

May—June, 1930

Land and Freedom

FORMERLY THE SINGLE TAX REVIEW

An International Record of Single Tax Progress Founded in 1901

The British Budget Situation

J. O'Donnell Derrick

Chicago's Financial Difficulties

George C. Olcott

A Single Taxer's Journey to the Henry George Congress

E. P. E. Troy

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LAND AND FREEDOM

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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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Comment and Reflection

WE sometimes think that perhaps many of the difficulties in the world arise from the multiplicity of words. People were able to think clearer when there was only a small dictionary of perhaps twenty thousand words. Look at Shakespeare. He had all the vocabulary he needed; when he wanted a new word he invented it. If he had lived in this age of more words he might not have done so well; indeed he might have been overwhelmed with the weight and volume of them.

WE are not joking. We think much of the obscurity of present day writing by writers of innumerable books, much of their failure to think at all, are due to the dictionary makers. If you can substitute for an idea a word or two, or many words, that is so much to the good and where there are innumerable words there are that increased number of substitutes for ideas.

AND it must be remembered that these larger vocabularies are the possession of the few. They are therefore at the service of privilege. The masses have few words and fewer ideas; they are able only to understand what is conveyed in their limited vocabulary. When the authorities, the teachers and preachers, the statesmen and politicians, launch out at them with their formidable armory of words in books and newspapers, words that conceal ideas, they lose the power of thinking.

GOETHE once declared that the highest cannot be spoken in words. Conversely it may be held that the simplest truths—the lowest and most obvious, if you please, can only be expressed in the fewest words. They may have to be reiterated a number of times, but the words are few. Think of the simplest truth, for example, that all men have an equal right to the use of the earth. Now the opposite of this, if there be an opposite, requires a perfect avalanche of words, pamphlets, books, etc., to evade or conceal it. You do not have to deny it. Just write *away from it*; drown it with words drawn from many lexicons; write as if it didn't exist; talk in a stream; start the faucet of words and let it run on like Tennyson's "Brook." The method is well understood by writers of the modern school who know the admonition of the cynic that it is the purpose of language to conceal thought.

IT requires more words to write when one ignores fundamentals. The work of concealing thought calls for a largely increased vocabulary. To ignore certain factors and certain relations between these factors demands ever so many more words and what Al Smith calls "langwidge." Volumes are written on the relations of Capital and Labor. They are voluminous because in the desperate effort, conscious or unconscious, deliberate or by mere force of example, to avoid all mention of land—that third factor in distribution—they must for such avoidance substitute "langwidge" for ideas. We are confident that we owe much of the confusion in modern thinking to the multiplication of dictionaries and larger vocabularies.

OF course, the time never was when men wholly discarded the habit of talking and writing without thought. But the multiplicity of words increased their opportunities. The fatal facility of writing *around* a subject instead of *at* it was enormously increased by new terms, verbal additions, and the strange resemblance of words to ideas, all made necessary by a deliberate plan of avoidance. Take up almost any of the popular works dealing with social or economic problems and you will see what we are driving at.

IN a thoughtful article published recently, Bertrand Russell says: "I rejected the view that the origins of war are always economic, for it was obvious that most of the people who were enthusiastically in favor of the war were going to lose money by it."

According to Mr. Russell, "The question involves a story of malevolent passions and, in turn, the theory of education." It is evident here that Mr. Russell gives a too narrow interpretation to the word "economic." Yet he destroys his own thesis by implication in what follows, for he says: "With poverty eliminated, men could devote themselves to the constructive arts of civilization—to the progress of science, the elimination of disease and the impulses that make for disease."

WE agree with what Mr. Russell says of nationalistic passions and the need of international government in human affairs. But that is a part of the question of amicable relations between peoples. Mr. Russell says people fight because they wish to fight, yet he recognizes that the impulse to fear is what urges them to fight. He

is therefore confusing his causes, or employing them in a way not becoming a philosopher. For it is really fear that impels them to attack and not the mere love of fighting. That the rulers of the earth have sedulously cultivated this impulse to fear is obvious. Germans were told that they were "ringed round with enemies." In a way this was true, but these enemies had been taught to believe that Germany meditated an attack upon them. What is it then, the love of fighting or the fear of attack that leads to war? There must be some deeper contributing causes, and not the love of combat that leads nations to fly at one another's throats.

THEY are battling in India over the age-old question of taxation. That, however, is but the superficial aspect of the struggle. The thing talked about is salt, as in Boston Harbor it was tea. These of course are but symbols of the meaning of which Mahatma Gandhi and his followers are perhaps only half conscious.

ALL great movements which stir the hearts of peoples seem to demand expression in symbols, often strangely insignificant and relatively unimportant. It is hard to believe that the tax on salt, which has been estimated as seven cents per capita, could have stirred a people so profoundly. Gandhi says: "The volume of information being gained daily shows how wickedly the tax has been designed. In order to prevent the use of salt that has not paid the tax, which is at times even four hundred times its value, the government destroys the salt it cannot sell profitably."

THIS wanton destruction must seem to the people as part of the misgovernment of Great Britain in India. It must stand out prominently in the economic oppression of the Indian people. Henry George says in "Progress and Poverty," page 118: "Upon salt, an article of prime necessity everywhere, and of especial necessity where food is almost exclusively vegetable, a tax of nearly twelve hundred per cent. is imposed, so that its various industrial uses are prohibited, and large bodies of the people cannot get enough to keep either themselves or their cattle in health."

TAXES as high as the salt tax in India have been employed by people who did not have to wait for an alien people to impose them! We have taxes in this country which if not equal in percentage, nor as onerous by reason of our ability to bear them, are proportionately as baneful and exacting.

IT is impossible to enter a wholesale indictment of British rule in India. Its faults have been those of other "colonizing" countries. The defects of its rule have been those of internal governments everywhere. That the evils of the land system in India are any different, either

in kind or degree, from those the British people have so patiently borne, would puzzle even the friends of the independence of India to point out. And what under independence if granted are we to hope for? Nothing that the Mahatma has said is in the least reassuring. There is no country in the world where the caste system is so deeply ingrained; no country in which social or economic revolution is less to be anticipated.

CASTE in India is no mere division of rich and poor, or titled and untitled. Caste is represented by a number of gradations hardened by centuries of inviolate custom and immemorial habits of thought. Economic equality, or equality of any kind, is unthinkable in India, and it is not conceivable that independence of British rule, in existing circumstances, would give the people freedom from onerous taxes, or excessive land rent charges. Mahatma Gandhi has no programme of social reform, though he talks vaguely of the poor and the unemployed. He insists that the salt tax must go. But other taxes would take its place. And there is yet no message of hope for the groaning millions of India.

WITHOUT attempting to be facetious, it may be said that recent speeches of President Nicholas Murray Butler recall the best traditions of the Republican party when the *Chicago Tribune*, stalwart organ of the party, was urging a low tariff, and Garfield and Roosevelt were members of the Cobden Club, and when John Sherman, Republican leader, was saying in the U. S. Senate of which he was a member: "Every law imposing a duty upon imported articles is necessarily a restraint upon trade. It imposes a burden upon the purchase and sale of goods and tends to prevent their importation." "Every obstruction to a free exchange of commodities is born of the same despotic spirit which planted castles upon the Rhine to plunder peaceful commerce. Every obstruction to commerce is a tax on consumption. Every facility to a free exchange cheapens commodities, increases trade and production and promotes civilization." And we may say that while the Democratic party was dodging the tariff in the last election, and log-rolling for higher duties in the present Congress, it remained for a supposedly conservative Republican to voice his opposition to the tariff and to utter a real call to freedom.

THE Single Tax system is a scientific discovery that will secure to each and every person his equal right to the use of the earth. There would be no other taxes to hinder the owner in developing the land he possessed on what would virtually be a perpetual lease, so long as he paid his taxes, that is, the annual value, to the Government.

—MARK M. DINTENFASS in Ft. Lee, (N. J.) *Sentinel*

Chicago's Financial Difficulties

THE financial muddle in which the city of Chicago has become involved, affords a striking example of how not to do it. It is a sordid tale of incompetency, extravagance, mismanagement, corruption and graft, which finds its counterpart only, perhaps, in the history of nations in the past. Certainly no modern American city of metropolitan size, can exceed, if it even equals it in economic depravity and general rottenness. It is a story alike discreditable and illuminating.

Like in other similar situations, however, no one thing can be pointed out as the cause. Individuals under like conditions act pretty much the same, everywhere and at all times. The fault lies not entirely with officials, guilty as they may be, but even more so, with the uneconomic and inept laws under which they operate.

During the year 1926 there arose a demand for larger revenues both on the part of the school board and the city officials. How to obtain it was debated both by the aldermen and members of the board of education. Owing to limitation by statute of the tax levy for school purposes and corporate expenditures, as well as bonded indebtedness, the only hope seemed to lie in having an increase in the assessed valuation of real estate. This had become notoriously low and was kept down every year, notwithstanding well-known increase in real estate values, on account, mainly, of an ill advised law for raising revenues for state purposes.

The State of Illinois derives its revenues by levying a tax on the assessed valuation of each county of the state, as returned by the various county assessors. This naturally has had the tendency for the taxing officials in each of the 102 counties, to compete with each other in order to escape their proper share of state taxes. The state tax commission was supposed to equalize the assessed valuation between counties. They did not, for the reason that they could not, without making a complete revaluation of all the property in each county.

A survey was made of the central business district of Chicago in 1926 by the Manufacturers Appraisal Company, financed by prominent property owners. It was done to secure data for an appeal to the board of review. Another survey was made by the municipal authorities acting with the board of education, of all properties outside the main business center, having improvements of buildings containing six flats and over. The result of the survey of the business district, was a valuation of \$799,225,500 for the land and \$380,219,971 for improvements thereon. This showed a ratio of a trifle over 2 to 1 for land values as against building values, in the loop, so called. Outside the loop 8,000 properties were valued, resulting in a total full cash appraisal of \$196,636,446 for the land and \$512,283,516 for buildings, a ratio of nearly 1 to 3 for land. It must be borne in mind that this later survey did not include any one or two family dwellings. The indicated

percentages of the two findings, as compared with the taxing official figures for the identical properties were, loop 52 per cent., outside loop 38 per cent. A protest was made on these 8,000 properties by the municipal authorities to the board of review on the ground of under-assessment. The board of review, lightly disregarding the time and money spent on the surveys, dismissed the complaints on a trivial technical pretense.

The county commissioner then stepped into the fray and appointed a committee termed the "joint commission on real estate valuation." It was composed of the five members of the board of assessors, the three members of the board of review, three members appointed from the board of county commissioners, and fifteen well-known citizens representing various interests and groups.

The joint commission above mentioned got into action. Another survey was made. This time it was a comparison of sales or transfer values, with assessed valuation for taxing purposes. The result was astounding. Some 5,421 sales were investigated. The grossest inequalities were revealed. The assessed valuations varied from one to one hundred per cent. of the sales figures. Apparently valuations had been made according to vote-getting abilities of favored property owners, rather than actual values. It would seem that almost every influential politician and precinct captain in the city, had only to come to the board of assessors and say: "This is a friend of mine. Take care of him." And it was done.

Now another figure came into the picture. It was William H. Malone, chairman of the State tax commission. Appeals were made to his commission to order a revaluation of all the real property in Cook county. The quadrennial assessment of 1927 had not corrected many of the inequalities complained of. Some 150,000 objections to the assessments made had been filed with the board of review and about 40,000 taken into the county court. Mr. Malone thought it time to act. In January, 1928, he ordered the publication of the assessment list as provided by law. This had not been done for 27 years. The revenue law of the state among other provisions, ordered its publication after each quadrennial assessment. Real estate according to the laws of Illinois, is valued every four years. The publication was to be by voting precincts, each property owner to receive a copy for his district. The legal description was to be given which under the archaic system prevailing in the state, was all Greek to the vast majority of owners.

The state commission ordered the publication by house number and street, giving the size of lot, value of land and improvements in separate columns, owners' names and amount of taxes levied thereon. The assessing officials opposed this order. They claimed it was contrary to law. A very amusing argument coming from them. Besides they did not have sufficient funds and it would cost an immense amount. However, after much delay and stalling the list was finally published and at about

one-quarter the amount the assessors claimed it would cost.

In April, 1928, the state tax commission issued another order that a complete revaluation of all the real property in Cook county should be made. The quadrennial assessment of 1927 was declared null and void. The order outlined the manner in which this was to be done. Among other provisions the board of review, which hears complaints, were ordered to have a member of the board of assessors present at the hearings. This had never been done before. They were also to give the reasons for any reductions made. This was gall and wormwood to the board of review which had heretofore been practically a dual assessing body.

This precipitated a fight proper. Every obstacle was placed in the way of its enforcement. It required a special session of the state legislature, brought together mainly by the energetic efforts of Miss Margaret Haley, the business agent of the Chicago teachers federation, who was interested in getting larger appropriations for school teachers' salaries. The revaluation order was validated by the legislature.

After months of delay the work was finally started. A scheme was cooked up to have the major part of the pay roll on the work, to be under the control of the board of assessors. The county commissioners appropriated \$1,250,000 for the work. A "scientific" valuation was determined upon. An organizing force was secured from the staff of the Manufacturers Appraisal Company of Philadelphia, a company specializing in this kind of work. The minor jobs were left to the board of assessors to appoint. Some 2,000 were thus employed. If this was not agreed to, the board of assessors would not ratify the contract to give the work out. A job, by the way, they were elected to perform themselves.

The appraisal company after working two or three months at the job and getting the work started, were practically forced out by the politicians. A remnant of their force, however, remained and are still on the job. The method employed was to inaugurate a card index system of every one of the 1,400,000 parcels of property in the city. Improved properties were minutely described as to character of building, size, condition, etc. Estimators determined the square or cubic foot unit which was to be used, as the case might be. Large buildings were all cubed.

In fixing the land values the city was divided up into 44 districts. Two real estate men were appointed in each district to estimate the values. The result has been the same competitive under-assessment on land, as in the state tax between counties. While the inequalities between individuals was largely corrected, there has been substituted an inequality between districts, so far as pertains to land values. Different appraisers for different districts, animated by cupidity, desire to protect their clients; differences in judgement or what not, will not bring about a fair assessment. Upon uniformity of valuation depends

equity in taxes. The remedy is to organize a corps in an assessing body, specializing in land values alone. Have them cover the entire field, exercising the same judgement throughout. Provide tentative land value maps for each district covered. Send these to all taxpayers in a district. Call meetings in each district to discuss valuations so put down. Have the assessing corps ready to defend their valuations. Alter no figure without reliable data to sustain the contention. Having gone through such a crucial test, the land values should be settled and no appeal should lie. The taxpayer has had his day in court. Then was the time to make changes if any.

During this whole period, revelations of padded pay rolls, corruption in office, and general misrule cropped out. The Chicago sanitary district board was accused of misappropriating \$15,000,000. The school board faced a deficit of several millions. Even the water department, with a revenue-producing municipal plant, was behind. Tax anticipation warrants were issued in 1928 to the amount of \$116,000,000 and the money all spent. In 1929 another batch of warrants amounting to \$140,000,000 were issued and the proceeds are now all gone. Warrants for the 1930 taxes to the amount of \$74,000,000 have been bought by the banks, by the sale of an equal amount of 1928 warrants to the taxpayers.

At this writing no tax bills have been sent out for the 1928 taxes. The state, city, county, school board, library, parks, forest preserve, the seven major taxing bodies have received no funds from taxes since 1928. They have been living on borrowed money. The revaluation, it has been estimated by the city efficiency expert, will cost \$3,000,000. Figuring in interest charges and extra costs due to the delay in collection of taxes for two years, he estimates the total added cost to the taxpayers will be in the neighborhood of \$7,000,000.

Now what has been the result of all this? In the first place the strangle hold of the politicians has been somewhat bent if not broken. The city has been gone over with a fine tooth comb and practically every improvement assessed at near its full value. This will prove disastrous to building operations, many of which were grossly under-assessed in previous years. Heavy taxes are bound to discourage many projects which escaped during the past. Illegal though it may have been, the city prospered under it. If the illegal were legalized, the city would continue to grow and expand as in the past. The new regime, while it will retard it, will not stop Chicago's growth.

As far as land values go, there has been a large increase. The assessed valuation for 1927 for the city of Chicago for land and improvements thereon, was \$3,247,359,299. The figures given out for the city for 1928 under the new re-assessment is \$7,300,000,000, full value. It should have been the assessed value but the board of assessors without warrant in law, but by a uniformity decision of the Illinois state supreme court, arbitrarily fixed 37% of this amount as the assessed valuation for taxing pur-

poses. This was done to keep down taxes and to adjust Cook county state taxes to the other counties in the state. Land values were increased in outlying and suburban areas, but remain about the same after the above stated reduction of 37%, with many glaring irregularities between the districts. On the whole, however costly as it has been, the revaluation of Chicago property for taxing purposes has been a good thing. The tax bills for 1928, it is now announced, will be out May 15, 1930, two years late.

Under the Single Tax, by assessing land values only, the work which will cost \$3,000,000, could have been easily accomplished for \$50,000. Oh, the folly of it all! An honest people can survive dishonest laws; a dishonest people can evade honest laws, but dishonest people can not prosper under dishonest laws.

—GEORGE C. OLCOTT.

Columbus

IT was some ten years after Ohio had become a state of the Union that the present site of Columbus was selected for the capital. Land speculation figured in its selection, and it has been a dominant factor in the growth and development of the city ever since, as it has in nearly all other cities.

When the site was selected it was forest land with no population, land that the government had sold for \$1.25 an acre. This same land with little or no other change, is today worth many millions, has many millions of dollars of improvements and more than three hundred thousand population upon it.

The syndicate that induced the Ohio Legislature to locate on this site gave ten acres for a penitentiary and ten acres with a capitol and state office buildings to the value of \$50,000.00.

Then on June 18, 1812, began the sale by the syndicate of lots adjoining the State property. These lots were sold for \$50.00 up to \$500.00. In less than five years, many of these lots, 63½x187, sold for more than twice the price paid for them.

Thus from the beginning of Columbus land speculation has proven enormously profitable and while some of its citizens have accumulated wealth through their industry and service to their fellowmen, yet a considerable portion of our wealthy citizens have gained their wealth through the labors of their fellow citizens. The land owners, as such contributing little or nothing to the growth and development of the city, but collecting more and more toll from those who by their industry, service and increase in numbers made the capital city a more and more desirable place in which to live and do business.

The city now has a population estimated at three hundred and twenty-two thousand and their wealth distributed as follows: The figures are quoted from a publication of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce and are not income, but net worth.

\$5,000 to \$50,000	6,008
\$50,000 and over	2,463
\$100,000 and over	833
\$250,000 and over	296

According to this only about one person in thirty-two is worth \$5,000.00, yet Columbus is reported as one of the wealthiest cities, per capita, in the United States.

Statistics show there has been less unemployment here than in other large cities of Ohio. This doubtless is due to the great diversity of its industries and the high character and civic pride of its people, 94% of whom are American born. This is further shown in state and local elections; while elsewhere local and state elections usually ballot forty or fifty per cent. of the registrants in the primaries, Columbus has kept her ratio at eighty to ninety per cent. during the annual elections of the last five years, yet economic conditions have been very unhappy in this city; during the past winter thousands unemployed and dependent on charity. The City Charities Department used up their 1930 appropriation within the first few weeks and were obliged to take some \$30,000.00 from refuse and other funds and doubtless will be obliged to make further appropriation before the end of the year. Probably but few have suffered or will suffer from cold and hunger, but the mental anguish of those who are dependent upon charity and those who see their small possessions growing less and less as the need for shelter and sustenance demands the consumption of their accumulations. The suffering of the latter is intense and wide spread as indicated by the business failures and sheriff's sales of homes. Every week more than one hundred foreclosure sales are advertised by the Sheriff and cover more than two full newspaper pages.

Three daily newspapers open their columns to "Letters from the People" and many letters on "Unemployment" have been published, but the larger number have "Religion or Prohibition" as the subject treated; a few on "Taxation;" among the latter are occasional good Single Tax letters from Howard Holmes of Cleveland, but most of the "taxation" letters are inane and show absolute ignorance of the incidence of taxation.

Heretofore, the Ohio constitution has required taxation of all property by uniform rule at its full value in money. Last fall an amendment to the constitution was adopted that permits classification. It is not much of an improvement and while taxes on personal property may be reduced to a low rate, new taxes will be evolved to make up for this reduction. We have more than one hundred different kinds of taxes in Ohio. The amendment was put over by the real estate interests who have inserted in the amendment a fixed low rate on real estate.

The Public Utilities are somewhat aroused for fear of increased taxation upon them, and justly so, for while they are only tax collectors, the increased cost of their service curtails the use of the service. The insurance companies collect annually more than six million dollars

in taxes from the policy holders of Ohio, and like sums are collected in most every other state in the Union. More than eight million dollars for the U. S. in 1926.

Corporations and public utilities ought to be working with Single Taxers for changes in tax laws, and many of them are favorable to it. Forty years ago when the writer first enlisted in the Single Tax cause, a mere mention of the subject to business and professional associates provoked an attitude of mingled pity and contempt. When Henry George died and the press of the world so generally lauded the character and work of the man, there was a complete and immediate change. Single Tax had become respectable and its followers commendable for sincerity of purpose, but unwise. Today a mention of the subject to thinking men of all classes generally shows they have some knowledge and a sympathetic interest. They "would like to see it tried out."

Some twenty-five years ago Columbus was a center for Single Tax organizations, state and local. A fairly strong local club held weekly meetings in a public hall, but, after realizing that they were paying rent for a debating club of Communists, Socialists, Anarchists, etc., the club as such ceased holding regular meetings. But there is a group of earnest workers for Single Tax who, when occasion permits, come together in furtherance of the cause. In the meantime they endeavor to get outside speakers before local organizations like the Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, Exchange and other clubs.

James R. Brown and others have given a number of Single Tax addresses in recent years, and with favorable results.

Local Single Taxers from time to time have addressed churches and club organizations.

When Henry George last came to Columbus, the writer, with J. S. McLean, visited him at the Chittenden Hotel. While conversing with him on the coming of Single Tax, he stood at a window looking at a building across the street as though unconscious of our presence and said, "It is smoldering like a fire in a building, unseen and apparently unknown, then after a while a flicker of smoke comes out a window or from under the roof, then another puff of smoke and later a cloud of smoke, and then out bursts an enveloping flame that consumes everything in its pathway. That is the way it will come."

The words here written doubtless are very different from those of Mr. George, but the idea made a lasting impression and I can picture him in my mind as he stood by that window in 1896 and can remember looking at that building across the street and expecting the smoke and flame to burst out.

—FRANK H. HOWE.

WE learn that M. Daude-Bancel spoke by wireless from the Eiffel Tower in Paris to an immense audience on the teachings of Henry George.

A Single Taxer's Journey to the Henry George Congress

ARE you coming to the Henry George Congress, to be held in San Francisco next September? If so, start early, and make the trip with me. Come in your own buzwagon or use the auto stage. There is little satisfaction riding on railroad cars.

A Single Taxer's viewpoint is different from that of the ordinary mortal. Man and his ways are more interesting to him than tall buildings, picture shows or any of the commonplace attractions for multitudes of tourists. You are probably familiar with conditions in the Mississippi Valley and the Single Taxers of Missouri can "show you" that State. When you get into Kansas you will find considerable turmoil over the tax question. That State is the "farthest East" limit of the territory between there and the Pacific where the privileged interests are taking advantage of the sleepy Single Taxers and tightening their tolls upon industry and enterprise.

Now we are in Colorado, the land of privilege, plunder and shotguns. I have already told the readers of LAND AND FREEDOM something about the State Land situation in Colorado. Remember, as soon as you get within the borders of that State, to call on the assessor of every city, town and county through which you pass, and give him a sworn statement as to all the property you have in your handbag or suitcase, and then pay to him the proportion of the annual taxes on that property, for the five minutes or one hour you may be in the particular place. Don't fail in this, for under the tax laws of Colorado, if you should you are likely to be sent to jail. The law provides also that if the assessor neglects to hunt you up, and make you pay, he is subject to a fine of fifty dollars. So, don't imagine it's a highwayman who holds you up on the mainroad, at the entrance to any County or town, and demands your money.

A delightful contrast to this statute affecting the common mudsills of society, is the statute providing for the assessment of the property of the privileged interests! Colorado's tax laws require all public utility corporations to file a complete statement of the property they possess there with the State Tax Commission. The law further provides that these assessments statements must be kept secret by the Tax Commission, and makes it a penitentiary offence for any one to divulge their contents to any person. A singular quirk in the statutes makes every business corporation doing business in two or more counties a public utility for tax purposes. Of course, this secrecy is not designed to promote corruption or to aid privileged taxpayers in hiding their property and avoiding their just share of taxation! I imagine some of the boy legislators of Colorado fear that inquisitive citizens might wish to know if the Rockefeller Colorado Fuel and Iron Works was fairly assessed, or some of the public utilities that

have such peculiar dealings with Denver and other cities, pay all their taxes. Of course, such inquiring citizens are "trouble makers."

One feature of the economic life of Colorado, which I found most interesting, is mining. There, as in all the western States, you will hear universal complaint that mining is dead. Of course, the Government is held responsible for this condition. To tell the truth, it is so, partly. But before going into that subject you will probably be interested in knowing that in Colorado they have a State institution called the Mining Fund, which is controlled by a Commission, appointed by the Governor, consisting solely of men representing the largest mining interests in Colorado. It gains its revenue by a small tax levied upon the output of mines. I called at the office of this Mining Fund in the State Building, seeking to get information as to its purposes. Instead of being given information, I was subjected to a cross examination by the Secretary as to the why and what and wherefore of my inquiry, ending with the query, Do you favor the Leasing Bill? At first, I was puzzled, and then it occurred to me that he meant the Coal and Oil Land Leasing Bill, passed by Congress in 1920, and I replied, "I am opposed to it; because it permits one person to take up twenty-five hundred acres of coal and oil land." He did not give me time to say that such an area oftentimes exceeds the boundaries of an oil dome, which might yield hundreds of millions of dollars in "black gold," but said to me, with much emphasis, "These conservationists are robbing the American people of their right to private ownership of land." He then entered into a tirade against those patriotic American citizens, who object to a few interests monopolizing the mines, forests and other lands of the nation.

I never heard a higher compliment paid Gifford Pinchot in my life. The attitude of this Secretary of the Colorado State Mining Fund should cause all Single Taxers, and every other good citizen, to get behind Gifford Pinchot in his patriotic endeavor to save our national resources from exploiting monopolists. Fortunately, the Geological Survey Department, in its administration of the Coal and Oil Land Leasing Bill, construes its terms strictly, and requires proper development under all leases. This good work has added to the anger of the land grabbers.

However, the monopolists are indulging their greed to a greater degree in Colorado than in any of the western states. In the early days, eighty years ago, when gold was first discovered in California, it was the custom of the prospectors working on any creek or gulch or flat to organize a mining district, generally defining its boundaries by the ridges of the surrounding hills and the streams. They also provided laws to regulate the size of claims, their holding and the working of them. In the first districts, in 1848, a California miner had to get down on his knees, and strike out with his right arm as far as he could reach, to mark one corner of his claim. Then, pivoting on his right knee, he would in a similar manner mark the

other three corners of his claim. When not working on his claim, day or night, he was required to leave his pick and shovel and pan on the ground, as evidence of possession. Later, the miners' laws provided that a claim should not exceed ten feet by ten feet, and that, on new diggings, five days absence, which had to be recorded with the mining district Recorder, would cause a forfeiture of the claim, and make it "jumpable."

Two years ago I spent my annual vacation along the Mother Lode mining section of California. I collected more than one hundred and fifty of these mining district laws, and made studies of the economic condition and viewpoint of the miners seventy and eighty years ago. The spirit of all these laws was, No Monopoly. Every American Citizen has an equal right of access to this natural opportunity for a living which God has given him. I found a mining district at Table Mountain organized by five men. The laws which they promulgated enabled them to file claims on the entire mountain. The files of a newspaper of that day showed that immediately the miners of the entire region were up in arms. They called a mass meeting, and organized a Tuolumne County Gravel Mining District, formulating new laws, limiting a claim to a reasonable size, and providing, as custom gave them a right, for the repeal of all the existing gravel mining district laws in that county. The addresses delivered by mining men at that meeting denounced the organizers of the Table Mountain District, saying that they would permit a few men to monopolize the entire Mountain; that it would take twenty years for a miner to work out the claims of 20 acres each, which they provided for themselves.

Later, in 1872, the Federal Government provided by statute that a mining claim might embrace an area six hundred by fifteen hundred feet, or nearly twenty-one acres. The statute also provided for certain work to be done on a claim, which I shall treat of later, and for the patenting of mining claims. That law was the doom of the mining industry. Today, no matter where you go in the mining states, from the Rocky Mountains to the Pacific, you will find no opportunities for mining without paying enormous tribute to speculators, who secure their claims from the Government for a song, and make no effort to develop them.

After this explanation, you will better understand the Colorado situation. Among the many public offices in which I find valuable historical and economic data is the United States Public Survey Office, generally situated near at hand to the U. S. Land Office. As the law requires every applicant for a patent to have his claim surveyed, I have examined the records in a great many of these public Survey Offices, in order to ascertain the amount of ground which a claimant might obtain. As I have already stated, the early miners in California limited a claim of virgin soil to ten feet by ten feet, and Congress allowed claims nearly twenty-one acres. Unfortunately, the liberality

of Congress extended further, and permitted the taking up of any number of claims, and inclusion of any number of contiguous claims in one survey for patent. In the seventies, rarely would an application for patent exceed two claims, of twenty acres each. Even today the vast majority of applications in any state seldom exceed four claims.

But in Colorado I found a most remarkable situation. The dull spell in mining, since the war, has caused a great number of miners to abandon their claims. During the past few years new interests have filed upon these claims, and I found single applications for survey for patent including one hundred and fifty claims, or more than three thousand acres of mining ground! After diligent inquiry about the City of Denver, I was informed that the Gugenheim interests are taking up these claims, not only in one application of one hundred and fifty claims, but many of them.

The Gugenheim interests chiefly control the smelters in the west. They and other interests have brought about the adoption of so called High-Grade Laws which prevent storekeepers and others from buying gold or ore from prospectors, because of the heavy license tax and numerous restrictions imposed. Thus prospectors are compelled to send gold and ore long distances, and at a great expense, to the smelters, which make their own assay, and pay the miner according to their own account of the values. By this means the smelting interests become familiar with the richness of the ground in every mining camp. As dull times have forced the miners to abandon their claims, these interests are now taking advantage of their knowledge and this opportunity, to grab up all the good mining ground in the country. In a few years there will be no opportunity, even by lease or purchase for any person, other than these interests, to develop a mine. If Single Taxers are interested in preserving the "margin of cultivation" in our country, which enables American workmen to maintain their present high standard of living, they will immediately urge Congress to repeal the existing mining laws, and not allow any person a patent for mining ground; and further, that every holder of an unpatented claim must actually work his claim, say with similar regulations to those imposed by the Geological Survey Office, under the Coal and Oil Land Leasing Bill. Let use, development and working, be the only title which a man may have to public mining ground. If those Single Taxers who now devote their lives to the Wailing Wall, and our Howling Dervishes, will only come out of the deserts of New York City and Chicago, and devote their energies to prevailing on Congress the repeal of these monopolistic mining laws, then some real good may be accomplished to preserve for future generations these natural opportunities for a livelihood.

We cannot leave Denver without calling on our good Single Tax friend, Barney Haughey, and John McGauran. We will find Barney Haughey down at Larimer and 16th

Street, the heart of the workingmen's lodging house district, in an old time office building. He has a twelve-dollar-a-month office in which he also lodges. From here notwithstanding the winters of many years have made his hair and beard as white as their snows, he keeps Colorado, and especially Denver, continually thinking about Single Tax. John McGauran is the same enthusiastic, vigorous and able advocate of Henry George's philosophy as he has been known universally to Single Taxers for the past forty years. That the attention of thinking people in Denver has been called to the Single Tax by these leaders is best evidenced in the Denver Public Library, where as large an assortment of Single Tax Literature will be found as exists in almost any library. And there is hardly anyone in Denver with whom you may discuss Single Tax principles, who will not immediately ask you, Is not that the Single Tax?

But to return to mining. The Federal Statutes, since '72, have provided that a person may hold nearly twenty-one acres of mining ground by filing his claim and delineating its boundaries, with a County Recorder. One hundred dollars worth of work must be done annually. In the seventies, the work amounted to about thirty days for the one hundred dollars. Unfortunately, many technical and unfriendly constructions of these laws have developed since that time, so that today the laws are practically worthless. By filing this claim at a certain date a speculator may hold it for two years almost before he does any work. A speculator may do one year's assessment work and never do any more; yet there is no means of proving that he did not do the work unless he is watched day and night during the entire year; furthermore, the law provides that if a claimant fails to do his work, and I, learning of that, take my tools and start out to the claim to work it, if the old claimant can get there before I do with his tools, all his rights revive, although he has not worked the claim for two, five or ten years, or more. I have been told that where parties take up large groups of claims, like the Gugenheims in Colorado, it is the practice to contract the assessment work. They tell me that these contractors juggle their statements so that in the end they do an average of one day's work for each claim, and put in their bill for ten days on each claim. One of the worst features of the Federal law is that it allows one person to take up any number of claims—five, ten or a thousand. I know of an instance where parties have held mining ground for thirty years, until an adjoining owner who was developing a mine was compelled to buy out the speculator and pay him a high price.

Single Taxers who are puzzled by the query of objectors that there would be no permanency of tenure under the Single Tax, can point to Government mining claims as a complete answer to it. Literally, tens of thousands of valuable mines have been held and worked for years merely as claims, their sole title being the filing of the original claim and continual working of it. I was told of one claim

in Arizona which, after having been worked for many years, sold for \$1,500,000; and of another in Nevada that sold for \$1,000,000.

The patenting of mining claims, or Government land of any kind, should be stopped immediately. When a patent is issued the Government loses title, and has no means of compelling any development work. When speculators or land grabbers, like the Gugenheims in Colorado, patent mining or other land, they get absolute control over it, and can keep it out of use until doomsday. Single Taxers should use these facts, and others easily learned, to prevail upon Congress to make the necessary changes in our mining laws. It must be remembered that Congressmen from mining states cannot be depended upon to bring about these changes. Their constituents are largely mining speculators, or their sympathizers.

In Colorado, the State Board Land Commission issue a "Special Prospector's Permit" to prospect State land for minerals for 120 days free of charge. If the prospector then desires to mine any of this land, it is leased to him in blocks of ten acres at an annual cost of seventeen dollars and fifty cents a year for each lease, and a royalty of not less than ten per cent. of the gross production to be paid to the State. The person leasing must do at least fifty feet of underground development work in shafts, drifts, or tunnels upon each ten acres, every year. Under the Federal Law, a claimant doing fifty feet of tunnel work would claim that it cost him five hundred dollars, therefore entitling him to a patent to nearly twenty-one acres, and perpetual ownership of the land; while in Colorado if he does not do this fifty feet of work *each* year he loses his title to the mine.

Before leaving Colorado, it might be well to look at other parts of the State. Denver is a sleepy conservative town full of old buildings, even the principal hotel being nearly forty years old. The telephone building is the only up-to-date structure. The buildings merely evidence the character of the people; the public service corporations seem to be in absolute control; the street railway company even claims to have a perpetual right to use the streets of Denver. The Mayor and City Council recently raised carfares to ten cents, and a few years ago proposed a gas franchise and rates that imposed extraordinary conditions upon the people; and the press and politicians got the people to vote for it!

One newspaper, I was told, developed from the peddling of lottery tickets. *The Rocky Mountain News*, while Edward Keating was editor, had a national reputation as a progressive journal. A few years ago it was purchased by the Scripp-Howard Syndicate and now is nothing more than one of their stereotyped sheets. It would grieve the late E. W. Scripps and W. H. Porterfield to see how this paper ignores or injures the Single Tax movement. Its former individuality is almost lost in the name *The News*, except that its brilliant columnist Casey, is equal, if not superior, to Hearst's Brisbane. I was in Denver

last Fourth of July. I read every line almost of that issue of *The News*, but I could not find a single reference in it to George Washington, Jefferson or any of the Revolutionary Fathers, or anything to indicate that it was a day AMERICANS celebrate. Instead, there were fully three columns in the paper of propaganda about the King of England and his family, as though America were again an English Colony.

But let us go down to Colorado Springs. There we find a new, up-to-date City, in striking contrast to sleepy Denver. An honest City Council and City Manager have almost wiped out corporation control there. The city owns and operates its water, electric light and gas plants. The street railway is owned and operated by a charitable trust of the city. The private corporation that operated the electric and gas plants lost money. The city instituted so many economies and superior methods of working, that both these utilities now pay their own way. A Standard oil controlled Company brought natural gas from Amarillo, Texas, to Denver, charging Denver 40 cents a 1,000 cubic feet. Supplying also the Rockefeller Fuel and Iron Works at Pueblo at 16 cents per 1,000 cubic feet.

When Colorado Springs sought a connection to this pipe line, passing by its city, such onerous conditions were sought to be imposed that the city had to reject the proposal. At the State Public Service Commission's office in Denver I was told they had no authority to compel the giving of this service to the city. There, and at the Denver Mayor's office, I was informed that the pipe line company had agreed, in its contract with the Denver Public Service Corporation, not to supply natural gas to any city in Colorado without the consent of that corporation. Such is the way of monopoly. In the Southern part of the State there are enormous coal fields, covering hundreds of thousands of square miles, including portions of New Mexico. The greater part of this coal land is now held by monopolists. From the State line to Denver, there are great areas of table land, covered with green grass, but not a head of stock on it. Near the cities will be found many dairies, the most of them very dilapidated. The most successful dairymen seem to be our Single Tax friends, the Sintons. Their dairy improvements show every sign of prosperity.

From Denver we can take the bus for Cheyenne, the Capitol of Wyoming; find out before hand the exact hour the bus leaves. My experience there led me to believe, since the Southern Pacific and other railroads got control of Pickwick and Yellowway stages, that they are operated not to accomodate passengers, but to discourage and drive them back to the railroads for transportation. At Fort Collins natural gas is being used from the nearby Wellington Fields, which also supplies Cheyenne.

North of Denver there are hundreds of Russians, renting dairy farms. In Colorado, Wyoming, Nebraska and all the Mountain States, the farms have a hard time existing. Their only cash receipts are such as one to ten or

more cows bring them, some even milking the range cattle. The cream that is brought into the creameries throughout this country is known as "sour cream." Some of it comes three hundred or four hundred miles, after standing from a day to a week in the can on the roadside. Washing soda is commonly used by creameries to neutralize this sour cream. In one creamery, the operator told me that when the mix was put in the vat so much gas was generated, that it frequently blew open the two hundred pound cover. Most of the butter produced in these Mountain States is sent to Eastern and Pacific Coast Cities, where it is homogenized, and made into ice cream for the children. In one State a dairy inspector showed me a photograph of a cow barn, with the manure piled up on the sides and top. He said that the summer rains soaked through the manure, ran down the backs of the cows, and into the milking pails, and that the butter produced from the cream carried uric acid and formic acid, which our children get later in their ice cream.

Later I shall have you accompany me into that remarkable State of Wyoming, and down into the Mormon Economy about the Great Salt Lake in Utah, thence across Nevada and about California. I am sure that you will vote the coming Henry George Congress, at San Francisco, next September, to be one of the greatest events of your life, if you complete this trip with me.

—EDWARD P. E. TROY.

The Unprotected

ONLY a relatively small part of the population can be protected. You cannot protect sellers of goods and services which are not imported, in any case. You cannot protect makers of goods who turn out more products than can be sold in the United States, unless these producers constitute a monopoly and can "dump" the surplus abroad by selling at lower prices there than here. Those who cannot be protected include most of the farmers, commercial workers, transportation, communication, and public-utility workers, teachers, lawyers, doctors, etc., etc., as well as many manufacturing workers themselves.

New Republic.

Reductio ad Absurdum

THERE was never a time when freedom of trade was more wanted and the preaching of free-trade more necessary. Why buy "Empire Goods"? Why Canada for the Canadians, Australia for the Australians and so on the world over, until you finally get Bromley for the Bromleyans? To be logical I should at last buy nothing but my own goods.

—SIR ERNEST J. P. BENN.

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Lecture Work of James R. Brown

March 5—Irvington, N. J., High School, assembly of 1,100 students, at 8:45 A.M. In our address we tried to make it clear that everybody pays taxes, even the little kiddie who goes into a store to get a stick of candy; the amount of the candy and the quality of it were more affected by taxation than by anything else. We had a delightful time; the students were all keen and very much interested. We received a hearty invitation to return.

Paterson, N. J., a meeting at Totowa at 6:00 P.M., about 35 people present, business men of the locality and to say they were very much interested is putting it too mildly.

March 6—Danbury, Conn., State Normal School, 10:30 A.M., 200 students, subject, "Relation of Taxation to Economic Law;" everybody interested. Will go back as soon as I can and carry on the argument.

Bethel, Conn., High School, 1:25 P.M., special group of 125 students. A very interesting and pleasant time.

March 7—Canaan, Conn., North Canaan High School, 2:30 P.M., about 150 students present. Very pleasant and very profitable time and usual request to return soon.

March 10—Plainville, Conn., High School, Assembly of 300 students, at 11:00 A.M. Subject, "The Value of an Understanding of Economic Law." Lively interest and best of attention.

New Haven, Conn., Stone College, at 2:15 P.M. This is a business college of splendid type, 200 students present. Title of my address, "The Business of Taxation." In these addresses to business colleges we make clear the utter impossibility of any accountant checking up a tax bill as at present rendered.

March 11—Westfield, N. J., Rotary Club, 12:15 Noon, 50 present. Title of talk "Foolish Things That Wise Men Do." We try to make it clear in this address that no one need go to the theatre in order to get a laugh; just go down to the tax department and make a study of our way of doing business down there and then if you have any sense of humor, you will go out back of the town hall and laugh your head off at the silly things we do in the name of taxation.

March 12—Ocean City, N. J., High School, 9:00 A.M. 300 in the assembly. Splendid meeting of alert and alive students.

Beach Haven, N. J., Exchange Club, at 6:30 P.M., 75 present. This is a very small village of about 1,000 inhabitants and everybody of any importance was at this meeting. They were surprised at some figures I gave them about their own town and were very much amazed that \$5.00 a lot on the average would raise \$25,000 more than they are getting now without any hurtful results.

March 13—Westfield, N. J., Board of Realtors, about 15 present. This was a very lively meeting and a very happy one, and it was certainly pleasing to note the admission of enlightenment that the address brought to a lot of those men. One man in particular interested me. They

say he is the owner of a fine office building in town and he has never been able to get more than 3 per cent on his investment. So I asked him, "Would you like to know why you get such a small return?" He said he would. So I asked him, "What is on your street to the left of you?" "Why," he said, "a lot of old building shacks." "What is to the right of you?" He said, "About the same thing." "Well," I said, "do you know you are paying a large part of the taxes that they do not pay and ought to pay and that is why you get so small a return on your fine building." He was very thoughtful for a moment and then said, "I guess you are right; it certainly looks that way."

March 14—New York, N. Y., Dwight School, 72 Park Avenue, 11:40 A.M., 150 boys present and real lively boys at that, keen as rat-traps and right up on the job. The Principal was more than delighted with the meeting and has already arranged for some more meetings in the future.

Waldwick, N. J., Young People's League, at Reformed Church in the evening. About 35 present. Very pleasant gathering and a very attentive one.

March 17—Northampton, Mass., High School, 8:30 A.M., 500 present. Subject, "The Value of an Understanding of Economic Law." Nothing more could be asked in the way of a meeting and a hearing, and a hearty invitation to return again.

Northampton, Mass., Kiwanis Club, 12:15 Noon. Subject, "The Farmer and the Single Tax." This meeting was arranged by the Kiwanis Club and a lot of farmers were invited; 150 people sat down to dinner.

Northampton, Mass., Rotary Club, at 6:15 P. M., 50 present. Subject, "Taxation, What It Is and How It Ought to be Applied."

March 18—So. Hadley Falls, Mass., So. Hadley High School, at 8:20 A.M., 300 present. Happy, interested, with a hearty "Come back soon."

Turners Falls, Mass., Rotary Club, at noon, 40 present. Subject, "Foolish Things That Wise Men Do."

March 19—Chicopee, Mass., High School, 10:00 A.M., assembly of economic classes, 500 present. A very satisfactory meeting.

Springfield, Mass., Bay Path Institute, at 2:15 P. M. This is a particularly good business college, 400 present, alive, alert and keen. We have established there a regular call for our addresses.

March 20—Springfield, Mass., Exchange Club, at 12:15 Noon. Subject "Man's Greatest Blunder." We endeavor to make clear this blunder consists of assuming that private property measures the value of social service, instead of economic rent. 90 present.

Springfield, Mass., Central High School, 2:15 P.M., Economic classes, 300 present.

Auburn, Mass., Men's Club, Congregational Church and Grange, 8:30 P.M., in the Town Hall, 45 present. Subject, "Man's Greatest Blunder."

March 21—Windsor, Conn., The Loomis Institute, 12:00 Noon, 250 students present.

So. Manchester, Conn., High School, 2:30 P.M., 800 present.

March 24—Saugus, Mass., High School, 9:00 A.M., 400 present.

Boston, Mass., Hickox Secretarial School, 12:00 Noon, 50 present. I have the pleasure of visiting and lecturing here every year. The lady principal has become a confirmed Single Taxer.

Boston, Mass., Boston University, School of Law, 4 P.M.

Boston, Mass., College of Physicians and Surgeons, 8:30 P.M., 60 present, one splendid meeting.

March 25—Brockton, Mass., High School class at 8:50 A.M.

Brockton, Mass., High School class at 9:30 A.M., both meetings, altogether, 1,200 present.

Newton, Mass., Kiwanis Club, Noon, 100 present. Subject "Something for Nothing and Nothing for Something." In this lecture we try to make clear that if we fail to collect economic rent for social service, we are forced to take private property to make good the deficit caused by this folly.

March 26—Waterbury, Conn., Post's Waterbury Business College, at 10:30 A.M. A very nice group of 110 business college students. Everybody keenly alive, attentive and appreciative.

Waterbury, Conn., Kiwanis Club, at 12:15 Noon, 60 present. Subject, "Foolish Things That Wise Men Do."

March 27—Boston, Mass., Boston University, Theological Dept., at 11:40 A.M., 30 students present.

Brockton, Mass., Rotary Club, at 6:15 P.M., 80 present. Subject, "The Single Tax."

March 28—So. Braintree, Mass., Thayer Academy, 8:30 A.M., about 300 students, one of the brightest groups I have ever had the pleasure of talking to. Attitude of faculty very kind and very friendly.

Taunton, Mass., Bristol Co. Business College, 10 A.M., 20 present. Subject, "Taxation and Business."

So. Braintree, Mass., Rotary Club at 6:15 P.M. Combined meeting of Rotary Clubs of So. Braintree, Weymouth and Quincy, with the ladies invited. About 125 present. A very splendid meeting from every point of view.

March 31—Newburyport, Mass., High School, 11:40 A.M., Economics classes, 200 present.

Lawrence, Mass., Cannon's Commercial College, at 2:30 P.M., 30 present.

April 1—Worcester, Mass., Becker College, 9:00 A.M., 300 present. This is a very splendid up-to-date business college. Subject discussed was "The Business of Taxation."

Worcester, Mass., Lions Club, at 12:00 Noon, 60 present. Subject, "Taxation, What It Is and How It Ought to be Administered."

April 2—Worcester, Mass., Probus Club, at 12:00 Noon, 40 present. Subject, "Taxation."

April 3—Westfield, Mass., High School, 8:00 A.M. Assembly of 450 students, a very alert group.

Westfield, Mass., Kiwanis Club, 12:15 Noon. Subject, "Man's Greatest Blunder," 50 present. A satisfactory meeting.

TOUR FROM APRIL 23 TO MAY 16

To those good people who make this work possible by their financial contributions and to all people who are mentally interested in this great reform and who, in their heart of hearts above all other changes in our social order, desire the substitution of economic rent in lieu of private property for the support of government, we make this report for we feel that nothing is more encouraging to the interested than activities, particularly those activities that are effective and growing.

This tour began on Wednesday, April 23rd, and ended on Friday, May 16th. During this time some thirty-eight lectures were delivered to splendid groups of intelligent and interested people. The reaction in all cases was all that could be desired, the liveliest kind of interest in the lectures and the heartiest kind of invitations to return.

I left New York on the 2:47 B. & O. from Columbus Circle on Tuesday, April 22nd, arrived at Camden Station, Baltimore, at 7:27 P.M. Was met at the station by our good friend and ardent Single Taxer, Charles J. Ogle, and taken to Mr. Ogle's home in Catonsville, Md., for the night. My first lecture was:

Wednesday, April 23,—Cantonsville, Md., Roberts Beach School, at 8:30 A.M. This is a preparatory school for young ladies, about 50 present in this class. This was my third visit to that school. We had a most enjoyable time and left with the good will of the student body and faculty.

At 10:45 A.M., spoke at the Morgan College, Baltimore. This is a colored school, co-ed. Addressed the entire student body, about 450 students. This is my second visit to this school.

At 12:30 Noon, spoke to the Advertising Club of Baltimore, about 50 present, at the Hotel Emerson. Subject, "Foolish Things That Wise Men Do."

At 2:30 P.M. spoke to the History Club of Baltimore City College, 25 members and some guests. A very pleasant group to talk to.

Thursday, April 24th—9:00 A.M., spoke to the Catonsville, Md. High School, 500 students. This is my third visit to this school. The Principal is a very fine man, broad-gaged and alert.

12:00 Noon, spoke at the Polytechnic Institute of Baltimore, some 500 pupils. This is my annual visit which I have made for five years.

3:00 P.M., spoke at the Western Maryland College at Westminster, Md. Prof. W. Scott Hall, Department of Social Science, came for me to Baltimore and also brought me back. Westminster is about 30 miles from Baltimore.

We talked to about 200 students. This school is co-ed and this meeting was all that could be desired.

At 8:30 P.M., spoke for the Howard Park Improvement Assn., Baltimore, about 50 present. This is my second visit and it was a most enjoyable occasion.

Friday, April 25th—1:00 P.M., Luncheon of the Maryland Tax Reform Assn., 22 present.

8:30 P.M., Edmonston, Md., Mayor and City Council, a very, very satisfactory meeting, about 20 officials present.

Monday, April 28th—Williamsburg, Va., College of William and Mary, 10:00 A.M., Class in Social Problems, 40 present.

2:00 P.M., Class in Economic Reform at the College of William and Mary, 20 present. Prof. A. G. Taylor, a very progressive and alert man, is the head of this department. This is my seventh annual visit there. Next to Harvard this is the oldest college in America.

Wednesday, April 30—Richmond, Va., University of Richmond. Class at 10:00 A.M., 25 present. Class at 11:00 A.M., 40 present. Class at 12:00 Noon, 50 present. Class at 2:00 P.M., 80 present.

Thursday, May 1st—University of Richmond:—Class at 10:00 A.M., 50 present. Class at 10:00 A.M., 50 present. Class at 12:00 Noon, 75 present. All these lectures were arranged by our good friend, Prof. H. H. Seay, Jr. This is my sixth annual visit to this University.

Friday, May 2—Petersburg, Va., Virginia Normal and Industrial Institute (Colored) at 6.00 P. M., Liberal Club, 40 students.

Monday, May 5—University, Va., University of Virginia, group of classes under Prof. Tipton R. Snively, 150 men present at 10:30 A. M.

Tuesday, May 6—University of Virginia, at 9:30 A. M., group under direction of Prof. Spicer, about 145 present. This is my sixth annual visit to this school.

Wednesday, May 7—Lexington, Va., Washington and Lee University, 10:30 A. M., class in Economics, Dr. G. D. Hancock, 40 present.

At 11:30 A. M., group in chapel, 200 present. This is my fifth visit here.

Friday, May 9—Attended Single Tax Luncheon at Hotel Emerson, small group.

Saturday, May 10—Hooker Club, Baltimore, Md., 8:30 P. M., about 30 present.

Sunday, May 11—Lawn Party at the home of Mr. Ogle, in Baltimore, 25 present. This was a real nice group of teachers and other people interested in economic reform. Glad to say that we got some converts out of this group; it was altogether a most satisfactory meeting.

Monday, May 12—Annapolis, Md., St. John's College, 10:00 A. M. Splendid group under direction of Prof. V. J. Wyckoff, about 50 students.

At 12:30 Noon. Scimitar Club of Baltimore, Emerson Hotel, about 150 present. A splendid group of bright men.

At 8:00 P. M., Annapolis, Md. Mayor and City Council,

with some citizens, about 40 present. Due to a large amount of business the City Council had to take care of, I was not introduced until ten in the evening, but at that we were able to hold the attention and interest the good people, and received an earnest invitation to come back in the not too distant future and go on with the argument.

Wednesday, May 14—Johns Hopkins University, 8:30 A. M. Prof. Mitchell's Class of 80.

At 9:30 A. M., class of Prof. Evans, '40 present.

At 7:15 P. M., 20 minutes talk over the air, Station WFBG. Title of talk, "Man's Greatest Blunder," that blunder the substitution of private property in lieu of economic rent for the support of government.

Thursday, May 15—Washington, D. C., Howard University, School of Law, at 9:30 A. M. (Colored), class of about 40.

At 10:30 A. M., class of 40 students at Howard University.

At 7:00 P. M., Washington, D. C., Georgetown University, class of 35. This was a very interesting class. This Department of the University is known as the School of Foreign Service, under Dean Wm. F. Notz. He was greatly pleased with this lecture and made an earnest request that we come back to the University in the Fall when he will provide a group of 500 students. He expressed a strong desire that all the students in his department should hear this subject discussed.

Friday, May 16—Baltimore, Md., Exchange Club, 12:30 Noon. Small group of about 20, but worth while men.

At 5:30 P. M., Washington, D. C., George Washington University, class of about 30 in Department of Economics.

This concluded my lecturing for this trip, making a total of 38 lectures in 18 working days. This makes a total up-to-date this year, of 138 lectures.

JAMES R. BROWN.

Extracts From Letters on Mr. Brown's Lecture Work

AMONG the favorable comments received from those who heard some of the lectures delivered by James R. Brown is the following from Charles J. Ogle, who writes: "It was especially stimulating and gratifying to see the manner in which the Mayor and Council of Annapolis responded to your brief speech. The same favorable reception was accorded you in the addresses I heard you make to schools and other audiences."

Prof. Seay, of the University of Richmond, wrote: "The clarity and interesting manner of your lectures have produced lasting results."

Prof. Emenheiser, of Baltimore City College, said: "The boys enjoyed it very much and a great deal of interest has been aroused."

A. G. Taylor, of the Economics Class of the College of William and Mary, is enthusiastic: "I want to thank you kindly for the books, "Progress and Poverty," which you sent us. The students appeared much like children receiving Xmas presents. They will have a background of study in social questions which will lead to a careful reading of Henry George in the future. Remember that we shall plan for your annual visit to William and Mary. We have a fine group of seniors coming on next year for you to entertain and instruct."

Spencer Heath, veteran Single Taxer of Maryland, writes: "I feel like writing you some appreciation of the fine educational work you are doing. I listened to nearly thirty of your addresses and noted their strong effect. The message was received gladly by students and faculty members alike, especially in the departments of economics wherever we went."

Charles O'Connor Hennessy Hopeful

AS there has been great interest from Single Taxers everywhere, relative to the significance of the action of Philip Snowden, British Chancellor of the Exchequer, in failing to include in his recent Budget a specific tax upon land values as a part of the new revenue-raising proposals of the Labor Government, the following cablegram just received by me from John Paul may be interesting:

"It is my considered judgment that the Chancellor has done his very best for the land value policy. In the circumstances, he has shown wise statesmanship and given us hope and courage to maintain the agitation. I am well pleased. John Paul."

My understanding of the situation in Great Britain is that Mr. Snowden, despite his repeated expressions of sympathy with the land value taxation programme promoted by the Georgists of Great Britain, has determined that legislation to provide a comprehensive land valuation system for the country must precede any taxation proposals. Very shortly, as I understand, Mr. Snowden will introduce a bill for the establishment of the valuation system referred to. This in itself will be, I think, a great forward step.

—CHARLES O'CONNOR HENNESSY.

ABOUT 2,700 people own more than one-half the privately owned lands in the republic of Mexico. The revolution has freed approximately one-half of the rural population from serfdom, and the percentages of land held by the various foreign nationals. These last figures—which are for 1923—indicate that foreigners own approximately one-fifth of Mexico's private lands, and that one-half of that fifth belongs to Americans.

ERNEST GRUENING in the *Nation*

Henry Georgism In Britain

The Situation Analyzed

The Labor Government's Attitude

[J. O'Donnell Derrick, author of the following article, is correspondent for Scotland of *The Irish Weekly*, and of *The Irish Morning News*. "For over forty years," he writes, "I have given to the best of my little ability, journalistically and otherwise, adhesion to the principles of "Progress and Poverty," never subordinating those principles for the sake of any worldly advancement in journalism". To the editor of LAND AND FREEDOM he states, "I can never forget Parnell's old dictum, Never trust British parties. That advice is strengthened by the attitude of the Labor Government, which I thought would have taken advantage of the Budget to collect to some extent Land Values, as the House of Lords cannot alter, amend or add to any Budget which, once it passes the House of Commons, must be taken to the King for signature and made law irrespective of any decision of the House of Lords, under the terms of the Parliament Act of 1911". Henry Georgists in the U. S. A. will find the appended matter a fair summary of the situation in Britain. This article also appeared in the *Irish Weekly*—Editor LAND AND FREEDOM.]

MR. SNOWDEN introduced his Budget in the House of Commons on Monday, April 14th. In it he failed to impose Taxation of Land Values. On Tuesday there was an interesting development. In London there was a meeting of the United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values, with which is associated all the leagues in Scotland, England and Wales that have the same object.

THE RESULT

There was unanimously passed a resolution which was sent to the press and to members of parliament. The resolution was as follows:

"We, the United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values, profoundly regret that the Budget does not obtain revenue by the taxation of land values in fulfilment of the definite pledges given by the Chancellor of the Exchequer and other spokesmen of the Government, and that the Budget fails to remit any of the Protectionist tariffs, indirect taxes and burdens on industry levied by previous Governments;

"We emphatically reaffirm our adherence to land value taxation and complete freedom of trade as the means to secure public values for public uses, and the removal of imposts on trade, industry and improvements;

"We recall the repeated statements of the Chancellor of the Exchequer that when the previous Labor Government was in office, plans for the taxation of land values were in an active state of preparation, and that when he introduced his next Budget it would include a 'drastic' measure of this character;

"Having regard to Mr. Snowden's Budget statement that 'many considerations have brought him to the conclusion that the most expeditious and effective way' to proceed with land value legislation is to have a separate Land Valuation Bill which will provide the basis for both the taxation and rating of land values, and that this Bill is to be introduced 'forthwith,' we urge that any such measure should ascertain the true market value of all land, irrespective of its use and apart from buildings and other improvements; and that the valuation should be open to public inspection and be periodically revised and kept up to date;

"In the conviction that the way to break down the obstacles which prevent employment is by the overthrow of land monopoly and the removal of rates and taxes on industry—in other words by land value taxation and Free Trade—we press on the Government the necessity of carrying this legislation into effect without delay."

MR. SNOWDEN'S NEW MOVE

The Chancellor of the Exchequer evidently heard of the developments at the United Committee meeting on Tuesday night, as on Wednesday, April 16th, he made the following pronouncement in the House of Commons:—

Mr. Philip Snowden said:—

"There is only one other matter to which I must make some reference, and that is the taxation of land values. Some of my friends have expressed regret that it has not been possible to introduce this proposal into the Budget. I should have liked to have done it. The right honorable gentleman the Member for Carnarvon (Mr. Lloyd George) raised the same question quite mildly. But he does not understand the difference between today and 1909.

"The right honorable gentleman appears to have forgotten that the Budget in which he brought forward those proposals took 189 days in Committee in this House, that it took 12 months to a day to get the Finance Bill through and then only after a General Election.

"Something has happened since then. Only the older Members of the House will remember Tommy Bowles, who got passed through this House the Collection of Taxes Act. Under that Act there is a time-table for the stages of the Finance Bill, and if we do not get the Bill by a certain date the resolutions lapse and the financial system of the country is thrown into chaos.

"The Finance Bill must become law by August 4th. If it does not, we cannot collect taxes, and everyone who has paid taxes under the Finance Bill can claim to have them repaid.

"I am as anxious as most landtaxers that this question should be dealt with as expeditiously as possible. Some

of my land-tax friends are very difficult people to please. They are like all people with one idea; they think there is nothing else in the world that is of the least importance. But there are other questions.

"We have a terribly overcrowded Parliamentary programme, and it is very largely due to the very worthy desire of our friends to see everything done in the present Session of Parliament—as though we were going soon to be out of office. We have slum clearance, the raising of the school age, and one or two other matters and the programme is terribly crowded.

"I have thought weeks and months about this, but I realized that it could not be done with any possibility that we could get our proposals carried into law this year.

"The right honorable Member for Carnarvon Boroughs said that land valuation had already been done, but

THE VALUATION THAT HE MADE IS REALLY OF NO USE AT ALL

"His proposals were something quite different from what I should have made, and they are practically of no use in this case.

"Therefore a new valuation will be needed, but I will say this: that if there are difficulties in the way, if there is hostility in the way, to prevent us getting the Valuation Bill through this Session, then I shall make every possible effort, even if it mean in the next Budget the sacrifice of all those matters of detail and administration and the like which form so large a part in every Finance Bill, to carry this valuation by the insertion of an impost upon land values in the next Budget. But I hope that will not be necessary. We shall introduce the Valuation Bill forthwith, and we shall make every effort to have it passed into law this Session."

SITUATION ALTERED

Mr. John Paul, a former Glaswegian, is secretary of the United Committee. He and the writer of these notes, as unsalaried Henry George propagandists, founded the journal now known as *Land and Liberty*, away back in June of 1894, in Glasgow. With the Tuesday's speech of Mr. Snowden, Mr. Paul sent the following note:—

"I enclose copy of extract from Mr. Snowden's speech in the House of Commons. It would have been well for our discussions here on Tuesday if he had made this declaration when introducing his Budget.

"It is an important pronouncement and has completely altered the situation.

It is now my considered judgment that we can welcome the Chancellor's statement, do our utmost to see that the Valuation Bill is on sound lines, and during the next twelve months take a principal part in maintaining the agitation for the policy."

THE PARLIAMENT ACT: ITS TERMS

Friend Paul is right. Mr. Snowden's Wednesday's statement, which only reached the Glasgow office of *Irish*

Weekly on Friday, April 18th, completely alters the situation and gives ground for hope, but in no way alters the justice and reasonableness of the criticism offered last week. For instance, take the plea of Mr. Snowden in the second paragraph of the above speech. He mentions that it took Mr. Lloyd George twelve months to get his Budget through.

Quite true but there was then no Parliament Act in existence.

Then the Tommy Bowles Act does not alter the Parliament Act which became law on August 18th, 1911.

Clause One of the Parliament Act provides that if a Money Bill passed by the House of Commons is not passed by the House of Lords without amendment within one month, it shall be presented for the Royal assent and become law, notwithstanding that the House of Lords has refused to pass it. A Money Bill is described so as to include every kind of financial proposal and "subordinate matters incidental to those subjects"; and the power of deciding whether a Bill is or is not a Money Bill is vested in the Speaker of the House of Commons.

The foregoing statement of the effect of the Parliament Act appears in the "Liberal Handbook," in 1923, published by the Liberal Publication Department, and the author is Mr. Harold Storey.

MR. SNOWDEN'S ANXIETY

Mr. Snowden, in his Wednesday's speech, states he is "as anxious as most land taxers, that this question should be dealt with as expeditiously as possible." If that is so, then he ought to have included his valuation proposals in the Budget, and imposed in it a tax on land values. He knows perfectly well there will be "hostility" to his valuation measure, that it will rouse landlord interests against it in a way no other proposal will.

Why then keep the Valuation Bill out of the Budget, when he could have, once it passed the Commons, made it law? Why put off the struggle that will in any case ensue?

If opponents throw the finances of the country into chaos, well let them. Their doing so would only rouse the country all the more to secure Budget taxation of land values. It was the tactics of Mr. John E. Redmond and the Irish Party forced Mr. Asquith's hands, and latterly secured the passage of the Parliament Act. The Labor Government is badly in need of tactics of the calibre of the old Irish Party. Mr. Snowden has his whack at the "people with one idea."

A PRESENT TO MR. SNOWDEN

It is concerning a quotation from a speech of Mr. Lloyd George, who, at Aberdeen on November 29th, 1912, said:—

"Search out every problem, look into those questions thoroughly, and the more thoroughly you look into them you will find that the land is at the root of them. Housing, wages, food, health, the development of a virile, independent, manly imperial race—You must have a free

land system as an essential condition of these. To use a gardening phrase: our social and economic condition is root-bound by the feudal system. It has no room to develop, but its roots are breaking out. Well, let's burst it!"

MORE CRITICISM

Mr. Snowden by his tactics has delayed the "bursting" process. As a matter of fact the career of the Government since it assumed office has been in antagonism to the philosophy Mr. Snowden preached in the Memorial Hall, London, on May 24th, 1919, when he said: "Every social reform increased the economic rent of land. Therefore, unless they were going "to waste their efforts by tinkering with social questions, as in the past, they must concentrate upon this fundamental question: to secure the land for the people."

That the Labor Government since it obtained office have wasted their efforts is pretty evident. It has gone on administratively and otherwise, increasing economic rent and providing landowners with millions of pounds. The question arises: will it now "forthwith," to use Mr. Snowden's word, really press forward the valuation measure, or will it, anxious for office, give other proposals of a petty character precedence?

MR. SNOWDEN'S BROADCAST TALK

In his broadcast speech, Mr. Snowden is reported to have stated:—

"I propose this year to take the first steps to secure to the community some portion of the enhanced value of the land which is created by the community itself.

If our ancestors had had the foresight and the wisdom to impose a duty on land values a hundred years ago, what vast wealth that has fallen haphazard into the hands of private citizens would have been available for beneficent State purposes! The justice of the claim of the community to share in land values has long been to me a cherished conviction. That conviction is shared by two parties of the land. I am not, indeed, proposing to levy a duty on land values in this Budget. I am not even prejudging what the form of the impost should be. Both the State and the local authorities have claims to be weighed. That is a question which must come afterwards. First of all, we need a valuation. It is only when site value of land has been ascertained—a lengthy process—that money can be raised.

But we shall introduce a Valuation Bill for the ascertainment of the site value of land, and as soon as legislation can be passed we shall press on actively with the task of valuation so that this long overdue reform may be inaugurated with the least possible delay."

A DELUSION

Mr. Snowden is suffering from a delusion, if he fancies Land Value disciples want a Valuation Bill merely "for the ascertainment of the site value of land."

That may be the view of Mr. Snowden, and, if so, it is one which will please Whig Liberals and agricultural landowners.

What is wanted is not a valuation merely of "sites," but of all land, irrespective of improvements, a valuation on these lines of all rural as well as urban land.

Henry George disciples know that a tax on agricultural—as well as site—land values will operate to break up big estates, thereby causing a big distribution of ground and so provide for more users. To exempt agricultural land values would tend to keep in existence high rents, withholding of land from use, and promote land speculation. In and around cities and towns there is land claimed as agricultural, rented at about thirty shillings an acre; but when wanted for building purposes the selling price has ranged from £200 to £1,200 an acre in some cases in the neighborhood of Glasgow.

The Land Value M. P.s will offer strenuous opposition to any measure that is merely for the "ascertainment of site values."

NEW FORCES ON LABOR SIDE

If the Valuation Bill satisfies Henry Georgites, the Government will have a new force on its side in the constituencies—men with years of experience of propaganda work. Landlord interests in the Commons are likely to obstruct the passage of the measure very fiercely. With the assistance of the Liberals, it ought to pass the Commons, and may be rejected in the House of Lords. It will then be up to the Government, if it lasts till then, to tack on the measure to the next Budget.

J. O'D. DERRICK.

Activities In New York

OUR friends of the Commonwealth Land party in this city have not been inactive. Gathering their members together for field work over ten thousand circulars were distributed in one day in subways and at the city ferries. This large page circular written by George Lloyd showed how \$800,000,000 of land values are allowed to escape while the officials of the city are seeking new sources of revenue!

Both George Lloyd and M. Van Veen have addressed a number of meetings in the last two months. Mr. Van Veen appeared before the 23rd Assembly District League of Woman Voters and spoke for two hours. Other meetings addressed by this indefatigable worker were the Hamilton Community Council and the Socialist Club of Brooklyn, where George Lloyd also spoke.

OUR machines long ago solved the problem of production. Why should not our statesmen and captains of industry use their genius and experience for the solution of the pressing problem of distribution?

—CLARENCE DARROW, in *Plain Talk*.

Richard McGhee

THE Henry George philosophy has attracted many ardent disciples in all parts of the world, men of devotion and character—fired by enthusiasm—almost divine—to make a contribution to the cause. Among their number the name of Richard McGhee who recently died in Glasgow, stands high. It might truly be said of him that his life was given to the cause.

Born near Lurgan, like so many of the Irish people, he went to Glasgow in his early youth and served his time as an engineer. He was quickly driven to the study of social questions by the conditions of the working population of Glasgow and became an ardent temperance and social reformer. The great temperance advocate, Dr. F. R. Lees, gave him a copy of "Progress and Poverty" soon after it was published. He eagerly devoured it and became an enthusiastic propagandist of its gospel. Soon after he left the engineering trade and became a commercial traveller, representing a big stationery firm in Ireland, Scotland and England. This gave him a great opportunity to preach the George gospel and wherever he went, on rail in boat or hotel, he was busy in the cause, arousing discussion, distributing literature and organizing supporters. He met Henry George on his first visit to Ireland and they became fast friends. McGhee was the guiding spirit and organizer of George's great lecture campaigns which made such an indelible impression on the public opinion of Great Britain.

The revolt of the workers in the last decades of the 19th century gave him a new platform for propaganda which he took full advantage of. A strike of the Dock laborers took place in Glasgow and he threw himself into it with all his characteristic energy. Out of this strike grew the great organization known as the National Union of Dock Laborers, of which he became President. There is little doubt that the existence of a Labor Government in England today is largely due to the seed sown by McGhee in these years. He concentrated public attention on the injustice of the existing order in a way that was unique and awakened the workers to a consciousness of their importance in wealth production. He constantly pointed out the inefficiency of Trade Union methods and demonstrated at every opportunity that nothing short of the abolition of land monopoly could emancipate labor. It was at this time that he originated the policy known as "Ca Canny" which created such a furore among the employing class.

"Suiting labor to wages," he said, "was no more immoral than fitting product to price, a well known practice of manufacturers."

An intimate friend of Michael Davitt and John Dillon, his sympathies were always with Ireland in the Home Rule struggle. He was returned to Parliament to represent an Irish constituency and for years gave himself to the work of Irish Home Rule. There was scarcely a con-

stituency in Scotland and few in England where he was not known as the Home Rule protagonist and many a Liberal victory was due to his exertions. His faith in Lincoln's democracy, "Government of the people, for the people, by the people," never wavered and when opponents argued against the fitness of the Irish people for Self-Government all the indignation of his nature was kindled to flame. He visited the United States several times and made many friends. His last visit, after the outbreak of the Great War, was in company with T. P. O'Connor and Joseph Devlin.

For the past number of years he has been living quietly in Glasgow in the company of his loving and faithful wife and daughter, to whom he was greatly attached. To the last he was interested in public questions. He passed away at the age of seventy-nine after a few days illness with pneumonia.

It is difficult to appraise the worth of men like Richard McGhee. They are the salt of the earth—pioneers in the onward and upward struggle of humanity—builders of the future. Their persistence at all times in the history of the world is proof that the seed of the truth never dies and that in the fullness of time the harvest will be reaped.

The funeral took place on Thursday, April 17, attended by his four sons, Richard, Fred, George and Hugh, and a large number of his Single Tax and Irish friends.

Joseph Davison, of Bellaghy, County Derry, delivered the following address:

"The last post has sounded for our dear friend Richard McGhee. He has passed beyond our ken, but his life's work remains—a sweet memory to us all and an inspiration to those who would help in the great uphill struggle for human liberty and emancipation. His passing was just as he would have it—no prolonged ebbing away—but the terminus reached in the fulness of mental vigor.

"It might be said of him in the words of Browning.

"Here had been the general and chief
Through a whole campaign
Of the world's lives and deaths
Doing the King's work all the dim day long.

"If there ever was a man who lived an unselfish life—who gave of his best to the service of humanity, Richard McGhee was that man. His sympathy for human suffering, his resentment to injustice of any kind—his intolerance of hypocrisy and sham, were his outstanding characteristics. Had his wonderful energy been devoted to the material things of life he would have ranked high among the world's successes. But he chose to stand for truth and justice as he saw them, regardless of personal consequences and in the sum of things who can say but he chose the better part? As the Master mind of Henry George put it, "Success! Why, falsehood has often that to give and Injustice often has that to give. Must not Truth and Justice have something to give that is their own by proper right—their in essence and not by accident?"

"We part with him in sorrow and I would close with the words of his great teacher and friend, Henry George.

"The only thing certain to any of us is death.

"Like the swallow darting through thy hall, such, O King, is the life of man!" We come from where we know not; we go—who shall say? Impenetrable darkness behind, and gathering shades before. What, when our time comes, does it matter whether we have fared daintily or not, whether we have worn soft raiment or not, whether we leave a great fortune or nothing at all, whether we shall have reaped honors or been despised, have been counted learned or ignorant—as compared with how we may have used that talent which has been entrusted to us for the Master's service? What shall it matter, when eyeballs glaze and ears grow dull, if out of the darkness may stretch a hand, and into the silence may come a voice:

"Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things; enter thou into the joy of the Lord?"

California Preparing For National Conference

THE actual birthday of Henry George has been selected as the opening day for the Fifth Annual Henry George Congress, which will meet in San Francisco from September 2d to 4th, and immediately follows Labor Day. The idea of holding the national conference this year on the Pacific Coast has apparently met with general favor and, while the number who can arrange to make a transcontinental trip is always somewhat limited, already a number of Eastern Single Taxers are making their plans to go, and a large attendance from the Western section seems to be assured.

A. J. Milligan, President of the Civic Chamber of Economics of San Francisco, and proprietor of the Henry George Hotel, has been appointed Chairman of the Convention Committee and, supported by able and energetic co-workers, has been active for several weeks past and expresses full confidence that the Congress of 1930 is going to be one of the most interesting and successful gatherings yet held under the auspices of the Henry George Foundation. The Single Tax leaders on the Coast seem to look upon the approaching Congress as timely and as affording an excellent opportunity to further strengthen the movement in that section and bring about closer cooperation.

One of the features of the convention will be the dedication of a bronze tablet which it is planned to place on the building now occupying the spot in San Francisco where Henry George wrote his immortal "Progress and Poverty," the 50th anniversary of which was celebrated at Pittsburgh last September. The Mayor of San Francisco has accepted the invitation to deliver an address on this

occasion in honor of the Prophet of San Francisco and his great contribution to humanity.

While programme-making is now only in the preliminary stage, it may be said that the committee is planning many interesting features and the presence of a number of prominent speakers is virtually assured.

The San Francisco Convention and Tourist Bureau is cooperating actively with the local Single Tax organization, and as all the railroads offer greatly reduced rates during the summer season, it is hoped that all who possibly can will take advantage of this favorable opportunity to combine the enjoyment of the wonderful scenery and delightful climate with the pleasures to be derived from the good fellowship and stimulating atmosphere of the annual Henry George Congress.

Lecture Tours Through the Middle West

SECRETARY PERCY R. WILLIAMS, of the Henry George Foundation, has been devoting the month of May to a lecture tour of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, the present tour having been arranged through the cooperation of the Henry George Lecture Association, now affiliated with the Foundation. Generous newspaper publicity has been given practically everywhere to reports of his speeches, tax questions being at present very much to the forefront, State Tax Commissions having hearings on in Ohio and Indiana and the extraordinary tax situation in Chicago attracting widespread attention. Following is a list of recent engagements of Mr. Williams:

April 30—Canton, Ohio, Lions Club; May 1—Youngstown, Ohio, Lions Club; May 2—Ashtabula, Ohio, Rotary Club; May 5—Dayton, Ohio, Y. M. C. A.; May 6—Rensselaer, Ind., Rotary Club; May 7—Lebanon, Ind., Kiwanis Club; May 8—Washington, Ind., Rotary Club; May 9—Indianapolis, Ind., Exchange Club; May 17—Chicago, Ill., Single Tax Club; May 19—Kenosha, Wis., Optimist Club; May 20—South Bend, Ind., Chamber of Commerce; May 21—Aurora, Ill., Kiwanis Club; May 22—Oak Park, Ill., Lions Club; May 27—Chicago, Ill., South Central Kiwanis Club; May 28—Chicago, Ill., Woodlawn Kiwanis Club; May 29—Hamilton, Ohio, Rotary Club.

Attorney William N. McNair, of Pittsburgh, now on the lecture staff of the Henry George Lecture Association, is in the midst of a two months lecture tour through the Middle West, embracing the states of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota, and is meeting everywhere with a fine reception. Herewith is a list of his engagements:

For an appointment in some unfilled time—morning, noon, or evening, write to the Henry George Lecture Association, 538 South Dearborn St., Chicago.

Mingo Junction, Ohio, Kiwanis Club, Tuesday, April 29th—noon; Bucyrus, Ohio, M'gr's Ass'n of Central Ohio, Wednesday, April

30th-noon; Marion, Ohio, Kiwanis Club, Thursday, May 1st-noon; Steubenville, Ohio, Rotary Club, Friday, May 2nd-noon; Oberlin, Ohio, Exchange Club, Monday, May 5th-noon; Put-In-Bay, Ohio, Chamber of Commerce, Monday, May 5th-P. M.; Sandusky, Ohio, Kiwanis Club, Tuesday, May 6th-noon; Buffton, Ohio, Community Club, Tuesday, May 6th-P. M.; Elkhart, Indiana, Lions Club, Wednesday, May 7th-P. M.; Michigan City, Indiana, Rotary Club, Thursday, May 8th-noon; Goshen, Indiana, Chamber of Commerce, Thursday, May 8th-P. M.; Ligonier, Indiana, Chamber of Commerce, Friday, May 9th-P. M.; Anderson, Indiana, Kiwanis Club, Monday, May 12th-noon; Logansport, Indiana, Kiwanis Club, Tuesday, May 13th-noon; New Albany, Indiana, Chamber of Commerce, Wednesday, May 14th-noon; Madison, Indiana, Chamber of Commerce, Wednesday, May 14th-P. M.; Terre Haute, Indiana, Kiwanis Club, Thursday, May 15th-noon; Indianapolis, Indiana, Chamber of Commerce, Friday, May 16th-noon; Liberty, Indiana, Commercial Club, Friday, May 16th-P. M.; Chicago, Illinois, Single Tax Club, Saturday, May 17th-P. M.; Chicago, Illinois, Anthropological Society, Sunday, May 18th-3:00; Chicago, Illinois, St. James M. E. Church, Sunday, May 18th-P. M.; Chicago, Illinois, International Club, Y. M. C. A., Monday, May 19th-P. M.; Hammond, Indiana, Rotary Club, Tuesday, May 20th-noon; Chicago, Illinois, Cook County Real Estate Board, Tuesday, May 20th-3:00; Des Plaines, Illinois, Lions Club, Tuesday, May 20th-P. M.; Chicago, Illinois, City Club, Wednesday, May 21st-noon; Hammond, Indiana, Chamber of Commerce, Thursday, May 22nd-noon; Chicago, Illinois, Political Science Club, U. of C., Thursday, May 22nd-4:30 P.M.; Racine, Wisconsin, Optimist Club, Monday, May 26th-noon; Kenosha, Wisconsin, Rotary Club, Tuesday, May 27th-noon; Chicago, Illinois, Association of Commerce, Wednesday, May 28th-noon; Ottawa, Illinois, Kiwanis Club, Thursday, May 29th-noon; Prairie Du Chien, Wisconsin, Kiwanis Club, Monday, June 2nd-P. M.; Beloit, Wisconsin, Rotary Club, Tuesday, June 3rd-noon; Austin, Minnesota, Rotary and Kiwanis Jointly, Wednesday, June 4th-noon; St. Paul, Minnesota, Kiwanis Club, Thursday, June 5th-noon; St. Cloud, Minnesota, Kiwanis Club, Monday, June 9th-noon; Minneapolis, Minn. Kiwanis Club, Tuesday, June 10th-noon; Ashland, Wisconsin, Rotary Club, Wednesday, June 11th-noon; Eau Claire, Wisconsin, Kiwanis Club, Thursday, June 12th-noon; Marinette, Wisconsin, Kiwanis Club, Monday, June 16th-noon; Iron Mountain, Michigan, Lions Club, Monday, June 16th-P. M.; Sheyogon, Wisconsin, Lions Club, Tuesday, June 17th-noon; Chilton, Wisconsin, Kiwanis Club, Tuesday, June 17th-P. M.; St. Joseph, Michigan, Rotary Club, Wednesday, June 18th-noon; Muskegon, Michigan, Rotary Club, Thursday, June 19th-noon; Owosso, Michigan, Chamber of Commerce, Friday, June 20th-noon; Grand Rapids, Michigan, Exchange Club, Monday, June 23rd-noon; Bay City, Michigan, Rotary Club, Tuesday, June 24th-noon; Adrian, Michigan, Exchange Club, Wednesday, June 25th-noon; Royal Oaks, Michigan, Kiwanis Club, Thursday, June 26th-noon; Lansing, Michigan, Exchange Club, Monday, June 30th-noon.

Only Under Consideration

“WE have heard before, and at the election time, that everything was going to be done. We have heard since that everything is under consideration.”

—MR. BALDWIN, M. P.

THE Ford Motor Co. has recently learned through its European subsidiaries that the highest wages are sometimes accompanied by the lowest unit production costs. In Denmark, where wages were highest, costs were lowest. In Belgium, where wages were lowest, costs were highest.

—Commerce and Finance.

Internationalism

THE philosophic Internationalist is seldom, if ever, a Red, a Socialist, a Communist or a Bolshevik. He strongly believes that true progress primarily is dependent upon the highest type of practical ethics, and must necessarily therefore embody world-wide economic equitableness, rather than either individual or national selfish advantage, for every human being.

Internationalists regard real progress and peace possibilities, both locally and internationally, as being dependent upon every man being ultimately accorded his inherent economic opportunity to equitably-regulated use of all the Earth, and, the equally inherent right of each group of society to the use-value accruing from exclusive possession of particular areas of natural opportunities.

The intelligent Internationalist, being necessarily a student of political economy, holds that such socially-produced values as arise in “unearned increment,” rightfully belong solely to the political subdivisions creating them. With no disturbance to land titles, he would use present taxing powers to collect for public uses all land rental-values, thus obviating necessity for taxing the products of individual physical and mental labor, whose producers have inherent right to their entire products.

The far-seeing Internationalist strongly holds that most industrial insurrections and most war-causes proceed usually in and from nations whose population is great and unduly dense per square mile, which under present maladministration of economics, intensify the seeming, though untrue, need of greed and selfishness. Wars generally are directed toward nations whose populations are sparse and the consequent land-values, and therefore net living costs, are relatively lower than their own.

Internationalism seeks establishment of equal economic opportunities, and equitable, though by no means equal, returns for expenditures of all productively-directed physical and mental energy; first, for one's own country, and, secondarily, for all mankind. It envisions for the future sound and justifiable hope for inescapable permanent and Universal peace, which it considers hopeless except when built primarily upon universally equitable economic rather than political foundations.

Otherwise than as herein indicated, there appears to be no conceivable basis for the ideal ethical Brotherhood of Man, nor for initiating just and enduring relationships among well-disposed men and nations, even in the remote future.

It is unthinkable that those of the present era of the sharpened tooth and wide-spread claw instincts of man shall *always* feel called upon to live interminably in terror and to terrorize. Justly based peace-possibilities, for all men and all nations, *must* finally prevail, if the trend of civilization is to continue upward.

—K. P. ALEXANDER.

New Jersey

A BILL introduced in the New Jersey legislature, noted in our last issue, provided, not for a half rate tax on improvements, as in Pittsburgh, but for gradual repeal of the entire tax on improvements at the rate of 10% per annum, subject to adoption by any municipality upon vote therein at any general election. Another bill of the same tenor provided that the tax on both improvements and personal property should be similarly repealed. The Conference Committee of both houses held more than 200 bills, including these ones, from coming to a vote. They will be reintroduced next January. Numerous newspapers published matter favoring the bills, and many of them supported them editorially, and said the bills should be enacted.

Some city officials opposed the bills, saying they feared that if enacted the people of their respective cities would vote to adopt them.

The city of Newark, N. J., owns a public market building and adjoining land which it has just leased for a long term of years. At the last moment, upon the insistence of the mayor, a provision was inserted in the lease obliging the lessee to pay to the city the equivalent of the tax on the building in the event of adoption of site-value taxation by the city.

New Municipal Land Policies Needed

“WITH a little thought it becomes evident that conscious city planning cannot be completely successful generation after generation except under a system of public ownership of land. The authority of eminent domain and of the police power has reduced private ownership almost to a position of leasehold subject to the public welfare, but with the inevitable right of exploiting land values remaining intact the processes and purposes of city planning are necessarily and severely limited.”

The foregoing is a paragraph from a lecture recently delivered to the Harvard School of City Planning by Jacob L. Crane, Jr., of Chicago. Further excerpts are printed in this issue under the title, “A Message to City Planners.”

Mr. Crane has opened a question which is beginning to bother a good many farsighted students of government. City planning naturally labors under handicaps which factory planning does not incur. As yet it does not represent planning by a single mind, but must depend upon the collective will of a large number of people. Now the execution of even the simplest plan affects economic interests. People who are making money from present city congestion will naturally oppose decentralization which most planners are trying to bring about. Some plans have been particularly tender of skyscrapers. By so doing they have allayed the fears of some of the economic interests, but they have not solved the problem of skyscrapers.

Without being condemned as Single Taxers, we may point out that there is truth in the assertion that under present conditions of land ownership, every far-reaching public improvement makes the next one just so much more difficult and costly. Neither special assessments, eminent domain nor excess condemnation have been capable of altering this fundamental situation. If time reveals that a long-term programme of public improvements can be made to stick, that technological progress will not outrun our ability to map its course in advance with reasonable success, we shall have to reexamine our municipal land policies with a very critical eye. Today emphasis is on planning, but tomorrow it will be the problems of execution which will bother us.

National Municipal Review.

Untrammelled Trade

MAN lives by labor, nations thrive by labor, and international relations may be made either more easy or more difficult, according to methods by which the fruits of labor are exchanged. The economic life of any nation already has ceased to be national and independent. . . . The experience of the United States of America has a lesson to teach Europe. The stupendous economic development of the United States has been due to the huge domestic trade untaxed and untrammelled and is the foundation of American prosperity.—PROF. NICHOLAS MURRAY BUTLER. From address in Berlin, April 30, 1930.

What Are They Hinting At?

WHEN her (the Church's) social influence was greatest, in the later Middle Ages, the prevailing economic system was such that the workers were gradually obtaining a larger share in the ownership of the lands upon which they labored. Though the economic arrangements of that time cannot be restored, the underlying principle is of permanent application, and is the only one that will give stability to industrial society. It should be applied to our present system as rapidly as conditions will permit.—From the Pastoral Letter of American Hierarchy and the Bishop's Programme.

A Forerunner of Adam Smith

SIR WILLIAM PETTY, (1623-1687) “wrote on almost all the prominent economic questions of the day, but more especially on taxes and on money. . . . He was the first economist to formulate the often quoted analogy: ‘Labor is the father, and active principle of wealth, as lands are the mother.’ . . . He did more than any of his predecessors to expose the fallacies of the ‘Mercantile’ theory.”

—J. E. SYMES, in “Social Life in England” 1897.

Single Tax After 50 Years

IT is a glowing tribute to the permanence of an idea that after 50 years the publication of this book should be celebrated by a gathering of 600 Single Taxers, representing 23 different countries, in the Scottish capital some 6,000 miles from the spot where the doctrine of single taxation first had its birth.

The impression made by Henry George upon the consciousness of mankind is a striking illustration of the power of thought, backed by a good purpose. He never stopped urging acceptance of his doctrine upon men of the most widely separated nationalities, and of every class of society. Nor was he in any sense a man of one idea, but he gave as liberally of his strength and his ability to the interest of good government and human liberty as he did to the agitation of the Single Tax. When, in the latter days of the nineteenth century, New York City seemed confronted with a peculiar menace of evil government, Henry George was drafted to lead the forces in opposition to Tammany. Warned that it might mean the sacrifice of his life, he nevertheless undertook the task. The warning was but too well founded, and like a soldier on the battlefield he gave his life to his cause. That his followers are animated to so great an extent by a like devotion to the economic panacea which he preached shows impressively the enduring power of a devoted and self-sacrificing ideal.

—*Christian Science Monitor.*

BOOK REVIEWS

A NOTABLE WORK BY JACKSON H. RALSTON*

It is no small recommendation that our movement can boast among its teachers such names of eminence in the field of education as John Dewey and Professor Roman, and such distinguished scholars in the realm of international law as Jackson H. Ralston.

The work before us is a supremely scholarly and thoughtful book. It is not too much to say that it is destined to constitute for many years to come an effective instrument of peace for the student, and that it provides him with a perfect arsenal of fact, argument and persuasion. The contentions of Admiral Mahan, whose work is so frequently cited by advocates of the status quo in naval circles, are met and answered, as are those of many others.

Some years ago Mr. Ralston published a work entitled, "The Law and Procedure of International Tribunals." The present work is designed to cover ground not fully considered in the work that preceded it.

And the tone is hopeful, as is the marshaling of facts. Reviewing the many steps toward international conciliation ending with the Kellogg-Briand Treaty, the author says:

"Truly it is almost impossible for any nation to resort to war—euphemistically called a method of self-help or of self-redress—without incurring the condemnation of the whole body of civilized public opinion."

One of the most interesting and valuable chapters is that in which the question of natural law is discussed, with quotations from authorities. Laws that have a higher sanction in human or divine reason are contrasted with those that spring merely from custom or convenience.

It would require more space than we can give to it here to review this great work adequately. Apparently little has been overlooked in these four hundred and odd pages. The literature of the subject has been extensively drawn upon. We have the conclusions of thinkers eminent in their field almost from the time that settlement of disputes by arbitration began to be considered. Except in the cases of a few isolated individuals, whose ideas on the subject were vague and uncertain, but little real progress had been made up to 1880.

It is interesting to note some of the great figures whom Mr. Ralston cites as among the early advocates of arbitration, Dante, Erasmus, Cruce, Fenelon, Abbe de Saint Pierre, Rousseau, Immanuel Kant and others. Treatment of the proposals and speculations of these thinkers is necessarily brief.

A chapter of great interest distinguished by much research is that treating of Ancient Arbitration; arbitrations in the Middle Ages are also reviewed, and a fuller treatment is accorded to more modern cases in which disputants have agreed to arbitrate.

There is an interesting and very full sketch of the Permanent Court of International Justice, its procedure, and short accounts of the cases decided by the Tribunal.

There is a very full index and a useful bibliography.

The thought may occur to the reader, why, with all these attempts at arbitration many wars, including the World War, have reddened the earth. The answer of course is that while arbitration is useful it does not and cannot touch the real source of the trouble. Even with a well set-up machinery for world government there is no assurance of its permanence and stability where more powerful forces are at work. These forces are chiefly if not wholly economic. And the words quoted from Cavour by Mr. Ralston are significant in this connection. Said the great Italian statesman:

"Every political problem involves an economic problem, and every economic problem a moral problem. If the assertion is too broad as applied to the government of a nation, it is not as applied to international relations."

J. D. M.

A SINGULARLY THOUGHTFUL WORK*

Professor Roman is no mere dry-as-dust scholar. He discusses vividly the problems before him. He marshals his facts in a way that is revealing and illuminative. He is able to interest you.

To write of education one must himself be an educator—that is, in the examination of all these systems and theories and methods of practical routine he must be guided, not alone by experience, but by some fundamental convictions as to what education really is. What is mind and what is it meant for? What kind of education best develops the cultural capabilities? What system of tuition best nourishes the growth of understanding, independence of judgment, and the attainment of man's full mental and spiritual stature?

The democratic ideal of education is the only one that appeals to Prof. Roman. With unerring judgment he puts his finger on the tendencies that violate this ideal. In one sentence he epitomizes it:

"It seems well nigh impossible to give the people anything. How often they throw away, by sheer lack of appreciation, gifts that are lavished upon them! The most that can be done is to create an environment whereby they may grow into deeper responsibility and capacity in the exercise of new privileges."—p. 18.

Here is a recognition of both the weakness of men and women and the only conditions in which intellectual growth is possible.

He tells us also:

"A system of education which represents an effort to make possible an unrestricted growth of the talents of all the people without regard to fortune or station, does not yet obtain in any country—not even in the United States.—p. 10.

The study of the system of education in England gives Prof. Roman his opportunity to indicate where the defects in that system spring

*International Arbitration From Athens to Locarno. By Jackson H. Ralston. Cloth, 8vo. 417 pp. Price \$5. Stanford University Press, Stanford University, California.

*The New Education in Europe. By Frederick William Roman. Clo. 12mo. 438 pp. Price \$4.40. E. P. Dutton & Co., London and New York.

from. England, he tells us, has attained political democracy but not social democracy. America has won both political and social democracy, but he warns us that both phases are losing ground in this country.

We might take issue with the first part of this statement. We have not yet achieved in this country either a political or social democracy. Great Britain has outdistanced us as an example of a practical working democracy. It would require much more space than can be given to it here to indicate the many obstacles thrown in the way of the expression of the people's will. We know of few systems anywhere on earth where the exercise of the will of the majority is so cunningly hampered, where the judicial, executive and legislative functions are so ingeniously contrived to offer positive resistance to everything short of an overwhelming majority organized to resist or alter the decrees of government. A political democracy is a country where the people have their way, and a democratic system of government is one that makes it easy for a people to have their way. The United States, despite professions to the contrary in public speeches of many eminent personages, is far enough from a real political democracy.

And now as to America being a social democracy. As the defects of the British system of education spring from a stratification of class, so must American schools, colleges and universities reflect the caste system. For it makes little difference whether this caste system is typified by the owners of great estates or by the more vulgar plutocrats of privilege. For under democratic forms—forms without the reality—the same caste system may flourish under disguise not readily discerned.

Prof. Roman is hopeful, however. He says of our own country: "There is a rising tide of opinion that the people are not being consulted. This is our hope that it may be better on another day." p. 63. And indeed there are many signs that that day is coming.

Prof. Roman speaks less critically of education in Scotland and he has much to say in its praise. Of Ireland, where cultural development antedates the Middle Ages, and where it has steadily retrogressed since that time, he has more to say in criticism, though he attributes the defects of Ireland's educational system, and the general backwardness of its people, to the long unsettled state of the country and its bloody factional quarrels.

The chapters dealing with France and Germany are examples of painstaking observation and study. An occasional comment is arresting by reason of that democratic vision which animates the entire work. For example:

"Before the War the German people and all foreign visitors to these schools were so occupied in admiring the magnificent results, that the question of what might be the effect on the world, and even on the nation itself, of a system of education in which everything was done for the people, and nothing by them, was hardly ever raised." p. 220.

Dr. Roman has presented a picture of a new Germany. No one has done it so well. Our author is an optimist as regards both Germany and France, and his is not an optimism that blinds him to the lurking dangers.

An account of the striking achievements in education of the Scandinavian countries forms part 4 of this volume. The Folk High Schools of Denmark have long been favorably known to students of popular education. The name of Gruntvig comes in for special mention, as does that of our friend, Jakob Lange. The educational system of Denmark is popularizing new ideals of social justice.

Dr. Roman tells us that from the early days when the Vikings first appear in history the peasants had certain rights to land from which they have never been excluded as they have in other countries. In theory they have held the common right to land and in part at least have carried out this theory in practise. Nowhere, Prof. Roman tells us, has the Physiocratic idea—developing later with Henry George and his teachings—found such permanent lodgement as it has in Denmark.

The review of education in Russia is sympathetic and enlightening,

It is of great importance at this juncture of the world's history that eminent scholars like Prof. Dewey and Dr. Roman are able to divest themselves of such economic and religious predilections as they may hold long enough to consider impartially the extraordinary happenings that are taking place in Russia. And that they do so with no unfriendliness should impress—and indeed has impressed—Russian communist leaders with the belief that they have sincere well-wishers in this country, who though parting company with them on fundamental grounds, are content to see the experiment on which they have embarked fully tested with no outside interference on the lines they have undertaken. They must nevertheless be reminded in the words of Dr. Roman, that "Not until they themselves practise freedom will it be possible to sound trumpets of the approach of a new dawn for mankind." p. 378.

We have tried to convey some idea of the value of this work. We would indicate the care and thoroughness which Dr. Roman has brought to his task, the wealth of detail, the baring of significant weaknesses in the educational systems under observation, but above all giving to the reader glimpses of those influences which are moulding the world and determining its future. In this respect, if in no other, this is a valuable and extraordinary work.

And now we must stop. Here and there we would differ, as we have said, with some of our author's statements—rarely with his conclusions. For these are grounded in those democratic principles which are part of his social and political philosophy, principles which are part of the Georgian philosophy. And because of these he avoids any really serious pitfalls.

Ah, we must make one exception. He seems to think that something should be done for or to the liquor problem. The truth is, when we cease trying to do anything about it, it will cease to be a problem. Pretty nearly all the trouble exists by reason of governmental interference. And he links "liquor to tobacco" in several places as if he would advocate doing something to tobacco, too. Fie, Doctor!

J. D. M.

PUBLICATIONS OF THE HENRY GEORGE FOUNDATION OF GREAT BRITAIN

We welcome three volumes published by the Henry George Foundation of Great Britain, which was established in 1929 by a generous contribution from Louis P. Jacobs, and was organized to administer a trust fund for spreading a wider knowledge of the social and economic teachings of Henry George.

The first is a one shilling handy edition of "Progress and Poverty" in cloth. The second is a new edition (complete) of the Condition of Labor, also in cloth.

The third book that interests us greatly is a new edition of "Gems from Henry George," first published in 1912, being passages from the writings and addresses of the master made by Rev. Arthur Compton Archmuty. Mr. Archmuty died in 1917. He was a devoted friend of the cause, a profound scholar, as shown by his translations of Dante and Sophocles, besides being himself a poet of distinction.

This volume of selections is well done. Here the reader will find many of his favorite passages. Gathered together they give new and profound impression of that intellect which surveyed mankind "from China to Peru," from the earliest recorded history to a developed civilization, and, pictured in that marvelous prose of his, the kingdom of righteousness that is possible under a justly ordered social state.

Dr. Archmuty did an admirable piece of work in these 107 pages. It is more than a haphazard selection of beautiful and distinct passages. There is a continuity of thought that links up these passages one with another.

Copies of this work can be obtained of the Henry George Foundation of Great Britain, 11 Tothill Street, London, England, at one shilling a copy.

J. D. M.

"EDUCATED FOOLS"

This paper-covered volume of a hundred and odd pages is by Clement L. Coleman with a sub title, "A Narrative of Sociologic Adventure." It is by a resident of Fairhope, one of the oldest members of the Fairhope Corporation. There is no reference in the work to Fairhope, nor to the Single Tax, though the opportunity to preach an economic lesson must have been tempting.

The characters and incidents, however, are amusing. The work is published by the author and is sold for one dollar.

CORRESPONDENCE

OPEN LETTER ANSWER
TO PROF. HARRY GUNNISON BROWN

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

I regret to differ with you on the advice given in your "Open Letter to Single Taxers." I recognize that your name adds much weight to what I consider a pernicious and proved fallacy. I assume that you are just as earnest as I am to advance our principle and therefore make no excuse for calling your attention to certain pertinent facts in the history of our movement.

In 1886 we were young men, our hearts throbbled and warm blood coursed through our veins, and with the slogan of "Free Land and Free Men" we filled Opera Houses from pit to dome; we wanted to regain our heritage in the land. Yet, on the advice of our Apostle, we adopted the "current" issue—the tariff—and were led into the Democratic camp. Today the tariff is higher than ever and the army of active Single Taxers were greatly reduced.

In the 90's, again under the advice of Henry George, we supported Bryan; not because we were free silverites, but because under his banner were marshalled the "Have Nots" against the "House of Have." It was a motley throng, but on the enormous output of gold in the Rand the scales between creditors and debtors evened and the issue died a natural death. What became of the Single Taxers? They dwindled.

Then came the Initiative and Referendum. Again we adopted the "current" issue. Eggleston writes Barry, editor of the *Star*, "keep your columns free from Single Tax matter so as not to prejudice the Referendum." Where are the friends and adherents we made then? I cannot see them.

Were we to adopt your "current" issue and oppose the efforts of landlords which "gain them a special privilege income," it would appear casually that where they made no such effort we should let them enjoy their tribute in peace. Pretty weak, that!

In 1914 I wrote an article, printed in the *The Single Tax Review*, and later issued as a tract, in which I made "An earnest plea to drop all fiscal differences and side issues and organize for the restoration of the land to the people." This policy was adopted by a group of Single Taxers which organized for its political advancement and is called today The Commonwealth Land Party. The members of this party believe the land question is broad enough, deep enough and just enough to appeal to all men; they see that to obtain the appropriation of rent by the State legislation for that purpose is necessary; consequently the issue must be brought into the political field.

Further, they see that extraneous issues only cloud our principle and attenuate it; consequently they logically use a one plank platform calling for the immediate appropriation of rent to the State. Having one plank only they have no differences and are held together for concerted action. Their one mistake is that they try to cover the whole political field, from President to Pound Keeper; whereas the taxation and tenure of land pertains solely to the State legislature, and Assemblymen and State Senators are the only officials who have the power to change or amend the laws relative thereto. Sound policy, in my opinion, should dictate the nomination of candidates for these offices only

Were Josiah Wedgwood to arise in the House of Commons and introduce a bill appropriating rent to the Crown, Single Taxers throughout the world would be thrilled. For that body of men has the power. In this country we have 48 separate Parliaments having that power. What are we doing about it? Nothing.

In closing may I call attention to the fact that your advice is for fiscal argument only? You do not urge that anyone who is landless should be informed he is disinherited from his birthright. Yet that is the essence of George's doctrine.

Secretary of Labor James J. Davis says 86% of Americans are poor. Shall we adopt your "current" issue and tell the 86% that we will actively oppose the efforts of landlords to dodge the present rates on land, and that we shall leave to future and more virile exponents the duty of proving that landlordism means slavery of the masses? Must we appeal only to a smaller and more select audience, and remain really respectable ourselves?

"Current" issues are political herrings across the trail; they are phantoms which wax and wane; their followers are idolators; the God of Justice is above their comprehension; their piety is futile; they shall be destroyed without progeny.

I advise the nomination by petition of candidates for the State Legislature who shall stand for "Free Land and Free Men" and who shall in their argument before the electorate go to the root of the land question. In the July-August issue of *LAND AND FREEDOM* I submitted "A new method of Propaganda;" I would appreciate it were you to read that plan and give me your opinion on it.

Regards and best wishes to you personally.
Taco Taco, Cuba.

ANTONIO BASTIDA.

WOULD COOPERATE WITH THE SOCIALISTS

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

On my return recently from a six year sojourn in Australia and New Zealand, I had the pleasurable sensation of visioning a real "happy time coming." What with the Henry George Foundation Congress to be held in our fair city a certainty, and the advent of a Blucher for the next campaign in prospect, there does seem substance to the vision. Your suggestion that we Georgists consider and discuss the advisability of joining forces with the Socialists, has been a dream and hope of mine for a great many years. I congratulate you for the initiative in bringing it to the attention of our people, and hope they will give it serious thought, for it seems to me we cannot get together too soon. The time to cooperate is when the other party is in the mood. Norman Thomas seems to have made the advance by giving prominence to our objective, thus evincing a desire to cooperate with us.

He must be a timid soul that will shy at the term Socialist. That has been shot at me a hundred times when it had more potency to ruffle one, and the editorial that made me a disciple of Henry George, called him worse names, with that included, the virulence of which filled me with the desire to know the man and his message. Although it may not be generally known I can say from personal knowledge that in our several campaigns in California, we had the whole hearted assistance of quite a number of Socialists. We can afford to be considerate of their stressing details we think of minor importance, especially in view of the reforms so called, which have been of little value, and that we aided in the past.

Most of your readers know that each of the three most populous states in Australia has a widely circulated Single Tax paper, one of them practically self-supporting. A few days ago I received a letter from its editor telling me that, on the first lap of a tour being made by their lecturer, he sent in one hundred and twenty-eight new subscriptions. In Victoria I knew of a Single Tax Croasdaler—or Hirschite, as they would probably call him, that from a small country town sent in over one hundred new subscriptions to their paper, and was still going strong. That is how they do it in woolly Australia.
San Francisco, Calif.

BERNARD HARTLEY.

THE QUESTION OF INTEREST

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

On p. 57 of the April, 1930, LAND AND FREEDOM, is an article by Mr. Yancey Cohen on interest. It develops the views of the late Mr. T. P. Lyon, of Fairhope. The thought seems to be that interest on capital is an unjust exaction. Instead of asking whether the lender is entitled to interest, let us ask whether the borrower has a right to pay interest. For strange as it may seem, the payment of interest is more important to the borrower than to the lender. Suppose the case of Smith who has a lot and four thousand dollars and Jones who has three thousand dollars. Smith wishes to build a seven thousand dollar house. He can do so only in case the state will enforce the mortgage-contract which he gives Jones, whereby Jones can collect from Smith \$150.00 a year, or 5% interest.

For it is evident that Jones will not lend Smith his \$3,000.00 on any other terms. If interest were illegal, Jones had rather leave his money in the bank, even if, under such conditions, he had to pay the bank something for keeping it. For Jones could draw on the bank at any time for any amount, but, after Smith had built his house with the money, Jones could only hope to get back his \$3,000.00 from Smith at stated times in stated amounts. Or Jones might use his \$3,000.00 in amusement, in buying books and pictures, in travel, in automobiles, etc. Or Jones might give the money away to the poor, or to the Church. Or Jones might turn his money into gold and jewels and hide or bury it. It is certain he would not lend it to Smith. He does not even know Smith personally.

There are also municipalities, railways, industrial corporations, etc., who would like to have Jones's \$3,000.00. If interest were not permitted by law, Jones would be still less likely to lend his \$3,000.00 than to lend it to Smith. So, then, if there were no interest, no individual or corporation could ever get any money to use but his own savings. No person who saved money could ever do anything with it but spend it, unless he had a business of his own.

Of course, the government could take away Jones's money and lend it to Smith, theoretically. Practically this would not be easy because, if Jones knew the State would take away his capital, he would not save it. Of course, the government could force Jones to work and pay him lower wages than he now gets. Then the \$3,000.00 savings would have been saved by the government out of Jones's labor. In that case Jones would be a slave to the State. All liberty would have vanished of course, but it is not certain that the State would have got the \$3,000.00. For, now that Jones has become a slave, he would not do any more work than he must do, so that, probably, the \$3,000.00 would never have been produced.

If men are free they must own the rewards of their labor. If freemen save, neither individuals nor corporations can borrow their savings without paying them interest. As individuals and corporations need money in their business, they must be allowed to pay interest in order to get the money. If a free man owns a row boat, the public cannot go rowing unless they pay him fifty cents an hour. If he owns the forty dollars the row boat costs, other people cannot use that money unless they pay him interest. A man will keep his boat in the boat-house until he or his friends want to row. A man will keep his money in hiding, or put it into his own property, or spend it, unless he is paid for the use of it. So if all these people are free, they ought to be allowed to borrow money and to pay interest on contracts enforced by the state. There is certainly no way to get Jones's \$3,000.00 for other people's business needs except by paying Jones interest; unless the State confiscates the money. This can only be done by enslaving Jones. Even then, probably Jones would not produce the \$3,000.00, so that the State would get nothing.

It is not necessary to work out any ethico-economic theory to justify interest. It is simply necessary to admit that Jones owns the \$3,000.00 which he has saved. If that be admitted, then you can never have the money unless the State will enforce your contract to pay interest.

Recognizing that it is continually necessary for individuals and corporations to use capital that they do not possess, it must appear that it is in the interest of the borrowers that the State should enforce contracts and legalize interest. Under modern conditions the abolition of interest necessitates the enslavement of the workers, as in Russia. For that is the only way capital can be accumulated for lending, if there be no interest. Whether the enslavement of the workers succeeds or not economically, time alone will tell.

Those of us who believe in liberty and love liberty will insist that the State continue to legalize interest and to enforce contracts to pay interest.

Auburn, N. Y.

FREDERICK S. ARNOLD.

EDITOR'S NOTE.—Both Mr. Yancey Cohen and the late T. P. Lyon, as well as our friends in Perth, Australia, do not advocate legislation to do away with interest. Their contention is that the taking of economic rent would abolish interest automatically.

It is perhaps aside from the question, but for ourself we do not believe that it is the business of the State to enforce contracts to pay interest. We would, in line with the doctrine of freedom to which our friend appeals, abolish all usury laws, since these laws do not accomplish the results sought for. Under present conditions interest continues to be paid at whatever determines the current returns for loans. If, however, the contentions of our friends (Messrs. Cohen, Lyon, et al) are correct, no legislation is called for, nor do they demand any new laws on the subject.—Editor LAND AND FREEDOM.

WOULD PRESERVE OUR INDEPENDENCE

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

It is not difficult to understand your attraction to the Socialism of Norman Thomas. The followers of Henry George, whose progress has been as slow as their aim is utopian, would no doubt like to feel that they were in the current of a popular movement. But would it not be well, before taking the plunge, to make sure that the current will take us to the shore we are bound for?

Our goal, as I understand it, is self-government, individual liberty, equal opportunity; our method the repeal of privileges. We wish to free all persons from arbitrary interference, to take from government its despotic power. In other words, we are radically opposed to Socialists who worship authority, desire an omnipotent State, and would compel the people to submit to the decrees of politicians and experts.

It seems to me, therefore, that it would be suicidal to compromise with Socialism, in spite of the example of liberal editors and writers, of sincere politicians like Norman Thomas and distinguished scholars like John Dewey. If we were to jump down the throats of the Socialist whale we should face the alternative of being disgorged or digested, a distressing prospect in either case. We can rejoice when a Lloyd George, a Snowden or a Norman Thomas arouses public opinion on the land question, but if we are wise, we shall preserve our independence and not forfeit our right to criticize their economic errors.

South West Harbor, Me.

FRANK W. GARRISON.

A CRUSADE WHICH WILL THRILL THE WORLD

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

I am trying to make up my mind on this question of ways and means of bringing our reform to the people. We have the greatest problem in history to solve—that's not putting it a bit too strong. Due to several causes, we have been a half-century getting where we are.

I certainly do not wish to be one of Mr. Cohen's "stick-in-the-muds," but when it comes to Mr. Schroeder's proposal of a division into two branches, one to do political work and one for educational activities—I wonder. Are we strong enough to do that? If some dire emergency should bring the land question forcibly to people's

attention, the proposed division might be made effective, under such circumstances.

My intuition seems to say, get every one who can do some straight thinking and is sympathetic, aroused to help in passing the idea along, meanwhile waiting for a crystallized public opinion.

As individuals, I would be as kindly helpful as possible to those of any other shade of opinion, meeting with them when possible, not being aggressive in argument, and we might have an opportunity to drop a seed of economic thought which would prove fruitful later on. The germinative quality of truth is immense.

Let us every one press forward, doing our little bit whenever we can. There is a persistent something that tells me we shall before long be enabled to strike into a crusade which will thrill the world.

Incidentally, I wish to say that it is surprising with what readiness editors of quite influential publications accept letters suitably written bearing on this reform. Perhaps many of them are half converted already.

Cambridge, Mass.

LOUIS WESTON.

RENTAL VALUE AND CAPITAL VALUE

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

You will remember in reading the accounts of my trip in the Northern portions of N. S. W. last year how I stated the case for the full and complete adoption of our principles. As a matter of fact our general propaganda is invariably along these lines, but we make specific attempts to secure steps in advance wherever we can. That is why we are seeking to get the water rates for Sydney and Newcastle districts imposed on unimproved values. That would mean securing over two millions sterling from land values instead of the bulk of it coming from improvements. It would mean more in giving practical effect to the principles of taxation of land values than all the successful polls taken in other States and New Zealand for over 20 years.

So far as Australia is concerned the idea of taxing the rental value of land was never considered. The only way put forward here was the taxation of the capital value of land. With respect to the fact that imposing a tax on land values means lessening the selling value and consequently bringing about a varying basis upon which to impose a tax to yield the same revenue, that was recognised by our people long ago. It was one of the matters put before the Minister for Works in this State over 13 years ago, when we drew attention to it and urged the Minister in passing the Valuation of Land Act, to make provision against it so as to avoid this difficulty. We urged that the value of land is something which could not be destroyed, the people only having power to determine who should get it, the State which was entitled to it or the private individual who is not entitled to it. Whenever a rate or tax is imposed upon the value of land then its effect upon the selling price should be disregarded when assessing the value for taxation purposes. Land that is worth £100 without a tax upon its value may only sell for £80 with a tax of one per cent. but the value is £100 just the same, and for that reason should not vary as the basis for taxation. The Minister, however, although much impressed with the view which we put before him, would not alter his Bill at that stage, and nothing has been done to meet that difficulty. As the taxation of the value of land is increased this question must be dealt with.

Sydney, N. S. Wales.

A. G. HUIE.

THE SITUATION IN OREGON

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

When Senator Norris, of Nebraska, stated on the floor of the Senate lately that the only proposition the powers of the earth have to make to the problem of the unemployed is to increase the taxes on the people, he gave utterance to a universal situation.

Everywhere the people look to the government to do something for them, just as Henry George pointed out in Protection or Free

Trade. It never seems to occur to them that governments produce nothing and have nothing to give, but can only borrow of Peter to pay Paul. If they give some one a privilege it must be at the expense of some one else. This is the real cause of unemployment, and this Single Taxers well know. Whither are we drifting and how can we change the current is the only practical question before us. Henry George, Jr., said in a speech in Denver twenty years ago that sometimes he despaired of the Republic feeling that the power of privilege was too great to overcome. We are now witnessing a test of this power over the question of Muscle Shoals, with half the power of landlordism to be benefited by public ownership, and yet the people lose. How much greater power we confront when we face all landlordism! If privilege can bribe a nation to give away a water power site, which is but one phase of landlordism, how much greater is the power of all the landlordisms combined.

Prof. Gunnison Brown writes an open letter to LAND AND FREEDOM and warns that the landlord is defeating us by obtaining tax laws that exempt land and substitute income and other taxes. People listen sympathetically to the landlord while he tells them how hard pressed he is and that land can bear no more taxes. This is the situation in Oregon and I believe it is a growing situation everywhere.

In 1920 and 1922 we submitted the Single Tax in this state; we tried to reach the ballot in 1924 but could not get money enough to complete the signatures. A year ago the Building Trades Council urged to try it again. I had my doubts, but I did not suspect that the tide of reaction would draw away some of the leaders. But it did, and besides it drew away from us some who were supposed to be well grounded in the Single Tax. Thus the Federation was tricked into a reversal of its previous stand. Our appeals drew in but six hundred and forty-seven dollars, and it requires eighteen hundred dollars to put a Single Tax measure on the ballot. If we had had an additional one thousand dollars we could have got on the ballot. We distributed about thirty thousand pieces of literature, which must have cost about one thousand dollars, and we secured about one third of the names required. I personally offered to put up five hundred dollars if the Building Trades Council would do the same. But nothing came of it.

What is to be the end? The tide of social unrest is sweeping the world, and there is no organization seemingly to guide it into safe channels. Will we go through a universal upheaval in which anarchy will reign and out of which all manner of experiments will issue, and incidentally and accidentally perhaps some phase of the Single Tax? Or is civilization to be burnt out by foul gasses and what is best consumed? Our efforts seem futile, but as the new thoughters say all we can do is to hold the thought.

Portland, Oregon.

J. R. HERMANN.

OPPOSED TO JOINING THE SOCIALISTS

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

I have read the letters for and against joining up with the Socialists. We Georgists cannot join with the Socialists. The Socialists hold that the State should do practically everything for the people (state slavery). We contend that it is the duty of the State to let the people work out their own economic salvation. Even Mr. Thomas says we should collect all land values for public needs, and then he says the State should provide work and homes for the people. Would not the collection of all land rent for public needs provide work and homes for the people?

Brooklyn, N. Y.

GEORGE LLOYD

DISTRIBUTION OF OUR LITERATURE

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

In trying to influence the thinking of those I know, or have some reason to believe, are puzzled over taxation, I like to send in a personal letter a copy of John Z. White's lecture on "Taxation." The distinguishing and helpful feature it displays is its positiveness, its cheery certainty of ultimate success. He says:

"We have then a simple question: What is the difference between

a tax upon products and a tax upon the value of the legal institution, property in land? That is the question that today is confronting civilization, and civilization is going to answer."

White tells why chattel slavery has been abolished: It had to be done to make way for invention. Piracy was abolished because it stood in the way of commercial progress. It was necessary to destroy laws for imprisonment for debt; they obstructed expansion of the credit system. Then, after telling of the two unnecessary overhead production costs due to low taxes upon the privilege of holding land and high taxes upon the products and processes of industry, he says simply:

"We are, of course, going to right this absurdity, just as we did the others, and for the same reason."

There you have it: No doubt whatever; it is sure to happen; it is necessary to progress. Such confidence is contagious; it compels attention. Try it on! Send copies to your friends with letters asking them to give White a reading. You will receive replies often of an encouraging nature. I know from experience.

We have a vast literature. Let's get it out! Each can do something in that way—one a day or one every week, or more.
Cleveland, O. HOWARD HOLMES.

LINKING OUR PHILOSOPHY TO CURRENT PROBLEMS

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

It may interest those who read the contribution by Harry Gunnison Brown in your last issue to know that the plan he proposes has been in practice here for nine years and that it works.

As I understood him, he urges Georgists to take advantage of the discussions in which the people are interested by entering those discussions as Georgists, applying the Georgist formulas to those particular issues and so getting attention,—rather than depending upon academic discussion.

For nine years I have been conducting *The Stockton Forum* on that very principle.

If the city council is struggling with a zoning ordinance, I report its discussions in Georgist terms; if the Chamber of Commerce puts on a membership drive, I discuss Chamber of Commerce benefits in the light of the resultant rent; if the school teachers complain that their work is hampered for lack of funds, I get into that discussion with figures on land value and unearned increment.

In short, public events and public perplexities are just so many texts for articles illustrating the theory and application of the Georgist doctrine.

People who began by taking *The Forum* in spite of the way it "rides its hobby," have come to understand public finance as never before and are beginning to be heard in advocacy of the Georgist plan.

And people not personally or directly interested in Stockton have come to value the paper because of these concrete applications of our teachings; for they know that the principles involved are universal and what is true of a school tax principle in Stockton is true of a school tax principle in their own state or province.

Prof. Brown's plan is a good one. I know, and it occurred to me that your readers might be interested in knowing this and to know how I know.

Stockton, California.

L. D. BECKWITH

ESSAY CONTEST IN CEDAR SPRINGS, MICHIGAN

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

I should like to call the attention of your readers to the fact that Michigan is a very fertile soil for tax reform. The Governor has a special commission investigating taxation who are to report if possible some means of better equalizing of taxes.

The Farm Bureau and Grange favor an income tax, although business is weak and rather anaemic from past bleedings. Hearings before this commission are not developing anything constructive or permanent.

The one day that I attended, Mr. Charles R. Adair, of Flint, was the only one to draw applause from the audience, when he in a few minutes of an able speech tried to show the true source from which public revenue should be drawn.

There is an urgent demand for tax experts in this state during the next few months. However, I feel quite sure that any tax on earned incomes would be turned down by referendum, as it has been twice before.

I should also like to call attention to an essay writing contest between the students in, and the schools of, Cedar Springs and Kent City. The subject is "Economic and Social Principles as expounded by Henry George in his famous book, *Progress and Poverty*"

In this contest 48 students are supposed to have read an unabridged copy of this book, and have written an essay of about two thousand words. These essays will be in the hands of the judge within a few days and perhaps before the next issue of your paper we can report the winners.

I have read several of these essays already—signed under assumed names—and am simply amazed by the wonderful grasp these students have attained of this subject in so short a time, and wish that our state tax commission could be induced to read them.

For helping to make arrangements for this contest I wish to thank Miss Antoinette Kaufmann, Mr. Edward Polak, Mr. John L. Munroe, M. John Z. White and his assistants, also Mr. Walter Fairchild, representing the Anna C. George essay committee, for an appropriation of \$25.00 to procure a speaker to address the students. The speaker was Miss Edith Seekel, of West State Teachers College, who is an ardent Georgist, and an able speaker. Beside this \$25.00, \$145.00 was raised by public subscription, and \$110.00 will be paid in prizes.

As might naturally be expected considerable faulty reasoning and fallacious ideas crept into the writing of these students. These I expect to take up with each separately, directly after the contest is closed.

Cedar Springs, Mich.

J. S. TINDALL.

A SOCIALIST SINGLE TAXER.

EDITOR LAND AND FREEDOM:

I have just finished reading Jan.-Feb. edition of *LAND AND FREEDOM*. I note suggestions of some readers to make the Socialist party the means of Single Tax advocacy. I have been a socialist for forty years and have advanced Henry George's land-tax ideas whenever possible. In California, where we succeeded several times in getting on the ballot a Single Tax proposal, it was the socialist voters who gave it their almost unanimous support at the polls. Personally, I know this to be a fact. And I could never understand why so many Single Taxers persist in support of one or the other old parties with any idea of ever receiving recognition of their principles from them. If it was clearly brought out that a socialist vote was for Single Tax, then we would not be declaring ourselves aimlessly.

Union Printers Home, Colo. Springs, Colo.

JOHN H. JOSSELYN.

NEWS NOTES AND PERSONALS

We learn of the death at San Diego, California, of our old friend, James MacGregor. Here he had gone at the call of F. F. Ingram, of the Ingram Institute, leaving Fairhope where he had spent many pleasant months. He had a stroke of paralysis while in New York several years ago as he talked pleasantly with friends in this office. But his marvellous constitution enabled him to recover the use of his physical faculties to a great extent—his mental faculties were not impaired by his sudden affliction, and he continued to speak to audiences on the subject that had so long engaged his singularly active mind. Physically, too, he had shown marked improvement, despite his eighty years and more, and his sudden death, particulars of which are lacking at this writing, was not looked for. As a debater he had few equals in the movement. His mind was an active one and he was a great

reader. Years ago we were closely associated in the Land and Labor Club of Jersey City. We owe him a great debt, for he was our mentor in those days gone by, and the intellectual stimulus afforded us by that brilliant companionship, and his advice and counsel and unflinching kindness will not soon be forgotten. And now that he has completed well and faithfully the work that fell to his task we wish him that reward that he did not hope for but which was his due. We shall return to some further chronicle of his life and services to the cause at a future time.

ANOTHER death that remains to be mentioned is that of A. C. Sittig of Hamilton, Maryland. Almost his last act was his instructions to his friend, Rev. Sidney Mayer, of Baltimore, to send a generous check to LAND AND FREEDOM, to which he had long been a friend and liberal contributor.

IN an article in the *Cleveland Citizen* May 10, William F. Hoffman, a member of the Composition Roofers' union, discusses Ohio's tax problem, commends the Pittsburgh plan of taxing buildings at a lower rate than land values, and adds: "Increasing the tax rate on land would not only make it harder for the land speculator to hang on, but would lessen his prospective profit from the land. A good deal of idle land would be forced upon the market, which would tend to hold down land values within the reach of the man of small income and stimulate the building of small homes. It would indeed stimulate building of every sort".

"I THINK LAND AND FREEDOM is fine," writes Arthur Salter, of Denver, Colorado, in renewing his subscription.

MR. C. J. EWING, of Chicago, has published his "Economics of Moses" in neat pamphlet form of 16 pages and cover. It is an elaboration and extension of the address of Mr. Ewing delivered at the Chicago Henry George Congress. It is an admirable and useful pamphlet.

W. H. SIKES, of Leonardville, Kansas, contributes to the *Farmers Union*, of Salina, Kansas, a series of articles dealing with our principles and quotes liberally from Prof. Brinsmade's articles in LAND AND FREEDOM on "Profits and the 'Vice' of Saving."

THE Cincinnati *Enquirer* gives a list of thirty cities, great and small, in which fortunes have been made in real estate (land values). The period in which gains have been made by lucky individuals vary from eleven years to a few months. These gains of course involve corresponding losses to the communities, a fact which is slowly dawning on workers and business man alike, but does not yet seem apparent to the *Enquirer*.

IN *Municipal Sanitation* for April appears an article, entitled, "They Are Moving Tenements to the Country in Europe," by Joseph H. Fink. The article covers seven pages and is profusely illustrated with pictures of the houses publicly constructed, in Naples, Paris, Vienna, Amsterdam and other cities. The article is singularly interesting and instructive as a lesson in municipal housing.

A PROMINENT clergyman in Cleveland Heights, Ohio, announced to speak on "Capital and Labor", received a letter from a persistent Single Tax letter writer, enclosing a copy of Will Atkinson's Abridgement of "Progress and Poverty" and urging that the third factor in production and distribution of wealth be considered when preparing his lecture. The letter writer also begged the clergyman to examine George's definitions of the words, pointing out that the word "labor" is often used carelessly and unscientifically as including only organized

workingmen, and "capital" as synonymous with the word "employers." The clergyman replied in part as follows: "What I know of Henry George leads me to strongly admire his humanitarian spirit, and I am sure that at least some of his economic tenets are being unconsciously incorporated into the best thinking on these problems."

THE students of Moran Business College at Kingston, N. Y., where James R. Brown lectured last February, started in to summarize in essays of their own what they had gathered from the address. We congratulate the young people on the showing made. They did very well with the subject that must have been new to most of them. The students who took part in this very useful intellectual exercise were Burton E. Dudley, Janet Phillips, Mildred Huntley, Marion Coutant, Olive Kyer, Edith Miller, William Beadle, William Falk and others.

BERNARD HARTLEY, whose letter appears in another column, became a Single Taxer in 1886 through the reading of "Progress and Poverty." He immediately became active in the work. He assisted Luke North in the Great Adventure campaign in 1916. His wife, Maud Hayter Hartley, sang a favorite hymn of Henry George, "Flee as a Bird to your Mountain," at the first memorial meeting in Chicago following the death of our leader. Mrs. Hartley is a product of the Royal Academy of London, and she has sung in many places in this country, including St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York. In 1920 Mr. Hartley secured 65 subscriptions for the Single Tax Review, now LAND AND FREEDOM. In far Australia he assisted A. G. Huie, veteran campaigner of New South Wales for the Single Tax. He is now back in San Francisco and the Henry George Congress in that city will have the advantage of his work in making that event a success.

MUSSOLINI confiscated 6,500 acres because the owner let the land remain unused. Italian chambers of commerce and real estate boards are viewing the dictator's high-handed interference with "property-rights" with alarm, and, undoubtedly, it is a wrong method of accomplishing a righteous purpose.

OLIN J. ROSS, one of the most hard-boiled protectionists and multiple taxers in Ohio, published an article complaining bitterly of high prices, and the cynics all over the State snickered loudly.

LORD ASHFIELD, head of London's vast transportation system, is chafing under the way land speculators grab the benefits of improved transportation facilities, and his comments sound as if he had been reading "Progress and Poverty."

EMIL O. JORGENSEN, secretary of the Education Protective Association of Chicago, has issued an open letter to the officers of the National Education Association in the form of a pamphlet of 31 pages in stiff covers. It is entitled "The Betrayal of our Public Schools." It is directed mainly against the work of the Ely School of research into Land Economics and similar pernicious activities carried on by others.

MISS ALICE LATIMER GEORGE, niece of Henry George, died May 16th, at the home of Dr. Alfred Clark, in Wynnewood, Pa. Miss George served as secretary to the Commission of the District of Columbia, 1916-1917, and was the only woman ever to hold the position. Later she went into moving picture work.

BY motion of Senator Nye the abridgement of "Progress and Poverty" made by Will Atkinson is now in the *Congressional Record*. It can be circulated under frank, and friends who wish to give it a large circulation at very slight cost, about one cent per copy, are asked to communicate with Will Atkinson, 55 Horatio Street, this city. In the *Record* appears as a foreword to this abridgement the fine introduction by Mr. Atkinson. Earlier in the year on motion of Senator

Wheeler the *Congresional Record* contained the abridgement of Protection or Free Trade, also by Will Atkinson. We congratulate our friend on a fine piece of work.

AMONG recent deaths not previously chronicled in these columns of men active in the Single Tax movement are those of W. F. Cable, of Idaho City, Idaho; John N. Berg, of Minneapolis, who died last May, a year ago; Phil Smith, of Cumberland, Md.; Jeremiah Sweney, of Providence, R. I.; Seth H. Howes, of Southboro, Mass.; F. J. Huppert, once an active member of the Manhattan Single Tax Club, father of Julia Huppert Ryan, wife of William Ryan of Staten Island; and Thomas P. Beggs, of Brooklyn, N. Y. Mr. Beggs was well known to all Brooklyn Single Taxers and his home was the scene of many a pleasant gathering of the faithful.

HOWARD M. HOLMES, of Cleveland, Ohio, is one of our most industrious letter writers. In the *Ohio State Journal* of recent date he points out that Ohio has 100 sources of revenue in addition to the General Property tax. Governor Cooper and his committee, he tells us, are now planning to add to the number.

A. G. BEECHER, of Warren, Pa., writes: "LAND AND FREEDOM is a constant inspiration to good works."

TWO judges, Francis B. Allegretti, of Chicago, and S. D. Murphy, of Birmingham, Alabama, give it as their testimony after long examination that few delinquent children brought before the courts come from owned homes.

GEORGE R. GEIGER, son of our Oscar Geiger, has been called from the Bradley Polytechnic Institute, where he has been for two years, to become Associate Professor at the University of North Dakota, where among the subjects he will teach are Ethics, Esthetics, History of Philosophy, Logic, Pragmatism, British Empiricism. Young Mr. Geiger, who is 27 years of age, will begin his professorship at the North Dakota University in September. It is a great honor for so young a man, and readers of LAND AND FREEDOM will wish him well. Young Geiger studied under Prof. Dewey.

S. M. DINKINS, of Selma, Alabama, is candidate to represent the people of Dallas County in the Senate at Montgomery. He is making his candidacy a vigorous protest against the harmful activities of the Alabama Power Company. He will make an active campaign against its sinister activities. Prof. Dinkins is well known in Alabama as an influential Single Taxer. We shall watch this campaign with interest.

THE will of Ernest John Hayes, who died at sea, leaves to the Henry George Foundation of Australia a bequest of £500, to the English League for the Taxation of Land Values £1,000, and to the Commonwealth Land Party of England £500. We are pleased to see that none of the friends of the cause have been forgotten.

IT is a satisfaction to note in the columns of *La Informacion*, Cadiz, Spain, that our friend, Antonio Albendin, leader of the Georgist movement in that country, continues intensively active in propaganda work. As recently appointed chief of the Official Map Service of the Province of Toledo, he has many excellent opportunities for educational work in political and social circles. In his recent address in Cadiz, on the subject of the "Depreciation of the Peseta: Its Cause and Remedy," the hall was crowded to the doors.

LAURIE J. QUIMBY, of Los Angeles, has issued a pamphlet of 36 pages in stiff covers entitled, "The American Republic of States and Democracy of Citizens." It is an examination of the principles on which our government rests and can be had at seventy-five cents a copy.

THE title of a pamphlet of 64 pages by Jackson H. Ralston is published by the Stanford University Press, the title being "An Unshackled Civilization." It is, we fear, a rather too cautious advocacy of our principles, but is good as far as it goes.

A PAMPHLET from the pen of Prof. Harry Gunnison Brown, entitled "Tax Relief for Real Estate," has reached us. Like all of Prof. Brown's writings it is a thoughtful and carefully considered argument.

THE *Ingram Institute News*, published weekly by the Ingram Institute at San Diego, California, shows a record of gratifying activity.

THE *Workman*, of Yonkers, N. Y., in its issue of April 18, carries on the front page an article covering several columns entitled "Single Tax Theory of Henry George." This paper has published a number of the lectures of James R. Brown.

YEARS ago Dr. Charles F. Thwing, president of Western Reserve University, was quoted in the newspapers as calling the Single Tax "a quack remedy." James B. Vining of Cleveland, wrote a polite letter to Dr. Thwing suggesting a public discussion of the question. Dr. Thwing ignored the letter. Recently the prohibitionists have been holding a series of radio debates with anti-prohibitionists. The prohibitionist announced Dr. Thwing as their next debater. The anti-prohibitionists put forward Mrs. Charles MacArthur, better known as Helen Hayes, the actress, a very bright and capable talker who was playing in one of Cleveland's theatres. Dr. Thwing immediately withdrew. The reason given was that it "seems too much like a publicity stunt." The cynics snorted.

A RECENT issue of the *Living Age*, contains an article by Dr. C. Villalobos Dominguez, translated from *Nosotros*, the literary monthly, of Buenos Aires, on the "Language of the Future," which the Doctor predicts will be the English tongue.

G. E. MECORNEY, of Franklin Square, L. I., writes: "The last issue of LAND AND FREEDOM was great and the best was your editorial on Senator Smoot."

STUART CHASE has written the following letter to our valued friend and subscriber, A. H. Jenkins, of this city:

"I am glad you enjoyed 'Prosperity-Fact or Myth,' and while I thank you for your invitation to peruse the works of Mr. Henry George, it might interest you to know that my first glimmerings of a social conscience were derived from reading 'Progress and Poverty' from cover to cover at one sitting in the library of the Boston City Club in the winter of 1912."

E. W. DOTY of Cleveland, probably thinks that, as the people will not accept the advice he has been giving for years and take the "unearned increment" for government in lieu of taxes, he might as well grab some of it for himself, and so he is listed as a member of the advisory board of the Insured Land Investment Co., which has secured control of "155 large parcels of land in Strongsville, Ohio, will subdivide it into lots, and expects to sell out in record time."

EUCLID Avenue Baptist Church, of Cleveland, which John D. Rockefeller used to attend, advertised on April 5th that 1,500 loaves of bread would be given away at the next Sunday services, and especially invited the unemployed.

A. H. WEINSTEIN, of Cleveland, who calls himself a land "experimenter" instead of land speculator, and whose operations were described in LAND AND FREEDOM (March-April), was on the picture page

of the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, April 5th, standing with Mrs. Jennie Erjavec and her four children, who had been evicted from their home and were keeping house on the curbstone. The oldest of the four children is a young man who is taller than Weinstein, and the oldest daughter is nearly as tall. Weinstein is no dwarf, by any means. The reason for this sob stuff is that Weinstein had offered the family "a free home."

DAVID GIBSON, publisher of the *Lorain, O., Journal*, has given a copy of "Progress and Poverty" to each of the seventeen public libraries of Lorain County.

At a meeting in Cleveland, April 16th, of 200 men engaged in the savings and loan business, the speeches proved that they are more interested in rising land values than in serving homeseekers. They were confident that the present slump in land values will give way to higher values. John A. Fergus, president of the Ohio Building and Loan Associations, said that land values are even now 50 times higher than they were 38 years ago. He thinks that higher prices for land means "better conditions," and yet professes to be carrying on a business whose object is to assist those who wish to acquire sites for building homes.

E. D. LYNDE, Secretary of the Cleveland Associated Charities, says that "more than 75 per cent. of the men applying for help have excellent work records, and that they did not ask for help until they had exhausted their savings, credit and other resources."

AN observer of the costly method used by organizations for relieving destitution remarks: "It's an awful waste of time and money. They send out visitors to the homes of the poor. With note-books and pencils, the visitors ask questions which sear the souls of the sensitive poor. The degraded poor do not mind. Better cast out the visits and the huge office work of keeping records and reports. They'll be finger printing the poor next. A warehouse stocked with food, clothes, fuel, etc., where the destitute could take what they need without questions and records would be more humane and reasonable. It would be abused, probably, but the loss in that way would not be larger than the cost of the red tape with its salary list and rent for office room. And the feelings of many applicants for relief would not be so severely disturbed. But charity work is becoming a vast machine, affording a livelihood for many who, without such employment, might be themselves seeking free food and clothes."

IN March, Cleveland Associated Charities received 1,100 new applications for relief. Employees of the association complain that the work from 8 a. m. often to midnight, Sundays included, and that they strain is "nerve racking." The amount expended for relief in March was \$60,000, but whether this included salaries and office expenses is not divulged.

REV. RALPH WALKER, pastor of the Euclid Avenue Baptist Church, Cleveland, in a radio talk declared that "The majority of crime comes from conditions of poverty and ignorance."

CLEVELAND *Press* letter writer having stated that the capitalist absorbs the benefits of labor saving inventions, E. W. Doty wrote a letter, published in the *Press* April 11, saying: "If he will look farther he will find that landowners, who as such are not capitalists, absorb practically all the benefits from labor-saving devices. He is right when he says all should share in the benefits of inventions, and, if all did, there would be no unemployment problem." The *Press* printed Mr. Doty's letter under the caption, "Who Takes the Money?"

JACK ROPER, columnist of the *Cleveland Press* says: "Gov. Cooper says there is little hope of lessening the tax burden in Ohio by reducing

expenditures. The only way the tax burden in this state is ever lessened is by inventing some other way to tax you. Life in the State of Ohio is one darned tax after another."

F. E. COTTIER, member of the Carpenters' Union, had a short but excellent plea for Single Tax in the *Cleveland Citizen* of April 12.

J. R. NUTT, president of the Union Trust Co., of Cleveland, and National G. O. P. Treasurer, declares that the present business depression is "something that had to be gone through with for a short period," but did not tell why, and a Single Taxer, signing himself "Student," explained to him, in a *Cleveland* newspaper, the Henry George theory of the cause of business depressions.

STATEMENT of the Ownership, Management, Circulation, etc. required by the Act of Congress of August 24, 1912, of LAND AND FREEDOM, published Bi-Monthly at New York, N. Y., for April, 1930, State of New York, County of New York, ss.:

Before me, a notary in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Joseph Dana Miller, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Editor of LAND AND FREEDOM and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in Section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor and managing editor and business managers are:

Publisher: Single Tax Publishing Co., Inc., 150 Nassau Street, New York City.

Editor: Joseph Dana Miller, 150 Nassau St., New York City.

Managing Editor: Joseph Dana Miller, 150 Nassau Street, New York City.

Business Manager: Joseph Dana Miller, 150 Nassau Street, New York City.

2. That the owners are: Single Tax Publishing Co., Inc., Herman G. Loew, Pres., George R. Macey, Sec., 150 Nassau Street, New York City. None but Joseph Dana Miller own one per cent. or more of stock.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent. or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: none.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholders or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stocks, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

JOSEPH DANA MILLER,
EDITOR.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 20th day of March, 1930.

[Seal]

LOUIS D. SCHWARTZ, Notary Public
New York County.