

## LAND & LIBERTY

Published by THE UNITED COMMITTEE FOR THE  
TAXATION OF LAND VALUES.

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## 1924—1925

Short-sighted is the philosophy which counts on selfishness as the master motive of human action. It is blind to facts of which the world is full. It sees not the present, and reads not the past aright. If you would move men to action, to what shall you appeal? Not to their pockets, but to their patriotism; not to selfishness, but to sympathy. Self-interest is, as it were, a mechanical force—potent, it is true; capable of large and wide results. But there is in human nature what may be likened to a chemical force; which melts and fuses and overwhelms; to which nothing seems impossible. "All that a man hath will he give for his life"—that is self-interest. But in loyalty to higher impulses men will give even life.

PROGRESS & POVERTY, Book IX., Chap. IV.

The best of New Year greetings to our subscribers and friends wherever they may be at work in the cause, not forgetting those who have retired from active participation in the fight. "They also serve who only stand and wait."

At the United Committee the more outstanding events have been registered in our columns during the past twelve months. They can be briefly enumerated:—

The publication of "Land-Value Policy," by Dr. James Dundas White.

The publication of the Official Report of The International Conference held at Oxford.

The visit of Mr. Madsen to Denmark, an account of which appeared in our October issue.

The week-end Conference in Glasgow in October.

The General Election and our place in the campaign.

The result of the Election destroyed the hope of a Budget tax on Land Values in 1925 and with it for the time being the support and influence of a great and far-reaching publicity. "We are driven back for our next fray a newer strength to borrow, and where the vanguard camps to-day the rear shall rest to-morrow."

In the matter of new publications mention must be made of Col. Wedgwood's *ESSAYS AND ADVENTURES OF A LABOUR M.P.*; Herbert Quick's *THE REAL TROUBLE WITH THE FARMERS*; Louis F. Post's *DEPORTATIONS DELIRIUM OF 1920*; J. S. Codman's *UNEMPLOYMENT AND OUR REVENUE PROBLEM*, the Report of the Durban Corporation Committee on Land Value Taxation, and the Report of the National Tax Relief Convention, held in Chicago, 9th and 10th November, 1923.

Among the numerous visitors to the office were Mr. F. T. Hodgkiss and Mr. Alex. Chalmers, Melbourne; Mr. Troels Sams and Mr. Kai Svarre, Denmark; Mr. Bolton Smith, Tennessee; Mr. John Gray, Boston; Mr. Ernst Heinrich, Berlin; Mr. Felix Schwarz, Budapest; Miss Leworthy and Messrs. Hubbard and Redfern, Adelaide, Australia; Mr. Frank Garrison, New York; Mr. Wielgolaski, Norway and Mr. Johan Hansson, Sweden.

It can safely be affirmed that each and all of these friends and colleagues were impressed with the opportunities here open for the development of our ideas. As one visitor remarked, "We return home with a fuller knowledge of the work carried on by LAND & LIBERTY, the United Committee and its associated Leagues than could be gained by years of correspondence." The sentiment implies a better understanding and a more intimate relationship with our co-workers across the seas.

There are signs of a coming movement for Land Values Taxation in parts of Germany, in Holland and in Belgium. These new forces with strength and purpose should be in evidence at our next International.

LAND & LIBERTY has played its part in the campaign. It has brought many new friends to the service. As to this and other claims we could produce pages of commendations received from readers, old and new; from innumerable fields under cultivation. Of course we have received some criticism, and advice as well, and doubtless there has been more in the "making" that never reached the office. But in human affairs opposing opinion is inevitable. Whatever be the course taken, under whatever direction, there are bound to be some conscientious objectors. This said, and the criticism never does amount to much, we have every reason to be pleased and more than pleased with the moral and material support and praise that comes to LAND & LIBERTY. Even our few critics are free at all times to acknowledge the power and influence of the paper as the "mainstay of our advancing cause."

LAND & LIBERTY brings a voluminous and ever growing correspondence to the office that tells of life, of high courage, most excellent propaganda, well-directed thought and action, legislative achievement and intention. It all goes to show that in the land of promise we Single Taxers (this term for want of a better) are citizens of no mean republic.

It would be as invidious as it is impossible for us to name even a few of the men and women who have been specially active in the propaganda during 1924, and we dare not attempt to do so. They have each and all been moved by the "master motive of human action" and have their reward in the development of opinion for Henry George's teaching that can be registered both at home and abroad.

In all the multifarious duties at Tothill Street, quite apart from the journal and its related publications, some of which require patient framing up, the explanations, help at meetings and press work, advice given and taken, there are in our correspondence always some at a distance who seem to be overlooked—fellow-workers who in isolation are denied the comradeship and the encouragement that association brings, or should bring, to those who are together for a purpose such as ours. We do not

forget the friends at a distance; but we have a limited staff and to hold the position we occupy and seek to extend, much time and thought have to be devoted to the ever-present and pressing question of finance.

The necessary financial equipment for the work takes some getting as we know by experience. Journals like LAND & LIBERTY, as someone has said, are like Grand Opera, in that they don't pay and have to rely upon their Patrons for special support. But all things considered we have no reason to complain. There are so many staunch adherents of the paper, and there are always the newcomers with new enthusiasm ready and eager to help once they visualize correctly the lie of the land.

What is wanted is additional subscribers, and it is our plain duty to stress the case for a more extensive circulation. On this count there is ever a demand for general newspaper advertising of our literature. It is a costly business and much money has been spent that way. It may be good publicity, but with much experience we have more belief in the direct appeal. One issue of LAND & LIBERTY has brought more publicity and greater strength to the cause than a hundred pounds spent on advertising in the Press. We have to acknowledge the help of very many who in the past twelve months have enlarged our mailing list. A new subscriber, or a dozen, as the case may be, is a form of encouragement that is not to be taken lightly by anyone engaged in our persistent and progressive campaign.

The LAND & LIBERTY SUSTENTATION FUND for 1925 is now open. The Fund has benefited the paper to a degree and a special vote of thanks is due to those who have given it loyal and steadfast support since its inception six years ago. The object of the Fund is to provide for the maintenance of the paper by special contributions, apart from the regular subscription rate, and from any sum given to the general funds of the United Committee. It is a call made on behalf of the paper and the paper must speak for itself. It must be its own harbinger of the gospel "to those who feel the possibility of a higher social state, and would strive for its attainment."

This is not a leading article. That place in the paper this month is reserved for the splendid news from Denmark so faithfully related by A. W. M. No finer or more inspiring statement could be placed before our people. It is a glad New Year greeting and an offering to the cause of some substance. Our Danish colleagues are to be warmly congratulated on the advent of this promising Bill. It is not without defects, but if it is made law it will be the greatest achievement yet won in the domain of Land Value legislation.

J. P.

JOSEPH FELS: HIS LIFE AND WORK. By Mary Fels. Cloth, 6s.

THE DIGGER MOVEMENT IN THE DAYS OF THE COMMONWEALTH. By L. H. Berens. 2s. 6d.

THE STORY OF MY DICTATORSHIP. By I. Singer and L. H. Berens. Paper covers, 6d.; cloth, 1s.

EVERY MAN'S WAGES. By George Burgess. Paper covers, 6d.; cloth, 1s.

From our Offices.

## REPORT OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE.

Price 2s. Post Free.

(Some further extracts from letters received.)

OTTAWA.—I take great pleasure in enclosing herewith postal note for twenty dollars. To-day I have received a copy of the Official Report of the International Conference. I thank you and the Committee for preparing and sending this splendid volume. You have done wisely, I think, in putting it out in permanent form. I shall always prize it. My daily tasks make me particularly attentive to the editorial work of such a publication. Please offer my hearty congratulations to the person or persons who actually put the "copy" together and saw the work through the press. Will you please ask the Hon. Treasurers to charge against my present remittance any balances against me on account of existing subscriptions. . . . I do hope that in future I shall be able to contribute more regularly than for some time past. I have on former occasions expressed to you the opinion that England was the best field of work for the Single Tax. Whatever other lands may have done for the cause of Freedom and justice, it seems to me England is the country whose practical work for that cause opens the way which the world in general is willing to take. This being my opinion you can readily understand that every issue of LAND & LIBERTY means hope and inspiration for me, and such evidences of wise activity as the holding of the International Conference and the issuing of the present Report are like milestones on the way.

BROOKLYN.—The two copies of the Report of the Conference duly received. The judgment of the Committee in charge of the publication is to be commended for producing it in its present form even at additional cost. The proceedings of the Conference are worthy of preservation in so appropriate a form. I trust that the response to your appeal will suffice to diminish the deficiency of cost. I will send you the price of ten copies to that end.

"TAX FACTS," LOS ANGELES.—The official report of the proceedings of the International Conference on the Taxation of Land Values, at Oxford, 1923, published by the United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values, 11, Tothill Street, London, S.W.1, is at hand. Price, cloth, fifty cents net.

This little volume should be in the hands of every person who is interested in the question of honest taxation. The United Committee is to be commended in presenting the public with such a readable account of a conference that drew together representatives of ten nations to consider the greatest of economic problems.

LETCHWORTH.—I have only just had time to look through the Report of the Oxford Conference. It seems to me extremely well done and it makes an imposing volume. The recollections of that week of enthusiasm remain quite vivid and the Report makes them still more. It is also well adapted for those friends who had not the good fortune to be present.

LEVEN.—At long last I am managing to write to you and to send cheque for my overdue subscription. I am adding 5s. 6d. in payment of "Land Value Policy" and the "Conference Report," both of which I am much pleased to have as both are full of valuable information. I was specially pleased with Mr. Arthur Henderson's message to the Conference. . . . It is an inspiration to get LAND & LIBERTY every month. It revives hope in the progress and the final victory of our policy every time a new number arrives.