

guest of the occasion will be Mrs. Anna George deMille. A garden party at the beautiful estate of Sir Henry and Lady Ballantyne will be one of the entertainment features.

Among the Americans who have booked passage for the Conference are Mrs. Anna George deMille, Miss Margaret deMille and Miss Agnes deMille, Charles O'Connor Hennessy, John J. Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Cullman and their daughter and nephew, George E. Evans and daughter, Walter Fairchild, Mr. and Mrs. Chester C. Platt, Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Baldwin, Dr. and Mrs. Mark Milliken, Dr. Herbert Bigelow, Miss Antoinette Kaufmann, Miss Frances I. Wolf, Mr. and Mrs. Byron Holt, Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Eckert, Mr. Allan C. Thompson, Miss Jennie Rogers, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew P. Canning and son, Miss DuBois and Mrs. Amalia DuBois, Mr. Robert Scott and others.

The closing event of the Conference as at present planned, will be a Sunday night meeting in the large hall of the United Free Church where addresses are to be made to accentuate the ethical and religious aspects of the social philosophy of Henry George. Different religious denominations will be represented on the platform. Rev. Herbert Bigelow of Cincinnati will make one of the addresses, and Rabbi Wise of New York has promised to endeavor to attend and speak. Professor John Dewey, who is lecturing at Edinburgh this summer, has been invited to speak at the Conference. The Danish Henry George League has also invited him to speak at Copenhagen before he returns to New York.

As announced in a previous issue Chester C. Platt, editor of the *Batavia (N. Y.) Times* will report the proceedings of the Conference for LAND AND FREEDOM.

Another Royal Advocate Of Our Principles

PRINCESS ALICE of Greece, whose statement favoring the Single Tax was published in the last issue of LAND AND FREEDOM, is not the first member of the British royal family to perceive the benefits that would follow a practical application of Henry George's ideas.

In the year 1884, the Prince of Wales (son of Queen Victoria and afterwards King Edward VII) was a member of the Royal Commission on the Housing of the Working Classes, and signed without dissent the Report which contained the following remarks on the "rating" (or what in the United States would be referred to as the local taxation) of vacant land. Another of the signers was Cardinal Manning. The Marquess of Salisbury and two others of the seventeen members dissented from this recommendation:

"Your Majesty's Commissioners must observe in reference to Lord Shaftesbury's Acts, and to nearly every proposal for improving the dwellings of the working classes as well as to other local improvements, that the present incidence of local taxation stands seriously in the way of all

progress and reform. They do not feel that they are authorized by the terms of Your Majesty's Commission to go generally into the question of local taxation, but they are of opinion that until some reform is introduced which shall secure contribution to local expenditure from other sources of income received by residents in the locality, in addition to the present rateable property, no great progress can be made in local improvements."

"In connection with any such general consideration of the law of rating attention would have to be given to the following facts. At present, land available for building in the neighborhood of our populace centres, though its capital value is very great, is probably producing a small yearly return until it is let for building. The owners of this land are not rated in relation to real value but to the actual annual income. They can thus afford to keep their land out of the market, and to part with only small quantities so as to raise the price beyond the natural monopoly price which the land would command by its advantages of position. Meantime, the general expenditure of the town on improvements is increasing the value of their property. If this land were rated at, say, 4 per cent on its selling value, the owners would have a more direct incentive to part with it to those who are desirous of building, and a two-fold advantage would result to the community. First, all the valuable property would contribute to the rates, and thus the burden on the occupiers would be diminished by the increase in the rateable property. Secondly, the owners of the building land would be forced to offer their land for sale, and thus their competition with one another would bring down the price of building land, and so diminish the tax in the shape of ground rent, or price paid for land which is now levied on urban enterprise by the adjacent landowners, a tax be it remembered which is no recompense for any industry or expenditure on their part, but is the natural result of the industry and activity of the townspeople themselves. Your Majesty's Commissioners would recommend that these matters should be included in legislation when the law of rating comes to be dealt with by Parliament."

A Notable Endorsement

FOREWORD TO THE NEW ABRIDGED EDITION
OF PROTECTION OR FREE TRADE (LONDON)
BY RT. HON. PHILIP SNOWDEN, M. P.

I AM pleased to have the opportunity of writing a few words of introduction to this abridged edition of Henry George's great work on Free Trade.

Two generations ago the great controversy of Free Trade and Protection was fought out in Great Britain, and so decisive was the victory for Free Trade that Disrael declared Protection to be "dead and damned."

A new generation has arisen which knows nothing from painful experience of the sufferings which Protection inflicted upon the working classes. Because the limited application of Free Trade principles has not removed all social and industrial hardships there is a disposition in some quarters to deny its achievements and advantages, and to revert to a fiscal system which has been discredited by all practical experience.

Each new generation has in a large measure to re-learn the truths which its ancestors established by discussion and practical experience. Free Traders have been so confident in the fundamental soundness of their faith, and in the security of the system, that they have neglected to keep the rising generation well grounded in the principles of the faith.

The case for Protection can be presented with great plausibility. It makes its appeal to the selfish interests of particular individuals and classes. Free Trade, on the other hand, makes its appeal to the wider welfare of the whole community.

Now that one of the great political parties in Great Britain has again definitely adopted Protection as its policy, it is vitally necessary that the case for Free Trade should be presented in a popular form. It is not enough to confine the controversy between Free Trade and Protection to disputes as to whether a tariff has benefited or injured some particular industry.

No Free Trader has ever asserted that Protection would never in any circumstances benefit an industry to which it may be applied. But Free Traders do assert that whatever advantage an industry may derive from Protection is gained by a more than corresponding loss to the community generally.

To appreciate that truth one needs to be well grounded in the fundamental principles of international trade. With that knowledge the fallacies of the Protectionists are easily detected.

This work by Henry George gets down to the fundamentals of the controversy. It is at the same time the most popular and most scientific exposition of the subject which has ever been written. A student of the question, equipped with the arguments of this book, is qualified to put out the plausibilities and pretensions of the Protectionists.

The reader of this treatise will learn that Free Trade is a principle of far wider significance and application than a question of tariffs on imports only. Even in the narrower sense in which the Free Trade issue figures in political controversy it is a matter of the greatest importance to industry and to the working classes. Protection is the foster-mother of monopoly, and monopoly in all its forms when enjoyed by individuals is the robbery of the community for the benefit of private interests.

The publication of this cheap, abridged edition of Henry George's masterpiece is rendering a great public service, and I earnestly commend its study to all who want to get a thorough grasp of the basic elementary facts of the case for Free Trade.

FIND this vast network, which you call property extended over the whole planet. I can not occupy the bleakest crag of the White Hills or the Alleghany Range, but some man or corporation steps up to me to show me that it is his. Now, though I am very peaceable, and on

my private account could well enough die, since it appears that there was some mistake in my creation, and that I have been missent to this earth, where all the seats were already taken,—yet I feel called upon in behalf of rational nature, which I represent, to declare to you my opinion, that if the Earth is yours, so also is it mine. All your aggregate existences are less to me a fact than is my own; as I am born to the earth, so the Earth is given to me, what I want of it to till and to plant—I must tell you the truth practically; and take that which you call yours. It is God's world and mine; yours as much as you want, mine as much as I want.

—RALPH WALDO EMERSON in lecture delivered in Boston, Dec. 7, 1841.

John Filmer

JOHN FILMER, born in London, Eng., January 12th, 1837, celebrated his ninety-second birthday anniversary this year with a few friends at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Beggs in Brooklyn, N. Y. Twelve days later pneumonia rendered his body beyond further use to him and he passed to the world of spirits on January 27th, 1929. His wife, Alice Lockett-Filmer, had preceded him to the higher life on July 4th, 1907. Two children remain, Walter Filmer of Chicago and Mrs. Marion Cloke of Brooklyn.

Mr. Filmer was brought up in the Church of England and was educated in a Church School conducted by an uncle, a clergyman of that church. At the age of fifteen, with an elder brother, he came to America where two other brothers and a sister had preceded them to the new country. Here the family attended the Episcopal Church, and for a time, young John followed their custom. But, being of an inquiring mind, he soon, with a friend, James Lockett, decided to attend other church services in quest of answers to such problems as had come to them in their thinking.

One Sunday they found their way into the Bowdoin Street Church of the New Jerusalem, in Boston, Mass. On leaving the church they mutually agreed they had "wondered what that man was preaching about," and, apparently, thereafter, "forgot all about it." One day, however, Mr. Lockett acquired a second-hand copy of "Nobel's Appeal" which the two young men studied with much interest. Thereafter they decided they would go again to the church on Bowdoin Street and make acquaintance with its minister. This led to an intimate and valued friendship with the Rev. Thomas Worcester, and in 1858 James and Alice Lockett and John Filmer affiliated themselves with the Boston New Church. Mr. Filmer and Miss Lockett were married there by the Rev. Worcester the next year.

The Massachusetts New Church Union was organized in 1860 with both these young men among the charter members.