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democracy

with the small "d"

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LAND, LABOR AND CAPITAL MUST ALL HARMONIZE IN PRODUCTION

Taxation the Great Troublemaker Capital Must Lead

PRODUCTION BEGINS WITH THE EARTH

THE ECONOMIC FORMULA of production includes the three elements of Land, Labor and Capital. And the three components are not always mixed in the same proportion and the more are absent, the formula is held as invariable.

Production is always of wealth "which includes everything required by people in all their activities." Land is "the material universe outside of man." Labor is "all human activity productively employed." And Capital is "saved up labor" or "wealth used in production of more wealth."

These definitions and others which will be given as needed, are from standard works on scientific economics, whose authors will also be otherwise quoted herein.

The PRIMER aims, not to discredit or change any other writing but to select the essentials and state them as briefly and succinctly as practicable. In short, to demonstrate fully SCIENCE and SIMPLICITY.

TWO BAD TAX ACTIONS

THESE EVIL PERFORMANCES might be called positive and negative—taxation and exemption—both showing the traditional power of taxes to destroy; and also in a limited sense, to CREATE. The positive injury is in the PRODUCT-TAX, and the negative in the EXEMPTION of monopolistic natural resources.

The taxation of ANYTHING made by the hand of man, assisted by the machinery of capital, necessarily reacts to the destruction of something like a half the producer's value since every cent of the tax, plus a generous margin, MUST be added to the cost and price thereof.

The only reason (or excuse) for destructive-product-taxation is natural resource-exemption. The latter is also the only natural tax source because its value is equal to all produced wealth and is all CREATED by Society.

A MIRACLE OF TAX-CREATION

THIS IS ONE OF THE PARADOXES which only an understanding of the SCIENCE of Economics can explain. Here the uniform and beneficial effect of consumer-taxation in creating poverty is reversed in destroying the monopoly of the source of all wealth. Nature, in its store-house, the Earth, creates limitless potential values. As an example, Mr. Jokes recently put the unthinkable figure of \$25,000 billion in our coal lands alone. Strangely, we exempt these resources while taxing mass

SOMETHINGS ARE OBVIOUS

THERE ARE TWO VERY SIMPLE things, to be developed in ordinary conversation by average persons, which agreed to, settle our most desperate economic or financial problems.

The first is that taxes on THINGS, on property, wealth, products of labor and capital, make them all very costly, inflate their prices. They increase—I think fully double—the cost of living, the equivalent of halving everyone's wages or income.

The second truth is of reverse character: it is an EXEMPTION from taxation of equal amount, (something like \$25 billion a year) to our product taxation: which exemption makes land speculation and monopoly the greatest of all rackets.

These two economic errors synchronize in the creation of depression, mass unemployment in millions, poverty and two kinds of way, of rival destructiveness. And also their operation to these ends is fairly indicated by the mere description of them, their scope demands further survey and conclusion here.

AN INTRIGUING SUBJECT IS the relation of the earth to these seemingly nearer subjects of taxes, profits, jobs, wages, and poverty! Our 1500 colleges, and all bursting with Erudite Professors, haven't yet discovered that this earth is at the center of a MASTER SCIENCE—that of ECONOMICS.

Try and think of the Earth as your store-house. Then how are you going to conserve and utilize its unthinkable wealth waiting there for your draft of it. The answer comes with the next strain in conceiving that EVERYTHING you need or desire is taken every day from the store.

Then comes, in regular order, the application of all labor to this earth to get out these things for you. And finally the management of the "whole business" by Capital carries to the Nth power, production of all the modern wonders of wealth.

So here are the two active factors of wealth production labor assisted by capital, working together upon the earth's raw materials making everything everyone wants; and struggling, so far unsuccessfully, to get the product or profit properly divided between the producers—themselves exclusively.

CONSUMERS INTO POVERTY!

Immense as are these values even greater "resources" are uncovered in our great cities, in the sites and utilities. So here are \$200 billion of values lost to the people and gained to "speculators."

Reversing the tax will, in essence, create this amount of wealth for Society by recovery of it from an OVERPRIVILEGED CLASS not numbering more than 2 or 3 in 100 of our population. This would turn a destructive tax into a creative blessing.

THE VITAL ISSUES OF NATURE AND ECONOMICS

PETER EDSON, SCRIPPS writer, takes time off from "Frisco" to sight-see the Central Valley of Calif.: and his description and invitation to the old-world delegates to follow through is a masterpiece. He says the valley extends from Shasta Dam to Bakerfield, 500 miles by 100 miles wide.

So here in a single state is an empire of 50,000 square miles or 1/60 of the whole USA (3,000,000 sq. mi.) But the big point is that from a complete and worthless desert, in 50 years or so it has become a bee hive of habitation and industry.

The next point might seem to sustain the Marx Communist doctrine, since this miracle has been performed by the U. S. Reclamation and other government agencies. Or it should be a "clean bill" for New Deal enterprises of public ownership. And so it should be to both.

And if such official projects as this, the TVA, the several irrigation dams in the northwest were honestly—meaning economically—based and financed they would all reach the height of these descriptions as public blessings, where now there is another side to them that makes them all JUG-HANDLED blessings.

IF THERE WERE BUT ONE of these giant utilities or public services, it would not be so serious, but there are dozens of them all with two fundamental economic defects in their set-up. (a) They are not paid for by those who benefit most; and (b) Their greatest benefits go to speculators and monopolists.

"Robbing Peter to Pay Paul" is the blunt name for the method of using the funds of a whole state or the nation for such projects. Because, besides the eventual (after speculators have got away with billions!) large population whom we concede benefit, their proportion to the state or nation is not considerable.

The big graft, and quite unfamously in all these cases, big and little, is in their enormous LAND-VALUE INCREASE. Please take the full force of this: Here are 32,000,000 acres starting at zero as desert. Putting say \$100 million of your (from N.H.) and my money (from N.J.) into it; any wonder where millions come from?

Meantime we hear of high taxes doubling cost of what. ALL "them asses" have to buy to live, making hunger and rage, depression. Millions laid off; balance underpaid and ending in a war to make killing for jobs!

ONE OF THE MOST VIVID OF Single Tax Movies I think is "The Good Earth." It's background is the world itself: the land and its productivity of all the human necessities. There is vividly shown the miracle of IRRIGATION: ordinary H₂O, fructifying in the soil.

"Man's Inhumanity to Man" in the garb of the MONOPOLIST becomes the central theme as the controller of the irrigating ditches. And this "mob" fight-

VALUE OF LAND

STRANGE: THAT THE EARTH itself is worth as much as everything on it.

A very interesting subject for analysis and speculation! Considering that from the earth in the U. S. comes (with the aid and addition of that second factor in wealth production—labor) 80 to 150 billion a year: That the annual estimated economic rent of land is \$13,600,000,000, the estimate that the capital land value of the country is 200 billion of the 400 billion total wealth. This does not seem wild, but, in fact, supports the opening statement.

Again, considering that the earth has in it everything that children of the earth can possibly need, and that there is nothing they have ever had or ever will have that can be attributed to any other source, well, how can the earth's contents be of less value than what is at present on its surface.

Considering that of what is taken from it much is currently consumed, much has short life, much is wasted and not much is what we call permanent, and that permanency is by no means perpetuity—well all that shorrness up the "expectancy" of "things"—called wealth.

Maybe the average length of life of them is only ten years or so!

However, this is no job for any ordinary fellow or any other kind that I know; maybe an actuary can do it, or a statistician.

But I do think enough is said to engender some respect for that basic intangible, land value, that belongs to all of us and has been snatched from us by our foolish tax system.

"WE MUST GET TOGETHER on meanings—or else!" Dorothy Thompson, quoted in "democracy." OR ELSE—

Good Will and Peace on Earth can never be Until we learn what Truth will set us free—

The Truth that teaches every man at birth Comes with an equal right to use the Earth.

But this denied in every Christian land, Want must bring War and tyranny expend. HORATIO.

Houston, Texas.

ing for their BIRTHRIGHT, as they also do in "How Green Is My Valley," is the spectacle.

And this film is taken in Spain where 60,000 of these sharecroppers struck on "The Church and Grantees" and started the last rebellion. A similar rebellion for "Mother Earth" was our Bootleg Miner's strike.

But these strikes and rebellions don't stick to the issue—the earth—but get led astray into communist confusions and wind up nowhere but in blood and mud. Thus our respectable monopolists continue to be protected by the only organized disorder—unionism and communism.

WHERE SHALL CAPITAL FIND LEADERSHIP?

Once there was a great man who was the dictator over an Industrial Empire. And he called all of his Generals together annually to confer upon "the state of the Empire." On this occasion, the vast organization had been jolted hither and yon: by sit-downs; by the new taxes; by big loss of volume; and last and most distressing, by a drop of nearly three quarters in net profit "for dividends."

"Verily" said the great man, "there must be some answer: won't you all try and give it to me? We know how to produce; we know how to sell. But something eats us. We can't keep on. We have bought brains and brawn to build this empire. But not yet are we given the formula by which we may keep on building, operating, and earning. We must have stability as well as earning power!"

One of his executives did give answer to the riddle as presented. He said—"We have invoked every science, save one—that of 'personance.' There is not a loophole for a dollar to escape, so ably do we administer our chemistry, our mechanics, our metallurgy; and our sales and finances.

SCIENCE WAS ALL SPENT IN PRODUCTION

"But all these are included in Production (which includes sales, transportation and financing)—in Wealth Production. And the science relating to Production is therefore a Master Science. Of ECONOMICS we hear nothing.

"This leaves us—while an invincible empire, indeed, as concerns all these developed sciences—utterly helpless in our relationships with labor, our government and our natural resources."

"Then," said the Master, "let us ties to all our greatest universities for their greatest professors of Economics!"

"No," said the wise executive, "that is proven a false trail by the President, whose braintrust material is all from the colleges."

"Then of what may we construct our economic authority?" And this was the answer:—

"There are only 4 materials available to us at present: (1) Common Sense, (2) Business Sense (3) Horse Sense and (4) Sense." "Sense will quickly show us the production is all accomplished by labor, employed by capital. Sense will tell us that between the producers must ALL of the product be divided. Finally, sense will show us that about half being taken by basic monopoly, using our sales tax system as its collector, is causing our trouble: and so must be reversed."

★

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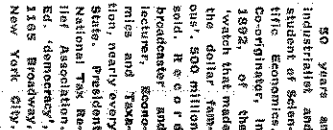
Here are two kinds of Democracy. Political and Economic.

democracy

June 15, 1945

CHAS. H. INGERSOLL, Editor and Publisher
1165 Broadway, New York City

CHARLES H. INGERSOLL



50 years an industrialist and student of Scientific Economics. Co-ordinator, in 1922, of the "watch that made the dollar" fund. \$500 million sold. R. C. O. R. D. President, Radio-licious and Tobacco, nearly every State. President National Union, "Ed. Democracy", 1165 Broadway, New York City.

TO READERS OF "THE FREEMAN"

BY THE COURTESY AND INDUSTRY OF MARGERY WARRIAR WOLIN, director of the Henry George Institute, we are able to introduce "democracy" to the former readers of "The Freeman," for several years published by the Henry George School, edited by Frank Chodorov and C. O. Steel.

We presume many on this list are also hold-overs from "The Old Freeman," first published by Francis Neilson, printed by B. W. Hiesch and Edited by Alfred Jay Nock; and later by a Trenton gentleman with Suzanne La Follette as editor.

This introduction will be by the usual method of sampling and the receipt of a sample will be an earnest invitation to you to subscribe. A Freeman reader of long standing should be a fairly equipped Georgian Economist.

"Democracy" took its name 15 years ago for practical reasons—to bring this highest quality of Scientific Economics into the broadest possible field. This opportunity to gain the approval of so large a body of economic students and "practitioners" is highly appreciated, and with the hope that subscriptions, even if only for a trial, will be many.

GOING BACK A HALF CENTURY to "The Public" and Lake North's "Great Adventure," the history of economic periodicals has been up and down and mostly down. The "democracy" has been modest in all its proportions it has persisted.

And it is not wholly because of lack of support that these excellent papers and "Land and Freedom" have dropped out. Mr. Neilson invested a large fortune, and only a lesser one did his successor-backer in the original Freeman.

Joe Dana Miller always had generous sustenance for "Land and Freedom" as he did for the "Single Tax Review" and as did Louis Post, Stanley Bowmar and Strongton Cooley for the "Public" while the HGSS paid handsomely for its experience.

"democracy" has doubtless also had as much help as it deserved. BUT the fact remains that as the College Cult so forcibly and in so many ways reminds us—Economics is a dismal Science; and no one of us has yet succeeded in extracting that quality enough to give our enterprisers a million circulation which alone seems required to put us on the self-supporting and self-respecting basis our principles demand.

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Keep Individualism Straight

THE BIG WAY, THE ONLY WAY OUT

INDIVIDUALISM IS BIG. SOCIALISM IS Small. If there's any thing which fairly distinguishes the European and Asiatic from the American and the old from the new, the mid-Victorian from the modern, and the small from the large, it is Socialism and Democracy.

And we might extend our parallel to personalities—economists if you please. Karl Marx for Socialism and, by my election, Henry George for American, Individualist, Modern, Profit-making, Industrial, Mass-producing, democracy (little 'd' however!)

The big-ness of America can be sustained: in fact it must be sustained: or our whole modern civilization will go by the board. There's no small, regimenting, crop-destroying, production-suppressing, prohibiting, inhibiting, price-controlling, human-measuring, technological, statute-law making, political-planning way to get out and stay out of depressions, which does not include abandonment of individualism and therefore of civilization, as we Americans know it.

If we want to—and I guess we have done it—embark on a series of 5 year plans taking Russia for our model and Karl Marx's apostles from the colleges for our guides let's do it frankly and with open eyes and with the names Socialism-Communism-Fascism in big plain letters everywhere.

And forget our illusions that we are any more doing something for democracy than when we went into a war to save it—since when it has been generally displaced by dictatorship (and a war to save it again).

★ WHAT IS COMMUNISM?

THIS IS THE PERPETUAL question because the answer is never very clear. "Democracy's" answer is the nearest to clarity: Communism is Unionism and New Deal ISM. Translated, our bureaucracy and laborism are the Marx Ideologist's biggest assets.

Professional Communists don't comprise the ISM. Marx is violently denied by too many. Stalin had long ago adopted many of capital's ways: such as money, wages, land titles and war. Browder had built fellow-traveler and unified-front to perfection. France having lost its identity to that ISM has earned its right to be censorious. So it now seems bossing the whole ISM.

Labor Racketeering the world over is proving "democracy's" claim of their identity as the most genuine commons. Here a possible "bodge" might be entered in favor of our \$500 billion New Deal Bureaucracy Priority. This, however, is not a serious interference since N. D. and Unions are as one.

The big answer is, to all inquirers,—to quit chasing labels, tags, parties, names and forms in the search for commons and hold strictly to their acts as to private ownership and bureaucracy and especially watch our 1500 colleges.

PROPERTY RIGHTS ARE THE ONLY ESSENTIAL HUMAN RIGHTS. But Karl Marx has made 'property' inferior, using our professors in the process.

N. J. TAX IMPROVERISHMENT

COMMUNISM AND MONOPOLY

OR MONOPOLY AND COMMUNISM—for I think the latter is the right priority of cause and effect; that we would have no communism and its string of evils such as unionism, New Deal, poverty, crime and wars but for Basic Monopoly, starting with the earth itself.

The big and pressing question resting on this assumption is: what are the manifestations of this basic conspiracy: and what is the status of our government, our parties, our business, capital and wealth and our educational system relating to it?

FIRST, is there an affinity between these two poles of cause and effect? Are they playing the game of anti-democracy together? Is communism the dynamic destructive force doing the deadly work of our worst enemy, the fundamental monopoly system?

Finally, what are the unconscious tools of self destruction such as I have enumerated, who as fellow-travelers and unified-fronts assist or permit the inter play of these two destroyers.

THERE'S A LOT TO THIS analysis—and requiring concentration. First, we must realize we can't be too clear that we have here our two major menaces. Second, that they are cause and effect. Third that communism should be striking to kill monopoly, following its name and pretensions, instead of protecting it.

(1) Surely menace is monopoly of the source of all our subsistence valued at \$200 billion. And just as surely must it be a menace that pretends to be a CURE and plays in, even unconsciously, with the disease, crime, or whatever.

(2) If \$200 billion is not enough cause it is hard to see what could be: if monopoly of a universal source is not. The fact that this ISM itself sets up capital, business and "the boss" as the cause should under all the circumstances, make us more certain of our MONOPOLY conviction.

(3) All the Marx-isms, and there are a dozen of them with no essential difference, assert their function of rescuing humanity, from every form of EXPLOITATION. Then isn't it their very first function to kill the "Mother of all Monopoly" (W. Churchill's naming)? They all are distinguished by a myriad form of social—or commun-IZATION. Then can they be forgiven for not first and foremost tackling the mother of all monopoly?

★ ENGLISH VORTEX OF COLLECTIVISM

ENGLAND HAS BEEN HEAD-ING for Marxism under the black flag of laborism for many decades and is now frankly entertaining SOCIALISM as its natural goal. And we in the USA are headed the same way! They have these decades' headstart on us: but we move much swifter than our cousins: and the two particular elements of STATEISM are possibly more highly developed here than there, viz. BUREAUCRACY and UNIONISM: and the basic monopoly foundation is much the same.

Then, if studies were made in countries like France, Italy, Germany, Sweden and Spain, much further warning to our leadership would be developed IF we would keep alive our individualism, democracy, and capitalism. As an example, France, torn by all phases of labor and social unrest is now a general wreck and not very inspiring to England as a model for a Socialist Commonwealth.

FACING THE TAX THAT DESTROYS A MAJOR TRAGEDY TREAS-ens Newark and New Jersey, in the loss of perhaps their GREAT-EST INDUSTRY or Institution. The Prudential Insurance Co.—the fourth largest of those Giant Mutual Companies in the U.S.A.—unless a miracle prevails.

It numbers in its 'associates' or employees some 8000 and brings to the city and state an endless variety of practical benefits besides employment and the expenditure of a truly astronomical sum of money.

"The PRU" is one of a dozen or so of big businesses in New Jersey, which class alone in the U.S. can enable us to preserve some coherence in looking ahead into a debt-area of \$300 BILLION (if indeed there is to be any limitation put on it).

I use the word 'major' above because it is by no means an unusual tragedy and so deserves and needs that distinction. Not only have there been a few other majors, though not of this rating, but there have been—yes, even in our little state—literally millions of MINOR TAX TRAGEDIES of which this is only a threat and grand scale example.

DOWN IN TRENTON THE Legislature is taking notice of this threat to the stability of these semi-social concerns whose status is presumed to be above question: and they have embodied some of Pru's own suggestions in a bill.

But besides being a palliative, class-measure it seems to Newark officials unfair to the municipal interest. Mayor Murphy asks the inevitable question:—what are we to do with nearly \$3,000,000 of tax Pru wants us to take back?

This and other persistent questions from all directions and sorts of people and interests show the Mayor's word 'overhauling' is the word.

And it goes right back to Trenton where, at the 1941 Assembly session we passed the Sanford Bill No. 196 the purpose of which was to completely and clearly answer all the questions that drive from the various sources in tax emergencies like the present.

This great tax reform would have been law today but for war clouds and reaction of a few senators. Particularly did a discussion with Senator Toolan of Perth Amboy loom, in which I specifically showed how taxes and large industry and a mass of humble homes—how taxes that destroy could be put where they would burden no legitimate interest.

THE SANFORD BILL PRE-sented by Mrs. Olive C. Sanford to the 1941 Assembly, provided briefly as follows:

First, that any taxing district by referendum MAY—SECOND, in five equal annual installments cancel all taxes upon—THIRD, (a) personal property, (b) improvements on land.

FOURTH, levy increased taxes to an equal amount as canceled, UPON THE LAND VALUES of the district.

The object of this shift of tax burden is to relieve industry, business, home-ownership, and mass consumption and buying power, on all of which present taxes rest with destructive and impoverishing force:—

And to place this tax burden upon a few parasitical interests whose major holdings are in the socially-created element of LAND VALUES, which are not, in real-son or justice, subject to private ownership.

This bill, in essence, has passed the Assemblies of 1939 and 1941. This system has been in force 20 or 30 years in Australia, New Zealand, and Western Canada, and in Pittsburgh, where 95% of the homes enjoy lower taxes. In no case has repeal ever occurred or even been considered.

'HORATIO' ON NAME FOR ECONOMIC SCIENCE

Dear Mr. Ingersoll:

One reason why we can't give up the name SINGLE TAX is that it is "blown in the bottle."

"Single Tax" is so closely associated with the name of Henry George that we can't get rid of it if we would. Our opponents will use it even if we don't. Of course it is a misnomer, but after 60 years, no one has found a better name to designate our aims.

To demand RENT sounds too socialistic, and as Henry George says, (P&P P405) "great changes can be best got under old forms—an axiom of statesmanship founders of tyranny have understood and acted upon."

TAXATION is a live question now, the Land Question is dead as Dodo, as far as the man in the street is concerned. Therefore, the Tax argument is a good approach, at the present time. Every paper you pick up is full of it.

For my part, I say let every one select his own weapon for attacking the enemy. But keep "Henry George and him justified" ever before the Public eye.

P. W. Schwander,
Houston, Tex.

★

HAVING A FLAIR FOR ECONOMIC CROSSITIES (or idiosyncrasies) I find in a recent "Forum" a letter from Chicago setting forth: an agreement on improvement values: and asking how are land values to be arrived at? Seeing two columns of answers, I'm wondering what the "ketch" is as it seems a simple question.

The answer is, of course, "by regular methods of appraisal." I know several concerns specializing in that, usually headed by single taxers or economists. There's a lot of technique but only one principle involved I. E. how much is it worth—will it bring, sell for, earn, etc.

Discover its economic rent, is a good way, and easy enough. Now let's see how my friends, L.D.B. and Megginson, (du Pont partner) use up so much type: Well, the editor fooled me.

He gave most of the space to the vox-pop writer who got nowhere in explaining. The balance he used in trying to prove what his correspondent couldn't: that all land values are a liability which is true of only abnormal or monopolistic values—But says 'there are no adjectives in rents or land values.'

PERTH AMBOY WAS AN EX-celent place to illustrate the merits of this radical change in 'incidence of taxation.' It has 3 large industries bearing 12½ million of the 45 million of assessment and \$700,000 of \$2,500,000 (5½%) of taxes. It's population is 40,000 in 10,000 homes averaging \$2,000 each, \$1,500 in house, \$500 land in assessment or \$100 tax.

Though the senator said there was no vacant land speculation his statement showed 2400 vacant lots: and that the highest frontage price per foot was \$1200.

Now let us consider a generous exemption of these improvement taxes now resting with deadly force on the two exclusive producers of wealth—labor and capital—in this city: 10,000 laborer's homes and 3 large plants employing them, now assessed at \$20 and \$12½ million or a total of 32½% of the entire \$45 million of assessed values.

Let us take 75% as representing all improvement exemption and the required city-wide increase in land taxes to absorb all exemptions. This will cut these worker's taxes from \$100 to \$25 each: and the industries now paying \$12½ million to \$3,125,000, plus homes from \$20 to \$5 million or a total reduction of \$8,125,000, which will have to be spread over those miles of intensely valuable frontage.

We Labor and Capital Want an Economy of Abundance

THE RANGE CASE OF LABOR AND CAPITAL

STORE DELIVERIES
RETA have come to be a separate business. And, like many other parts of commerce and industry, it is a refinement and more efficient use of the principle of organization of labor by capital. By such organization also has labor become "powerful."

But strangely labor has not learned this principle. So now that deliveries have multiplied and approached perfection of detail where most labor is employed under best conditions and wages, labor's leaders apply the PRINCIPLE (!) of the strike.

"A fine machine has been built —let's destroy it!" From the rank-and-file worker comes this destructive illogic. For that is the nature and effect of every strike. Labor has an old grudge and instead of being handled with understanding by its leaders and employers—the "GRUDGE" is not only old but covered: it is an old and indirect SYSTEM of robbery in the form of a TAX on all labor products, that doubles prices, halves volume of employment and wages. Labor is waiting and spoiling to be organized to overthrow this SYSTEM.

★ \$11 BILLION FOR LABOR AGENCIES

WHAT IS IT ABOUT THE AL-leged organization of labor that puts the primary producer of all wealth in the attitude of a mendicant or special privilege? Is it LABOR that needs said "agencies" or alleged leaders or real politicians or racketeers?

With this amount to spend on labor it must be pretty weak and dependent for the body that makes all wealth. Especially does it seem fishy as this is called labor ORGANIZATION, because that makes labor strong and independent.

The fact is that these agencies have never done anything to strengthen all labor economically. They are devoted to building and keeping "labor" strong politically. Which means that something like \$11,000,000,000 are leaking from labor's earnings.

The answer given by "labor interests" or leaders will be that this big money is required by the War effort. And the further question is how much less would be required if "labor" had not made a continuous runpuss of strikes and walk-outs.

★ ANOTHER CALL FOR CAPITALISTS TO UNITE

CECIL M. De MILLE HARDLY needs it but he has Westbrook Pegler's backing in an OPEN-SHOP contest of major proportions. It is a new Declaration of Independence. de Mille wants to get beyond the one-man-glory stage. And the question always is how far will these men go?

Will they, and all the capitalists perform like scientists OR will they continue as the masses do, to stumble along, catch as catch can: "We shall oppose labor as now organized, the closed shops and collective bargaining plus rioting and destruction."

Then: shall we wait in our status quo, new labor developments such as 20,000,000 unemployed? Do we not know that the reason for the idle plants and workers is lack of sale for their products? and that this lack is because mass buying power is so impaired by the taxes we have to add to the prices?

Is it not worth uniting for, to turn this product-taxation inside out and put all these taxes on our worst enemies and take them off our best friends? We now exempt a relatively few people from all taxes on the inflated values their monopoly of franchises, royalties and city lands give them. Let us reverse and exempt ourselves and employees and double our turnover—wages and all.

LABOR'S GRUDGE AGAINST SOCIETY

THIS IS NO PASSING OR lightly held offense. Yet "Labor" is not conscious of it. Nor in fact wise as to what the offense is. Nor is labor at this point the victim of prejudice inspired by its wrong education by union-Marxism as to "capitalism."

The workers of the world—5 times the number of unionists, even at this peak—are mainly ridden to death by taxes piled on their backs thru taxation on the products they make. The INDIRECTION of the deadly pressure of this (\$25 billion in USA pre-war) load doubles its hateful intensity.

This covered tax is applied thru the employer and by him again indirectly, collected by adding it to his prices. Examples are plenty of 100 repeated such taxes on a single item. The total effect as concerns our subject, the worker, who does all and pays all, is to make the consumer (largely himself) pay at the least DOUBLE for all he buys.

From here on is where SOCIETY is pretty dumb: it knows but does not seem to realize, that doubled prices halves consumption and sales. This depresses business and lays off the millions and halves wages of other millions. This is a well-seasoned and justified grudge.

★ REASON FOR UNIONS BY ELEANOR ROOSEVELT

MRS. ROOSEVELT UNDER-takes supplying this reason as an incident to the challenge of an editor who says it is as illogical to denounce race bias as union bias. But she utterly disappoints us as to giving any but superficial reasons for unions as promised.

Legislation, for support of which Mr. de Mille has made a national issue, contends for JOB FREEDOM: meaning no job may be tied up for any less than 100% of those wanting jobs. Unions would monopolize jobs by any little fraction of the workers acquiring a UNION rubber stamp.

If Mrs. FDR would exercise in logic or fundamentals, she might find a deeper reason for unions, in the futile attempt to remedy unemployment and low wages by the strike. This false remedy follows the prescription of communist, Karl Marx.

Then she might look for the real cause, the taxing of labor products into high prices, low volume, low employment and wages. She would also find such taxes exist only because the natural tax sources were exempted in favor of our true economic royalists, valuable land-owners.

★ CO-OPERATION WITHOUT ENTANGLEMENT!

THAT'S THE IDEA OF THE master-mind—none other than W. Lippmann's. It is typical of the endeavors of statesmenish, sideliners to help mere delegates do things which on their face won't do. And I don't want to appear as a cynic or critic of either the delegates or the helpers.

It is a job of world-politics embellished with such words as economics and diplomacy. The worst abuse of language however is in the use of the word ECONOMIC! By our own academic apostasy in (REAL) economic teaching, our USA politics have degenerated to near-zero.

So it's no wonder such ministrations as this are welcome. But the phenomena is that even in the herculean task of designing something politically worthwhile for global application, such wise advisers as W. L. do not even in self-defense, resort to the general application of economic specifics. How many score of ingenuities such as in this article would be required to produce a fraction of the cooperation that would automatically flow from a little TA-

GOP RECORD, BY TOM STOKES

THIS LEADER OF THE Scripps staff is impressed (as I am) with GOP opportunities as well as obligations. He patiently takes this party of tradition thru its paces in regard to foreign relations, showing where their performance on reciprocity is what counts.

Wilkie, Mackinac, Fulbright, Connolly, Dewey, Vandenburg, Stassen are names Stokes uses to prove GOP progress in its public contacts. BUT, he says, when it comes to action, they are on the off-side of the most crucial need of the world, the USA and the G.O.P.

Stokes seems, however, to ignore the realities of GOP addition to almost a lifetime of fallacious economics; also the failure of the New Deal to fulfill a mandate to wipe out this system of subsidy to monopoly.

Whether this vast basic change in world-wide statecraft can be executed in the usual political, casual way, without going to the roots of declaration, correction and perfection, remains to be seen. In any case a course in SCIENTIFIC ECONOMICS should be projected in every direction. And one that is simple.

RECIPROCITY—TARIFF REVISION—FREE TRADE

THE TARIFF HAS ALWAYS been a field of double-talk. Our present overflow of activity has come only after great strain. And it is still under an embargo as if the subject were controlled by a stiff censorship.

One hardly dare say in conventional circles that FREE TRADE is natural trade and therefore a harbinger of peace and good-will. That bold utterance is not consonant with a theory called "protection," built along quite different lines.

In spite of the obvious fitness of this freedom for our present struggle for means of INSURING peace, and in spite of the show of dawning of general intelligence in this vital free trade truth, a canvass of our 1500 colleges would, I think, show little of enlightenment.

Hence, we dare not say what we want and mean, free trade. We must say revision or reform or reciprocity and go slowly along the shadows of this protection fetish till we learn that our American Industry and labor is its OWN PROTECTION.

ABUNDANCE BY SUBSIDY

THIS AND THE "PROTEC-tive theory" are GOP twins: and in them we see the groping for truth, which if the "Party of Prosperity" had the grace to now frankly accept and shape its future by, it could rebuild itself and rebuild a world of wreckage.

Broadly, this dual fallacy was the Hamiltonian doctrine that industry and commerce could lift themselves by their boot straps. This worked temporarily, tho not long enough to fool people realistically educated.

But the New Master Science of Economics was, and still is, over the heads of our elaborate educational CULT. So not only did the GOP persist in its wrong-headed politics in spite of its obvious repeated economic failures:

And the GOP Successors after GOP's final debacle, the vaunted New Deal, did not catch onto its own opportunity but followed our educational standpaters into the MarxUnion-Bureaucratic Shambles of War.

RIFE RECIPROCITY: not to mention what the world is economically entitled to; the abolition of all tariffs.

"AN ECONOMY OF ABUNDANCE"—DEWEY

THE MERE USE OF THIS phrase by a practical politician has great significance. While politicians may serve us badly and provoke such outbreaks as Nook's popular book "Our Enemy the State," they also like to serve well, to stay in office.

And some day they will become "more so" as their politics get more practical: and finally they will add a science to their practical politics—that of Economics—as Mr. Dewey may have done. Then politics become really practical and politicians will become statesmen.

The "economy of abundance" is an old GOP idea which only needed economic sense to make 100% successful instead of going to pieces as it did in every depression. They tried to make it leak down from a subsidized capitalism, equalizing monopoly.

The economic way is for it to grow up naturally from a FREE INDUSTRIALISM. Superimposed on a basic monopoly system it smothered in product-taxation. Reversing this will give us this ECONOMY: This will come QUICKLY as soon as politicians get that practical.

WHICH WILL NOW ESPOUSE ECONOMICS?

OPR POLITICAL GAME IS still an open one. It belongs originally to the republicans who abandoned it to the so-called democracy in 1932. So now it belongs to the NON-DESCRIPT bureaucracy still called democracy that has so frankly accepted the role of the Marx exploitation of labor.

The GOP protective scheme worked however long enough to build a big industry; and, the scheme was sound in its object of maximum employment of capital and labor.

If the GOP would retrace to a certain point, say the turn of the century, and exchange its boot-strap-subsidy for actually free enterprise, it would find itself in the Utopia-business in spite of its JEERS of the Starry-Eyed New Dealers.

The FREE ENTERPRISE demanded by the Utopians is merely a taxless enterprise. And the way to achieve it is merely to transplant ALL its taxes, perhaps reduced 50%, onto the broad, capable and willing backs of natural resources, utility franchises and urban site monopolistic Social Values.

EVEN IF THE VERY WORDS free trade were not frozen in our political and in our weak pseudo-economic college-teaching, they still are more effectively displayed or suggested by best business leadership.

C. E. Wilson's fine statement of the vital bearing of such trade freedom is most effective because he means it and because it's the biggest way of business. When business has so often asked for the precious Tariff privileges, General Motors tries to free itself from the very shadow of them.

The Wilson call for plenty of peace ships and an equal letting down of tariff bars carries with it the only promise of full employment worth recording. He modestly only talks of 5,000,000 jobs increase. But I think this use of FREEDOM will indefinitely insure employment.

The principle of free competition as called for by Publisher McGraw recently to displace a hesitating and logrolling subsidy system, will bring us to a maximum production which alone can produce Security.

WHAT IS A PRACTICAL POLITICIAN?

OUR PRESENT PRESIDENT needs the answer to that question more than any other man on earth or than any other president has: and we the people need it still more. Such a politician should be fully equipped, especially in the Master Science of Economics.

This is the Science of Production, producing everything everyone needs, employing nearly all adults and keeping all the capital in motion. This being true, it can't be much short of 100% NECESSARY to making its politics 100% PRACTICAL.

FDR must have been proud of his record as a practical politician. But his failures which were many, were largely due to his own admitted failure to learn any ECONOMICS in 4 years at Harvard: and his consequent belief that economic laws were man-made.

Failures such as AAA, NRA, labor-war and world-war modified have been reversed or modified had his politics been so PRACTICAL as to have applied economic principles to the shift of Taxation off of industry and onto basic monopoly.

HOORAY FOR MR. WALLACE

CURRENTLY, THE EXVP IS the most outspoken advocate we have of our most important untapped freedom — our FREE TRADE. Had he been as enterprising a year ago he would have had 2 premier chances.

(1) He might have been nominated and elected as President, saving FDR the stress that took him away. (2) He might have been in Mr. Truman's ESCAPED from its predicament which may too severely test HST's political skill.

The prime need of the U. S. and all global interests, just as Secy. Wallace now profoundly expresses it is—not mere reciprocity—but a freedom of trade that cannot snuff out as England's did—from its MONOPOLY of basic resources.

England's foreign international trade was free. But its domestic trade from which its masses subsisted was so inhibited by a system of product-taxes (exactly like ours of today) protecting its system of economic rent monopoly as to reduce those masses to a POVERTY even greater than ours.

★ MIGHT MAKES RIGHT (?)

WHETHER IT'S A PIG AND a squeal under a gate or \$1,000 and a principle, the MORE MIGHT usually the less right. Or anyway, the most fuss about the least right.

This ticklish subject is brought up in a N. Y. Journal spread by Samuel Crowther, and mentioning the President's use of this phrase "what we know as might or physical force is a complete flop at getting any right." Crowther then asks how we may put this to test?

The answer for Americans is to RADICALLY follow our democratic-republican IDEOLOGIES: to suppress the trends into bureaucracy; and to start at once to practice the economics that will move us in the opposite direction to World War and labor war.

And happily the major action of opposing the misuse of FORCE in these domestic and foreign beligerences will do most of the other things needed. The economic attack against MIGHT and for RIGHT must be to take the burdens from the two sole wealth producers, labor and capital, so that there shall be practically no limit to their out-put or the sale thereof, to every consumer in the land.

Foreign Relations Should Be Mostly Economic, Not Political

IS IMPERIALISM AND MONOPOLISM WEAKENING?

SOME WISE COMMENTATORS are optimistic as to our prospects, etc., not spelling so much national and property gains as demonstration to have peace. To have our aims and gains in the form of greatest good to the mass of peoples.

Let us hope so: and that this same spirit will dominate our home-folk, domestically, as for example, in tearing down our tariff walls. Business has gone thru the fire of discovery that **MASS-PRODUCTION** is its right principle.

Everything about American success has been on the principle of **BIGNESS** or largeness or broadness. But Americans—even its business men—have not yet found the nearest passage from its successful sciences as applied to wealth production, to its statecraft.

I hail such signs as I see in this comment and in Lyman's "victory" for **FREE TRADE**, as proof, not so much of moral or spiritual reform as of signs that **NATIONS** are coming to see that this collection of evils—wars, to tariffs—**SIMPLY DO NOT PAY!**

ARE WE DEVELOPING REAL POLITICAL DIVISION?

WE'VE PASSED A "TARIFF REFORM" measure by a 239 to 153 vote in Congress and on a party division, indicating a tariff-consciousness coming to life after nearly a half-century of burial, since Grover Cleveland.

This is good news in any interpretation. I'd rather see a lot of GOP votes breaking away: but also I'd rather see **FREE TRADE** become an accepted principle of one party than Tariff Reform tolerated by both parties.

As a free trader of 60 years standing (Cleveland '85), I have always felt contemptuous of the puny efforts at reciprocity and revision, with a World War Series building apace. But the bad-to-worse experience has been educational.

And now I hope statesmanship and leadership are recognizing freedom of trade as a first economic principle. And that it will be followed by setting up the same principle for domestic adoption in taking all tax-embargos from trade by transferring them to the resource monopoly that protection has built up.

NATURAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS

MOLOTOV, STETTINUS,

Hoover, Lipmann, Beveridge, are all in the news, on or around the edges of war aims and peace prospects. But none gets beyond the entanglements of political aims and into the natural principles that are both simple and effective.

Politics embrace morals and ethics and interminable differences, intra, and inter-national. Economic principles, relating to human rights, would resolve most of these opinions into scientific agreement upon natural law, which is universal in application and operation.

On the statutory or political meaning of democracy, a hundred definitions may divide the world for a hundred years. But on the principle of freedom to produce

THE CAUSE OF THE WAR IS ECONOMIC

THIS STATEMENT HAS been proven time and again: and if you are looking for the reason for confusion and failure of our various far-flung parties, examine their minutes and note the absence of **ECONOMICS** from their agenda.

The cause of labor-war is specially economic. And this war, tho not as spectacular, is more costly in blood, mind, tears and cash than our World War Series, because it is continuous and devastating in more ways.

The tracing of labor-war-cause, is back to basic monopoly. The course is a little devious and intensely interesting. The immediate cause is the inflated prices of labor-products causing depressed sales, slack production, unemployment and low wages.

These inflated prices are due to the piling of some \$25 billion of taxes onto these products, about doubling their cost and price. The senseless placement of taxes where they deliver this mortal blow to industry can only be accounted for by the failure of the natural tax source (which is some \$200 billion of Social Values in natural resources), to pay any taxes at all.

★ FOR THE HEATHEN CHINEE

I SEE BY THE HEADLINES that China is importing two more of our brilliant ideas, assuming in its simple way that **ALL** our ideas must be a part of the reason why we are so great. These adoptions are the minimum wage and the gold standard.

The reaction differ on these: the impressions reports give is that there is no limit to low wages in China; and as to gold, I'd say lemons to that.

China's last great President, Sun Yat Sen, would have made a different choice of our ideals, as he already had the economic answer to low wages, which is to remove all taxes from labor products to natural monopolies. Laws to control wages are just special privileges to rob Peter and pay Paul.

Money is Credit and to bolster it with **GOLD** is to make an admission of weakness that no solvent business concern would make. The right basis for money is a nation's Land Values and Economic Rents. They are more and better than gold.

wealth—to work and to have the proceeds—there can hardly be any discussion. Nor on the corollary principle of freedom to exchange such products among all peoples.

AND WHILE WE ARE SEARCHING for economic grounds of agreement at a peace table, as so ably advocated by some delegates, should we not seize on any that are already at least partially agreed to?

If so, let us first consider the one of first importance: the natural resources vital to over two billion inhabitants of the earth, and which have become, by monopoly, a reaction, so badly distributed among 'have' and 'have-not' nations, as to make these cornered necessities an ever present invitation to war.

The simple fact that few of the agitators of war-aims come squarely to discovery of the cause of war (if not already generally known) and removal thereof, in their labored contributions, is most disturbing as to their helpfulness.

In the failure of adherence to Nature's law of cause and effect, they are in the category of many medical doctors who seek ways of curing disease without reference to its cause. The causes of war, along the lines of my intimations, are not hard to discover; but they are extremely difficult to ignore by earnest investigators

CAN WE BRING OURSELVES TO THE POINT?

I HAVE JUST READ TWO typical columns earnestly discussing the USSR problem and both avoiding the **ESSENCE** of it. And I am puzzled to know whether men like Major G. F. Eliot and Mark Sullivan can be lacking in knowledge of that essence, or have other reasons for avoidance.

Eliot gathers all the optimistic factors into a headline-conclusion that the differences are not un-surmountable. While Sullivan analyses Russia and her ideologies and reaches no conclusion; but gives the impression that the ideologies may settle it.

Why not make a clean-cut between war preventive factors and "ideologies" such as bureaucracy, state-ownership of private wealth and property and civil war of class-conscious unionism: and then begin to let in daylight?

These writers must know that **Free Trade and Distribution of Natural Resources** are peace requirements. And that discussion of these would tend to modify the mystification of both Washington and San Francisco over 'the strange Russians'. And that this would result in throwing out so many subjects that are impossible of handling.

IN OTHER WORDS, AS TO most of the subjects so far broached, both in their nature and in the nature of our task, they are in the "impossible" category. But here is a subject which by general agreement is not only vital in war causes but full of appropriateness to 67 nations. It is **ECONOMICS**.

This has been generally broached, both in their nature and in the nature of our task, they are in the "impossible" category. But here is a subject which by general agreement is not only vital in war causes but full of appropriateness to 67 nations. It is **ECONOMICS**.

Now without reflection on these eminent writers, for they fairly equal all writers, I am pressing the desperate public question of this time—why do all writers exhaust themselves on impossibilities and confusions of global bureaucracy to the exclusion of vital issues?

Why do statesmen-writers follow the line of most resistance? That somewhere in the convention would be shown opposition to obvious justice should not indicate that among the many types of **LEADERSHIP** present, practically no voice should raise in its favor?

★ ROBBING PETER TO PAY PAUL

MAYOR LA GUARDIA, THO in the shadow of retirement "as such" is giving **HOUSING** some push-off, he figures still mean anything. He proposes 14 public 'projects' to cost about \$1,000,000, 000 to take out of the cold, say 50,000 families, 150,000 people.

He also hints at a greater lot of private projects which are in pickle. The big question is if "the industry" would not do all the normal building if left alone; or if the Mayor's itch for doing things is what makes this pressure.

If we of N. Y. C. could afford a mayor who had been educated in the Science of Economics, what would his reaction be to land-owning and other interests proposing such schemes? He would first look closely into the personnel of those who would benefit in sub-normal rentals.

But most critically would he examine the tracts, plots and blocks of land and their **INCREMENTS**: and from them would he trace a variety of reactors, planners and speculators. And finally he would set against our \$400,000 taxpayers who would pay the 100 millions the few who would profit in the projects and enjoy its special privileges.

DOES RENT OF LAND GO INTO COST AND PRICE

A PERSISTENT QUESTION that has been settled again and again and again. Why so many? Two particular reasons: First: There are at least two kinds of rent, normal and abnormal: economic and monopolistic.

Second: again, two phases: (a) the theory or law of rent and (b) the practice or administration of the law. There are other premises to be set up perhaps: but here are enough for now: for a simple subject, much tangled.

The answer is that normal or economic rent cannot go into either cost or price, in theory or implication, because it measures the value or productivity of land and so is "paid" by increase of product, leaving nothing to add to price.

The same reasoning proves that rent, which, described by George as "merely measuring the monopoly value of land" (loosely said to result from private ownership thereof) must inevitably be added to cost and price.

Thus, setting up this distinction between what might be called the Ricardian productive and the Georgian destructive laws and using both in their proper places would dispel the present confusion of teaching that **RENT** destroys, by lowering wages, raising prices, etc., without recognizing two kinds of rent: and so leaving to normal the blame that belongs only to abnormal rent.

THE THEORY OR LAW OF RENT

The rent theory is therefore completely stated in Ricardo's few words as the measure of land's normal productivity: while George's measure of land's monopoly is not a statement of the law of rent at all, but a description of an economic excessance for which another name should be found. And he forthwith finds it.

The whole George doctrine is therefore based on his great discovery that the law of rent is being violated in practice. The abuse of rent—not its law—as causing monopoly of land, is Georgism.

The impression is given in text and literature if not included in positive teaching, that rent—any and all rent—is like a great and mysterious ogre: that it devours and devastates wherever it goes. Where, as to normal or economic rent, nothing can be more beneficial to individuals and society.

For responsible Georgists and economists, there could be no obligation more binding than to present to students (and to teachers!) and the reading public a complete and balanced analysis of every phase of rent. There can be no teaching advantage in the exaggeration and certainly not the distortion now practised.

If, as some students and teachers might reason, yielding the 'prestige' of an all-out rent statement' barred any change, let them concentrate on (a) monopoly or speculative rent (b) on breakdown of the law (c) on private collection (d) on the devastation of production—or consumer—taxation: and they will find their argument now wise impoverished.

★

SOCIALISM (ALL MARXISMS) CALLS ALL WEALTH SOCIAL. Bourbon monopolists call all value private. The fact is that social value and private property are about equal. Our democracy is the victim of these 'standpatters.'

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AN UNPRINTED LETTER

Editor, Henry George News
30 East 26th Street, N.Y.C.

'The Difference' between Georgism and Marxism is well presented in the George News No. 12, by Magnus A. Unold. But there's another side to that shield: which is the similarity!

At present the Marx Fallacy is stirring up more social discontent with our economic status quo than the George Philosophy. This fallacy cannot dilute the philosophy: in fact it can be an assistant to teaching it—by contrast.

What can be more effective than to pose George as the scientific meridian between two such ridiculous extremes as the **RUGGED** individualist who wants all for the individual and the **RUGGED** collectivist who wants all for society?

Can the student be given any more obvious truth than the George demand that both individual AND society shall have exactly what they earn? Especially as this happens to divide fairly near the middle, between land values and wealth.

So, calling 27,000,000 New Dealers more or less indoctrinated with Marx fallacy—enough to be discontented, to have an idea that all's not well with poverty and unemployment: and that they may be curable—haven't we something to credit Marx with?

Suppose we devote a little space to the similarity of these great social movements as public evidence that where they agree they are probably sound.

We should remember that it was not many years ago that Georgists had to expend at least half their effort in getting our challenge recognized for discussion. People denied that poverty was a sin: they said it was 'natural'! Hasn't Marx helped make poverty less popular? People said it was too bad, but nothing could be done about it. Well it's true they are barking up the wrong tree, but New Dealers, Unionists and Reds are snitting that fetish as valiently as are Georgists.

They denied poverty was a public concern: it must be settled in people's hearts and consciences. Marx asserted it was everyone's—society's—business.

So George and Marx march shoulder to shoulder 'till they get to that crucial point—what to do about it. There, it is true, they differ violently. But it is a difference easily seen, described and dealt with, if we go about it right. And it seems to me it is the way of least resistance.

Charles H. Ingersoll.

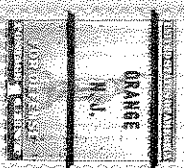
★ IS OWNING YOUR OWN HOME UTOPIAN?

There are three particular things, all of which are solvable, bearing on the answer. It is understood we are considering this basic question in behalf of the mass of common laborers and under normal economic conditions.

The answer may be "NO" if: (1) the job can be stabilized (2) if land may be had on the economic basis, (3) if houses can be manufactured—not built; i.e. mass-produced. From 25 to 50 million \$1000 6-room fireproof houses are wanted under these conditions.

The stand-patter may say "Still Utopian." And so it is until people have made up their minds to TAKE what is within their easy reach. And this is the very reverse of taking anything not YOURS by every right: it is by **UNITING** and exercising your highest right and privileges.

Here's how! (1) the job is clinched by voting taxes off of job products. (2) as those taxes arise on presently monopolized lands, the latter become free of payment of economic rent. (3) Pouring a complete house in hours for \$1000 has been fully demonstrated.



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