

was not at all due to the speculation in land which had come from the low taxes on land, nor yet was it due to the prosperity-building policy of the President and of the Secretary of Agriculture, of paying landowners to withdraw their land from use. In short, it was neither the speculative holding out of use of land in anticipation of a rise of land prices, nor the formal withdrawal of land from production for the sake of benefit payments, that was decreasing the employment opportunities of wage earners, but what was decreasing these opportunities was the efficient production of goods.

So the policy of restricting output by withdrawing land from use was consistent with the best conclusions of economic analysis and research. Consequently, further steps in the same direction, such as paying city landowners to hold more sites out of use, and owners of oil and coal land and iron and copper mines to hold more of these resources out of use, should be helpful in making the nation even more prosperous through bringing about more competition to use land and making land values still higher, and reducing not only the wheat, corn, cotton and tobacco which could be produced, but also the automobiles, radios, structural steel, oil, coal, shoes, shirts and other goods.

Perhaps, indeed, the national prosperity would be even more effectively promoted and more men given employment, if nearly all of the land could be withdrawn from use and the output of goods reduced by several hundred per cent. But the number of books on economics and sociology, especially those written by socialistically-minded young professors who had become administrators and advisors, should be increased rather than decreased, in order that the common people might learn how desirable it was to withdraw land from use, stimulate a healthy competition among tenants to use land, prevent an excess of goods, and thereby promote the general prosperity.

New legislation was quickly formulated and passed, applying the brilliant New Deal policy to land which had been used for all kinds of production and not merely to agricultural land. Not only did this prevent too great an output of goods to all other sorts, as well as of food and raw materials, and raise all prices, but, by inducing the withdrawal of more land from use than had previously been withdrawn, it concentrated the demand for laborers and tenants and enterprise upon the remaining land and greatly raised the rent and, therefore, the sale value of land. This, of course, made the nation richer than ever and raised wages and increased employment.

(To be Continued.)

TO see land is to discover it, and according to the childish laws of men to discover it is to own it. Ownership gives the right to gather its riches, and to that end kill all who stand in the way, whether they be Indians or white men claiming they saw it first.

"The Tale of Chicago," by EDGAR LEE MASTERS.

Fortieth Anniversary at Arden

THE regular annual celebration of the birth of Henry George and the Fortieth Anniversary of the Delaware Single Tax Campaign was held in the Field Theatre, Sunday, Sept. 1, under favorable conditions, with a very good attendance.

Henry W. Hetzel presided and gave an appropriate biographical sketch of the life and work of Henry George and a synopsis of the history of the work in Delaware in 1895 and 1896. Mr. Hetzel said that Henry George was a brilliant example of the self-made man and that the Single Tax had, in addition to being an appealing fiscal proposal, certain spiritual qualities not apparent in the name. That the only difference between burglary and landlordism is that the latter is legalized. That Mr. Hoover has said that "to abolish poverty we must increase production," but to do this would only increase the value of land and further enrich landlords. The publicity of the Delaware Campaign was highly beneficial to the general Single Tax movement.

Mrs. Anna George de Mille followed Mr. Hetzel and paid tribute to the devotion and golden eloquence of Frank Stephens, one of Arden's founders. Mrs. de Mille reported a very great increase in the interest of people everywhere in our movement. She spoke particularly about the Henry George School of Social Science, paying a well-deserved tribute to Oscar Geiger, its founder, and urging a class in Arden.

Grace Isabel Colbron quoted Henry George's, "Unless its foundations be laid in justice, the social structure cannot stand." She said that our present world situation was proof that the foundations of society were not sound. That there was poverty even when men were fully employed. That labor was poor long before the present depression. That we treat symptoms, not causes. In answer to those who complain that Single Taxers do not go far enough, she said that when men go either to the north or south pole they usually return and tell about it as they can go no farther. Strictly speaking, the only property is what people individually create by their own efforts; that the value of land is a communal product and therefore not property in the true sense. Miss Colbron also paid a fine tribute to the memory of Frank Stephens.

Henry George, 3rd, made a very forceful and convincing statement concerning the basis of the large fortunes of the Astors, the Carnegies and the Rockefellers, which were all derived from law-made privilege. That such natural inequalities in men did not exist but only seemed to be so because of these privileges and the ability to stifle competition. He quoted Thomas Jefferson as saying that crime in this country followed the monopolization of land.

Edwin Ross, Jr., dwelt on the question of compensating landlords. As the Single Tax did not propose to take away title to land, there was nothing for which to compensate; and that if anyone was to be compensated it should be those who have been impoverished by an unjust and stupid system of taxation.

An open forum for questions and answers with an interesting discussion followed the regular meeting.—E. S. Ross.

A Violation of the Creative Spirit

MUSSOLINI not only apes the Imperial Schoolmarm abroad, he apes her senile idiocies at home. In order to diminish as far as possible unemployment among Italian laborers the Inter-Syndical Committee has decided that "no mechanical means whatsoever shall be used for the next harvest." Demented as such a proceeding self-evidently is, it is a perfect reflection of the conduct of our municipalities, which insist on the greatest possible amount of hard labor under their contracts. There can be little risk of peace as long as war is the saner. Production is an aspect of Creation, and the failure to utilize every advance towards supreme efficiency is a violation of the Creative Spirit.—*New English Weekly*.