

# What about Germany?

By MAX FLECHNER (Peoria, Arizona)

The unification of East and West Germany has raised many questions, political and economic, of concern to observers far and wide.

In the New York Times of April 28, A.M. Rosenthal considers that "The German Question Remains Open," and that unification to East Germany may mean only making money. What about German history and the German soul? What about the recent past? Some Germans reply, "But what do you want us to do?" Mr. Rosenthal replies that there should be an ongoing conclave between Germans and those they invaded and slaughtered, and that all should take part, officials, artists, scientists, students and workers.

Is there a new opportunity for Germany? Is economic opportunity, economic success, the only object? In addition to Mr. Rosenthal's suggestion that the Germans observe an ongoing conclave, the East Germans should try some economic self-help - by promoting an economic democracy, implementing Henry George's idea, to tax away land monopoly by taxing land to the extreme, and lowering to the extreme taxes on the results of man's labor, like buildings, improvements, all property, which would cause an economic boom in East Germany to rival or surpass that of West Germany. By making land accessible it would promote equality and justice in the market place, man's application of his labor would be rewarded by successful productivity. In turn, it would promote social and political equality, ensuring the universal objective of peace.

It could also ensure a meaningful political structure by emphasizing citizen involvement from the ground up, not from the unsuccessful effort of government from the top down. As access to the land is so meaningful, so is government from the ground up.

That's the answer to the question asked by many Germans, "But what do you want us to do?"