

purpose. Small cities, villages, and townships near Cleveland have raised more than \$1,000,000 in a short time by arresting and fining bootleggers. Some of these municipalities have put up town halls and bought fire fighting apparatus with the proceeds of such administration of the law. The aim of public authorities seems not to be so much to enforce the law as it is to get money out of it. Dry law enforcement in many sections is degenerating into a mercenary business to replenish public tills and provide salaries for more justices of the peace and constables. The occupation tax is now boldly urged for school purposes, and the legislature of Ohio has recently passed a bill imposing a license fee of 50 cents on any one who casts a line and hook into the water to catch a fish.

—*Cleveland Press.*

## Bold Words From The Bishop of Woolwich

**A**NOTHER form of property is land. This again is not a possession, but a trust. Those who use land for cultivation, for building, or for the production of things which are vital to the very life of the community are fulfilling a most valuable function and rendering true service.

But the possession of land for selfish aggrandisement is contrary to Christian ethics. We need to test certain practices which obtain today and ask whether they are consistent with the true ideals of Christian conduct. A person owns land; by causes for which he is not responsible the land increases in value, tenants by their industry develop trade and erect valuable buildings, leases run out and are renewed at largely increased rental. The landlord is at times enormously enriched by such increments which he himself has done nothing to earn, and for which he performs no corresponding function. Is this consistent with the teaching of our Lord and with Christian practice?

Similarly, mineral wealth is discovered under somebody's land. The owner may do nothing to develop it, but yet a certain sum is paid to him as royalty for every ton which is extracted by others from underneath his ground; or a certain wayleave is demanded for minerals drawn through his property.

The earth is the Lord's and He has stored within it all that mineral wealth for the use of the children of men. Those who toil in the mines should receive the fruit of their labors, but is it consonant with Christian practice that those who do not toil should be enriched at other's expense?—Rt. Rev. W. W. Hough, D.D., Bishop of Woolwich, at the Church Conference, Oxford, September 30, 1924.

**WHILE** each individual owner tries to get all he can get there is a limit to what he can get which constitutes the market price, which varies with different land and at different times.—HENRY GEORGE.

## Greatest Problem In Medical Service Is Now Economic Not Medical

**I**T is so unusual to find an article in a medical journal evincing the faintest suspicion in the mind of its writer that there is such a factor in human affairs as economic law, much less that such law has any remotest connection with the problems the doctor must meet, that the remarks of the editor of *The American Physician*, anent the proposal of Dr. Remy for regulation of the small hospital, comes like a breath of mountain air across the stagnant fog of a swamp. If every doctor could be got to comprehend the truth of your statement that "*economics* is a more fundamental factor in human affairs than medicine," could be got to realize that a medical education no more equips him with economic judgment than a course in economics equips him with the skill of a physician, we would be well on the way toward an intelligent solution of such questions as that raised by Dr. Remy, as well as of a multitude of others that perplex us.

### ABILITY TO PAY

This question, like every other relative to the securing of needed service by the people constituting society, resolves itself, finally into the very simple one of ability to pay for such service. No one need worry about the hospital facilities available to those who have the ability to pay for such; no one need worry about the hospital service available to any community whose constituent members have such ability. But just as nothing is gained by assuring the victim of carcinoma of the stomach that everything is all right, so nothing is gained by blinking the fact of economic inability; and the fact is that the average rural community cannot have "city" hospital facilities for the simple reason that it is not able to pay for this service.

But just here an incongruity presents itself to one who really attacks this problem with a determination to solve it; attacks it in the same spirit in which our medical scientist attacks the problem of physical disease. This medical scientist allows no preconceptions to carry any weight in determining the direction his investigations shall take; so soon as he can prove an hypothesis to be true, he frankly accepts it and allows that fact to determine what shall be his next point of attack. So soon as he can prove any belief false he discards it no matter what his former views have been, and he allows no traditions, no matter how sanctified by time, to divert him from the pursuit of truth, for he knows that truth is its own authority. The whole current of history of medicine is but an account of the activities of men who are exhausting the resources of science in the search for the cause of the various disorders to which they have devoted their talent.

When this has been isolated, to an attack upon the disease *through its cause* which they very well know is the only vulnerable point of attack.

But in what spirit do these selfsame men approach an economic problem? Is it too much to say that the moment any problem reaches the realm of economics the average doctor lapses from the high standards of science and espouses the psychology of the herd? Even when the employment of the very measures they themselves have shown to be vital to the control or eradication of the evil to which they have devoted their whole thought becomes a matter of economics, do they not too often appear content to see their whole program shelved from want of means to carry it into effect without even inquiring whether this obstacle is insurmountable, turning the matter over to the politicians as though it were no longer any concern of science?

And who are these politicians to whom we so complacently resign these economic problems? Real estate agents, petty lawyers, stock brokers, a sprinkling of farmers—men who have devoted their whole lives to a pursuit of the main chance; whose talent, if they have any talent, lies in the ability to manipulate a crowd of place seekers in a convention. Men who not only are destitute of scientific training, but unconscious of the inescapable authority of scientific method. And when we reach an economic impasse we calmly vacate and *implore such an "authority" to pass a law!*

#### INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY OF LABOR

In his Thirteenth Annual Report, the Commissioner of Labor of the United States tabulates twenty-five articles of general consumption, comparing the labor power absorbed in their production in 1895 with that in 1795. These articles were chosen as being fairly representative of the whole range of articles consumed by the American people. The item showing the smallest increment of advantage in production at the later date over that of the former is boots, of which 100 men could in a given time produce nine times as many pairs. The highest multiplication of effectiveness is given as 4098. The average of the twenty items was 321. That is, any given number of men could, in 1895, produce in a given time 321 times as much goods such as we all consume as could the same number in 1795. Now, submit this data to any scientist in the world with the request that he plot the price curve of these articles—illustrate the range of prices that would necessarily result from this increased power of labor in the production of these articles (by price, of course, is meant the quality of goods of one kind necessary to secure a given quality of other kinds, not money prices). Would he not confidently submit a curve that dropped steadily with progressive acceleration? What has actually happened would be represented by an irregular line indicating an average steady advance in prices.

Remember that producers of all kinds of goods had during the century in question, had their productive power multiplied 321 times, but in spite of this, by the testimony of a reliable Government Bureau, an individual armed with this vastly augmented power, who was pouring into the general fund of wealth his contribution in the form, let us say, of clothing, was unable to secure from that fund as great a quantity of goods as could produce only 1/321 the quantity of clothing. This disparity between potential and actual results being all the more inexplicable from the fact that each workman producing any particular form of goods he desired had had his power multiplied in a like ratio. And if we should desire to bring this illustration down to date, does anyone doubt that the past twenty-nine years have worked an augmentation of labor power at least equaling in rate that of the previous 100 years?

Now my contention is just this: if any such incongruity could be demonstrated as between results scientifically predicable from those actually attending the employment of some improved technique in the domain say, of surgery; if coincident with the inauguration and perfection of antiseptics in surgery, of sanitation as affecting typhoid fever, of antitoxin in the treatment of diphtheria, not only had not the death rate been vastly lowered in those fields of our science but had it actually slightly risen as compared with the pre-sanitary epoch in practice, there is not a doctor in the world who would supinely assent to the inevitability of such miscarriage of effort. Every man worthy the designation *physician* would be chafing at so patent a reversal of results rationally to be expected from the employment of these measures. Not only so; the leaders of our profession at least, would be devoting their whole talent to the solution of this paradox. But we are practicing medicine amongst people who have had their powers of production multiplied in such a degree that their present labor power would have seemed nothing short of miraculous to their ancestors of 100 years ago and despite this fact finding them unable to take full advantage of the sanitary measures medical science has made possible, *because of the inability* to secure the margin of goods over the necessities of life necessary to provide sewage, hospitalization, etc. And we seem to detect no incongruity in this situation. A considerable per cent. of the clientele of the average doctor can pay their bills only by the exercise of a severe degree of self-denial. I am practicing in one of the richest agricultural districts in Iowa, yet I was told a few days ago, by an agent for a collecting agency, that a physician in the county seat of an adjoining county had just recently turned into this agency 900 accounts for collection.

We are in daily contact with problems that can be solved by one of two methods; either by a more general diffusion of wealth or by state charity. And we see no incongruity in the fact of a people equipped with a power of produc-

tion incomprehensible to men of a short century ago faced with such a problem.

Surely men with scientific training cannot much longer ignore so patent, so absurd a miscarriage of purpose as this. Surely in this most fundamental factor of the life of every man, the economic relationship of men, a discrepancy so patent, so universal between the potential status of men armed with the wonder working improvements of the past century-and-a-half and that actually achieved will attract the attention of every mind entitled to the designation *scientific*. For this disparity is no less glaring than would be that of a physician of today making a drive of ten miles in his 1924 model car and uniformly consuming more time in doing so than was required by a yokel of 1750 in dragging a grist of wheat the same distance with a yoke of oxen.—Dr. T. J. Kelly in *The American Physician*.

## A Prayer for Landlords

IT is not generally known that at one time there was a special prayer for landlords. It was in the Liturgy of Edward VI., and dealt with the equitable disposition of land within the country. A prayer of a similar nature is needed at the present time to direct the attention of the public to the injustice of land monopoly. We reproduce for the information of our readers the prayer, which reads as follows:—

The earth is Thine (O Lord), and all that is contained therein; notwithstanding Thou hast given the possession thereof unto the children of men, to pass over the time of their short pilgrimage in this vale of misery; we heartily pray Thee to send Thy Holy Spirit into the hearts of them that possess the grounds, pastures, and dwelling places of the earth, that they, remembering themselves to be Thy tenants, may not rack and stretch out the rents of their houses and lands, nor yet take unreasonable fines and incomes after the manner of covetous worldlings, but so let them out to other, that the inhabitants thereof may both be able to pay the rents, and also honestly to live, to nourish their families, and to relieve the poor: give them grace also to consider, that they are but strangers, and pilgrims in this world, having here no dwelling-place, but seeking one to come; that they, remembering the short continuance of their life, may be content with that that is sufficient, and not join house to house, nor couple land to land, to the impoverishment of others, but so behave themselves in letting out their tenements, lands, and pastures, that after this life they may be received into everlasting dwelling-places: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

This prayer, which has marginal references to the various portions of Scripture quoted in it, is one of "Sundry Godly Prayers for Divers Purposes" given in "A Prymmer or boke of private prayer needfull to be used of al faythfull Christianes, which boke is auctorysed and set fourth by the Kings Majestie, to be taughte, learned,

redde, and used of al hys lovyng subjectes." It was published in London in 1553, and the above is taken from the reprint of it, referred to by Sir John Benn, at p. 458 of a volume of Liturgies, etc., of Edward VI., published by the Parker Society at Cambridge in 1843. The copy of the original "Prymmer" from which the reprint was made is in the Bodleian Library, Oxford.

## Notice To Our Readers

A PLAN of intensive circularization will be started early in the coming year to secure new readers for LAND AND FREEDOM. We want lists of names sympathetic to our movement. Let every reader of the paper get busy and send us in names. This request is addressed to every one who may know of persons in his locality who are likely to take an interest in the presentation of the Georgian philosophy, and the news of progress. What we want are names, names, names of promising persons up to a hundred thousand. We want to hear from every subscriber.

## How To Meet The Cost Of Roads

I OWN a farm fifteen miles from my downtown desk. I paid \$600 an acre for it. If I couldn't reach it by automobile over good roads I wouldn't have paid \$250 an acre for it; nor would anyone else.

If I had to travel even the last two miles over an unimproved road the value would be discounted at least \$100 an acre.

Land rises in value in proportion to its accessibility. The combination of automobiles and good roads has put more money into the pockets of owners of farm land near cities than all the crops they ever raised.

Good roads have also added a large percentage to the value of the crops grown by all farmers, due to the decreased cost of moving the crops to market.

A fleet of motor busses runs from the city limits to within a couple of miles of my farm. I hear people say that the owners of these busses should pay for the upkeep of the road. I don't see the reason. Every foot of land along the road on which these busses run, and for two miles back on each side, is worth at least \$50 an acre more because of the transportation service which is provided. The owners of this land can well afford to pay for the upkeep of the roads, and they should.

The right place to put the cost of public roads is in the price of the land. When you buy the land you'll find the cost of building the road is in the price, with a nice profit added. The charge will be there whether the landowner was taxed for the road or not.

—From a pamphlet printed by the Lawrence Paper Manufacturing Co., Lawrence, Kansas.