

## MR. CULLMAN ANALYZES GOVERNMENT AND RENT

"Behold the Future," by Otto Cullman. Published by the author, Chicago. 1942. 93 pp. \$1.00.

The author of "Twenty Million Dollars Every Day" in this volume supplements and elaborates his views. The main part of the book is taken up with a most interesting study of the growth of government. Mr. Cullman abstracts government into three main types—(1) master (or robber) and slaves; (2) master and slaves, with some consideration for the slaves; (3) all masters, combining on equal terms. Today the Axis represents the No. 1 type and the democracies the No. 2 type. There is no representative of the third type today. But Mr. Cullman warns us that we must adopt measures that will

secure us this latter type, otherwise we will ultimately revert to No. 1 government.

The basic measure proposed is *abolish taxation and collect rent for revenue*. The argument as to how this will insure for us a society of masters all is cogently and logically developed.

Mr. Cullman interprets this reform in the light of that school known variously as the "Western," "Neo-Ricardian" and "Neo-Georgeist" school, which has some points of departure from the basic Georgeist philosophy. The main doctrine is, that rent is payment solely for governmental services and is not rent of land. As a sound business practice it is urged that government, in payment for its services, should receive the rent instead of land-title holders, as at present. How this rent finds its way into the hands of the land-title holders today is not explained.

Another contention of Mr. Cullman's school is that the teachings of the orthodox Georgeist school have been responsible for the general antagonism displayed toward the rent-for-revenue reform. This has yet to be demonstrated. The chief opposition of which we are aware has come either from the beneficiaries of land monopoly, those ignorant of George's teachings, or those insisting on a planned society. We do not find antagonism our chief obstacle so much as ignorance and apathy. The cure for that is more diligent spreading of the doctrines, rather than a revision of them. The doctrines, once understood, are usually accepted.

"Behold the Future" is well worth a study, particularly for its thought-provoking analysis of government. Copies may be obtained for \$1.00 from *Cause and Effect*, 127 North Dearborn Street, Chicago, Ill.