

# Hope for the Crippled Spirit

by ALICE SIMPSON

IT IS seventy-six years since Henry George wrote his *Open Letter to Pope Leo XIII*, pointing out the injustice of private ownership of land and discussing at great length and in minute detail the various aspects of the subject wherein he differed from the Pope. It is possible that his brilliant logic has at last found capable fertile ground. The fifth encyclical of Pope Paul VI, "On the Development of Peoples," contained the message that help for those who lack basic needs must come first.

Let us pray that attention may at last be focused and free thought be brought to bear on the most important issue of our day — a just system of taxation — so the working man may escape the hard yoke of multiple taxation which whisks away a large portion of his earned income before he sees it. Extensive availability of land would free employers of the

many forms of taxation which restrict their ability to re-invest and limit their freedom of mobility and enterprise.

True Christianity does not wring revenue from the disenfranchised or take it by force from the wealthy to promote the general welfare of underdeveloped areas. Rather it concentrates on opening all channels of opportunity, supporting those who seek, encouraging and informing all others. Remove land from profit and speculation and enable the creative genius of man to once again wing its way on winds of eternal hope and renewed vigor, extinguishing once and for all the great penalty of poverty and the maimed and crippled spirit.

The above is a selection from a longer article sent by Miss Simpson of Oliphant Furnace, Pennsylvania, a student of Basic Economics, with her correspondence lesson V. Her grades are superior, and it is encouraging to find a writer among our students.

The trustees of the Henry George School wish to continue the Ezra Cohen Memorial prize offered annually by the late Mrs. Ezra Cohen. Graduates of summer high school classes at New York headquarters will be eligible to enter the contest, and the writer of the essay deemed best by the judges will be awarded \$100. High school graduates of 1967 outside New York who take the summer course at other extensions or by correspondence may also enter.