

enjoyed in society—as registered accurately in the value of the land he occupied—all commodities would be cheaper, government itself would be simpler and opportunities for corruption fewer, and every man could at long last feel that his native land was indeed his.

If we in Great Britain could bring these things to pass it is virtually certain that most peoples of the world would be more concerned to profit by our example than to attack us or each other. But even if we only moved a few steps towards these reforms the great increase of confidence that would ensue would help to convince potential aggressors not only that we were more formidable than they supposed but that we were quite genuine in our desire to live at peace with them.

FREEDOM QUESTIONNAIRE

With Collectivist or Statist influence, from Right as well as from Left, supreme in almost all organs of public expression to-day the Editor believes that some of his readers might wish to exercise their command of that kind of knowledge which is more enduring than the usual radio and newspaper erudition. It is therefore proposed to issue from time to time questions and answers dealing with various aspects of the freedom idea from the standpoint of those who believe that "Liberty calls to us again. We must follow her further; we must trust her fully. Either we must wholly accept her or she will not stay."

Answers to the following questions will be found on page 132:—

- (1) The following names are in alphabetical order. Can you arrange them in chronological sequence and summarise each subject's contribution to free ideas?

Hirsch; Milton; Turgot.

- (2) From what famous book is the following quotation, and in what circumstances was it written?

"After dinner, M'Queen, the landlord of the inn, sat by us a while, and talked with us. He said, all the Laird of Glenmorison's people would bleed for him, if they were well used; but that seventy men had gone out of the Glen to America. That he intended to go next year; for that the rent of his farm, which twenty years ago was only five pounds, was now raised to twenty pounds. That he could pay ten pounds, and live; but no more—my companion said, he wished M'Queen Laird of Glenmorison, and the Laird to go to America."

- (3) Modern publicists assure us that the slums were due to "laissez-faire and the Industrial Revolution." Can you say to what extent there was freedom to produce and exchange at the beginning of the Industrial Revolution?

Canon WALTER HENRY HOWARD (of Adelaide, South Australia). We regret the death of one of our workers in the time of Stewart Headlam and Frederick Verinder, as reported in *Standard*, Sydney, N.S.W., September 9th, 1947. A great educationalist and rural incumbent in the "Craigie Country," he was appointed Canon of Adelaide in 1911 and served as Army Chaplain, 1916-21. Untiring in voice and plan for social justice, his last work is in some ways the most matured and strong, "The Land Question and Christian Justice" (6d.) is available in small supply from the International Union.

M. J. S.

FREE TRADE—FREE WORLD*

THE first book to deal with the great American success at the Geneva meeting of the International Trade Organisation up to the time of its adjournment in September, this volume, by a man long known for his readiness to dissent from governmental policies, is a vigorous plea for support of the Truman Administration's efforts to lower tariffs and tear down barriers to trade the world over.

Few Americans are aware of the complete revolution which is taking place in this field. "To-day's revolt against the tariff," says Mr. Villard, "is not due to any spontaneous popular demand nor to the rise of any other leader as eloquent in his attacks upon the protective system as was Woodrow Wilson. Yet there have been deep stirrings underneath which have finally compelled the extraordinary reversal of our governmental policy."

Just how far this astonishing overturn has gone, and what is going on in Washington, in a sense behind the scenes, Mr. Villard's facile pen vividly portrays. Yet he neither expects nor demands the wiping out of all tariffs, although insisting that the sole final objective must be complete economic freedom and free markets everywhere. Often called "the dean of American liberal journalists," he knows the pitfalls ahead of those seeking to remove the tariff evils and the dangers threatening from the present reactionary majority in Congress.

Among many important current topics, this book discusses our trade relations with our Dependencies, with Canada and with the British Isles. Beyond this, it graphically relates the history of our past tariff corruption, its catering to special privileges and its whole sordid political background.

The author is well aware that freedom of trade alone will not insure world peace. But, "whatever the new or old arguments which may be advanced as reasons for further bolstering of the protective tariff system, they are bound to prove erroneous because in free trade human freedom is itself at stake. Against the bedrock principle upon which rests the right to buy where and when one will, all compromises, all excuses for continuance of the exploitation of the masses for the benefit of the few will in the long run collapse. . . . To assert that with all our talents and our wealth, all our freedom from the many burdens shouldered by the peoples of what we used to call the 'effete nations' of Europe, it is not possible for us to live in happiness and prosperity in this world save behind the highest tariff walls, is to say that no peoples on this globe are capable of a satisfying life or of enlightened progress. . . ."

"The moral and financial leadership of the world is in our grasp," Mr. Villard concludes, "but we cannot hold it and use it for the betterment of mankind without absolute economic freedom wherever the American flag flies. To free the world, we must first free trade."

Oswald Garrison Villard is a natural defender of freedom of trade since he is the son and grandson of two distinguished free traders, William Lloyd Garrison and Henry Villard. For fifty years he has followed world events as editorial writer, president and managing-owner of the New York *Evening Post*, and from nineteen eighteen and nineteen thirty-two as owner and Editor of *The Nation*. The present book is his tenth published work.

The publishers are to be complimented on the excellence of its production.

* *Free Trade—Free World*. By Oswald Garrison Villard. New York, The Robert Schalkenbach Foundation, 1947, 278 pp., \$3.00.