

Upon inquiring into the causes of this wholesale exodus, we were casually informed that they were being deported to the places whence they originated, Haiti, Jamaica and other points of the West Indies. But why? With little attempt to hide his impatience with such silly questions, our informant snapped "that since there was scarcely work to be given our own native-born, how could we possibly find employment in these times for outsiders." Many of them had made their homes in Cuba for years but because of some little loophole, excuse had been found to deport them. Strange indeed that so many whose mouths have to be fed, and bodies clothed and housed, with able hands that are capable of creating tremendous wealth for Cuba itself are unable to find the means whereby they may produce and exchange the necessities they must consume in living! And so these human cattle were being shipped to other lands. Let's hope they found better "grazing."

Thus we scratched through the patina that covers Santiago to see the wretchedness seemingly ignored by its more prosperous citizens. We viewed the rank poverty of such dusty little villages as Caney on its outskirts, nestled below the historic ruins of El Viso fort.

When we look into the causes of the decay and misery that spread to our older neighbors, almost matched by the slums of our own large cities, it would seem that we too are on the same road. Only those with closed eyes can ignore these evils that arise from denying in one way or another free access to man's natural heritage, land, the basic means from which he derives his subsistence.

An attempt to alleviate this situation is to be made by Colonel Fulgencio Batista, Chief of Staff of the Cuban Army, who recently announced a three-year plan to bring about the economic and social reconstruction of Cuba. In a twenty-point legislative programme, which will regimentate almost every phase of national life, he proposes to include regulation of rentals, wages, and payments to planters for cane, reforms in the tax system, a tightening of labor legislation under which no foreigner can obtain employment, strict regulation of the tobacco industry and agriculture in general, and the distribution of State lands.

Though complete details are still lacking, opposition is growing among business men and merchants who feel their interests at stake. Financing this vast plan, in the face of huge deficits mounting yearly, will naturally mean a tremendous increase in taxation to industry and the public in general.

Somehow, this all sounds very familiar as though we'd heard it before and brings to mind the man who tried to lift himself out of a deep ditch by his bootstraps.—EARL D. JONES.

## Postal Card Suggestion

### PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY IN "FOLLOWING-UP"

FOLLOWERS of Henry George are failing to reasonably advance his Cause; and it is due primarily to failure to responsibly follow-up the basically demonstrated *science* on which it rests, and to adopt *persuasive methods* of dealing with common "sense-of-justice" views on which acceptance of it inevitably depends.

For although all sciences rest solely on natural-law facts—not on authoritative statements by anyone or on moral-law views—*acceptance of Social Science* laws which apply to human beings instead of senseless things, must practically depend upon this human "sense-of-justice." And any arrogant antagonizing of it in natural converts drives them from the simple appropriation of Rent as Enough, into the confusions of Socialism.

Such antagonizing of natural and essential converts is mainly due to *authoritative predicting* of Single Tax results which are repulsive to them; this predicting being largely substituted for the *Scientific-Fact* teachings (1) That natural law results are inevitably fixed regardless of *beliefs* about them; and (2) That the elimination, by Single Tax, of present Rent income to mere ownership of land, will

also eliminate this income from present interest yield to mere ownership of wealth (capital).

Conscientious Single Taxers must teach these inherent truths or be practically false to the Cause. And to avoid contempt for their intelligence and fairness they must recognize obvious natural facts notwithstanding authoritative disregard of them. They *must know* as ordinary humans do, that all unlimitedly producible goods, including pigs and calves and wheat and cotton, do naturally sell below average-wage yield whenever over-produced; and that superior *using* of capital by human beings earns correspondingly high wages without senseless capital in itself earning anything. *Then* they can effectively show to common sense workers that the great Remedy is Enough—that further Socializing is *not* needed.

The specialized learning of school-men economists notoriously does insure above average using of common sense, which is about all that Single Tax truths essentially call for; and even students of Henry George need to use and to respect such independent thinking in responsibly following-up his great work. For *without this*, persuasive appeal for common sense support of the Cause sinks to authoritative teaching, which is obnoxious to independent thinkers. These are simply hindsight views of an oldster in the Cause.

WALTER G. STEWART.

## Hon. Charles R. Eckert in the House of Representatives

MR. SPEAKER, the National Labor Relations Act is being acclaimed by labor as one of its greatest achievements in the long and weary struggle for its rights. The weeks and months that its life was hanging in the balance labor was filled with anxiety and despair. The actions of the courts were awaited with bated breath, and when at last, on the 12th day of April, 1937, the Supreme Court of the United States pronounced the act a living thing there was great rejoicing in the ranks of the workers. And this not without reason, for the principles for which labor fought and struggled throughout the years were at last sanctified as the law of the land. The right of self-organization and collective bargaining have been regarded by the champions of labor among their most important and effective weapons.

That labor should be unduly enthusiastic about the outcome of the legal battle over the Wagner Act and anticipate greater benefits than can possibly be realized must be expected. For the rank and file of labor have not only been schooled in the efficacy of self-organization and collective bargaining by their leaders but the Supreme Court entertains and declares the same view. In the light of the teachings of the leaders of labor and the decisions of the Supreme Court, it is but natural that practically everybody is entertaining the thought that, with the Wagner Act and related legislation securely on the statute books, labor is about to enjoy its just rewards.

Without minimizing in the slightest degree the importance and value of the legislation embodied in the National Labor Relations Act, it may be well to remind ourselves that, notwithstanding the legal recognition

of the much-coveted principles underlying the Wagner Act, the war for the full rights of labor has not yet been won, and that many bitter battles remain to be fought. Candor impels the necessity to remind labor that the enjoyment of the full fruits of labor can come to pass only when the basic element of production will be available to all on equal terms and the rights of the people to their God-given inheritance restored. Equality before the law and the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness are delusions so long as labor must pay tribute to the privileged few for the opportunity to labor and produce.

In the celebrated case of the National Labor Relations Board against the Jones & Laughlin Steel Corporation, recently decided, Chief Justice Hughes, who delivered the majority opinion of the Court, said:

"The right of employees to self-organization and to select representatives of their own choosing for collective bargaining or other mutual protection without restraint or coercion by their employer is a fundamental right. Employees have as clear a right to organize and select their representatives for lawful purposes as the respondent has to organize its business and select its own officers and agents. Discrimination and coercion to prevent the free exercise of the right of employees to self-organization and representation is a proper subject for condemnation by competent legislative authority. Long ago we stated the reason for labor organizations. We said that they were organized out of the necessities of the situation; that a single employee was helpless in dealing with an employer; that he was dependent ordinarily on his daily wage for the maintenance of himself and family; that if the employer refused to pay him the wages that he thought fair, he was nevertheless unable to leave the employ and resist arbitrary and unfair treatment; that union was essential to give laborers opportunity to deal on an equality with their employer."

From these words it may be fairly inferred that a laborer, as a member of a labor organization, is on a basis of equality with his employer and therefore in a position, through the power of collective bargaining, to demand his full rights. But before accepting this conclusion and ringing down the curtain on the problem of labor, let us examine the facts. And in considering this problem, let it first be observed, in order that laborers, either individually or collectively, may deal on an equality with their employer it is necessary that such laborers enjoy freedom of contract. It goes without saying that, unless the right to bargain on the part of the contracting parties is free from pressure or duress from any source whatsoever, there cannot be equality between the parties. It has been said:

"Freedom of contract begins where equality of bargaining begins."

In other words, there is no freedom of contract where the bargaining power of the contracting parties is unequal.

Freedom of contract is a deceptive phrase. Americans are boastful of their so-called freedom and accept as a matter of course that the inalienable rights with which man is endowed are theirs to enjoy. Upon examination, however, this is a bold and unjustifiable assumption. America has not yet achieved that station of economic and political development where it can be truthfully asserted that the wage workers are free and independent. True freedom is impossible in an economic order when even the most obscure worker is denied the opportunity to use his labor for the satisfaction of his wants.

Do laborers, even with the right of self-organization and collective bargaining, enjoy the economic freedom necessary to use their labor to satisfy their wants or to deal with their employers on a basis of equality?

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## Port Newark— Suckers and Sharks

NEWARK, N. J. is a city of half a million people. However, she has never attracted much attention in the past, due no doubt to her proximity to New York City. Lately, events have occurred which have put Newark on the map, so to speak, and therein lies our tale.

Among the "failings" of New Yorkers is a propensity for poking fun at their neighbors. There is a story that a big New York daily once taunted the smaller town by propounding the mock question, "Where is Newark." A newspaper of the latter hastened to reply, "Why, just 9 miles from the biggest sucker town on earth." Yet, as subsequently will be shown, the New Jersey paper spoke less wisely than it thought, despite the fact that, among other evidences of her gullibility, New York has tamely submitted to a sales tax and similar devices for mulcting her citizens of any advantages which her peculiar location has given.

One of the reasons which caused the big city to look with scorn on Newark was due to the fact that ages ago Mother Nature saw fit to lay at the future Newark's backyard acres and acres of slimy marshes, in which the mud would ooze back and forth with every change of the tide of the bay, just off the Atlantic ocean. The brackish waters and the millions of "cat-tails" growing out of them seemed to serve but one purpose—the creation of a paradise for the famous New Jersey mosquitoes. This part of the earth was cursed by every New Yorker, and Newarker, who felt the sting of the pests.

But something happened. In what was a liability heretofore, Newark saw possibilities. Those salt meadows were potential assets. In a few years they were given artificial drainage and a great part of them was filled in. As a result, a fine seaport has been developed there, as well as a superb landing field for air planes, the finest in the annals of aviation. Even New York acknowledges the smaller city as the eastern terminus for the transcontinental plane traffic. So that in a very short time Newark "has come into her own," but only metaphorically speaking. Let us see.

After Newark first saw what seemed to be a vision, she was confronted with the problem of working out the plans. Despite the fact that the drains and fill on the meadows were done at municipal expense, the city did not have title to all the lands necessary for the development. To be sure, she had a sort of claim to part of them, but these were of the tax title variety, always looked on rather coldly by the legal profession. However, in the initial stages there seemed