

THE GREAT ADVENTURE IN CALIFORNIA

State Headquarters, LOS ANGELES, 203 Tajo Bldg., First and Broadway. Main 4905

while, however, the best of actors will forget himself and speak in a way not at all appropriate to his part, but which expresses his true feeling. That may explain the following outburst from Walt. It is not as fundamental as it might be, but is good enough for one whose economic eyes are but partly open.

PAYING RENT

Some kind of home you'll have to own, a humble shack of brick or frame, or one of stucco, mud or stone, if you would beat the landlord's game. For long sad years I paid my rent, and there'd be sunshine in my soul if I now had the coin that went to swell the landlord's gorgeous roll. The landlord owned a row of shacks, and every month he walked abroad, left desolation in his tracks, and touched each tenant for his wad. I muttered, as I dug the dimes, coughed up the sweat-stained, hard-earned seeds, "I've bought this coop a dozen times, and yet the landlord has the deeds." And when I fell and broke a limb, the landlord came to get the rent; there was no sympathy in him when I could not produce a cent. He said he didn't care a whoop for all my sufferings and sores; he fired me from that lowly coop and chased my weeping aunts outdoors. There is no thrift in paying rent to landlords who have hearts of stone; far better have a canvas tent, and know the blamed thing is your own. You cannot borrow seven dimes on all the wealth you've paid for rent; on your own house, in crucial times, you'll get a loan from some kind gent.

WALT MASON.

LOCAL NEWS

Home meetings will be held every evening this week. Mr. Ross will be in charge of them.

Forty thousand pieces of literature were distributed here last week.

Let us know immediately how many copies of this bulletin you can distribute each week in California from now till November. Do your bit now to help us win.

**PLEASE PASS THIS ON WHERE IT WILL
DO THE MOST GOOD.**

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.**

The Inquisitive Voter

VOTER: JUDGE, what is the Single Tax?

Judge: It is a plan to discontinue the taxes on homes, farm improvements, and all other products of labor, and to increase the tax now levied on land values high enough to pay all the public expenses.

Voter: Why do you favor the Single Tax?

Judge: Because the speculator would not be allowed to pocket the increased value of his idle land created by those who build around it. His vacant lot should pay as much tax as a lot of equal value with a home upon it.

Voter: Why would you free office buildings and railroads of taxes?

Judge: Because such taxes are not paid by the owners of office buildings and railroads. They are passed on to the consumer, who pays them in higher prices.

Voter: Wouldn't a tax on the value of land also be paid by the consumer in higher prices?

Judge: No. To begin with, more than half of the land is unused. To whom can the taxes on this unused land be shifted? A heavier tax would compel the owners of idle land to use it or offer it for sale for others to use at reasonable prices. More houses would be built, more food and supplies would be produced and prices would fall.

Voter: Where has the Single Tax been tried?

Judge: The city of Sydney, with its eight hundred thousand inhabitants, and hundreds of other cities and towns in Australia and Western Canada now enjoy great prosperity where they have the Single Tax for local expenses; also the irrigation districts of Cali-



forma have the Single Tax for district purposes. The exemption of buildings from taxes in these irrigation districts has made them noted for their superior homes.

Voter: Did the Single Tax not ruin South Vancouver?

Judge: No. This statement has been spread by land profiteers,

but it is not true. The Canadian Pacific Railroad, that owns thousands of idle acres in South Vancouver, and non-resident owners of vacant lots refused to pay their taxes. They got the Dominion government to appoint a commissioner against the will of the inhabitants. He levied a tax on the homes and other buildings against the protest of over 90 per cent of the residents. It was one of the most flagrant denials of democratic government ever imposed on a group of people on the American continent.—

Voter: Is not the Single Tax considered a failure in Canada?

Judge: No; it is growing more popular there. A Single

Tax Mayor was re-elected by an increased majority in Edmonton,

and the prime minister of Ontario, in response to a popular

demand, had a law passed recently giving municipalities the right

to adopt it. They want the same system that has made Victoria and

other cities of Western Canada so prosperous.

Voter: Why did Leslie say that Amendment Number 20

would take \$11.00 a year on each hundred dollars of land value?

Judge: It was clap-trap for sea doves.

Voter: Judge, what is a sea dove.

Judge: One who is easily gulled.

(To be continued)

EVEN LAND OWNERS SUFFER

L. D. Beckwith

A thoughtless man might object that, as he owns his own

farm, this rise of rent makes no difference to him.

Let us see! Either he bought his land in the beginning and

has paid for it only the original purchase price, say \$40 per acre,

or he has since bought it at the present price, say \$400 per acre.

In either case, of course, as he is his own landlord, he collects

the rent as well as wages. At first thought he does not appear to

have lost anything.

But, in either case, also, he has more invested in land than

would be the case had not land monopoly raised land to excessive

prices—and, therefore, he has relatively less to invest in equip-

ment. This is easily seen in the case of the man who has just bought

at the present high price, for had he got his land at, say \$200

instead of paying \$400 for it, he would have more money to put

into improvements and equipment.

Nor is the man who bought in the early days at \$40 any

better off; for, though he laid out originally but \$40 per acre, his

land is now worth \$400, and, therefore, he really has \$400 (not

\$40) invested, as he can in time exchange it for \$400. He is

obliged to figure his land investment at the new figure.

What has happened to him is that a larger part of what he

does get comes as rent and a smaller part as wages—even though

the amount he receives may be, in dollars and cents, exactly the

same as before.

Another thing has happened. While his farm land has been

going up 1,000 per cent, the land in the nearby city has been going

up AS A RESULT even faster, say 2,000 per cent, possibly 10,000

per cent. But the interest rate is the same in city and country.

THEREFORE, THOUGH THE PRODUCTION OF THE FARMS

HAS CAUSED THE STEADY INCREMENT, THE CITY LAND-

LORD HAS PROFITED, RELATIVELY, FROM TWO TO TEN

TIMES AS MUCH—OFTEN MANY TIMES MORE.

As evidence of this note the relative values of city and coun-

try lands in new and in old sections, in poor and rich, or in

sparsely and densely populated areas.

Here in San Luis Obispo county the 45 acres of incorporated

land is worth but one-tenth the outside lands. But in Sacramento

county the inside lands are worth one and one-half times as much

as the outside lands. While in the Old Empire state, the land

under the single city of New York is worth as much as the three

states of Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin, or four times as much

as the lands in all the other cities and towns of the state of New

York and SEVENTY TIMES AS MUCH AS ALL THE FARMS

AND FARM PROPERTY OF NEW YORK STATE.

It follows that a rise in rent works greatly to the advantage

of the cities and against the farms, as this increased land value is

capitalized and added to the prices paid by the consumers (includ-

ing the farmers) or taken out of the prices paid the producers

(including the farmers)—always to the advantage of those owning

CITY realty.

A BOGUS REACTIONARY EXPOSED

BY SAMUEL DANZIGER

As a poet Walt Mason is by no means a counterfeiter, even though he does try to camouflage his verses as prose. But Walt also wants to pose as a reactionary and an opponent of any effort to disturb the powers that prey. In this respect he has at different times shown considerable histrionic ability. Once in a