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HENRY GEORGE

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

democracy

with the small "d"

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New Jersey's Move Toward Freedom

This headline may not please those who are satisfied with the measure of freedom we already enjoy. But a vast majority agree that we are enmeshed in some systems of confusion that very definitely limit not only our constitutional guarantees, but freedom in the abstract. Outstanding in these destructive confusions that result in depressions, millions out of work, and poverty, is a tax system which literally destroys prosperity and exempts privileges that directly make for depression.

Our consumer-tax system can be defended only on the theory that 'we must tax something,' which is a poser until a survey is made of the vast field of exempted privileges or monopolies. Then it is found that the exemptions are as obviously wrong as are the production taxes that cut consumption and buying power in half. Freedom from such a tax is worth more than a lot of political abstraction.

SURELY NO ISSUE CAN BE TAKEN WITH THIS LOGIC IN NEW Jersey--the only state struggling for this freedom? The answer is --'believe it or not'--in the whole 48 states there has been no sustained struggle for this obvious reform, as obvious in its method as in its principle.

Its method, as proposed in the Sanford Bill No. 233, is to simply reverse the destructive process of taxing what is vital to us and exempting our enemies. It is a very conservative measure, because it takes five years to shift the taxes on your 'food, clothing and lodging' to the speculative values of land and natural resources. And even this is not forced on any community that does not ask for it, by referendum or otherwise.

New Jersey is a pioneer in persistently demanding this change. For 25 years men like George L. Record, Gladwin Bouton, Alfred N. Chandler, 'L. R. Bonta', John H. Allen, and now Mrs. Sanford, have kept burning this beacon light of freedom. Its principle has become better known in New Jersey than in any other state.

THE HON. OLIVE C. SANFORD, OF ESSEX COUNTY, SPONSORS Assembly Bill No. 233. Here is a part of her statement. The same bill passed the Assembly in the 1938-9 session too late for action in the senate.

Conditions this year are such as to warrant adopting this plan. We have the prospect of increased federal taxes. We must keep up local revenues. We need sites for a tremendously-expanding industrial development. We need additional housing facilities to care for this increase of industrial workers. We need more municipally-owned recreational, park, and housing developments. We need increased local business.

This system would, if adopted, meet all those needs. Reducing taxes on improvements and personal property will help the local home owner in meeting increased federal taxes, and give him more to spend in local business places. At the same time, municipal revenues will be sustained by the increased taxes on land. The increased land tax will encourage the sale of slum property and discourage the holding of unused land, thus making land available at a reasonable price for sites for the increasing industrial and housing needs.

Lowered taxes on improvements encourage building, both private and public. Increased building expands local business. Lands coming to the municipality thru foreclosures will be available for public use --parks--recreational grounds, and municipal housing-- or become

a source of revenue for the municipality through lease or sale.

This system has been found practicable and satisfactory in other places. With all these points in its favor, why not adopt a plan which would enable a municipality to try the experiment? Once tried, it can be ended in the same manner in which it was adopted, if it is not found satisfactory.

But let us remember that wherever it has been used, this system of taxing the land rather than the improvements has never been repealed.

RESUME OF THE SANFORD BILL NO. 233

Its purpose is to remove, in five equal annual installments of 20%, the taxes from improvements upon land and from personal property, and to place them upon the land. The act is not mandatory: it may be adopted by popular vote or by official action in any taxing district. It may be repealed at the end of two years, in the same manner as that in which it was adopted. The public revenue would not be reduced, but would be taken from a social source, the value of land, created by all the people and their activities. Taxes removed from improvements and personalty would largely reduce living costs, increase buying power, and end depression and unemployment. This system has been in force 20 or 30 years in Australia, New Zealand, and Western Canada, and in Pittsburgh, where 95% of the homes enjoy lower taxes. In no case has repeal even been considered.

SANFORD BILL REALIZATION

This is the only way of showing you what will have happened IF your town of 10000 elects to follow Sanford Bill provisions, and during five years moves all its local taxes off its homes, furniture, factories, machinery, stores, stocks, wages, incomes, etc., and levies them ALL on VALUABLE LAND that would not be worth a cent but for you people --ALL of you.

'Poortown' is our assumed name for your city. The whole local budget is \$60,000. The land is assessed at \$10,000,000; the improvements at \$8,000,000; personal property at \$2,000,000. Total valuation \$20,000,000. Tax rate 3%. After the shift, there will be no taxes on improvements or personal property; all will be on the land, making the rate 6%.

Now the first and best test is on the homes; the next, the factories, and finally the stores and other business.

THERE ARE 2000 HOMES IN POORTOWN (WHOSE NAME IS changing). Their average value is \$5000, of which \$4000 is house, and \$1000 land. The tax has averaged \$150. Now it is \$60. This leaves the collector shy \$24,000. Where will he make it up? Mainly from three sources:-

(1) In between the houses are 5000 vacant lots now being assessed at \$200, because they are 'not earning anything for their speculative owners.' They will now be taxed at \$1000.

(2) There are farms and plots waiting to be sold for lots (at \$1000) but taxed as farm land, at \$50 an acre. Some are worth \$6000.

(3) On Main Street you find locations (used and unused) moving up to \$1000 a front foot! No trouble to make up that \$24,000; nor as much more relief on other industry, commerce, and activity that is an asset; and without hurting anyone who is an asset to Poortown.

Becker For Newark Commissioner

It takes politics and economics to make
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democracy

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CHAS. H. INGERSOLL, Editor and Broadcaster
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THERE WILL BE ALL KINDS OF PROBLEMS PRESENTED IN A state of such wide and varied interests as New Jersey. Many a poser will come up. But none can discredit the removal of taxes from ALL the desirable things in the state! Nor can the putting of those taxes onto the undesirable things be discredited!

A vacant lot growing weeds and tomato cans stands right in the way of progress. A farm that has long ceased to raise things to eat, while your city is making its value fabulous, is bad to conserve. That is the only value that the city should collect for its expenses.

New York City pays 600 millions to its 'Main Street' landlords; and every city of 10,000 pays the same proportion. The fear is sometimes expressed of upsetting local financial conditions. Conservatism in doing this in five annual steps is the answer--and also the Sanford Bill is the CURE for upsets!

SOMEONE MAY SAY THAT THE TAX ON LAND WILL BEAR UN-

justly on the farmer, but the reverse is true. Bare land value in farms is negligible. Most of farm value is in improvements, not only structural, but more in clearing, ditching, orchards, etc.--all now counted as land.

Land value is mostly in cities and mineral lands, natural resources, and franchises. The farmer would benefit as heavily as the home owner, by this change.

If it be said that the increase would be confiscatory of some land holdings, this is the wrong word. The confiscation of common values by speculators now goes on and would be gradually stopped. High tax rates--possibly 10% on vacant land--would be due to low valuations, as in farm prices for lots.

This bill deals very generously, even with speculators and monopolists.

ONE OF THE NEO-GEORGE SCHOOL STUDENTS ASKS, 'SO what: if productivity gives no value to land, imagine a lot that had the habit of thunder showers of ready-made clothes! Would it rent for more than the one next door?'

What do you suppose Headmaster Beckwith answers? 'No, because nothing that is got free can have price!' Then he gives two big columns to 'explaining' that one. But I hope in his forthcoming 'Book of Dialogues' he will make answers that do not have to be explained.

A SINGLE TAX PARTY IS BEING LAUNCHED IN SYDNEY, Australia, under the title of 'The New Social Order' Party. J. P. Edwards is President, and A. West, Secretary.

'The Standard' of Sydney modestly tells of the new venture at the end of a review of the demands of (1) politicians, (2) vested interests, (3) Communist-Socialist, and (4) the church.

This is another 'escape' movement, on the theory of rent collection instead of tax collection. Our Australian friends are going at it in earnest, and I hope nothing will disappoint them in their novel departure in terminology.

Their action is hardly to be wondered at when so much discredit is being rubbed into the ancient and honorable Henry George Single Tax--and by the supposed servants of the cause--especially as applied or begun in Sydney.

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

Mr. Becker is one of the most active and popularly useful lawyers in Essex County.

For several years he has devoted much of his time to investigating and bringing to court flagrant cases of fraud in dealings with the city; and in a great multiplicity of such cases, he has gained a wide experience, which should now be available to his fellow citizens.

HOW MUCH IS IT WORTH TO THE PEOPLE OF NEWARK TO have an amateur politician on the board of five governing Commissioners? Is it worth only one-fifth as much as the total? I think it is likely to be away above this average! Professional politicians are not without their virtues and efficiencies, even though their average may be very low, as--according to many evidences--they are in Newark. Their whole stock-in-trade in their approach to the voter, is their experience; and it has some merit. But, unfortunately, this experience in how to feather their own nests and cover their weaknesses, etc., is what counts most.

So, Mr. Voter, no matter where you stand in Newark's social scale, buy yourself an ace in the hole for this year; treat yourself to an anchor to the windward; smite the fetish of helplessness! You'll be surprised how little effort it will take to give yourself actual representation on this Board. And you will be more surprised at how much will happen as a result of this adventure.

OF COURSE, CHARLES BECKER WILL BE ONLY ONE AGAINST possibly four. But if he has the backbone he seems to have, there will be many-a-time when it will out-weigh and out-wit and out-vote the other four. And there are some other qualities equally important to conserving your interests, Mr. Voter and Property Owner, such as honesty, determination to give and take a square deal, ability, intelligence as to individual rights as well as collective interests. The element of statesmanship is not quite forgotten in the partisan political rush.

And there's another element that Mr. Becker has studied. It is called 'democracy' and it has a small 'd' because it takes care of the economic phases of democracy to which politics gives only lip service.

IT'S A GREAT EVENT -- MY READING 'WORLD'S END,' BY Upton Sinclair. I doubt if I average a book in two years. I am only half through, but I will venture a comment or two.

Upton is unique. I don't know of another who can write good fiction and so mix it with social philosophy as he has. I say philosophy because many have taken single subjects from economics and other science and built them into novels. I am rather pleased so far with his breadth in applying his 'moral' rather than closely to money changers, munition makers, etc. He does not ignore the landlords of England, the Junkers of Germany and land speculators of Connecticut. In fact, it seems as though, in his maturity, he is 'seeing the cat' he so effectively describes, the cat being about 50/50 collectivist and individualist, the former to yield half of 'property' inviolably to the individual, and in exchange for an equal share to society.

A FERRY TO EUROPE! WE ARE GOING TO PROVE THAT A 3000 mile ocean is no impediment to invasion, by building a ferry across the little pond--an endless chain of ships and planes, none over 50 miles from another, always in motion and ready. Seems like a reality and that we could almost step across. Machinery will do anything -- but it does take time. Will the war wait?

RED AND WHITE UNIONISTS ARE NOW EXHIBITED TO SEE which the President and the rest of us like best. The AFL surely has best manners, but we had it for a generation and nothing happened. So we can't deny that C.I.O. does things. It's like the difference between Socialists and Communists. We play with right and left on nearly everything -- why not labor? Perhaps we can learn from England; they try to pay out labor's political and economic rights evenly.

Single-Tax Colony at Jersey Shore Planned by Ingersoll

Dollar Watch Magnate Has 83 Acres at Monmouth Beach for Experiment

Charles H. Ingersoll, who gave the world the dollar watch, is planning to give New Jersey a single-tax colony.

Monmouth Beach, where the veteran industrialist owns 83 acres, is the projected site. In co-operation with John Ryan, real estate broker and newspaper publisher there, Mr. Ingersoll hopes to establish both a propaganda headquarters and a working model of his economic faith.

"We're thinking about a colony something like the experiment at Free Acres, but we hope a little better managed," Mr. Ingersoll explained yesterday.

"There won't be anything more definite to say for another month at least. Judge Ryan and I have done considerable planning. But I'll be busy for a month working for the Sanford bill."

Assemblyman Olive C. Sanford annually introduces a bill—which would permit any taxing district to adopt single-tax methods. It once passed the Assembly.

May Adopt Edison Idea

Poured-concrete houses, a proposal of Thomas A. Edison, may be part of the Monmouth Beach project, Mr. Ingersoll hinted.

"Some years ago—before the last war, it was—I took up Edison's idea of poured-concrete construction," he said. "Edison talked about forms made of cast iron. That wasn't practical.

"I had a planing mill in South Orange on my hands, and I told the foreman to make me a form out of wood. I built more than 100 houses that way. You can see the first ones alongside the highway in Union.

"Of course, they're ugly houses. They're eyesores from the outside. But it was just an experiment. I built about 15 for the Self-Masters' colony—do you remember that? I don't know whether you knew I was the angel for it. Anyway, I built about 85 more in Phillipsburg. We used three forms out there, so they wouldn't be all alike.

Mr. Ingersoll, now 75, retains a formidable proportion of the energy which made him a leader in two industries, watches and fountain pens. He argues the single-tax cause in a manner as bristling as his clipped gray moustache. In the heat of discussion he rubs his

sparse white hair with a gesture that makes wisps stand erect. Except for this, and a penchant for bright shirts and pocket handkerchiefs, Mr. Ingersoll looks more like a retired industrialist than a crusader.

Crusader for Tax Theories

Crusader he is for the theories of Henry George. He has devoted nearly all his time to the single-tax cause for 10 years. He even ran for Governor of New Jersey on a single-tax platform in 1934.

Mr. Ingersoll whisks around in his own car—a 1936 model—between New York, Philadelphia, Monmouth Beach and the Llewellyn Park estate of his son-in-law, Joseph D. Scheerer. He drives 20,000 miles a year, delivers hundreds of lectures, publishes his own single-tax periodical ("democracy—with the small 'd'"), gets on the radio occasionally, and hounds editors and legislators, all in behalf of single-tax.

Though previously he had less time for it, Mr. Ingersoll has been a single-tax advocate since 1886, when he was arrested because he insisted on casting his first vote for Henry George, later his friend.

"I'm not given to fixity of ideas, but that's one I've not changed on," he smiled, bright blue eyes snapping. "From that, I've decided it's fundamental."

Mr. Ingersoll regards single-tax as a natural faith for believers in increased production. He deprecates its confusion in the public mind with radicalism. Mr. Ingersoll dislikes radicals. He dislikes unions, too.

Views on Labor

"Those strikes are practically revolutions," he exclaimed. "The men are trying to get the right thing the wrong way. Labor should be paid many times what it's getting, not



Charles H. Ingersoll

a piddling 10 per cent they strike for. But they can't get it under the present economic set-up. They're biting the hand that feeds them, killing the goose that lays the golden eggs."

Perhaps the most graphic illustration of single-tax theory is to be found on Broad street, Newark. Under single-tax methods, the former postoffice site, now a vacant lot, would be taxed about as much as the skyscraping National Newark and Essex building across the street.

"Single tax would put an end to skyscrapers, and to vacant lots," Mr. Ingersoll said. "It would allow builders to be sensible. It would tend to level off the height of buildings, and of incomes, too. There would be more well-to-do people, but fewer millionaires."

Mr. Ingersoll enjoys expounding his theories in almost any company. Years as millionaire and executive failed to instill in him a desire for the protection of secretaries and receptionists. He welcomes questions—and says that to him no question is impertinent.

At Best on Platform

"You'll never get the whole story until you come to a meeting," he advised. "When I'm up there on the platform, and they're firing questions at me, I can do my best explaining."

Mr. Ingersoll's desire to revise taxation and his dislike for unions spring from no unhappy experiences during his business years, he said. But as the "father of mass production"—Henry Ford, according to legend, was inspired by the dollar watch—he wants to free production, and men with productive ideas, from unfair tax burdens. He dislikes even excise taxes, though he concedes they are considered to have moral value in the case of alcoholic beverages.

"There's no use trying to save people from themselves by legislation," he said. "They can be saved, but only if they're shown how to save themselves."

Charge Purchases
made Monday will
be rendered on May
1st bills.

HAHNE & CO.

'IF I WERE DICTATOR!'--OR EVEN PRESIDENT.' HAVING generously found fault with nearly everything, would I just stand still and mumble? I accept the challenge. I would double any (possible) defense accomplishment under present conditions. I would pay the highest wages to all--not to Union pets alone. I would give industry unprecedented profits. I would not have a dollar of profiteering of capital or labor. I would return all the draftees home to work. I would then abandon my dictatorship, save on the following:

I would cancel our whole present tax budget, which would double consumption, production, employment, wages, and profits. I would replace this budget of said 15 billion dollars by collecting all the social revenues, or economic rents, from franchises, natural resources, and valuable sites in cities. Everything else would 'take care of itself.' In fact, I would be willing to abolish 75% of government.

RUSSELL DAVENPORT, EX-EDITOR OF 'FORTUNE,' AND EX-Campaign Manager for Willkie, gives 2000 diners at a Consumers' Conference a prophetic message about 'necessary action to save democracy':-- a new civilization, based on those values democracy has discovered--values of liberty, trade, and science.

One might hope that Mr. Davenport's language could be interpreted more specifically than similar words from his recent associates. Does he mean liberty to trade internationally, and the use of vast social values for social purposes and economic science? If so, he might be a prophet.

IF ALL THE ENERGY BEING CONSUMED IN THE PASSAGE OF bills in Washington could be directed to the production of things most helpful to England, 'aid to Britain' would probably be ten times greater and more effective. Anyone having an inkling of the conditions necessary to production of anything, knows how essential is steady pull and absence of emotion. A fraction of the billions already voted actually put to work in the factories which the brain trust and union leaders are trying to pull down, would, under normal conditions of production, really help England and really build up our own defense at the same time.

But a million or two politicians, and 15 or 20 million W.P.A. part-timers would become producers in industry.

ISN'T IT WONDERFUL HOW EXCITED PEOPLE CAN GET OVER a certain menace, while they are numb to another greater one?

How highly sensitized we are to the bare possibility of invasion by a German army. How cold we are to the already present invasion of a new and strange 'order of society' -- far stranger than Nazism; in fact, having all the major enormities of Nazism, dictatorship, bureaucracy, state-ism, anti-democracy.

Nazism is founded first on landlordism, basic monopoly, and special privileges-- all of which we possess as fully, placidly, and illiterately, as Germany or any other nation.

I HAVE HAPPENED ACROSS A STRANGE ASSOCIATION:-- THE chains of 'White Tower' and similarly named, immaculately built and kept, roadside 'hot dog stands,' are strictly managed. Their bills of fare are limited to 'what can be counted.' They are 'in the hands of the enemy.'

And here is a line from Sinclair's 'World's End':-- Lanny Budd's size-up of his prep-school educational formula:-- 'They learned names, dates, theorems, date-forms, rules, and exceptions: everything definite and specific, that could be measured and counted.'

'WAR IS ALL WASTE' SAYS A HEADLINE IN 'THE FORUM.'

And elsewhere in the issue and other issues it is stated that war is caused by the high rents it creates; that rent-takers make war.

I have been wondering when this flight of novel statement would come home to roost; and here it is. The juxtaposition is deadly. The old fashioned way of accounting for war by (a) tariffs, (b) mal-distribution of natural resources, (c) domestic poverty, is still better than 'rent and rent-takers.'

THE UNIONISTS ARE DISAPPOINTED IN MAYOR LAGUARDIA --and for two opposite reasons. In the bus strike he insisted on mediation -- a big victory for the companies.

But in the 52 Whelan Drug Stores, with thousands of rent-loss every week, he refused to drive them to arbitration. Is the Mayor getting property-conscious, since he bought a billion or so of transportation lines? He's on record for saying 'You can't strike against the government.' Let him not forget that hand-picked Supreme Court, which is up to the minute in labor union progress.

'ECONOMICS AS A SCIENCE' IS IN ITSELF A SCIENCE, of how to sell it to displace the utilities of the so-called moralities. There's the rub. Many a good thing has 'gone back into the ground' for want of a good salesman. There's no doubt but that our failure of society is because in our collection of applied sciences is not included that of economics.

Beckwith and his 'Forum' give more space in trying to get this idea across than anything else. And there are frequent signs of progress in spite of the tenacity with which people take science as an affront to their religion, morality, and ethics.

Editor McMillan, of the New Zealand 'Commonwealth' was one of these, but he has come fully to Editor Beckwith's views in the course of a five-year running debate. The diplomacy of debate is put to test on this delicate subject.

A HUMBLE NEOPHYTE IN ECONOMICS, BILL MCNAIR, EX-Mayor of Pittsburgh, writes his favorite paper, 'The Forum' of Stockton, Cal., for the surest answer to 'what is inflation?' He knows better than I, but indirectly he asks me. So here it is--out of stock:--

Inflation is high prices; and so, low purchasing power of money--and time. Monopoly and special privilege cause high prices; our taxes double our prices; subsidies or excessive prices for war stuff. Unions backed by law inflate wages. Then these excess earnings begin to snowball. And finally the land boom sets in and money inflation starts, and money gets cheap.

'Excess of money,' Mayor Bill, suggests as the cause: it could be superficially, but you want basic cause, which the editor hints at but does not give, because he is afraid of the money question, he says, it being a 'banker's question.'

HOW DO MONOPOLISTS, SOCIALISTS, HIGHERBROWS AND POLITICIANS get on the blind side of keen businessmen and get away with half their capital, income, and wealth?

Before trying to answer, remember that these men have been keen enough to build hundreds of billions of wealth by strict adherence to science, principle, and horse sense. Yet they have let basic monopoly, using a robber tax system, take away half their profits, their employees' wages, and the customers' buying power.

They have let New Deal Communists put them on the defensive and more than threaten to communize them.

The answer: they abandon science at the most crucial stage, the economic stage of dividing the product or profit wholly between the producers, themselves, and their employees --with not a dollar to basic monopoly.

'THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE' IS ONE OF THE LEAST POPULAR colleges in the universe-- even with me, who has a chronic college grouch (because they do not teach economics as a science!)

Editor Beckwith of 'No Taxes,' has a head for figuring things out, and now he answers a question I've heard asked all my life:--'What does the electoral college do to us?'

I remember one G.O.P. President elected by it, instead of by the voters--Rutherford B. Hayes. Florida was the pivotal state, and G.O.P. machinery won, I believe. In the recent election perhaps the college won for F.D.R. with the solid South, where the negro counts in the electoral vote, but is at zero in the poll!

Beckwith demonstrates, for example, how on this account a vote in Alabama counts twelve times as much as one in California.

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generously found fault with nearly everything, would I just stand still and mumble? I accept the challenge. I would double any (possible) defense accomplishment under present conditions. I would pay the highest wages to all--not to Union pets alone. I would give industry unprecedented profits. I would not have a dollar of profiteering of capital or labor. I would return all the draftees home to work. I would then abandon my dictatorship, save on the following:

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ular colleges in the universe--even with me, who has a chronic college grouch (because they do not teach economics as a science!)

Editor Beckwith of 'No Taxes,' has a head for figuring things out, and now he answers a question I've heard asked all my life:--'What does the electoral college do to us?'

I remember one G.O.P. President elected by it, instead of by the voters--Rutherford B. Hayes. Florida was the pivotal state, and G.O.P. machinery won, I believe. In the recent election perhaps the college won for F.D.R. with the solid South, where the negro counts in the electoral vote, but is at zero in the poll!

Beckwith demonstrates, for example, how on this account a vote in Alabama counts twelve times as much as one in California.

SPENCER HEATH SAYS 'LAND OWNERSHIP PROVIDES FOR social distribution of land.' Beckwith agrees 'this position can be maintained' if it be assumed that land is property and therefore can be owned.' This in a full page debate in 'Forum.'

I think the answer is that 'land ownership,' which includes its increments and income, does not and cannot so provide. That if it did, we might arrange the technical point Beckwith raises. History sufficiently disproves the Heath statement. Why doesn't Mr. Heath devote himself and facilities, such as platform and press, to respectfully and accurately showing where history is in error in discrediting 'land ownership'?

Land ownership need only be modified, according to the George doctrine, by socializing ALL its income, in order to justify the daring Heath statement. Otherwise that statement seems only to be that of the Marxian concept of stand-pat rugged individualism that denies all social rights and interests.

THE HEATH QUESTION SEEMS TO BE WHETHER THE LAND-lord, as such, has any natural function in society. If he has, he may have as much as Heath assigns him (100 per cent), and the question will then be: so what shall be done about his 6000 year failure to function? This may be interesting to the academic economist -- the college professor.

Land ownership in modern society involves at least four elements of unearned increment:-- (1) population--all the people; (2) All their activities, especially services (government); (3) Productivity of the land, --fertility of soil, content of minerals, etc. (4) Monopoly of land through private collection of its economic rent: created scarcity.

These causes of rent combine to create or produce as much value in land as labor and capital produce in wealth they extract from the land. How can the land-title-holder claim any interest in this greater value--production than all labor and capital? How can he displace the claim of society as rent collector?

HEATH IS THE ONE TO ANSWER THIS THEORY, IDIOSYNCRACY, or whatever. But, at least directly to the point, he has not been talkative. So I will trespass one step farther in anticipation of his argument-- that society has not yet found out how to administer this land complex; nor how to do anything else efficiently.

In this he exactly follows the Georgian individualist in his resistance to the Marx attack on capital. And does he not at the same time confirm the monopolist position of claiming everything for the individual, and denying everything to society? So what does he contribute to solution, in condemning government and asserting fealty to bourbonism?

Economics drives straight midway between these extremes of denying social rights and denying individual rights. Having set up the method of measuring these rights, and finding them not far from each other in financial terms, economic science demands about an equal division of private and social wealth between (1) labor and its helper, capital, and (2) Society, as creator of all social values.

THE BETHLEHEM STRIKE IS SETTLED! A LAYMAN WOULD say that such a short little strike was hardly worth having. But laymen are so simple, and on such profound subjects! Just think what these few days would mean to those two great humanitarian causes -- war and union labor. And how easy it has been for a government mediator to add a few hundred million each to wages and profits, out of the vast reservoir the House of Representatives is stewing out of the 'shrunkened bellies' of unprivileged workers, taxpayers, and consumers.

OCCASIONALLY THE NEW DEAL INTELLIGENCE OVERLOOKS A trick. And I ask why has not Mr. Bullitt been given a high--if not the highest--place in our 'war economy'? His first qualification is his name. Think of the psychological value of such a name!

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH CONDUCTS A LARGE AGRICULTURAL enterprise near St. Cloud, Minn., which is only one of thousands of the church's landed investments. Besides Father Coughlin, Catholics are widely interested in politics and economics.

Fifty years ago, Father McGlynn of St. Leo's church in New York, founded the Anti-Poverty Society on principles laid down by Henry George in his historic book, 'Progress and Poverty.' 'The Catholic Worker' is another evidence of Catholic interest in economics.

By all logic, the church should lead its hosts in to the light of science in political economy. But its many contributions to the subject are vague and generally communistic -- although Communism it bitterly denounces.

WILL JOE LEWIS BECOME A STATESMAN, OR EVEN A POLITICIAN, or hotel host, as some prize fighters of the past have done? 'The colored vote' is certainly something. Its independence was once in question. It was stubbornly G.O.P.

But the New Deal was almost irresistible in its appeal to this dependent race. So Joe has a real job of getting his brethren to come back to the fold without showing them something tangible-- which is not so easy.

NOW THE FTC TURNS ITS POWERFUL WISDOM TO THE REGULATION of the hosiery business. This, of course, is to promote fair trade in capital and labor. This is nothing less than both Fascism and Communism. No--hold on, Mr. Wilkie, you can't use this in building your wall against F.D.R. FTC was planned and executed by G.O.P. statesmen, as in fact were most of the New Deal novelties.

FTC 'HELPING' THE HOSEIERY BUSINESS IS NOT WELCOMED by the trade or stocking wearers. They all want to be helped in the same way--to be let alone. 'Laissez faire' is not the mean thing Marxists make of it. Capital wants to be untaxed, not to increase its profits directly, but so that its 132 million customers can have such prices as to enable them to double their purchases.

POWERS OF CONFISCATION OF PRIVATE PROPERTY ARE challenged by the N.Y. City Council, proposing to limit Zoning Commission authority. Zoning is, in spite of some practical phases, a modern 'ideology,' very definitely socialistic. It subordinates individual rights (in property) to social aims; not always realized. And it most often plays the landlord's game (which has cost us half our wealth.) This 'planning,' if any good, enhances land values that go to the landlord instead of to the public treasury, where they belong.

WAR IS ALSO THE OPPORTUNITY OF MAKERS OF 'ETHICAL remedies' like sulfanilamide, for doctors who like state control, and for militarists who welcome any means like compulsory medical examination and treatment to deal with 'maligners.'

In fact, war is the opportunity of stateism, which everywhere is being improved. And the misfortune of democracy and capitalism is that they have no candidate who, except faintly, oppose war. Both seem 'willin.'

IT IS TOO BAD THAT THE FIGHT FOR INTEGRITY OF OUR teaching system must be conducted in the suburbs. It should be at the center of things. B.C. Forber, publisher of a Wall Street magazine, is on the school board of Englewood, from where he is trying to have ejected the text books of Prof. Harold Rugg, of the Teachers College of Columbia University. These books are used in the 12000 public school systems of this country. Forber is opposed by some of his associates and the inertia usual in such situations.

I suspect these text books are at least as collectivist as is this college as a whole, and I am sure they are white paper, where they should be teaching Jeffersonian democracy. But who is the authority to reverse this subversive teaching at our fountainhead of teaching? I wonder!