

The Freeman

A Monthly Critical Journal of Social and Economic Affairs

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Five Cents

To Abolish War Make Peace Profitable

FREE TRADE - FREE PRODUCTION - FREE MEN
STEPHEN BELL - W. D. HOFFMAN - S. J. ABELSON

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Aftermath of the Railroad

FAMOUS PROPHECY REALIZED - HENRY GEORGE

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While There Is Yet Time

LET US THINK - EDITORIAL - FRANK CHODOROV

Trade does not require force. Free trade consists simply in letting people buy and sell as they want to buy and sell. It is protection that requires force, for it consists in preventing people from doing what they want to do.—“Protection and Free Trade.”

While There Is Yet Time

Let us think. It won't be long now before thinking—like the science of political economy—is out-moded.

* * *

In New York recently we had a "Stop Hitler" parade. Czecho-Slovakian and Albanian societies have been holding protest meetings in America. Washington is sending notes and issuing indignation statements. (Remember Wilson?) Maudlin pacifists are calling for measures purely martial. On street corners, at social gatherings, in homes, the talk is of war, war, war.

So it was back in 1913. Business was bad then, as now. There were many unemployed. Factories were shutting down. The Kaiser had done something to irritate the British at Morocco. The engines of propaganda started. In 1914 the whole business of inflaming human passion to the point of murder was in full swing.

* * *

The engines are again in operation. Again the chief engineer is Poverty, the chief assistants are Protection and Landlordism. The oilers are Militarism and Greed. The imperialistic feeders of 1913 have been replaced by a hideous deformation called Communism, whose sickly anti-social mind gloats at the opportunity of pouring into the hopper whatever human decency this civilization has retained.

While there is yet time, let us think. When the engines of propaganda are screeching a cacophony of lies, when their funnels are emitting the thick, black, stinking smoke of hatred, reason is completely replaced with a madness that only a Dante can describe. To us who went through the 1914-18 holocaust even the memory is frightening.

* * *

This is going to happen: At first we shall take sides. Our choice will be due to prejudice born of propaganda, although we shall stoutly proclaim our rationality. Then we shall insist on others taking our side; we shall become protagonists. Then we shall hate those who do not take

our side; those who are not for us are against us. Then we shall take measures to ostracize those who disagree with us; we shall hate.

All this before the country is actually at war. Families will be split into opposing camps. We shall invite to our homes only those who agree with us. Club members with views opposed to the ruthless majority will resign, because they will be expected to resign. Even the reasonableness of philosophy will shrink in the putrid atmosphere of war hatred.

* * *

Then the war will come. Our propaganda-fostered hatreds will be congealed into laws. With venom in our veins we shall gloat over the punishment inflicted on men too noble to be debased to our level. We shall try to rip from their minds with inquisitorial methods the grace of reason which, had we sense to know it, might stand us in good stead when in course of time we tire of our insanity.

We shall hand over to a monster State every vestige of human liberty which was wrested from it for us during the centuries. The price of the war will be paid not only in lives and money, but in the debasement of the individual into a Thing. We shall be made over, and our children's children will be made over, into the likeness of a Thing—without rights save those that are granted to us by a Master State—without property save that which is vouchsafed to us by its Army, and which will never exceed the necessities of life. Reason, the quality which differentiates man from beast, will be as completely suppressed as the power of the State can do it, and that which is nearly Man will become an Obedient Mechanism.

* * *

While there is yet time, let us think. War—any war, every war—is destructive. Man always loses. The only possible winners in any war are—Death and Privilege.

Freeman Views the News

The Sandwich Man

Police Commissioner Valentine has denied the use of New York streets to pedestrians engaged in "the display upon the person or the carrying of any advertising signs."

Gone are those elderly, weather-beaten human billboards who, for a dollar a day, patiently plodded the busy thoroughfares, sandwiched between signs proclaiming the cuisine of a tea-room or the possibility of obtaining pants to match one's coat.

Gone are the sandwich men—but where? Though their earnings were hardly sufficient to maintain life, though the civilization in which they were born forced them into an occupation more suitable to the mentality of a mule, though their souls were crushed by the ignominious boards they carried, though they knew they were human derelicts, yet they tried to earn their keep, and were to that extent men. That miserable nook in our productive process has been denied them; that small sense of decency has been taken away. They have been driven off the streets.

Where will they go for their doughnuts-and-coffee, for the price of a flop-house bed? Undoubtedly on relief. Even if by snivelling they are able to emerge from some sanctimonious social worker's clutches with more than a dollar a day, something that they had when they rendered service for that dollar will have left them. The beggar is not a man, and police orders do not solve social problems.

An effort to revoke the order will be made in the courts by a 72-year-old man who for nine years had made his living by walking between the boards. He is fighting for his job, his manhood.

Who Pays Them?

Frank C. Rand, chairman of the board of the International Shoe Co., St. Louis, says that there are 126 taxes on a pair of shoes.

Government Breeds Crooks

Nearly a third of the Treasury's Secret Service agents are assigned to the investigation of forged and stolen emergency relief checks, officials recently revealed. Some of the cases involve persons on WPA rolls, but in many cases where WPA checks have been stolen or forged the culprits have been persons outside WPA. Both thefts and forgeries are increasing.

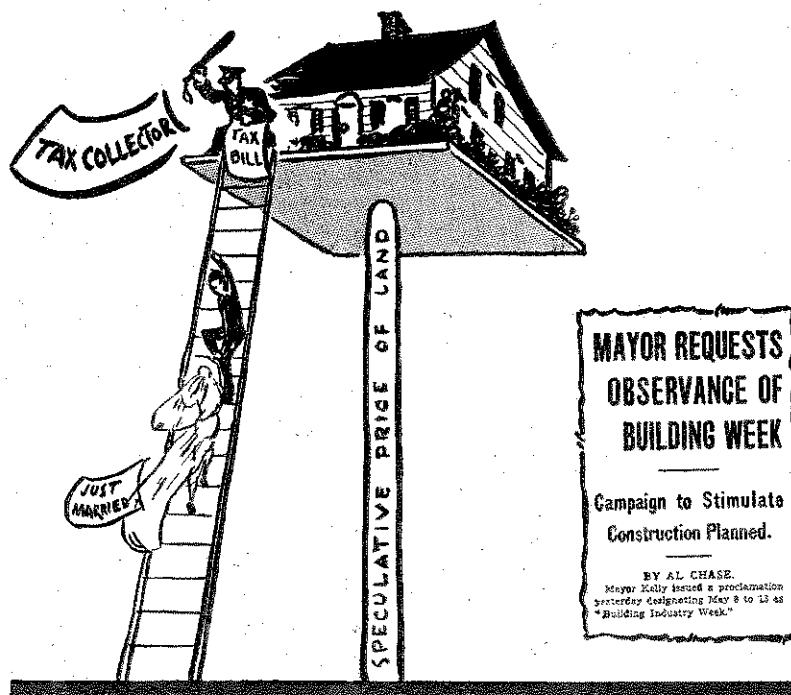
The Post Office Department has its own police. An army and a navy must be maintained to enforce our stupid customs laws. The cost in money and lives of our late "noble experiment" to legislate the nation into tee-totalism is a nightmare we prefer to forget.

Some student would do a service to the people by merely tabulating the cost to the taxpayers of trying to enforce unenforceable laws, and of apprehending criminals who find breaking the law more profitable than trying to produce under our monopoly system.

Good Americanism

From the oath of allegiance of Gothic-Spanish nobles to King Alfonso I in 1187 A.D.: "We who are as good as you, swear to you who are not better than us singly, and not so good as us all together, to have you as Sovereign Lord, if you keep our laws, but not, if you do not."

BUILDING WEEK



6 To 2 For Landlords

It has been computed that under the recent ruling of the Supreme Court upholding the right of a state to tax incomes of Federal employees, President Roosevelt will pay \$5,500 to the New York State treasury.

Squire Roosevelt owns considerable land in New York. The value of this land is a reflection of the enterprise of the citizenry. The roads they build, the police protection they provide, the schools they maintain, the thousand and one services rendered by these people, directly or through paid servants, make the Empire State a desirable place to live in, and concomitantly make the land values in it.

These services are provided for in the budgets—city, county and state—and the monies for these budgets are provided by the citizens through taxes. Some, comparatively very little, of these taxes are levied against the land values. The greatest share is paid out of the production of the people—taken out of their earnings. Conversely, the more rent contributes to the cost of government the less is the burden on wages.

Now that the State may levy on the earnings of the President, its budget problem is to that extent relieved. But his spending power—the power of exchanging his wealth for the wealth of others—will be reduced. Fifty-five hundred dollars would buy a lot of shirts and shoes, doughnuts and coffee, tickets to the movies, fishing tackle, gasoline; the purchase of these things involves profitable labor on the part of other workers.

However, this effect of taxing the President on general production is digressive. The point is that by this levy on his earnings the State and the local political bodies, to the extent that they share in this \$5,500, will not be obliged to tax Squire Roosevelt's land values. Thus, as a landlord he gains much of what he loses as a worker. While this transference of the burden from the Squire to the President cannot be demonstrated in his personal tax bills, yet when we consider that the general effect of taxing production

is to relieve rent it becomes evident that Worker Roosevelt is being taxed for the benefit of Landlord Roosevelt.

What difference does it make to Mister Roosevelt? Not much. But 95 per cent of the workers are not landlords. To them it makes a vast difference.

Italy's Purpose

Political commentators are furiously speculating on the reasons for Mussolini's adventure in Albania. Whether the purpose was to offset to some extent the glory recently monopolized by his Teutonic partner, or to strengthen the Rome-Berlin axis by threatening the Balkan countries against any alliance with the democracies, or to put himself into a better bargaining position when the sides are being drawn up for the European war—these are some of the problems our evaluators of news are struggling with.

The problem, however, is quite simple, when considered directly and in the light of all such adventures in history. Mussolini grabbed Albania for the same reason that England grabbed India, France grabbed Algeria, America grabbed the Philippines.

Merely to exploit the natives.

The Mayor's Budget

The Burgermaster of a city of seven million people appeals to the patriotism of the city employees to help him balance his budget by taking voluntary cuts in their salaries. Many of them do, possibly with a sense of martyrdom, more likely with their tongues in their cheeks. The Burgermaster, with a sigh of relief, submits his "balanced" budget—amounting to \$593,000,000.

Let us see how he could balance his budget without asking these public servants to contribute. The land values in New York are assessed at approximately eight billion dollars—which means that the market value is at least ten billion. (This does not include franchise, public or exempted lands.) A tax of six per cent on these land values would more than cover the city's needs, and no passing of the hat around City Hall would be necessary. Also, this land value tax would wipe out all taxes on improvements, all sales taxes, all peddlers' licenses—all levies on production.

But, we cannot blame the Burgermaster for not solving his financial problem in this simple way—presuming, of course, that he is not ignorant of it. He cannot do what his seven million constituents do not ask him to do. It is their ignorance that is to blame.

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Cash-and-Carry

The how-to-keep-out-of-war problem has resurrected the cash-and-carry solution.

The theory is that we were dragged into the last war first, by extending credit to the allies to whose rescue we had to come in order to insure collection, and, second, by the sinking of our ships by German U-boats. Therefore, if we insist on cash and on the customers carrying the goods away in their own bottoms we shall avoid both the economic urge and the irritation of our national pride which got us into the last scrap.

Perhaps the "carry" part of the plan might work. Yet, there is the possibility that the belligerents may send their submarines or their airplanes to blow up cargoes on our piers, thus bringing the war directly to our shores. In the last war our munitions plants were blown up by German agents.

As for the "cash" part of the proposal, one wonders how a school boy with the slightest knowledge of international trade would seriously consider it. What is "cash"? There is no international money, and if we accepted pounds, lire, francs or marks we would have merely so many promissory notes. Gold? What would we do with it if we had the world's entire supply of this metal? Gold is only of use if it is accepted by trading nations as a measure of values, and if each of the nations has a supply in its vaults to guarantee the measure.

The only "cash" that is always desirable in international trade is goods—things produced by human labor. Therefore, if we decide to do business with belligerents on a "cash" basis we must be prepared to accept from them things that they can and we cannot produce, or things they can make better than we can.

In fact, if we adopted the policy of trading freely with all nations there would be no war to get into. To buy from us they have to sell to us. To pay for our automobiles the Italians would be quite busy making cheese and wine and olive oil. And the Germans would hardly have time to make instruments of war if they

had to produce mirrors and razors and cameras in exchange for our wheat.

Yes, the "cash" part of the plan would keep us out of war. Why not start it now and prevent war?

Automobile Wages

An automobile union leader is reported to have said: "We are organizing ourselves out of jobs."

By this he meant that wages in the union parts-supplying plants were being driven up to a point where further raises are impossible because competing plants, with non-union help, paid much lower wages and were capturing the markets from the unionized companies. Until the non-union plants are organized, it is claimed, jobs and wages in the union shops are imperiled.

But, if these non-union plants are organized, if every means (including, say, government sanctions and supervision) were used to prevent the operation of non-union shops, and if the scale of wages were raised to whatever limits the union leaders determined, what would be the result? Simply that the organized workers would be unemployed—unless the general economy of the nation warranted the arbitrarily fixed scale.

Only the buyers of automobiles can determine what scale of wages will be paid to the automobile workers. Neither the union leaders nor the manufacturers are determining factors. If there are many buyers, if there are many producers of other things, who because of their increased production are able and willing to exchange their earnings for automobiles, the workers in these plants, organized or unorganized, will receive higher wages. If there are no buyers, if the productive power of workers is lowered by ignorance, unjust laws or the rapacity of monopolists to that of Chinese coolies, then the sale of automobiles will disappear, and with it will disappear all wages.

It is a pity that union leaders are so ignorant of the character of wages. All the internecine warfare, the wastefulness of useless strikes, the misery endured by the workers

and their families would be avoided if these leaders would direct themselves to the problem of raising all wages—for the wages in any one industry cannot be raised unless the wages in all industries are simultaneously raised. And this cannot be done unless production in general is accelerated.

The problem of wages is a problem of production—not organization.

"In Hock"—To Whom?

President Roosevelt recently urged upon the new Southern generation the need of "getting the South out of hock to the North."

Good sectionalism, perhaps good politics—but what does it mean? Even if all the territory north of the Mason and Dixon line is a pawnshop, what security have our Southerners brought up to be pawned? Surely, not the bodies of the cotton-pickers; that was outlawed in 1862. Not the factories; they haven't many, and the North itself has for a long time had a surfeit of this commodity. Not the crops; for they are raised to be sold, and if the Northerners are willing to buy crops why not sell to them?

It must be that what the South has hocked to Northern Shylocks is their land titles—pretty good securities since the privilege of collecting rent goes with them. We wonder how the President proposes to redeem these titles. One way would be to abolish the privilege of collecting rent—but then, some Southern pawnbrokers might object to that.

Political Economics

After nine months of inquiry the joint Congressional Committee investigating the Tennessee Valley Authority reported to the House and the Senate, as follows:

The majority (five Democrats and one independent Republican) found the TVA "economical and efficient." Everything O. K.

The minority (three Republicans) assailed the TVA for "waste and inefficiency." Everything about it was bad.

If the political divisions of the Congress were reversed, the decision,

regardless of the 101 witnesses whose testimony covered 6,199 pages of printed record, would have been reversed. Whether government ownership and operation of a utility renders greater or less service than private ownership is an economic subject; yet, because government is political, and politicians are primarily interested in control, not in service, there cannot be an unbiased adjudication of this economic problem when the utility is in their hands.

A government monopoly is even less subject to the demands of the market than a private monopoly, for the latter must meet its expenses (including taxes) out of the service it renders, and must to that extent be efficient. A government monopoly can cover up the inefficiency of political management by making the public pay.

It is significant that the minority report did not advocate private management of the TVA as a cure for the "waste and inefficiency" they discovered, but recommended that the whole thing be parcelled out to the War Department, the Department of Agriculture and a reduced TVA, under regulation of Federal and State agencies. They had in mind no consideration of public service, but a re-shifting of control of political patronage. That's how politicians solve economic questions.

Skinning The Cat

Secretary Ickes, "chief janitor of the United States," like many another tenant, has his complaints against the landlords of the District of Columbia, from whom he rents, for various agencies, a total of 3,660,000 square feet of space for which the taxpayers (you and I) will pay \$3,432,000 this year.

The bill is approximately \$1,000,000 more than it was last year, which gives an idea of how government activities here have increased. It

also indicates how most of our tax money eventually fattens the landlords.

There is a law that government departments cannot pay more rent per annum than 15 per cent of the assessed valuation of the property. This limitation has cost the government money, because landlords, who knew that the government must rent additional space, contrived to have their assessments increased in a gamble that they would get back several times over the money they paid in increased taxes if their properties were rented on this basis by the government.

Bolshevik Blindness

Because of her emotionalism and obviously propagandist purpose, Anna Louise Strong, in her book "I Change Worlds," completely overlooks an economic truth inherent in one of her flamboyant descriptions.

She is telling of the "wonderful" productive progress of the Russian revolution. The time is 1923, and the locale is Kiev, a city which had suffered much in the civil wars that followed the bolshevik coup. A fair is in progress.

"Clearly much local initiative was at work. Even the private speculators, it seemed, could be used if you knew how. Vidensky, chairman of the fair and chief of Kiev's public utilities and housing, told me how he had repaired the broken water-works, the power-plant, the ruined street-car system and hundreds of broken buildings, in a single year without a cent of taxes, by renting shops and market-booths to private traders and charging them, as capitalists do, 'all that the traffic would bear.' Vidensky was not sentimentally bewailing private trade as I had done; he exploited it to rebuild the city."

The emphasis is ours.

You would expect this paragraph

to be followed by an explanation, or a comment, or just a remark on the socialization of rent (without taxes) as the fact which made possible the re-building of a city. But, she hopskips-and-jumps to another ebullient description of the marvels of the bolshevist regime, very much like a sub-deb telling you in inchoate confusion of her "conquests."

Hope From Rome

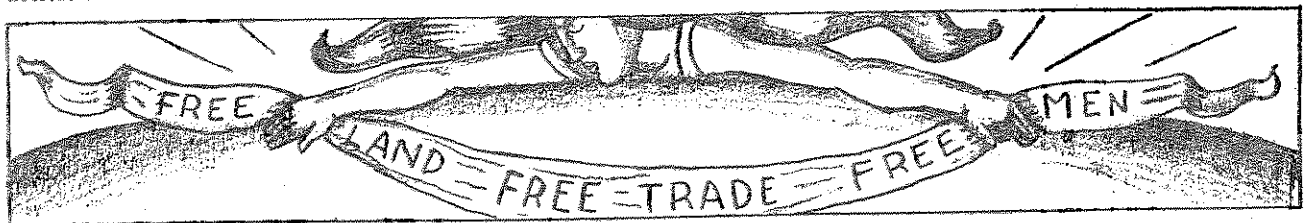
"—that those goods and riches which God has showered upon the world for the benefit of His children be conveniently distributed."

Thus spoke the Pope in his Easter sermon. From the context of the homily one can fairly say that His Holiness appealed to the democracies not to lock up by trade barriers access to the natural resources within their boundaries, thus forcing upon the less fortunate countries a policy that leads to war.

And the Pontiff's reference to riches, "conveniently distributed," suggests another aspect of the economic problem. Obviously, the "riches which God has showered upon the world" refers to things not made by man, and these things, "land," are not distributable.

God indeed has showered these goods and riches upon the world for the benefit of His children—but His children have not had wit enough to hold on to them. Rather, they have given these away to a small group of landlords who retain the goods and riches for their own benefit. On this side of the question—whose solution opens the road to internal peace in every nation—the Pope may be expected to speak when he is free of concern over the war danger.

The admonition for free trade as a road to world peace is quite definite—and leads us to believe that the reputation of Pope Pius XII for bold thinking on social problems is not unwarranted.



They Profit by Our Toil

By M. Fixel and M. Pfeffer

While working in the Queens Department of Taxes and Assessments, the writers were asked by a deputy commissioner to explain their research work. When told it was to trace the rise in land values due to the Fair, he said: "I don't see why you have to work so hard. Everyone knows that land values will increase." Which is true. Everyone knows that values rise. But everyone forgets the cause for the increased values, and the effect on our economy.

A previous article in *The Freeman* credited the City with buying up the land upon which the Fair is being built. Slight mention was made of the fact that property owners around the Fair grounds will profit immensely. However, it is just this result of the exposition which is most important. The previous owners of the fair grounds made the profits just once. Landowners of Fair surroundings will receive unearned increment continually.

The problem of Fair surroundings was given due thought quite early. The Board of Estimate passed a bill on the 27th day of September, 1937, creating a World's Fair district. "The sponsors of the Fair and the city officials foresaw the desirability of the enactment of such an ordinance to prevent the improper development of the area adjacent to the Fair grounds. In the absence of such a statute all sorts of undesirable features would be installed in the territory surrounding the Fair grounds, and grossly out of keeping with the dignity and character of the Fair development. Many of the landowners were preparing to exploit the area and were ready to enter into agreements for the erection of large signs and billboards on their property, and many protests were registered when they learned that these structures would be limited and controlled."

The government of the City of New

The New York World's Fair has already cost the city \$70,774,200 in acquisition of land, construction of sewers and surface improvements and the extension of rapid transit facilities, Newbold Morris, president of the City Council, reported recently.

Mr. Morris said that this sum did not include the \$42,000,000 already spent on the new municipal airport at North Beach, Queens, near the fair grounds, nor the Cross Island Boulevard, part of the Circumferential Highway, which also will run into many millions.

"Had it not been for the World's Fair," said Mr. Morris, "these improvements would not have been necessary. The cost is reflected in the increased items of debt service."

"Many people are under the impression that the World's Fair Corporation is spending most of the money for improvements, but the plain truth of the matter is that the city taxpayers have to bear the burden. My figures include only improvements already completed."

York recognized the speculative evils which the Fair would bring. But one must leave it to a realtor to concisely state the point. The city purchased the Fair grounds by means of condemnations. With ownership of this land hereafter resting in the municipality, one would obviously wonder what puts realtors in a happy frame of mind, why their hopeful anticipation. Charles F. Noyes says in the October, 1936, issue of "World's Fair News" that "The New York World's Fair will do more for real estate, both immediately and for generations to come, than it is possible to imagine at this time." And again: "It is an exposition such as this that we in the real estate business need badly. Rents are dependent on business, good or bad. Property values are largely dependent on rental income."

The reason for the ecstasy is found in a statement made in the same article: "After the exposition is over this fine acreage will become a permanent park. The area is one-third longer than Central Park, and the future of contiguous and nearby property is very great." The key word in the statement is *contiguous*. Real

estate operators are not exuberant over the condemnation and absorption of so much land by the city. But they can still feel quite happy because they know that contiguous or neighboring lands are choice cuts in a beef of tremendous proportions.

The city may own the once lowly swamp which cost a tidy sum to fill in. But to reach New York's new property one must pass over much privately owned land. The "out of the way" site chosen for the Fair necessarily means the construction of new transportation facilities. Three East River crossings were planned. Besides these under river crossings, there has been constructed a \$58,000,000 Midtown vehicular tunnel, a \$60,300,000 Triborough Bridge, a \$12,000,000 Whitestone Bronx Bridge, etc. Many parkways and arterial highways are also being built. \$35,000,000 was contributed by city, state, nation directly to aid the Fair corporation on the understanding that the site was to be permanently improved.

The governments—city, state, and federal,—will have their condition satisfied; the area will be permanently improved. But the price to be paid for such improvement is terrific. Public money, garnered from the produce of labor and capital, is being used to develop an area which land companies in that area had given up as hopeless. Long Island City had become a fine factory community. But the same realtors who helped develop this region did not expect the impossible from land which was just short of malarial infestation. Then the impossible happened. The idea of a New York World's Fair gained momentum. One Joseph Shadgen claimed that his little daughter had given him the idea in the summer of 1934. Land promoters got busy. The courts were kept active. Now Sally Rand and her cow-girl nudists take the spotlight. All these are surface manifestations of the basic reality that "The World of To-morrow" is a landowner's heaven.

Happiness Is Self-Made

A SERMON

By Janet Rankin Aiken

Somewhat glumly the Bible warns us that "Where there is no vision, the people perish," and it is a testimony to the incorrigibly pessimistic bias of our carnal natures that we remember the threat and forget the rest of the verse. What comes after "perish"? You see, you don't know, and yet it is much the most important part. "Where there is no vision, the people perish; but he that keepeth the law, happy is he."

Notice that it doesn't say, "he who can pay his bills," or "he who is let alone by obnoxious relatives." It doesn't make happiness in any way dependent on others, or on circumstances. It disregards the "if only" with which the weakling excuses his lack of happiness. All it says is that one must keep the law, that is, remain true to what he knows of truth and good.

It should be and it is easy for Georgists to be happy people, on that platform. They recognize the basic law of justice and mercy, the law which will eliminate the hell-on-earth of poverty; and they keep and spread that law energetically and gladly. They become extroverts in the service of their convictions. One Georgist I know went to see a new house just built by a friend of his. Discovering a painter working there, he promptly lined him up for a correspondence course in fundamental economics; and when another stranger came along, this time a lady who was interested in buying the house, he spread the gospel to her also. Yet he did not make himself disliked as a monomaniac, nor was he unable to speak on any but the one topic. In happy friendliness he showed the painter and the purchaser, in his own person, what good people Georgists are, and thus he won them into friendliness for the law of freedom.

Happiness is self-made, and springs

from keeping faith with oneself and one's convictions. A few people seem to be afraid of certainty. They go through life preserving what they call "an open mind"—as if you could have an open mind about the multiplication table! They hold aloof from any danger of conversion; they are not joiners, and they glory in the fact. But neither are they happy, for caginess is not conducive to joy. They go through life warding off the convictions which alone make life an adventure rather than a bore.

Virtue in the stuffy moralistic

sense also fails to insure happiness, because it is negative and consists largely in deprivation rather than enjoyment. Yet it is quite within the range of probability that the less savory enjoyments will lose their appeal to the person who "keepeth the law." A lot of virtue may alternately be called common sense; it is sensible to eliminate pursuits which do not actively promote permanent well-being. The Georgist keeps himself too busy to bother with such unhappy foolishness. "He that keepeth the law, happy is he."

$C_2H_6 + 4Br_2 \rightarrow$ Land Values

If we have a mixture of sawdust and buckshot, we can separate them by picking the buckshot out with the fingers; but a simpler and more rapid method is to throw the mixture into a tub of water; the shot will sink, and the sawdust will float. This idea has engaged the attention of metallurgists for many years, and much capital and labor have been expended in the effort to find a liquid heavy enough so that rock would float in it, but in which minerals would sink.

The matter is of immense practical significance. The United States, for example, is largely dependent upon foreign sources of manganese, an important ingredient of many special alloys. America has vast deposits of manganese ore, but of such a low grade, and mixed with so much rock and dirt, that refining it is almost prohibitively expensive. Immense resources of iron, gold, and other metals have been left idle simply because there was no convenient and cheap way of separating the mineral portions from the rock with which they were mixed.

Now at last several liquids have been discovered which are heavy and cheaply made, and by mixing them in suitable proportions it will be pos-

sible to carry out any separation of rock and mineral at very trifling cost. The liquids (which are chemically similar to chloroform and carbon tetrachloride) can be used over and over again with little loss. It is estimated that the new metallurgical technic will more than double our gold production, and when we consider the stress which nations lay on access to raw materials, the political consequences may be far-reaching.

If, as is contemplated, new mineral deposits are brought into production by this method, we need not look far to find the ultimate beneficiary. Labor employed in the new mines will not command higher wages than similar labor in other mines, and capital invested in extracting and refining the ore will command no larger return than is earned, on the average, by other capital. All the gain attaches to the land; most of it to the particular land in which these low grade ore deposits are found. The owner of the mine will be under no compulsion to share his good fortune; he will keep all the increase. So the chemist and metallurgist, like the pick-and-shovel man and the President, work and study and ultimately enrich the landowner.

PAUL PEACH.

The Problem of a Potentate

By George A. Briggs

Many, many years ago, a small-time Asiatic potentate, so I am told, having received a fresh cargo of houris for his seraglio, found himself, like many another man somewhat similarly circumstanced, in dire need of money.

So, to replenish his coffers he placed a heavy tax on fig trees. The price of figs soon rose to an almost prohibitive figure. Many of his poorer subjects indeed died of starvation, since figs were practically their only food. The available demand fell to such a low point that by thousands the fig growers destroyed their trees to escape the tax. Prosperity withered, industry languished, demand for labor fell down, but most disastrous of all to the potentate, his own revenues shrunk from day to day.

Confronted by this alarming situation, our hero proved himself a realist. He wasted no time looking for the corner around which prosperity was hiding. The situation called for action; and it was action that he gave it. What he did was unusual and at that time without precedent. He promptly exempted fig trees from taxation. Then he placed a heavy tax on land capable of bearing fig trees.

The consequences of this change in fiscal policy were not slow in arriving. Owners of land capable of bearing fig trees were now indeed on the spot. To pay the tax and to save their land they were forced to plant more trees. Figs soon became very plentiful. Prices fell, demand for labor increased, the people grew fat, and it was amazing in the face of this situation, how many new uses for figs were found.

An inventive subject discovered, for example, that figs could be made into delicious beverages, some of which were fermented and others distilled, thus adding to the demand for figs as well as to the joyousness and happiness of the people. It is said, too, that fig alcohol soon came into use for industrial purposes. So,

not only did prosperity smile upon the people, but also upon the potentate whose revenues swelled to great and stable proportions.

This fable teaches whatever one may see in it. But nearly everyone I should think, will see that it is bad business to TAX ANYTHING THAT CAN BE MOVED AWAY OR DESTROYED. Every such tax penalizes industry, lessens demand for labor, increases living costs and decreases purchasing power. In any event the fact is there to be seen, even though our customary practice of taxing everything in sight, blinds us to it.

It is a sad truth, of course, that whatever is customary and habitual, quite often wears grooves in our brains as well as in our behavior. And these brain grooves become unresponsive to ocular stimuli which run counter to custom. The eye vainly telegraphs a message to the brain, when the grooved brain is as incapable of understanding it, as it would be if the message were in a foreign language. What I have to say therefore will be meaningless to hopelessly grooved, habit-ridden minds.

The open minded reader, however, may recall from American history that Alexander Hamilton once said there are only two sources of revenue. One of these is industry and the other is our natural material environment, which for the purposes of economics is termed land. Our customary practice is to tax both regardless of consequences.

We really like to soak the fellow who has anything so we have turned this desire into a theory, which is that everyone should be taxed according to ability to pay. It seldom occurs to us that this is the theory

upon which burglars and highway-men act. They, too, "tax" their victims according to ability to pay.

It happens, however, that taxes upon industry will not stay put. Industrial products you know must be made by industry. Perhaps that is why they are called industrial products. And no one is going to be stupid enough to continue making and selling things, if the selling price is not high enough to cover all costs including taxes. So it is the consumer who finally pays the tax. Usually he is unaware of this because the tax is concealed in the price he pays. By such taxes you can tax the shirt off a man's back and often he will complain of high prices without dreaming that taxes are the real villain of the sketch.

Now-a-days most people more or less faintly recognize this truth. But few are those who see that taxes on land cannot be shifted to consumers; that land owners must perforce bear the brunt of taxes laid upon their land. It is, of course, a bit difficult to see that a single force can affect different objects in different ways. Yet every housewife knows that sunshine is a force that puts color into her cheeks, and takes it out of her carpets and wall paper. In like manner, as our Asiatic potentate discovered, taxation is a force that raises the price of taxed industrial products, and promotes the use of taxed land.

Beg Pardon

In a recent article we stated that Albert Jay Nock collaborated with Francis Neilson on the famous book, "How Diplomats Make War." Our attention is called by Mrs. Marion Melville, of England, to the fact that Mr. Neilson was the sole author of this book. On a recent visit to our office Mr. Neilson explained that Mr. Nock wrote an introduction for a later edition, which accounts for our error. Mrs. Melville is the daughter of Mr. Neilson, and was his secretary at the time he wrote the book.



Aftermath Of The Railroad

HENRY GEORGE



In 1868, a year before the overland railroad was completed, this article, under the title "What the Railroad Will Bring Us," appeared in the OVERLAND MONTHLY. It was reprinted twenty-five years later in the San Francisco EXAMINER with the heading "A Remarkable Prophecy."

Upon the plains this season railroad building is progressing with a rapidity never known before. Two companies, in their struggle for the enormous bounty offered by the Government, are shortening the distance between the lines of rail at the rate of from seven to nine miles per day—almost as fast as the ox teams which furnished the primitive method of conveyance across the continent could travel.

Though as a piece of engineering the building of this road may not deserve the superlative terms in which, with American proneness to exaggerate, it is frequently spoken of, yet, when the full effects of its completion are considered, it seems the "greatest work of the age," indeed. Even the Suez canal, which will almost change the front of Europe and divert the course of commerce of half the world, is, in this view, not to be compared with it, for this railroad will not merely open a new route across the continent, but it will be the means of converting a wilderness into a populous empire in less time than many of the cathedrals and palaces in Europe were built, and in unlocking treasure vaults which will flood the world with the precious metals.

* * * *

What is the railroad to do for us—this railroad that we have looked for, hoped for, prayed for so long?

The sharpest sense of Americans—the keen sense of gain which certainly does not lose its keenness in our bracing air—is the first to realize what is coming with our railroads. All over the state land is appreciated; fortunes are being made in a day by buying and parceling out Spanish ranches; the government surveyors and reg-

istrar are busy; speculators are grappling the public domain by the hundreds of thousands of acres, while for miles in every direction around San Francisco ground is being laid off into homestead lots. The spirit of speculation doubles, trebles, quadruples the past growth of the city in its calculations, and then discounts the results, confident that there still remains a margin. And it is not far wrong. The new era will be one of great material prosperity, if material prosperity means more people, more houses, more farms and mines, more factories and ships. Calculations based on the future growth of San Francisco can hardly be wild.

* * * *

The new era into which our state is about entering—or, perhaps, to speak more correctly, has already entered—is, without doubt, an era of steady, rapid and substantial growth. Yet we cannot hope to escape the great law of compensation which exacts some loss for every gain. And as there are but few of us who, could we but retrace our lives, retaining the knowledge that we have gained would pass from childhood into youth and from youth into manhood, with unmixed feelings, so we imagine that if the genius of California, whom we picture on the shield of our state, were really a sentient being, she would not look forward now entirely without regret. The California of the new era will be greater, richer, more powerful than the California of the past; but will she be still the same California whom her adopted children, gathered from all climes, love better than their own motherlands; from which all who have lived within her bounds are proud to hail; to which all who have known her long to return? She will have more people; but among those people will there be so large a proportion of full, true men? She will have more wealth; but will it be so evenly distributed?

The California of the future, the California of the new era, will be a better country for some classes than the California of the present, and so, too, it must be a worse country for others.

Which of these classes will be the largest? Are there more mill owners or factory operators in Lancashire? More brown-stone mansions than tenement-rooms in New York?

It is certain that the tendency of the new era, of the more dense population and more thorough development of the wealth of the state, will be to reduction both of the rate of interest and the rate of wages, particularly the latter. This tendency may not, probably will not, be shown immediately, but it will be before long, and that powerfully, unless balanced and counteracted by other influences which we are not now considering, which do not yet appear, and which it is probable will not appear for some time.

As a general rule, for those who have not, it will make it more difficult to get. What, for instance, does the rise in land mean? Several things, but certainly and prominently this, that it will be harder in future for a poor man to get a homestead lot. And so in San Francisco the rise in building lots means it will be harder for a poor man to get a house and lot for himself, or that he will have to yield more of his earnings for rent; means a crowding of the poorer classes together; and signifies courts, slums, tenement-houses, squalor and vice.

The locomotive is a great centralizer; it kills little towns and builds up cities, and in the same way kills little businesses and builds up great ones. We have had comparatively but few rich men, but the process is going on; nor is it worth while to shut our eyes to the effect of this concentration of wealth. One millionaire involves the existence of just so many poor men. It is the great tree and the saplings over again. We need not look far from the palace to find the hovel. When liveries appear look out for barefooted children.

* * * *

While we have had no very rich class, we have had no really poor class. There have been enough "dead brokes," and how many Californians are there who have not gone through that experience? But there never was a better country to be "broke" in, and where almost every man, even the most successful, had been in the same position, it did not involve the humiliation and loss of hope which attaches to utter poverty in older and more settled communities.

However, we shall have some real social gains with some that are only apparent. We shall

have fewer shooting and stabbing affrays but we will probably have something worse from which hitherto we have been exempt, thank God—the low, brutal, cowardly rowdyism of Eastern cities. We shall hear less of highway robberies in the mountains, but more, perhaps of pick-pockets, burglars and sneak-thieves.

That we can look forward to any political improvement is, to say the least, doubtful. In the growth of large corporations and other special interests there is an element of great danger. Of these great corporations and interests we shall have many. Look, for instance, at the Central Pacific railway as it will be, with a line running to Salt Lake, controlling more capital and employing more men than any of the great Eastern railroads, who manage legislatures as they manage their workshops, and name governors, senators and judges almost as they name their own engineers and clerks! Can we rely upon sufficient intelligence, independence and virtue among the many to resist the political effects of the concentration of great wealth in the hands of a few?

* * *

A great change is coming over our state. We should not prevent it if we could, and could not if we would, but we can view it in all its bearings—look at the dark as well as the bright side and endeavor to hasten that which is good and retard or prevent that which is bad. A great state is forming; let us see to it that its foundations are laid firm and true.

And as California becomes populous and rich, let us not forget that the character of the people counts for more than their numbers; that the distribution of wealth is even a more important matter than its production. Let us not imagine ourselves in a fool's paradise, where the golden apples will drop into our mouths; let us not think that after the stormy seas and head gales of all the ages our ship has at last struck the trade winds of time. The future of our state, of our nation, of our race, looks fair and bright; perhaps the future looked so to the philosophers who once sat in the porches of Athens—to the unremembered men who raised the cities whose ruins lie south of us. Our modern civilization strikes broad and deep and looks high. So did the tower which men once built almost unto heaven.

TO ABOLISH WAR MA

When will the new World War break out? The answer is unimportant, except politically. That it will break out has always been obvious to those who understand the economic forces precedent and necessary to armed conflict. These forces were set in operation in November, 1918, and have been seeking the inevitable conclusion, now apparently to be consummated. Will the next armistice set in motion the economic conditions for another holocaust? Will the struggle for civilization be set back a thousand years? Is there any way by which man can be saved from his folly?

In the views expressed by Messrs. Bell, Hoffman and Abelson, somewhat overlapping but mainly complementary, are embodied the answers to these questions. We hope our readers will take occasion to call these fundamental principles to the attention of their pacifist or belligerent friends. The truth will prevail if constantly reiterated.

"Protecting" Us Against Peace

By Stephen Bell

When in 1914 Germany plunged the world in war in order to break down a "ring of enemies" around her and to secure her "place in the sun," there was no one to whom she would listen to tell her this ring of enemies was merely the network of hostile tariff barriers which all nations, Germany included, had erected on their boundaries; that the "place in the sun" which she coveted was merely access to resources, obstructed by the world's tariff barriers; and that the breaking down of her own tariff barrier would of itself remove half of these barriers and give her a decisive advantage in world trade. She was blind to the fact that international free trade would give to her and to all nations access to all the natural resources of the earth through the channels of a commerce that would be profitable to all. The other nations were equally blind.

That there was a sub-conscious feeling everywhere that the whole world was responsible for the conditions out of which the war arose is shown by the high resolves made in all the countries engaged in the war that its ending should usher in a new era of international justice and

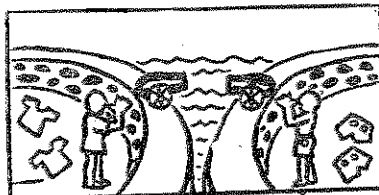
fair dealings. President Wilson's famous Fourteen Points for a just and durable peace met almost universal approval. Widely disseminated in Germany, they did much to break down the fighting morale of the German people, hasten the end of the war, overthrow the old regime, drive the Kaiser out of the country and establish the German Republic.

But alas! At Versailles the Avengers were permitted to frame the conditions of "peace." They usually do after a great war. The aspirations for a just and durable peace evaporated, Wilson's Fourteen Points were discarded, and Germany was compelled to sign on the dotted line a treaty which placed on her alone the guilt of causing the war. She was required to pay impossible indemnities or reparations while her trade was systematically hampered and curtailed by new and higher barriers against her exports, as if there were other ways in which she could pay than by trade. No one seemed to

think of the fact that dollars, pounds, francs, etc., do not grow in Germany, and there was no way to acquire them except by the sale of German goods abroad. Again and again were the tariff barriers of the United States and other countries raised to prevent the only method of payment.

For fifteen years the German Republic and its moderate leaders sought vainly to secure some amelioration of the harsh terms of the Versailles Treaty. At last they listened to a man who promised them relief from their intolerable situation, placed him in the seat of power. He has kept his promise. Having rearmed Germany, broken the foreign shackles which humiliated her, and enlarged her boundaries and population, he stands as Germany's Empire Builder, clothed with power that no mortal man ever exercised before.

Austria, Bohemia, Moravia, Slovakia! Where next? Will it be Hungary, Rumania, the Polish Corridor? The pointing of the German whip at Rumania has already brought results. On March 17 there was sent to Bucharest the following proposals: "First, that Rumania should by degrees cease all her efforts to build up her national industry, close down gradually all her existing factories and limit herself to being an agri-



THE PEACE PROFITABLE

cultural country. Second, that her entire exports of grain, oil, lumber, cattle and foodstuffs should go exclusively to Germany. Third, that if Rumania agreed to these terms, Germany would be ready to guarantee Rumania's territorial integrity and the independence of the Rumanian people."

Rumania's first reaction was a flat refusal to comply, but prudence has dictated compliance, for on March 20 the newspapers published the news that Rumania had decided to sign a commercial agreement with Germany.

In this and other countries public sentiment was outraged by this German demand for the surrender of Rumanian sovereignty. It was regarded as something novel in history, in that it required one nation to abdi-

cate her right to industrial development, to become a mere purveyor to another's needs for raw materials and a market for its fabrications.

Except for its being addressed by one nation to another, there is nothing novel about it. It is the same program which Britain sought to impose on her American colonies in the 18th century, which was a far more potent factor in arousing them to revolt than was the more talked-of "taxation without representation," though historians seem not to know it. Britain even required that all exports and imports pass through British hands and be carried in British ships.

Perhaps Rumania may be better adapted for extractive than for fabricating industries, but attempts to enforce such a situation are the height

of tyranny and can be productive only of mischief. While it is desirable that every country and part thereof devote itself to the industries which it can carry on most economically this cannot be attained by governmental edicts. It can be attained only by industrial and commercial freedom.

The world's greatest need at present is to remember and ponder over two epigrams uttered a century ago by Richard Cobden: "Free Trade is the international law of the Almighty," and "Free Trade is the best peacemaker." I would amend the latter by changing one word—"Free Trade is the only peacemaker." We cannot have peace while the nations continue their game of "Beggar my neighbor" by maintaining hostile trade barriers.

Hitler's Weapons Forged in Trade

By W. D. Hoffman

The challenge to the democracies throughout the world is more than a military one. Even though armed conflict be averted through further and further appeasement, the underlying warfare is on the economic front, its chief weapons trade and the management of natural resources. Even military struggle these days resolves itself into a test of national wealth behind the lines. Wars never have been fought with money, but with the inherent strength of the contestants as measured in both arms and natural resources. So long as man power and raw materials are adequate, finances become a matter of bookkeeping, with debt a minor factor. Thus the dictatorships remain a threat even though "bankrupt" to the degree they can marshal men, mechanized armament and, most important of all, available natural resources.

It is upon the latter Hitler is now

concentrating, and what he is doing in this regard offers a greater challenge to the democracies than even his armament. The Nazi drive to the east through Yugoslavia, Rumania and Hungary on the economic front is conceived to marshal the natural resources there under the German Reich. Trade and land are the primary factors. Without the annexation of another foot of territory, he may be able to break down trade barriers erected by the Treaty of Versailles through barter and also bring the land resources there under the Nazi sphere of influence by a program of land-use to which the democracies have given little heed. Thus his belligerent Nazi groups in eastern

Europe have embarked on a policy of land reform and land-use designed to increase wealth production. By trade the Reich will benefit immediately; by the friendship propaganda following in the wake of trade he will hope to bring those resources under the Germanic sun when the crisis comes.

The democracies will do well to take heed of this. They will do well to examine their own natural resources and their own programs of land-use. Whereas we in America have embarked on a policy of land-disuse, of reduced wealth production, Nazi Germany has set out to bring her domestic area under increasing cultivation and is now promoting a like policy in Yugoslavia, Rumania and Hungary. Even the powerful Junkers on their vast estates have been told to produce, and failure to do so has brought a horde of Nazi land-managers onto these estates to enforce the program. The watchword is "Produce, Produce, Produce."



Inevitably the national wealth must be augmented. Those democracies whose slogan is "Reduce, Reduce, Reduce" confront a real challenge here. If national wealth be important in national defense, then surely it is time that the democracies consider the problem of land-use in this regard.

In spite of stout anti-German sentiment in Yugoslavia the Nazi drive to the east is making itself felt there on the trade front. Germany absorbs nearly half of Yugoslavia's exports. The October Foreign Policy Report revealed "an abnormal economic dependence which some Yugoslavs denounce as a colonial relationship." Through barter and clearing agreements Germany obtains foodstuffs and raw materials without cash. Under this scheme Germany,



according to Yugoslav critics, offers high prices for agricultural products, contracts debts, forces the creditors to accept articles which the debtor finds it convenient to get rid of. By economic pressure Germany is in a position to influence the Yugoslav government's foreign and internal policies. Government leaders and commercial groups have already fallen under pro-German orientation. Friendship inevitably follows trade.

Like Yugoslavia, Rumania is a preponderantly agrarian country, thus the attractive prices for agricultural products offered by Germany in terms of manufactured goods are having influence there, in spite of Rumania's friendship for France since the World War. Its foreign policy has been wavering since 1933, when the Nazi drive began. Since more than 78% of the population are peasants, the majority live on small holdings representing a minimum for existence. On ideological issues this group has been violently anti-Nazi, advocating the "Peasant State" and democracy. To win over this group the Nazi-Fascist "Iron Guard" advocates "revolt against the servitude of indebtedness." Rumania is now dependent upon Germany for 27 per cent of its exports and 38

per cent of its imports. King Carol has several times expressed admiration for Hitler. As a result of the Munich agreement France is accused of breaking its pledge and a reorientation for Rumania's foreign policy toward Germany is advocated by twenty-nine newspapers.

The agrarian structure also prevails in Hungary, where 54 per cent of the population follow agriculture. Maldistribution of land remains the country's greatest problem. In 1934 there were 1228 big estates, as cited by the Foreign Policy Report, and 700,000 peasants were without any landed property of their own, a feudal system prevailing. The supremacy of the great landowners is secured by a public ballot for the peasants as against a secret vote. Count Esterhazy's estate alone spreads over 250,000 acres. The agrarian proletariat is unrepresented in parliament. Fertile ground here for Nazi propaganda, which has quickly been taken advantage of.

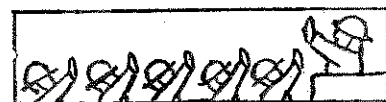
The followers of Adolf Hitler in Hungary have seized upon the popular slogan: "Redistribution of land." Thus they have been gaining strength. New Nazi parties have arisen in addition to those united under Count Festetics, wearing green shirts, using the Hitler salute, holding the symbol of the Arrow Cross. This group is active among the three million landless peasants. Major Szalasi's group, about 100,000 all military-trained men, have "cells" among state dignitaries and obtain support among the suffering lower class and the landless peasants, insisting upon "liberation from the servitude of indebtedness," revision of frontiers, elimination of Jews from finance and business, and redistribution of land.

The ruling great landowners, formerly pro-German, now fear a Nazi regime would bring the expropriation of large estates. Regent Horthy, closely connected with big landowners, admonished the Hungarian Nazis and condemned their agitation for radical land reform. Premier Imredy, after a visit to Germany, announced a program for "drastic land reform." Tibor Eckhardt, according to the New York Times, representing the Small Farmers' party, is pro-

German and like the Nazis favors land reform. Since the Anschluss with Austria, Germany has captured 41 per cent of Hungary's exports and 44 per cent of its imports.

Thus the Hitler drive to the east gains headway on a spearhead of trade and land development. German economic domination is largely due to the failure of France and Britain to recognize either trade or land-use as vital factors in the affairs of Europe. While making the world believe she was satisfied with self-containment alone, Germany has actually been expanding her trade and stimulating production of wealth outside her own borders as well as at home.

The struggle for foreign markets has always been a dominant cause of war. Freedom of trade among the nations would do more to uproot the



forces leading to war than pacts of appeasement. If trade were free a major irritant leading to hates and jealousies would be removed. Such an ideal seems far removed in a world where "Buy English," "Buy American," "Buy New York" and "Buy Sleepy Hollow" are the order of the day.

But more important even than trade is that of land-use, since the wealth of peoples is measured by the degree to which they fashion the raw materials of land into food, shelter, clothing and all material things for the satisfaction of human needs. It would be the highest patriotism of those interested in the preservation of democracy to stimulate production of wealth through a wider use of land in all its forms rather than continue in a blind policy of scarcity and increasing curtailment. Denunciation of Hitler by word of mouth would not be so effective to meet his threat of expanding dictatorship as a right-about-face, particularly in America, in the matter of domestic enrichment and production. To subsidize the owners of our natural resources to reduce or destroy wealth in the face of this challenge is the acme of folly, if not treason to democracy and self-defense.

Can Hitler Be "Stopped"?

By Sidney J. Abelson

There are many ways to skin a cat, but to the statesmen of today there is only one way to stop Hitler—by the use of military might. It is necessary, they say, to fight a madman with his own weapons, to use force to battle force; and in a limited sense, but in a limited sense only, they are right.

What is overlooked is the fact that wars are waged not for glory alone, but fundamentally for economic conquest, and the battle can be fought more effectively in fields, factories and workshops than in gory trenches.

Hitler can be stopped—but not with his own weapons. Indeed, it is becoming increasingly evident that the Fuehrer has lifted himself up by his bootstraps and in doing so has defied successfully all the laws of gravity. The same type of "economists" who in 1913 and early 1914 said a large scale European war was economically impossible were still chanting the same tune in 1938—but the beat of Hitler's drums leading the march to conquest drowned them out. While Chamberlain toys with an umbrella, Hitler works miracles with bayonets.

How then can Hitler be stopped?

There is an answer, but before I give it I must point out that even if by the time you read these lines the anticipated European war is raging, the answer holds. Let the war be waged ever so valorously, neither Hitler nor Hitlerism ever will be stopped on the field of battle. But fight Hitler on more fundamental grounds and his superior military power will crumble to defeat.

Hitler can be stopped by opposing him with the exact opposite of those principles of race and state which he has used to "resurrect" the Reich. Instead of racial persecution, provide racial tolerance; instead of religious suppression provide religious freedom; instead of state control of economic enterprise,

provide complete freedom of individual endeavor.

This is all very well in a theoretical sense, you may say, but how are these antidotes to be applied practically?

Strangely enough, the opportunity falls to two nations noted not for enlightenment but for backwardness, nations which at this very moment are either being drawn into the Nazi orbit or else are preparing futilely to solve the problem through military action.

Let us look at the situation not through the eyes of statesmen who are currying favor with political backers but realistically, through the searchlight of incontrovertible facts and their consequential logic.

It was reported at the time that Polish Foreign Minister Beck negotiated a "Stop-Hitler" treaty with Great Britain that Poland was promised British aid in solving her "Jewish problem." I submit that the one way not to stop Hitler is by aggravating anti-Semitism, by acknowledging that any validity whatsoever applies to a policy of racial discrimination. I submit further that Poland's solution of her "Jewish problem" lies in taking precisely the opposite tack from Hitler's, namely, in offering herself as an asylum for Jews and other refugees from Nazi dominated areas, and I make this suggestion not on sentimental grounds but on the grounds of sound economic policy. Jefferson said, "The cure for the evils of democracy is more democracy." It may now be said, particularly with respect to Poland, that "the cure for the 'evils' of her Jewish population is a greater Jewish population" coupled, of course, with a basic re-

vision of landholding traditions.

And here are the facts: First of all, Poland is far from being "overpopulated." Indeed, her 33,000,000 people live on 150,013 square miles of territory, a density of but 222 to the square mile. Compare this with the population density of Holland, which is 667 to the square mile, and that of Belgium, which is 691 to the square mile, and you see at once that Poland has plenty of elbow room. But what about the quality of Poland's land? The records show that Poland grows a diversity of crops in abundance—wheat, rye, barley, oats, potatoes. Of her total territory 50% is arable, 17% is meadow and pasture, 24% forest. Dr. Isaiah Bowman, a very noted authority, states categorically,* "If agriculture were modernized and cultivation practices improved, there is no doubt that Poland could not only feed herself but also export agricultural products."

What is holding Poland back? Once more I quote Dr. Bowman:** "Among large landholders 18,000 own 40% of the total area of Poland and leave much of their holdings uncultivated, with the resultant overcrowding of adjacent communities. To better the conditions of life, the Polish Diet in July, 1920, voted drastic land partition laws. But even this action will not give everybody a piece of land, nor will it necessarily increase production."

So much for agriculture. The next question is what about minerals? Again we find that Poland's mineral production is substantial and includes coal, iron ore, zinc, lead, potash, petroleum, a variety and quantity of raw materials sufficient to provide the basis for a real modern state.

Why then does Poland trail progress? Is there an answer in the fact that she has but 4,000 industrial plants and less than 600,000 workmen? Can it be that Poland lacks that very man power which Hitler is driving out of the Reich?



Chamberlain may boast that he displays a statesmanly virility in switching from a policy of appeasement to one of *Realpolitik*, but his alleged realism will not fool those who face these simple facts. And Beck, in all the glory of his diplomatic triumph, will achieve no realistic victory above the level of a ward-heeler's success. For the basic fact remains: Poland has been endowed by nature with vast resources, and by man with an economic system that defeats enjoyment of this natural bounty.

The solution? It seems obvious. Poland's agriculture cries out for modernization. Her industry is in desperate need of development. Why not welcome into her borders those thousands of enterprising and skilled people whom Hitler is driving out? With another 500,000 or even 1,000,000 people Poland still would be "under-populated."† The land of Kosciusko could enjoy the benefit of those skills which Jews and anti-Hitler Germans have gained in that Reich which, before Hitler, was ac-

claimed throughout the universe as a fatherland of scientific and industrial progress. "The stones that the Third Reich-builder rejected would become the cornerstones of new temples."

If, in addition to acquiring overnight an army of skilled men and women which otherwise she could not hope to develop in less than a generation, Poland were to reform her economic structure to conform to those natural laws which Henry George has organized and clarified, the picture would be complete. Poland would enjoy such an upsurge of modern civilized progress that even Nazi-land would be compelled to stop and take notice; the competition itself would force Hitler to withdraw many if not all of his restrictive measures. In short, Hitler would be stopped.

The Rumanian picture resembles Poland's in many ways. Indeed, in basic aspects the similarity is so striking that with a mere interchange of statistics what is said of Poland could be said with equal ap-

plicability of Rumania. All in all, Rumania could take the same steps recommended for Poland, and consequently enjoy the same predicted results. Let her welcome the German Jews and other refugees and make use of their modern skills; let her drop her clumsy efforts at land reform through mere partition of estates and adopt the natural system of land tenure as embodied in the principle of the social collection of rent.

Then, from the Baltic to the Black Sea there would be an army of enlightenment, an example of progress that would prove far mightier than Hitler's military strength. Perhaps this is what Isaiah meant when he prophesied, "They shall beat their swords into plough shares; neither shall there be war any more."

* "The New World," p. 407.

** Ibid., p. 423.

† Warren S. Thomson in his "Population Problems" (p. 425) writes: "... it is impossible to see a way of so exactly evaluating the different factors that enter into the calculation of the economic optimum that we can ever say with authority that such and such is the optimum population for such and such an area."

CANADIAN HOUSING: THE USUAL LAND GRAFT

At the Canadian National Conference on Housing held at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, on February 20—21, the guest speaker, Dr. Coleman Woodbury, a Chicago housing expert, advertised the Single Tax, though it wasn't on the official program. In commenting on the discussion which had taken place, he said it had surprised him that the Single Tax point of view had not been put forward—(the reason was that the only Georgist present had not up to that time been able to catch the chairman's eye). The guest speaker explained that seldom was there a conference on housing matters in the United States where some Single Taxer did not present the Georgist point of view.

When the present writer did get the floor he alluded to Dr. Woodbury's remark, and said that Georgists would challenge most of the underlying assumptions of the housing movement. The basic assumption is that there always will be a section of the population un-

able to pay the economic rent, and that society through governmental action must come to the rescue.

The Canadian government has provided the machinery of coming to the rescue pretty handsomely. In the National Housing Act, 1938, provision is made for "limited dividend corporations" to whom the government will loan 90 per cent of the funds required for approved housing projects, up to the sum of \$30,000,000. It also provides for the setting up of a fund which can be drawn upon in cases where the high cost of land makes a project too expensive for low-rent housing. The landowner with land to sell for such a project can thus hold any city for ransom. Federal legislation also required that municipalities shall limit the taxation upon federally financed housing projects, thus making them contribute by tax exemptions.

The official statement of the promoters of this Canadian Housing Conference states that "25 per cent of all urban families cannot afford

as much as \$15 a month for rent, and 50 per cent cannot afford as much as \$25 for rent." It goes on to point out that present building costs indicate that it would not be possible to provide housing to rent for less than \$25. The Housing Act would not therefore benefit occupants of slums or "that half of the urban population whose housing needs are most acute." The Conference advocated therefore that there should be a rent subsidy provided by the federal authority. The promoters of the conference ignored the huge subsidies going each year in unearned increment of land values to owners of land titles in practically all Canadian cities.

HERBERT T. OWENS

Machine Age Unemployment

New Dealer (watching steam shovel excavating): "If that shovel were junked a hundred men could be put to work, each with a shovel."

Job Boss: "A thousand men could be put to work if we gave them tea-spoons."

Machinery: A Senatorial Scapegoat

By Harry Gunnison Brown

Senator Claude Pepper of Florida is quoted in a recent news dispatch as saying: "There are some who think that a return of prosperity will solve the unemployment problem. They might as well expect the unemployment problem to be solved by the return of the wagon body factories." The Senator went on to say that the "machine age" means "there will never be an opportunity in private industry for anything like the men and women in this country who need work and want to work."

Senator Pepper seems to be a believer in the old idea that there is only a definite amount of work to be done in a capitalistic system, and that if machines are invented to do more, men must be idle.

But this is definitely not the case. Why should labor-saving machinery—except as there may be **monopoly**—decrease the opportunities for employment? Labor-saving machinery enables goods to be produced with less labor and, therefore, at lower prices. The public will presumably buy more of the goods thus more cheaply produced. And it may buy enough more of them so as to employ as many workers in the favored industries as before. But even if it does not and even if, therefore, the labor-saving machinery displaces some labor in the industries where it is introduced, the consequent cheapening of these goods—assuming no monopolistic control to prevent such cheapening—leaves consumers more money to purchase other goods that they previously could not afford. The result is that **new opportunities are available for labor in producing these other goods.** Except for the difficulties and delays of transfer to new industries, labor-saving machinery never occasions any unemployment.

It is true that we handle our economic system in such a way as to make a large amount of unemployment inevitable. Thus, we so manage our banking system as to allow

—as in 1929-1932—a terrific decrease in the volume of circulating medium, so that the demand for goods and for labor at customary prices and wages inevitably declines. We permit—as under the N.R.A.—agreements to hold up prices at the very time when monetary purchasing power is deflated, thus further discouraging the buying of goods. And then, when our factories and mines are being worked far below capacity and millions are unemployed in our cities, we offer—as under the A.A.A.—bribes to landowners to take land out of use and thereby to decrease opportunities for employment in the country.

Indeed, long before the advent of the A.A.A., our policy encouraged—even though not quite so dramatically—the reducing of opportunities for profitable employment, through the holding of good land out of use. That such speculative holding of land out of use decreases the opportunities of labor for profitable employment is not really hard to see,—except for those who are **determined not to see.** If good land is held out of use, then labor must resort to poorer land,—poorer city sites, poorer mines, poorer agricultural land. Or else labor must be crowded unduly—and with consequent diminution in efficiency—on what good land is still available to use. Therefore, **wages must be lower or, if high wages are nevertheless insisted on, there must be unemployment.**

Yet we follow the policy of taxing bare-land-values very little and of raising government revenue rather by taxing improvements, taxing the incomes men earn by hard work and thrift and taxing the necessities of the poor. For the one thing our dyed-in-the-wool conservatives and

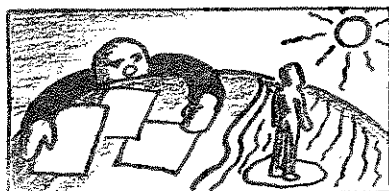
our great "liberals" seem to agree on is that there shall be the least possible tax on community-produced land values, and that those to whom the rest of us must pay billions of dollars a year for permission to work on and to live on the earth, shall enjoy these billions with no more tax subtraction than if they earned the money by the hardest kind of labor.

Senator Pepper, according to the news item quoted above, blames the "machine age" for our troubles. Such a pronouncement is certainly impersonal enough and will not arouse the anger or political opposition of any vested interests, while it appears to evidence a reasonable sympathy with the unfortunate laborers who suffer from lack of jobs. Perhaps it's just as well, Senator, **not to find out** the real sources of our economic troubles and inequality. For to understand and to point out how a landowning class lives parasitically on the workers might not for a time register with those workers who cannot see the difference between capital and land, and it might well arouse the unrelenting opposition of the beneficiaries of the existing set-up.

The Living Bible By Bolton Hall

Presenting in condensed form the entire contents of the Scriptures, omitting only repetitious, ceremonial details, most genealogies, land-boundaries, and matter that is no longer of general interest.

The regular price of this 424 page book, beautifully printed and bound, is \$6.00. The School has a limited number of copies which it will dispose of at \$2.00 each, postpaid.



From Paul To Pay Peter

By J. Rupert Mason

Since the advent of the New Deal, a gradual, often unseen, yet none the less serious shifting of tax load has been accomplished. Directing and insidiously steering such tax shifting, the land holding lobbyists have at least played a watchful and important part. The fact that neither our industrial nor labor leaders have ever publicly called attention to it, but have seemingly been quite content to complain about the increased taxes they must now pay, without ever attempting to find out the reason, is disturbing those who know why taxes have been shifted from land to industry.

The federal government has borrowed for gifts and grants to the states some 26 billion dollars, under the New Deal; of which 19 billion dollars was outright gift. This is just about the net increase in the present debt of the national government. Had the federal government not made this huge present to the states, they would have been forced to draw at least a part of this sum from land values, within the states. Instead of this, the states have enacted tax-sale moratoriums, which operate to prevent the states from even offering for sale the land which has continued tax delinquent longer than the period normally allowed by state law for redemption. In California, for example, the law granted land holders five years to pay their taxes, before the State could even put the tax defaulted land up for sale. But, since 1932 the legislature has regularly passed moratoriums every biennium as "emergency" measures, so that today the State is still unable to foreclose land on which the taxes lawfully levied by the counties, cities, etc., have been past due and unpaid for more than 13 years. In fact, as recently as January 1939, a new moratorium law unanimously passed the Assembly, and without debate, while in the Senate the only

discussion was by one Senator who wanted it made even longer!

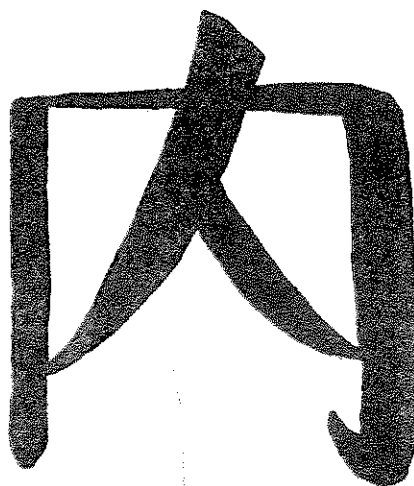
In view of the fact that the State of California has levied no taxes upon real property since 1911, and that the taxes levied by most of the counties, cities, etc., are nominal indeed, when compared to the taxes on industry and labor products, this complete stoppage of the foreclosure and sale of tax defaulted land assumes even added interest. Whereas the cost of schools, roads, etc., was formerly spread largely against the real estate directly benefiting, such public works' costs have now largely been assumed by the State, and sales and gas and income taxes levied to meet them. Yet, California and other states are solemnly swearing to Washington that they can not possibly collect more taxes to help meet the relief costs.

If our industrial and labor leaders would only urge the federal Congress to quit borrowing further money to give to the states, or at least require the states to repay some reasonable part of funds advanced, either in money or in sizable tracts of land, which the hold-

ers have allowed to stay tax delinquent longer than the time allowed by law for redemption, we should soon begin to witness some democratic, real "pump priming"; that is, more prompt payment of taxes by dodging land holders. Our ten year depression has left a vast new frontier on the doorstep of the states for unpaid taxes. It needs tackling, constructively, and until we are able to convince the New Dealers that tax-evading and tax-avoiding land holders must pay the taxes they owe, just as definitely as income or other taxes, or suffer the consequences, there may be little point in agitating for heavier taxes upon land values. Whenever I have sought to discuss this matter with public officials, they think me radical indeed when I suggest that the state laws governing land tenure should be respected and enforced, and not be changed. They nearly all seem to have the notion that a land holder should be given as long as he may want to pay the taxes owing against his land, and if that isn't long enough, he should then be given still more time.

THE CHINESE HAVE A PICTURE FOR IT

This Chinese character represents the lot of the common people throughout China. It is a picture-



idea—the Chinese way of visualizing the grinding effect of taxation.

The character shows the common man hanging from a scaffold, the rope never being drawn tight enough to choke him to death. He is left just enough breath to enable him to go on paying taxes. The extreme case of tightening the noose is known in the provinces of Wee-chan and Haw-hsien as "Tso-ke" (or to be afflicted with Tso-ke). Tso-ke is an accumulative interest charge on rent in default.

It is not unusual for tenants in these provinces to sell their children so that the landlord may be satisfied. A healthy child will bring from \$30 to \$70. Soldiers, usually bribed to collect by force, will pick up children or animals to cover the debt.

JOSEPH STOCKMAN.

OBSERVATIONS OF A BRITISH VISITOR

Dr. S. Vere Pearson, eminent English physician and Georgist, culminated his New York visit with an address before a large gathering at the home of Mrs. Anna George de Mille on March 24. The following is a summary of his remarks, as given to Margery Warriner of The Freeman staff.

I had been afraid that the movement on the whole had gone back, the reasons being that (judged by wisdom after the event) we had not clearly and at all times exposed the fallacies of socialism; we had been tied to the political parties too much; and we had not given to the groups which were trying to spread our philosophy that individual freedom which we preached.

Everywhere socialism in some form is sweeping the world; it is labelled in one country Fascism, in another Communism, in another New Dealism, in another Labor. However high may be the ideals some Socialist groups follow, it is well always to make it clear that Georgists are anti-Socialists.

Further, always associate the collection of the community's ground rent with the abolition of taxes. I myself have ceased, as far as I can, to talk about the land question. We in England live in a country of nearly 80% town dwellers. When they hear the land question mentioned these town dwellers immediately close their ears, believing that this applies to agricultural and other rural pursuits and that it does not concern them. Moreover, the generation of today is very apt to believe that the land question was raised early in this century by the Liberal politicians of that day and that it led to no freedom or prosperity.

As a consequence of these sentiments, I had held somewhat aloof from the School sponsors at home and in America because I thought they too were step-by-steppers, and I did not know until arriving in New York that you were by no means step-by-steppers. I admire the vigor you show. I believe you are working along right lines. Your Director fortunately does not suffer from the faults of some other prom-

inent Georgists—he encourages new workers to collaborate in the work of the School and delegates such work to those who are keen and capable.

I have always believed in the Socratic method of teaching. I have not the patience which I believe many of your teachers have, but I have been particularly pleased to discover their tolerance and patience. I feel sure, too, that the School is well-guided in avoiding the establishment of an organization and in keeping away from party politics. I am quite certain that in England many of our ablest men in the Georgist movement have been handicapped by having to tow the line with a political party. Progress can come only by gaining more knowledge. In the chaotic condition in which the world now finds itself, it is the economic truths which you are emphasizing so clearly which we want to spread. In a word, progress will come by education, education, education.

I have been much encouraged in meeting Will Lissner, who commented on my book "The Growth and Distribution of Population" (which unfortunately is now out of print) as being one of the few books written this century dealing with present problems purely from the Georgist point of view. It may interest you to know that I expect a new book on "Swollen Cities" to appear within a fortnight, and I have some hope that an American edition may be forthcoming. I have also recently been engaged with an American Georgist in studying conditions in Jamaica, with a view to collaborating with her in bringing out a book about conditions there.

More Produces Less

In 1924 the U. S. Senate Post Office Committee made a study as to possible additional revenue to be derived from an increase in the postage rate on picture postcards (private mailing cards) from one cent to two cents. Computations indicated additional revenue of about seven million dollars from this

source. The increased postage rate was put into effect. About 1926, a review of the results was made, and it was found that revenue from this source had actually decreased by something like three million dollars.

In May 1928, as field lecturer for the Henry George Lecture Association, I spoke before a service club in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. In my remarks I used this illustration as indicating the restrictive effect on production of even a small universal charge, kindred to a tax. After my talk two men came to me and said that as dealers in souvenir postcards they knew exactly what this effect was. The sale of postcards in Gettysburg, they said, had fallen off by some half million cards annually immediately after the increase in postage rate.

GEORGE H. DUNCAN.

Go and Do Likewise

Dear Mr. Greene: It was very gratifying to get the certificate for the first course, a very great and interesting work indeed; and it has been of incalculable value to me. It is ever on my mind.

Last year I took some courses at Columbia. Dr. Pilly, an associate professor—Englishman of Oxford distinction—on the panel of the course, invited me to one of his Friday night "At Homes." Very interesting and valuable occasions, with students from the other Universities of the city and week-enders from neighboring institutions. On the occasion of a perfect opening and an ideal setting, I had the delightful privilege to acquaint them with some of the fundamental philosophy of Henry George, as a solution for the particular dilemma that provoked them. I wish you could have heard me; I had had three beers, and I was fluent and my words were fired with conviction and surety. They were amazed, and desired to know more of his work and the school. I directed them. I am quite certain that some of them will enroll. The time was ripe; the time that I had long waited for. Sincerely, Ballard Majors, New York.

The BOOK TRAIL

—SIDNEY J. ABELSON—

"A foolish consistency," wrote Emerson, "is the hobgoblin of little minds."

Offered as a chastisement of unthinking obstinacy this thought has been "twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools." Turn where you will in this age which knows not Emerson you find vaunted inconsistency, rank repudiation, wanton self-contradiction piled higher and higher—all in the name of devotion to a higher end that owes not scruple to use lower means. Whoever does challenge this confusion on the score of simple logic is berated as a coward, lacking in fortitude to meet realistic problems.

Communists, Fascists, Nazis and many types of American politicians as well—all despise consistency for one reason or another. "Outworn bourgeois virtue"—"Decadent democratic custom"—"Horse and buggy thinking"—these, in effect, are some of the epithets used in the campaign to traduce that type of free thought which dares to insist upon basic consistency and perpetual inquiry.

A "foolish consistency" is indeed a mischievous sprite who bedevils clear thinking. Who has not heard some "little mind" say "My grandfather was a Republican, my father was a Republican and I am a Republican?" Or, consider the "consistency" of Communist, Fascist, Nazi or New Deal followers. Consistent in their devotion, shamelessly inconsistent in their logic, these latter-day zealots lend new meaning to the term "confusion more confounded." Unmoved by the obvious lessons of history, unshaken by the logic of events, unaroused by evidence of failure they remain consistently devoted to causes that are above everything else disgracefully inconsistent.

Extremes seem to beget extremes. The uncompromising "radicals"—of the left and of the right, and of every spectral shade—now have a strange counterpart in the too compromising liberals.

There are groups today who have faith in a middle ground reached by compromise rather than the conviction. These lack the foresight to probe our problems to their source. With noble intentions and with a spirit of unexamined good will they agree to compromise their convictions in the name of harmony. They justify compromise in the cause of immediate action on problems that cry out for solution. They exalt unity at the expense of truth. They go into debt to buy an uncertain peace.

I am but infrequently moved to make such categorical statements. The motivating factor in this instance is a sentence in "Next Steps Forward" by Donald Slesinger, a volume which summarizes four studies made by The Twentieth Century Fund.

Let us imagine for a moment that a physician said to you, "The pains of cancer are good pains because they make the sufferer conscious of his cancer." What would you think of such a doctor?

Those who have studied the tax problem in its fundamental aspects will no doubt react in the same way to Mr. Slesinger's statement that "The income tax is a good tax because it makes you tax conscious."

Readers of this volume are further informed that, for various reasons, the income tax is "superior to the sales tax"—and our hypothetical physician might say that "tuberculosis is superior to cancer."

There is a wealth of valuable material in palatably condensed form in "Next Steps Forward." Although the four studies treated include, in addition to Taxation, Big Business, Government Debt and Old-Age Security, the fundamental problems (or obstacles) seems to be in all cases the question of taxes. The Twentieth Century Fund offers compromise proposals for, in the words of Mr. Slesinger, "taxes mean services" and "When you do anything to the tax system you have to compromise. You have to seek the point which will make business possible without making life unbearable."

There are many times a quarter's worth of information in this volume for Georgists. Among numerous other illuminating facts you will be interested in learning that in the United States there are one hundred and seventy-five thousand (175,000) government units having the power to tax—and to throw the now proverbial monkey-wrenches into the processes of production.

* National Home Library, Washington, D.C., 25c.

The author of "Next Steps Forward" calmly assures us "There will be other depressions." This is unsalted fare for a populace whose appetites are being whetted by pictures of great feasts to be enjoyed in a Marxian or Hitlerian paradise.

Not preventive hygiene but narcotic

relief seems to be the motivating force in the liberal, make-it-up-as-you-go-along economics of the day. Another author who accepts the "everlasting no" is Dr. Edward A. Williams. In his "Federal Aid For Relief" he explains "Relief is certain to be a vital governmental problem of the future, and will require the utmost cooperation between the federal government and the states."

Government, then, is to become more and more a matter of poor-house management. The problem of progress and poverty is insoluble; there is nothing left but to resign ourselves to the inevitable. "The poor will always be with us."

It is only fair to point out that these authors who acknowledge the permanence of poverty do so only in a spirit of supposedly scientific objectiveness. They are by no means in favor of prolonging or ignoring the problem of poverty; but they are baffled, apparently, by that problem and can get no further with it than an attempt to cushion its evil effects.

* Columbia University Press, New York. \$3.25.

Out of the House of Harper comes an angry pamphlet penned by Louis Bromfield, a novel-writer who now turns to tilting at the windmill of British statesmanship. Mr. Bromfield is mad. He doesn't like English shopkeepers. He doesn't like Mr. Chamberlain or his cabinet. What is more, he believes that the English (whom he identifies as a "tradition" or "institution" rather than a "pure" race) "are all right in time of peace to mulct the colonies and keep the shops open." But when more virile qualities are required, "in time of crisis it is a Celt or a Gaul who is needed and who rises to meet the occasion."

Indeed, in "England, A Dying Oligarchy" Mr. Bromfield would have us believe that "The tragedy of the moment is that there is no young Lloyd George to arise and cope with the crisis of Great Britain."

In all probability Bromfield indulged in this febrile outburst not long after the tragic farce of Munich, and of course, it is only in light of such circumstances that his pamphlet can be justified. Aside from the obtuse reference to "keeping the shops open" there is not a shred of allusion to those basic economic problems which always underlie political movements. It is significant, however, that even in the slight reference to the English as shopkeepers the author is awry, for the English rulers are predominantly land owners and Anglo-Saxon history is in its fundamentals the story of how the British system of land ownership has been perpetuated and extended.

Today a virile capitalism is locked in a death struggle with the land owning tradition; but the "legality" of land ownership is so strongly entrenched, the dignity and respectability of collecting rents so highly regarded that it is pre-

NEWS OF THE CRUSADE FOR ECONOMIC ENLIGHTENMENT

Edited by Margery Wattiner

Honorary Committee of the Henry George Centenary Indicates World Interest in Anniversary Celebration

NEW YORK—The literature of the Henry George Centenary Committee is adorned with the names of prominent people in various walks of life, and of diversified interests, who find a common ground in this tribute to the memory of Henry George. Acceptances of the invitations to serve on the honorary committee are characterized by a sincere appreciation of the honor thus bestowed. Some of these names will also appear on the program, which is now in process of preparation:

Lawson Purdy, Chairman, Harry Gun-

nison Brown, Harold S. Buttenheim, S. Solis-Cohen, John Dewey, John Erskine, Harry Emerson Fosdick, William Lloyd Garrison, Frederick C. Howe, Arthur Krock, Suzanne LaFollette, Walter Lippman, Walter Mendelson, Broadus Mitchell, Albert Jay Nock, Kathleen Norris, Eugene O'Neill, Amos Pinchot, Alice Thacher Post, De Sola Pool, Samuel Seabury, William Jay Schieffelin, Ralph W. Sockman, Frank H. Sommer, Ida M. Tarbell, Dorothy Thompson, Lawrence Tibbett, Lillian D. Wald, Harry Weinberger, Franklin D. Wentworth.

Chicago Building Soundly

CHICAGO, Ill.—The winter term classes of the Chicago Extension celebrated the close of the course in Fundamental Economics and Social Philosophy with a banquet at the Brevoort Hotel, Thursday evening, April 13.

Harry C. Gollnick, instructor of the Englewood YMCA class was master of ceremonies. Addresses were made by Maurice E. Welty, Hiram B. Loomis, Henry L. T. Tideman and John Zlobito. Certificates were awarded to 158 students.

Eighteen new classes will begin during the week of April 17, fourteen of which will be in the City, one each in Evanston, Desplaines, Blue Island and La Grange.

In Evanston, where J. Benton Schaub conducts the extension, John Lawrence Monroe opened a class in the Science of Political Economy on Wednesday, April 12. This class, composed of members of the previous class in Social Problems and Principles of International Trade, has an enrollment of 28 students. A similar class opened in La Grange April 20, conducted by Mr. Henry L. T. Tideman, another in Blue Island, beginning April 25. In Chicago proper advanced classes are as follows: S.P. and P.I.T., Harold L. Brallior and Maurice E. Welty, in the loop district, on April 20 and 21 respectively; Mr. P. J. Kantrowitz at the Lincoln-Belmont YMCA on April 20. Mr. Welty's class in P.I.T. and S.P. completed the course on April 7. Mr. Henry Tideman is conducting two advanced courses, one which is now well into the Science of Political Economy, and the other, having completed the other books is now reviewing Progress and Poverty.

New instructors on the Chicago staff for the spring term are Edward P. Therio, Dr. N. D. Shaw, John C. Condon and W. Ray Gwin.

Philadelphia (Pa.) Reports

Henry W. Hetzel gave a talk on the Henry George Philosophy before the Men's Association of the Lighthouse Club, April 14.

Harold Sudell talked on the Philadelphia Land Tax Bill before the Current Events Forum, Kensington, Y.W.C.A., April 17. This bill, now in committee of the State Senate at Harrisburg, provides for shifting of the tax burden so that 99% of the revenue would come from land values, one per cent from improvements.

Gilbert M. Tucker, author of "The Path to Prosperity," addressed the Conference Class of the Frankford Friends' Meeting House, in Philadelphia, on "The Ethical Message of Henry George," on April 2.

Denmark on Air

COPENHAGEN, Denmark—A full hour will be devoted by the Danish State-Radio on September 2 to a Henry George program, writes Bue Bjorner, President of the International Union for Land Value Taxation. The Director of Talks proposes to start the feature with a program of American music by the orchestra, to follow with singing by the radio choir, a radio portrait of the life of Henry George (including the American background for the development of his philosophy), and concluding with three brief talks on his principles and their application in Denmark.

"Freedom" Is Everywhere

NEW YORK—A featured article in the April 6th issue of the "Financial Weekly" (Security Dealers Weekly), in which aviation and aviation securities seem to be the motif, brings in the problem of poverty as it affects the growth of this infant industry; the inhibitory cost of land for flying fields; free trade as a stimulus to airplane production; the more rapid development of aviation in competitive markets; the restraint of patent privilege upon the industry. The author is Lancaster M. Greene.

cisely in crises that the British fall back for leadership upon those very cliques who are the source of their troubles. Of course there is a caste system in England: but it is not one of stupid statesmen lordling it over a gullible public; it consists of a land owning class which has exalted its stolen "rights" to the status of a nobility into which even self-sustaining capitalists are anxious to crawl.

"England, A Dying Oligarchy" does not add to any claim to versatility which Mr. Bromfield may make.

* Harper & Bros., New York.

SPE Class at Hudson

HUDSON, N. Y.—A class in the Science of Political Economy was started here on April 18, meeting at 802 Columbia Street. The instructor is Willis A. Snyder.

Anders Vedel

COPENHAGEN, Denmark—Sad news comes from Denmark in notice of the death of Anders Vedel, about a month ago. Mr. Vedel, who was Principal of the People's High School in Krabbeholm, had been an active worker for Georgism for more than twenty years. For more than half of that time he had been head of various important High Schools and his ability to teach made him especially valuable as a Georgist.

Monitor—Front Page

WINCHESTER, Mass.—What can be done in the way of publicity for the School is demonstrated by the results of the persistent efforts of Harold J. Power, consulting engineer, in building up, through newspaper stories, the classes conducted by Morris Hand. His latest success is a first page story of the Winchester class in the Christian Science "Monitor," and a double column four-inch item in the conservative Boston "Transcript."

London Reports Progress

LONDON, England—Leon MacLaren of the Henry George School of Economics, 110 Southampton Row, Holborn, London, W.C. 1, writes that last term there were 14 classes in London and district, that 400 students were enrolled, from which 220 graduated, and that advanced courses in "Science of Political Economy" and Geiger's "Philosophy of Henry George" will be offered this term. Students are being enrolled at present and classes will number 24 and spread farther afield.

Who's Who in Georgism



Few present day adherents to the philosophy of Henry George can boast as long and active an association with the founder's principles as Francis Neilson. As actor and playwright, music critic and stage director, as Member of Parliament, journalist, editor or writer of books, Mr. Neilson, who was born in Birkenhead, England, in 1867, has ever been active in promoting the teachings of George.

At eighteen, Neilson came to America. Working in Washington Market in New York, at various jobs on the wharves and as store clerk, writing articles, "singing" on the New York stages, his contacts were ever-widening. During these

early years he studied assiduously and attended labor meetings in New York and Boston. At one of these meetings in Union Square in 1888 or 1889, the speaker dealt with "Progress and Poverty." Neilson secured a copy. He says: "It was this book that gave me the zeal to go after knowledge. . . . No matter where I went, for years, I studied it conscientiously. Here was the reply to Marx; here was the reply to the protectionists."

Before the election of 1906 in England, to which he had returned in 1897, Neilson was coupling the taxation of land values with free trade in all his speeches. In the Budget of 1909, the British Government asked for a valuation and levied sundry taxes upon the value of the land. The important part that Neilson played in drawing up the Land Values Manifesto and in the innumerable debates now reads like an exciting bit of history.

In 1912 Neilson, again in the United States, gave thirty-two addresses in twenty-nine days and travelled over ten thousand miles. On returning to England, he was made President of the English League for the Taxation of Land Values.

In 1914 Mr. Neilson wrote his sensational exposé, "How Diplomats Make War," and returned to America the following year, where it was published. He became an American citizen in 1921, editor of the "Freeman" (New York) and "Unity" (Chicago). Of recent years he has published "Duty to Civilization," "The Old Freedom," "The Eleventh Commandment," "Control from the Top," "Sociocratic Escapades" and "Man at the Crossroads."

The East Bay Henry George School 2860 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley, Calif. Spring Term—1939

OAKLAND

OAKLAND HIGH SCHOOL, Park Blvd. at Hopkins, Tues., Apr. 11, 7:30 p.m. C. K. Sutcliffe.

HAMILTON JR. HIGH SCHOOL, 35 Ave. & Galindo, Thurs., Apr. 13, 7:30 p.m. Jerome Crawford.

TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL, Rm. 35, B'way at 43 St., Thurs., Apr. 13, 7:30 p.m. Helen D. Denbigh.

BERKELEY

LIVE OAK CLUBHOUSE, 1301 Shattuck Ave., Mon., Apr. 10, 7:30 p.m. Helen Calista Wilson.

McKINLEY SCHOOL, Dwight Way nr. Telegraph, Thurs., Apr. 13, 7:30 p.m. Helen Calista Wilson.

An advanced course in the "Science of Political Economy" is being given at the Aiden Library, Telegraph Avenue at 52nd Street, by Miss Helen Denbigh.

Did He Pass?

NEWARK, N. J.—John B. Slack, a Newark graduate, took an examination in a course of "Social Policy" at Drew University. It called for a discussion of two sociological books. He wrote: "I have no recollection of either of these books, therefore I am in a quandary as to their content. However, not wishing to die without a fight, I shall give a resume of the principles of Henry George. It is the best I am able to do, so help me!"

Student Summer Classes

NEW YORK—Miss Teresa McCarthy, School Secretary, is contacting heads of sociology and economics departments in the local high schools, with the object of interesting seniors to take the course in Fundamental Economics at the Henry George School of Social Science during the summer vacation. The course will be supplemented with analyses of economics textbooks used in colleges.

New City Club Class

NEW YORK—Twenty-four enrolled in a class which started on April 18 at the City Club, 55 W. 44 Street, under William H. Quasha.

Evanston Keeps Going

EVANSTON, ILL.—Graduation certificates were issued to 27 at the exercises held in the Evanston Public Library, March 17. John Lawrence Monroe, Field Secretary, gave a talk on "Where Do We Go From Here." To promote the School's activities in Evanston, a group decided to organize a Fellowship and elected Mrs. Emelie Mackie, President; Mr. Leslie Ard, Secretary; and Miss Betty Louise Foyer, Treasurer. J. Benton Schaub reports a new class began April 21.

Dr. Aiken Plans Book

NEW YORK—Dr. Janet R. Aiken will hold the first of a series of meetings of a writers' committee at her home on Saturday evening, April 29. The project is a book containing authoritative treatment of a number of current problems, emphasizing the Georgist solution. Publication is tentatively provided for.

Cincinnati Dinner

CINCINNATI, Ohio—The Mayor of Hamilton, a graduate of the HGSSS, will address the graduation exercises of the Spring classes, to be held here on May 10, according to George W. Hughes, Extension Secretary.

Fairchild on Forum

NEW YORK—"Economic Aspects of Land Titles" will be the subject of the Forum address by Walter Fairchild, in the Students Room, Sunday, May 7, at 4 P.M. The lecture will be illustrated with one hundred natural color slides. Discussion will follow.

Jamaica Graduates

JAMAICA, L. I.—Graduation exercises of the classes conducted in this locality were held under the auspices of the Society for Long Island Georgists, of which Benn V. Blum is Acting Chairman, March 31, at the Diplomat Restaurant. Two hundred were present to witness the presentation of certificates to 33 students. The speakers: Anna George de Mille, Stephen Bell, Lancaster M. Greene, Grace Isabel Colbron, Councilman Charles Belous, Walter Fairchild, Otto K. Dorn, Morris Van Veen, Charles H. Ingersoll. Dr. S. A. Schneidman was Toastmaster.

Sixty More in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, O.—John Radcliffe, Secretary, reports the graduation of sixty students at the exercises of April 14th. 150 were present at the dinner and speakers were Dr. Crawley of Cleveland College, and Dr. Geiger of Antioch College. Henry Boynton acted as Toastmaster. A Teachers Training Class will start on April 25th.

News From Canada

HAMILTON, Ont.—R. K. Thoman and Alec Gibson have a class, drawn mainly from employees of Remington-Rand, studying Cooperative Banking. The last half of each session they study "Progress and Poverty."

Don Hamon and Frank Greensides started a group at the Hamon home on March 28. Herb Brownlie is assisting. Don Hamon has prepared a brief on the Georgist philosophy for submission to the Youth section of the Provincial Council of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation.

TORONTO, Ont.—The annual meeting of the Single Tax Association of Canada was held at the Y. W. C. A. Toronto on March 31. Some 45 attended, including delegations from Oshawa and Hamilton. President J. H. L. Patterson presided. The features of the evening were the report of the Association presented by the Secretary, Herbert Owens, and an address by J. C. Van Esterik on "Progress in Transportation." A. J. M. Poole, of Kelwood, Man., a former member of the Manitoba Legislature, addressed the gathering. Meredith H. Moffatt presented greetings on behalf of the Oshawa group and John Wilson did similarly for Hamilton. Arthur B. Farmer closed the meeting.

OSHAWA, Ont.—President J. H. L. Patterson and Secretary Herbert Owens attended the closing session of the class which has been meeting since January at the Genosha Hotel, under Meredith H. Moffatt. Fourteen certificates were presented. Mr. Moffatt related that he had joined Mr. A. I. MacKay's class last fall in order to "show it up," as he had notions of the fitness of things with which the Georgist philosophy conflicted. There is now no more sincere disciple of George than Mr. Moffatt.

TORONTO, Ont.—On March 19 the Cana-union of a group led by Ernest J. Farmer and of one led by Herbert Owens was held at the school headquarters. Eleven certificates were presented in the Fundamental Economics course.

TORONTO, Ont.—A. J. M. Poole, of Kelwood, paid a visit to Toronto headquarters on April 3 and talked over the Manitoba situation. As a former member of the Legislature and prominent in the Canadian Chamber of Agriculture, and a Georgist to boot, we were glad to meet him. He put us in touch with S. J. Farmer, leader of the C. C. F. party in the Legislature, who was active in Georgist interest with the late F. J. Dixon. We look for a revival of the cause in Manitoba.

MONTREAL, Que.—Miss Strehel Walton reports: "Since our classes opened in the fall we have enrolled 85 new students to date, sold 93 copies of Progress and Poverty, and 20 copies of Protection or Free Trade."

MONTREAL, Que.—Miss Margaret Bateman reports: "Our Canadian Pacific Railway group looks most promising. There are 33 young men in the group, most of whom have had some training in public speaking. There have been 130 enrollments in Montreal groups since last September."

HAMILTON, Ont.—Seven of a class conducted by John Wilson received certificates at a social reunion at the Wilson home on April 7. The Misses Florence and Louisa Macdonald, Ernest J. Farmer and Herbert Owens motored from Toronto for the occasion. Extension Secretary Robert Wynne was present, and several graduates of earlier classes. Frank Greensides informed that Hamilton now has a Henry George Club, and is now ready to go places.

TORONTO, Ont.—On March 15, Secretary Herbert Owens was guest speaker at the luncheon of the Lumbermen's Credit Bureau, consisting of the credit men of supply houses catering to the building industry. Arising out of this contact, an article was requested for the trade journal, "Building in Canada," and one entitled "Can Taxation Stimulate Building?" will appear in the next issue.

Schalkenbach Foundation Moves

The location of 11 Park Place occupied by the Schalkenbach Foundation for more than ten years has become inadequate for the expanding service rendered by this organization. Therefore, the directors accepted the invitation of the Henry George School to move to its building, and on May 1 will occupy over 300 square feet of the ground floor, in addition to book storage space in the basement. The entrance being from the street, a public book store will be maintained, and it is expected that the large window display will attract much interest and trade.

Miss V. G. Peterson will be in charge, Mrs. Antoinette Wambaugh having resigned her position of Executive Secretary. The new address is 30 East 29th Street, New York.

Mrs. De Mille Broadcasts

The Speakers Bureau arranged for Mrs. de Mille's appearance as guest-artist on Station WHN, New York, April 6th, 9 A.M. She was interviewed for half an hour on the life of Henry George and the function of the HGSSS, by Miss Polly Shedlove, on "Polly the Shopper" program. Letters asking for information on courses given at the HGSSS are still coming in.

New Publicity Director

NEW YORK—The work of keeping the public informed on the activities of the School has been taken over by Miss Joan Aiken, student at Barnard College, daughter of Dr. Janet Rankin Aiken, who is giving the course in Expository Writing at the School.

Speakers' Bureau Reports

March 28—Dr. S. A. Schneidman, addressed the Men's Club of First Reformed Church of Jamaica, in Jamaica, L.I., on "Preserving Our American Democracy."

March 29—Arthur N. Seiff spoke on "What Is the American Way?" to the Round Table Club, Y.M.C.A., Yonkers, N. Y., followed by open discussion.

March 31—Mac V. Edds spoke to the Discussion Group of Community Congregational Church, Little Falls, N. J., on "The Work of the Henry George School."

April 12—Louis Wallis addressed the luncheon meeting of the Rotary Club, Union City, N.J., on "Lopsided Taxation."

April 13—Henry A. Lowenberg, attorney, spoke on "What Is Happening in Europe Today," to the Knights of Pythias Empire City Lodge No. 524, at 257 W. 93rd St., New York.

April 16—Archibald C. Matteson, Jr., addressed a group of young people at Central Presbyterian Church, 64th St. and Park Ave., N. Y., on "Preservation of American Democracy."

April 16—Jules A. Guedalia, advanced student HGSSS, addressed the Pilgrim League of Ocean Ave. Congregational Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., on "How to Save Our American Democracy."

April 17—Peter C. Murphy, instructor, spoke on "International Relations," to the Kappa Club, Elizabeth, N. J., at their dinner-meeting.

April 19—Richard M. Connor addressed the Men's Group, Y.M.C.A., White Plains, N. Y., on "Democracy at the Crossroads," followed by open forum.

Advance Bookings

April 25—Mr. M. B. Thomson will speak on "Philosophy of Henry George" at Congregation Derech Emenuch, Avenel, L. I.

April 26—Mr. Louis Wallis will address the Alumni Forum at Pace Institute, 225 Broadway, N. Y., on "The Future of America: The Roles of Capital, Labor, and Government." This is one of the series of "Re-Making America" forums held at the Pace Institute.

May 2—Mr. Louis Wallis will speak on "Lopsided Taxation" at Rotary Club, Newburgh, N. Y.

May 7—Mr. M. B. Thomson will speak to the Young People's Group of First Presbyterian Church, Henry St., Brooklyn, N. Y., on "The Housing Problem."

Analyzes H. G. Handwriting

NEW YORK—Miss Dorothy Sara, who directs the HGSSS Speakers' Bureau, is a contributor to the magazine "Occult Guide" for May, 1939, with an article entitled "Analyze Your Own Handwriting." Miss Sara, a Graphology expert, analyzes specimens of the writing of Henry George.

New Classes June 26

NEW YORK—Plans for the enrollment of 1000 students in the Summer course, beginning June 26, are under way. Classes will be held from 10 to 12 A.M., 3 to 5 P.M., and 7 to 9 P.M.

Legislators Graduate

CONCORD, N. H.—The following is from the Concord Daily Monitor of March 30:—"The classes in Social Science led by Representative George H. Duncan of Jaffrey and affiliated with the HGSSS of New York were brought to a close Wednesday evening with a dinner at the Puritan Restaurant. Of an enrollment of 50 members, including 26 members of the House of Representatives, 32 received certificates. Lawrance W. Rathbun of Concord acted as Toastmaster. Mr. Duncan presented the certificates; responses were given by Representatives Mabel Cooper of Nashua and Sidney S. Frissell of Keene, and by Miss Ada D. Pearce of Concord and Henry I. Baldwin, Director of the Fox Research Forest, Hillsboro. Principal speaker was Lancaster M. Greene and the exercises closed with selected readings from 'Progress and Poverty' by Robert St. John of Concord."

Barnstorming

NEW YORK—The Camp Committee reports that it will need still more carpenters and plumbers than have already volunteered to make the Old Barn of Redding, Connecticut, into a real branch of the School. (Ladies who have volunteered for interior decorative work will have to withhold their talents until the men have provided an interior, also exterior.) The land, 50 miles from New York, consists of 3.81 acres, so that there is plenty of room for building operations, to say nothing of tents (if you have any). Week-enders will find plenty to do, and several permanent residents can "rough it" in the barn under construction. Operations start June 10.

In Western Massachusetts

GREENFIELD, Mass.—On May 1, reports John E. Bond, instructor, graduation exercises for the Winter term will be held here. The public will be invited, in order to stimulate interest in subsequent classes. Seven completed the fundamental course on April 19.

McNair's Round Table

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—"McNair's Round Table" has been going over the air from Station WWSW during the past three months, on Sunday afternoons at 6:15 p.m. Testing current events in the light of Georgist philosophy is the theme of these discussions. This is a sustaining program.

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Books by Henry George

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Science of Political Economy
Protection or Free Trade
Progress and Poverty

By other Authors

Theory of the Land Question	by George Raymond Geiger
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Path to Prosperity	by Gilbert M. Tucker
The Game of Life	by Bolton Hall

Combination No. 1

Theory of Human Progression	by Patrick Edward Dove
Story of My Dictatorship	by Berens & Singer
Nine Speeches by Henry George	

Combination No. 2

What's Wrong With Taxation	by Jackson H. Ralston
Gems from Henry George	

Combination No. 3

Significant Paragraphs from Progress and Poverty	
Selected by Harry Gunnison Brown	
Foreword by John Dewey	
Unemployment and the Revenue Problem	by John S. Codman

Combination No. 4

Colored Portrait of Henry George	
Addresses at the Funeral of Henry George	by Rev. Lyman Abbott, Dr. Gustav Gottheil, Rev. Edward McGlynn, John Sherwin Crosby

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