have agreed upon a \$5 million a year slush fund to retire men and speed automation.

"Industry is not afraid, and from the long view neither should labor fear new technic advantages. Paradoxically, the technic-age requires more of man, but less of him too."

Regarding taxation generally, Mr. Ward believed a new system should be considered, since 185 years of taxing the products of labor had produced "more difficult and complicated tax structures, which increasingly lead to cycles of dislocation one upon the other. With a deficit of an estimated \$18.4 billion, we need either to add more tax rates to the twenty four now in our graduated system; or raise taxes more. Perhaps the government might confiscate the 50 per cent it leaves to some brackets, and thus decrease investment further. The system now in use is, on the face of it, driving itself out of business.

"The nature of the system encourages fraud and graft at all levels, from those who pay to those who collect. In short, the whole tax system has nothing to recommend it. It has no basis of stability and is at the mercy of its own constant drain upon the national real income.

Alexis C. Ferm of Fairhope, Alabama, is a 94-year-old Georgist. He lives on an income of only \$16 a week, and yet he recently made a \$10 contribution to the Henry George School. He has also contributed to the land value tax campaign in Erie, Pennsylvania, and manages to assist civil rights and share-cropper causes! Writes Mr. Ferm: "There are so many people who live in unnecessary luxury and so few who understand the land question. These folks go to church to praise God for his blessings. Is it understandable?"

It is almost as hard to understand Mr. Ferm's generosity, but he is, after all, being religious in the sense spoken of by Swedenborg: "The life of religion is to do good."

— R.C.

"Our Constitution is organized with injunctions in the first ten amendments against abridging property rights and the enjoyment thereof; but we are not pleading the cause of the removal of all property, only that which infringes upon the rights of other men. There is no quarrel with the rights of men to enjoy the fruits of their labor. But in property rights we have a pernicious form that contends with one class as against the other. Labor must pay for the right of another not to produce, and not to contribute, and worse, he must contribute to his own impoverishment and that of his nation. That is immoral. The very rent he pays is a fee given for something no human really labored to produce. . . .

"No good, intelligent reason remains for the institution of rights in property (in land). No man has a clearer title to it than any other; and all men, in order to avoid the problems previously noted, should hold and share the earth in common trust forever.

"There is nothing much that man can own anyway, not even his own soul. All life, like the earth, is a gift, a loan, a sort of interest bearing note, due and payable upon demand. So, though the means and modes of men may vary, the real needs of men require some universal way to add cubits to their stature. The world requires some way to be one, some way for all to eat from the same table as it were, since we all really occupy the house."

Similar contests are offered for high school students in New York City and Fairhope, Alabama.