

# HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL MAGAZINE

JAN 1957

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**HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE**

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(Edited by a panel of Tutors)

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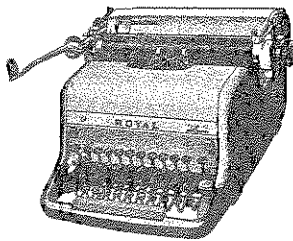
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Volume 6, Number 1.

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## *Editorial*



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The purpose of the School Magazine is to provide articles, news and comments dealing with political, social and economic matters as an extension of the study classes of the School; to expound the first principles of economic science and social justice and show their validity, relevance and significance when related to current economic problems; to sustain interest among ex-students and to inspire participation in the School's work.

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Now that Mau Mau is no longer in the news and apparently no longer a major problem in Kenya, the question of land hunger among the natives can be looked at more dispassionately. In this connection Mr. L. S. B. Leakey makes a curious observation in his article "New Ways for the Kikuyu", Manchester Guardian, December 12. Writing of plans for "Land Consolidation" he says that it is widely admitted that land hunger was one of the main underlying causes of the unrest which made it possible for the Mau Mau leaders to win such a hold on the masses of the Kikuyu tribe. He then goes on to say "the Kikuyu, as a basically agricultural peasantry regard land as 'the mother of all things'".

It would appear that the Kikuyu have a special attitude towards land. Maybe Mr. Leakey is right, but if this is a rather special way of looking at land, then more shame on the "civilized" people including Mr. Leakey.

It is this inability to see land as something unique that clouds the minds of our politicians, economists and moralists, so that when the sacred rights of property are spoken of land is included in that category. The enemies of private property, the Marxists, oddly enough take the same view - of course the land should belong equally to all but so should all other kinds of property. Failure to distinguish between property in land and property in the fruits of labour has been the biggest stumbling block to social progress.

CAUSE AND EFFECT. "History repeats itself". So they say. And unfortunate motorists, coping yet again with petrol rationing, would no doubt gloomily agree with that!

But this idea can lead to a defeatist outlook, a paralysis of the mind that in many cases prevents people from becoming active supporters of proposals for social improvement.

How often do we hear people say "What's the use, history goes in cycles, nations and Empires rise, flourish and decay. It's in the nature of things. Look at ancient Babylon, Egypt, Rome. They all rose to great power and magnificence, and finally ended in obscurity". And they slide into a fatalistic apathy which is very difficult to dispel. If this view is correct, we are simply wasting our time. We are fighting against Fate.

But when we look closer at history we see that this world is governed by inexorable laws of cause and effect. There is nothing mysterious or fatalistic about it. "History repeats itself" solely because men repeat their mistakes. And while men continue to repeat their mistakes they will continue to get bad results. (Henry George showed this clearly in the section on "The Law of Human Progress" in "Progress & Poverty").

We believe that man can improve his conditions of life just as soon as he wills to improve them. Will is the keyword. Our aim is to try to arouse this will in an ever-widening circle of people. We are not dismayed at the apparent difficulty of the task, because if an idea is true, it will ultimately be adopted.

CAUSE FOR CONGRATULATION. It has always been the cry of protectionists that tariffs on foreign textiles were needed so as to ensure employment in Lancashire. Unemployment has been the bogey produced whenever arguments for free trade were advanced. One would imagine that fuller opportunities for employment among those engaged in the cotton industry would be welcomed. Apparently, alternative methods of employment for those working in the cotton mills is not to be regarded as a good thing.

The industrial correspondent of the Manchester Guardian, Jan 23rd, reports: "Lancashire has complained bitterly that for several years growing imports of cheap textiles from India and Hong Kong have been ruining the cotton industry and has held the Indians chiefly responsible for the closing of over a hundred mills and the loss of some 60,000 operatives who have left the industry to work elsewhere".

If those workers affected by freer trade can find other opportunities for employment this is cause for congratulation as is the availability of cheaper goods for British housewives.

# How will it work ?

by B.W. Brookes.

"Questioning", said Dr. Samuel Johnson, "is not a mode of conversation among gentlemen". If the learned Doctor was right, why is it that whenever I attempt to explain land-value taxation to a friend he automatically degenerates into a cad? Actually - and I am sure most Henry George students will agree with me - the questions people ask on being introduced to the philosophy of Henry George are usually of a very reasonable and practical nature. "What would happen?" they ask. "Would land be nationalised?". "If we owned land would you fellows come along and take it away from us?". "How", they insist, "can you reconcile the right of all men to land with the necessity to give some security of tenure to, say, a manufacturer who wants to build a factory?"

The answers, of course, are all in "Progress and Poverty", but the most effective conversational reply is often an analogy, and the one I like best concerns the man who, on his death, left his house to his four sons. The sons, with their families, could not all live in the one house even though their father's Will gave them all equal rights to it. But the solution was simple. By agreement, one of the sons occupied the house and paid the economic rent for it, the rent then being divided between all four sons. Thus, all four kept their right of ownership while the one who occupied the house enjoyed full security for so long as he paid the rent.

When we come to apply this analogy to land we come up against the question of exactly how the tax (or rent) shall be levied. For in land there are two aspects of value to think of - the annual value and the capital (or selling) value.

The annual value is easy. It is simply the amount of rent which a tenant would pay for the use of the land for one year, and this amount can be assessed by any qualified valuer - as in fact is done today. The capital value, on the other hand, is more complicated since it varies with (a) the rate of interest and (b) the level of any land-taxes, besides being influenced by speculation (as occurs, for instance, when "developments" are expected in the neighbourhood.) Let us look at (a) first. Suppose the general rate of interest on investments is 6%. This means that if you had £100 invested you would be getting an annual income of £6. Now if you



contemplated selling your investment and buying a plot of land, what annual value would you look for? Clearly you would not pay your £100 for a site with an annual value of less than £6. In other words, when the rate of interest is 6% a plot of land of annual value £6 has a capital value of £100.

Now suppose the general rate of interest were to drop to 4%. Your £100, if invested, would be bringing you in only £4 a year. How much would you now have to pay for that plot of land with an annual value of £6? Obviously you would not be able to buy it for less than £150. So we see that a fall in interest rates puts up the capital value of land while a rise in interest rates reduces it. Now what about a tax on the land? Well let us imagine a site with an annual value of (say) £80. If the general rate of interest is 5% its capital value will be £1600. (5% of £1600 = £80). Now along



comes the Chancellor of the Exchequer and levies a 10% tax on land values. Would I still pay £1600 for that plot? Not on your life. I would say to myself "The price I will pay to the seller of the land, plus the 10% of that price which I will have to pay to the Chancellor, is not going to add up to more than the £1600 which the land is worth". A bit of arithmetic would

tell me that I should pay no more than £1455 (i.e. £1455 to the vendor and £145 to No. 11 Downing Street). The matter gets more complicated in succeeding years if the rate of tax is increased. On the example I have given, a 10% tax on land originally worth £1600 brings in £145 in revenue. If the tax is increased to 20% would it bring in £290? I am afraid not. If, with the tax at 20% I now put that land up for sale, a prospective purchaser would say, as I said before, "The price I will pay plus 20% of that figure must not exceed £1600". This works out at £1333 to me (the owner) and £267 to the tax-collector. Although the rate of tax has been increased by 100% the revenue from it has gone up from £145 to £267 - an increase of only 84%.

And we must not forget that all this assumes that the rate of interest has remained constant, and that no speculative element has crept into (or out of) the price to further distort the picture. Since, however, interest rates do change, and prospects of development do cause people to speculate, one can see the difficulties that are going to crop up if land-value taxes are levied on capital or selling values.

By contrast, the annual value of land (i.e. what a tenant will pay) remains virtually immune from changes in interest rates and speculation and is quite unaffected by changes in the rate of land-tax. In short, it is a true and faithful barometer of land value. All this, I think, adds up to one thing; that when land-value taxation does come to this country we, who have studied the problem, must insist that it gets off on the right foot - based on annual value and not on the selling price.

# The World Our Textbook

Further extracts from  
"Beware of Africans -  
A Pilgrimage from  
Cairo to the Cape" by  
Reginald Reynolds  
(Jarrolds, 1956).

The Reserve (in the vicinity of Pietermaritzburg) was obviously overcrowded - only in Kenya had I seen such small land-holdings - and there was the usual soil erosion which goes with rural congestion. It was easy to see why the African is driven to the big towns; and by common agreement there are other Reserves (in S. Africa) which are much more congested. It could hardly be otherwise with so small a proportion of the land allocated to the vast majority of the population. Much of the land I saw was useless for cultivation, anyway - it was on hills that were too steep, with no water except torrential seasonal rains...

There is not much difference, in practice, between the slave trade, which took Africans from Africa, and the more civilised process whereby so much of Africa was later taken from under the feet of Africans.

In self defence I wrote a parable. It was surprising how many Europeans (in S. Africa) instead of taking offence at it, entirely approved of its content:

A certain man, coming into a room where a number of people had been sitting for some hours, remarked that the room was stuffy.

The people sitting there were very annoyed at this remark. "How can you presume to judge", asked one man, "when you have only this minute come in?"

Another said: "It is always these people from outside who make this ill-informed criticism. Only those who have sat here for hours can possibly know whether the air is fresh or foul."

"It is just to keep out ignorant critics like you," said a third, "that we keep all the doors and windows shut."

So they threw the intruder out and bolted the door...

The oldest and safest way of maintaining any evil is to suggest that it is the only alternative to something worse. The 'lesser evil' argument is probably the greatest historical source of stagnation and the surest deterrent to progress. Those who fall for it spend their lives in perpetual retreat, fighting interminable rearguard actions - often against phantoms...

Successive governments have promised the European farmer the cheap 'native labour' without which he cannot make big profits. One way suggested is by the use of convict land labour under those 'indeterminate sentences' which have been found so convenient. I was even told that, at their own expense, the public-spirited European farmers had, in some instances, put up 'Farm Jails' for this African convict labour and that land values in the neighbourhood had immediately risen.

THE SUDAN. Kitchener's land laws preventing permanent alienation of Sudanese land by sale to foreigners - made independence possible today. An Englishman who worked in the Public Works department at Malakal plunged straight into his own grouse about labour in that part of the Sudan.

"You've no means of forcing them," he complained. "Money means nothing to them."

O sancta simplicitas, thought I, and blessed the ghost of Kitchener, but for whose far-sighted legislation the very land might have been stolen from under the feet of these tribes and their subsistence made dependent upon the root of all evil....

When anybody in Africa is called a native it is time for him to look out for his land and his liberty, if he has not been tricked or bludgeoned out of both already. Nothing is more dangerous in Africa and some other parts of the world than to be an indigenous product. In Europe people are proud of a long family history as natives of a town or a country. But in Africa, to be a native may prove more disastrous than to be a criminal in Europe.

KENYA. I talked with many people in the Reserve, using an interpreter where necessary. Economically speaking, the main problem was clearly congestion and land-hunger. Men were going as far as Nairobi to find work. There had not been a great deal of land alienated in those parts - the main European holdings lie further to the east - but the alienation of a small amount of land between Maragoli and the Nandi Reserve had caused resentment, though this went back some thirty years. Resentment centred firstly on the whole principle of Europeans grabbing land, abusing their self-assumed 'trust' after they had seized political power. But beyond that I found Africans unable to understand why land sufficient to feed and maintain hundreds of African families should be allocated to one single European and his household. The fact that he might - and, indeed, must (with such a large estate) - employ some Africans on his farm at a few shillings a month seemed to them an inadequate recompense. Also they said (which I later confirmed) that much of



the land allocated to Europeans was not being farmed.

I have heard and read many sophistries invented to justify this state of affairs. Perhaps the silliest was the solemn assurance I was given that no African would even wish to live in the 'White Highlands'. It was too cold, and so on. Yet thousands of Africans do live there, as servants and employees of Europeans. Driven by hunger, they even live there as 'squatters', allowed to cultivate a small patch of their native land in return for an agreement which binds them to work for the European 'owner'. If God indeed made the earth he must be puzzled about this. And after the Kikuyu eviction and exodus from the European Farms, these local tribesmen, too, were being recruited (with the help of semi-starvation) for work in the 'White Highlands' - the land which they 'did not want' and in which 'no African wished to live'.....

I had noticed on arrival at Kisumu that I had left behind the gay colours of Uganda and the feeling of relative prosperity. The people here dressed drably - often literally in sackcloth and rags. Later, on a Saturday, I was to see some of the girls decked in their best clothes; but this everyday attire made a sad contrast with what I had seen in the neighbouring Protectorate. In Maragoli the reason was fairly obvious - the closely spaced huts told their own story of inadequate land for the population.....

So far as I could see the difference between the three territories of East Africa was principally a matter of land alienation. Tanganyika had not attracted European settlement to the same extent as Kenya.

THE PRICE OF PRIVILEGE Limiting the licences for the city cabs is a good way to provide income for doing nothing to the future holders of these licenses. It is said that the selling price of a licence at the moment in Toronto is \$1,400. This is the thin end of a privilege which is likely to be costly to the future citizens of the city. Remember, the existence of a privilege necessarily means the existence of a lack of privilege elsewhere.

The New York City Council set a limitation of 11,000 cabs, the number then in operation. The right to own each cab was represented by a medallion. In the beginning this had only a nominal value, but each year, especially since 1940, it has climbed until today it is worth about \$14,000.

The owner - even an individual owning a single medallion - no longer has to operate his cab himself to make a good return on his \$14,000 investment. He can rent his cab to two or three hackers, thus keeping it running 24 hours a day, 7 days a week - less repair time. On a commission basis, he gets between 50 and 57½ per cent of the metered collections. (Estimates are that the owner's share of a two shift operation is about \$22.00 a day).



# Contemporary Comments

## RICH-QUICK RIVIERA

For the first time, peasants on the French Riviera are overcoming their reluctance to part with their land. They are getting rich overnight through the sensational rise in real estate prices. Land which soon after the war sold at four francs a square yard (about £16 an acre) is now selling at 2,000 francs (£8,000 an acre).

Continuing increases in the price of gold, the return of rich settlers from Algeria and Morocco, and sharpened inflation fears have caused a huge demand for villa sites, both on the coast and in the new hill-resorts. - Daily Telegraph, 12th December 1956

## THAT £3,000 VIEW!

Vence, where Chagall, as I mentioned the other day, plans to emulate Matisse in decorating chapels, is one of the boom towns of the French Riviera.

Another, apparently, is Cagnes-sur-Mer, where one peasant has a small-holding of less than an acre which three years ago was worth about £100. Now, he estimates that his view of the sea and the new Riviera racecourse which opens just before Christmas, have increased its value to not less than £3,000.

- "Peterborough" in Daily Telegraph, 12 December.

## BIG JAPANESE PROPERTY DEAL

The President of the United States has just received an odd little gift. He was left an estate in Japan and all the necessary legal deeds and documents have been sent to him. This property has been bequeathed to him by 15,000 rag-pickers who live packed together in hovels outside Tokio. The gift is a remarkable one, and it will not take the President long to stroll round his new property, for it measures only seven inches by seven inches - a pocket ranch not much bigger than a postcard.

- Daily Mirror, 4th December 1956

## DAYLIGHT FOR SALE

What is the price of daylight? The Hyde Park Hotel holds the right to Ancient Lights on its west side, where Mr. Harold Samuel is building a new office block. This means the hotel is entitled to free and unobstructed access to the sun's light on its windows. An agreement has now been reached on how much compensation the hotel will receive because its daylight will be reduced. The amount? I am told it is around £75,000.

- Evening Standard, 30th November 1956

The building of the new office block has the effect of reducing the site value of the Hyde Park Hotel insofar as the hotel will now no longer enjoy an uninterrupted view and passage of daylight. The

value of the site of the new office block is limited by the height of building which can be put upon it, and what is happening is that site value is being transferred from the hotel to the office block, as both cannot enjoy the "daylight value". This is as it should be; were the value of land collected for the community, we would have to re-assess the site if its advantages were diminished by setting up of a new block of offices on the adjoining site. There is nothing wrong with this transaction within the framework of the present system, but it is this system that is wrong - the system whereby such natural advantages can be capitalised for the benefit of private individuals.

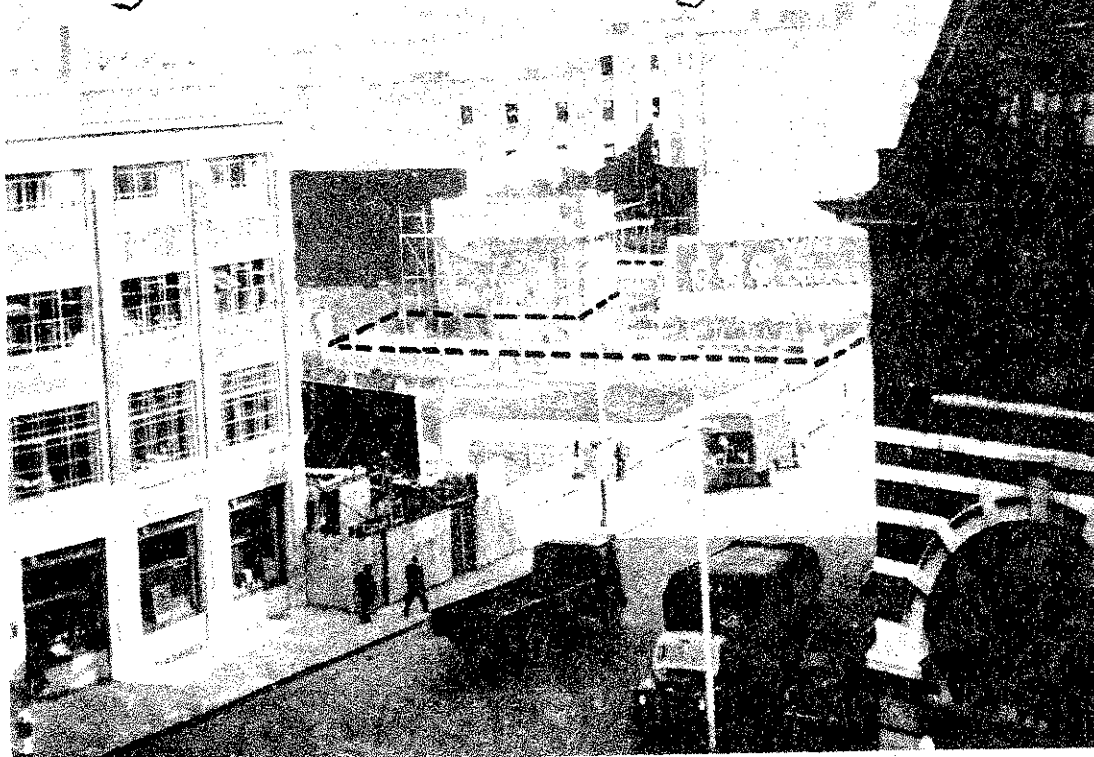
HERERO PEOPLE'S PROTEST The Rev. Michael Scott has been requested by the Herero people of South-West Africa to protest on their behalf to the United Nations against the threatened removal of part of their people from one of their native reserves. Before his departure, Mr. Scott said that the petition had been signed by the senior Herero chief, Hosea Kutako, who was not allowed to leave South Africa. The Herero people, who number about 35,000, live in eight native reserves, but are not allowed to move from one to the other without passes. One reserve is wanted by European farmers and the people have been told that they will be moved to another, poorer, area. This will be the third time that this section of the tribe has been forcibly moved. - The Manchester Guardian, 5 December.

BREAKING TRADE BARRIERS! Raiders who broke the lock of a back door and placed a charge of gelignite on the floor of the main office, blew up part of a Customs hut at Killea, County Londonderry, on the Northern Ireland side of the border early yesterday. It is believed that the raiders afterwards fled into the Republic of Ireland. No Customs official was on duty at the Killea hut at the time. The hut, of brick and wood, was built four years ago to replace a wooden hut burned down by I.R.A. raiders. - Manchester Guardian, 10th December.

SPACE MEANS MONEY Economic forces can be clearly seen in the structure of towns. You have only to look at the tall, handsome windows of half-derelict houses 100 years old, and the miniature windows of blocks of modern low-ceilinged 'luxury' flats. Space now means money. In New York, fairly modern skyscrapers are being demolished to make room for newer ones with lower ceilings. Six inches saved on each of 80 stories means 40 feet - enough space in which to build several more stories yielding a good rent and more than paying for the rebuilding. - Ronald Sinclair, in "Town Spotter"

TIME THEY WERE NATIONALISED? Social services of the Salvation Army supplied beds for 8,700,000 and 13,888,000 meals last year. - Daily Express, 1st January 1957.

# Why Rents & Rates are High



ONE-TENTH OF AN ACRE FOR £4,500

Nos. 140/148 Borough High Street, S.E.1, Southwark

Consisting of an awkwardly shaped site with a right of way through giving access to the dilapidated building.

The total area is about one-tenth of an acre, therefore the price asked (April 1954) averages £45,000 per acre, or £1.0.8. per square foot. As the street frontage is about 78 feet the price per foot frontage averages £62. The average depth is about 60 feet.

The site is zoned for commercial use.

Because the site is used as an advertising station an assessment of £52 is entered in the valuation roll. Irrespective of the use made of this site, it would, under Land Value Rating have an annual assessment of about £200.

It is interesting to note that No. 138 Borough High Street, which can be seen just behind the advertising hoarding consists of offices which stand on only one-fortieth of an acre. The assessment for rating is £317 per annum.



5,900 SQUARE FEET IN SOUTHWARK FOR £7,350.

Nos. 71/77 Southwark  
Street, London, S.E.1

Just over an eighth of an acre. It has about 104 feet of frontage to Southwark Street and 50 feet of frontage to Lavington Street.

The price asked for this site comprising Nos. 71 to 77 Southwark Street (April 1954) averages £1.4s.11d per square foot or £54,000 per acre. The average value per foot frontage to the main road is about £70.

At the narrow end the site is 48 feet deep increasing to 63 ft.

The land is zoned for office use. The advertising station at the far end (No.71) attracts an assessment of only £43. The land value assessment would be in the region of £350 per annum.

The immediate vicinity abounds in vacant sites and derelict buildings.

# peasants & parasites

"There is no mystery as to the cause which so suddenly and so largely raised wages in California in 1849. It was the discovery of the placer mines in unappropriated land to which labour was free that raised the wages of cooks in San Francisco restaurants to \$500 a month, and left ships to rot in the harbour without officers or crew until their owners would consent to pay rates that in any other part of the globe seemed fabulous. Had those mines been on appropriated land, or had they been immediately monopolised so that rent could have arisen, it would have been land values that would have leaped upwards, not wages." - Progress & Poverty, P.111

Fabulous Facets of a Diamond Rush. "There has been nothing since the days of Klondyke and Kimberley to compare with the rush of fortune-seekers that is bringing wealth and tragedy to Sierra Leone, the Cinderella of Britain's West African territories.

"Nobody knows how many people have so far been caught up in this rush to the alluvial and riparian diamond fields that are being opened up in Kono and all over the surrounding districts that form the frontier between Sierra Leone, Liberia and French Guinea, but the figure is certainly not less than 100,000.

"Until the discovery of Kono's diamond area this hilly, rolling countryside - with an occasional mountain that rises to over 6,000 feet - was a desolate and poverty-stricken wilderness. Today it seethes with activity; much of it illegal, illicit diamond smugglers making fortunes."

This report from Freetown of what is described as "Fabulous Facets of a Diamond Rush", is from the "Observer" of 25th November. Here is the Law of Wages and the Law of Rent as Henry George saw it. The writer says that in the absence of European fortune-seekers, kept out by rigid controls, Mandigos quickly pushed their way to the top. They are the Oppenheims, the Barney Barnatos and the Cecil Rhodeses of Sierra Leone. The local labour force has been supplemented by the bringing in of tens of thousands of hard-working Bambaras from French territory. The smuggling of diamonds is also a good racket, paying dividends.

The rest of the report tells its own story; read in conjunction with the quotation from "Progress & Poverty" given above, it removes

the Law of Rent and Wages from the field of mere theory to the field of practical economics.

"The changes wrought by this diamond rush are fantastic. In one area normally occupied by 2,000 peasants there are now 12,000 diggers. Once-impooverished chiefs ride around in the much-fancied Humber Super Snipe or in powerful American cars. They own new houses and refrigerators and suites of furniture. Peasants who have existed off subsistence agriculture all their lives ride around on flashy bicycles wearing garish shirts.

"Rents are prohibitive. A single room can be let for as much as £10 a month. This exceeds the normal annual income of an entire family in this region. Chickens sell at £1 each. A bag of rice, normally sold for less than £5, now fetches £15. But the most spectacular trade is in beer and cigarettes. A bottle of beer normally priced at half a crown costs 8s. and a bottle of soda-water fetches as much as 5s. Sierra Leone is today the world's biggest importer of English bottled beer.

"There are all the usual stories traditionally associated with diamond rushes. One I have confirmed is that of a kitchen boy who begged a few weeks' leave to seek his fortune. He returned stylishly in his own chauffeur-driven car to hand in his resignation to his former employer. One diamond sold casually for £500 changed hands for £20,000. But life is held cheap and casualties in the primitive diggings are said to be high. It is a case of each man for himself and the Mandingo takes the hindmost."

Thus do peasants and paupers become princes and parasites. How long will it last? Until the richest land is completely monopolised. No thought is taken for the future - peasants will still be born with no claim on Nature's gifts. What matters it that some who were once poor are now rich? A good society is one where the equal rights of all to God's earth are recognised and where man retains the fruits of his labour against all other men and the State.





## NO EXCUSE FOR HUNGER

(Extracts from an article in John Bull, November 17th  
"The Greatest Progress Mankind Has Ever Seen")

Here is given some idea of the world's food potentialities. But food is produced not according to need but according to effective demand and this means that hungry people must have something to give in exchange for the food they need. The problem is therefore a poverty problem for food producers are not philanthropists. However, here is an excellent answer to the dismal Malthusian theory.

Agricultural scientists are near to the most spectacular discovery in the history of farming; the secret of how a plant creates food from the air and soil. The process is known as photo-synthesis. By it, carbon dioxide is taken from the air, and water from the soil. Chlorophyll, the green in plant leaves, converts these substances into oxygen (which is released into the air) and into sugars and starches, which form the body of the plant and are ultimately used as food or fuel by man.

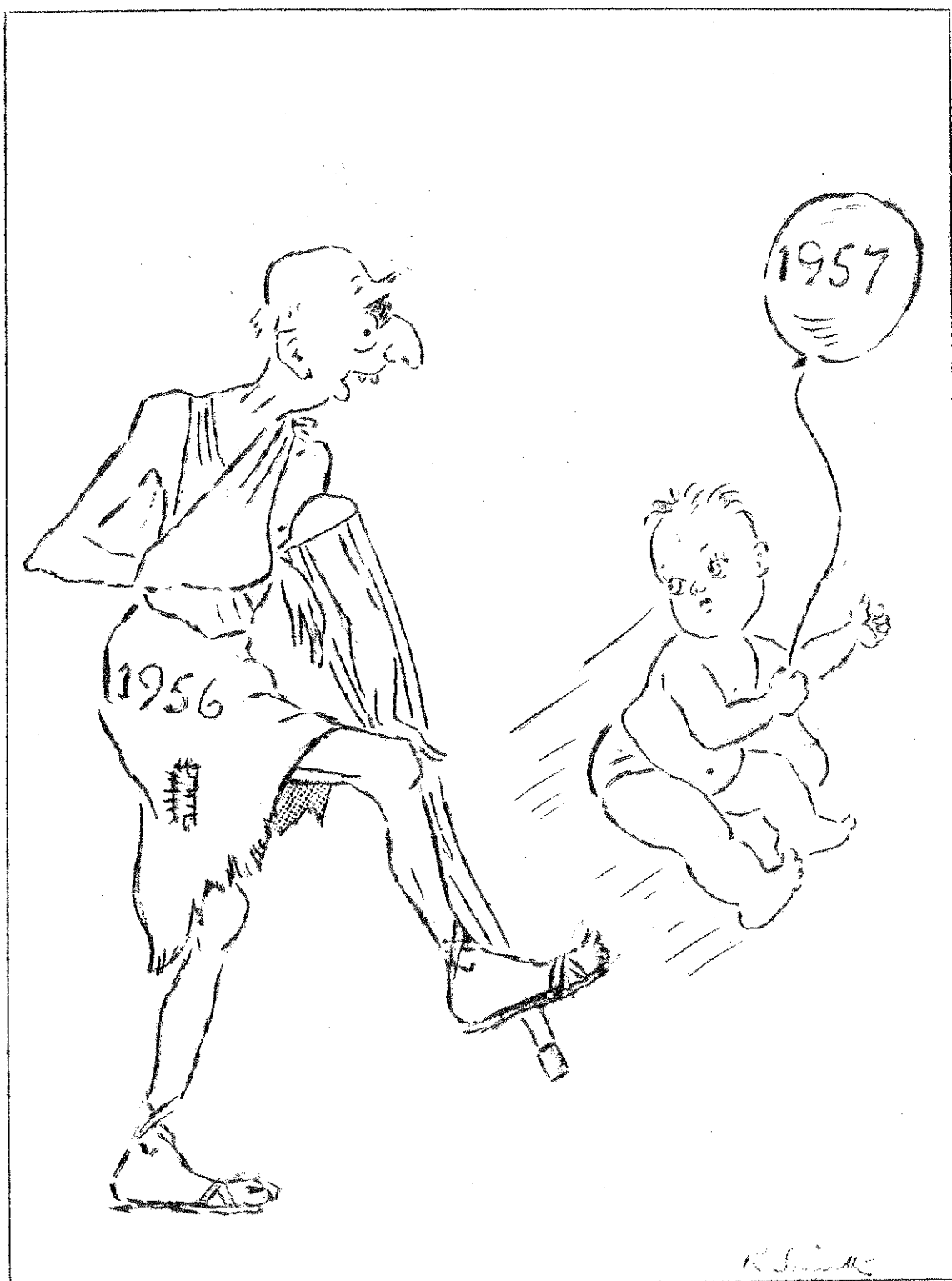
If scientists could duplicate economically the magic work of chlorophyll, factories using sunlight as energy could produce an abundance of food for the world. It would be tasteless, but nutritious, and putting the taste into it would be no problem. Factory-made foods, using no raw materials except water and sunlight, could dramatically outdate present-day farming methods.

Conventional farming is already being supplemented by hydroponics, the new science of farming without soil. American troops in Korea received a constant supply of fresh vegetables from hydroponic farms in Japan. Already, in America, hydroponics is a thriving industry, and small market gardeners in Britain are turning to it .....

The Snowy River scheme in Australia is one of the most ambitious ever attempted. Its aim is to divert the river from the eastern well-watered side of the Snowy Mountains to the western side, where lie hundreds of miles of arid desert. By building huge tunnels and dams the water is being successfully taken through the mountain.

In Pakistan, 60 million dollars are being spent irrigating two million acres near the Ganges and Kobadak rivers. Ultimately the plan will take in twenty million acres which are now wasteland. The Sahara desert was once fertile, and already parts of its fringe are gradually being brought back to life. In Libya, drought-resistant grasses are being planted in 15,000 acres of sand dunes as a first step to re-afforestation.

Even at the present stage of knowledge, food in plenty could be grown on earth for 6,000 million people. Yet two-thirds of our 2,700 millions live with hunger. The real need is to close the huge gap between what is known and what is practised.

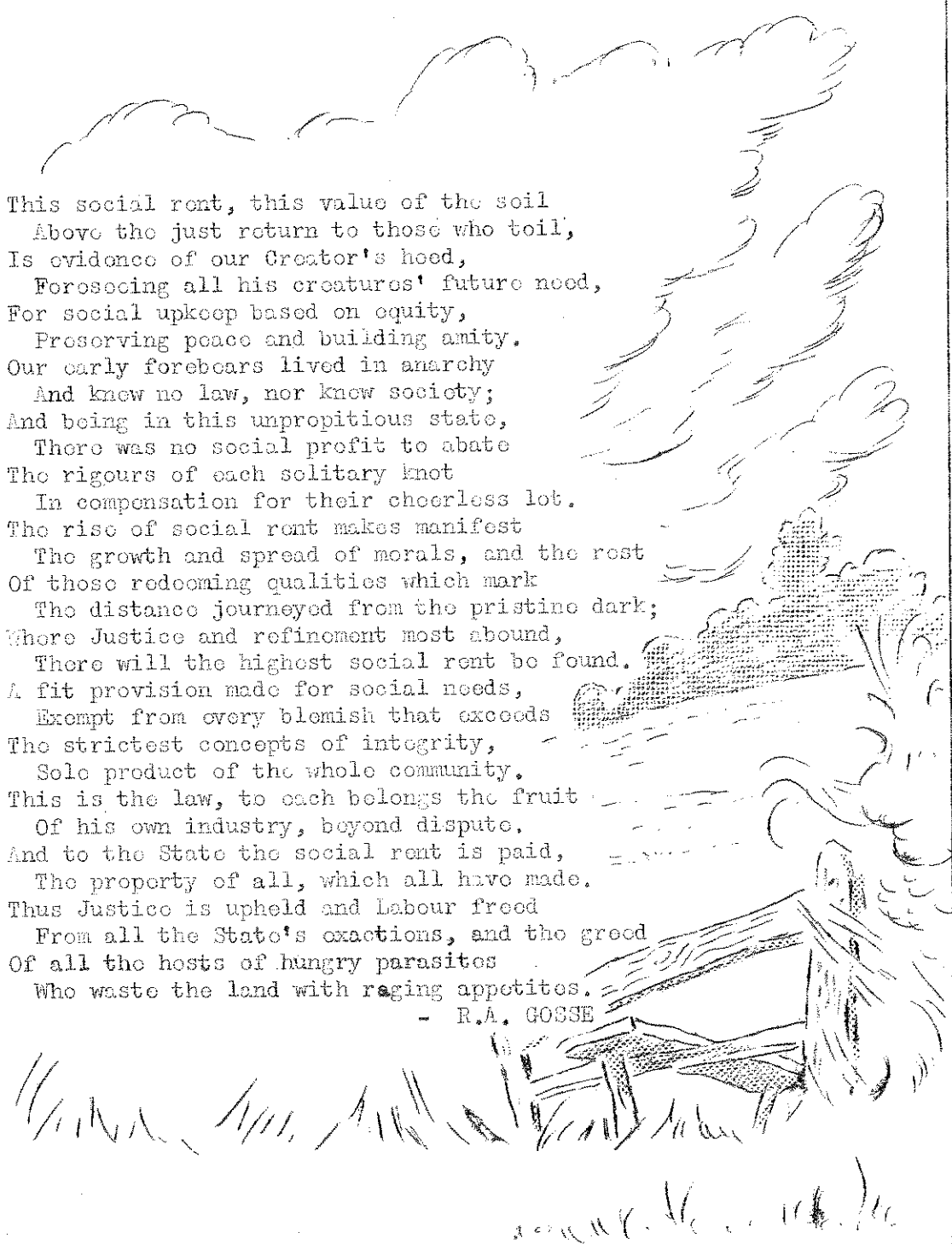


"ALL RIGHT! SEE IF YOU CAN DO ANY BETTER!"



# Harmony

The law is clear and cannot be defied,  
Except an evil consequence betide.  
Men are endowed by Nature and by God  
With equal rights to life. Not at the nod  
Of others to exist and earn their bread,  
But indefeasibly this earth to tread  
In their own sacred right; and furthermore,  
In quest of peace to go from shore to shore,  
Free from the ungracious check imposed by some  
Who, sent by fate or led by chance, had come  
Before them, gifted with no greater claim  
Of free access than those who later came.  
The equal rights of all to life and liberty  
Applies with like effect and cogency;  
To equal right of access to the fount  
Of life itself, the land. Of small account  
All other gains denied this one great boon.  
No gain is lasting, no advance immune  
Against the unavoidable increase  
Of social rent, whose workings never cease.



This social rent, this value of the soil  
Above the just return to those who toil,  
Is evidence of our Creator's heed,  
Foreseeing all his creatures' future need,  
For social upkeep based on equity,  
Preserving peace and building amity.  
Our early forebears lived in anarchy  
And knew no law, nor knew society;  
And being in this unpropitious state,  
There was no social profit to abate  
The rigours of each solitary knot  
In compensation for their cheerless lot.  
The rise of social rent makes manifest  
The growth and spread of morals, and the rest  
Of those redeeming qualities which mark  
The distance journeyed from the pristine dark;  
Where Justice and refinement most abound,  
There will the highest social rent be found.  
A fit provision made for social needs,  
Exempt from every blemish that exceeds  
The strictest concepts of integrity,  
Sole product of the whole community.  
This is the law, to each belongs the fruit  
Of his own industry, beyond dispute.  
And to the State the social rent is paid,  
The property of all, which all have made.  
Thus Justice is upheld and Labour freed  
From all the State's exactions, and the greed  
Of all the hosts of hungry parasites  
Who waste the land with raging appetites.

- R.A. GOSSE

UNIVERSITIES OF MANCHESTER, LIVERPOOL,  
LEEDS, SHEFFIELD and BIRMINGHAM

Joint Matriculation Board

General Certificate of Education.

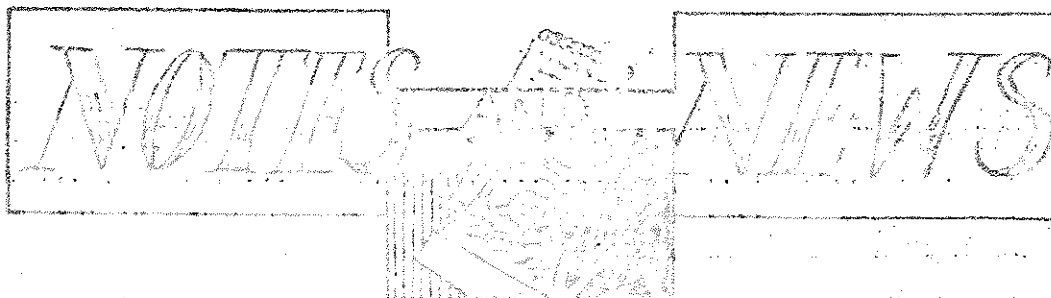
ECONOMICS  
Ordinary

November 1956  
Three hours

Answer Five Questions

1. In formulating a policy for agriculture in this country the government seeks to promote two objectives, (a) efficiency, (b) security, for the farmer. What measures have governments taken in recent years to promote these objectives?
2. Examine the view that Lancashire must reconcile itself to the continued decline of its cotton industry.
3. Give a systematic account of the factors upon which the prosperity of a country depends. Show how these factors may be affected by a large rearmament programme.
4. What is the function of the price system in a free economy?
5. What is meant by "imperfect competition"? What disadvantages does it impose on the ordinary citizen?
6. Give a careful definition of increasing returns. For what reasons may an industry experience increasing returns?
7. Discuss the implications for the social security system of the current trend in the age composition of the population.
8. What is capital? What advantages does a country derive from the possession of a large stock of capital goods?
9. What determines the rent paid for a shop in the centre of a large city such as London or Birmingham?
10. Explain how a country benefits from foreign trade.

(What is your reaction to this exam paper? Which five questions would you choose to answer? How would you tackle them? Can you spot a flaw in question 9? Your brief comments are invited. Eds.)



WINTER TERM CLASSES

January -

- 1957

WESTMINSTER - 4 Great Smith Street.

Basic Course

Beginning January 15th

Beginning January 17th

TUESDAYS:

Tutor: R.M. Barraclough

" R.A. Ward

THURSDAYS:

Tutor: G.L. Birch

International Trade

Beginning January 15th

Beginning January 17th

TUESDAYS:

Tutor: A.L. Roberts

THURSDAYS:

Tutor: V.G. Saldji

SIDCUP - 2 Stanhope Road.

Basic Course

Beginning January 15th

TUESDAYS:

Tutor: M. Monk.

SEVEN KINGS - Seven Kings Library.

International Trade.

Beginning January 15th

TUESDAYS:

Tutors: K. Baynes &  
J. Bennett.

PALMERS GREEN - 36 The Grove, N.13.

International Trade.

Beginning January 16th

WEDNESDAYS:

Tutor: J.M. Chester.

ENFIELD - Enfield Grammar School.

Basic Course

Beginning January 16th

WEDNESDAYS:

Tutor: W.J. Cadman.



GOLDERS GREEN - 15 Chanctonbury Way.

Current Economic Theories  
Beginning January 3rd

THURSDAYS:  
Tutor: N.K.Gardner.

LIVERPOOL - Free Church Centre.

Basic Course.  
Beginning January 16th.

WEDNESDAYS:  
Tutor: F.R.Jones.

International Trade.  
Beginning January 16th

WEDNESDAYS:  
Tutor: Dr. R.Johne.

GLASGOW - Christian Institute.

Science of Political Economy.  
Beginning January 11th

FRIDAYS:  
Tutor: N.W.Hopkins.

PORTSMOUTH - 226 Fratton Road.

Basic Course.  
Beginning February 5th.

TUESDAYS:  
Tutor: P.Satterthwaite.

DUNDEE - York Room, Green's Playhouse.

Basic Course.  
Beginning January 18th.

FRIDAYS:  
Tutor: J.L.Geddes.

Science of Political Economy.  
Beginning January 18th.

FRIDAYS:  
Tutor: J.H.MacMurchie.

TOPIC OF THE MOMENT!

Free Trade and Tariffs are in the news, and here is an opportunity to learn the economic and philosophic background of the issues involved. The perplexities of dollar gaps, exchange controls, inflation, foreign competition, etc, are made clear and understandable in the School's International Trade class.

Discussion, stimulating and informal, is a feature of the School's method of teaching, and you are cordially invited to enrol for this Course as listed above. If you have a friend you would like to bring it is not important that he has not attended earlier courses. Textbooks comprised of one book and four booklets cost only 5s. and these need not be paid for all at once. There is no charge for the course, the service of tutors being given voluntarily.