

martyrs, but there could be no cause worthy of greater sacrifice."—R. COLVIN WATTS, University of Virginia.

"Liberty is justice and justice does not exist under the present system. Since our country stands for liberty, can't we make it free?"—WILLIAM GRAY CRAFT, University of Virginia.

"It will take time, labor and may be martyrdom before society, in its heedless rush, will stop long enough to listen to our call. But what great cause has not taken time, patience and endurance to fulfill?"—GLORIA EVEREST, Berea College.

My most predominant feeling is that this spirit be not allowed to cool; that the gain thus achieved by the work of the committee be made to function as a dynamic force for further and perhaps, cumulative gains still to be achieved."

—OSCAR H. GEIGER.

Professor H. H. Seay, Jr., of Richmond University, writes as follows:

"I want to congratulate your judging committee, as the winners are all outstanding students. The winner of the first prize is one of our best, if not the best, of our students. He is president of the "Student Government Association," which is the highest honor a student may receive, and is always on the honor list in scholarships. He is looking forward to the pleasure of meeting you.

"On behalf of the University I wish to express again the appreciation of being included in the contest. The interest of the students is most gratifying."

Tax "Surveys" in Ohio

ALTHOUGH there have been at least a dozen tax "surveys" or "studies" in Ohio during the last 40 years, which cost much money, and to which no one ever paid any attention, Professor H. L. Lutz of Princeton University, described as a "tax authority," was in Ohio, February 20, and urged that the State supply money for a continuous "tax study." He is a professional adviser in taxation, and it has been publicly hinted that he could be induced, for a proper consideration, to act in that capacity for Ohio. Like Dr. Ely, he starts his "survey" or "research" with his conclusions as to how public revenue should be raised. It may be only a coincidence that his conclusions are pleasing to the real estate boards. He favors a state income tax and the taxation of all tangible personal property. To cap the climax of his absurdities, he wants a poll tax to raise \$5,000,000 annually. He regards money, notes, mortgages, bonds, etc., as "wealth" which should be taxed. Why one who has such positive opinions as to the proper revenue system should deem further "study" or "surveying" or "research" necessary is something which is difficult for the simple mind to comprehend, but it may be clear to the professional tax adviser who derives personal profit from the "researching."

Clarence Darrow on Henry George

IN view of the undoubted fact that Mr. Darrow's giant intellect is now keener than ever and that his current utterances are his greatest, it should be of interest to Georgists and of importance to all to hear his recent testimony. The recent statements confirm his earlier ones, a sample of which is here given.

Following are excerpts from an address by Mr. Darrow before the Chicago Single Tax Club, September 19, 1913, as reported in the October issue of *Everyman* (Los Angeles).

"As to many things George taught, there may be a difference of opinion, in this Single Tax Club, tonight, but I take it that pretty much everybody in this audience believes in the fundamental idea of Henry George, that there can be no great civilization, no civilization worth the name, where there is private monopoly of land; that this earth was created by no man, was here before the first man came and will be here when the last man is gone; that every human being born and to be born must live from it and on it, and if a few people have a right to control it, they control their fellowmen.

How many of us may believe absolutely in all the details of what is called the Single Tax philosophy, is, to my mind, a matter of small consequence. I think that this great movement, in some form or other, is sweeping around the world, influencing the thought of America and England and Germany and Spain and even far off China; the great movement of the poor and the weak and the disinherited to take and own the earth—I think that this is a revolutionary movement and I would not be interested in it if it were not. It is revolutionary to say in any age and in any land that the poor shall inherit the earth. It is revolutionary to say that those who have borne the burdens of the world, for all the long and painful ages, shall sometime come to their own, and that those who have lived upon them for all these ages must either work or starve.

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"Without seeking in the least to discuss any of the statements made tonight, by my able and logical and studious friend, Mr. White (John Z.), I want to say in justice to a large class of people, that the great mass of the work and thought of "Progress and Poverty" is not based on the doctrine of the "natural rights" of man. Henry George did believe in "natural rights," but his great arguments were based on the great law which permeates all life—expediency. He taught that there could be no high civilization where a few were permitted to own the land; that such is contrary to the best development of society; that the demands of human growth and social development would show men the inexpediency of it. To my mind, this is much the stronger line of reasoning. But I care not what road you travel provided you get to the right point in the end.

"Henry George told the world simpler and plainer and stronger than any other man had told it, that the right of private monopoly of land was bad, eternally bad; that it tended, in the end, to destroy the civilization that it first built up; that until the people owned the earth, until each person born upon the earth was equal heir to every other, there could be nothing which the human mind calls justice in the affairs of men. Other men had said it; philosophers had said it since the human reason was born; scientists had said it; dreamers had said it; but no one before had said it with the force and clearness and vigor and power of Henry George.

"I believe I am safe in saying that no other book can be found which lays down this doctrine with the same power and force and clearness as "Progress and Poverty," and I shall always be glad that my first introduction to what I believe are revolutionary ideas, because they are against the ideas of the mob that controls—and that is revolutionary—came from a reading of that great book, and wherever I may wander in the fields of intellectual thought and discussion in which I am prone to wander, I believe that what I learned here will remain with me as a fundamental guide to the end."

This testimony reminds one of the similar testimony of Ramsay MacDonald and of John Dewey. These statements, above quoted, are strong statements. The testimony and prophecy in the last paragraph are so forceful, considering the master mind which bore them, that I was tempted to check it up at the "end" or as near the "end" as his seventy-second birthday. So, on his birthday, April 18, 1930, I showed Mr. Darrow these statements, made by him seventeen years ago, and inquired whether he had changed his mind or would wish to modify the statements. He replied facetiously with the question "Are you trying to see whether I am losing my mind?" I replied, "No, Mr. Darrow, I am not testing the soundness or durability of your mind, but the soundness and durability of these ideas as judged by your mind at its maximum maturity." He then gladly assured me that he had not changed his mind, and he has presented me with the following sentence, in his own handwriting, referring to the above paragraphs: "In spite of the length of time that has passed since I made this statement, I still believe substantially the same on the important question of the private ownership of land. Very truly, Clarence Darrow."

CHICAGO, ILL.

WALTER VERITY

"Doug" and the Pirates

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, the film star, is seeking a refund of £110,000, which, he says, he has overpaid in income tax.

We wish "Doug" every success in his encounter with these pirates, but predict he will find them a tougher set than those he so easily disposes of in the "movies."

We suppose he has been too fully occupied with his own job ever to ask himself the pertinent question: "Why pay any tax?"

—*Commonweal*, London, Eng.

Lecture Work of James R. Brown

May 20: Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Kiwanis Club. This was a splendid meeting of 75 or 80 men. I had talked to them several times before and the increase in sentiment was very evident. In answer to their earnest request, I promised to come back again.

May 22: Stamford, Conn., Short's Secretarial School. This is a very fine school of its class and the two brothers who run it are sons of a good old Single Taxer by the name of Short, who lived in Wilmington, Delaware. It was very pleasant to meet with them and we had a most agreeable meeting with about 100 of their students. This will be another place where I will make an annual visit.

Also spoke at the Lions Club at noon. A small group of about 35, very bright and alert men.

June 4: Brooklyn, N. Y., Nassau Fellowcraft Club. While the night was hot, still we had a nice gathering of about 40 men and it was a great pleasure to talk to them and judging by the comments made after and since the meeting that have come to us directly and indirectly, the meeting was a great success. Came away with the usual invitation to come back again.

June 12: Wilmington, Delaware, Rotary Club. Here was a fine group of the best business men of Wilmington, 140 in number, alert, alive. This meeting was everything that could be desired, friendly, attentive, appreciative.

June 18: New York, N. Y., Co-Operative Club, 36 present. These are the men that we have got to make the Single Tax clear to; they represent the great mass of business men who are concerned very much in buying, selling and paying, and particularly are they concerned in the huge burden of taxes that have of late years been rolled upon their backs. I have heard foolish people sneer at them and call them Main Street people. However, they are the people who run United States at the present time and will continue to do so for a long time, and they are the people to whom we must make the Single Tax clear. Otherwise, we will never, never get it.

June 19: St. George, S. I., Kiwanis Club. A fine group of about 80 men, very much interested. I had spoken to them on several prior occasions, always had a most enjoyable time and was kindly received and our doctrine seems to be getting popular among them.

June 27: League for Industrial Democracy at Camp Tamiment, Pa. This was a Conference held by a lot of earnest souls for the purpose of discussing sociological questions. My contribution to the Conference was an address on The Pyramiding of Land Values. In this address I attempted to show that the failure to collect economic rent, artificially boosted rents and necessitated the taxing of improvements to make good the deficit caused by our failure to take our natural revenue for public purposes and therefore adding again to the cost of living