

HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL MAGAZINE



HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

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(Edited by a panel of Tutors)

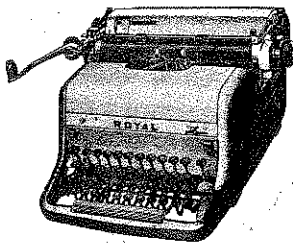
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November 1954.

Editorial



Mr. A.G. Street, the "Any Questions?" broadcaster, was taken to task by a listener ("Any Answers", 26th October) for attacking the Welfare State. As Mr. Street did not define clearly what he meant by the "Welfare State" he appeared, according to the correspondent, to be condemning old age pensions, the factory acts and the "rule of the road". But even if listeners gave him the benefit of the doubt concerning his views on these particular questions, there must have been many who would stoutly defend the Welfare State, if not because they think it a good thing in itself, then because Mr. Street had nothing to offer as a substitute for these Welfare measures which are designed to give "freedom from want".

We have not much to say in favour of the Welfare State, but lest we too are in danger of being misunderstood let us state quite clearly that we condemn Welfare State measures, not because we are out of sympathy with those who are in need, but because it is the wrong way of solving the poverty problem. If we point to the absurdities, the anomalies, the contradictions and the wastefulness, the crazy interlacing of give and take among the Peters and Pauls in society, then people might be tempted to ask what we have to offer. Readers of this magazine will know what we have to offer.

Mr. Street sees with much clarity the dangers inherent in building up a paternal State; he sees that it is but the thin end of the wedge of State domination of the people, differing in its final state from Communism only by its name. But Mr. Street will get little understanding or sympathy when he ignores need under our present system of wealth distribution for a radical change. Finally, let it be said that we do not believe in taking the scaffolding down until the foundations are laid and the main structure is established.



REG SMITH'S IMPRESSION OF PERSONALITIES AT THE DORKING WEEKEND SCHOOL

SISSY'S PROGRESS

IN POLITICAL
ECONOMY



M'Choakumchild reported that she (Jupe) had a very dense head for figures; that, once possessed with a general idea of the globe, she took the smallest conceivable interest in its exact measurements; that she was extremely slow in the acquisition of dates, unless some pitiful incident happened to be connected therewith; that she would burst into tears on being required (by the mental process) immediately to name the cost of two hundred and forty-seven muslin caps at fourteenpence halfpenny; that she was as low down, in the school, as low could be; that after eight weeks of induction into the elements of political economy, she had only yesterday been set right by a prattler three feet high, for returning to the question "What is the first principle of this science?" the absurd answer, "To do unto others as I would that they should do unto me."

Mr. Gradgrind observed, shaking his head, that all this was very bad; that it showed the necessity of infinite grinding at the mill of knowledge as per system, schedule, blue book, report and tabular statements A to Z; and that Jupe "must be kept to it". So Jupe was kept to it, and became low-spirited, but no wiser.

"It would be a fine thing to be you, Miss Louisa!" she said one night when Louisa had endeavoured to make her perplexities for next day something clearer to her.

"Do you think so?"

"I should know so much, Miss Louisa. All that is difficult for me now, would be so easy then."

"You might not be the better for it, Sissy."

..."You don't know," said Sissy half crying, "what a stupid girl I am. All through school hours, I make mistakes. Mr. and Mrs. M'Choakumchild call me up, over and over again, regularly to make mistakes. I can't help them. They seem to come natural to me."

"Mr. and Mrs. M'Choakumchild never make any mistakes themselves, I suppose, Sissy?"

"Oh, no!" she eagerly returned. "They know everything."

"Tell me some more of your mistakes."

"I am almost ashamed," said Sissy, with reluctance. "But today, for instance, Mr. M'Choakumchild was explaining to us about Natural Prosperity."

"National, I think it must have been," observed Louisa.

"Yes, it was. - But isn't it the same?" she timidly asked.

"You had better say, National, as he said so," returned Louisa, with her dry reserve.

"National Prosperity. And he said, 'Now, this schoolroom is a nation. And in this nation, there are fifty millions of money. Isn't this a prosperous nation? Girl number twenty, isn't this a prosperous nation, and ain't you in a thriving state?'"

"What did you say?" asked Louisa.

"Miss Louisa, I said I didn't know. I thought I couldn't know whether it was a prosperous nation or not, and whether I was in a thriving state or not, unless I knew who had got the money, and whether any of it was mine. But that had nothing to do with it. It was not in the figures at all," said Sissy, wiping her eyes.

"That was a great mistake of yours," said Louisa.

"Yes, Miss Louisa, I know it was, now. Then Mr. M'Choakumchild said he would try me again. And he said, 'This schoolroom is an



immense town, and in it there are a million of inhabitants, and only five-and-twenty are starved to death in the streets, in the course of the year. What is your remark on that proportion?' And my remark was - for I couldn't think of a better one - that I thought it must be just as hard upon those who were starved, whether the others were a million, or a million million. And that was wrong, too."

"Of course it was".

"Then Mr. M'Choakumchild said he would try me once more. And he said, 'Here are the stutterings - '"

"Statistics," said Louisa.

"Yes, Miss Louisa - they always remind me of stutterings, and that's another of my mistakes - 'of accidents upon the sea. And I find (Mr. M'Choakumchild said) that in a given time a hundred thousand persons went to sea on long voyages, and only five hundred of them were drowned or burned to death. What is the percentage?' And I said, miss" - here Sissy fairly sobbed as confessing with extreme contrition to her greatest error - "I said it was nothing."

"Nothing, Sissy?"

"Nothing, miss, to the relations and friends of the people who were killed. I shall never learn," said Sissy. "And the worst of all is, that although my poor father wished me so much to learn, and although I am so anxious to learn, because he wished me to, I am afraid I don't like it."

CHARLES DICKENS, "Hard Times".

"THE EGYPTIAN STRUGGLE".
(From an article in "The Observer", 17 Oct. by Lt. Col. Gamal Abdul Nasser, now Prime Minister of Egypt.

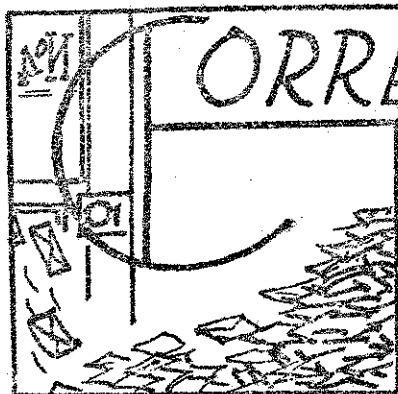
Frequently people come to me and say: "But you have made the whole nation angry!" To this type of remark, I always reply: "The anger of the people is not the important thing in this situation. The real question is - Is what angers them for the good of the nation?"

I realise we have angered the large landowners. But is it possible for us not to anger them, to abandon to them the soil of our country? There are among us those who possess tens of thousands of acres, and there are many who do not own even a piece of ground to be buried in!

I realise that we have angered the politicians of the old regime. But was it possible not to anger them, to leave our nation to be the prey of their greed and corruption and their struggles for the fruits of power?

I realise we have angered a great many officials. But was it possible for us to continue to devote more than half the national budget to the salaries of officials, and thus to be unable to earmark £40 million (as we have in fact done) for constructive projects?

Nothing would be easier than to please all these people; but if their displeasure is the price which our nation must pay for its hope and its future, their displeasure must be risked.



CORRESPONDENCE—

Sirs: The following letter appeared in the "Daily Telegraph", 13th October 1954:

"In Hyde Park recently a middle-aged woman scattering litter was reminded that baskets for it were close at hand and should be used. She bridled and replied that men were employed to pick it up and that if people did not scatter it they would be deliberately depriving men of their well-paid jobs. If this is not Socialism run amok, I do not know what is. Yours faithfully, S.E.G. Ponder, Richmond, Surrey."

Whether this is a good definition of Socialism does not matter; what is interesting is that this kind of economic thinking is not confined to middle-aged women or Socialists. Indeed, it is all-party economic policy, for what is this kind of thinking but Keynesian "economics" stripped of economic jargon and statistics?

And has not the idea of protective tariffs its roots in the same philosophy - "Don't buy from the foreigner even if it costs us more, because its taking work from a Britisher"?, (forgetting that the foreigner has to be paid eventually by British labour).

And what of the attitude of trade unionists, who will fight to keep men "employed" no matter what the cost to their fellow workers, the consumers?

It is always "find work", "make work" or "ration work" and hang the community generally, who always foot the bill. The trade unionist, though rightly sensing something wrong with our present economic set-up, knows no better - the professional economist ought to! And it is he who is responsible for this kind of thinking.

The writer of that letter in the "Telegraph" should direct his reprimands to this quarter and not at foolish litter scatterers. But then, I'll wager Mr. Ponder is an ardent protectionist and a supporter of the modern approach to economics.

Yours, etc., Dick Peters, Hampstead, N.W.3.

DEFINING TERMS

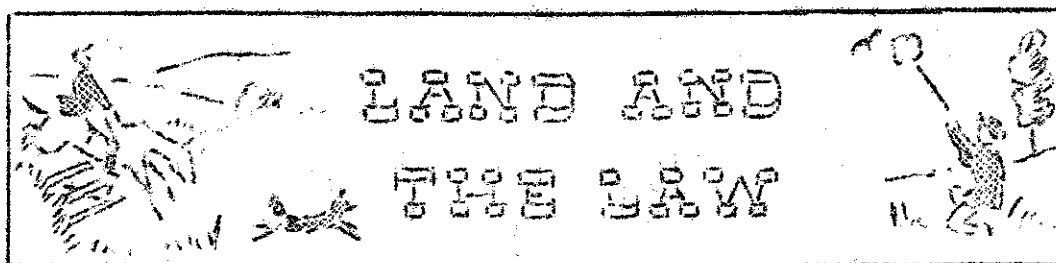


MOST readers of the Magazine will be familiar with the terms used in our economic studies. The following may recall the student's first lesson of the Basic Course. The answers are from the Westminster class which opened on the 23rd September.

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No.</u>
Would you consider the following Wealth?		
Roast duck on your dining room table	6	6
Untapped oil in the ground	5	6
Petrol in your car	9	3
A house	10	2
The plot on which it stands	11	1
Money	7	5
Would you regard the occupations of the following people as Labour?		
Coal miner	12	0
Business manager	6	5
Travelling salesman	8	4
Are the following Capital?		
A motor car used for pleasure	9	3
A motor car used in business	11	1
Land used in business	11	1
Money	8	2
Do "profits" and "interest" mean different things to you?	12	0
Would you consider a man's salary as his Wages?	7	4


(It will be noticed that some abstained!)

We print this actual example at the request of a reader who wishes to use it to recruit new students and because we hope others will do likewise. It is ideal for arousing interest -




FOXHUNTING. The preservation of foxes and the passing of the hunt over land interfere with the extension of poultry-farming and thorough cultivation. The voluntary compensations, moreover, seldom cover the damage actually done, and take no account whatever of the general hindrance to economic development. In law, of course, foxes are vermin, and the occupier of land can kill foxes on it and can prevent trespass by the hunt; but in practice most of the occupiers have the land on short terms, and if they were to exercise these rights they would soon get notice to quit. Land-value policy would do much to better the position by promoting security of tenure, by encouraging improvements, and by rating and taxing each property on the fee-simple value of the land instead of merely on its occupation value under hunting conditions. It should also be remembered that the hunting of any animal preserved for that purpose involves a certain amount of cruelty; whilst there are many manly sports which are free from this taint.

GAME. In law, speaking generally, the animals and birds that come under the description of "game" are wild; they are not the property of anyone till they are killed or taken; and apart from certain special provisions, no one is responsible for any damage that they do. But the legal right to kill and take them is limited by law to particular persons. In England the occupying owner (to take the simplest case) has the sporting rights - to give them their ordinary name - and if the owner lets the land to a tenant, the sporting rights are assumed to pass to the tenant unless they are specially reserved. In Scotland an Act of 1621 (c.31) limited the rights of hunting and hawking to those who have "a plough of land in heritage"; and as a tenancy, however long, does not come within this description, the sporting rights do not pass to the tenant unless they are specially included in the lease. In either country the holder of the sporting rights, in the absence of contrary agreement, can let them to some third party, who is generally known as the shooting tenant. In both countries, moreover, the landowner can decline to let the land except on his own terms; so that, for practical purposes, in both countries, the sporting rights are an incident of land-ownership.



CONTEMPORARY COMMENTS



FREE TRADERS ON THE GOLD COAST

"Border police stated today that they are unable to cope with the armed gangs which escort the smugglers of cocoa across the Gold Coast frontier to French Togoland. The gangs number from 20 to 100 men. In French Togoland prices of 110s. for 72 lbs. of cocoa obtain. The Gold Coast Cocoa Board offers 86s. for an equivalent amount. Farmers have protested against the Board's prices."

"The Government here is taking the gravest view of the situation, but faces the problem of how to raise a force large enough to combat the bandit activities." (Daily Telegraph, 4th Oct., 1954)

Free traders are called hard names here. They are referred to as "bandits" and "gangs". This is intended, of course, so that the reader should have no doubt in his mind that Free Trade is anti-social and is to be soundly condemned.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES ON POOR RELIEF

"There is to be no immediate change in the distribution of the £60 million annual Exchequer equalisation grants to rating authorities in England and Wales. A further review will take place in 1956." (Daily Telegraph, 5th October, 1954)

If this goes on, local authorities will lose all their independence and another brick will have been laid to the building of the all-powerful State. If local authorities were permitted to raise their revenue from rates on site values, it would relieve the national exchequer and keep local authorities independent. This, quite apart from the other beneficial economic effects.

MAKING IT PLAIN

Mr. Lennox-Boyd, Colonial Secretary, today gave a categorical assurance to British settlers in Kenya that they were "here to stay". Old settlers or newcomers, they could regard their homes as theirs and their descendants'.

He was being questioned at a Press conference about "signs of a lack of confidence" which, he said, he had found among some people, and fears expressed about European immigration and land ownership.

(Daily Telegraph, 8th October, 1954).

HERE'S YOUR CHANCE!

15,500 acres in Swaziland. In two estates with river frontage, close to rail-head for Durban. For sale Freehold. Ideal for cattle, citrus, sisal,

rice, bananas and other sub-tropical crops. Estates would be sold separately. Exceptional Death Duty and tax advantages. Apply Hampton & Sons Ltd., 6 Arlington Street, London S.W.1.

(Advertisement in Daily Telegraph, 31st August, 1954)

BACK TO LONDON Beneath a picture of St. Paul's Cathedral which appeared in the September 15th issue of "The Star", was the following: "St. Paul's Cathedral was framed by the arm of a giant crane as seven City workers looked over a chin-high wall. Work that held their interest was the building of the new offices to be occupied by some departments of the Bank of England. The three-acre area has been leased to the Bank at £76,000 a year ground rent."

The rent alone is enough to hold anyone's interest!

A SUBORDINATE SCIENCE? "Wherever economics is taught, it figures only as a subordinate science. There is no institution in France where students can cover in a systematic and co-ordinated way the whole field of knowledge needed by a young economist today." (Prof. James, of the Faculty of Law, Paris, in his report on France).

THE MARCH OF PROGRESS AND THE MARCH OF RENT Commonwealth scientists have found that in many cases the cattle-bearing capacity of land may be multiplied tenfold, sometimes even a hundredfold, by the distribution over an acre of a handful of certain chemicals. A typical example is Conalbyn Downs, or "Ninety Mile Desert", south of Adelaide. Three million acres of useless land here have been reclaimed. Flying low over this area, I saw land green with clover side by side with arid strips of untreated land. The change was effected at the ridiculously low cost of £2 an acre. How far these new techniques are applicable no-one can say without surveys and analyses of individual districts. They have already resulted in a tightening of the land market, for no property owner can tell how valuable his land may be.

(The Sydney Correspondent, "Daily Telegraph", 14th September, 1954).

SPECIAL INTERESTS VS. THE CONSUMER At the forthcoming enquiry into proposed amendments to the Milk Marketing Scheme, there are 17 objectors. Only one, the Cheap Food League, represents the consumer. This underlines the need for the existence of a Minister to safeguard consumer interests.

With the prospect of compulsory producer marketing boards for every agricultural commodity and the obvious unwillingness of the Government to intervene on behalf of the consumer in such matters as the Icelandic Fish dispute, this latest step makes the prospect of those whose living standards depend on being able to buy their food requirements cheaply grim indeed.

(Oliver Smedley, (Chairman, Cheap Food League)

MAN BITES DOG!

The following letter by W.A.Dowe appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald, 16th August 1954.

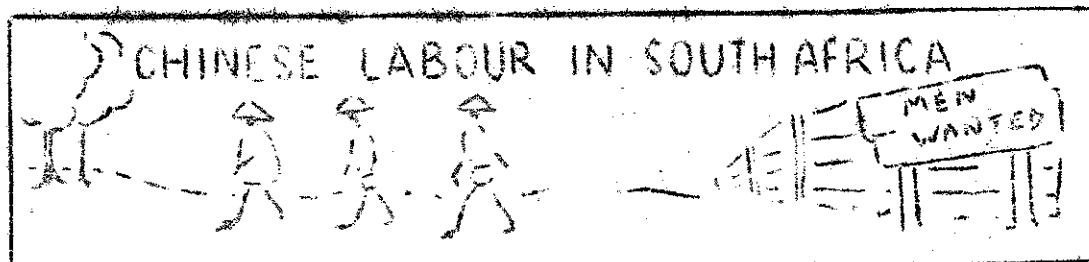
"In your issue of August 11 appeared a charming picture of a dog helping a roof thatcher in England. Charming, that is, to those who take no thought of the alarming economic aspects should the practice of dog labour spread to Australia. The dog in the picture was not a member of any union, and was not receiving award wages. Some unionist was being deprived of a job. By merely extending our existing legislation and regulations the whole situation could be remedied in various ways. We are already well protected against anti-social behaviour such as buying and selling in prohibited hours, and we could simply appoint an additional staff of inspectors of the Department of Labour and Industry, sufficiently numerous and legally equipped to put down this animal labour while there is still time.

"The salaries of the inspectors and of the necessary Judges, lawyers, police, clerks, etc., could easily be made a charge on employers, like the payroll-tax. The workers would then pay nothing. Alternatively, all such animals could be declared pests or noxious animals, and could be got rid of altogether if they insisted on helping humans. Thus an equally large staff could be provided with employment. Yet another alternative would be a licensing system. The great advantage of this would be that not all animals would be prevented from working, but that selected ones, such as draught horses, could be permitted to work on payment of a reasonable licensing fee, equal, say, to the amount of wages that would have to be paid to union labour for doing equal work. So far I have not read of any other warnings as to the implications of your picture. Surely all political parties are not blind to the menace."

* * * * *

"The right way of raising public revenue must accord with the moral law... It must not take from individuals what rightfully belongs to individuals; it must not give some an advantage over others, as by increasing the prices of what some have to sell and others must buy; it must not lead men into temptation, by requiring trivial oaths, by making it profitable to lie, to swear falsely, to bribe or to take bribes; it must not confuse the distinctions of right and wrong...by creating crimes that are not sins, and punishing men for doing what in itself they have an undoubted right to do; it must not repress industry; it must not check commerce; it must not punish thrift; it must offer no impediment to the largest production and the fairest division of wealth." Henry George.





THE fundamental relationship between Land, Labour and Capital is clearly and forcefully expressed by the incident of the imported Chinese labour into South Africa. Dealing with a relatively simple community, there is no irrelevant detail to distract.

In the opening years of this present century (approximately 1904), the captains of industry in South Africa gathered in conclave and decreed that the standard of living for the working man must be subjected to drastic revision and substantially reduced.

The owners of a well-known diamond digging industry in the Johannesburg region issued instructions that the headmen of all locally recruited african labour were to be summoned to receive the tidings that henceforth they were to work diligently for considerably less. The Africans demurred and suggested that their labour might be withdrawn. This was an insolent suggestion. The management could obtain unlimited supplies of foreign labour from other places, even from China itself! If the African was stupid, he would be excluded for ever from the mines and left to his own devices, and then he would learn in his own good time the might and power that resided with Capital, and most particularly when it was in goodly concentration! The African was duly locked out. Not on him were the inestimable benefits of civilisation to be conferred!

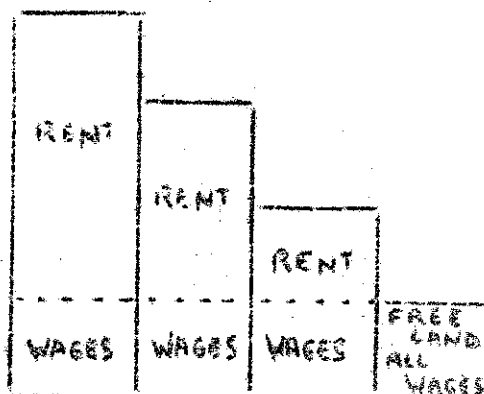
Now in his own country the white man was already operating on a lowered level of subsistence; his education, his trade unions, his representation in the British Parliament had been signally unsuccessful in warding off the blows of "Capital" when aimed at his standard of living.

The African on the other hand had received no day schooling, not even night schooling; he had no trade unions, no franchise, no expert advice, and no friends, and yet he dared to withhold his labour - he struck work! The employers went swiftly to work and organised an alternative labour supply. Thousands of Chinese labourers were imported to replace the native, who seemingly was so blind to his own self-interest that he could thus wantonly prejudice his livelihood.

The Chinese Government made conditions of employment for the Chinese labour in the diamond mines. They insisted on a certain

standard of housing for their people; that doctors be available to minister to the sick, and furthermore that when their employment in the mines terminated these Chinese were to be repatriated.

These and other minor terms galled exceedingly the shareholders and management of the diamond concern. Only the thought that the resistance of the African workers would be finally and overwhelmingly crushed made the Chinese Government's conditions tolerable to the mineowners.



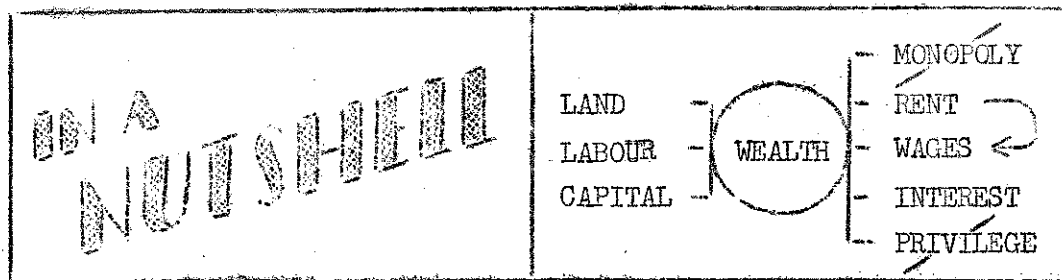
By now the Africans should have been starving, and in the last stages of despair, glad to work for as little as would keep body and soul together. Let us take a look at them. All had dispersed to their several native villages, where they grew corn and tended their cattle - or more probably their wives did - but that is another story. They lived as their fathers and their grandfathers did - in fact as their ancestors from time immemorial had lived before them. And they and their descendants could have lived after their fashion for evermore, but for the sequel.

The indentured Chinese were not happy in the mines. Not being acclimatised they fell ill repeatedly and were less efficient than the African workers whom they replaced. It cost more money to dig fewer diamonds, and the shareholders' experiment had been proved a failure. Clearly Capital was in a "spot". Something had to be done, and without delay.

The African headmen were summoned to further conference. The employers felt confident that by this time the African workers would have learned their lesson. The mine-owners asked the Africans to return to their old jobs. The offer was accepted. What the rate of pay was I do not know, but of one thing we may be certain - the returning Africans would not have accepted less than they had been paid previously.

How was it that the unorganised, uneducated African had succeeded while the organised, educated white worker in Britain and elsewhere had repeatedly failed? The answer lies in his access to the means of an alternative livelihood. This relationship of Land to Labour and Capital cannot be too strongly emphasised.

I mentioned a sequel. It is sad to relate that this lesson was clearly understood by the white employers and was embodied in subsequent legislation. The native population of South Africa is



WHAT we seek by a simple change in taxation is to put all men on the plane of equal opportunity. We would not take from one to give to another; we would not beg one class to relieve by their alms another class. But by abolishing taxation upon labour and the products of labour we would leave to the individual the full rewards of individual industry, skill and thrift. By taking for the community those values which attach to land we would take for the benefit of all that which is brought forth by the presence and effort of all. In all things we would follow Freedom. Where freedom of competition is possible, there we would leave everything to individual action; where freedom of competition becomes impossible, there we would have the State step in, so far and only so far as may be necessary to secure individual freedom.

To give permanent and remunerative employment to everyone ... it is not necessary for society to give any guarantees; it is not necessary to nationalise capital, nor yet to coax employers benevolently to give a larger share of their earnings to their workmen. It is not necessary to call on Christian endeavour to base a division of the products upon some equitable principle. That equitable principle already exists in natural laws which, if left unobstructed, will with a certainty that no human adjustment could rival give to each who takes part in the work of production that which is justly his due.

Henry George, in the "Standard", 31 Dec. 1887

debarred by law from holding land in sufficient quantity to ensure their independence. As a consequence they are forced to sell their labour in the open market. And with hunger the only alternative to accepting poor wages and conditions there offered, they have to take gratefully what they can get, however little that may be - or starve.

The moral of this story is that Capital is powerless to enforce inferior conditions upon Labour when the natural rights to Nature's bounty in Land is open to Labour; nor in this country need that be interpreted as a return to agriculture. (See article, "The Meaning of Free Land" in the April issue of the Magazine. Eds.)

THE INSECURITY OF SOCIAL SECURITY

By A. Longfellow

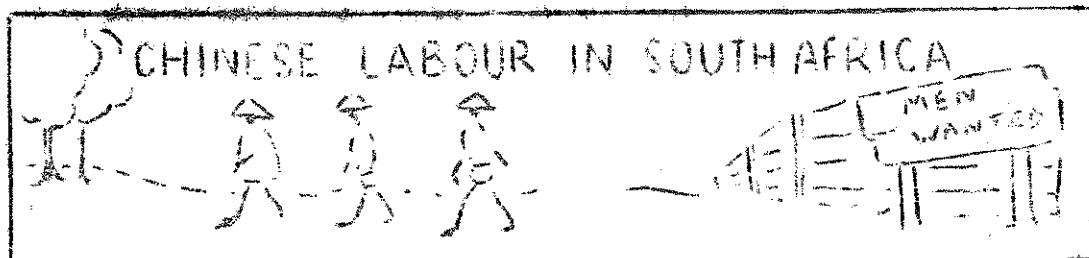
Earlier this year The Sunday Times published a series of three articles on Social Security by Lord Beveridge. These articles dealt with the principles and practice of Social Security, the critical period through which it is now passing, and compared our social services with those of the U.S.A.

According to Lord Beveridge, the sole aim of Social Security is to abolish want. He does not discuss why people are poor, but it can be assumed that he considers most poverty involuntary. He stipulates that Social Security must not discourage incentive, opportunity and responsibility; in a condition of society where poverty was voluntary, laziness would inevitably be encouraged by a Welfare State. The fact that he omits discussion on the cause of poverty is lamentable.

As Social Security payments are calculated in terms of money, the decline in its purchasing power is making National Insurance benefits inadequate, driving more and more recipients to apply for National Assistance. In December 1948 only 552,000 Social Security beneficiaries received National Assistance, but by December 1953 this had increased to 1,227,000. It is not possible to increase benefits and pensions to make them adequate. Although future taxation and contributions can be increased, it is impossible to raise past contributions and taxation, which comprise the bulk of the scheme's finances. In short, by inflation the financial structure of Social Security is being destroyed.

A further danger for the Welfare State lies in the fact that during the next thirty years an increasing number of people will reach pensionable age. If next year pensions are maintained at the present level (far from adequate, if the aim is to abolish want), then Social Security goes into the 'red' with a deficit of £18 million. By 1958 the deficit will be over £100 million; in 1967-68, £274 million; and in 1977-78, £417 million. Add to this the possible cost of future unemployment, and we get what a foreign gentleman once described as a "bankrupture".

The Welfare State cannot be saved by further taxation. With arms expenditure at its present level a large proportion of the money collected goes in this direction. If arms expenditure could be



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RENT	RENT	RENT	FREE LAND
WAGES	WAGES	WAGES	ALL WAGES

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The indentured Chinese were not happy in the mines. Not being acclimatised they fell ill repeatedly and were less efficient than the African workers whom they replaced. It cost more money to dig fewer diamonds, and the shareholders' experiment had been proved a failure. Clearly Capital was in a "spot". Something had to be done, and without delay.

The African headmen were summoned to further conference. The employers felt confident that by this time the African workers would have learned their lesson. The mine-owners asked the Africans to return to their old jobs. The offer was accepted. What the rate of pay was I do not know, but of one thing we may be certain - the returning Africans would not have accepted less than they had been paid previously.

How was it that the unorganised, uneducated African had succeeded while the organised, educated white worker in Britain and elsewhere had repeatedly failed? The answer lies in his access to the means of an alternative livelihood. This relationship of Land to Labour and Capital cannot be too strongly emphasised.

I mentioned a sequel. It is sad to relate that this lesson was clearly understood by the white employers and was embodied in subsequent legislation. The native population of South Africa is

reduced, it would be better to reduce general taxation than attempt to salvage "Social Security", for taxation aggravates poverty, especially those taxes which fall upon food, clothing, building materials and the thousand and one articles of daily need.

While it is true that the rich now pay a large proportion of their income to the State, the major part of taxation is taken from the incomes of working people. Although more revenue could be exacted from the rich, the major burden of any future increase in taxation would fall upon the lower income groups. As our future working population in relation to total population will be smaller, such a burden may force them to emigrate. Even Lord Beveridge admits there can be no real relief by monetary devices such as higher taxation or national insurance contributions.

Lord Beveridge's main proposition for salvaging Social Security is that the normal working life be lengthened and pensions paid at a later age. In other words, if the pensions cannot be made to fit the people, then the people must be made to fit the pensions. And this is called "Social Security"!

To ask what we must do to save the Welfare State is to assume that it is an indispensable part of our economic life; and to do this is to ignore the forces which have given rise to poverty. There will probably always be some people who cannot provide for themselves, and it must be society's responsibility to care for them. But every able-bodied person is capable, given equality of opportunity, of providing for himself and his family - indeed, by the taxation he pays and the Welfare contribution he makes he demonstrates what he can do without equal opportunity!

LEO TOLSTOY ON THE
WELFARE STATE

Certain persons have driven a herd of cows, on whose milk they live, into an enclosure. The cows have eaten and trampled the forage, they have chewed each others' tails, and they low and moan, seeking to get out. But the very men who live on the milk of these cows have set around the enclosure plantations of mint, they have cultivated flowers, laid out a race-course, a park, and a lawn-tennis ground, and they do not let out the cows lest they should spoil these arrangements..... The cows get thin. Then the men think that the cows may cease to yield milk, and they invent various means for improving the condition of the cows. They build sheds over them, they gild their horns; they alter the hour of milking, they concern themselves with the treatment of old and invalid cows.... but they will not do the one thing needful, which is to remove the barrier and let the cows have access to the pasture.

- "A GREAT INIQUITY"

NOTES AND NEWS



CHRISTMAS PARTY, 1954

The School's Christmas Party is to be held this year on Saturday, 11th December, at The Portcullis Theatre, 9 Monck St., S.W.1., starting at 6.00 p.m. The "Variety Department" are busily preparing a stage show. There will be dancing (modern and old-time), competitions and prizes. Buffet supper is included in the price of admission (4/6d.) The Bar will be open at intervals during the evening. If you have recovered from last year's party, you are especially welcome to show others the ropes! Tickets obtainable from Jessica Baker, 4 Great Smith Street.

YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE SCHOOL

An analysis of contacts made this term showed that an increasing number of students are being introduced to the School by personal contact. The greater the percentage can be increased, the more the School can cut its advertising costs. A recommendation is a donation. How many can you introduce next term? The record for one individual during one term is 5 recommendations. Can you beat this? Start sending us names and addresses now!

ARTICLES FOR SCHOOL MAGAZINE

Contributions of any length (within reasonable limits) are invited. Also letters by way of comment on what you have read in the School Magazine or elsewhere.

CAN YOU HELP HERE?

The expansion of the School over recent months is increasing the demands on our volunteer staff. The call on typists particularly is very heavy. Stenographers or copy-typists are urgently required for work on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. If you can come on either of these nights, please telephone Mr. Blundell (ABB. 6665).

END OF TERM MEETING

The last meeting of the year will be held at Church House, Great Smith St., Room 3, on Wednesday, 15th December, when three speakers will contribute to a discussion on "Economic Issues of the Day". Subjects covered will be "Agriculture and Protectionist Policy", "Wage Increases and Production" and "The Planned Economy and the Welfare State". Full question and discussion period.