

## THE GREAT ADVENTURE IN CALIFORNIA

State Headquarters, San Francisco, 97 Ninth Street. Phone, Market 4900.

### NEWS OF THE MOVEMENT

Thousands of people are being reached monthly by this little paper, "The Great Adventure," holding aloft consistently the beacon light of the Henry George philosophy. The world never needed the truth so much as now. If you believe in spreading the glad tidings, fill out the coupon on page two, today.

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On February 11, Charles H. Ingersoll, of dollar-watch fame, presided at a dinner in New York in the interest of the California Single Tax Amendment. Frank Stephens, Bolton Hall, Amy Mali Hicks, Charlotte Schetter, George Lloyd, Grace Isabel Colbron, Dr. Mary Hussey and Wm. L. Ross were the speakers. The best of feeling prevailed and Mr. Ingersoll made a witty introductory address, stating that if The Great Adventure did nothing more than attract Single Taxers together in meetings so well attended, so interesting and so enjoyable, that alone would justify its existence. He explained also the greater mission of The Great Adventure, and urged those present to give it their earnest and hearty support. One of the speakers said it was the most interesting meeting they had held for years.

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Over fifty representative members of the Taxation League of the District of Columbia, and the Women's Single Tax League of Washington, D. C., attended a dinner March 17, in the interest of the California Single Tax Amendment. Jackson H. Ralston presided. Speakers were Wm. Deane Ham, Frank Stephens, Western Starr, Mrs. W. I. Swanton, A. P. Davis, Chief of the Reclamation Bureau; Edwin S. Potter, Hon. John M. Bear of North Dakota, who is Brisbane's cartoonist. Wm. L. Ross was the principal speaker. Hon. W. W. Warwick, Controller of the Treasury, was one of the committee on arrangements.

### SHIFTING THE TAXES

Of course the consumer pays the taxes of corporations. The railroad commission has always allowed utility companies to include their taxes in their rates. Thus Commissioner Chester H. Rowell in his recent statement explaining the gas rate increase said: "I do not understand that anyone had ever claimed that taxes would not be included in operating expenses in the determination of rates. This has always been done, under all tax rates in all cases." The one tax they fear is the tax on LAND VALUES, which would make the Southern Pacific, for instance, disgorge the millions of acres of lands it is holding out of use.



# The Great Adventure

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THE OBJECT OF THIS PUBLICATION IS TO SECURE A FREE EARTH BY  
ABOLISHING TAXES AND TAKING GROUND RENT FOR PUBLIC USES

*Indeed, on earth with Fate we shall conspire,  
Recast the wolfish scheme of Things entire,  
Break feudal codes that hold men from the earth,  
Remold the nations to the Heart's Desire.—Lake North.*

### IN THE GAME OF LIFE

**W**HETHER we are playing a game in this life, as the great sage Confucius has said, or whether we are engaged in deadly serious business that has to do with the working out of some vast purposeful plan, there are bonds of sympathy between human beings that influence the conduct of all of us.

Henry George made his appeal to those who desired to make the world a better place to live in. He showed that the misery of involuntary poverty was not the act of providence, but the work of man. Nature's laws are just, her bounties are limitless to all mankind. Only by locking up the generous storehouse—the earth itself, the land—have the few succeeded in bringing upon the many lives of privation and woe.

If life is no more than a game, it behooves us to play it fair. In the race, there should be no handicap. If we have sporting blood in our veins we would cry out if in a 100-yard dash one of the contenders were hobbled at the start. Even in the prize-ring men are matched in weight and advantage. Horsemen fix just rules for their steeds at the post and their jockey burdens are chosen carefully in weight. Sporting men outlaw the trainer who drugs a horse, the promoter who bribes a fighter to take the count, the go-between who "frames" a baseball game. Even among gamblers there are an honest number of cards in a deck, and a rule of fair play in the turn of the wheel and the flip of the dice.

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Gertrude Colles,  
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New York, N. Y.

Yet in the matter of life and death, of happiness and suffering in human society, where so much depends on justice and fair play, the world is still shooting loaded dice.

Churches stand on many corners in our cities and in every hamlet, expressing the thought of sympathy and the urge to do good in the hearts of millions. Their faithful followers are legion.

They do not know that the dice are loaded. It is the mission of those who follow Henry George to spread the light.

We need not be ministers of religion to stir the consciences of men. If we are true sportsmen we will insist on the square deal. Let us play the game, if game this life be. But let us play it fair. Can strong men stand by and see their weaker brothers, the sick, the women and children, shelterless and hungry in a land of bounteous plenty? These who are trampled under foot are as good as the best. Many of them were born with keener minds and better bodies. They are the victims of loaded dice in a world where the gifts of the creator are denied them. Life is dear to them, and health, and happiness. The same sun rises and sets for them as for the most fortunate. All are children of the same planet, stirred by the same forces, moved by the same songs, thrilled by the same emotions, stunned by the same tragedies. They have their loves, friendships and the same precious family ties. Their children, though they be in rags and without food and sufficient raiment, are part of the world to be.

Let us speak the truth while we still have voice. The future waits on us, missionaries of the gospel of Henry George. What shall it profit a man if he has amassed the whole of this beneficent Mother Earth at the expense of the blood of innocents? Not he who has taken the land will be held accountable to his conscience, but we who have seen the Great Iniquity and the remedy.—W. D. H.

**T. A. Robinson, Treasurer Great Adventure League,  
322 North Maryland Ave., Glendale, Calif.**

For the immediate resumption of the battle in California for adoption of the next great world reform, count me in for \$. . . . ., enclosed herewith, and \$. . . . . monthly until further notice.

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## WHY WE WOULD FREE THE LAND

By Henry George.

Land is necessary to all production, no matter what be its kind or form; land is the standing-place, the workshop, the store-house of labor; it is to the human being the only means by which he can obtain access to the material universe or utilize its powers. Without land, man cannot exist. To whom the ownership of land is given, to him is given the virtual ownership of the men who must live upon it. . . . It is this power that gives land its value; this is the power that enables the owner of valuable land to reap where he has not sown—to appropriate to himself wealth which he has had no share or part in producing.

## APPROPRIATING THE GIFTS OF NATURE

By Walter Thomas Mills.

There are portions of New York City in which the land is valued at \$40,000,000 an acre. That means \$8000 each day from each acre for the landlord, and that entirely unearned by him, before there is a penny for any other purpose. Probably not less than two and one-half million dollars a day, or almost a billion dollars a year, must be earned by the people of New York City and turned over to landlords for permission to use the island, which is a gift of nature, and for the advantages that are protected and maintained by the industry and enterprise of all of the people.

## LAND TITLES ARE A FRANCHISE

By G. W. Stocomb.

A franchise is a special privilege granted by government. A title to land is a special privilege granting the private use or monopoly of a piece of land, and is, therefore, a franchise. In the city of Los Angeles men can be cited who hold the franchise to lots on which they have made no improvements whatever, yet rent the same for \$60,000 per year and out of which they only pay about \$10,000 taxes. They collect out tax money and "knock down" five times what they turn over and say they have a "vested right" to do it, which they bought and paid for, even as the slave-owner said he bought and paid for the right to rob the slave.

When told that they must beware of moving too quickly, people are not likely to move at all.—Henry George.

Please pass this on where it will do the most good.