

guarantee that they would stay high. But while they were high would be just the time that many farmers would buy farms at high prices, mortgaging themselves with high interest payments for years ahead. Then any fall of the prices of products would again, as so often heretofore, bring bankruptcies and foreclosures, spreading ruin among those who might, under saner taxation, have continued solvent and relatively prosperous. For a tax levied only on the rental value of land would be a lighter burden on farmers in a decade when low prices of their products made the rental value of farm land low; and always, whether prices of products were high or low, it would keep down the salable value of land and facilitate the change from tenancy to ownership, without compelling the assumption of heavy mortgage indebtedness certain to bring bankruptcies and foreclosures with every price recession. Here, then, is a reform, *not* of a *temporary* nature, serviceable only to our own generation, but one of *incalculable benefit to our children and our children's children*.

There are many persons who are, or think they are, of a liberal cast of mind and who are desirous of contributing to the welfare of common folk, who nevertheless make no substantial contribution to this end because they have not learned—though some of them may have grown gray in social studies—how to relate cause and effect, clearly and without bias, in the field of economics, or to distinguish significant influences from trifles. Of what use to hold conferences and make social surveys and carry on extended investigations of the evils of farm tenancy when the investigators never by any chance stress the effects of our inept land and taxation policy in producing a high salable value of land and so making ownership as against tenancy, as difficult for the masses of men as possible? Of what use for students of social affairs of "liberal" persuasion to plume themselves on their support of high taxes on the rich, as such, without distinction as to the sources of their incomes, when such taxes are *in place of* high taxes on land values, and so would leave the salable value of land high, land speculation unchecked, and congestion and tenancy, including farm tenancy, little relieved?

What shall we say of a so-called liberalism which does not note the effect of taxing the rental value of speculatively-held vacant land as well as of used land, in discouraging land speculation and so reducing land rent; and which does not understand how both the direct reduction, through taxing it, of the net rent privately received, and its indirect reduction through discouragement of land speculation, operate to lower the salable value of land? What shall we say of a so-called liberalism which has no least suspicion of how the resultant possible untaxing of capital may, by increasing the net rate of interest on it to those who save (unless and until increased saving again lowers the rate) further bring down the salable value of land through causing the capitalization of its reduced

rent at a *higher interest or discount rate*? What shall we say of a professed liberalism which thus utterly fails to comprehend how important is land-value taxation from the point of view of the common man and how poor a substitute is any system of taxing all kinds of property or of income, even though such taxation be made progressively higher on the rich? May we not characterize the "liberalism" which favors taxing different kinds of property or of income at the same rate as a *liberalism innocent of arithmetic*!

Those students of economics who have turned for guidance to thinkers thus confused will scarcely themselves have acquired a clear and unbiased comprehension of the land rent problem. On the contrary there may with some justice be asserted to be true of them what the historian, Buckle, remarked as being frequently true of the so-called educated, viz., that the progress of their knowledge "has been actually retarded by the activity of their education," that they are "burdened by prejudices which their reading, instead of dissipating, has rendered more inveterate," that their "erudition ministers to their ignorance" and that "the more they read, the less they know."

## The Coming International Single Tax Conference at Edinburg

UNDER the direction of Judge Peter Burt of Glasgow, Chairman of the Arrangements Committee, and Ashley Mitchell, of Yorkshire, Chairman of the Programme Committee, considerable progress is being made toward perfecting the plans for the Conference of the followers of Henry George called by the International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade, to be held at Edinburg next summer. The formal opening of the Conference proceedings will be on Monday morning, July 29th, and a programme of discussion and entertainment will occupy most of the following week. The fine audience hall of the College of the United Free Church will be the meeting place.

An interesting feature of the gathering will be a religious service on Sunday evening, July 28th, at which representatives of various denominations will stress the religious significance of the teachings of Henry George. There will be music and choir singing.

About 200 American and Canadian followers of Henry George have enrolled in the International Union thus far and a large number of these will attend the Edinburg Conference. Among the better known subscribers are:

R. L. Atkinson, Charles G. Baldwin, H. deForest Baldwin, Mrs. Caroline Takamine Beach, James G. Blauvelt, Warren S. Blauvelt, R. R. Bowker, Prof. Harry Gunnison Brown, Edmund J. Burke, Andrew P. Canning, John S. Codman, Ralph H. Culley, Grace T. Colbron, Otto Cullman, Josiah Dudley, Anna George de Mille, Prof. J. H. Dillard, George E. Evans, Oscar H. Geiger, Mrs. Henry

George, Jr., Dr. Robert E. Graves, Bolton Hall, George M. Hartt, Charles O'C. Hennessy, Wayne D. Heydecker, Fred W. Hinrichs, Byron W. Holt, Dr. Frederick C. Howe, Henry T. Hunt, Charles H. Ingersoll, Frederic C. Leubuscher, Mrs. August Lewis, W. M. McNair, James Malcolm, Benjamin Marsh, Joseph Dana Miller, Dr. Mark Millikin, George Foster Peabody, Chester C. Platt, Dan Fellows Platt, Edward Polak, Mrs. Alice Thacher Post, Lawson Purdy, Laurie J. Quinby, George L. Record, Charles T. Root, George L. Rusby, Thomas P. Ryan, Bertram Saunders, Albert Schalkenbach, John H. Scully, John B. Sharpe, Frank Stephens, Jennie Rogers, Alan C. Thompson, William B. Vernam, Harry Weinberger, Percy R. Williams, Harry H. Willock and Efram Zimbalist.

## Death of Warren Worth Bailey

**WARREN WORTH BAILEY**, veteran Single Taxer, friend of Henry George and for many years editor of the *Johnstown (Pa.) Democrat*, died Nov. 9, aged 73.

Mr. Bailey was one of the leading democrats of Pennsylvania and was elected to the House of Representatives in 1912 and re-elected in 1914. He was defeated for the same office in 1916, 1924 and 1926. Before that he was editor and proprietor of the *Vincennes (Indiana) News* and later editorial writer on the *Chicago News* and the *Chicago Evening Mail*. In 1893 he went to Johnstown and acquired the *Johnstown Democrat* which he and his brother Homer Bailey conducted for many years with signal ability. Homer Bailey, author of "How to Get Rich Without Working" and other Single Tax tracts and pamphlets, died several years ago.

Warren Worth Bailey was one of the few surviving members of the group of the early days of the Henry George movement. In a letter to the Editor of *LAND AND FREEDOM* published in Jan.-Feb. issue of this year, Mr. Bailey wrote: "I was saddened by the news of James H. Barry's death. One by one the old guard is passing. \* \* \* It is one of my glad possessions that it was permitted me to know so many of them—Henry George himself, Dr. McGlynn, Judge Maguire, Thomas G. Shearman, William Lloyd Garrison, John J. White, William T. Croasdale and all that gallant company."

Of that "gallant company" he himself was an honored member. His stalwart advocacy of Henry George's principles was in evidence to the last when he hailed with enthusiasm the organization of the Henry George Foundation and became a member of the Advisory Commission.

Mr. Bailey was born in Hendricks County, Indiana. He is survived by his widow and two children.

**T**O Socialists and indeed to most of the political economists competition has broken down. It has broken down because it is not free and not a single teacher outside the Henry George group asks why it is not free.

## Militant Single Taxer

(From the *New York Tribune*)

**A**S an editor and as a member of Congress, Warren Worth Bailey was a militant Single Taxer. When he was twenty-three years old he became the editor of a daily newspaper published at Vincennes, Ind., to espouse the cause of the Single Tax. He was a delegate to the first National Single Tax Conference, held in New York in 1890. The Single Taxers in the middle West organized the Chicago Single Tax Club and Mr. Bailey was elected president. When he moved to Johnstown, Pa., he retained his interest in the subject by organizing the Cambria County Single Tax Club.

Mr. Bailey was an aggressive Democrat. He was elected to Congress in 1912 and was re-elected in 1914. In 1924 he contested the election of his Republican opponent, Anderson H. Walters, publisher of *The Johnstown Tribune*, but the contest was thrown out after months of investigation.

In Congress Mr. Bailey, who was a close friend of William Jennings Bryan, expressed himself as a foe of the Anti-Saloon League and the Ku-Klux-Klan. Before the United States entered the World War Mr. Bailey hotly disputed the arguments of his opponents that America should go in for a programme of intensive preparedness. "The poison of preparedness has brought a sort of madness upon many minds," he declared in an address at Clark University.

In February, 1917, when the question whether America should enter the war was causing bitter debate in Congress a speech delivered by Mr. Bailey was ordered expunged by a vote of the House. In the speech Mr. Bailey said: "I thank God for William Jennings Bryan in this hour of grave peril to republican institutions. I thank God for those men and women who refuse to bow at the feet of Mars, at the call of the warmongers and the traffickers in munitions." The speech contained references to Representative A. P. Gardner, who said he had been insulted.

## Bailey of Johnstown

(From the *Brooklyn Eagle*)

**B**ACK in 1892, when Grover Cleveland was running for President the last time, W. W. Bailey was a co-worker with Eugene Field on the *Chicago Daily News*, owned by Victor F. Lawson and Melville E. Stone. But not for long. Bailey yearned for a newspaper somewhere that he could make the exponent of his strongly-held personal views on public questions. Before 1893 was ended he was proprietor of the *Johnstown (Pa.) Democrat*, which he owned till his death at the age of 73, on Friday. That he made "Bailey of Johnstown" pretty well known in the State and Nation, no one will dispute.

Mr. Bailey was a Single Taxer, and had never swerved from the Henry George doctrine of "Progress and