

## Frederick Verinder

Mr. A. W. Madsen of London, Editor of Land & Liberty, writes:

"I regret to inform you of the death of Frederick Verinder which took place at his home 9 Elm Park Avenue, Tottenham, London, N. 15, on Friday night, November 19th. He was in his ninetieth year. All his colleagues pay tribute to his memory and to his distinguished service in the Henry George cause as writer, speaker and secretary of the English League over a period of sixty-four years. Messages of sympathy to the bereaved relatives may be sent to Miss Edith Verinder at the address as above."

A cutting from The Times (London) thoughtfully submitted by Miss Phyllis Evans, states that the deceased was for many years general secretary of the British League for the Taxation of Land Values—a position he has held ever since 1884 when the league was formed as the Land Reform Union. In the winter of 1881-2 he first heard of Henry George's book *Progress and Poverty*, and two years later helped to organize George's first campaign.

## Reply from Modesto

MR. JOHN C. LINCOLN asks comment on his statement on "Land Values and Wages." For the good of the movement, if he and all writers will use the word "landholder" and not "landowner," it will help to break down the tendency to worship "landowners." An important sidelight he could have given labor is the fact that in economies manufacturers are not employers.

As a buyer of a Lincoln Electric Company motor to drive my pump or cool my refrigerator, I employ the men in Mr. Lincoln's plant. If orders stop coming in, men begin going out. Consumers are employers, and to have permanent prosperity we must build consumer buying power to the point where each consumer can buy goods of a value equal to those he produces. So long as landholders may take from consumers all but a bare living, consumers so impoverished cease to furnish employment.

—GEO. CARTWRIGHT

## A Unanimous Name For Our Movement

WE ARE all one in our aims. Why not a common name for us all? The following may be suggested:—

*Land Rent Restoration With Taxation Abolition League.*

It may be said: "The title is too long." But such a glorious Movement is worthy of such length, especially so explanatory.

The ideal title is in one word. Opposition Movements have it in "Marxism," "Socialism," "Communism." Have we not the one word that will bring these titles to naught? Will we not later rise to the occasion and proclaim as our title "Georgism"? The time is not yet, but we must work for it, that "Georgism" shall be the Movement that will rejuvenate the world by prevailing throughout mankind.

This surely is the destiny of our Movement if we falter not.

From Liberal Leader of New Zealand, Matamata, N. Z.

## Comfortable Income Five Dollars a Week

ARCHIE MATTESON sent us a newspaper story illustrating the purchasing power of the dollar, which, as he commented, "would prove most useful to instructors in our classes."

Briefly the data as reported by the Boston press, is this: One Lewis M. Woodbridge died the other day at the age of 85. When he was 29 he won a prize in a Boston Globe election contest, of \$5 a week for life. At that time the average wage of drapers and yard goods salesmen was \$4 a week. Mill hands in the textile factories in New England were paid \$3.40 a week for six days of 10 to 12 hours a day.

In a word, though he was a bachelor, \$5 a week in 1893 would have been a comfortable income for the head of a large family. Milk was 2c a quart and eggs 10c a dozen. Even a penny was important. A fine suit of clothes would come to \$6.50—the best shoes were \$1.50. Five dollars a week over and above what a man made at almost any job, states the Boston Globe, made him a man of means—"a well dressed dandy on a bicycle..."

By 1913, however, it would not even pay the rent for an average middle class family. Mr. Woodbridge was fifty then and disappointed that the purchasing power of his prize money had not remained steady. By the time he was 75 the weekly check would scarcely keep his automobile supplied with gas. Yes, he did marry, after all, and his wife survives. A Globe reporter called on her and she said wistfully, referring to the longest sustained prize payment on record, "I'll miss my pin money."

That, friends, is what the comfortable income of half a century ago is today—pin money!



"Dear, what in my opinion are the chief causes of inflation?"

—From The Saturday Review

## The Wealth Poll

RICHARD VAN HORN announced in these pages three months ago an attempt on the part of Wealth Incorporated, of which he is president, to determine the extent of the drift toward communism (if any) in this country. Mr. Van Horn now writes, "the results were so interesting that further and more detailed tabulation has been undertaken." He sent in figures, however, on the following question, *Will you be making a better living than now in 5 years?*

Out of 100 men who answered this 18 said "No," 45 said "Yes," and 37 didn't know. Out of 83 women 16 said "No," 24 said "Yes," and 43 didn't know. These were about evenly distributed between employed and self-employed groups. Only 100 listed their incomes as being over \$5,000, and in this number 59 expected a better living five years from now, 13 did not, and 28 said they didn't know.

Most of those who were optimistic about the future were counting on advancing in their jobs. Among the men, 33 thought it might come about through "good times," but only 3 women seemed sanguine on this point. About half of those expecting to rise in their jobs were earning over \$5,000 yearly.

Among the "No's" 55 men expected a depression and 55 women expected war, while 74 men and women didn't know but were expecting no good just the same. Among owners of businesses 66 expected a depression, 16 war, and 32 didn't know which to blame but were plainly pessimistic. Half of those listing incomes over \$5,000 looked for a depression.

Another question on which figures were supplied is, "Do you think that social legislation such as government control of wages, prices and profits will raise your standard of living?"

While 10 men and 26 women didn't know, 45 men and 54 women thought it would; and 45 men and 20 women thought it wouldn't. These, too, were about equally distributed between employees and business owners. In the over \$5,000 bracket only 3 said they didn't know on this one while 50 said "Yes," and 47 said "No."

Full results of the poll will be published when the tabulation is completed.

A one-act play to be written by members of Wealth Incorporated will be read at one of the Friday evening programs soon.