

March—April, 1929

# Land and Freedom

FORMERLY THE SINGLE TAX REVIEW

*An International Record of Single Tax Progress Founded in 1901*

Free Trade, Free Land, Free Men

A. G. Huie

A Royal Convert to Our Cause

H. R. H. Princess Andrew of Greece

Attitude of Economics Departments

Walter Fairchild

Equality of Opportunity

Radio Talk by George Lloyd

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# LAND AND FREEDOM

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### INDEX TO CONTENTS

	PAGE
HENRY FORD DID NOT WRITE IT.....	35
THE ATTITUDE OF COLLEGE ECONOMIC DEPART- MENTS TOWARDS THE SINGLE TAX. . . . . <i>Walter Fairchild</i>	36
A. BACKWARD GLANCE..... <i>Chester C. Platt</i>	37
FREE TRADE, FREE LAND, FREE MEN .... <i>A. G. Huie</i>	38
CHARLES LEBARON GOELLER RECOUNTS HIS EXPERI- ENCE.....	43
MR. GOELLER'S LECTURE ACTIVITIES.....	44
A SOLUTION FOR UNEMPLOYMENT ..... <i>S. S. Taber</i>	45
EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY. TALK OVER THE RADIO ..... <i>George Lloyd</i>	46
INSTITUTIONAL DEVILTRY..... <i>H. H. Hardinge</i>	48
SINGLE TAX IN GREECE..... <i>H. R. H. Princess Andrew</i>	49
AN INTERESTING CURIOSITY.....	51
PITTSBURGH ORGANIZING FOR FURTHER TAX ADVANCE..... <i>P. R. Williams</i>	56
BOOK REVIEWS.....	58
CORRESPONDENCE.....	60
NEWS NOTES AND PERSONALS.....	61

## WHAT LAND AND FREEDOM STANDS FOR

Taking the full rent of land for public purposes insures the fullest and best use of all land. In cities this would mean more homes and more places to do business and therefore lower rents. In rural communities it would mean the freedom of the farmer from land mortgages and would guarantee him full possession of his entire product at a small land rental to the government without the payment of any taxes. It would prevent the holding of mines idle for the purpose of monopoly and would immensely increase the production and therefore greatly lower the price of mine products.

Land can be used only by the employment of labor. Putting land to its fullest and best use would create an unlimited demand for labor. With an unlimited demand for labor, the job would seek the man, not the man seek the job, and labor would receive its full share of the product.

The freeing from taxation of all buildings, machinery, implements and improvements on land, all industry, thrift and enterprise, all wages, salaries, incomes and every product of labor and intellect, will encourage men to build and to produce, will reward them for their efforts to improve the land, to produce wealth and to render the services that the people need, instead of penalizing them for these efforts as taxation does now.

It will put an end to legalized robbery by the government which now pries into men's private affairs and exacts fines and penalties in the shape of tolls and taxes on every evidence of man's industry and thrift.

All labor and industry depend basically on land, and only in the measure that land is attainable can labor and industry be prosperous. The taking of the full Rent of Land for public purposes would put and keep all land forever in use to the fullest extent of the people's needs, and so would insure real and permanent prosperity for all.

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## Looking With Envious Eyes

REALTORS and former boomers of Los Angeles are greatly perturbed over the land speculation caused in other places in anticipation of the Boulder Dam construction. Land speculation is a very bad thing, according to the *Los Angeles Times* and the realtors of that city, when carried on elsewhere. It is condemned in unmeasured terms. Prospective buyers are called "suckers." It is suggested by the *Times* that Commander Byrd will make a great mistake if he does not plant a beach frontage on the Bay of Whales and employ "a couple of rosy realtors with dream books."

It is suggested that the Bay of Whales must have a lot of stuff better than the Colorado River exposure. Las Vegas, Nevada, is a special irritation to these suddenly aroused Californians. This town, of whom few have ever heard until this day, is a perfect Mecca for the land speculator, owing to Boulder Dam. Los Angeles boomers decry the drift of investment money to Las Vegas. Like hungry tigers who see their prey disappearing, they emit ferocious cries. Nothing is too severe to say of the realtors of Las Vegas and other places, and no term too contemptuous to apply to these buyers of (worthless?) real estate. "Suckers" is the term they use. Does it occur to them to point out what is fundamental in the problem? It does not. What do they care for fundamentals? Somebody else is "swiping" their plunder. That is all that interests them.

## Henry Ford Did Not Write it

AN article bearing the name of Henry Ford, the automobile manufacturer, as the author has appeared from time to time in the Australian Single Tax papers, in the *Los Angeles Forum*, *Fairhope Courier*, the *Square Deal*, the *Commonweal* of London, and elsewhere.

It was a bold declaration of the Henry George philosophy couched in the most radical terms. It was all in all an admirable statement of the writer's belief that the rent of land belongs to the state and should be taken by the state, and it indicated the beneficent results that would follow from this great social change.

We suspected at the time that the article did not emanate from the Detroit manufacturer. The internal evidence

was all against it. It was not in Henry Ford's style; it did not contain, as most of the articles purporting to be written by him almost always do, the evidence of loose thinking. We decided at once that there was some mistake.

But that we might have the evidence before us we addressed a letter to Mr. Ford—we had written a number of articles for the *Dearborn Independent* before that paper joined the Great Majority, and so had every reason to believe that our name was not unfamiliar in the Detroit office—and we asked Mr. Ford in this letter to acknowledge or disavow the authorship of this article. A letter from his secretary in reply bore this cryptic statement: "Mr. Ford begs to thank you for your communication," and nothing more! No answer to the question as to whether he had written it or not.

And now the secret is out, and we know the article was written by Henry S. Ford of Camden, N. J., a life long Single Taxer. He wrote it with no intention to deceive, and he always signs his middle initial to whatever he writes. The article was originally printed in the *Groundhog* many years ago. Its publication in the Australian Single Tax papers was a perfectly innocent misunderstanding. But to those in this country familiar with the alleged articles of Henry Ford on economic and political questions the accredited authorship of this article should have aroused suspicion.

This is written in answer to several correspondents, one of whom asked rather irritably if we thought such a declaration by Henry Ford was not important enough to be quoted in LAND AND FREEDOM. We would indeed regard it as very important, and we promise to print anything Mr. Ford says about the Single Tax when he says it!

## Higher Wages, Lower Labor Cost

THE Manchester *Guardian-Commercial* sees the bugaboo of lower Japanese labor costs in the cotton industry laid at last. Some time ago a report on the Japanese cotton industry by an English expert had raised doubts as to Japan's advantage, an address to the Manchester Statistical Society increased these doubts, and now the *Guardian's* own special correspondent in Japan sends

statistical evidence showing that, despite wages scarcely more than half those of England, differences in efficiency, etc., are such that Japan's labor costs per unit of manufacture are some 50 per cent. higher than in Lancashire. Again it is shown that the only source of wages is production.

—*Commerce and Finance.*

## The Attitude of College Economics Departments Towards the Single Tax

AN impression is current among Single Taxers, that professors of economics in our universities and colleges are generally opposed to teaching the principles of land value taxation, particularly as expounded by Henry George in his writings. This impression is contrary to the personal experience of the writer, who became acquainted, in his student days, with the Single Tax principle through the study of "Progress and Poverty" in the economics course at the University of Cincinnati. At that time, "Progress and Poverty" was used as a textbook by Professor Philip Van Ness Myers, Head of the Economics Department, and it was studied intensively by his classes for a period of six weeks. At the close of the course, essays on the subject were invited.

Recently, at the suggestion of the Executive Committee of the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, the writer made a tour of the Middle West, and visited fourteen colleges and universities, located in eight different states and in eleven different towns. The schools visited included three or four privately endowed colleges, and a number of State Universities, representing a fair cross section of the educational system of the Middle West.

The particular matter presented to the heads of the Economics Departments, was the use of the book "SIGNIFICANT PARAGRAPHS FROM PROGRESS AND POVERTY" by Henry George, compiled by Professor Harry Gunnison Brown of the University of Missouri. In every instance, the professors interviewed were familiar with the book and expressed themselves as keenly interested not only in the book but in the subject as well. In a majority of cases, the professors expressed themselves as favorable to the underlying principles. In only one or two instances, was an unfavorable attitude expressed.

Particularly impressive was the high respect in which all the professors held the writings of Henry George. Many of them brought out their own copy of "Progress and Poverty" retained from university days. In several classes, "Progress and Poverty" is used, partially as a textbook, and partially for reference reading.

Every school visited had in its Reference Library "Progress and Poverty" either abridged or unabridged, or "Significant Paragraphs from Progress and Poverty." Several Schools have purchased "Significant Paragraphs"

in quantities for sale to the students in the economic classes. One large State university, remarkable for its modern business atmosphere, has purchased upwards of 350 copies of "Significant Paragraphs" at the regular rates, from the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, for use in classes. In another school, 120 copies of the book have been placed in the Revolving Library of the Economics Department. A copy is placed in the hands of each student in the economics classes; the book is used as a text-book, and the writing of an Essay upon the subject of "Land Value Taxation" is required of each student as a class theme. At the end of the semester the book is returned to this Revolving Library, and thus placed at the disposal of the next group of students.

The general attitude of the teachers of economics in the schools is to avoid any appearance of propaganda, and to present the matter as a study of principles. The arguments for and against the proposition are discussed, but it is apparently the desire of the teachers to present our proposition in its purity, and to encourage the students to make their own analysis. This is in line with the modern tendency in education which is to teach the student *how* to think rather than *what* to think.

In a number of classes, the writer found the works of C. B. Fillebrown in use. At one university Fillebrown's "A. B. C. of Taxation" was used as a textbook. Two or three professors stated that they formerly distributed to their students, during the class periods devoted to the subject of land value taxation, Fillebrown pamphlets,—

Catechism of Natural Taxation.

Land—The Property Concept. The Rent Concept. Taxation and Housing.

The use of these pamphlets has been discontinued because they are unavailable, being out of print.

Generally speaking, it may be said that the Economics Departments of the colleges and universities will receive and present to their students printed matter which dispassionately states the principles of our proposition. Sometimes literature is prepared containing text which would be acceptable, but the use of which is made impossible in class work because extraneous or argumentive statements of a propaganda nature are included.

The use of the unabridged text of "Progress and Poverty" is difficult in elementary classes in economics because of the length of the work, and the shortness of the period that can be allotted for the study of the subject. For this reason the little volume "Significant Paragraphs from Progress and Poverty" by Professor Brown, has been welcomed.

—WALTER FAIRCHILD

EDITORIAL NOTE—We are glad to print the above account of the favorable reception accorded by the colleges visited by Mr. Fairchild in his generous and self-imposed task of securing a revival of interest among professors and students in the teachings of Henry George. Whether Mr. Fairchild has been especially fortunate we cannot say. But even Mr. Goeller, who met with some set-backs early in his experience, recounts in his later tour of educational institutions in Pennsylvania, much that should encourage us.

—EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM

## A Backward Glance

THE celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the publication of "Progress and Poverty," which is to be held this summer at Edinburgh, prompts one to take a backward glance at the reform movement which that notable book started, in this country and in foreign lands. My recollection of the movement goes back some years before 1887, when the Syracuse Convention was held. I was in New York and called on Thaddeus T. Wakeman, a practicing attorney, who was also a lecturer on radical religious themes, and whom I had met several times when he was out on lecturing tours. Mr. Wakeman invited me to attend a mid-day luncheon at a restaurant, located I think on Duane Street, where he said I would hear some interesting talks. And surely I did, for among the speakers were Henry George and Louis F. Post.

When the call went out for the Syracuse Convention, which was held on August 17, 18 and 19, 1887, I was interested for I had been closely following the mayoralty campaign of 1886, had read most of the speeches as reported in the New York daily papers, and had seen the cat, at least the general outline of the famous animal. A meeting was called in Tompkins County to elect a delegate to the convention, and I was elected. I believe Byron W. Holt and James C. Parsons were at the meeting, and possibly others. F. S. Hammond, of St. Petersburg, then a resident of New York state, was one of the delegates. He recently lent me a copy of a scrap book containing an account of the convention as reported in Syracuse newspapers, the *Evening Herald* and the *Morning Standard*.

The list of delegates calls up interesting recollections. Among the number besides Henry George, Dr. McGlynn, and Louis F. Post, I find the names W. T. Croasdale, S. E. Shevitsch, Lawrence Grunlund, Frank J. Farrell (colored) William McCabe, Walter Vrooman, John McMackin, James Redpath, Fred C. Leubuscher, E. J. Shriver, Augustus A. Levy, Rev. James O. S. Huntington and R. J. Hinton.

Mr. Schevitsch, Mr. Grunland, Mr. Vrooman, Col. Hinton, and other Socialists were unseated by the report of the committee on contested seats. They were Socialists. But many Socialists retained seats in the convention. Under a rule which had been adopted by the United Labor Party of New York County, which in 1886 had nominated Mr. George for mayor, the Socialists mentioned were ineligible to serve as delegates it was said.

The platform adopted by the convention was the same, or nearly the same as that which was adopted in September 1886 by the convention of trade and labor associations of New York City which nominated Mr. George for mayor. The land plank did not use the word "Single Tax." "As measures of relief from some of the evils resulting from the failure to tax land values" the convention declared for reduced hours of labor, the prevention of the employ-

ment of children, the sanitary inspection of tenements, factories and mines, against the abuse of conspiracy laws, and demanded the adoption of the Australian system of voting.

At a mass meeting held one evening during the convention, there were speeches by Mr. George, Dr. McGlynn, Rev. Hugh O. Pentecost and others. But the speaking I remember best was the debate over the report of the committee on contested seats. The time was equally divided, Mr. George, Dr. McGlynn, and Mr. Post speaking for the majority report excluding the Socialists and Mr. Shevitsch, Col. Hinton and young Vrooman speaking for the minority report. I have attended many conventions, but never heard a discussion in which real oratory and sound reasoning arose to greater heights. It was a credit to both sides. Mr. Shevitsch was a handsome man of middle age, Col. Hinton, old and gray haired and gray bearded, and Mr. Vrooman appeared to be about eighteen years of age. Col. Hinton's talk was impassioned, and young Vrooman's speech was fiery too.

In December 1889 appeared a communication from the Single Tax League of Washington, asking Henry George men if there should not be held a national conference, "of those who believe that the appropriation of ground rent to public uses should be the paramount issue in politics." Chas. Frederick Adams and Jackson Ralston were among the signers.

Henry George's comment on the proposal for this national gathering is particularly interesting at this time, when the Edinburgh conference is being planned. Mr. George said:

"I believe that the appropriation of ground rent to public uses ought to be the paramount issue in politics, and that the day is fast coming when it will be. But I do not believe that that day is to be hastened by any premature attempt to force it into politics through a third party. Since the shameful ending of the United Labor Party, I have a wholesome dread of little parties that may be used as cat's paws by the politicians of the great parties."

Mr. George expressed the hope that if the conference were held that there may be present such men as Ring of Texas, Maguire of California, Williams of Missouri, Garrison of Massachusetts, Johnson of Ohio, Furbish or Bailey of Illinois, Powderly of Pennsylvania, Saunders of England, McGhee of Scotland, Davitt of Ireland, Toubreau of France, Flurschheim of Germany, and Sir George Grey of New Zealand.

If we are able to have with us at Edinburgh, Dr. Pikler of Hungary, Dr. Dane of Australia, Professor Dewey, Dr. Wise and a score of others like these men, the conference will be something like the one Mr. George was wishing for in 1889.

—CHESTER C. PLATT.

## Free Trade, Free Land, Free Men

### PROGRESS OF THE HENRY GEORGE MOVEMENT IN N. S. W.

**H**ENRY GEORGE visited Australia in 1890. He arrived in Sydney in the beginning of March. His visit was due to the activities of his disciples in Sydney. His books, particularly "Progress and Poverty" and "Protection or Free Trade" had made many enthusiastic converts.

It is well to note that Henry George made a much bigger impression in N. S. W. than in Victoria. Those who favored Free Trade had generally prevailed in N. S. W. while protectionist ideas had been dominant in Victoria. Thus there was a better soil here than in the adjoining State, so the economic seeds planted by Henry George produced greater results.

#### THE FIRST PRACTICAL EFFECTS

The first practical effects in N. S. W. were seen in the coupling of taxation of land values with free trade. It was put forward as the natural, direct alternative in raising public revenue to tariff taxation. Although some Henry George men were elected in 1891 it was not until the general election in 1894 that very definite results were seen.

The Dibbs Government had imposed a number of very modest protective duties. This provoked a storm of protest and the protectionists were swept out of office in 1894. The new Reid Government proposed to cut the tariff down to about half a dozen items of a revenue producing character, chiefly stimulants and narcotics. It also proposed a tax on land values and an income tax to raise the necessary revenue.

Such a policy proved too radical for the very conservative Upper House known as the Legislative Council. It rejected the land value tax. Mr. Reid appealed straight to the country and his policy was emphatically endorsed; even Mr. Dibbs lost his seat. The Council then had no option but to pass the land value tax. In this way N. S. W. became more definitely a Free Trade country and Sydney was one of the freest ports of the world. N. S. W. prospered under the Reid policy.

#### A VALUATION OF THE LAND

The introduction of the land values system in N. S. W. necessitated a valuation of the land. This took a little time. The land value tax was a small one only, one penny in the £, and there was an exemption of £240. This was a defect. It was opposed by Single Taxers but was adopted as a concession to small owners. At the same time all owners had the benefit of it.

The land was valued at £129,178,000. The exemption and the deductions because of unpaid balances on account of land being conditionally purchased by settlers reduced

the taxable amount to £76,800,000. The receipts on account of the tax from 1897 to 1910 were:

1897	£139,079	1904	£332,530
1898	364,131	1905	336,785
1899	253,901	1906	345,497
1900	286,227	1907	178,889
1901	288,369	1908	80,794
1902	301,981	1909	9,066
1903	314,104	1910	7,438

#### HOW FREE TRADE WAS LOST

The Australian States decided to federate, and the new Commonwealth was proclaimed on the 1st Jan., 1901. In that year a tariff on protectionists lines was introduced. Thus N. S. W. lost the great advantages of a Free Trade policy.

Up till the end of 1898 I lived in country districts. I read "Progress and Poverty" in 1889. It convinced me. I did not even hear Henry George speak as the nearest town he visited was 120 miles distant. On the 2nd Sept., 1901, the present League was formed at a Henry George Anniversary Dinner and I was appointed Hon. Sec. pro tem. There has been no competition for the job since. "The pro tem" was soon dropped and the "Hon." after seven years.

The new League reviewed the position and decided that the line of least resistance was through local government. Our system was out of date, and a new Act had been promised for years. In 1902 I arranged for members of our committee to interview Mr. Carruthers who was then leader of the opposition. He received us kindly, showing a clear understanding of our principles.

He promised that if elected he would provide for local taxation on land values. He renewed this promise to a deputation which I organized after he became Premier in 1904. Mr. Carruthers was as good as his word—if not even better. First he provided a system of rural government for the unincorporated portions of the State, except in the sparsely settled Western Division, with rating on unimproved values only. Second, he provided a new system for municipalities outside the City of Sydney.

With them he made it compulsory to levy a general rate of not less than one penny in the £ on land values. But they could raise all their rates in that way, or impose an additional rate on improved values—that is the value of the land and improvements taken together. But if they proposed this the ratepayers had the right to demand a poll and decide the incidence of the rating for themselves. A similar option existed for special, local and loan rates

#### WON ALL THE POLLS

Most Councils adopted the land values system straight out. In a few cases a mixed system was proposed. We demanded polls and won them all. In country centres however, which we could not readily reach, improved

value rating was adopted to a limited extent chiefly for special and local rates. This method however is dying out of its own accord.

Prior to the adoption of the Carruthers Act the State Government had to attend to local expenditure in rural areas and also did a good deal of work in municipal areas. Mr. Carruthers made it a condition that Councils should undertake this local expenditure themselves. If they levied a rate of not less than a penny in the £ on land values the State land value tax would not be collected in future. The £240 exemption was abolished. The Shire rates were first imposed in 1907, and assessed annual value rating was abolished in municipalities in 1908.

SHIRE REVENUE FROM LAND VALUES

Here are the particulars of the rates levied in the Shires beginning with 1907 when receipts from the State land value tax began to fall off.

1907	£358,751	1918	£ 729,964
1908	370,370	1919	763,356
1909	374,206	1920	868,809
1910	423,477	1921	1,034,147
1911	469,605	1922	1,110,403
1912	524,485	1923	1,174,484
1913	572,892	1924	1,264,022
1914	623,690	1925	1,364,220
1915	626,514	1926	1,474,857
1916	651,437	1927	1,598,036
1917	691,090		

The State land valuations were made available to the Shires and they were given the right to make re-valuation from time to time for themselves. The number of Shires was 134 in 1907 and 136 in 1927. The land values in the Shires in 1907 were £81,526,814. The area was 179,130 square miles and the estimated population was 542,800.

In 1927 the land values were £158,991,308. The area was 181,582 square miles. This increase was due to re-adjustments, partly through the Shires in some cases absorbing municipal areas. The population had increased to 692,150.

MUNICIPAL REVENUE FROM LAND VALUES

The rating provisions of the Act with respect to Municipalities came into force in 1908. Here are particulars as to receipts.

1908	£ 619,060	1918	£1,242,551
1909	646,395	1919	1,327,471
1910	648,571	1920	1,630,309
1911	731,687	1921	1,855,981
1912	818,576	1922	1,992,420
1913	888,985	1923	2,262,458
1914	1,032,687	1924	2,417,340
1915	1,077,164	1925	2,604,674
1916	1,113,222	1926	2,822,274
1917	1,186,366	1927	3,093,434

The number of municipalities in 1908 was 191 with a total area of 1,915,188 acres, and in 1927 it was 180 with 1,614,449 acres. The unimproved land values in the Municipalities in 1908 were £43,904,839 and in 1927 they had increased to £123,888,700.

The estimated population in 1908 was 918,520 and in 1927 it had increased to 1,573,080.

THE CASE OF NORTH SYDNEY

Opposition to economic reform dies very hard. The Municipality of North Sydney gave us a lot of trouble. It was one of the last municipalities in 1908 to impose its rates under the new Act. The aldermen wanted to put part of the rates on improved values, but seeing the polls in other municipalities all being decided in favor of land values only they deemed discretion the better part of valor and levied one rate on unimproved values.

During the year they discovered a small loophole in the Act. A rate for interests payments on old loans could be imposed on improved values without ratepayers being allowed to demand a poll. In 1909 they divided the rates, the general rate to raise £20,218 on land values and the loan rate on improved values for £7,172. As North Sydney was then the leading suburban municipality we felt it necessary to take up the challenge lest the evil spread to other areas.

I secured a lot of information from the Town Hall, and issued special leaflets. They caused a local sensation and the Mayor warned me off the premises as one not entitled to information, not being a ratepayer. That difficulty could have been overcome but I thought I had enough. We took a hand in their municipal elections and ultimately forced the Council to abandon its improved value rate in 1912.

IMPROVED VALUE RATING DYING OUT

Many Councils in 1907 imposed one rate on land values for all purposes. Others had in addition special, local, or loan rates on the same basis. And some had such rates on improved values.

The general rates since 1908 have been on land values only. In that year additional rates for various reasons were imposed on the same basis in 48 municipalities. The number of Councils imposing improved value rates was 36.

The 1927 figures are not yet available but in 1926 the number of Councils imposing additional rates on land values only was 153 while the number with improved value rates had declined to 23. These results are just a natural development. The people generally favor the land values system and its use is being extended without resort to force in the shape of a poll on the question.

It is impossible to say exactly what amount of rates are actually charged on improvements. I have gone carefully through the figures for 1926 and I estimate that it may be anything from £20,000 to £25,000 altogether, which is a very small proportion in a rate revenue of

£5,708,352. So that our system of Local Government taxation is almost entirely on land values.

**THE CITY OF SYDNEY UNDER SEPARATE ACT**

The City of Sydney is under its own Act and therefore was not affected by rating reform in the municipalities. As soon as the City Council saw that the municipalities and shires had the right to collect the land tax as a rate but without exemptions they wanted it also.

By that time Mr. Carruthers through ill health had retired from the Premiership and Mr. Wade was in office. He agreed to put the City Council on the same footing as other local governing bodies but he made a mess of it. The City was given power to collect the land tax as a rate and nominally power to raise all its revenue in the same way.

Unfortunately there was a provision in the Act which would deprive the Council of rate revenue from the Government properties in event of rating on land values being adopted. That became the sheet anchor of the die-hards and it took us seven years to shift it. Year after year we sought in vain to get the Council to rate on land values only. Twice I was a candidate for the Council with a view to forcing the issue.

**ALDERMAN R. D. MEAGHER AS LORD MAYOR**

In 1915 we raised nearly £100 and waged a vigorous campaign for months. We concentrated on the doubtful wards. I got out special leaflets showing how each ward was affected. The expiring Council had a majority of four against us. The new Council had a majority of four in our favor. The Lord Mayor and the Chairman of the Finance Committee were both defeated.

Alderman R. D. Meagher, M. L. A. became Lord Mayor. Alderman Meagher went to the Premier, pointed out the anomaly in Wade's Act and got it altered. The City of Sydney imposed all its rates or local taxes on land values in 1916. The opposition crumpled up at the finish and was not even present when the unimproved values rate was imposed.

When it was all over a number of citizens were good enough to give me a banquet—at which the Lord Mayor presided and an illuminated address which has been on view in the office ever since, and a wallet of notes. Here are particulars of the City revenue from land values since the power to collect the land tax was transferred in 1909. At first this rate was 1d. but it was increased to 1½d. in 1913.

1909 .....	£ 78,723	1919 .....	£ 587,376
1910 .....	83,569	1920 .....	623,766
1911 .....	98,183	1921 .....	747,654
1912 .....	100,267	1922 .....	729,096
1913 .....	151,212	1923 .....	788,072
1914 .....	170,653	1924 .....	744,386
1915 .....	168,703	1925 .....	745,596
1916 .....	520,537	1926 .....	795,368

1917 .....	455,040	1927 .....	1,016,882
1918 .....	465,988		

Since 1923 the total has included the proceeds of ½d. in the £ towards the cost of Sydney Harbour Bridge and since 1926 a ¼d. in the £ towards the cost of main roads.

**THE NORTH SHORE BRIDGE**

The largest arch bridge in the world is now in course of construction across Sydney Harbour. It is expected that it will be open for traffic in 1931. It provides for both railway and general traffic. As it was apparent that such a work would greatly increase the values of land in the City of Sydney and in the Northern suburbs Parliament decided that a third of the cost should be paid by means of a rate on land values so as to secure a portion of the increase for the benefit of the community.

The rate is levied with Local Government rates and the cost of collection is nominal. Here are particulars of the amounts due on account of this rate from the City of Sydney and the Northern suburbs.

1923 .....	£ 114,768	1926 .....	£ 144,699
1924 .....	135,808	1927 .....	179,725
1925 .....	139,948	1928 .....	188,832

When the proportion of the cost, probably about £2,000,000 is met this rate will lapse. The fact however that such a substantial proportion of the cost of a great public work is to be paid out of the increment arising because of it is an important indication of the growth of public opinion.

**THE MAIN ROADS**

The development of motor traffic necessitated something more in providing and maintaining public highways than local governing bodies were able to manage. After the construction of railways many of the main roads of N. S. W. were neglected. The motor has changed this and set up a new and insistent demand for good roads.

To meet the needs of the time a Main Roads Board was appointed. Part of the revenue of the Board is drawn from ¼d. rate on land values in the City of Sydney and ½d. rate in the County of Cumberland, plus the Blue Mountains Shire.

The approximate receipts from this source in 1926 were £241,307 and in 1927 £270,944. As pointed out the receipts on account of the Bridge and the Main Roads are included in figures already quoted as land values revenue raised by Shire, Municipal and City Councils.

**ON PURELY HENRY GEORGE LINES**

It is important to note that the N. S. W. system is on pure Henry George lines. I understand that the American system is to tax on the values of properties. Thus if a piece of land is idle it is rated on its value. If there are improvements upon it then the rate is on the improved value. The Pittsburg plan is now to assess improvements at 50 per cent. of their value, thus throwing a larger pro-



portion of the rates on to land values. The American system is what we would call rating on improved values.

In England I believe idle land is exempt and what is called "agricultural land" is rated very low, and the Baldwin Conservative Government proposes to exempt it also in the interests of land monopolists. In this way the whole burden of the rates is to be thrown upon the use of land, aided by grants from the general taxpayer.

N. S. W. leads the world because its system is to exempt improvements altogether. For that reason I say it is on pure Henry George lines. A Council has to impose so much in rates or local taxes and it strikes one or more rates on the value of land only to raise the necessary amount. Thus in the suburban municipality of Ashfield where I live the estimates for 1929 provide for revenue of £78,107 from local taxation and a rate of 4½d. in the £ on land values only is proposed to raise it.

#### VALUATION OF LAND ACT

Some years of experience made it plain that allowing Councils to value the land was not satisfactory. It was of the nature of casual employment in most cases and those doing it were often under the influence of interested persons. This led to the Valuation of Land Act which was passed in 1916.

As the war was on it was seized as an excuse to go slow. The Valuer General began in a small way and has gradually extended his operations. Successive Governments have failed to give him sufficient support to complete a valuation of the State. Vested interests have been very hostile to a uniform valuation.

The Valuer General has nothing to do with taxation. His sole purpose is to value properties according to a common principle or plan for public purposes. He is one of the most important and serviceable officers employed by the State. The N. S. W. system is the best in Australia but it will be some little time before the whole of N. S. W. lands are under the Valuer General. He controls the whole Sydney metropolitan area, except the City of Sydney, the Newcastle district and a number of country towns and some shires.

#### THE HEALTHIEST CITY IN THE WORLD

Sydney is the healthiest city in the world. My authority is Dr. J. S. Purdy, Metropolitan Health Officer. He states that "for eight years Sydney has held the distinction of having the lowest death of any city in the world." Whether Dr. Purdy is able to assign a reason for this unique state of affairs I cannot say. It may not have even occurred to him that Sydney imposes its local taxation on land values.

The effect of land values rating has been to assist the population to spread out. The slum areas are in the older portions of Sydney district. They were the product of the former rating system when Sydney was not so healthy. The City of Sydney occupies a small area—3,244 acres. It is surrounded by 47 suburban municipalities and four

shires with an area of 436,144 acres. The population at the end of 1926 was 1,201,750.

Land values have forced the subdivision of a great many large areas which were hitherto idle or put to very nominal uses. Home sites are larger, and the greatest relative growth in population has been in the outer suburbs where there is more room. These are very important considerations and have their bearing upon the health of the community. Dr. Purdy has given the Henry George system of land value taxation for local purposes a very fine testimonial.

#### BUILDING PROGRESS

At half-yearly intervals the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage issues statements of the building progress in the area under its control. In the Sydney and Newcastle districts water supply, sewerage and drainage are under control of Water Boards. The Sydney water area is not quite the same as the Metropolitan area already mentioned. The Board only controls land adjoining its mains, so that a good deal of the land within the metropolitan area is not served and a good deal outside is supplied by the Board.

In 1928 the number of new buildings erected was 11,878, at a cost of £16,100,173. The figures for the City of Sydney were 324 new buildings, cost £3,630,037, the remainder being in the suburbs. For the ten years ending 1928 the number of new buildings was 100,642, cost £113,157,810.

The City of Sydney in a very real sense is being re-built. Many millions are being spent. A firm can spend a million on a building, as the Bank of N. S. W. is said to be doing now on its new head office, and the City Council will not impose any rates at all on the improvements. It is content with a rate on the value of the land only. The new head office of the Government Savings Bank of N. S. W. which is now occupied and almost complete, cost £1,370,000 apart from the land.

#### PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION

Proportional representation occupies the same position in the politics of a country as the Single Tax does in its economics. The Single Tax is to provide Free Trade, Free Land, Free Men, but that is in the sense of political economy. This freedom must be obtained through political action. A system of election therefore which gives a similar freedom to the electors is essential.

This was long ago recognized by the Henry George men of N. S. W. They saw that freedom from the bondage of the party machine was necessary to enable the electors to vote according to their convictions. P. R. was the only means to give them that freedom. After some ten years of effort the proportional system was secured for state elections. Its operation, however, was hampered by defective and incomplete regulations.

When it was adopted I determined to give the people of one electorate a chance to vote straight for a Henry

George man. I chose electorate which was most compact and handy for our people to work and I went to live in it.

The first P. R. election for N. S. W. State Parliament was in 1920. There were 20 candidates for the five seats. I was tenth on the first count with 1,268 votes. Added preferences made it up to 1,688.

At the 1922 election I was seventh in a field of 12 candidates with 2,670, added preferences made it up to 3,080. In 1925 in a field of 14 candidates I was sixth with 3,976 first preference votes. At the conclusion I had 5,212 votes. In fact had electors generally used their preferences more fully so that their ballot papers could have been used instead of over 3,000 being exhausted I would have been elected.

Consider what would have been the moral effect of a man in the teeth of all opposition of the party machines and the daily press winning a seat in Parliament as a Henry George man. But we have lost P. R. For a short time we had a bushranger Premier in the person of Mr. J. T. Lang, masquerading as a Labor Leader. He deprived the people of the freedom which P. R. gives them behind their backs. That is, he repealed P. R., thus debasing or making the franchise much less effective. Mr. Lang is the worst type of politician who has ever held high office in N. S. W.

Originally the Labor Party in N. S. W. was substantially a Single Tax Party. Its chief founders were Single Taxers. But it has long since betrayed its first love. Most of the Single Taxers left it and it became a mere political party with a good title. To-day it upholds protection monopoly and trades in wretched palliatives. And when the country had electoral justice in the shape of P. R. it stole it from the people.

#### THE RELATIVE POSITION OF N. S. W.

Finally let me in some measure set out the relative importance of N. S. W. in comparison with the other States. There are six states. N. S. W. is the original or foundation State of the Australian Commonwealth. The others are either offshoots or were started subsequently. N. S. W. has 10.44 per cent. of the area of Australia and 38.45 per cent. of the population.

In 1927 N. S. W. had 29.47 per cent. of the wheat crop, 55.20 per cent. of the wool clip, and 67.97 of the value of mineral production. The wool percentage is quantity, not value, which would probably be higher.

With manufactures the proportion of value added in the process of manufacture in N. S. W. was 43.03 per cent. N. S. W. imports were 41.97 per cent. of the Australian total and the exports 43.29 per cent.

N. S. W. had 39.77 per cent. of the total State revenues and its proportion of savings bank deposits was 38.25 per cent. Our State railway mileage was 22.58 per cent. of the total. Gross railway earnings were 39.44 per cent., and net railway earnings 59.42 of the total. The figures are all for 1927.

These details give some idea of the position that N. S. W. occupies in relation to the other States. N. S. W. is notably the leading State and it has very definitely taken the lead in giving effect to the principles of Henry George with great benefit to the people, and it has set a good example for others to follow.

A. G. HUIE, Secretary Henry George League of N. S. W.

## The Need of Cheap Editions

(FOR ADVANCING OUR CAUSE)

AS to measures, I feel much like the Kentuckian who said, "All whiskey is good whiskey but some whiskey is better than other whiskey." All measures which advance the Single Tax are good and I believe that no sincere work to advance the Single Tax is ever wasted. But some measures are better than other measures. I think the Henry George Foundation has done very remarkable work and that we cannot exaggerate its effect. The Schalkenbach Foundation is doing excellent work. *LAND AND FREEDOM* in New York; *Land and Liberty* in London, the Single Tax papers which circle the globe are effective; but nine-tenths of all the active Single Taxers I have known were converted or their conversion fixed by reading one or all of Henry George's books and the period of greatest activity and of greatest progress in the Single Tax movement were when Henry George's books were available in cheap paper covers.

Silas Burroughs who did so much effective Single Tax work before his untimely death was converted by a copy of the sixpenny edition of *Progress and Poverty* which he saw in a shop window in Auckland, New Zealand, during the few hours he spent in that city. Men who are converted by a speech may have their opinions again changed by another speech, but men who become Single Taxers through reading one of the books are apt to stay converted. As Henry George has said "If thinking men are few, they are for that reason all the more powerful."

The distribution of cheap editions of Henry George's books therefore seems to me one of the most important methods of advancing the Single Tax and if we can put these books into the hands of the pupils in our public schools at a period when their ideas are taking permanent shape, I believe that the effectiveness of our work and of the money and time spent on it will be multiplied. A few days after the Mayoralty election of 1886 I called on Henry George and told him that I wanted to give away 10,000 copies of one of his books and asked him which one it should be. He said he would like to think over for some time and the next day he decided the *Land Question* was the best book to attract the attention of people who knew nothing of the Single Tax. For some years the *Land Question* was only printed when bound with *Property and Land* and the *Condition of Labor* and no cheap copies have been available.

—From an Address by WILL ATKINSON in Pittsburgh.

## Charles LeBaron Goeller Recounts His Experience

THERE is a Chinese saying that "A picture is worth a million words," and there is a world of truth in that saying. Experience goes to prove it and for that reason I feel that the best method of presenting a first talk on the philosophy of Henry George is to use an illustrated lecture. Political Economy is a new and strange subject for most people and one cannot be too simple in his explanations, and here pictures take the place of the blackboard in the regular school room and for certain demonstrations in Political Economy a picture or diagram on a blackboard is as important as is a diagram in a class in geometry. A picture remains in the mind long after words are forgotten, so that even a child can understand a picture where words would be meaningless. And our four dozen lantern slides crowd into one hour's talk as much as could ordinarily be put in a dozen hours.

There is considerable reluctance about having a talk on Single Tax presented before the Economics classes in Colleges and High Schools. The class room schedules are crowded with lessons looking forward to a certain examination, and the chosen text book is adhered to no matter what its absurdities may be; as a certain professor said after I had demonstrated that land, in Political Economy, is not wealth, "Our text books teach that land is wealth." And the text book is adhered to no matter what happens. Is not the authority of the College back of the text book? At one University the Dean asked "What school are you from?" He meant, under what college professor had we studied. When informed that we were of the Henry George school, he politely, but firmly directed us to the Dean of the School of Citizenship, who had, he said, more money with which to advertise a lecture.

At another university there are a couple of dozen classes in Economics and they never have an outsider talk to the pupils. (And a student there told us there had never been a mention of Natural Law in his class on Economics.) When we called on the Dean he shut the door to his little private office and started to tell us what he thought about Single Tax, Henry George and Single Taxers in general. He seemed to be dumbfounded that any person with any brains at all should hold to Henry George's theories, and implied that Henry George was a nit-wit, and that Single Taxers were not very high grade morons. We had not gone there for any argument, but for a date to present our argument, so we told him that that was about what we thought of people who could not comprehend the simple doctrines of Henry George. It seems that this professor had studied under Prof. Seligman, of Columbia University, and held that Seligman had refuted the Single Tax idea years ago in his "Essays in Taxation."

At a very small institution the Economics teacher got really angry when we said that we proposed to give a "talk on science." That seemed like a red rag to a bull. When we said that Henry George was the Isaac Newton of Political Economy his indignation knew no bounds. "How can there be anything to Henry George's notions when not one text book in twenty so much as mentions him?" He stalked off to his room and we never saw him again.

At another institution we were treated better and some outdid themselves trying to accommodate us and arranging dates so that certain of their members might be present as well as students and outsiders. A few of these visits were a real pleasure—notably Hartwick Seminary, (Otsego County, N. Y.), Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Vassar College, at which place 200 students are to be assembled, Elmira College, and Upsala College (N. J.).

There is surely a great need for lectures on Political Economy (applied as Single Tax) in the Colleges, since the teachers are compelled to study under Professor Seligman and others like him, in order to get the degree necessary for the teacher's certificate. One prominent teacher with a Doctor's degree was frank enough to admit that he had never read a word of what Henry George wrote, and that all he knew of George or Single Tax was what Prof. Seligman had told his class. The students know nothing about our idea (except if one happened to come from a Single Tax home) and we met one young man, a college graduate who has traveled and studied in Europe who had never heard of Henry George, and, after we had explained something about Single Tax asked, "What is Henry George doing now?" We hesitated to answer that, so he hastened to say, "I neglected to look it up in 'Who's Who.'" And Henry George had shaken the world with "Progress and Poverty" and had been dead 30 years!

At one college a negro boy escorted us to the Bus line to the next town and expressed great interest in our idea, saying that he had become a socialist but would like to investigate our claims for having something vastly better than socialism. Who can dream of the possible effects of that one lecture before that economic class? At the High School at Susquehanna, because the night was stormy and the townspeople did not turn out enough to fill the hall (though all of the economics class was there) we received an invitation to give the same illustrated talk again when more would be done to advertise and fill the hall.

We found that College after College does not have any of the writings of Henry George, and the Schalkenbach Foundation is co-operating with us to place a copy of "Progress and Poverty" in every such institution. Also we have interested several professors enough to have them want to read both "Progress and Poverty" and "The Science of Political Economy." The professors get their teaching degrees (M. A.-Ph. D.) in such institutions as Columbia University, and those founts of knowledge, or rather, of degrees, have been careful, through men like

Seligman to give but little information about Henry George. Therefore the schools throughout the country are teaching what the fountain heads teach them to teach, and only a very few, like Prof. Dewey and Prof. Harry Gunnison Brown, have shown enough initiative thought to examine Henry George on his own merits and pay no attention to the fact that his "alma mater had been the fore-castle and the printing office,"—that he had no academic degrees.

Since in the nature of the case there is small likelihood of our ever talking to the same people again, as the student body of a college is new every four years, we endeavor to be as comprehensive as possible. We try to show three things: First,—What our movement is about; as Henry George put it, ours "is the most important of all questions, the great labor question;" (Speech June 30, 1888.) Second,—The meanings of the terms; Thirdly,—What the sphere of Natural Law is in the distribution of wealth and how what we term Single Tax will raise wages.

We have spoken in, or have definite engagements to speak in about four dozen institutions, so far, not counting small house gatherings where the audiences are very small and we do not care to list them as College lectures. We have for the time being limited our field to the New England states, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland, so as to make the carfare expense as small as possible per institution visited. Ohio seems to be a promising field but we are foregoing that for the time being so as to concentrate our efforts.

We do not claim that ours is the only field for sowing the seed of the truth that Henry George so ably expounded, but we do know that it is a practically virgin forest of economic misinformation. It is stated by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company that out of 100 children who enter the 5th grade of Primary school, two graduate from College, and another writer says only one. So, if, each year in the neighborhood of 100,000 students should graduate from our Colleges we have here the group from which in the past have come, "Fifty-five per cent. of our Presidents; Thirty-six per cent. of our Members of Congress; Forty-seven per cent. of the Speakers of the House; Fifty-six per cent. of the Vice-Presidents; Sixty-two per cent. of the Secretaries of the State; Fifty per cent. of the Secretaries of the Treasury and Sixty-nine per cent. of the Justices of the Supreme Court." Men with College Degrees (i. e. this one or two per cent.) form a sort of Fraternal Order which elects from its own members when important positions are to be given out. How important then that this field of the Colleges should be cultivated! Which cultivation should not of course interfere in any way with world-wide evangelization—telling the whole world, rich and poor, high and low—that the "laborer is worthy of his hire"—and telling HOW TO GET IT.

—CHARLES LEBARON GOELLER.

## Mr. Goeller's Later Lecture Activities

SINCE the foregoing was written Mr. Goeller has visited Binghamton, N. Y., where he secured a few lecture engagements. Later he spoke at the Endicott First M. E. Church for nearly two hours, part of the time being given to answering questions.

The Binghamton *Press* said: "Mr Goeller has the rare ability to present the Single Tax with a simplicity and clearness that hold the attention and appeal to the intelligence."

On February 9th, Mr. Goeller appeared at Elmira College and secured a notable triumph. "I had the audience more completely with me than ever before," he writes. The Professors at Elmira were distinctly friendly.

On March 6th, Mr. Goeller spoke at Keuka College on Keuka Lake, N. Y. This is a Baptist College for girls. Our lecturer had a fine reception and Prof. (Mrs.) Merson invited him to come again in the Fall.

On Monday, March 2nd, Mr. Goeller spoke at Albright College, Myerstown, Pa. He addressed the assembled chapel in the early morning, then he had a sociology hour in the forenoon, economics an hour in the afternoon, and another hour and a half in the evening. Prof. Weber invited the economics professor to be present, and this gentleman asked Mr. Goeller to give some illustrated talks to his boys the next morning if possible. Prof. Weber also secured Mr. Goeller dates for a Parent Teacher's meeting on Tuesday evening, and at Lebanon Valley College for Wednesday evening. Both colleges expect him to come back on a return tour.

Saturday night Mr. Goeller spoke at Geneva College, Beaver Falls, Pa., and Sunday went with Mr. McNair to his church (Episcopal) and spoke to the Bible Class on the Land Laws of Israel.

On Monday Mr. Goeller went to the University of Pittsburgh and spoke to the classes at 10:30. It was Mr. Goeller's intention to leave for dinner with Mr. P. R. Williams, of the Henry George Foundation, but the Professor asked him if he could give the same talk again next hour. In a twinkling they had three classes (125 students) marched to a music hall, and they then asked Mr. Goeller if he would repeat the address after luncheon. This our lecturer did, and that made 175 college people in one day.

Wednesday he went to the Carnegie Polytechnic Institute. He gave an address to one class and the Professor wanted it for the next class, so he gave it twice at the Institute in consecutive hours.

On March 15th Mr. Goeller spoke before the Pittsburgh Henry George Club, his subject being, "How Civilized Man Gets His Living."

On Thursday evening Mr. Goeller appeared before the Scottdale, Pa. Y. M. C. A. at the invitation of Mr.

Kelly, who had heard him a few days before at the Henry George Club in Pittsburgh and wanted it for his own town about fifty miles out.

Friday evening Mr. Goeller went to Washington and Jefferson College and one of the professors here (Prof. Waltersdorf) went over his definitions of land, wages, stocks, bonds, wealth of nations, and agreed to everything, suggesting places where he might explain more at length. The Professor expects that Mr. Goeller will return, and extends him a hearty welcome.

Our lecturer may go back to Elmira the first weeks in April for a question and answer session, and may visit Albany and Troy.

Everywhere he found a surprisingly hospitable reception and many gratifying experiences. At Albright College the Librarian said, "You are quite a preacher," and the Lutheran minister said, "You got us into pretty deep water, but you got us out again all right."

## A Solution For Unemployment

THE fact that men are actually unable to employ themselves in this richest and most prosperous of all nations, is an indictment of our social order. It is not only absurd and ridiculous, but criminal as well. While a number of causes contribute to this condition, the most important factor is our method of taxation. The sovereign power to tax carries with it the power to destroy. Our method, or lack of method of using this power, is surely undermining and destroying our civilization. When this power is allowed individuals or an organized group of individuals, (a special privilege), to indirectly collect tribute from their fellow-citizens, it leads to the concentration of wealth and political corruption.

But of the many disastrous results of our tax policy only five are here presented.

First: the taxation of industry, (capital and labor), and the products of labor, necessitates an increased price for the goods produced; thus increasing the cost of living for all consumers. Its tendency is to hamper and oppress industrial activity, individual initiative and enterprise.

Second: this taxation of industry that is now estimated as carrying four-fifths of the entire burden, is a powerful incentive and stimulation to speculate in and hold land. The ever increasing land values in growing communities, as compared with the light tax, renders such speculation and ownership exceedingly profitable.

An unusual profit was mentioned recently by Mr. H. G. Zander, President of the National Association of Real Estate Boards. He is reported as saying: "In Chicago there was a certain piece of property that could not be sold for \$30,000 five years ago. Recently, after street improvements had been made, it sold for more than \$1,000,000. This unearned increment was handed to

the owner on a silver platter by the entire city of Chicago, which paid the cost of improvement by a bond issue spread over the whole city." It will be noted that our tax laws allowed \$970,000 worth of land value, created by the taxpayers money, to be diverted to this one particular land-owner. It was most decidedly, "unearned increment." With such immense prizes to be gained, why should not men of vision and foresight, engage in land speculation and ownership?

Third: this incitement to land speculation by the taxation of industry, has a most deplorable result in closing opportunities against the worker, and thus denying self-employment. Labor's only outlet, the natural resources of Mother Earth, from which all wealth is derived and all life sustained, is an almost closed shop to future demand.

It makes little difference what kind of labor is seeking a job; whether the hopeful young graduates of the schools attempting to establish homes, or the older workers who are now being rapidly displaced by modern inventions. The only chance left them to utilize the earth that Nature has given to the children of men, is to assume a heavy mortgage for a long period, which would finally break them, in case of sickness or accident.

Fourth: the excessive price of sites is responsible for the housing problem, that Senator Copeland of New York claims is becoming serious; already, a quarter of a million buildings behind our need.

This shortage of buildings forces the unemployed to overcrowd the poorer quarters, and this situation creates the slum district, where poverty and destitution soon rob the victims of self-respect, and crime and criminality, naturally follow.

Fifth: the taxation of industry is a most pernicious, unrecognized and unsuspected method, of transferring wealth from one class of people to another class of people; in other words, land users, men of enterprise, ambition and industry, are taxed by their own laws to make up the deficit in the budget, occasioned by awarding land owners a large portion of the ground rent conferred upon their land, by the social and governmental activities of their fellow-citizens. Why should a goodly portion of the earnings of 80 to 90 per cent. of the people, (land users), be transferred by taxation to the private pockets of 10 to 20 per cent. of the people (land owners)?

By what moral right does possession of land convey or justify ownership of the ground rent, land value, or better, people-value, that increases or decreases with the coming or going of the people? That land itself is simply a reflector or looking-glass of the values the people themselves create is clearly seen. If it is true that the thing created is rightfully the property of its creator; if individual earnings belong to the individual, ought not social or land value belong to society, or the organized people who create it?

These five indictments of the present tax on industry, indicate just how absurd, ridiculous and criminal, the Robin Hood style of collecting public revenue actually is.

A style that increases prices; induces speculation in the only source of food and life; creates involuntary unemployment; develops crime, and robs the workers on the land, to award unearned increment to owners of the land.

If the citizens were to derive all their governmental needs from the land values they create, it would be a scientific method; a payment for benefits received; in harmony with every day business principles; a quid pro quo.

The citizens through their organized services and developments, confer upon themselves increased values which are reflected in these particular sites. Under the plan suggested the citizens would return an equivalent value to their own treasury, for further service and development. A revolving fund, ever increasing and adequate to the city requirements.

This equitable, square deal method of securing public revenue, eliminates all taxation of industry, personal property and improvements; hence, greatly reducing the cost of living. Again, this method abolishes all land speculation, and opens the natural resources of the earth to use; thus leaving no excuse for unemployment.

This solution of the unemployment problem can be practically applied when sufficient voters demand it. The voters of this generation, if willing to surrender their possible fraction of a chance to get rich at the expense of their fellows, can thus easily unlock the treasures of Dame Nature to all unemployed. Not so very heavy a price to pay for so great a boon.

S. S. TABER.

WE note a new development in socialistic thought due to two causes; first that conservatism has met it half way, adopting some of its proposals; second, that in Soviet Russia socialism in its extreme form has broken down, or at least has failed to fulfill its promise. Socialism today shows a tendency to modify its demands for complete state control in favor of a more moderate programme of state direction and supervision. In this departure it may be not unreasonable to look for a new socialism that will be prepared for another and further step toward a recognition of what is more fundamental in economic society—the land question? The small results to be obtained by the new policy of state regulation and supervision may drive socialists to face the truth that the natural law of wages and wealth distribution does not call for new and complicated machinery of government but a very simple change in methods that will enable the natural law of distribution to work.

## Equality of Opportunity

PART OF ADDRESS BY GEORGE LLOYD  
ON RADIO WPCH MARCH 27

ONE of the most important statements that Herbert Hoover has made is the need of equality of opportunity. These few words express far more than appears on the surface. To bring about a condition in which every inhabitant of the United States would enjoy an equal opportunity as regards life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, would be one of the greatest achievements the world has ever known. History does not record wherein the people of any nation every enjoyed a condition of equal opportunity. It has been the dream of millions of men, and although the citizens of the United States enjoy political equality as regards the franchise of the ballot when it comes to economic equality, or economic freedom, it is still a mirage that floats before the eyes of those whose hearts hunger for a condition that is best expressed in the statement, "equal rights for all and special privilege to none."

One of the greatest questions that will confront the next President will be, how to guide the ship of state so that the tremendous changes that are bound to occur will leave our nation in the supreme position that it occupies today. If economic freedom is to come to the people in the next four years through equality of opportunity then it will spread all over the earth and a new world will be born, and the economic slavery of today will no longer afflict billions of workers as it does at present. Let us not deceive ourselves into believing that we can achieve economic liberty for the toilers of our country in mill, factory and farm, without a wonderful change for the better, but are the beneficiaries of the present thieving system going to stand by and watch the workers come into their own without protesting as strongly as possible against any change that would abolish the special privileges they enjoy? There is no doubt the day of special privilege is drawing to an end. All over the world the workers are asking the question, why is it that those who produce do not possess the things they produce while those who possess do not produce? Surely the beneficiaries of the present unjust system grasp the full significance of the phrase "equal opportunity, for it implies Justice and from Justice flows all blessings."

God still watches over the destinies of the people of the United States. This is exemplified in the heart and mind of our next President. He loves humanity; the highest expression of love is service, and he has nobly served millions of people abroad when famine and death confronted them. Another expression of his is American Individualism. That is the pioneering spirit that has made the United States what it is today. The initiative and the inventive powers of the people have carried the nation to the supreme position that it occupies today. He calls

our attention to five or six social philosophies that are at struggle in the world for ascendancy. There is the individualism of America and the individualism of the more democratic states of Europe, and there are Communism, Socialism, Syndicalism, Capitalism or finally Autocracy. How indeed shall the age-long struggle of humanity for liberty be brought about in spite of the warring philosophies?

Socialism—That the machinery of production and distribution shall be community-owned and democratically administered. Communism—From you according to your ability and to you according to your needs. Syndicalism—Control of Industry through industrial unionism. Anarchism—Individual liberty with no check by the state on Capitalism, the result of Landlordism.

Through all that welter of chaos, economic illiteracy and racing up blind alleys comes the greatest of Americans, Henry George, and shows in his immortal work, "Progress and Poverty," the straight and narrow path to economic freedom as no other human being has done. He pictures the cause and remedy for poverty and the soul-destroying fear of poverty and unemployment, slums and war. Already the victims of the evil begin to glimpse the light from his torch of liberty. They are taking heart of hope and beginning to ask why are the producers of all wealth constantly burdened with the fear of poverty from youth to old age?

What is the cause of poverty in a world of plenty? Men are turning to Henry George and finding the answer and the remedy for their slavery and fears. The problem of the production of wealth has been solved, but the problem of the just distribution of wealth has not been solved and that is the greatest problem that will confront the coming administration, and until it is solved there will be no such thing as equality of opportunity for the people of the United States. How then can we bring about a condition in which every one will enjoy equal opportunity as regards life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness? To attain the above mentioned condition in which all the wealth produced by the workers shall be the property of the workers, and none shall reap where they have not sown is the goal of humanity.

"THE Land of the Nearly Free" is the way *The Commonwealth* of London heads a paragraph telling of 13,000 new laws passed in the United States. The way Americans submit to these laws justifies an additional reference to the country as "The Home of The Almost Brave."

ONE insuperable obstacle to complete enforcement of the personal property tax and the income tax is that some owners of personal property and of incomes have brains.

## Argentine

THE Second National Georgist Convention of the Argentine took place on the 25th, 26th and 27th of May last in the Assembly Hall of the Faculty of Economic Sciences of the University of Buenos Aires.

The main purpose of the Convention, namely, the unification of the Georgists forces in the country, was carried out successfully in the formation of *The Argentine Georgist Confederation*. As the special Convention number of the *Revista del Impuesto Unico (Single Tax Review)*, of May-June last announces editorially: "Begins now, after fourteen years of labor in spreading the doctrinal principles of Henry George, a new era of propaganda opened with the union of all Georgist Argentines in one single association, based on the declaration of principles and procedure sanctioned by this Second Convention, the results of which assuredly must find expression in the progress of our cause."

The *Georgist Tribune*, organ of the Argentine Georgist Confederation, appeared in substitution of the *Single Tax Review* in November, 1928, and continues monthly.

The National Executive Council of the Confederation, with Engineer Nicolas Besio Moreno as President, is located at Buenos Aires, the National Capital. The local Center for the City of Buenos Aires has been organized, with Engineer Angel Silva as President. The Province of Buenos Aires has its local Center at La Plata, the Provincial Capital, with Luiz Denegri, as President. The Province of Bahia Blanca has its local Center organized at the Provincial Capital, Bahia Blanca, with Juan Unsworth as President. The Province of Cordoba has its local Center organized at Villa Maria, with Dr. Alberto Durrieu, as President. The Province of Pampa has its local Center organized at Realico, with Alfonso L. Bary, as President.

The Convention unanimously endorsed the following Declaration of Principles:

1. All men are endowed by natural law with the right to the use of the earth and its natural resources, neither of which can in justice be made the subject of private ownership.
2. Social life and activities produce from the land a rent, which belongs integrally to the community and which constitutes its legitimate revenue for the maintenance of public services.
3. Only the product of labor, whether it be labor itself or capital, accumulated labor, can legitimately be private property. It must not be burdened by any fiscal tax. Free trade is, therefore, in international relationships the application of this principle.
4. Industries which are a public utility and by nature intrinsically a monopoly, must be socialized.
5. The political administrative methods and procedure which tend to fix the amount of the tax or contribution,

the juridical position of the land as a consequence of the absorption of the rent, the amount of same, the evaluation and adjudication of the land to private individuals, the distribution of the rent amongst the various fiscal departments, the periodicity of rent determination, the transformation of the state mechanism and the methods of absorbing the rent, . . . are questions already studied and determined by Georgists, but which, since they are matters of practical politics, must be considered at the opportune moment by those who are to carry out the Georgist reforms in a fiscal and social field.

Some of the speeches delivered at the Convention, we are informed, were wonderfully eloquent. Some of these raised controversial issues. But the final result was complete harmony in the Declaration of Principles.

## Institutional Devilry

THE impossible never happens and the seeming miracles with which nature abounds are miracles to us only because we do not understand them. If all of the demons that have peopled the brain of unenlightened mankind through the centuries were to get together in one great convention with the avowed purpose of framing up a programme that would accomplish the greatest amount of *evil*, in the shortest time and with the least friction, this is probably the programme they would adopt. They would of course, place Satan himself in the Chair and his head devil or general foreman would head the committee on Platform. After due deliberation at the close of a day, a week or more probably a month, they would make a report to the general convention and it would read like this:

"Your Majesty! We have considered the matter very carefully and we have arrived at very definite conclusions. The system that we would install amongst men in their present semi-enlightened condition must possess certain characteristics. It must be invisible to the eye, or men will see it. It must be impersonal, or men will identify it and destroy it as they have many times with kings and emperors. It must be institutional, so that like the church and the state, they will take it for granted; they will see the evils generated but will not recognize their source. It must be subterranean so as to work smoothly and without friction. It must be noiseless so that no one can hear it. It must be odorless (except for the noxious vapors inseparable from a city slum which men take for granted) so that no one can smell it. It must be all powerful so that no one can resist it and above all it must be automatic in operation so that it will not require constant attention to keep it going. Your Majesty, we the committee on Platform recommend the adoption of such a system; if such compound aggregation of virtue and vice can be invented and pieced together, it will be a hounding! The very apotheosis of artistic devilry."

Satan would listen, attentively, look wise, wiggle his tail a bit then lay back in his chair and laugh heartily. "Why you simpletons, don't you know that the system that you have outlined has been in operation among the Christian Nations for hundreds of years? That it possesses every quality that you have recommended; that it is the most highly capitalized iniquity on the face of any planet. Oh me! oh my! this labor question has reached the hellish stage it is impossible to get good competent devils to work for nothing any more. You devils have thrown your time away; the system now operating is invisible, institutional, impersonal, subterranean, noiseless, odorless, except in spots, automatic and quite irresistible as far as the average person is concerned and what is more (here Satan gives his thigh a hearty wallop) it has the unqualified endorsement of the anti-crime wavers, the anti-vice crusaders, the anti-political corruption, morons and the very best people indeed, oh, yes, indeed! the very best!"

—H. H. HARDINGE.

## Malthus Formula Irrational

ALTHOUGH population has increased enormously in the last one hundred years, the food supply has increased so much faster that at this day one of the acute problems is how to save agriculture from its surplus. This increase was for a while owing to the opening of the American continents; latterly it is owing to scientific knowledge and the use of machine power. Nowhere yet has this knowledge or power been exhausted; everywhere, even in very old countries, the productivity of agriculture may be greatly increased. This is simply to say that the quantity of human life the earth will support under a system of scientific agriculture is unknown.

\* \* \* \*

In Japan it is perhaps true that the limit of the native food supply is about to be touched. Yet it was her own choice to achieve greatness through industry, which means to exchange manufactured goods for food as an economic policy; parallel has occurred a sudden increase of population. For tens of centuries before this she had lived happily on her own soil in complete isolation.

Here is no question of economic necessity. There is only the idea of it. It is a matter of policy to begin with, and contains the fallacy that strength for war is still measurable in man power, whereas now the first measure of it is machine power. Moreover, the absurdity of treating the territorial mania as a matter of economic necessity is made apparent by applying the Malthusian formula to the future of any vital race. Either Italy or Japan could prove by arithmetic that in two hundred years, from the simple projection of its rate of increase, it will need more than the whole world to live in. Statistically it is readable; rationally it does not occur.

—GARRET GARRETT, in *Saturday Evening Post*.



ΑΙ ΝΕΩΤΕΡΑΙ ΦΟΡΟΛΟΓΙΚΑΙ ΘΕΩΡΑΙ

# Ο ΕΝΙΑΙΟΣ ΦΟΡΟΣ ΤΗΣ ΓΗΣ

ΜΙΑ ΕΡΕΥΝΑ ΤΗΣ Α. Β. Υ. ΤΗΣ ΠΡ ΓΚΗΠΙΣΣΗΣ ΑΛ'ΚΗΣ

Η Α. Β. Υ. η Πριγκίπισσα Άλίκη από πολλούς ασχολείται, ως γνωστόν, με τα οικονομικά ζητήματα, επιδοθείσα εις σοβαράς μελέτας. Τελευταίως η Α. Β. Υ. μελετήσασα τὸ ζήτημα τοῦ ἐνιαίου φόρου τῆς γῆς συνέταξε τὴν κάτωθι ἐκθεσιν τῶν ἐν προκειμένῳ συνομιλιῶν τῆς μετὰ τοῦ διαπρεποῦς Ἀμερικανοῦ καθηγητοῦ κ. Fiske Warren, ἐκ τῶν ἐνθερμοτέρων ὑποστηρικτῶν τῆς ἰδέας τοῦ Henry George περὶ ἐνιαίου φόρου τῆς γῆς.

Σήμερός, δτε πρὸς κλίμακιν τῶν ἐξῆς πρῶτον ἔσοδον, ὅπερ αὐξάνει ἀποτιμάδων τῶν προβλεπομένων· οἱ ἰδύοντες τῶς, ἐφόσον αὐξάνουν τὰ ἀποτιμήματά κρᾶτη προσθέτουσι φόρους ἐπὶ φόρων, καταβιβάζοντες οὕτω τὴν ἐργαζομένην τάξιν, τὴν βιομηχανίαν καὶ τὸ ἐμπορίον, οἱ οἰκονομολόγοι στρέφονται πρὸς νέας μεθόδους, μελετῶν νέα συστήματα ἵνα εὐρίσκει μίαν λύσιν ἱκανοποιούσαν τὰς δικαίας ἀπαιτήσεις τῶν πολιτῶν, ἀνταποκρινομένην δὲ συγχρόνως εἰς τὰς ἀνάγκας τῆς πολιτείας. Ἡ ἐφαρμογὴ τῶν ἀρχῶν τοῦ Henry George, δηλαδή ἡ ἐπιβολὴ ἑνὸς καὶ μόνου φόρου ἐπὶ τῆς ἀξίας τῆς γῆς, θεωρεῖται τὸ ἀκονομικὸν σύστημα τοῦ μέλλοντος, ὡς τὸ δικαιότερον καὶ ἀπλοῦστερον. Ὁμιλῶν τῶν μετὰ τοῦδὲ μελετηθέντων καὶ ἐφαρμοσθέντων. Διερχόμενος ἐκ Παρισίων, κατὰ τὴν ἐτησίαν ἐπίσκεψίν του εἰς Ἀγγόρραν, τῆς γῆς, λέγει ὁ Mr Harry Gunnison Brown, καθηγητῆς τῶν Οἰκονομικῶν ἐπιτετηθέντων ἀποτελεσμάτων τοῦ ἐνιαίου φόρου, ἀνα παραθετοῦντα ἐνταῦθα, πρὸς ἀνταναστάσει πολλῶν ἢ ὀλίγων τῶν ἄλλων φόρων συνησάται ὡς φορολογικὴ γίγασ ἐπὶ τῆς ἀξίας τῆς γῆς, εἴνε ἀνάγκη μεταρρυθμίσαι πρὸς ἀπλοποίησιν καὶ γὰρ ἐννοητῆ καλῶς ἡ διαφορά μετὰ τῆς βελτιώσεως τοῦ φορολογικοῦ μας συστήματος καὶ κεφαλαίου, μετὰ τῶν παμμένων.

needs of the state. The application of the principles of Henry George—i. e. the imposition of one tax on the value of land—is considered by many the simplest and most rational proposal.”

She mentions what has been written on the subject by Prof. Harry Gunnison Brown. Quoting from her interview with Fiske Warren, the Princess says:

“To better our understanding of a tax on the value of land it is necessary to discriminate between land and capital, to realize the difference between the value of land and the value of capital, and how different are the effects of taxing land and taxing capital. Many of the liberals have not perceived these differences.

“Capital has been termed by a well-known economist, Henry Rogers Seager, as the means for further production. The value of land bears no such relation to the value of production or reduplication since the land is not a human product and cannot be reproduced. The buyer asks what will be his net return in annual rental. This he capitalizes in the selling price. The rent is increased by the growth and development of the community. The growth of the town into a large city, with the construction of roads and highways and railroads, all contribute to raise the market price of land. Since the value of land has no relation to the cost of production, taxation on this value, reducing its net income, will correspondingly reduce the market value or selling price of land.

“Here we have the basic difference between taxes on capital and taxes on the value of land. The higher we tax land the lower becomes its selling price, while the lower the tax the higher becomes its market or selling value. This rule does not apply to capital or the products of labor, to tax which is to increase their market value.

“A tax on the value of land leads to an open opportunity for every one who works and saves to acquire a piece of land. If products and incomes are but lightly taxed it will be easier for the poor man to save and increase his reserve.

“I have heard the objection made by people that the low price of land does not bring advantages to the poor man who saves from his wages to acquire a piece of land because the heavy tax on the acquired land, takes away the value of the market price. They do not see that with the lessening or complete removal of all taxes it would then be easier to save money. And though the land after the purchase is recurringly taxed, this can be paid fully, not only from what is saved from the purchase price, but also from the saving resulting from the abolition of taxes on buildings and on all the worker consumes.” The Princess here likens this reform to the abolition of slavery, and continues:

“It is sometimes argued that a tax on land values is in violation of the legal expectancy of the present owners, since it lowers the market value of their land. It would seem from this that the state has

Reproduction of a Portion of Page of Proia

## The Single Tax in Greece

H. R. H. PRINCESS ALICE IN THE DAILY PROIA OF ATHENS

H. R. H. PRINCESS ALICE of Greece, is the daughter of the Princess Victoria, who married the Marquess of Milford Haven, aide-camp to George V of Great Britain. The Princess Victoria was the daughter of the Princess Alice, who married Prince Louis of Hesse (afterwards reigning Grand Duke). The Princess Alice was the daughter of Queen Victoria.

H. R. H. Princess Andrew, as she must more formally be called, is the wife of the exiled Prince Andrew of Greece. It has been known for a long time that she has become interested in economic studies. She has gone deeply into “Progress and Poverty” and other works of Henry George. Her attention was first directed to these teachings by Mrs. Warren, wife of Fiske Warren, of Single Tax colony fame.

Her statements made in the Daily Proia of Jan. 25, 1929, have been translated for us by Prof. G. Adractus, of this city.

“Nowadays,” says the Princess, “when the rulers of the nations in order to meet the expenses of their budgets add taxes on taxes, thus oppressing the poor and placing heavy burdens on business and industry, the economists are turning to new methods, studying new systems that will satisfy the people and at the same time meet the

no right to disappoint the expectations of the land owners—not even by a jot. As well might we argue that the expectations of the manufacturers of alcoholic liquors may not be violated by the enactment of prohibitive laws. It might be argued that the expectations of skilled artisans may not be prejudiced by the establishment of trade schools.

“It has been the habit of governments to augment, revise, lower, abolish customs duties, thus affecting the market value of commodities. But only the taxation of land values must not suffer the slightest increase!”

Thus far Princess Andrew in the *Proia*. From letters to Mr. Fiske Warren we have her permission to quote. It will be seen that she is outspoken in her advocacy of our cause. But it is her desire to confine her efforts to Greece. Besides, she is interested in problems of agriculture and education, and as the mother of five children she has household duties that require her attention. And we imagine, too, that being patriotic, if the light is to break upon the world, she desires, with a natural love for her people, that it radiate its blessings in her home land. “I’m more a worker for Greece,” she writes, “than a specialized Single Taxer.” She is, however, a member of the International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade.

Mr. Stephane Pasmazoglou, editor of the *Proia*, in which the quoted statements of Princess Andrew appear, was quick to grasp our principles and agreed to make propaganda for them. “He is a remarkably clever man,” writes the Princess.

The Greek government has already put a tax on land values but has kept all the old taxes, including improvement and income taxes. The Princess writes that land value taxes are paid but other taxes only partially paid. “I have suggested to Mr. Pasmazoglou that propaganda is more than ever necessary so that future governments wishing to reduce taxation shall never be tempted to take off or reduce the land value taxes but take off the odious income and improvement taxes, which are yielding but scanty revenue anyway.”

Princess Andrew will write monthly articles for the *Proia* and leading economists in Greece will be asked to give their opinions, “so as to keep the people’s attention focussed on the subject.” This is the lady’s language. And she continues: “This then might lead to a league for Single Tax being formed in Greece. But at all events, I will let things shape themselves provided interest is not allowed to flag. It may be that the propaganda of a serious and well edited daily paper may do more good than an obscure league which it is certain to be at the beginning.”

The Princess is translating the necessary literature into Greek. Pavlos Giannelia, who was a delegate to the Copenhagen Single Tax Conference and who is a representative of the Greek government at Vienna, will cooperate with Princess Andrew in measures to interest the people of Greece in the Henry George doctrine.

## Denver

WE have received from Mr. Barney Haughey the proposed amendment to the charter of the city reducing the rate on improvements ten per cent. annually for municipal purposes and exempting personal property until city taxes are levied upon land values only.

The petition is now being circulated and if enough signatures are secured the measure will be on the ballot to be voted on in May.

For forty years there has been carried on in Denver an active Single Tax agitation and a good many voters know what it is. At present Mr. Haughey and his committee are making speeches wherever opportunity permits, preparing the minds of the voters for the consideration of the charter amendment.

The vote on the proposition in previous years is interesting. In 1915 the vote in favor was 7,777 to 27,515 opposed; in 1917 it stood 5,033 in favor to 20,844 opposed. But in 1924 the vote was 12,170 in favor to 31,448 against. It is believed that the present time is auspicious for the passage of the measure.

## An Interesting Curiosity

ON the opposite page will be found a reproduction of the circular announcement sent out in 1879 by Henry George on the completion of “Progress and Poverty.” It will be seen that the first title selected was the somewhat colorless one of “Political Economy of the Social Problem.” Happily the better title for the book suggested itself later and was adopted.

It will be noted here as elsewhere that the author of “Progress and Poverty” exhibits the same calm confidence and surety of conviction in the truth he has tried to make clear. We are sure that readers of LAND AND FREEDOM will read it with keen interest.

## Not the Tariff Then

I BELIEVE that the maintenance of high standards of living stimulates the development of labor saving devices, increases skill in our workmen and our managers, and in this way we compensate for higher wages than are paid abroad.

—HERBERT HOOVER.

MAJOR GENERAL DANIEL APPLETON, who was buried with military honors, from the Seventh Regiment Armory in Manhattan, was long one of the most efficient Guard officers in the State. But he was also a broad-minded thinker and a liberal sort of publisher. It is recalled that when the late Henry George had failed to find a publisher for “Progress and Poverty” Appleton came to his aid. And the Appletons lost nothing by bringing out the “Bible of the Single Tax.”

—*Brooklyn Eagle*, March 31, 1929.

WE disappoint our readers by the failure to present a sketch of the life and services of the late John Filmer. But this will appear in next number.

# Circular Announcement Sent Out by Henry George on the Eve of Publication of His Great Work now known as Progress and Poverty

## POLITICAL ECONOMY OF THE SOCIAL PROBLEM.

*An Inquiry into the Cause of Industrial Depressions, and of Increase of Want with Increase of Wealth—A Remedy Proposed.*

Under the above title I shall shortly issue a work upon which I have been for some time engaged, and in which I have attempted a more logical and exhaustive examination than has yet been made of the great social and political problems now pressing upon the civilized world.

Beginning with phenomena obvious in this State, and which are everywhere showing themselves in social dissatisfaction and political agitation—which in some of their manifestations seem so inexplicable and in others so menacing—I have endeavored to trace them to their cause, to discover their law, to determine their remedy, and to show the harmony of these conclusions with the supreme laws manifest in the rise and fall of nations and the growth and decay of civilizations. I have, in short, endeavored to find a definite, certain, and sufficient answer to questions which are not only of the most urgent practical importance, but of the highest speculative interest.

If I have succeeded, this work is not only the most important contribution to political economy since the enunciation of the law of rent at the beginning of this century—recasting current doctrines of the distribution of wealth, especially with regard to the relations of labor and capital, and making of what is now discordant a harmonious science, which gives a clear and definite relation to practical questions—but its conclusions cast a strong light upon some of the highest problems which engage human thought. I have endeavored to show why material progress is bringing pauperism and social discontent, and the mal-adjustment from which these effects proceed; both the inevitable doom which awaits republican government as at present based, and the means by which it may be avoided; the manifestation in modern civilization of the tendencies which have overthrown all previous civilizations, and the possibility of a still higher and nobler civilization.

Whether in this I have or have not succeeded, I believe this work, dealing, as it does, with questions now everywhere discussed, will prove suggestive and interesting both to those who agree and those who disagree with its conclusions.

This book will be published in London and New York, but for the sake of more convenient proof reading I am putting it in type in San Francisco, and propose to issue here a small author's edition, which, that it may not interfere with publishers' arrangements, will be limited to subscribers on this coast—the edition not to exceed 500 copies. The book will consist of about 500 octavo pages, with syllabus and index, divided as follows:

### PREFACE.

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS.

##### INTRODUCTORY—THE PROBLEM.

##### BOOK I.—WAGES AND CAPITAL.

- Chapter I—The Current Doctrine—Its Insufficiency.  
 II—Meaning of the Terms.  
 III—Wages not drawn from Capital, but produced by the Labor.  
 IV—The Maintenance of Laborers not drawn from Capital.  
 V—The Real Functions of Capital.

##### BOOK II.—POPULATION AND SUBSISTENCE.

- Chapter I—The Malthusian Theory, its Genesis and Support.  
 II—Inferences from Facts.  
 III—Inferences from Analogy.  
 IV—Disproof of the Malthusian Theory.

##### BOOK III.—THE LAWS OF DISTRIBUTION

- Chapter I—The Inquiry narrowed to the Laws of Distribution—Their Necessary Relation.  
 II—Rent and the Law of Rent.  
 III—Interest and the Cause of Interest.  
 IV—Of Spurious Capital, and of Profits often mistaken for Interest.  
 V—The Law of Interest.  
 VI—Wages and the Law of Wages.  
 VII—Correlation and Co-ordination of these Laws.  
 VIII—The Statics of the Problem thus explained.

##### BOOK IV.—EFFECT OF MATERIAL PROGRESS UPON THE DISTRIBUTION OF WEALTH.

- Chapter I—The Dynamics of the Problem yet to seek.  
 II—Effect of Increase of Population upon the Distribution of Wealth.  
 III—Effect of Improvements in the Arts upon the Distribution of Wealth.  
 IV—Effect of Expectation raised by Material Progress.

##### BOOK V.—THE PROBLEM SOLVED.

- Chapter I—The Primary Cause of Recurring Paroxysms of Industrial Depression.  
 II—The Persistence of Poverty amid Advancing Wealth.

##### BOOK VI.—THE REMEDY.

- Chapter I—Insufficiency of Remedies Currently Advocated.  
 II—The True Remedy.

##### BOOK VII.—JUSTICE OF THE REMEDY.

- Chapter I—Injustice of Private Property in Land.  
 II—Enslavement of Laborers the necessary result of Private Property in Land.  
 III—Claim of Land Owners to Compensation.  
 IV—Property in Land historically considered.  
 V—Property in Land in the United States.

##### BOOK VIII.—APPLICATION OF THE REMEDY.

- Chapter I—Private Property in Land inconsistent with the best use of Land.  
 II—Of the Means whereby Land may be made Common Property.  
 III—The Proposition tried by the Canons of Taxation.  
 IV—Objections and Indorsements.

##### BOOK IX.—EFFECTS OF THE REMEDY.

- Chapter I—Effect upon Production.  
 II—Effect upon Distribution and thence upon Production.  
 III—Effect upon Individuals and Classes.  
 IV—Of the Changes that would be wrought in Social Organization and Social Life.

##### BOOK X.—THE LAW OF SOCIAL PROGRESS.

- Chapter I—Current Theory of Social Development—Its Insufficiency.  
 II—Difference in Civilization—to what due.  
 III—The True Law of Social Development.  
 IV—How Republicanism may pass into Despotism and modern civilization return to barbarism—Intimations of Retrogression.  
 V—The Central Truth—Possibilities that it involves.

CONCLUSION—Bearing of the foregoing upon the Problem of Individual Life.

### INDEX.

*This Author's Proof Edition will be ready about August 25th. It will be printed on large, extra paper, and well bound. Price—Three Dollars.*

## A Study in Contrasts

THOMAS F. RYAN, recently deceased, a financial genius who exercised his very real ability in speculation with values created by others, left an estate estimated at between one and five hundred million dollars.

Anton Kliegl, recently deceased, inventor of the Klieg Light, so much used nowadays for both stage and screen, a light that revolutionized illumination theories, and made many effects possible that were hitherto unknown, left an estate estimated at little more than three hundred thousand dollars.

What price creative effort?

Mussolini wants to get Italian peasants back to the soil. His way of doing it is to drive them out from the cities by force, and keep them virtually prisoners on their farms.

The Danish Government had the same idea, i.e., the advisability of getting the peasants back to the soil, some years ago, but carried it out by buying up bankrupt baronial estates and selling the land to working farmers at true homestead prices, aiding them with loans for stock, seeds, tools. Denmark's plan has worked excellently well for nearly forty years, with increased prosperity and well-being for the entire population.

It will be interesting to see the result of the Mussolini "police farming."

Yes . . . this world of ours is rich in contrasts!

—G. I. C.

## Now For The Promised Abolition of Poverty

"GIVEN the chance we will soon be in sight of the day when poverty will be banished from the nation."  
—President-elect Hoover in his speech of acceptance.

Now Mr. Hoover has been given the chance. He has four years to make good, and if by March 4th, 1933, there should be a shred of involuntary poverty left in the United States it will be to his shame and discredit. Four years is more than ample. Congress is controlled by his partisans ready to follow his recommendations. If he does not know how to accomplish what he promised so lightly there are those who can instruct him. He has but to consult anyone who has read "Progress and Poverty" with understanding. In that book Henry George has given a clear and logical explanation of the cause and cure of involuntary poverty. Those who have tried to refute it have found it unanswerable. There is no excuse for ignorance, least of all in one who has induced the people of the United States to entrust him with the Presidency. And there is no excuse for failure. It is Mr. Hoover's plain duty to demonstrate that when he made the statement quoted he was not deliberately talking bunk.

—American Economic League, Baltimore, Md.

## The Automatic Absorber of Social Benefits

IT is hard to get correct ideas into the minds of certain politicians. Rent has increased by millions in Glasgow alone, compared with previous years, and up, up by thousands of pounds has gone rent in Lanarkshire. The higher rent has gone means less purchasing power of wages, and less of the comforts of life for the workers. Mr. H. H. Hardinge, in LAND AND FREEDOM, put the case with brilliant skill:

"Rent being as it is the automatic reflector of social benefits it will also be the automatic absorber of social benefits, and if left in private hands, as now, the few will get the benefits that ought to accrue to the many."

There have been during the past hundred years recurring paroxysms of industrial depression, and they always follow advances in rent or land values, and when the masses by their silence acquiesce in Lord Newlands getting £5,600; Mrs. Morgan, £50,000; Nether Pollok, Ltd., £19,825 for bits of land, and expect these exactions will have no effect on industry and unemployment, they are living in a fool's paradise. God has provided in the soil of Scotland ample food for everyone. Set the unemployed to raise material for food, to rear poultry, etc., that would assist in the solution of the problem. Denmark broke up large tracts of land, and gave loans to her small holders. Why not give the unemployed a start in this way instead of paying them a miserable dole for doing nothing?

—Irish Weekly and Ulster Examiner.

## Draws a Lesson from His Sorrow

LET me draw from this sorrow new zeal in teaching that the *full annual rental value* of the land *must be paid into the public treasury* in lieu of all taxes, so that industry and thrift shall not be penalized.

Let me gird myself with new courage, born of love for the boy who has gone and for the two who, with their mother are still in the trenches, as well as from gratitude to those who were so wondrously kind when we were so dazed by this blow. Let me, as a solemn duty to all toiling men, all heavy-hearted women, and all neglected children, teach the divinity of *the law of economics by which God has provided for the financing of government.*

Let me live till I have at least convinced Stockton that in this provision of economic manna lies the solution of the imaginary conflict between Capital and Labor; that in this God-like provision for all the children of men lies the solution of all political and social problems, including even our religious and racial controversies; that *here is the way to world-wide peace*, because when the breast of

Mother Nature is not privately monopolized by a few for the purpose of exploiting the many and *all* her children have access to her breast, then *all* men can have *all* their wages and *all* their interest, untouched by levies of any sort and *there will be neither any war spirit nor anything to go to war about.*

From Editorial on the death of his son by L. D. BECKWITH, of the Stockton (Calif.) *Forum.*

## Land Monopoly Must Go

THE immediate future is dark, but back of these black clouds there is a silver lining. Modern society is dying of its shams and lies; for, much though it suffers at the hands of Militarism, its deadliest enemy is "sleek, fierce fraud, with hidden knife behind." Under the whip of stern events, however, that shameful era is drawing to a close; and on us it is surely incumbent to hasten by every faculty at our command the far too slow transition. Our heads are not in clouds. For us nebulous schemes through which we cannot see our way to daylight have no attraction. We are simple folk who have got hold of the unshakable truth that those who own the land, with all its inexhaustible resources, own those who have to live on it, and that land monopoly has to be abolished if slavery is to go.

—W. C. O. in *Commonweal*, London, England.

## Monopoly Directing Education

THE recent resignation of Clarence Cooke Little as president of the University of Michigan, marks another victory for conservative and monopolistic interests in seeking to control the educational interests of our country. President Little has been challenging the national influences promotive of a narrow and prejudicial life. He has been seeking to apply higher knowledge to the solution of practical questions of politics and government.

It is hard to remain a college president if you are not enthusiastic in your admiration for the gifts and virtues of SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS MEN enjoying the PROFITS OF MONOPOLY.

—CHESTER C. PLATT in Batavia (N. Y.) *Times.*

THE earth in its natural, uncultivated state was, and ever would have continued to be, the common property of the human race. In that state every man would have been born to property. He would have been a joint proprietor with the rest in the property of the soil, and in all its natural productions, vegetable and animal.

Cultivation is one of the greatest natural improvements ever made by human invention . . . But the landed monopoly that began with it has produced the greatest evil. In advocating the case of the persons thus dispossessed, it is a right, and not a charity that I am pleading for.

—THOMAS PAJNE. *of way, and so on.* (B)

## Jobless Men and Idle Land

IDLE land and jobless men, the latter living off the earnings of those toiling, are everyday factors just now. How several Popes dealt with the problem of idle men, uncultivated land, and with selfish monopolists have a moral for the students of present-day conditions.

Naudet, in "Premiers Principes de Sociologie Catholique," writes:—"The Canon Law, as the great historian Janssen tells us, regarded property as a fief granted by God. This doctrine, founded on Scripture, involves the evident consequence that the owner of property is responsible before God for the use to which he puts his property. He must not use it after his mere caprice; and the Popes, as guardians of the law of justice, have more than once asserted this principle against owners who had disregarded it. Thus we find Clement IV., in the thirteenth century, giving permission to any stranger.—

*To break up the third of an estate which the owner persistently refused to till.*

Sixtus IV., in the fifteenth century, decrees that power is given in future and always to all and each to till and sow in the territory of Rome and the patrimony of St. Peter. In Tuscany, as well as on the littoral of Campania, at the usual and proper times, one-third of the uncultivated lands to be chosen at will, whoever the landlord should be. . . . It was held sufficient to have asked the landlord for leave to enter on the lands, even though this leave had been refused."

Naudet cites Clement VII., Pius VI., and Pius VII., as having confirmed and renewed this insistence on the social duties of property.

J. O'D. DERRICK in *Irish Weekly.*

TAXATION is not a difficult proposition if we consider it as a payment by the citizen to the city for what it has done for him.

JAMES R. BROWN.

## All Ye Are Brethren

"I HAVE been talking with your little brother the garbage man," said Louis, as he brought back the empty pail from the garden gate. "I gave him a flower."

"What kind of flower?" I asked, curious, for just then there were few flowers in the garden.

"One from the tree at the gate," he replied—an althea, not much of a flower for a gift. So I continued my questioning: "Did he like it?"

"He seemed to," said Louis simply. "He put it in his coat."

From time to time I heard of the presentation of other flowers, and of why the little "brother" had been away—sent to a hospital because of injuries received from a domineering member of the other race who disputed his right

Then after months I carried down the garbage pail myself.

"Whah my buddie?" asked the gentle little black man.

"He is very sick," I replied.

"Tha's sho too bad, he responded; and as he turned away with his load: "You tell him he take care hissef."

He had called Louis "buddie," that old colloquialism for "little brother," just as Louis had so long spoken of him as the "little brother."

"And all ye are brethren."

—ALICE THACHER POST in *New Church Messenger*.

## The Morning After in Los Angeles

THROUGH the influence of our high-powered real estate salesmen, who indulge in the most extravagant statements as to profits to be made in Southern California, in their advertisements, people are misled even as to our climate, which is as good, on the average, as that of any place in the world. They are misled as to opportunities for business enterprises. They are almost led to believe that they can come to Los Angeles and pick up twenty-dollar gold pieces on the sidewalks. As a result, they close out their affairs and hasten to Los Angeles. They are met by the boosters with stores to lease and lands to sell. Foolishly, without full investigation, they believe all they hear. In a short time they have embarked in business, having invested therein most of their liquid capital. In a few months their dreams are dissipated. Returns have not been as expected. They find competition keen, profits meager, expenses high. Before long their capital is exhausted. Their creditors take such stock of merchandise as they have on hand, and another store is labeled with a "To Let" sign.

Every city, town and hamlet in Los Angeles county has too many empty stores. But that is not the worst of it. These people who go broke, in many instances are added to the list of unfortunates who have to be assisted by the Community Chest, for which large sums of money are collected annually from charitably inclined citizens. Our charitable institutions are filled to overflowing by the ill and unfortunate.

By continued boosting, as everybody with an ounce of brains knows, our boomers got all of our real estate, both city and county, too high in price. As a result, sales fell off and prices have depreciated. Many people, who bought on a small payment down, expecting to sell at an advance, are in distress. People with equities are in despair. We have, right here in Southern California, as good a country as there is in the world, and it can do no harm to tell the truth about abuses which we have unwittingly submitted ourselves to.

—J. H. GRAVES, Columnist, *Los Angeles Times*.

## Oregon

AN initiative petition to place the Single Tax on the ballot at the next general elections in 1930 was filed with the Secretary of State on March 13. A total of about 16,000 signatures will be required to place the measure on the ballot. Headquarters have been opened at 271 Market Street, Portland, with H. I. Casto, president, Mrs. Laura Lees, vice president, and J. R. Hermann, general manager.

The bill is the same as the old bill and provides that all state, county and municipal revenues be raised by a tax on land values irrespective of improvements from March, 1931.

The labor leaders this time will take hold in earnest and will meet shortly to consider methods of raising the necessary money to push the measure.

## Not Willing to Consider Fundamentals

TO anyone who considers all that congestion means in New York, or in any city of a million or more inhabitants, it is obvious that these are not true social values. They hurt human life instead of helping it. They inflict dehumanizing hardships upon multitudes of city dwellers, and they cause waste which is an excessive charge upon the nation's productivity. The late Henry George would have found an easy remedy, but we are not nowadays so confident of his or any other panacea. But it is apparent that our cities will tend toward monstrosity unless a far greater measure of social control than we are now accustomed to is exercised. This control must take the form of making congestion expensive for those who produce it. The obvious way is through graduated taxation. A city plan with teeth in it, in New York or anywhere else, would include provision for the use of this remedy.

Editorial, *New Republic*.

## A Much Needed Reform

THE *Advance* believes the system of taxation in this township will have to be eventually changed. It is a travesty on intelligence and justice. It puts a premium upon idle lands and penalizes the man who spends money to improve his property to the enhancement of all other property. In every community improved property is not only taxed, but usually at a high valuation, while idle unkept lots and lands, a disgrace and detriment to the communities, are assessed at normal figures; while all the time they gradually increase in value by reason of the enterprise of the owners of improved property.

Editorial, *Patchogue Advance*, Patchogue, L. I., N.Y.

## What Is It We Aim For?

I COULD not get up a great deal of enthusiasm for the policy of the Taxation of Land Values if it were viewed as the object and end of political endeavor. True, it may be urged as a desirable fiscal policy, because it indicates the best or most convenient source from which public revenues may be raised. But the most effective advocate is he who will make it plain that the Taxation of Land Values is the means, and the end is the establishment at the earliest practicable day of the equal rights of all Britishers to the land of their country. The far-reaching and beneficial social effects which would unquestionably flow from the gradual transference of the burden of taxes now laid upon every activity of capital and labor, to the vast unearned values attaching to the land of Great Britain, would, I believe, be quickly apprehended by the masses of the people if the land question and the taxation question in all their aspects were once brought under public discussion.

CHARLES O'CONNOR HENNESSY in *Land and Liberty*.

## Taxation

(This is one of the widely syndicated articles of James R. Brown, President of the Manhattan Single Tax Club.)

A VERY small percentage of the community profit from the rise in the selling price of land, and what they gain the rest of the community loses. The dearer land is, the higher the cost of living and the more difficult production.

Dear land is distant land. Some of it might as well be in Mars for all the use it is to labor and to capital, for between the high selling price of land and the heavy taxes on production, on dear land capital cannot make the open market price of money no matter how intelligently it operates or how hard the capitalists work.

The selling price of land is only taxes that should have been collected by society, capitalized into selling price, and when I have bought off the land owner and put up a building, the city taxes me on my building. As a matter of cold economic fact, I am paying taxes twice, once to the land owner who rendered no social service and again to the city that renders social service.

Looking up and down the main streets of our cities, is it not very strange that the best land, most valuable land, has the worst buildings on it? The reason for this is, when capital looks around for land upon which to operate in the way of putting up a building, it has got to have land the value of which does not overtake the earning power of capital.

Hence most of our improvements are put upon land in the outskirts of our cities, where the relationship between the value of land and the value of building is about one to five, while downtown in the city on our best streets,

the value of the land is oftentimes equal to the value of the building. This is the reason our best streets have wondrous collections of shacks, for it is very clear to the ordinary owner of these shacks (and we do not blame the owner at all, but our foolish tax system) that if he tears down the old shack and puts up a modern building, the tax burden on the building will be so heavy that he will not be able to earn the current rate of interest on his investment.

The best news that ever reached Europe was that land in America was cheap, very cheap, practically free, and we used to sing that Uncle Sam had a farm for every man. But the running up of the selling price of land to the present outrageous figure has established in America the conditions that our fore-fathers ran away from in Europe.

The dearth of land makes it difficult to do business, either for the laborer or the capitalist.

The remedy for this is very simple, that is probably why so few of our supposedly learned people fail to understand it. Abolish all taxes on all forms of human effort or the results of human effort and collect for social use the annual value of land, which is itself a social creation, and with this simple change in the incidence of taxation, you will be giving 100 per cent. encouragement to industry and you offer no premium to idleness.

Let us never fail to keep in mind that when one man gets something for nothing, another man must get nothing for something. Idleness in the court of equity has no just claim to reward and whatever profits idleness gets is at the expense of industry.

## Ether and Single Tax

IF man had to begin again with the disposition of land the Single Tax doctrine of Henry George could be made applicable without any upset. Opponents of it say that private ownership complications are such, in all the years, that it is now too late to apply it.

Very well, say the Georgeites, now is the time to deal with the air or ether channels required by radio. Apply the doctrine to the unseen, unweighable ether lanes before it is too late.

No private ownership in or of the air. LAND AND FREEDOM, organ of the Single Tax movement, proposes an amendment to the current laws which would make sure the future of the new domain for the public for all time. If not, powerful corporations may grab the "ether" and hold on to it as great corporations appropriated land and its products and now claim inalienable rights to them through long usage.

The proposed law would require the federal radio commission from time to time to set forth in detail what it has to lease, including band frequencies, wavelengths, time of operations and the like, and then call for bids. Applicants could make specific bids for various parts of what the commission had to lease. The small-sized broadcast corporation would not be crowded out by a big one. The leases would run for a limited time.

All very well, but if in competition the big corporation were to offer higher rentals for all the "channels" available and all the wavelengths, what then? Must the commission use its judgment and rent to a lower bidder to prevent monopoly?

Soviet Russia is having no end of trouble with persistent selfishness in human nature that insists upon creating and holding to monopoly.

*Rocky Mountain News, Denver, Colo.*

## Mobile Register on the Single Tax

IN celebration of the 50th anniversary of the publication of Henry George's famous "Progress and Poverty," there will be held this summer at Edinburgh the fourth international conference of the International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade. It is reported that more than twenty-six nations will be represented at this conference, the object of which is to measure and discuss the progress of the Single Tax idea since its elaboration by Henry George. It is said that no country has yet accepted and applied this principle in its entirety. In fact, according to the Christian Science Monitor, quoting Joseph Dana Miller, editor of LAND AND FREEDOM: "There is no community in the world in which the entire system promulgated by Henry George is being worked out practically." However, it is the general idea that the system is not departed from in any important particular in the Single Tax Colony of Fairhope, Baldwin County, Alabama. Perhaps, however, the scope of this colony is not sufficiently broad to accommodate all the plan, a complete working of which would demand a larger political unit, and a measure of independence from a tax system already imposed by a higher political authority.

According to Mr. Miller, New Zealand has progressed further towards complete application of the George plan than any other country. However, we find that "Sydney, Australia, with a population of more than 800,000, exempts improvements from all taxation, nor is there any tax on personal property. In Queensland the policy of land value 'rating' has been in full operation since 1902; in South Australia it has been adopted in 16 municipalities for about 12 years, and in Victoria it has been adopted by about 15 councils. Canberra, the new federal capital of Australia, is administered on Single Tax lines." It is also mentioned that in Argentina and Brazil, in Uruguay, and in the Transvaal in South Africa, in Germany, Denmark and Canada the plan has been applied more or less completely, with evidence of continued spread in some of them.

One of the noticeable features of the Henry George idea is its remarkable vitality in spite of the tardiness of its adoption. Its converts are as devoted and loyal as the adherents of any religion. It seems that there are

rarely any backsliders. It is predicted that the Single Tax principle is going to gain much more ground within the next ten years. Whether it will ever be largely applied anywhere without modifications is a question only time can answer. But that the idea has now more vigor than ever before is hardly to be denied.

—*Mobile Register.*

## Pittsburgh Organizing For Further Tax Advance

A FORMIDABLE movement is now under way to extend the scope of Pittsburgh's famous "Graded Tax," and for the first time the idea of its extension is receiving serious attention on the part of influential citizens of Pittsburgh. The initiative in this matter was taken by officers of the Henry George Foundation, but has met a cordial reception from many citizens and taxpayers, resulting in the organization of the Pittsburgh Taxpayers' League as the medium for prosecuting the campaign.

It is now fifteen years since the Graded Tax Law of 1913 was put into effect and the first small shift of taxes from improvements to land values occurred, and it is just four years since the Graded Tax law became fully effective and the tax rate on land values was fixed at double the rate on improvements. The law of 1913 has weathered the storm of several attacks which followed closely upon its adoption, the most severe being in 1915, when it was actually repealed by the Legislature, but saved through a veto of the repealer by Governor Brumbaugh. Since then opposition has become less and less until it appears now that Pittsburgh has definitely adopted the policy of concentrating the principal burden of municipal taxation upon land values.

While the Graded Tax plan, as it now stands, has meant substantially lower taxes for the home owners and owners of other well improved real estate, and has given real encouragement to building activity, it is felt that to afford a real demonstration of the merits of land value taxation, Pittsburgh's present tax policy must be carried further. Many citizens believe that the time is now ripe for the further exemption of improvements from taxation. With the total tax on land values now more than 4 per cent. of assessed valuation, opposition is, of course, built up to insure the success of this latest undertaking.

A booklet setting forth many interesting facts and arguments in favor of the Graded Tax plan and its extension has been issued in the name of the Pittsburgh Taxpayers' League and is being widely circulated. This little publication contains many strong expressions of approval from the city officials of Pittsburgh, newspapers, business men and civic organizations, indicating the extent to which Pittsburgh has come to recognize the idea of discriminating between land and improvements in the levying of taxes.



The first legislative move was the introduction on February 19th by Representative Joseph C. Marcus of Pittsburgh, of a bill in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, known as House Bill No. 1205. This bill, drafted by Attorney Ward Bonsall, extends the Graded Tax plan to the levying of school taxes by the Pittsburgh Board of Education, which is not subject to city legislation and therefore has continued under the old flat rate plan. If this bill is enacted into law, the gradual process followed in the case of city taxes would not be required, as the bill is so drafted as to at once place the school taxes on buildings on the basis of 50 per cent. of the land tax, resulting automatically, of course, in a considerable increase in the land tax to make up the difference.

Representatives of the Taxpayers' League also appeared recently before the Metropolitan Plan Commission and urged the extension of the Graded Tax Plan to apply to the whole County of Allegheny. Several members of the Commission indicated a favorable attitude, but expressed the fear that the farmers and ruralites would vote it down. The Commission did, however, report a charter providing for the complete exemption of all machinery from taxation, and also providing another increment in land values through the district benefit assessment system to pay for public improvements.

#### INTEREST GROWING IN THIRD CLASS CITIES

Following up the advantage gained when the Graded Tax bill for third class cities was unanimously endorsed by the Pennsylvania League of Third Class Cities at New Castle, the leaders in that state have been prosecuting an active campaign through the winter months with the object of more fully acquainting the people of the forty-two cities of that class, with the merits of the Pittsburgh Plan. The task of effectively reaching so many cities scattered throughout the state is a large one, but there is evidence of a growing interest.

The fact that the Legislative Committee of the Third Class City League is not giving the active cooperation which might reasonably be expected in view of the League's endorsement, has left the burden of prosecuting this state campaign upon the shoulders of those city officials and citizens who more fully appreciate the benefits of this progressive step in municipal taxation. The Legislative Committee appeared willing to support an optional bill, but President John M. Moore of the Fair Taxation League and Councilman John J. Bair, of Lancaster, Chairman of the Executive Committee, have consistently adhered to the mandatory bill as originally drafted, preferring to enter into an extended campaign if necessary, rather than accept an optional measure at this session of the Legislature.

Some opposition has arisen from vacant land owners in certain cities. This, together with a good deal of

public ignorance of the significance of the Graded Tax plan, has caused some of the city officials to hesitate about exerting themselves in behalf of the measure. But the benefits of a policy which increases the tax upon land values and reduces the taxes upon improvements, are coming to be appreciated in many of the Pennsylvania cities through the educational campaign that has now been going on steadily for more than a year.

#### PHILADELPHIA AWAKENING

Perhaps the most encouraging development in Pennsylvania during the past few months has been the awakening of Philadelphia to the need for reform in methods of assessment and taxation. That city has been extremely backward and has adhered to the antiquated method of assessing real estate without any separation of land and building values. However, quite a demand has now developed for improved methods of assessment and a bill has been introduced by Senator Woodward, of Philadelphia, which would require not only separate assessment of land and buildings in the future, but set up certain scientific standards for measuring land values. The agitation has resulted in the Philadelphia Assessment Board announcing that it will put the separate assessment plan in operation in two of the more important wards "as a test," whether the bill is enacted into law, or not.

The movement has attracted considerable comment from the Philadelphia press and has been referred to on several occasions as a step toward the possible introduction of the Pittsburgh Graded Tax plan, some of the editors evidently looking upon the Pittsburgh plan with much favor. Incidentally, Deputy Controller Wilson of Philadelphia has declared himself in favor of the Pittsburgh Graded Tax plan and has incorporated a plank along this line in the platform of a new Citizens' League, in which he is an influential figure.

William N. McNair, of Pittsburgh, has given some special attention to the Philadelphia situation and his recent address before the Real Estate Board there received wide publicity and served to stimulate interest.

#### WILMINGTON PUSHING FORWARD

The Delaware campaign, under the energetic leadership of Frank T. Stirlith, is being pushed forward vigorously through the distribution of literature, speeches before civic organizations and personal work with members of the State Legislature in behalf of the bill which has again been introduced to give the City of Wilmington the option of adopting the Graded Tax plan similar to that in effect in Pittsburgh.

Secretary Percy R. Williams, of the Henry George Foundation, visited Delaware in March, addressing a large luncheon gathering of the Wilmington Kiwanis Club and also speaking to the radio audience over Station WDEL. In February, William N. McNair spoke to the

Real Estate Board and the Civic Association of Wilmington. The Chamber of Commerce has authorized the appointment of a special committee to investigate and report on the Pittsburgh plan. This committee will probably visit Pittsburgh and go into the subject rather exhaustively.

Mr. Stirlith reports the enlistment of many influential recruits during the present legislative campaign, and much newspaper publicity has also resulted.

P. R. WILLIAMS.

## BOOK REVIEWS

### JUSTICE AND JUDAISM\*

This is a notable essay which won the Kaufman-Kohler prize in 1917 and appears now slightly revised. The judges in awarding the prize commented on the unusual and novel character of the thesis.

And indeed it is all of this. Rabbi Silver boldly challenges Christianity on the ground that its inferiority as compared with Judaism consists in the fact that it elevates Love as the fundamental principle in human life and society, whereas Judaism in placing Justice first, establishes the necessary foundation for Love as the accompanying basis. In other words, that Justice must precede Love; that if Love alone is made to constitute the first imperative demand we are deprived of the instinct to resist oppression and the necessary coercive measures to overthrow it. Judaism in placing Justice first makes resistance—forcible resistance—to oppression incumbent upon the individual and upon society, whereas Christianity, by laying the chief emphasis upon Love, counsels the passive acceptance of injustice. Such was not the attitude of the early Hebrew Prophets in their thunderous proclamations against evil practices and the abuses of privilege, nor is it the underlying doctrine of Judaism. "Resist not evil" is a Christian, not a Hebrew slogan.

Rabbi Silver makes a striking and eloquent defence for his thesis. We wish we had room to quote many of the striking passages in this book. We cite the following from page 21:

"A sanguine struggle, forsooth, man was compelled to wage before he had acquired his liberty of person, his freedom of conscience, his political rights, *and is yet waging for his still to be acquired economic rights.*" (The Italics are ours).

And from page 27 we quote the following, the Italics in this case being Rabbi Silver's:

"We cannot, therefore, say with St. Paul that the greatest thing in the world is love, but rather, however great and necessary love is, *the greatest thing in the world is not love but justice for only justice functioning as the fundamental principle can establish for humanity what love as the fundamental principle must ever, because of its inherent weaknesses and failings, fail to achieve—the socialized State, Law, Morality, character, aye, even the universal establishment of love itself.*"

The main contention of Rabbi Silver in this finely reasoned and often eloquent little volume is not entirely new. It has received equally eloquent confirmation from Henry George. We desire to call Rabbi Silver's attention to this from "Progress and Poverty," Book X. Chap. V:

"As far as we can see, when we view things upon a large scale, justice seems to be the supreme law of the universe."

And even more explicit is the following from "Social Problems," Chap. IX. p. 86 (Memorial Edition): It might well have served Rabbi Silver as a text for his really great "sermon," and we call his attention to the fine utterance of this later Prophet. It reinforces in that wonderful diction of which Henry George was master, all that the distinguished Rabbi says so well and forcibly:

"That justice is the highest quality in the moral hierarchy I do not say; but that it is the first. That which is above justice must be based on justice, and include justice, and be reached through justice. It is not by accident that, in the Hebraic religious development which through Christianity we have inherited, the declaration, 'The Lord thy God is a just God,' precedes the sweeter revelation of a God of Love. Until the eternal justice is perceived, the eternal love must be hidden. As the individual must be just before he can be truly generous, so must human society be based upon justice before it can be based on benevolence."

J. D. M.

### POOR JOHN MITCHELL!\*

In these days of the "dcbunking" school, when biographies seem to be written with the sole purpose of raking up unsavory details in the lives of eminent men, it is a relief to turn to a life written with a loving but not indiscriminating touch and the sole desire to tell a plain unvarnished tale of a man who strove according to his lights to make a better world for his down-trodden fellow workers.

John Mitchell was the least vulnerable of labor leaders. He was the most admirable of all in devotion and self-sacrifice. He inspired friendships and loyalty in others. He was a man of his word; he impressed upon the union he called into existence the necessity of sticking to agreements and he won a wide popular adhesion to his cause. He worked though a Protestant at the time—he afterwards joined the Catholic church to which his wife belonged—the affection and cooperation of eminent Catholics like Bishop Hoban, of Scranton, Father Power of Spring Valley, and Father Curran of Wilkesbarre. It is not too much to say that these men of another religious faith loved and honored him and faithfully served his cause.

He was, as Prof. John R. Commons says in his introduction to this work, "a leader out of bondage." But despite his sacrifices and despite the fact that his life was like an open book, he did not escape charge reflecting upon his personal integrity. These he met with a courageous consciousness of his own honesty and sincerity. It is not a pleasant recital—the contemptible accusations made against one who, whatever his mistakes of judgment—and they were very few—were at least singularly free from self-seeking.

It is not, we repeat, a pleasant recital—the contemptible politics of the labor unions, their frequently despicable rivalries and insane jealousies of the groups struggling—not for liberty—but for a few more crusts from the table of Dives, a few more hours in the week for leisure and recreation. Mitchell was ever willing to compromise for some slight concession. He did not see that all compromise with monopoly in the end must gain little. He nevertheless struggled to gain that little—that pitifully little!

Did he know better? We know that Gompers did, or said he did. Miss Elsie Gluck who has written this fine and self-revealing life of the leader, tells us that Clarence Darrow, goaded by the sight of all the misery he saw, wanted to demand a new social order, but Mitchell stayed his hand. If he did he lived to regret it.

Beginning his leadership at 17, and retiring defeated at 38, this remarkable man at 41 said in his lectures that he had not solved the labor question, that it would never be solved, but that the union was the only safeguard against a return to the days of greater suffering (p. 24).

Poor John Mitchell! His life, begun amid tragic surroundings closed in a tragedy of futile achievement. Our author seems to set off Mitchell's conservatism with what she calls "the evangelising methods" of Debs or Emma Goldman. But she who has made us see so clearly the cause of John Mitchell's failure cannot herself be oblivious to it. Mitchell was fighting those in control of the monopoly of the earth. The most he could win for his fellows out of such an unequal fight was the little that he did win, something to be sure, but hardly worth the tremendous

\*Justice and Judaism. By Rabbi Maxwell Silver. Clo. 73 pp. Price 1.50. Bloch Publishing Co., N. Y. City.

\*John Mitchell, Miner. The Bargain with the Gilded Age. Clo. 270 pp. Price \$3.00. John Day Company, N. Y. City.

ties it had entailed. No wonder Darrow was often impatient with

Miss Gluck, however much or little she sees, has given a fine biography. We know Mitchell the man in whom there were many fine qualities. She tells many anecdotes of him, and her heroisms in stature as her story moves to its sorrowful conclusion. If he had vision, he had character; if he had no true perception of the struggle which he had entered, he had sympathy; if he did not see the true proportions of the problem he had set himself to solve, he was unselfish. We pardon him much.

Miss Gluck is in error in the statement on page 32, and indeed in the title given to the book itself. The period referred to as the "Gilded Age" were not the years described in this volume, but those beginning with the administration of President Grant, and were first so characterized by Mark Twain in a book of that title.

J. D. M.

#### CONTINUING THE WORK OF PAUL LEICESTER FORD.

Those who were present in 1920 at the Chicago Convention of the Committee of 48 will remember a flashing figure whose voice and presence commanded the respectful attention of audience and Chairman as she walked to the center of the aisle and in a voice rich and resonant pressed for a consideration of the motion before the house.

Others privileged to hear her on post prandial occasions have claimed her the best after-dinner speaker in the movement. The lady referred to is Mrs. Emily Ellsworth Ford Skeel.

And now she comes before us with a set of three large octavo volumes, "Mason Locke Weems," an elaborate bibliography that is really more than that, left unfinished by her brother, Paul Leicester Ford, whose career as a novelist was cut short almost before it had begun at a time when he had already given to the world a number of works that had won a very wide circle of discriminating readers and whose fame was increasing with every book he wrote.

These three volumes are limited to 300 copies privately printed and are gems of the typographical art on paper of the finest quality. It is a labor of love on the part of Mrs. Skeel and very touching is the tribute rendered to the brother who gave so many years of his life to reconstruct the somewhat maligned figure of Parson Weems, whom we know better now from these pages. Weems was an engaging personality and the many biographies he wrote—that of Washington especially—are destined to outlive many more pretentious works.

In these beautifully printed and imposing volumes are preserved illustrations, letters and chronology extending through many pages all that the future will care to know of Parson Weems—probably all that can be known. And in it is enshrined the perfect prose of the introductory chapters by Mrs. Skeel to the work begun by her brother setting forth so much of unique interest concerning one of the earliest and most misunderstood characters in American letters.

J. D. M.

#### REGULATION VERSUS STATE CONTROL\*

In this pamphlet James Malcolm compares the two hydro-electric or water power systems: New York's private development under state regulation of rates and service, and Ontario's public development by cooperating municipalities and committees supervised by a non-partisan provincial commission.

Regarding New York's system Mr. Malcolm says:

Without citing specific instances to prove that regulation has fallen far short of fulfilling the hopes of its advocates, it is enough to say that it has given little or no relief to the public so far as the larger utilities are concerned. By many who have studied the question, regulation in New York and nearly every other state has been declared a failure. More important for the present purpose is the outstanding fact that twenty-one years of state regulation of electrical rates have not resulted in substantial decrease either for domestic or industrial consumers; while across the national boundary in Ontario, under a publicly-owned and operated system, the rates are from one-quarter to one-third of those paid in New York state. After all, the service,

the rates, and the soundness of the financial structure constitute the supreme test.

He then turns his attention to Ontario's system and makes a thorough examination of the facts concerning it. He makes it clear that it is essentially different from the public ownership and operation usually visualized by the public mind, being controlled by the units of the federated cities, rural districts and not by a central government.

Then too the cheapness of the electrical power supply has encouraged its greatly increased use per capita. Our author reminds us that the Ontario system ranks among the greatest super-power enterprises in the world.

J. D. M.

#### A BEWILDERING POTPOURRI\*

A large part of the material in this book first appeared in the *Saturday Evening Post*. The mental confusion, obfuscation and downright ignorance which characterize the average American mind is everywhere apparent in this volume.

One could read every page of this book without once learning how wealth is produced. In fact, the author himself does not fully perceive it. Else, how can he justify such balderdash as this:

"No one will deny that land, capital and labor, in all such senses, are sources of wealth. They are not the only sources. It is strange that economists have so seldom regarded ideas as a source of wealth. Yet it is possible to argue that ideas have created all modern wealth." (page 119).

For the benefit of our author let it be said, once and for all, that all wealth comes from one source, and one source only, and that is the Earth on which we live. It is the application of human labor to land, (or the forces of Nature), that gives us food clothing and shelter. Unemployment is nothing but the denial to Labor of access to the Earth.

The big point which our author fails to perceive is that before Labor can have access to the raw forces of Nature it must first pay Land-owners Economic Rent for the privilege of working the Earth.

Only after the landowning class in society, claiming to "own" the bare Earth has been appeased, is there anything left for Labor and Capital to divide between themselves.

Now, the landowner furnishes nothing to Capital or Labor.

He only permits them to exert themselves on the God given forces of Air, Water, Sunshine and Land to do their producing.

The people collectively because of their ignorance and stupidity, permit a small number of themselves to "Own" Land and rent it out to the others. This is the basic wrong, for it enables a limited class in society to acquire wealth without rendering service.

Now, the share this small class is yearly exacting as Rent is constantly growing bigger and bigger. This for the reason that there is a fixed quantity of land in the world while the number of human beings who are born into the world is constantly increasing and each one of these human beings must draw his food, clothing and shelter therefrom.

Unlike the Socialists, our author perceives that the interests of Labor and Capital are not in conflict. Were he to pursue this matter further, he would learn that where Labor suffers low wages or unemployment, true Capital (as distinguished from Land Monopoly) also suffers low interest return and unemployment.

It is because the third factor, namely Land, can draw the lion's share of the product that both Labor and Capital suffer. Of this our author is in utter darkness.

Now, this is inexcusable in an author of Garet Garrett's experience. For many years he has been writing on American business problems. I submit a few "Gems" from this book!

"Freedom as we know it is a condition of ego. Prosperity is a condition of things. Increase these satisfactions to any degree and there is still that knowledge of incompleteness which torments the spirit.

\*The American Omen, by Garet Garrett. Clo. 249 pp. Price \$2.50. E. P. Dutton & Co., N. Y. City.

This is the anxiety of the perishable I fragment to make affinity with an imperishable whole." (page xi).

\* \* \* \* \*

There is the last impasse. No thought merely as thought, has the power to break it! The thought might lie for centuries on the shelf of abstraction. It contains the mystery of fecundity; to germinate, it requires to be buried in the ground of common feeling. It must grow downward into feeling and become emotionalized; it must appear again on the plane of thought as feeling rationalized. Then it becomes dynamic. That takes a length of time." (page 46).

\* \* \* \* \*

"Thought is Emotionalized, feeling is rationalized, and the revolution is complete. Observe that a cycle is accomplished. The revolution is working. A way of thing that took root in the ground of feeling reappears on the plane of thought as feeling rationalized. Who now is talking of cultural values in the day's work and taking it that the meaning of the job to the man is of paramount importance? Not the socialist, not the radical, not the Utopian. It is the science of management." (page 73).

\* \* \* \* \*

"The mere wishing for things does not constitute effective demand. One must want them enough to be willing to put forth the necessary exertion, and then, of course, the conditions of opportunity must be such that the exertion in itself become productive." (page 82).

\* \* \* \* \*

"First were certain characteristic ways of thinking and feeling that had to survive the sudden impact of industrialism governed by an alien doctrine of political economy. This has already been represented as a drama of the spirit in which the joint dignity of hand and mind was triumphant, together with the faith that economic and social motives were to be reconciled." (page 90).

\* \* \* \* \*

"Science is of method and means. Division is a transaction with life, concerning its ends. What are the ends? The ultimate end we do not know. We know what it is not. Certainly we do not live in order to produce. The object of increasing production is to make life richer, to free it of fear and want, to multiply its extensions. Idealism is not a science. Faith in the perfectibility of human relationship is not a science. Forethought for the common welfare is an emotion to begin with. There may be a science of profit, if you mean the arithmetic of private gain; but for a sense of profit in world without gain; for the sense of it in deserving the good opinion of your fellow man, there is no science whatever. Division is toward or from a people's day dream. It may be governed by a conviction of things no one has yet seen. That is why there can be no science of it. There may be both an art and a philosophy of it. This is to be approached." (page 120).

This reviewer hereby offers a reward of \$5. to any reader of LAND AND FREEDOM who can explain in simple English what our author is driving at in the foregoing "Gems."

B. W. B.

## CORRESPONDENCE

### ENTHUSIASTIC

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

Spring is at hand and we all appreciate it after months of deep snow. Sunshine is a blessing of the gift of nature, but not all good things come from on high, and here we have LAND AND FREEDOM. We congratulate you on the splendid January-February number and wish it could be in the hands of every truth-loving person on earth.

How we love to read articles by our friend, Prof. Harry Gunnison Brown. And now comes that man, C. H. Baidon, in your last issue with his article on "Agricultural Distress; Its Cause and Remedy," which is just simply immense, and should be in the hands of every "farm bureau" man, and in fact all those honest enough to do the right thing and who want to inform themselves.

While thinking over the good lines of work of our Georgists I am particularly impressed with Emil O. Jorgensen's courageous hammering at Prof. Ely's School of Economics.

Lismore, Minn.

EMIL KNIPS.

### A SUGGESTION FOR ADVERTISING

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

I am fundamentally an advertiser. It pays to advertise. I do Roadside advertising and that is the place to advertise Single Tax. If every man in America who believes in Single Tax would put up one roadside sign advertising it and then put a sign on his spare tire cover advertising the fact that he is a Single Taxer, think of the effect it would have. Then think of the effect upon Single Taxers if LAND AND FREEDOM in every issue would publish the number that promise to put up and maintain one or more signs, and the number of signs that have actually been put up, together with the number of those who pledge themselves to get five or more new subscriptions each year to LAND AND FREEDOM, and twelve copies during the year, of "Progress and Poverty" and "Protection or Free Trade," with the number actually sold. I believe the way to get something done is to start it and I am going to start the ball rolling by putting up five roadside signs, sending in five subscriptions and selling the 12 copies each as mentioned, beside marking my car so that he who rides may read. Now how many readers will do the same? I am writing this letter with the hope and expectation that it will be published and that something will be started. I expect the co-operation of LAND AND FREEDOM. Some one has to start things so I shall tell exactly the kind of sign I shall make, and I urge every one who will help to make exactly the same kind. I shall use a vertical post 4"x4" and 8' tall. This will be bolted to a resisting post of locust or cedar, 30" of this post being buried and 30" above ground where the 4"x4" post is bolted to it. Three or more cross boards 6" wide and 4' long and spaced 4' apart, beginning about six inches from the top, are used to letter on the letters full width of board and about 4" wide as an average. The letters plain block capital with lines about 3/4" wide. Post and cross board painted three good coats of outside white paint. Lettering Sherwin Williams, Sport Red Auto Enamel. I have found this to stand up well. About every six months when signs are repainted they should be washed clean with soap and water and painted over with one coat of white and the red will then "Bleed" through so that the letters can be easily followed. This makes a very vivid red and the public "sees red."

These signs are lettered exactly alike on both sides and placed at right angles to the road. I get what is known as white pine shelving. This comes in 12" widths and I have it ripped in two and sawed to proper length. This has some small tight knots but is not sappy or resinous. The knots and any resinous part must be shellacked. These boards finish about 3/4"x5-3/4"x4. Not being an expert sign painter I cut letters out of cardboard and mark around them with a pencil in this way by laying them out on the boards I get good spacing. It is conceivable that some will wish to make these signs themselves and I therefore give this simple information in the hope that it may help. I use a soft camel's hair brush for lettering. If the enamel gets too thick, thin with turpentine. I know that I shall make these signs and put them up with my own hands and with great unction to my soul.

The signs I shall put up will be about as follows: (1) REAL HENRY GEORGE'S "PROGRESS AND POVERTY." (2) REAL

HENRY GEORGE'S "PROTECTION OR FREE TRADE". (3) SUBSCRIBE TO 'LAND AND FREEDOM,' 150 NASSAU ST., N. Y. CITY. (4) SINGLE TAX: THE ONLY PREVENTATIVE OF WAR. (5) SINGLE TAX: THE ONLY REMEDY FOR ECONOMIC ILLS. On my tire cover I expect to put something like: I AM A SINGLE TAXER. ASK ME WHY. I find that a sign such as I have outlined is large enough to be easily read by people driving 30 miles an hour. Each idea must be put across in a very few words. These are only suggestions. Some one may give a better idea as to wording. I do not believe the mechanical part of the sign as I have outlined can be improved on. SINGLE TAX: THE ONLY FARM RELIEF, is a thought for a sign.

Now the question is to get the signs up. How many will join hand and shoulders? How many will put up one sign, how many two, how many ten? I am not limiting myself to 5. But I pledge that many to start. They will be put up on a good tourist road and not less than 10,000 people a day will read them. You will feel them at 150 Nassau street. Think what it will mean when we get 100,000 such signs. Lybla Valley Farm, Alexandria, Va. LONDON C. PAINTER.

### A GREAT TRUTH HAS MANY DOORS

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

I take no sides in the controversy between those who stress the economic or fiscal view in Single Tax work and those who think we should dwell on the moral issue. There is plenty of work for both and probably each can do his best work along the line that appeals to him. Neither view can be ignored; if you argue the fiscal side you don't get far before it is apparent that somebody is going to lose advantages he has been enjoying, and you are compelled to take up the moral side to justify your position. If you stress the right of all men to the use of the earth, you can hardly get started until you are compelled to explain how it can be secured, along with the exclusive right of occupancy which is essential. So after all it is only a controversy as to which side is the best selling talk to get one interested; each can probably sell best by following the methods which appeal to him, and it is astonishing that so many Single Taxers can get so hot under the collar about it—both methods arrive at the same goal or else they don't arrive at any goal—which is more usual. Anyone who thinks his particular way of talking Single Tax is the only pure or orthodox way, is simply a bigot.

As for myself, the fiscal side seems the best beginning; it was through that side that I first became interested. I had been an absolute free-trader—so far as import tariffs are concerned—for years before I had any capacity to form an idea of my own, and as I arrived at manhood I saw no reason to change that view. It was only gradually that I came to see that the abolition of import taxes was only a step toward true free trade, that free trade required that all taxes on the instruments, the processes and the products of production, must be abolished.

Then, after being satisfied that it would be expedient, I was up against the moral question, is it just? and it took me a year or two more to arrive at the point where I was ready to say I was a Single Taxer. Philadelphia, Pa. HARRY B. TAWRESEY.

## NEWS NOTES AND PERSONALS

MRS. CHARLOTTE SMITH, at one time the energetic and efficient secretary of the Ohio Single Tax League, is now located in Portland, Oregon, as the assistant to Mr. James J. Sayer, an active Single Taxer, formerly editor of the Red Book, and at one time a resident of Chicago, Ill.

ERNEST E. FAVILLE, formerly of Portland, Oregon, is now managing editor of the *Sacramento Union*, Sacramento, Calif. This is a paper

that during seventy years of its existence has engaged at different times as its managing editors, Mark Twain, Bret Harte and Henry George.

LOUIS BOWERMAN, 962 East 18th Street, N. Portland, Oregon, formerly a resident of New York City, had many friends of the olden days such as Robert Baker, Benjamin Doblin, and many others.

PERCY PEPOON, of St. Louis, Mo., whose name will be instantly recalled by old-time Single Taxers owing to his magnificent work in placing Single Tax matter in "patent insides," in more than eighty papers issued by the Western Newspaper Union, was born in 1861 and is still in good health and interested in all matters concerning the movement.

PROF. W. R. B. WILCOX, head of the Department of Architecture at the Oregon State University, at Eugene, and Mrs. Wilcox, both substantial Single Taxers, have for several years been in the habit of assembling from twenty to forty students in their parlors every Wednesday evening and discussing questions of economics.

WILL all readers of this item send to the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, 11 Park Place, New York City, their names, with those of any others in their locality who are interested or friendly to the movement. These names are required for an intensive campaign for the distribution of literature.

THE New York State Library, Albany, N. Y. is in need of a copy of LAND AND FREEDOM for Nov.-Dec., 1923 (No. 6, Vol. 23). Will some of our readers having such copy to spare communicate with the Library?

WE regret to chronicle the death of William G. Wright, of Philadelphia, for thirty-five years head of the Fidelity and Casualty Company in that city. He was a member of the Delta Kappa Epsilon and Phi Beta Kappa fraternities, and member of the Bar Associations of New York and Philadelphia. Despite his connection it was the radical side of the Single Tax movement that enlisted his sympathies, and he early became a member of the Single Tax party. He was for many years a subscriber and friend of LAND AND FREEDOM.

*Saturday Night*, an illustrated weekly published at Flint, Michigan, in its issue of March 23rd, contains an article by Charles R. Adair, entitled, "The Tax Problem Misunderstood."

FROM Rev. Charles H. Hartman, of 2801 Ellis Avenue, Chicago, we have received copy of a research lesson in an Economic Bible Study System, which he believes will be of real interest to Single Taxers as a programme of work. These Economic Bible Study lessons are distributed free of cost upon receipt of names and addresses.

RICHARD POTTS, an independent candidate for mayor of Dallas, announces his advocacy of the Single Tax.

CHARLES W. MILLER, of Bloomington, Ill., who died last Autumn, was born in that city in 1867. He sold papers as a boy, went through the grade schools and later attended business college. Infantile paralysis left him with one leg crippled, and this affliction he was destined to endure through his entire life. He studied watchmaking in which he became rarely proficient. Later he became proprietor of one of the largest jewelry stores in Central Illinois. He was often called upon to give Single Tax talks before the Professors' Club of Bloomington and Normal. His heart and soul were devoted to the

cause. In April, 1927, he sold his business in which he had accumulated a comfortable fortune despite his handicaps. He left a wife but no children. He was a 32nd degree Mason, a Shriner, Odd Fellow and a Kiwanian, but his chief interest was the great truth he had derived from the writings of Henry George earlier in life.

J. R. HERMANN, of Portland, Oregon, has received two calls for addresses from the local trades unions of his city.

THE campaign for the adoption of the Pittsburgh graded tax in Delaware is proceeding apace. The Chamber of Commerce of Wilmington is taking a referendum on the question. Frank T. Stirlith is in charge of the campaign. William M. McNair spoke before the Wilmington Civic Association and the Wilmington Real Estate Board, pointing out the advantages of the half rate tax on improvements as a stimulus to building increase. It may be said that Mr. McNair does not content himself with the limited advocacy of the Pittsburgh Plan but points out the important inferences that go further. He said in one of his addresses:

"If a man comes to our town to invest money in houses, apartments, or factories, we welcome him with a half tax rate, but if he puts his money into idle lands he pays a full rate. In other words, the man who puts people to work is a more desirable citizen than the man who keeps them from working."

THE marriage of the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Lloyd Garrison to Robert Emerson signals the union of two noted families in Massachusetts' history.

THE Schalkenbach Foundation has printed a new (third) edition of Significant Extracts from "Progress and Poverty". The Foundation also publishes a very neatly printed pamphlet containing the notable essay on Henry George by Prof. John Dewey, of Columbia University, together with other extracts from important public men to enlist the interest of the stranger in the great message of the author of "Progress and Poverty." Copies of the pamphlet are available at the Foundation offices at one dollar for one hundred postpaid.

THE *Washington Post*, of March 10, prints an editorial entitled "Heavy Taxes on Land." It is a confused analysis of the farm situation, but it does call attention to what it terms "the inequality with which taxes are distributed in the agricultural states."

MRS. CLARA BALDWIN STOCKER who died recently in Glendale, California, was the daughter of "Lucky" Baldwin who would not have been so lucky if the citizens of that state had not been so stupid. On the grazing land he had acquired many years ago spouted oil gushers returning immense revenues. Mrs. Stocker left an estate of many millions.

HON. EDWARD POLAK, before leaving Fairhope for his home in New York, was tendered a dinner by his friends in that beautifully located Single Tax colony on the shores of Mobile Bay. We note the names of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Schalkenbach, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Gaston, and our old friend John Emery McLean as attendants at this testimonial dinner.

A NOTICE in the *N. Y. Times* of Agnes deMille's dancing at the Martin Beck Theatre, this city, says: "She has grown in technical facility and in stature as an artist since her first appearance last season." Agnes, as many of our readers know, is the daughter of Anna George deMille and granddaughter of Henry George.

POULTNEY BIGELOW, old time friend of Henry George, and a writer of many books, now a resident of Malden-on-Hudson, N. Y., has been named by France a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor.

YOUTH in a World of Men, by Marietta Johnson, of the School of Organic Education, at Fairhope, Alabama, is a work soon to appear from the press of The John Day Company of this city. The School will hold a Summer School at Tuft's College, Mass.

WHIDDEN GRAHAM, in a letter to the *Herald Tribune* of recent date commenting on the remark of Mr. Mark Sullivan that no one had appeared before the Ways and Means Commission on the tariff to represent the consumer, says: "The reason was plainly stated by that eminent Celtic economist, John J. Murphy, in his famous epigram: Nobody makes a living by being a consumer."

THE *Christian Science Monitor* of Feb. 17th, contains an article on the forthcoming International Single Tax Conference at Edinburgh with interviews with the editor of LAND AND FREEDOM and Charles O'Connor Hennessy who are quite extensively quoted.

SENATOR Donnelly, of Arizona, in opposing a senate amendment of the State constitution providing that only real property owners be permitted to vote in bond elections, refuted the theory that the workers do not pay taxes, saying: "The only farmer who pays taxes is the one who works his own farm; the only mine owner who pays taxes is the man who works his own mine."

FOLLOWING are the names of Single Taxers who have had letters in the press in advocacy of our principles during the last month: M. Van Veen, and John Luxton in *N. Y. World*; George Lloyd in *N. Y. Times*; Winnifred B. Cossette in Quincy (Mass.) *Patriot Ledger*; Oliver McKnight and Harold Sudell in Philadelphia *Ledger* and Philadelphia *Record*; Alfred N. Chandler, in Hudson (N. J.) *Dispatch*; Henry Ware Allen in *N. Y. Times*; Ray Robson, in Lansing (Mich.) papers, and many others.

PROF. JOHN DEWEY, of Columbia University, left for Edinburgh in March to deliver the famous Gifford Lecture on Philosophy.

THE Henry George Foundation of Great Britain has been created by a gift from Louis P. Jacobs of \$50,000. The trust is to be administered for the specific objects named in the deed, which are the publication, circulating and advertising the works of Henry George and related literature. Single Taxers throughout the world will acknowledge with gratitude to Mr. Jacobs this very generous donation. Mr. Jacobs was brought into the movement by Max Hirsch, author of "Democracy versus Socialism", perhaps the best answer to Socialism ever written, and of whom Mr. Jacobs always speaks with deep affection. The trustee is empowered to apply any part of the trust fund to a limit of capital expenditure in each year in equal sums as nearly as possible over a period of ten years. The Fund contributes no part of the United Committee's own revenue to carry on its work or to maintain *Land and Liberty*. The first work to be undertaken is the publication of an abridged edition of "Protection or Free Trade."

SENATOR Alexander Simpson, of the New Jersey State legislature, has introduced a bill providing for the adoption of the Pittsburgh Plan for the cities of the state. Mr. Simpson writes us that it is his desire to open the whole question of taxation.

THE *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* of Sunday, March 10, says editorially: "Irrespective of other considerations the fact is that realty is too heavily burdened." In the next column to this editorial utterance is a list of increased valuations of real estate with the heading, "Seattle Lots Show Heavy Value Gains." In some cases the increases amount to 400 per cent. and in one extreme case 1,700 per cent. The prices at which real estate (lots vacant and improved) have been sold would

em to throw a doubt upon the statement that real properties in battle are "overburdened." Rents determined by these values, do, however, lay a terrible burden upon industry, but the *Post-Intelligencer* is blind to this.

THE assessed valuation of land and improvements in Syracuse, N. Y., have been increased over 100,000,000. It is said that the land values in the commercial and business sections of the city will be equalized and the owners of residential properties will be benefited the most. The owners of down town property will fight the increase in assessed valuations.

WILEY WRIGHT MILLS and Herman Forel are candidates for the Chicago City Council, the first for re-election.

A. A. WORSLEY has been elected president of the Chicago Law Institute.

W. J. BECK, of Amarillo, Texas, writes us that the Potter County library, which has twelve volumes of the works of Henry George donated to the Library by Mr. Beck, reports that these books are in constant use, as is also LAND AND FREEDOM.

LAS VEGAS, NEVADA, is now a boom town, land values reflecting the Boulder Dam project. Allusion to this is made on another page. Properties which two years ago sold for \$50 or \$70 an acre now bring from \$250 to \$400. Real estate dealers say the present prices are justified by the Boulder Dam conditions, but Edward Clark, president of the State Bank, differs, saying that "land values are too high. There's nothing here now to warrant such prices as are being asked." We are told that practically every property owner in Las Vegas is in the real estate business. And so the game of "getting rich quick" goes merrily on.

MENTION of the death of Rev. Arthur W. Littlefield at Middleborough, Mass., on December 17, 1928, was omitted from our last issue. Those present at the New York Henry George Congress in 1927 will remember him well. His devotion to our principles and the spirituality of his outlook upon life were his distinguished characteristics. We shall miss him greatly for his death is a real loss to the movement. He was in his 69th year. Until his retirement from the ministry on account of ill health he was pastor of the Unitarian Church in Middleborough.

THE Boston *Herald*, of Sunday, January 13, contains an illustrated article on Tahanto, the Single Tax colony in Massachusetts, with a picture of Fiske Warren, its founder.

DENOUNCING what he terms misrepresentation of worthless land in the Imperial Valley, Judge Allen, of Santa Ana, California, says he will take up the matter with the governor to secure legislation curbing such practise. There is one way to curb it of which Judge Allen says he have heard.

KING ZOGU, of Albania, in a letter to his premier, explains certain of his policies of agrarian reform which will assure to the people a more just distribution of the soil.

THE Economic Basis and Limits of Public Utility Regulation, by Harry Gunnison Brown, is a pamphlet reprinted from the Reports of the American Bar Association and is written with his usual clearness.

JAMES R. BROWN, president of the Manhattan Single Tax Club, debated the Single Tax with Assessor William J. Weise of Mt. Vernon, N. Y. at the Exchange Club on January 23. The *White Plains Reporter* gave a three column account of the debate.

E. J. CRAIGIE, of Adelaide, Australia, has been selected to represent Australia at the Edinburgh Single Tax Conference in July. Mr. Craigie is an able debater and is said to be the best informed man on the tariff is all Australia. He is a persistent letter writer and over a hundred letters a year appear in the Adelaide papers from his pen. We congratulate both Mr. Craigie and his Australian friends on his selection as delegate to the Conference.

WE have received from Mr. L. D. Beckwith, of the Stockton, California, *Forum*, a pamphlet containing the remarkable editorial which appeared in his paper from the pen of the Editor, entitled "Municipal Manna, A Georgist Father's Soliloquy on the Death of His Son." with the title page containing this paragraph: "With three sons caught in the dragnet of a universal draft of man power for the landlord's wars, he is notified of the unexpected exemption of one of his boys." It is a singularly eloquent and effective bit of writing. Elsewhere in this issue appears a paragraph from page 12 of this pamphlet.

WE are glad to inform our readers that Chester C. Platt will report the proceedings of the Third International Single Tax Conference at Edinburgh in July of this year, for LAND AND FREEDOM.

WE learn of the death of Charles Rodd, known always as Charlie Rodd, at San Diego, California, on February 16. Here he had lived for many years, nearly always in poverty and illness, but even at such times eager to bear witness to the truth that was the inspiration of his life. We remember him when he was a member of the Manhattan Single Tax Club in New York as many of the local readers of this paper will also. He was a bricklayer by trade, and one of the most moving orators it has ever been our fortune to hear. The deep and earnest conviction that throbbled in his wonderfully eloquent appeals was positively thrilling. No one ever impressed us more profoundly. Rev. H. C. Dunham, of San Diego, himself a lifelong Single Taxer officiated at the funeral. Charlie Rodd was gentle, silent, modest, retiring. But he held within him a fire of conviction that burned a steady flame and that glowed in his words when he faced an audience.

THERE lies before us a bill of fare of the Milligan Coffee Shop in San Francisco. Mr. A. J. Milligan is also proprietor of the Henry George Hotel on Powell Street. This bill of fare, with its attractive typography and list of good things for the inner man, has also interspersed between its moderately priced announcement of dishes ready or to be prepared, paragraphs entitled "Food for Thot." and these consist of striking extracts from the writings of Henry George which the customer can read while waiting to be served.

THOMAS FERGUSON known and loved by all the old timers in the movement in New York City and vicinity, passed away February 2, 1929. A large number of Single Taxers attended his funeral services. In a little town in Londonderry, Ireland, as a young man the message of the Prophet of San Francisco reached him and filled him with an enthusiasm which he never lost. It was one of the things which caused him to come to America to meet Henry George. He arrived in New York in time to witness the soul-stirring campaign of 1886, and he often remarked how fortunate he was to have known Henry George, Ernest Crosby, John S. Crosby, Dr. McGlynn and Louis F. Post. His home was a meeting place of kindred spirits who enjoyed the hospitality and the inspiring conversation of tom and his accomplished wife, Mrs. Alice Ferguson.

## Altgeld of Illinois

By *Waldo R. Browne*

This fascinating biography of 342 pages, cloth bound with portrait of the great governor of Illinois, was published originally for \$3. We have recently come into possession of many copies of this work which will be mailed to any address post paid on receipt of \$1.50 per copy, half the published price.

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