

# THE GREAT ADVENTURE IN CALIFORNIA

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

## PARABLE OF THE WATER TANK

*Adapted From Edward Bellamy, Showing the Effect of Landlordism and the Cause of Industrial Depression*

On a certain rocky island there was a wonderful spring—a spring called Natural Resources. When one day a score of shipwrecked sailors drifted onto this island and beheld the spring they were exceedingly joyful, for the waters were abundant to supply all their physical needs. Each man helped himself to the waters, which he carried from the mountain to the sunny plains below.

Then one day one of the sailors said: "We are not living like civilized humans. Let us build a large tank in which to store the water and I shall pay you to fill it." So they built the tank. Then they took the buckets from the boats and carried water. For every bucketful they put in the tank the leader paid them three cents. For every bucketful they took out he charged them five cents. Things went along well. Then one day the leader said: "The tank is now full. I shall not hire you any more until the water is used up."

So they paid the five cents a bucket. But soon their money was all gone. They clamored for permission to carry more water to get some money. But the leader only said: "No, there is still water in the tank. It must be used up first."

"But," they said, "how can we ever buy back the water when we got only three cents a bucketful and must pay five cents to purchase it? Our wages do not give us sufficient purchasing power to buy back what we produce."

But the spring-lord only laughed.

So the other nineteen men said they would go to the spring and get their own water.

But when they went there they found that the leader had fenced in the spring. And because there was overproduction of water and no jobs for any of them all of them but the landlord suffered themselves to be starved to death.

The Miller & Lux, Spreckels and Weyerhauser interests own more acres on this coast than there are in the German Empire.



# 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

"That we should do unto others as we would have them do unto us—that we should respect the rights of others as scrupulously as we would have our rights respected—is not a mere counsel of perfection to individuals—but it is the law to which we must conform social institutions and national policy—if we would secure the blessings of abundance and peace."—HENRY GEORGE.

## THE WOLF AT THE DOOR

Again the dread invader has appeared to haunt the richest country in the world. Our arm of national defense, army, navy, aircraft and poison gas, all-powerful to repel a foreign foe, stands impotent. Like a mysterious plague, weird, evil, it has appeared among us. It is something against which charms and incantations principally are employed. Men speak of it in whispers, with hushed voices—or not at all. Like the ostrich, America sticks its head in the sand and denies that panic and hunger are with us again.

Men walk the streets vainly for jobs, soup houses and bread lines appear, crimes of property multiply, desperate families shiver and go without food. Yet we must not admit it for fear the strange visitation grows worse. The distress, the famine, the calamity are manifestations of some strange phenomenon of which the government and the people know not the cause. Banks and chambers of commerce employ sorcery and fetichism and try to halt the ghost by talking prosperity.

Yet America was never richer than now. Nature was never more generous in the bestowal of her bounties. The nation has seen no famine, no drouth, no flood. The misery is not the fruit of supernatural necromancy, but confusion in the affairs of men. Yet there is hope in the face of despair. There is an ever-growing army of those who have seen the truth set forth by Henry George. In California more than

Gertrude Colles,  
R. 403, 939 8th., Ave.,  
New York, N. Y.

200,000 have seen it, and have cast their ballots to inaugurate the Natural Order. They know that the army of the unemployed is inevitable when nature's storehouse is denied to the millions, and the sign "no trespass" is put on the earth itself. They know that recurring panics are inevitable when men cannot buy back what they have produced.

To these the call of the suffering must come. The cry of the hungry—the women and children—will not fall on deaf ears. It is a time for sacrifice; when was there more glorious opportunity? We are here on earth but a fleeting day at most; we will not deny a helping hand when we can give it. Down through the years the soul of Henry George will call, and call, and call, until the Great Iniquity is no more. It is the privilege of those who have seen the light to bring the kingdom of heaven on earth—on an earth that must be restored to all the children of men.—W. D. H.

## WHAT IS THE SINGLE TAX?

The single tax is the workable plan of Henry George to restore the earth to the people. This can be achieved surely and equably when each individual pays the community for that part of the earth which he withholds from all others. A single tax on land values (natural resources) will do this.

## News of the Movement

It is announced that a donor who wishes his name withheld will double all contributions up to \$1000 received by the National Single Tax League. The sum offered is the surplus earning of a wage-earner over and above a very modest living.

W. L. Ross, president of the Great Adventure League, was tendered a dinner by leaders in the national Single Tax movement at Philadelphia, January 27.

George A. Briggs is continuing his campaign of organization and speaking in Kern county, one of the worst monopolized and landed sections of the State, where vast estates pay a few cents an acre for valuable land held out of use.

Walter Thomas Mills of Berkeley is conducting a course in economics, with 2000 Middle West farmers as students, of which the principles of Progress and Poverty are the basis.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

The total vote for the California Single Tax Amendment was almost 220,000, a gain of more than 100,000 over the vote of 1918. This result was secured largely by the work of The Great Adventure League. It contributed \$4600 of the \$6500 paid for securing signatures to the initiative petition and successfully supervised this work. It carefully and without waste distributed a half million pieces of literature during the two years. It had dozens of loyal workers who without pay talked to voters and handed them literature when they showed interest in our measure. Under the able direction of Mr. Gerrit J. Johnson, many brilliant articles written by him appeared in the 340 leading newspapers of the State as paid advertisements, while the efficient service of Geo. A. Briggs, Edmund Norton, and others in speaking before labor unions, civic and other organizations merits the highest praise.

The National Committee of the National Single Tax League unanimously endorsed the work of The Great Adventure, and during the last campaign supplied us with literature worth thousands of dollars. The committee has voted an equal amount for the next campaign.

Shall our work continue, or rather can we afford to stop? Many letters received from all parts of the country urge us to continue. But our funds were exhausted in the campaign just closed and we must have money at once if the work is to go on.

This year we need \$500 a month. How much will you give now and how much will you pledge per month? If you will make the work possible I believe great progress can be made in the immediate future.

Contributions should be sent to T. A. Robinson, Treasurer, The Great Adventure League, 332 North Maryland Avenue, Glendale, Calif.

W. L. ROSS,

President.

T. A. Robinson,

Treasurer Great Adventure League,

332 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.

Name.....

Address.....