

Henry George Newsletter

High School Edition



Issue 34, March - April 1997

Guatemalan Homecoming Rests on Fragile Peace

As a 36-year civil war comes to an end in Guatemala, some 150,000 Mayan Indian refugees are returning from exile with hopes of a better future. Descendants of the Mayan Civilization that was almost destroyed by the 16th century Spanish conquest, and survivors of a genocidal government campaign of the 1980's, they fled for their lives to Mexico. At the end of last year, the Guatemalan government and the leaders of the Indian guerilla movement signed a peace accord that promised the Indians land titles and economic support, both of which have been slow in coming. And there are those who warn of an inevitable resurgence of guerilla struggle if the government fails to live up to its promises. This article can be used in conjunction with Land and Freedom series in World History # 15, *Land Ownership in Latin America* and American History # 1, *Indian Land Ownership*. Also Economic series #5, *Class Struggle*.

Can England Save its Hedgegrows?

For over two millennia England's landscape has been crisscrossed with thousands of miles of hedgegrows, neat rows of hedges that span the country from coast to coast. Intimately a part of England's history, hedgegrows have been lovingly evoked in the paintings of Gainsborough and Constable and in poetry from Shakespeare to Robert Frost. Apart from their historical and artistic value, they are also the country's most important harbour for wildlife and plant species, constituting a unique ecosystem quite unlike any other in the world. But since World War II, more than 200,000 of them have been destroyed, falling victim to real estate developers and owners of large farms. In their place have arisen housing subdivisions, suburban malls and business parks, among other things.

Now there is a growing lobby of hedgegrow enthusiasts and conservationists actively trying to put a stop to the destruction. This article can be used with World History lesson #6, *The Enclosure Movement* and American History # 20, *Land Our Natural Heritage*.



A girl carries flowers for church decorations in Guatemala, hoping for a "fresh start."

Cartoon

As a result of new welfare legislation recently passed by Congress and signed by President Clinton, many people will be moving into an uncertain job market. Recently, the President has said that the Federal Government should set an example by hiring people making the transition from welfare to "workfare". Some critics point out that the Federal Government will be able to hire only a small percentage of those people; federal jobs usually require a relatively high skill level, something most welfare recipients lack. This cartoon can be used with Economics lesson # 14, *The Business Cycle*.

Free Materials for Teachers

The Smithsonian offers a 19 page booklet entitled *Cultures of Siberia and Alaska*, which examines native cultures of both regions. Write to: National Museum of Natural Hist., Rm. 363 MRC 112, Smithsonian Inst., Washington DC 20560



HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL
121 EAST 30TH STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10016
DAVID DOMKE, EDITOR
(212) 889-8020

Guatemalan Return Rests on Fragile Peace

- by Robert M. Press

La Esmeralda, Guatemala - Through the large gap in the walls of her unfinished house of wood, plastic, tin and thatch, Evangelina Rodriguez can see the nearby jungle, a giant wall of trees poised as if to reclaim the open land.

Her husband, Hilberto, is clearing away underbrush to plant beans. Several other men and two young boys are sawing planks from a freshly cut tree to build a school.

Chickens run through the open-sided house where Mrs. Rodriguez sits on a wooden chair, taking a break from her dawn-to-dusk chores. Descendants of a people nearly destroyed by the Spanish conquest of the 1500s and survivors of a genocidal civil war in the 1980s, Rodriguez and others in this settlement in northern Guatemala are "starting fresh," she says.

They are among some 150,000 Mayans, indigenous Guatemalan Indians, who fled the country for Mexico in the early 1980s. During that part of a 36-year war, the Army destroyed more than 400 villages and killed at least 150,000 people in a scorched-earth response to a guerilla movement whose main recruits were Indians.

But many who left have returned as the civil conflict has wound down - some under an agreement with the Guatemalan government, others on their own. While their motives for coming back vary, all the refugees share one concern: they are staking their lives on continued peace in Guatemala.

On Dec. 29, 1996, the government of Guatemala and the leaders of the guerrilla movement signed the final of several peace pacts, ending a war whose casualties were mostly Indians.

Whether the former refugees find peace and get land titles and basic services will be a test of the sincerity - and capability - of the government to live up to its promises.

"The peace pact is only paper," Rodriguez says. "What we want is a life of dignity - including schools, roads, land, clinics and other things."

What happens to the former refugees - and the rest of the majority Indian population - may determine whether Guatemala remains at peace.

"Land and security issues are the two major causes of what brought about the war in Guatemala," says Curt Wands, national director of the Chicago-based nonprofit National Coordinating Office on the Refu-

gees and Displaced of Guatemala. "Land ownership remains in the hands of a few elites," he says.

For most of Guatemala's Indians, and many others living in poverty in the country, life is very difficult and primitive. Life expectancy is 63 years. Some 30,000 children die each year of preventable diseases, Mr. Wands says. Many farmers still plant corn using a stick to poke a hole in the worn-out soil for each seed. Often farmers carry 150 pounds of coffee or firewood on their backs. If basic needs continue to be unmet, "within 5 to 10 years there will be another guerilla group in Guatemala based on the desire to survive," Mr. Wands predicts.

"Guatemala's land distribution is the most unequal in Latin America."

The country's power structure has changed little over the last century. About 60 percent of urban residents and 80 percent of the rural population live in poverty, too poor to afford an adequate diet, according to the UN Development Program. The wealthiest 10 percent of the population received 44 percent of the national income in 1987. The largest 3 percent of farms still cover nearly two-thirds of arable land.

"Guatemala's land distribution is the most unequal in Latin America," says Susan Jonas, an author of several books on Guatemala.

In the early 1900s, many Indians were forced into virtual slave labor on coffee farms and in building public works. Debt servitude became common. The U.S.-based United Fruit Company (UFC) became the country's largest landowner. It enjoyed practically unlimited privileges in Guatemala and exemption from all labor laws, Jonas writes. In 1950, the reformist candidate Jacobo Arbenz Guzman was elected president and he initiated bold new land reforms, seizing 400,000 acres belonging to UFC. The new government also tried to enforce new labor laws.

In 1954, America's CIA helped engineer the overthrow of Arbenz and flew his successor, Carlos Armas, to Guatemala City in a U.S. aircraft. What followed was 40 more years of military repression against Indians.

Now there is hope for change. "Gua-

temala has suffered 40 years of repression and violence, and the exclusion of the Indian population from the benefits of society," says Mark Schneider, of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). To support the country's transition from war to peace, the USAID is providing a \$100 million "peace bonus" in above-normal funding for various projects over the next several years.

There are other signs of potential change. In 1995, a civilian militia led by Paul Perez violently blocked some refugees from returning to their land. After publicity from human rights groups, the government finally put Mr. Perez in jail. The government also promises to prosecute soldiers involved in human rights violations.

However, visits to returned refugees in remote settlements in the north show the government has not yet lived up to most of its promises for land titles, clinics and roads. And life for most returnees is still spartan. Many families live in partially opened shelters. They cannot afford a tractor to haul logs for new homes. The government has issued no new land titles since the declaration of peace and it is difficult for the Indians to band together to press for the promised reforms, fearing a return to the violence of the past.

In some villages there are signs of progress. In La Esmeralda, the government, with foreign aid, provided funds for former refugees to purchase land. In El Tumbo, a cooperative processing plant brought a \$30 profit to each participating family last year. A local women's union built 130 wood-fired stoves that use less fuel. They also helped more than 200 families start raising baby chicks for food and income.

One Indian man who did not want to reveal his name says the needs of the Indians remain the same as before the war. "This time perhaps we can press for change without war," he said. Before repression was hidden, "now," he says, "the windows are open to the world."

- reprinted from the Christian Science Monitor

Questions

1. What was the cause of the civil war?
2. Describe the life of the Indians.
3. Why are they returning to their land?
4. What promises has the government made?
5. Why might there now be hope?

Can England Save Its Hedgegrows?

by Warren Hoge

Little Marcle, England - "The countreie enclosed I praise, the other delightith not me," Thomas Tusser wrote in his guide to English husbandry, and four centuries later that typically British preference for tidy arrayed land is being uttered again across this cherished terrain.

Developers and agri-business interests have been razing British land and in the process ridding it of its most singular visual characteristic: the brambly hedgegrows that articulate this rolling land and arise in any mind's-eye evocation of English countryside.

When the Romans arrived, this was already a hedged land; the only man-made thing that is older on the British horizon is Stonehenge. Generations of Britons have kept nurturing the ancient hedges and adding new ones. The destruction of what is now estimated to amount to more than 200,000 miles of them began only after World War II.

"Much of England in 1945 would have been instantly recognized by Sir Thomas More (1478-1535), and some areas would have been recognized by the Emperor Claudius," said Oliver Rackham, author of "The History of the Countryside," the environmental historian's bible. Claudius took part in the Roman invasion of Britain in 43 A.D.

In just the last 12 years, 115,000 miles of the roughly 400,000 miles of hedgegrows that crisscrossed England and Wales have been ripped out and burned. They have been sacrificed by developers of housing subdivisions, business parks and suburban malls and by big farmers whose cumbersome combine harvesters and sprayers cannot negotiate the boundaries and corners created by the barriers.

Tim Eaton, the regional planning adviser of the National Farmers Union, were said farmers were simply trying to "rationalize" the landscape while hedgegrove enthusiasts were "fossilizing" it. Ian Gardner, the farm group's policy director, said, "There is still a huge difference between even the most open of English counties and the prairie farming of Canada and the U.S.A., and I expect that difference to be maintained for a long time to come."

That is little reassurance to people like Clive Aslet, Editor of Country Life. "Hedgegrows have assumed a symbolic

significance in our feelings about the countryside," he said. "They are a symbol of everything that seems good about our landscape."

Aside from their historical and aesthetic value, they also represent the country's most important wildlife and plant species haven. And their destruction is causing the kind of alarm that arises over the disappearance of primary forest.

There is a centuries-old history of vigilance in Britain, a place with a proven



passion for the care and look of its landscape. Time was when someone caught as much as cutting a hole in a hedge paid for the crime by spending a minimum of two hours in the stocks. In the 17th century, hedgebreakers were whipped until, according to Essex County records, "they bled well."

Nowadays, there is no punishment, and the system for detecting an act is voluntary and hardly scientific. "You just need to be driving about and see smoke rising," said Ms. Farquhar-Oliver.

She and legions of other celebrators of the English countryside are lobbying the Government to adopt promised regulations to a 1995 environmental law that have themselves become entangled in bureaucratic bracken in Parliament. Under that law, someone removing hedgegrove would be subject to an \$8,000 fine and obliged to replace it.

Advocates of saving hedgegrows received a lift this month when a court ruled that the East Yorkshire village of Flamborough could not pull up a 53-yard hawthorn hedge to make a bowling green.

Judge Tom Cracknell of Hull County Court based the decision on an enclosure act of 1765 under which the

village had been ordered to "maintain it forever." Just to show that he was acting on principle rather than some temporal whim, Judge Cracknell noted that the hedge was "unkempt and scraggly" but still enjoyed the protection of the statute.

The decision set off an outpouring of sentimental editorial and legislative comment over endangered hedgegrows, and it is now likely that the punitive regulations will move forward.

The winding hedges shelter footpaths and roadways and provide corridors for plant seedlings, lowland animals and birds. Some of them are the relics of former woodland, some were planted in the Bronze Age, some are spontaneous, rising out of dry stone walls and fences.

They figure in the landscape paintings of Constable, and the poetry of Shakespeare, Swift, Rupert Brooke, Edward Thomas and even American poet Robert Frost, who spent the summer of 1914 in a 17th-century timbered cottage with a famous hedged path in nearby Dymock. English Poet Laureate John Betjeman wrote in his pastoral "Middlesex" that the only things preserving "our lost Elysium" were "a few surviving hedges."

Hedges are home to crab apple, spindle, hawthorn, hazel, beech, cherry, pine, plum, aspen, sycamore, oak, ash, field maple, sweet chestnut, dog rose, dogwood, and yew.

They require care. "They exist," Mr. Aslet said, "because generations of men laid and tended them as lovingly as their successors might polish their cars on a Sunday afternoon."

Since they were often designed to keep cattle and sheep from wandering, they are robust, and trimming them can be a muscular task. Such is the concern of the British for their flora that pruners have taken to posting signs that they are helping, not harming, the hedgegrows.

- reprinted from The NY Times

Questions

1. What threatens the hedgegrows of England?
2. Why do people want to save them?
3. Historically, what has been the attitude toward the hedgegrows?
4. Describe some of the laws concerning hedgegrows.
5. How have they been used in art?

CARTOON



Questions

1. What would be a good title for this cartoon?
2. Name some recent changes in the welfare system.
3. What might have brought about some of these changes?
4. Name some consequences of these changes.
5. Do you think there are enough jobs for people making the transition from welfare to workfare?
6. What was the intended purpose of the original welfare legislation?

*Have a
Good
Summer!*

Henry George School of Social Science
121 East 30th Street
New York, NY 10016

Address correction requested

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
New York, NY
Permit No. 7759

Henry George Newsletter

High School Edition



Issue 34, March - April 1997

Guatemalan Homecoming Rests on Fragile Peace

As a 36-year civil war comes to an end in Guatemala, some 150,000 Mayan Indian refugees are returning from exile with hopes of a better future. Descendants of the Mayan Civilization that was almost destroyed by the 16th century Spanish conquest, and survivors of a genocidal government campaign of the 1980's, they fled for their lives to Mexico. At the end of last year, the Guatemalan government and the leaders of the Indian guerilla movement signed a peace accord that promised the Indians land titles and economic support, both of which have been slow in coming. And there are those who warn of an inevitable resurgence of guerilla struggle if the government fails to live up to its promises. This article can be used in conjunction with Land and Freedom series in World History # 15, *Land Ownership in Latin America* and American History # 1, *Indian Land Ownership*. Also Economic series #5, *Class Struggle*.

Can England Save its Hedgrows?

For over two millennia England's landscape has been crisscrossed with thousands of miles of hedgrows, neat rows of hedges that span the country from coast to coast. Intimately a part of England's history, hedgrows have been lovingly evoked in the paintings of Gainsborough and Constable and in poetry from Shakespeare to Robert Frost. Apart from their historical and artistic value, they are also the country's most important harbour for wildlife and plant species, constituting a unique ecosystem quite unlike any other in the world. But since World War II, more than 200,000 of them have been destroyed, falling victim to real estate developers and owners of large farms. In their place have arisen housing subdivisions, suburban malls and business parks, among other things.

Now there is a growing lobby of hedgrow enthusiasts and conservationists actively trying to put a stop to the destruction. This article can be used with World History lesson #6, *The Enclosure Movement* and American History # 20, *Land Our Natural Heritage*.



A girl carries flowers for church decorations in Guatemala, hoping for a "fresh start."

Cartoon

As a result of new welfare legislation recently passed by Congress and signed by President Clinton, many people will be moving into an uncertain job market. Recently, the President has said that the Federal Government should set an example by hiring people making the transition from welfare to "workfare". Some critics point out that the Federal Government will be able to hire only a small percentage of those people; federal jobs usually require a relatively high skill level, something most welfare recipients lack. This cartoon can be used with Economics lesson # 14, *The Business Cycle*.

Free Materials for Teachers

The Smithsonian offers a 19 page booklet entitled *Cultures of Siberia and Alaska*, which examines native cultures of both regions. Write to: National Museum of Natural Hist., Rm. 363 MRC 112, Smithsonian Inst., Washington DC 20560



HENRY GEORGE SCHOOL
121 EAST 30TH STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10016
DAVID DOMKE, EDITOR
(212) 889-8020

Guatemalan Return Rests on Fragile Peace

- by Robert M. Press

La Esmeralda, Guatemala - Through the large gap in the walls of her unfinished house of wood, plastic, tin and thatch, Evangelina Rodriguez can see the nearby jungle, a giant wall of trees poised as if to reclaim the open land.

Her husband, Hilberto, is clearing away underbrush to plant beans. Several other men and two young boys are sawing planks from a freshly cut tree to build a school.

Chickens run through the open-sided house where Mrs. Rodriguez sits on a wooden chair, taking a break from her dawn-to-dusk chores. Descendants of a people nearly destroyed by the Spanish conquest of the 1500s and survivors of a genocidal civil war in the 1980s, Rodriguez and others in this settlement in northern Guatemala are "starting fresh," she says.

They are among some 150,000 Mayans, indigenous Guatemalan Indians, who fled the country for Mexico in the early 1980s. During that part of a 36-year war, the Army destroyed more than 400 villages and killed at least 150,000 people in a scorched-earth response to a guerilla movement whose main recruits were Indians.

But many who left have returned as the civil conflict has wound down - some under an agreement with the Guatemalan government, others on their own. While their motives for coming back vary, all the refugees share one concern: they are staking their lives on continued peace in Guatemala.

On Dec. 29, 1996, the government of Guatemala and the leaders of the guerrilla movement signed the final of several peace pacts, ending a war whose casualties were mostly Indians.

Whether the former refugees find peace and get land titles and basic services will be a test of the sincerity - and capability - of the government to live up to its promises.

"The peace pact is only paper," Rodriguez says. "What we want is a life of dignity - including schools, roads, land, clinics and other things."

What happens to the former refugees - and the rest of the majority Indian population - may determine whether Guatemala remains at peace.

"Land and security issues are the two major causes of what brought about the war in Guatemala," says Curt Wands, national director of the Chicago-based nonprofit National Coordinating Office on the Refu-

gees and Displaced of Guatemala. "Land ownership remains in the hands of a few elites," he says.

For most of Guatemala's Indians, and many others living in poverty in the country, life is very difficult and primitive. Life expectancy is 63 years. Some 30,000 children die each year of preventable diseases, Mr. Wands says. Many farmers still plant corn using a stick to poke a hole in the worn-out soil for each seed. Often farmers carry 150 pounds of coffee or firewood on their backs. If basic needs continue to be unmet, "within 5 to 10 years there will be another guerilla group in Guatemala based on the desire to survive," Mr. Wands predicts.

"Guatemala's land distribution is the most unequal in Latin America."

The country's power structure has changed little over the last century. About 60 percent of urban residents and 80 percent of the rural population live in poverty, too poor to afford an adequate diet, according to the UN Development Program. The wealthiest 10 percent of the population received 44 percent of the national income in 1987. The largest 3 percent of farms still cover nearly two-thirds of arable land.

"Guatemala's land distribution is the most unequal in Latin America," says Susan Jonas, an author of several books on Guatemala.

In the early 1900s, many Indians were forced into virtual slave labor on coffee farms and in building public works. Debt servitude became common. The U.S.-based United Fruit Company (UFC) became the country's largest landowner. It enjoyed practically unlimited privileges in Guatemala and exemption from all labor laws, Jonas writes. In 1950, the reformist candidate Jacobo Arbenz Guzman was elected president and he initiated bold new land reforms, seizing 400,000 acres belonging to UFC. The new government also tried to enforce new labor laws.

In 1954, America's CIA helped engineer the overthrow of Arbenz and flew his successor, Carlos Armas, to Guatemala City in a U.S. aircraft. What followed was 40 more years of military repression against Indians.

Now there is hope for change. "Gua-

temala has suffered 40 years of repression and violence, and the exclusion of the Indian population from the benefits of society," says Mark Schneider, of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). To support the country's transition from war to peace, the USAID is providing a \$100 million "peace bonus" in above-normal funding for various projects over the next several years.

There are other signs of potential change. In 1995, a civilian militia led by Paul Perez violently blocked some refugees from returning to their land. After publicity from human rights groups, the government finally put Mr. Perez in jail. The government also promises to prosecute soldiers involved in human rights violations.

However, visits to returned refugees in remote settlements in the north show the government has not yet lived up to most of its promises for land titles, clinics and roads. And life for most returnees is still spartan. Many families live in partially opened shelters. They cannot afford a tractor to haul logs for new homes. The government has issued no new land titles since the declaration of peace and it is difficult for the Indians to band together to press for the promised reforms, fearing a return to the violence of the past.

In some villages there are signs of progress. In La Esmeralda, the government, with foreign aid, provided funds for former refugees to purchase land. In El Tumbo, a cooperative processing plant brought a \$30 profit to each participating family last year. A local women's union built 130 wood-fired stoves that use less fuel. They also helped more than 200 families start raising baby chicks for food and income.

One Indian man who did not want to reveal his name says the needs of the Indians remain the same as before the war. "This time perhaps we can press for change without war," he said. Before repression was hidden, "now," he says, "the windows are open to the world."

- reprinted from the Christian Science Monitor

Questions
1. What was the cause of the civil war?
2. Describe the life of the Indians.
3. Why are they returning to their land?
4. What promises has the government made?
5. Why might there now be hope?

Can England Save Its Hedgegrows?

by Warren Hoge

Little Marcle, England - "The countreie enclosed I praise, the other delightith not me," Thomas Tusser wrote in his guide to English husbandry, and four centuries later that typically British preference for tidy arrayed land is being uttered again across this cherished terrain.

Developers and agri-business interests have been razing British land and in the process ridding it of its most singular visual characteristic: the brambly hedgegrows that articulate this rolling land and arise in any mind's-eye evocation of English countryside.

When the Romans arrived, this was already a hedged land; the only man-made thing that is older on the British horizon is Stonehenge. Generations of Britons have kept nurturing the ancient hedges and adding new ones. The destruction of what is now estimated to amount to more than 200,000 miles of them began only after World War II.

"Much of England in 1945 would have been instantly recognized by Sir Thomas More (1478-1535), and some areas would have been recognized by the Emperor Claudius," said Oliver Rackham, author of "The History of the Countryside," the environmental historian's bible. Claudius took part in the Roman invasion of Britain in 43 A.D.

In just the last 12 years, 115,000 miles of the roughly 400,000 miles of hedgegrows that crisscrossed England and Wales have been ripped out and burned. They have been sacrificed by developers of housing subdivisions, business parks and suburban malls and by big farmers whose cumbersome combine harvesters and sprayers cannot negotiate the boundaries and corners created by the barriers.

Tim Eaton, the regional planning adviser of the National Farmers Union, were said farmers were simply trying to "rationalize" the landscape while hedgegrove enthusiasts were "fossilizing" it. Ian Gardner, the farm group's policy director, said, "There is still a huge difference between even the most open of English counties and the prairie farming of Canada and the U.S.A., and I expect that difference to be maintained for a long time to come."

That is little reassurance to people like Clive Aslet, Editor of Country Life. "Hedgegrows have assumed a symbolic

significance in our feelings about the countryside," he said. "They are a symbol of everything that seems good about our landscape."

Aside from their historical and aesthetic value, they also represent the country's most important wildlife and plant species haven. And their destruction is causing the kind of alarm that arises over the disappearance of primary forest.

There is a centuries-old history of vigilance in Britain, a place with a proven



passion for the care and look of its landscape. Time was when someone caught as much as cutting a hole in a hedge paid for the crime by spending a minimum of two hours in the stocks. In the 17th century, hedgebreakers were whipped until, according to Essex County records, "they bled well."

Nowadays, there is no punishment, and the system for detecting an act is voluntary and hardly scientific. "You just need to be driving about and see smoke rising," said Ms. Farquhar-Oliver.

She and legions of other celebrators of the English countryside are lobbying the Government to adopt promised regulations to a 1995 environmental law that have themselves become entangled in bureaucratic bracken in Parliament. Under that law, someone removing hedgegrove would be subject to an \$8,000 fine and obliged to replace it.

Advocates of saving hedgegrows received a lift this month when a court ruled that the East Yorkshire village of Flamborough could not pull up a 53-yard hawthorn hedge to make a bowling green.

Judge Tom Cracknell of Hull County Court based the decision on an enclosure act of 1765 under which the

village had been ordered to "maintain it forever." Just to show that he was acting on principle rather than some temporal whim, Judge Cracknell noted that the hedge was "unkempt and scraggly" but still enjoyed the protection of the statute.

The decision set off an outpouring of sentimental editorial and legislative comment over endangered hedgegrows, and it is now likely that the punitive regulations will move forward.

The winding hedges shelter footpaths and roadways and provide corridors for plant seedlings, lowland animals and birds. Some of them are the relics of former woodland, some were planted in the Bronze Age, some are spontaneous, rising out of dry stone walls and fences.

They figure in the landscape paintings of Constable, and the poetry of Shakespeare, Swift, Rupert Brooke, Edward Thomas and even American poet Robert Frost, who spent the summer of 1914 in a 17th-century timbered cottage with a famous hedged path in nearby Dymock. English Poet Laureate John Betjeman wrote in his pastoral "Middlesex" that the only things preserving "our lost Elysium" were "a few surviving hedges."

Hedges are home to crab apple, spindle, hawthorn, hazel, beech, cherry, pine, plum, aspen, sycamore, oak, ash, field maple, sweet chestnut, dog rose, dogwood, and yew.

They require care. "They exist," Mr. Aslet said, "because generations of men laid and tended them as lovingly as their successors might polish their cars on a Sunday afternoon."

Since they were often designed to keep cattle and sheep from wandering, they are robust, and trimming them can be a muscular task. Such is the concern of the British for their flora that pruners have taken to posting signs that they are helping, not harming, the hedgegrows.

- reprinted from The NY Times

- Questions
1. What threatens the hedgegrows of England?
 2. Why do people want to save them?
 3. Historically, what has been the attitude toward the hedgegrows?
 4. Describe some of the laws concerning hedgegrows.
 5. How have they been used in art?

CARTOON



Questions

1. What would be a good title for this cartoon?
2. Name some recent changes in the welfare system.
3. What might have brought about some of these changes?
4. Name some consequences of these changes.
5. Do you think there are enough jobs for people making the transition from welfare to workfare?
6. What was the intended purpose of the original welfare legislation?

*Have a
Good
Summer!*

Henry George School of Social Science
121 East 30th Street
New York, NY 10016

Address correction requested

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
New York, NY
Permit No. 7759