

THE GREAT ADVENTURE IN CALIFORNIA

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

LOCAL NEWS

The Los Angeles Times of May 10th had more than a column of editorial balderdash about what it called "Single Tax fallacies." The Times-Chandler ranch consists of over 250,000 acres. About three cents an acre is paid on this land in taxes. Any editor of The Times is not much in demand who fails to help keep the masses chloroformed while Monopoly picks their pockets.

Roy R. Waterbury has resigned as manager for the California Single Tax League.

We expect Mr. Gerret Johnson to put in an appearance at Great Adventure Headquarters after we get our amendment on the ballot. Mr. Johnson does much in an unassuming way to make the work successful.

Mrs. Josie Thorpe Price, well known to our readers, contributes numerous articles on the Single Tax to the Pico Heights Ledger and The Los Angeles Record. Mrs. Price is doing good work for our cause.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, OF The Great Adventure, published weekly at Los Angeles, Cal., for April 1, 1920: State of California, County of Los Angeles, ss.

Before me, a Notary Public, in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Diana D. Griffes, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that she is one of the editors and the publishers of The Great Adventure, and that the following is, to the best of her knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse side of this form, to-wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher, The Great Adventure League, 203 Tajo Bldg., Los Angeles, Cal. Editor, Diana D. Griffes, 203 Tajo Bldg., Los Angeles, Cal. Managing Editor, Wm. L. Ross, 203 Tajo Bldg., Los Angeles, Cal. Business Managers, Geo. A. Briggs and Lona I. Robinson, 203 Tajo Bldg., Los Angeles, Cal.

2. That the owners are: The Great Adventure League (not incorporated) 203 Tajo Bldg., Los Angeles, Cal.; Wm. L. Ross, President, 203 Tajo Bldg., Los Angeles, Cal.; Mrs. Lona Ingham Robinson, First Vice-President, Glendale, Cal.; Prof. Arthur G. Brodeur, Second Vice-President, Berkeley Univ., Berkeley, Cal.; W. D. Hoffman, Third Vice-President, Oakland, Cal.; T. A. Robinson, Treasurer, Glendale, Cal.; Diana D. Griffes, Secretary, 203 Tajo Bldg., Los Angeles, Cal.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities, are: None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

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 REPUBLIC OF DAMPHOOLIA

THE smallest republic in history or fable was the Republic of Damphoolia, which flourished about 7,000,000 B. D. (before Darwin), when humanity was just beginning to emerge from monkeydom. In Barnum's time this emergence was still incomplete. In all Damphoolia there were but five citizens, four of whom first claim our attention. Their names were Mr. Food, Mr. Clothing, Mr. Shelter, and Mr. Government.

F. C. and S. sometimes flattered themselves that they were the only true economic producers, but G. had as much right in the classification as the others. Neither F. C. nor S. ever produced anything outright. The things they did were but final links in a long chain of causes and effects which culminated in the satisfaction of certain human desires, and in that partial and limited sense only did they produce anything. For instance, to save his soul Mr. F. could not of his own power have created a potato. The most he could do was to perform some simple manipulations, the infinitely greater factors being the natural chemical elements, the vital and mechanical forces, and the plant's biological experience extending back through vast periods of time.

Mr. G. performed governmental services, which were necessities of life, and he thereby contributed to that comprehensive assortment of things called a "living." The cost of living of those four citizens consisted of the labor they all performed, and the living realized and enjoyed consisted of the food, clothing, shelter and governmental services resulting from that combined labor.

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F. C. and S. were good sports, who did not expect both cake and penny, and they were willing to share their food, clothing and shelter with G., for they knew that G. was human, or that he expected to be. All was lovely until the fifth citizen, Mr. Landowner, made his appearance. He was the lineal descendant of a shrewd monkey who had claimed ownership of the land where the cocoanut trees grew, and who had made the other monkeys work for him, as monkeys work for landowners even unto this day. Said he: "You poor boobs, anything that is done at all must be done on land, and I own the land. Even Mr. G. has a recruiting station on my land, and every time he builds a postoffice he must have some of my land. I didn't make the land, I perform no service, I produce nothing, but I PERMIT you to use the earth without which all service and production is impossible, so hereafter you will render to me a part of the food, clothing, shelter and governmental services hitherto enjoyed exclusively by you as producers."

The four citizens fell all over themselves in their alacrity to comply. After this their cost of living included billions of dollars worth of labor performed annually in producing comforts and luxuries for Mr. Landowner, who, besides owning the land, accumulated large capital out of the tribute he collected, and also owned Mr. G. The latter gentleman had just fought a big war costing \$30,000,000,000, and would seem to have been loaded with as heavy a burden as any ass ought to bear, yet he insisted on carrying Mr. Landowner, who weighed several times as heavy as the war burden. But marvel not, dear readers, for this was the Republic of Damphoolia.

HENRY S. FORD.

VICTORIA

The Single Tax is at work in Victoria, British Columbia. About one-third of the rental value of the land is collected in taxes for local expenses. In 1911 the people of Victoria abolished taxes on homes and other improvements by a vote of three to one. E. S. Woodward of that city recently wrote that exempting improvements from taxation is satisfactory to the great majority of the people. He says that any candidate for the City Council would invite defeat if he should openly advocate taxing improvements.

Mr. Woodward further states that in 1910 Victoria was an antiquated town. It did not have a modern office building in the whole city. Improvements were valued at \$11,602,130. Today, after nine years of tax exemption of improvements, it has well

constructed fireproof buildings, and improvements are valued at \$25,459,740. Exempting improvements from taxation encourages the owners of these buildings to improve their properties and makes it easier to finance their projects. Land speculation was checked by the heavier tax on land values and this was the purpose of the change.

Before adopting the taxation of land values there was wild land speculation. Outlying land was subdivided sufficient for four times the population. Streets were paved and lighted and sewers constructed on municipal bond issues for the benefit of land profiteers. Yet there has been no difficulty in raising enough revenue with this system.

The heavy charges of interest and repayment of principal on bond issues have been met without creating discontent among the people. This speaks well for their system and is proof of the satisfaction brought about by the encouragement of production and the discouragement of land monopoly.

W. L. R

OAKDALE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

The people of the Oakdale Irrigation District, which comprises 80,000 acres of land, are enjoying marked prosperity because they have a policy that rewards those who use their land instead of those who hold it idle and reap what others produce. The Single Tax is in operation for irrigation purposes.

Those who formerly held their land idle while others made it valuable by developing the community find that they can no longer graft on their neighbors by reaping where they themselves have not sown. The following letter repeats the testimony which has come from the irrigation districts on more than one occasion.

SINGLE TAX AT WORK

Dear Sir:

In reply to your inquiry of the 6th inst. relative to effect of exempting improvements from taxation in this District, have to advise:

The exemption of improvements tends to increase the population and development of the District, better buildings are erected, fruit and nut trees are set out and the land put in shape for producing revenue to cover expenses.

The tax rate, (on land only) for the past three years has been \$5.80 on each \$100.00 of the assessed valuation.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) M. P. KEARNEY, Secretary,
Oakdale Irrigation District.