

# LAND & LIBERTY

MONTHLY JOURNAL FOR LAND VALUE TAXATION AND FREE TRADE

Thirty-ninth Year.—Nos. 460-461.

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 1932.

2d. By post, 2s. per annum.

Published by The United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values, Ltd.

York Mansion, 94 Petty France, London, S.W.1.

Telegrams: "Eulay, Sowest, London."

Telephone: Victoria 4308-9

## PRINCIPAL CONTENTS

	PAGE
WHY LIBERAL MINISTERS RESIGNED	118
THE DEPRESSED SHIPPING INDUSTRY	119
THE SCIENCE OF POLITICAL ECONOMY	120
LETTER TO A LANDOWNER—FROM "PUNCH" 1844	121
LEADING ARTICLE—	
THE OTTAWA CONFERENCE	122
AN ITALIAN PROFESSOR AND HENRY GEORGE. BY W. R. LESTER, M.A.	125
THE OTTAWA BILL IN PARLIAMENT	127
TOLL BRIDGES	128
THE "THIEVES KITCHEN"	130
RURAL HOUSING	131
A "TIMES" BOOK REVIEWER	132
GLASGOW—A CITY HELD TO RANSOM	133
GOLDSMITH—A SINGLE TAX POET	134
INTERNATIONAL NEWS—UNITED STATES, SOUTH AFRICA, DENMARK, NEW ZEALAND, AUSTRALIA, CANADA, SPAIN	140
PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS	144

**Ottawa.**—The Ottawa Agreements have undergone much scrutiny in public debate, and a test question seems to be: Who got the best of the bargain? It is unfortunate that professing Free Traders stop to bandy words with Protectionists on a dispute of the kind. What does it matter whether the Canadian preferences to British manufacturers do or do not equalize the British preferences to Canadian wheat-growers; whether the meat quota in favour of Australian and New Zealand farmers and the consequent rise of meat prices in Britain, make up for the advantages conferred on British exporters in their competition with foreign exporters to those Dominions? The answer of the Free Trader must be that two thefts cannot cancel out one another, but must be added together. In the Dominions, the consumer pays toll under the Dominion tariffs; in Great Britain the consumer pays toll under the British tariff. Each of the Governments by crippling foreign trade increases prices against its own citizens, and the profit is shared among the protected interests in each of these countries.

**More "We" Stuff.**—Over Imperial boundaries it is argued that dearer bread for the bread-winner in Britain is compensated by the higher price the British manufacturer can obtain for his wares in the Dominions; and it is openly contended that the Commonwealth can be made more prosperous if some few are licensed to enrich themselves at the expense of the rest. This is equivalent to saying that London must be a very wealthy city because some six million people pay fifty millions or more a year in ground rents to a comparative few called landowners! It is the fallacious "we" stuff once more that makes the sophist in all economic discussion.

**The Colonial System.**—The Ottawa Agreements impose two astounding obligations on the British Government. An "invitation" is to be sent to the non-self-governing Colonies and Protectorates to tax themselves for the benefit of Dominion producers and manufacturers. These Dependencies are to be invited to give preferences on a long range of goods by imposing Customs duties on competing foreign goods. In effect, they are to be invited by the raising of prices to pay the tribute which it was the main business of Ottawa to exact. No one knows better than the gentlemen who made these "gentlemen's agreements" that the invitation to the Governors of the Dependencies is a command, that by rescript from Whitehall the evil Colonial system of the eighteenth century will be restored, and that the British Empire will become the chief menace to the peace of the world. What do they care? At all costs the foreigner must be excluded and the world-war for markets maintained.

**The Five-Year Pledge.**—The British representatives at Ottawa further contracted with the Dominions that the British Tariffs imposed or to be imposed on competing foreign goods for the benefit of Dominion producers, were not to be removed for five years without the consent of the Dominion Governments. The British representatives committed themselves to this obligation; but as it happens they have not bound Parliament itself. Whether they have failed to do so by faulty drafting of their Bill is neither here nor there. The Bill does not enact the five-year pledge. This has been made clear in the important Ruling by the Chairman of the House of Commons Committee on 28th October, which we report elsewhere, obtained at the instance of Sir Herbert Samuel.

The *Manchester Guardian* political correspondent (29th October), commenting on this Ruling, says: "The Ottawa Agreements, even when the Ottawa Bill has passed the House of Commons, will have no statutory validity, or in other words, will not be the law of the land. Article 3, of course, appears in the Schedules of the Bill but there is nothing in the text of the Bill itself to validate it in the sense of making it statutory, just as in the same way as the Bill does not validate the Agreements as a whole. The British representatives gave the Dominions this assurance: that the 10 per cent. duties should not be lowered without their consent, and whether from fear or forgetfulness they have omitted to integrate the article in the Bill but left it naked in the schedule deprived of statutory sanction. What will the Dominion Governments say when they discover that the British Government's undertaking cannot bind this or any future British Parliament, and that they have no say whatever either when or how these duties shall be varied either upwards or downwards?"

The constitutional aspect of the matter holds good, whatever the Bill may say. No Parliament can bind its successor. But what may not be ignored is that, by the time a Free Trade Government proposes to sweep all these tariffs away, the embedded interests will sound the alarm. That will be the testing time of the Liberal and Labour Free Trader.

**"A Year Ago."**—Mr J. A. Spender, in his interesting column on Notes of the Day, *News-Chronicle*, 25th October, writes:—

"Could any reasonable man or woman have inferred from them that the National Government would spend the greater part of its first year of office in clamping upon us, and taking every possible means of making it permanent, an all-round system of Protection and food taxes? There can surely be no doubt about the answer to that question."

A correspondent from Cambridge sends us the newspaper cutting, and observes that it completely justifies our Manifesto of a year ago. Manifestly we were the "reasonable men" who foresaw what has happened and said frankly at the time of the General Election that unemployment was the chance of the Tariff advocate, and he would make the most of it. The Manifesto is further referred to in our leading article.

**Other Sources of Revenue.**—Sir Herbert Samuel, speaking at Newcastle, 6th October, strongly protested against the Ottawa Agreement tying the hands of Parliament for a period of five years. No Free Trader, he declared, had ever said that Free Trade would solve social problems; but that Free Trade would make the solution easier. "I agree," he said, "that direct taxation is too high and ought to be lowered and not increased; but there are other sources of revenue which would not be very hard to find." The Liberal Leader was challenged at once to say what are the other sources of revenue he has in mind; but to that question he makes no reply.

Sir Herbert was the chief speaker at the autumn meetings of the Scottish Liberal Federation held at Perth on 14th October. He elaborated the Liberal programme without a single reference to land values as the Liberal new source of revenue. At Perth, in 1923, the Scottish Liberal Federation in a considered resolution declared that Free Trade in exchange was a mere half measure and that Free Trade in its fullness—the freedom to produce with the freedom to exchange, such as the Land Value Policy would secure—was the real Liberal solution of the unemployed problem.

**Forced to Walk the Plank!**—Mr Dingle Foot, the Liberal M.P. for Dundee, told a meeting of the Glasgow Liberals, 3rd October, that:—

"The Liberal Ministers who had resigned from their posts did not dive off the ship; they were forced to walk the plank, and the only alternative to walking the plank was to stay on as the galley-slaves of the Conservative Party."

It is very well said, but, after all, the burning questions of the day in their incidence are economic, not political, and all political parties are galley-slaves of land monopoly. The three political parties, in their turn, walk the plank because they have not yet learned that their Party attachments bear no relationship whatever to the disturbing problem of the day—the problem of Unemployment.

Speaking at Milan, 23rd October, Signor Mussolini said that "within ten years Europe would become Fascists or Fascitized; that the 20th century would be the century of Fascism." This will assuredly happen, or worse, unless the Liberal and Labour

politicians can strike, and strike quickly, at the root cause of social injustice.

**Wealth and Want.**—A. M. N. Gareloch, Firth of Clyde, home from a visit to London last month, writes:—

"I love London. I find every bit of it full of interest. One Saturday night I spent walking through the streets watching and listening to everything I saw and heard; it was an eye-opener to me—the thousands of people standing awaiting admission to entertainments and those poor souls awaiting admission to the Crypt of St. Martin's having nowhere better to lay their heads. There's something wrong—one lot having so much and the other so little. No one need say there is no money in the country. The crowd I saw represented thousands alone, spent on pleasure—while others starved. I wonder if we will ever see that put right?"

It is the wonder of very many and has been for ages. It was sights like this that startled Henry George himself, as he wrote in *Progress and Poverty*: "Only, when I first realized the squalid misery of a great city, it appalled and tormented me, and would not let me rest, for thinking of what caused it and how it could be cured."

He referred again to this thought in his speech of acceptance as Mayoralty Candidate, New York City, 1886:—

"Years ago I came to this side from the West unknown, knowing nobody, and I saw and recognized for the first time the shocking contrast between monstrous wealth and debasing want. And here I made a vow, from which I have never faltered, to seek out and remedy, if I could, the cause that condemned little children to lead such lives as you know them to lead in the squalid districts."

The remedy was given in *Progress and Poverty*, first published in 1879. Here is a further quotation from Book III, Chap. 8, which might have been penned in 1932:—

"It is the general fact, observable everywhere, that as the value of land increases, so does the contrast between wealth and want appear. It is the universal fact, that where the value of land is highest, civilization exhibits the greatest luxury side by side with the most piteous destitution. To see human beings in the most abject, the most helpless and hopeless condition, you must go, not to the unfenced prairies and the log cabins of new clearings in the backwoods, where man single-handed is commencing the struggle with nature, and land is yet worth nothing, but to the great cities, where the ownership of a little patch of ground is a fortune."

**The Accident of Birth.**—Speaking at the Labour Party Meeting at Newbiggin, 27th August, Sir Charles Trevelyan, ex-M.P. for Central Newcastle-on-Tyne, said:—

"Since I became landlord of 14,000 acres of this county I am far more a Socialist than I was before."

"I am able to develop that land a little and to get a few more people working on it, but that particular part of Northumberland is not by any means necessarily the best part if what you are wanting is more employment and more production."

"It might be that this land here would be more productive if all rents in Northumberland were paid into a body controlling and selecting places where industry could best be carried on."

"I would be more useful on a committee controlling the destinies of Northumberland than controlling what happens by the accident of birth to belong to me."

It is not the accident of birth that matters. So long

as the land can be bought, sold or inherited as private property Sir Charles may just as well have 14,000 acres as the son of an oil magnate, shipowner, distiller or any subsidized profiteer, and while public opinion is ripening for the taking of all economic rent, the taxation of land values could hasten the day. It is the first step to economic justice.

Meanwhile, Mr Fiske Warren, if his eagle eye falls on this item of news, will want to make an enclave of such a plot of ground. Why not? If the rents of Northumberland might be pooled for the common good there should be no difficulty in handling those 14,000 acres to begin with. It would be a striking object-lesson and go to show, as Sir Charles suggests, that the "accident of birth" need not prevent land being put to its best use.

**Socially and Politically Dangerous.**—In an informing article on London buildings under the 99-year leases system, A. A. B., in the *Evening Standard*, 25th October:

"The landlords are now coming into their own, for these 99-year leases are drawing to an end, and the greater part of West and South-West London is being rebuilt.

"The landlords, to whom the lands and the fabrics revert, will be in a year or two so fabulously rich that they will have half their wealth taken from them by a Socialist Government, which I regard as a danger.

"Take, for instance, Covent Garden, which the Duke of Bedford sold some years ago to a syndicate, and which is now being resold to the public. The net profits are stated to be £199,000; and that was only a fragment of the duke's estate! I don't think it is an exaggeration to say that in a few years' time the incomes of the great urban landlords will be multiplied by four or five, the London County Council, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners and the Crown amongst them. This, I consider, as socially and politically dangerous." We agree.

**The Law of Rent in Action.**—Fortunes are now being made by investors in Real Estate situated in the centre of a large Continental Capital. A first-class investment is available in freehold property, fully secured, yielding 6 per cent net, and a 10 per cent participation in profits on sale of land.—*The Times*, 20th October.

Europe was in rags, we were given to understand a few years ago; it is still in that plight. But this part of the Continent seems to be holding its own. The *Times'* advertisement but illustrates the Law of Rent in action. Whoever may go down in the struggle, the lesson is that so long as society holds together the landowner stands to keep his ground.

**How It Works.**—The law of rent will not be denied, and in action under property in land it clearly accounts for the speculation in land values that brings unemployment and trade depression.

"Put to anyone capable of consecutive thought this question. Say to him: 'Here is a little village; in ten years it will be a great city. . . . Will it be easier for a man who has nothing but his labour to make an independent living?'

"He will tell you, 'No; the wages of common labour will not be any higher; on the contrary, all the chances are that they will be lower; it will not be easier for the mere labourer to make an independent living; the chances are that it will be harder.'

"What, then, will be higher?'

"Rent; the value of land. Go, get yourself a piece of ground, and hold possession."

"And if, under such circumstances, you take his advice, you need do nothing more. You may sit down and smoke your pipe; you may lie around like the lazzaroni of Naples or the leperos of Mexico;

you may go up in a balloon, or down a hole in the ground; and without doing one stroke of work, without adding one iota to the wealth of the community, in ten years you will be rich! In the new city you may have a luxurious mansion; but among its public buildings will be an almshouse."—*Progress and Poverty*, Book V, Chap. 2.

**Half a Day—More or Less.**—The world's greatest liner, the *Normandie* of France, was launched on Saturday, 29th October. She is 1,027 feet long, with a displacement of 75,000 tons. As the Press pointed out, she is larger than the new Cunarder now on the stocks at Clydebank, this vessel being 1,018 feet long, with a displacement of 73,000 tons.

Speaking at Southampton, 10th October, Mr Robertson F. Gibb, Chairman of the Union-Castle Steamship Company, said:—

"There is a mad rush for larger and faster ships, and some of these efforts are going far beyond the real requirement of trade. It does not matter very much whether it takes five days or five and a half days to get to New York. One company builds a larger and faster ship and another company goes one better. France, Italy, and Germany join in the race and the result is that tonnage which is not required for the travelling public is being put on the water. One of the causes of shipping depression is overbuilding. While the value of world trade has increased only about 21 per cent since the war, the tonnage available to carry it has increased by 88 per cent."

Half a day, more or less, on the way to New York, may not count for much; but apart from this craze for speed and bigness, why is there overbuilding in the shipping industry? For the same reason that there is overbuilding in any industry. It is all relative and the one way to increase the demand for shipping as with industry in general is to raise wages and to keep them high. Yet this is just exactly what the business men cannot see; they cannot see it mainly for the reason that they are still addicted to the wage-fund theory. Thanks to the false political economy taught at the schools, our captains of industry still labour under the delusion that wages are paid out of capital, and that the more the labourer gets the less there is for development and enterprise. Cuts in wages mean cuts into purchasing power, less shopping and less trade all round.

**The Benefits from Public Expenditure.**—The London County Council is out for the rating of empty properties. It is stated that official figures show that for the year ending 31st March (figures for the past year are not available) the number of empty properties in Westminster increased from 1,477 to 2,112.

The claim advanced by the L.C.C. is that the owner of unoccupied properties benefits from public expenditure and that he should pay at least one-fourth of the full rates. But it is not the building value that benefits by public expenditure, it is the land value and the true line of approach is to separate the values of improvements from the values of the land and levy on the latter. The local rating of land values is long overdue and this unrest at the L.C.C. affords one more chance to raise the question of real rating reform.

There are any number of ramshackle properties in Westminster that ought to be scrapped. The value of each and all is nothing but land value. A rate on empty properties (houses, shops, offices and factories) will in the long run raise rents and rates; a rate on land values will strike at the land speculator, lower rents, and provide the L.C.C. with revenue that rightly belongs to the community.

Can the Load be Lightened?—Industry is groaning under the weight of taxation, and this must be reduced, we hear, on every hand. Very well. But supposing the load was lightened or that the debts national and international were all cancelled—would that matter? Only for a time. The benefit of any such change will go ultimately, and speedily, to those who own and control the natural opportunities. If anyone imagines this to be a mere doctrinaire opinion, then let him consult his newspapers. There, in bold type, we are constantly told that debt conversion or any such relief must lead to new activities, and that this in turn makes land a most attractive investment! In plain language, the land speculators are prepared at a moment's notice to cut into any new prosperity. They can do more, they can anticipate the thought that makes for any possible advance, and stifle it at its very birth.

From "Punch," 1844.—We direct attention to the very entertaining and illuminating article on another page entitled "A Whole Acre, a Half, or a Quarter of the Same" (from a back number of *Punch*). We are indebted to Mrs L. P. Jacobs for this piece of fine research work. It is a biting criticism, showing how, with or without the vote, the land question remains ever the same. It recalls the appropriate lines from G. K. Chesterton's *Ballad of St. Barbara and Other Verses* :—

"The people they left the land, the land,  
But they went on working hard;  
And the village green that had got mislaid  
Turned up in the squire's backyard:  
But twenty men of us all got work  
On a bit of his motor car;  
And we all became, with the world's acclaim,  
The marvellous mugs we are."

This *Punch* skit of 90 years ago might have been written last week, relative to the passionate pleadings of so many for access to a patch of ground. And this in spite of all the Small Holdings legislation that has been passed in the interval by successive Governments. Such legislation has failed because it begins wrong; it tries to bring the small holder to the landowner. The land value policy would bring the landowner to the smallholder, and that makes all the difference.

"Hither, ye blind, from your futile banding!  
Know the rights and the rights are won.  
Wrong shall die with the understanding—  
One truth clear, and the work is done.  
Nature is higher than Progress or Knowledge,  
Whose need is ninety enslave for ten.  
My word shall stand against mart and college—  
The Planet belongs to its living men!"

—John Boyle O'Reilly

#### HENRY GEORGE COMMEMORATION

St. Ermin's Hotel,

Caxton Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

Thursday, 17th November, 1932.

Reception 6.15. Dinner 6.45.

Guest of the Evening: Mr W. R. LESTER, M.A.

Mrs Anna George de Mille (daughter of Henry George) will be present.

In the Chair: Mr ASHLEY MITCHELL.

Morning Dress.

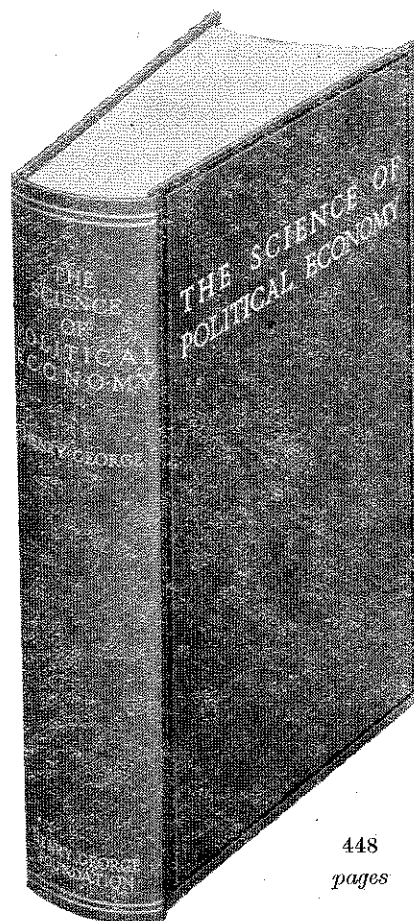
Tickets 5s. each.

Apply to United Committee, 94 Petty France, S.W.1.

## THE SCIENCE OF POLITICAL ECONOMY

By Henry George

NEW EDITION ... 2s. 6d. net.



448  
pages

In advance of publication, 1,330 copies of the announced New Edition of "THE SCIENCE OF POLITICAL ECONOMY, by Henry George, have been sold. Orders reach us by every post and from all parts at home and abroad. The demand for this Work has exceeded the most sanguine expectations. Our correspondence columns elsewhere in this issue testify to the glad reception that awaits it.

THE SCIENCE will be published on 10th November.

Order your copy now, price 2s. 6d., or 3s. by post. Take advantage of our special terms, which are:

#### FOR QUANTITIES TO ONE ADDRESS

Parcels of five to eleven copies: In Great Britain, at 2s. per copy, post free. Overseas, at 2s. 6d. per copy, post free.

Parcels of twelve copies, or more: In Great Britain, at 22s. 6d. per dozen, carriage paid. Overseas, at 22s. 6d. per dozen, packing and carriage extra.

"The Science of Political Economy" is sent out wrapped in an attractive dust-jacket, with portrait of the Author and two striking quotations from the Book.

# "A WHOLE ACRE, A HALF, OR A QUARTER OF THE SAME"

## Letter to a Landowner

Honoured Sir,

Hoping that you will be pleased to pardon the boldness of a poor man who wants to keep his wife and children, I take up my pen to write and, honoured Sir, I hope you will forgive me, if I say that I feel a little happy that I am able to put a few words to paper—it being a sort of comfort to a man, howsoever poor he may be. My boldness, honoured Sir, is this:

It is, under your favour and consideration, to ask of your kindness, to let me have an acre of land; or, if I am too bold in asking a whole acre, half, or a quarter of the same. I know that it may be thought a little high and daring in me, to ask for such a favour, seeing that your Estates are let out in large farms.

It is, perhaps, a presumption, and—as I've been told—a sort of flying in the face of property, for a man who isn't rich enough to farm 1,000 acres; who hasn't money for cattle, and bone dust and all that—to think of having a little slice of land, just to grow a few things on for himself and children, land only being for them who can have a lot of it, or none. Nevertheless, Sir, I hope for your kindness. I have been all along used to going to Church; though I hope I may be forgiven for it, I haven't been these two months, seeing that my clothes are all in such rags that, as one of the Church Wardens told me, they were quite a disgrace to a respectable congregation.

### THE CURSE OF HEAVEN

Well, Sir, I say I used to go to Church, but I never heard there whether the Garden of Eden was twenty thousand acres or not—perhaps the gentlemen who set their faces against small allotments, know to have been a very large farm indeed and so think they have religion upon their side when they refuse a poor man a little patch for his own spade. I know that it was made a part of the punishment of sin—a part of the curse of Heaven—that man should eat his bread in the sweat of his face; that however wicked he may have been, he should not on his own account be suffered to eat his bread at all does seem to me—and my heart is so full, I cannot help saying it—very like a curse coming from the other place. I suppose, too, they who eat their bread from the sweat of other people, have never sinned at all. I hope, honoured Sir, you will forgive these words; but my pen runs away with me like.

### A BOLD FELLOW

When I ask, honoured Sir, for this bit of land, I mean of course to pay the very highest price you can get for it. I know that land let out in little bits is always made to fetch more than let by the lump. This of course the poor must expect. It is so in all things. My wife gives more for her bit of soap and candle (when she can buy it), more for my bit of bacco, than if we could buy such things by the pound, like respectable people. And it isn't then to be expected that a great landlord, even though he may be a Duke to boot, will do otherwise than the keeper of a chandler's shop.

No, Sir, though my neighbours say I'm a bold fellow, and have strange nonsense running in my head, I don't expect that. If people weren't so foolish as to think otherwise, there would never have been such a noise about a gentleman who said: "If he let a lug of land for 5d when he could get 8d for it, he should be giving away 3d to the tenant." The gentleman only said what was true, the gentleman only said what nearly all the world do with one another every day of their lives.

I was reading in a London newspaper that was lent me a day or two ago, where all sorts of things were advertised to be sold one under the other: Coats and Waistcoats and Trousers for almost no money at all. Well, the people who buy them say it's no business of theirs how the things are made; that's not their concern—all they want, as a duty to themselves and families, is to get a cheap pennyworth; as it were to wrap themselves comfortably up in

a bargain and then go with their prayer-books to Church to show it.

### WHERE POLITENESS FALLS SHORT

If we could even think that the time could come when folks wouldn't bargain with folks, as though because they'd money to buy they'd eat their fellow-creatures up—if it isn't indeed bold in me to say fellow-creatures—if we could even hope for such a time, why, Sir, then this world would indeed be much nearer heaven than, perhaps, poor men have any right to expect.

And yet, Sir, Church has puzzled me now and then. When the parson has told us that we are all made of earth, I have, I own it, now and then, looked into a fine pew or two—and if it's a sin, I hope I may be pardoned for it—and I have sometimes doubted it. To be sure, soil is so different; the better sort of folks may be the rich of loaming; and the poor, the cold stiff clay only fit for draining. Still, Sir, folks say that things are brightening up for the poor. There are a good many signs of it. Only last Autumn, I am told, three real Lords played at cricket somewhere with some shopkeepers. A man in our village—who's reckoned to know something—has said it isn't unlikely that in less than 20 years a squire may now and then join in quoits or football with day labourers. If ever this should come to pass, it must lead to good things. For of course, the matter won't stop there.

The Squire, after making so familiar, will look in at the men's houses; will talk to their wives and little ones about their food and their clothes and such like—giving them a kind word and a helping hand when they want it. This of course will come of the matter; otherwise for my part I can't see such very great good in it.

Politeness is a nice thing and sometimes warms a poor man's heart more than he can tell; but politeness itself won't put a 'tato on the plate when there isn't one. Folks can't eat quoits and footballs.

### THE HOPE FOR A BIT OF LAND

And now, Sir, I hope you will be so good as to let me have this bit of land. It will, I feel, make quite a man of me. Yes, Sir, I mean that word and no other. As it is, Sir,—I don't know how it can be—but somehow at times I don't feel a man at all. I seem as if I'd no business in the world, as if I was a sort of toad or slug upon the soil; an interloper on the land, having no right even to make a footmark on it. The sun doesn't seem to shine for me—nor the wheat to shoot—nor the hedge flowers to blow.

I feel sometimes as if poverty in this world was made the mark of Cain and was put upon me; with this broad difference, too, that any man might smite me for it. And then, Sir, the temptations fly and run about one! I mean the game, Sir, many a time when I've heard the pheasant crow, it has somehow sounded—though not a bit like it—like one of my children crying for food, and then for a minute my brain had been in a blaze and I'd have done anything. When things are at their worst and starvation is for days in my cupboard—the devil, or something like him, has sent the hares running about me as though on purpose to be knocked down with a stick. It's a hard matter, Sir, to keep one's hands off a dinner running at one's feet—a dinner that it's hard to think belongs to any one in particular.

And therefore, honoured Sir, I do hope for a bit of land—if it's no bigger, one may say, than a lark's turf—like the lark I know I can whistle upon it and be happy. And so, honoured Sir, asking your pardon for my boldness, as a poor man, in thinking of such a thing.

I remain yours humbly to command,

ABEL WEED.

### The Land Owner's Answer

Abel Weed,

Had you known anything of the true principles of Political Economy, you would never have written such a letter to me, a land owner. Know, that it is much better for you that you should not have even a quarter of an acre—that it is for the social good of all that you should remain as you are.

THEOPHILUS CANAAN, Bart.

(From "Punch," 1844; crossheads added by ourselves.)





Published by THE UNITED COMMITTEE FOR THE  
TAXATION OF LAND VALUES, LTD.

Thirty-ninth Year. Established June, 1894.

1d. Monthly. By Post 2s. per annum.

United States and Canada, 50 cents.

Editorial Offices:

94 PETTY FRANCE, LONDON, S.W.1.

*All communications to be addressed to the Editor.*

Telegrams: "Eulav, Sewest, London." Telephone: Victoria 4508-9.

*Postage on this issue is One Penny.*

## DOUBLE NUMBER: SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 1932

### THE OTTAWA CONFERENCE

The ingenuity of statesmen has been exercised in devising schemes of taxation which drain the wages of labour and the earnings of capital as the vampire bat is said to suck the life-blood of its victim. Nearly all of these taxes are ultimately paid by that indefinable being, the consumer; and he pays them in a way which does not call his attention to the fact that he is paying a tax — pays them in such small amounts and in such insidious modes that he does not notice it, and is not likely to take the trouble to remonstrate effectually. Those who pay the money directly to the tax collector are not only not interested in opposing a tax which they so easily shift from their own shoulders, but are very frequently interested in its imposition and maintenance, as are other powerful interests which profit, or expect to profit, by the increase of prices which such taxes bring about. — *Progress and Poverty*, Book VIII, Chap. IV.

The Ottawa Agreements compel the British Government to tax the British people with new or additional taxes on a large range of foodstuffs and raw materials imported from foreign countries. These articles include wheat, one kind of maize, husked rice, butter, cheese, eggs in shell, preserved milk, eight kinds of fresh fruit, preserved or dried fruits, honey, linseed, cod liver oil, linseed and other vegetable oils, chilled or frozen salmon, unwrought copper and magnesium chloride. The taxes on wheat, at 2s. per quarter; maize, at 10 per cent *ad valorem*; linseed, at 15 per cent *ad valorem* and copper at 2d. per lb., are new taxes. These articles had free entry under the Import Duties Act, and they have been brought under tribute apparently without any consultation with the British Tariff Commission which was supposed to examine every proposal for new or additional tariffs. In the case of the other foodstuffs and raw materials, already taxed 10 per cent under the general tariff, the Imperial agreement has raised the duty either by adding to the *ad valorem* rate or by converting the duty into a tax on the weight or the number of the foreign articles.

It is provided under the agreements that the British Government must not, without the permission of the Dominions, take off the duty now imposed on a number of foreign articles including raw materials like timber, zinc, lead, asbestos, leather, tallow; and foodstuffs

like fresh fish, canned fish and meat, barley, macaroni, dried peas, dressed poultry, meat extracts and what not. This prohibition is to hold good for five years.

For the further benefit of Dominion producers at the expense of the British consumer there is to be a restriction of imports of foreign beef and meat by means of quotas deliberately worked so as to raise prices.

Ottawa has put the coping-stone upon the Protectionist ramp of the past twelve months. Imperial Preference means the exclusion, by tariffs or quota, of the competing foreign article, while the produce from the Dominions comes in free. The price of all goods will be increased and the increase in the case of the Dominion produce goes directly into the pocket of the Canadian or Australian or Newfoundland or New Zealand farmer or manufacturer. The benefit will not stop there. It will ultimately reach the pocket of the person or persons who own the natural resources on which and from which the imports from the Dominions are produced. In other words, Imperial Preference is a scheme well calculated to enrich land monopolists in the Dominions, just as the British tariff, for the so-called "protection" of British farmers and manufacturers, will not really help any industry, but in the end only raise the rent of the fields and sites where the favoured industry is carried on.

The general outline of the Agreements was made known on 20th August, but the country had to wait for the fuller details until 12th October, when they were published simultaneously throughout the British Empire. Meanwhile, on 28th September, following a Cabinet meeting to consider the report of the Ottawa delegates, Lord Snowden and the Free Trade Liberals sent in their resignations. The Administration has been reconstructed, still calling itself a "National Government," with a number of places filled up from the ranks of the Liberal Nationalists, the followers of Sir John Simon and Mr Runciman.

Lord Snowden and the Free Trade Liberals who joined the Government in October last year, have explained in their letters of resignation and in subsequent speeches why they could no longer remain in office. The Ottawa bargains, with all they mean in added taxation and increased barriers against trade, have been too much for them. In passing, it is difficult for genuine Free Traders to understand how they could sit in the Administration while it passed such protectionist measures as the Abnormal Importations Act, the Horticultural Duties Act, and the General Tariff. It is common knowledge how they solaced themselves with the conviction that their presence was necessary for the sake of the more immediate tasks the Government had in hand. As to this reasoning everyone is entitled to his own opinion. The point is that they left the Government when the nefarious and predatory policy of Ottawa was revealed. As men holding to the principle of Free Trade, they had no alternative.

During the course of the Ottawa Debates, the House of Commons was informed that the Russian Trade Agreement had been denounced, and that a new agreement would be made enabling the British Government to take action against any so-called "dumping" of goods into the British market. The British Government is expected to stop the "dumping," for example, whenever the Canadian lumber interests feel injured or aggrieved, because the British consumer is buying Russian timber at cut prices. Nothing shows up in a more startling light the nature of the bargaining at Ottawa than the perfectly frank admission by Mr Chamberlain in the House of Commons on 21st October that the Russian Trade Agreement had been denounced for the special

and peculiar advantage of the lumber trade in Canada.

The Prime Minister's contribution to the debate (18th October) was to ask, in effect, why all this fuss about the Ottawa Agreements? After all, the invitation to Ottawa had been accepted not only by the National Government, but also by the Labour Government, and rightly accepted. The Labour Government had agreed to go to Ottawa, and they knew that the negotiations at the 1930 London Conference would be resumed in Ottawa at exactly the point where they had left off. They knew perfectly well that the Ottawa Conference, if successful, could only result in something in the nature of tariffs, and foodstuffs would have to be included somehow or other. If the Labour Government had been against tariffs they should have stopped the proceedings and intimated they would have no part in a Conference of the kind.

This is a very interesting and significant sidelight on the working of Mr MacDonald's mind on this or any politico-economic question. He was the head of a Government, pledged by all that is sacred to the maintenance of Free Trade. The events of the past twelve months have justified the standpoint of the United Committee when it declared in its Manifesto at the General Election that neither the Prime Minister nor his associates from other Parties would be asked to consider the niceties of any particular tariff or the question whether tariffs might be wise or not. They would be presented with the full Tory programme, and be required to act upon it, or leave the Government. Mr Ramsay MacDonald has decided to remain in the Government and his excuses remain with him.

One of the refreshing developments of the tariff experience as it affects hosts of industries is the loud and angry protest of numerous manufacturers against these Ottawa Agreements. If it were not so tragic it would be farcical. The manufacturer thought, when the general tariff was under way, that here at last was the opportunity to get a market for his own wares, with or without the exploitation of the British public; and all his influence and all his agencies were engineered to put the tariff into effect. Now the manufacturer discovers that tariff means preference, and that preference means higher prices for the raw materials he must use, and he wants to know by what trick or mad policy the British Government has decided to tax linseed and copper—to take two examples. Copper was one of the things that Mr Chamberlain himself put on the free list when the Import Duties Bill was under debate.

But loud as the protest of British manufacturers is against the new and increased import duties as such, it is nothing to their alarm in the matter of the Russian Trade Agreement. They are afraid that any action taken against Russian imports into this country may mean reprisals that will cut down a flourishing and growing trade in the export of machinery, tools, etc., and the possible transference of that business to other countries. The manufacturer who called for protection, and his name is legion, has been caught in his own trap. He made sentiment for tariffs in his own interest, never realizing that two can play at that game; that there never was a tariff which could clearly discriminate between the manufactured article and the raw material, and for the simple reason that what is the finished article for one industry is the raw material for another.

The bringing of goods into the country without the permission of Customs officers and without paying toll is punishable by fine or imprisonment. It has been constituted a law-made crime. The moral side of the question is that the forces of the State suppress the individual when he claims his right to buy where he likes and sell where he likes, to exchange the produce

of his labour for the goods another has produced. He becomes an enemy of society: his act infringes some legalized trade monopoly or cheats some vested interest of its profit. Just so the liberator was regarded who, in helping the slaves to run away, destroyed so much "capital value" belonging to the slave-owner.

The moral decadence of a community is fast approaching which does not see in the Protectionist scheme of things the process of general loot, as brazen as would be the forcible entry of a landowner or his agent, a manufacturer or his men (or, for that matter, some Canadian or Australian) into someone's home, demanding at the pistol-point tribute out of the family earnings. What makes the plight of the householder more acute is that a uniformed policeman stands by to guard the burglar; and round the corner is the lawyer ready with the argument that the householder is partly compensated for his loss in the fact that a British manufacturer, perhaps in Sheffield, can commit a lesser robbery on purchasers of goods in the Dominions—lesser, because bargains were made in Ottawa that did not give "our people" just as much Imperial Preference as they gave to the Imperial patriots in their trading over here.

The offence of the real Free Trader who would break through the tariff barriers and bring abundance on this earth is manifold. He would aggravate the fall in price that would-be economists say is the cause of our distresses; he would take from honest people their legally anticipated gains, and that without compensation; and if he had his way he would deprive the Treasury of its revenue and shake every special privilege to its foundations.

The time has come for the radical Free Trader who will stand for the principle on moral grounds and uphold liberty in its widest and fullest expression. He will call for the abolition of every sort or kind of taxation levied on trade and industry. He will give the answer to tariff policies and relate Free Trade to the Taxation of Land Values. He will claim for each the equal right to use the land and demand for all the common right to the public value attaching to the land. He will show that here lies the remedy for poverty and unemployment and that this is the way by which the State and the municipality shall obtain their proper revenues. He will take the case for Free Trade out of the craven and fumbling hands of those who, professing to defend Free Trade, talked always in terms of mere expediency, made no protest against indirect taxation and could not or dared not combine the freedom to produce with the freedom to exchange wealth.

We have tariffs, preference, restrictions, quotas, and the general hold-up of trade for two main reasons. One is that unemployment exists, and the other is that Parliament is determined to get public revenue from indirect taxation. The truth is that tariffs were wanted for revenue purposes by the financial interests that live and thrive on low wages and poverty. The idea that a tariff will protect a home industry against competing foreign industry helped to get the vote and voice of manufacturers for a Protectionist policy; and the idea that the work necessary to produce the goods would be diverted into the home channels gained a ready hearing from the unemployed millions. How much actual "protection" has been accorded to any industry is a question not difficult to answer in view of the desperate condition of every Protectionist country. Nowhere has the policy bettered the condition of industry or employment; on the contrary. Customs duties have succeeded in nothing but in shifting the burden of taxation from concentrated wealth and from monopoly and privilege to the earnings of the working people.

## NEW POST-FREE OFFER

Of Books Sent in One  
Parcel to One Address\*

- Set A.—PROGRESS AND POVERTY, PROTECTION OR FREE TRADE, and SOCIAL PROBLEMS, 1s. editions each in Red Cloth ... *Post Free* 3s. 0d.
- Set B.—Same as Set A, but PROTECTION OR FREE TRADE, 6d. edition, in Paper Covers ... 2s. 6d.
- Set C.—PROGRESS AND POVERTY, PROTECTION OR FREE TRADE, SOCIAL PROBLEMS, THE CONDITION OF LABOUR, 1s. editions, in Red Cloth; and THE SCIENCE OF POLITICAL ECONOMY, 2s. 6d. edition in Red Cloth ... 6s. 3d.
- Set D.—Same as Set C, but PROTECTION OR FREE TRADE, 6d. edition, in Paper Covers ... 5s. 9d.
- Set E.—The Four Books PROGRESS AND POVERTY, PROTECTION OR FREE TRADE, SOCIAL PROBLEMS and THE CONDITION OF LABOUR (1s. editions) or Four of ANY of these books ... 3s. 9d.

\* In Great Britain. For overseas orders, add 6d. for Sets A and B; 9d. for Set E; and 1s. for Sets C and D.

## SPECIAL OFFER OF

## "PROTECTION OR FREE TRADE"

<i>Sixpenny Edition,</i>	<i>To Any Address</i>	<i>Post-Free</i>
<i>In Paper Covers.</i>	<i>Great Britain</i>	<i>Overseas</i>
One Copy	6d.	8d.
Three Copies	1s. 3d.	1s. 9d.
Six Copies	2s. 0d.	3s. 6d.
Per Dozen	3s. 9d.	6s. 6d.

HELP TO GIVE THE WIDEST POSSIBLE CIRCULATION TO THIS BOOK. IT IS THE FINAL WORD ON THE FISCAL QUESTION.

Send Orders marked "Offer P.F." to

The Henry George Foundation,

Trustees: The United Committee for  
the Taxation of Land Values Ltd.

94 Petty France, London, S.W.1.

I went to Kenya in 1903 and served there as an administrative officer among tribes such as the Kikuyu, Meru, Enbu, and Kavirondo till 1924. My recollection is that the average native who had not come much into contact with Europeans did not desire such blessings, and was a well-fed, well-set-up specimen of humanity, quite content with his condition and as happy as the day was long.—Mr N. A. KENYON-SLANEY, Potra, Hyde, Kent.—*Times*, 22/9/32.

## FORM OF BEQUEST

I bequeath (free of duty) to the United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values, Limited, the sum of £ and I declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or Treasurers for the time being of that Company shall be a sufficient discharge to my Trustees, who shall not be concerned to see the application of such legacy.

## HENRY GEORGE AND LIBERTY

(From an Address at the Henry George Commemoration Meeting, Glasgow, 30th September.)

By John Peter, M.A.



Mr JOHN PETER, M.A.

Henry George lived and died for the great idea that Liberty is the only possible basis of a Just State. The failure of so-called *laissez-faire*—properly speaking, *laissez-aller* without *laissez-faire*—has destroyed all popular belief in the fact that economic liberty is a practicable policy; hence the present almost universal rage for control and regulation.

Current Political Economy cannot show the way to a Just State. All its teachings are built on the assumption that land and rent are legitimate private property. It deliberately asserts that it is not concerned with ethical considerations, but is solely interested to explain how the existing system works, or rather, does not work. It takes speculation and the tendency of wages to a minimum as perfectly natural phenomena.

Henry George, on the other hand, showed that the fundamental economic laws are a harmony, if it is recognized that all men have equal rights in land. Rent becomes public property, and the existing vicious system of taxation unnecessary: wages reach a natural maximum, namely, what can be produced on non-rent paying marginal land. In practically no part of the world is free marginal land now open to exploitation.

This fact has had within recent years tremendous effects upon the prosperity of the U.S.A. and other comparatively new countries. As a consequence of the false belief that "work and markets are limited quantities," and must therefore be preserved for their own nationals, these countries have even now insisted on a limited immigration. The obvious truth that every immigrant brings his own market with him cannot overcome economic prejudice.

Henry George's policy would restore to labour the safeguard of marginal land and employment. The Taxation of Land Values would not itself put the world right, but the liberty which it would engender would! It is almost incredible how George's proposals are misunderstood and misrepresented by writers of current economic treatises.

This is an age of international conferences: which proclaim pious platitudes and effect nothing. They cannot, for they ignore the fundamental basis of progress. Association is now more than national. Civilizations, as in the past, are no longer isolated. Inequality is everywhere the rule; privileged and unprivileged. There is a wedge in all societies. This leads to a conflict of interests between man and man, industry and industry: a conflict which extends itself over national frontiers and leads to international jealousies. Each nation therefore demands its own market exclusively—Protection—and seeks its own sources of raw material. These do not solve the problem, and so it further demands expansion; and the final result is—War!

War stimulates invention and leads to lop-sided development. When peace comes, those who have specialized in war-industries are thrown idle and become a special problem. Invention, amidst inequality, increases inequalities. Distribution is affected, and again affected through war-debts and taxation. All nations are one to-day, and world civilization is threatened. It can only be saved when Association in Equality—the only true condition of Progress—is the rule among individual nations. Taxation of Land Values is the practicable means to that end.



## AN ITALIAN PROFESSOR AND HENRY GEORGE

### The Critic Criticized

By W. R. LESTER, M.A.

Professor Carlo Pagni, of Milan University, has taken the occasion of the republication of Henry George's *Works* to enter the lists as a critic of *Progress and Poverty*, and his attack is worthy of attention as we judge from his writing that he claims to have made a special study, not only of Henry George, but also of his precursors. The onslaught is welcome, if only that it breaks the conspiracy of silence in which most scholastic opponents of George take refuge to-day.

#### THE FIRST CHARGE

The first charge the Professor makes against George is that his ideas suffer from the vice common to all rigid schemes in that they do not take into account exceptions to the general principle he wishes to enforce. Rent, says George, is the determining factor in distribution. Though this looks like a truism, can we, asks the Professor, apply it to distribution as it actually takes place in practice? Is the generalization always and everywhere true? He answers that it is not, for where population is sparse, the land cut up and some of it free, not rent but labour becomes the determining factor. In these circumstances owners of idle land, he says, will compete to get the few available workers and be forced to pay them high wages. Labour has then the ball at its feet, and rent becomes but a secondary matter.

#### RENT AND WAGES

It is truly surprising that such a point should be made, and we can only conclude that though the Professor may have read *Progress and Poverty* the reading has been careless indeed. For is not this the very thing that George set out to drive home? Did he not, times without number, insist that where some land is freely open to labour it makes all the difference to the wage earner, not only on that particular land, but throughout the whole field of industry? He laboured to prove that where land is free men are free, and that where land is monopolized men are slaves. One of his illustrations was that imaginary island springing out of the sea near England, fertile and free to all. He showed that the effect would be to raise wages and reduce rents throughout all England. It is hard on George that when his generalization is found to coincide with what (even according to the Professor), takes place in actual practice, the fact should be thrown at him. Professor Pagni has tripped badly over himself.

The Professor quotes Arnold Toynbee's criticism along the same lines. We have read it. Toynbee says nothing more than is said by the Professor himself; that is, he only confirms the arguments of Henry George by showing in his own way that when alternative employment is open to labour wages cannot be depressed.

#### THE SECOND CHARGE

Charge two against George is that he appeals to causes which only operate over long periods (which only work "in the long run," as the Professor puts it) to explain phenomena like trade crises which operate over short periods. George showed that all improvements "in the long run" express themselves in higher values of land, and that when land values are privately monopolized commercial crises are to be traced to this fact. But, in reality, says Professor Pagni, commercial crises are the result of "intermediary facts, actions and reactions" which operate over short periods and which

George ignores. What these intermediary facts, actions and reactions may be the Professor tells us he cannot enumerate in his present paper, so if they exist the reader is left to guess what they are. But whatever they may be we hesitate to think it can be seriously maintained that long term influences are not ever steadily at work just as tides determine the ocean's level, however the surface may be ruffled by passing waves. We had thought it was the special duty of the Political Economist to lay bare long term influences.

#### THE INFLUENCES AT WORK

Here again is evidence of careless reading of the book the Professor criticizes. For throughout *Progress and Poverty* both long and short term influences are faithfully allowed for. Times without number could its pages be quoted in evidence of this, but we select only the following from Book VII, Chapter 3. Dealing with private appropriation of economic rent George says:—

"This robbery is not like the robbery of a horse or a sum of money that ceases with the act. It is a fresh and continuous robbery, that goes on every day and every hour. . . . It is not a robbery of the past, it is a robbery of the present."

But still stronger evidence that the Professor has but skimmed the book he criticizes is to be found in Book V, Chapter 1 of *Progress and Poverty* where, after arguing that speculative advance in land values is the main cause of paroxysms of industrial depression, Henry George goes on:—

"I do not mean to say that there are not other proximate causes. The growing complexity and interdependence of the machinery of production, which makes each shock or stoppage propagate itself through a widening circle; the essential defect of currencies which contract when most needed, and the tremendous alternations in volume that occur in the simpler forms of commercial credit which, to a much greater extent than currency in any form, constitute the medium or flux of exchanges; the protective tariffs which present artificial barriers to the interplay of productive forces, and other similar causes, undoubtedly bear important part in producing and continuing what are called hard times."

Will the Professor say how *short-term* influences could be more fully recognized than they are here?

#### THE THIRD CHARGE

Charge three is that even if George's teachings are true, we cannot in practice separate the value of land from the value of improvements—"not a centime more or a centime less," as the Professor puts it. If systems of taxation are to stand or fall by mathematical accuracy in valuation then every known system falls. Does Professor Pagni think that when he pays his house tax or his property tax the valuations on which he pays are mathematically accurate—"not a centime more or a centime less" either way?

#### MAKING THE SEPARATION

But, as a fact, Henry George has expressly dealt with this aspect of valuation in *Progress and Poverty*, Book VIII, Chap. 4, entitled "Indorsements and Objections," and with a very telling observation, which, to distinguish, we put in italics:—

"For admitting that it is impossible to invariably separate the value of land from the value of improvements, *is this necessity of continuing to tax some improvements any reason why we should continue to tax all improvements?* If it discourage production to tax land values which labour and capital have intimately

combined with that of land, how much greater discouragement is involved in taxing not only these but all the clearly distinguishable values which labour and capital create? . . . In the oldest country in the world no difficulty whatever can attend the separation, if all that be attempted is to separate the value of the clearly distinguishable improvements, made within a moderate period, from the value of the land, should they be destroyed. This manifestly is all that justice or policy requires. Absolute accuracy is impossible in any system, and to attempt to separate all that the human race has done from what nature originally provided would be as absurd as impracticable."

In any case the point has but academic interest at this time of day, because, as the Professor ought to know, land valuation apart from improvements has long been an accomplished fact in many countries.

In his use of the term "confiscation," the Professor shows prejudice, and discloses the gulf that lies between him and George. Professor Pagni refers to George's plan as "confiscation" of rent, blind to the fact that rent being the creation of the whole community, is due to the whole community so that confiscation is proceeding daily on the part of those private interests who now take rent for themselves.

#### THE FOURTH CHARGE

Charge four is that George's observations and his deductions from them were made in the Western States of America at a time of monstrous increase of population and phenomenal growth in land values. In this environment *Progress and Poverty* was written, and what was only a transitory and local phenomenon was mistaken for a general law.

What is this general law which *Progress and Poverty* sought to establish? It is that as population increases the value of land increases *pari passu*, inducing (when land is monopolized) speculation on land values, land withholding and trade depression. Professor Pagni does not question or dispute this generalization. He does not even examine it. All he does is to point out that George arrived at his conclusions at a time and in a place where population and rent were very quickly rising. The only legitimate inference Professor Pagni can draw from this circumstance is that the facts of the case were there more obvious and more pronounced than where growth of population and land values are less rapid. It is not legitimate for him to draw the inference that George's generalization was wrong or could only apply in the special circumstances that came under his observation. That is just what the Professor has to prove and he makes no effort to do so.

But however that may be, we must point out that in making this charge the Professor involves himself in flat contradiction. Here he quarrels with George because his generalization was based on *short term* phenomena, observed in California, though he (the Professor) had already quarrelled with George (see charge two) because his generalization was based on *long term* causes (which operate only "in the long run"). It is impossible to be wrong for reasons that are opposite and contradictory.

#### "GEORGEISM AND MARXISM"

These are the main points of the Professor's critique, and if they are the best he can make *Progress and Poverty* still stands fast. The criticisms are followed by an inquiry into the cause of the alleged comparatively slow progress of "Georgeism" as compared with "Marxism." If actual legislation were taken as the measure of success the verdict would not be so unfavourable to "Georgeism" as the Professor seems to imagine.

It may be true that Marxism, which strikes at capitalism, appeals at first glance more readily to the worker than does "Georgeism," which strikes at landlordism. The capitalist stands prominent in the foreground of his picture, for it is in the factory and with the machines of the capitalist he works and from the capitalist seem to come his weekly wages. The landlord, the true and final shaper of his destiny, stands hidden but all powerful in the background.

The Professor says that "to-day only a few propagandists, dispersed mainly in the Anglo-Saxon countries, remain to uphold these doctrines." What about Denmark and the International Conferences held in Ronda, Oxford, Copenhagen and Edinburgh, where representatives from 24 countries were present?

#### WHAT RENT IS

In this connection a curious expression used by the Professor throughout his paper must be referred to. He frequently defines Georgeism as "anti-rentism"—the very thing which George himself was at pains to disclaim. George never tired of showing that rent of land is a natural and inevitable thing, and that, being natural, it must be beneficial. He showed how, when directed into the right channel, it is the great equalizer of opportunity. How, then, could he be "against rent?" It is a libel on George to suggest it for, as he demonstrated, only when rent is turned into private pockets instead of into the Public Treasury does it become a curse.

The Professor asserts that what he calls the "anti-rent" sentiment cannot exist in the towns for rent there only appears as "one of the charges the employer has to bear and therefore can have no effect on the emotions of the workers." It is one of the merits of Henry George that he showed how there is a land question in the towns just as surely as in the country, and in point of fact three times have land value measures based on George's practical proposals passed through the British Parliament—in 1906, 1909 and 1931. In each case the overwhelming support behind these measures came from the towns and not from the country. Moreover, during the past forty years scores of petitions have come from the greatest British municipalities seeking powers from Parliament to levy rates on land values for local revenue.

#### THE POPULAR DEMAND

Professor Pagni further says that "the 'anti-rent' sentiment can only flourish amid great estates and absentee landlords, and that wherever land is parcelled out among many the 'anti-rent' sentiment has no driving force."

How, then, are we to explain the hold the movement has got in Denmark, the country of small peasant proprietors, and the fact that these very peasant proprietors are the main force behind the Land Values law now on the Danish statute book? In Denmark, as in Australia, New Zealand and South Africa the facts of the case are against the Professor's assertion.

Throughout his critique of *Progress and Poverty* Professor Pagni makes grave mistakes as the foregoing references to the pages of the book suffice to show. None the less, if only in giving opportunity to expose these errors, our contemporary *Terre et Liberté*, in whose pages a translation of the paper appears, has done a service to its readers in bringing it before them.

"I am not afraid of the tiger and the ape in man but the rabbit. There was too much rabbit in man and it needed courage and purpose to carry the idea of peace to success."—MR BEHRENS at the League of Nations Union Keswick 6th October

## OTTAWA AND THE IMPERIAL PREFERENCES

### Parliament Not Bound by the Five-Year Pledge

Parliament assembled on 18th October. In the House of Commons the first day was spent in debating in Committee the "Ways and Means" Resolution making financial provision "for the Imperial Preferences, security of preferences granted to the Dominion of Canada, and general provision for giving effect to the Agreements and Announcements made at the Imperial Economic Conference held at Ottawa."

On 19th October the procedure was interrupted to obtain a new Rule at the instance of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. He explained that the established practice was that where new duties were imposed each new duty had to be voted as a separate resolution. He moved that the House be empowered to impose all the new duties—they are under 22 different headings—under a single resolution. Apart from the breach of constitutional practice, what carried a great deal more weight in the mind of Mr Chamberlain was that although there is this large number of new duties, there is only one issue concerned and that is whether or not the Agreements shall be implemented by this House. In order to implement those Agreements all these duties must be granted by this House and therefore it is impossible to pick and choose among the duties to decide that we will take one and not another, that would destroy the Agreements themselves." After debate on what Opposition speakers condemned as a revolutionary proposal, the motion was carried by 291 votes to 69.

The financial resolution giving general effect to the Agreements was further debated and was carried on 20th October by 451 to 84. Resolutions followed imposing the new duties and increasing the duties on certain foreign wines, the latter for the sake of South Africa.

Report stage of the financial resolutions was taken on 21st and 24th October, every proposed Amendment being heavily defeated.

On 24th October the Ottawa Agreements Bill was introduced. The Second Reading debate followed on 26th and 27th October and was carried by 422 to 77. According to plan, the Bill is to be through all its stages in the House of Commons on 3rd November and then have its perfunctory acceptance by the House of Lords.

\* \* \*

"The ingenuity of statesmen has been exercised in devising schemes of taxation which drain the wages of labour and the earnings of capital as the vampire bat is said to suck the life-blood of its victim."

\* \* \*

The National Government, as it is called, is slick in its legislation. As one speaker in the debates (Mr Isaac Foot, 27th October) said: "It is a very remarkable thing that a Bill touching most vitally some of the greatest issues that have been discussed from one generation to another is practically in every respect a foregone conclusion. It is to this that the High Court of Parliament, what our fathers called the Grand Inquest of the Nation, has been reduced."

### Liberal and Labour Repudiation

We have no space to report the debates. We only put on record the following declarations repudiating the pledge on the part of the present Government that the duties on foreign imports named in the Agreements will not during the next five years be reduced or removed without the consent of the Dominions.

Rt. Hon. GEORGE LANSBURY, Leader of the Labour Party, said on 18th October:—

"It is impossible for one Parliament to bind another Parliament. The electorate of this country has a right to say at the next election that the whole of these things shall be cancelled. We can bind the British people for this Parliament but at the next election they can break away from these Agreements."

Rt. Hon. Sir HERBERT SAMUEL, Leader of the Liberal Party, said on 18th October:—

"I am compelled to say here and now with the approval of my colleagues and the Liberal Parliamentary Party, that if this Measure is carried in its present form we shall regard it as contrary to constitutional practice, that the rule of continuity would not apply, and that we must be free in the future to take such action as to modification or repeal as conditions may require."

Major ATLEE, speaking on 19th October from the front Labour bench, said:—

"We of the Labour Party have declared, and we declare again, that we will not be bound by this Agreement. I understand that the Rt. Hon. Member for Darwen (Sir Herbert Samuel) takes the same line. One knows that Mr Scullin (Australia) and Mr Mackenzie King (Canada) in their respective countries have taken the same line too. . . . We intend, whenever we are returned to power, to take our own line with regard to these arrangements entirely regardless of this attempt to tie and fetter us beforehand."

### Ruling from the Chair

In the House of Commons on 28th October Sir Herbert Samuel pressed the Chairman of Committee, Sir Dennis Herbert, on a Ruling to say whether Parliament was free to make amendments in the Clauses of the Bill which would render those Clauses inconsistent with the terms of the Schedules to the Ottawa Agreements.

The Chairman replied: "Parliament is not asked by this Bill to adopt the Agreements. Parliament is invited in the terms used in the Agreements 'to pass certain legislation in fulfilment of those Agreements.' Parliament can of course accept that invitation or refuse it. Parliament can pass legislation which is on the lines of this Bill or otherwise." Further, in answer to Sir Herbert Samuel's question, Sir Dennis Herbert made it clear that the Agreements were not Agreements to which Parliament was a party. Parliament was free to make amendments in the Clauses inconsistent with the terms of the Schedules; in other words with the terms of the Agreements.

Then followed the decisive Ruling so far as the five-year pledge is concerned:—

Sir HERBERT SAMUEL: Article 3 of the United Kingdom-Canada Agreement (and there are corresponding Articles on the five other Agreements) states: "His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom undertake that the general ad valorem duty of 10 per cent imposed by Section I of the Import Duties Act, 1932, on the foreign goods specified in Schedule C shall not be reduced except with the consent of His Majesty's Government in Canada."

If this Bill is passed in its present form, would that in any degree preclude this Parliament or its successor from varying any of these duties at any time that might be thought fit?

The CHAIRMAN: "The reply is in the negative."

## TOLL BRIDGES

### The Gainsborough Case

#### AN ILLUMINATING CORRESPONDENCE

"The real difference between rich and poor is the difference between those who hold the tollgates and those who pay toll; between tribute receivers and tribute yielders."—Henry George in *The Condition of Labour*, Part V.

The following statement is taken from the *Yorkshire Post* of 2nd April, 1932:—

"The high cost of freeing Gainsborough Toll Bridge has aroused comment in the north. The following letter has been written to the editor of the *Yorkshire Post* by Mr H. Whitaker."

#### MR WHITAKER'S LETTER

"So this bridge, which 145 years ago cost £12,000 to build, has now cost £130,000 of public money to purchase, offers of £80,000 and £90,000 having been refused. No wonder we are heavily taxed. As the owners attached such a high value to their property, I should have left them to enjoy undisturbed possession of the same; and built another bridge. Two bridges are worth more than one anyhow. If this had been done it is safe to prophesy that other toll bridges, such as the miserable structure at Selby, could be purchased at something nearer their true value.

"A trifling detail worthy of mention in passing, is that it is precisely this universal practice of making the public pay to private interests, for that value which the public itself has created, which is the greatest contributing cause of the world's present economic troubles."

This arresting letter roused the "Person Sitting in Darkness" to action. He became alarmed and the London correspondent of *Yorkshire Post* was at once instructed to go into the matter with the Whitehall bureaucrats. We quote from this inquiry:—

"The Ministry of Transport stoutly defends the expenditure of £130,000 for the purpose of freeing the Gainsborough Bridge, notwithstanding the fact that the construction of the bridge cost only £12,000 nearly a century and a half ago.

"The Ministry's spokesman argued that the original cost of any toll bridge is not so much the question at issue to-day as the value of the right to levy tolls upon the heavy and increasing road traffic.

"Many people will be surprised to learn that approximately 130 toll bridges still exist in Great Britain."

Mr Whitaker returned to the attack in a letter of 5th April, in which he said:—

"Let us remember that for the public to buy, and at great cost, that value which it has itself created, is a vicious principle and has dangerous consequences."

And, again, in a further letter giving instances of excessive toll charges: "The great point to bear in mind is, that it is the public who have created this great increase in value."

In reply to Mr Whitaker the *Yorkshire Post* in one of its quaint editorial talks to its own public:—

"But the public must not grumble if such changes bring in a *relatively few cases*" (italics ours) "enhancement of values instead of depreciation to some persons of *foresight and enterprise* unless they are prepared to pay."

It is the stand-and-deliver argument of Dick Turpin. In some piece of writing somewhere we have read that Robin Hood was wont to put up a notice in some part of the West End of London that anyone from this district found ten miles out with less than £10 in his pocket would be seriously dealt with. This was the outlaw's way of collecting the toll in his day. In our day the lineal descendants of "the Famous Man" have got the law on their side and have their agencies duly appointed to transfer the wealth they demand from the wealth producer, for leave to occupy the site in undisturbed possession. They are taking no risks and collect the tribute at its source!

The *Yorkshire Post* continues:—

"It is quite easy to understand that the traveller who found unexpectedly a convenient bridge at the crossing place of a river would be grateful, for in our climate at least to be saved a wet shirt is convenient. And so benevolent folk who, out of their wealth and goodwill, erected a bridge in early times usually erected also a chapel upon it or beside it where a traveller could express his gratitude in a prayer for the repose of the soul of the bridge builder."

But what relationship the compassionate bridge builder of that far-off day has to do with the land speculator of our day is not quite clear. What is certain is that the traveller does not now look for a church to offer up a prayer for the benefit of him who, in effect, says: "No £130,000 for me, then no free bridge for you."

Verily "land monopoly is the more insidious form of slavery"; 130 more toll bridges to purchase. What fortunes for the children and grandchildren of the men with the "foresight" to make this "investment," and correspondingly what debt for the children and grandchildren of the men who will use the bridge!

£130,000 for the freeing of Gainsborough Bridge means sending up the price of the remaining 129 bridges to be freed. But the payment of this "indemnity" is not all. When the toll is abolished and the bridge is redeemed for the public the value of the land in the neighbourhood on both sides will assuredly increase. The territorial land-owners will sell the bridge over and over again to all who must live and work in its vicinity. Henry George very well illustrates this point:—

"The confidence of American slave-holders, strengthened by the example of Great Britain, that abolition would not come without compensation, kept up to the highest point the market value of slaves, even after the guns that were to free them had begun to sound, whereas if there had been no paltering with the idea of compensation the growth of the sentiment against slavery would by reducing the selling value of slaves have gradually lessened the pecuniary interests concerned in supporting it."—*A Perplexed Philosopher*, Chapter II.

It has been truly said: "The landowner is the residuary legatee of the great bulk of public expenditure." This is true also of private expenditure and of all social growth. As Mr Whitaker emphasized in his well-chosen words: "It is this universal practice of making the public pay that is the greatest contributing cause of the world's economic troubles."

No Entry Fee

Third Year

### Prize Essay Competition

To Promote the Study of "Progress and Poverty," "Social Problems," "Protection or Free Trade," and Other Works by Henry George

The sum of £100 has been made available from the Funds of the Henry George Foundation, in furtherance of its object of spreading a wider knowledge of the teachings of Henry George, to be awarded in Cash Prizes for the best Essays written on the Subject stated in the Essay Prospectus.

The number of cash prizes offered are thirty-seven in all, namely—Two of £10, six of £5 and twenty-five of £2. In addition, consolation prizes are offered in the form of Books.

FOR ESSAY PROSPECTUS (1932-33) WITH  
FULL PARTICULARS WRITE TO THE  
HENRY GEORGE FOUNDATION  
94 Petty France, London, S.W.1

## SCOTTISH LIBERALS

At the Autumn Conference of the Scottish League of Young Liberals (Glasgow District) held at Glasgow, 8th October, a resolution in the following terms was adopted as part of a general acclamation of policy:—

"That high taxation, combined with the appropriation of the rent of site values by private individuals, constitutes an intolerable levy upon the production and exchange of commodities, and removes the incentive to commercial enterprise."

In its report, the *Glasgow Herald* says:—

"The later portion of the resolution suggested Government steps to remove these obstacles, the proposals including disarmament, the adoption of the Liberal schemes of national development, a return to Free Trade, the rating and taxing of site values, and the establishment of Scottish self-government."

At the Annual Autumn Meetings of the Scottish Liberal Federation, held at Perth 14th and 15th October, three resolutions in support of the Taxation of Land Values were on the Agenda. The one adopted was as follows:—

"This Council is of opinion that the demand for relief from the present burden of taxation is reasonable and urgent; such relief can be obtained by wisely devised measures for the taxation of land values; this can be accomplished by substituting capital value for annual rental under Schedule "A" of the Income Tax, thus bringing all heritable property under assessment subject to the usual rebates covering rates, repairs and Insurance; as these rebates would apply only to improved heritable property the result would be a tax on unused or partially used land which at present escapes contribution to both local and imperial taxation."

This was moved by Mr Wm. Reid and seconded by Ex-Bailie Peter Burt, J.P.

At its meeting in Perth nine years ago, in 1923, a more radical and thorough-going Resolution was adopted. It was in the following terms:—

"That this Council affirms its belief in the principle of Free Trade, and recognizes that Free Trade in Exchange is not enough; that the accruing benefits do not remain with the producers, but are absorbed in higher land prices, and on the higher land values, causing land speculation and consequent unemployment; and declares for the freedom to produce wealth by the direct taxation of land values, as affirmed by Mr Asquith, the leader of the Liberal Party, and proclaimed in the Party programme."

Speaking to this Perth 1923 Resolution Mr James Scott, ex-M.P., said it was designed "to attack free trade profiteers—gentlemen who, having made a large profit, say, in Glasgow, in trade under free trade, and having bought in the suburbs land suitable for building developments, were rated only on the agricultural value; the Resolution proposed to get at them."

Why has not the Scottish Liberal Federation reiterated this bold and uncompromising principle—the principle that links Free Trade with the Land Value policy? Is not this the case to be stressed at this time?

## "THE BIGGEST DOLE DRAWER"

"Scotch Farmer," in letter to the *Yorkshire Post*, 9th September:—

"When one considers that agriculture receives a subsidy of about £6 per acre for wheat and potatoes and quite £12 per acre for sugar beet, that agricultural land is entirely de-rated, that the landlord gets two-thirds of the cost of renovating his cottages as a free gift, along with £6 per acre for clearing and planting woodlands, etc., etc., one sees that the agricultural landowner is the biggest dole drawer in the kingdom. The landlord's subsidies are calculated to total over £30,000,000 per annum. This being so, it is surely only reasonable and fair that the State should demand that rents be reduced to a point at which decent wages can be paid and a farmer can live. Either rents must fall by 80 per cent. or wages must fall to 15s.

per week. Will the Farmers' Union have the courage to take the right course, or will it follow the Yorkshire and Durham areas and grind the workers in order to maintain rents and land values?"

## "OPEN TO CRITICISM"

Dr Nicholas Murray Butler, alone of all those who are in the public eye or have the attention of the public ear, had the wisdom and courage to publicly remind the graduating class of Columbia University, June, 1931, that such a man as Henry George had lived, had written a book, *Progress and Poverty*, and had enunciated a philosophy which was well worth examining and re-examining as it might well be found to be the answer and solution to our present difficulties. Dr Butler practically repeated the advice to a group of American business men in Paris a few weeks later. It is a sad commentary that the "Press" gave scant space and attention to either announcement.

Now it is not surprising that those who have made false prophecies or suggested unsatisfactory causes or remedies had neither the ability nor wisdom to think out the real cause and cure; because God or Nature in Their wisdom grant it to few to be a Moses or a Galileo, a Kepler, a Newton or a Henry George, and such minds do not occur once in a century.

But those in high places are open to criticism who, through their higher education or opportunities for having known or heard of Henry George and his philosophy, do not re-examine his works and his proposal, so clearly, logically and irrefutably demonstrated, and then proclaim it to the distracted, ignorant and groping world.—From *Permanent Prosperity Possible*, by Edmund J. Burke.

## PRESS PROPAGANDA

An indication of the well-continued activity of our newspaper correspondents is given in the clippings received through our Press Cutting Agency. We note, for example, F. Verinder on Land Nationalization in the *Co-operative News*, on Vacant Land in the *Sheffield Independent*, and in many papers on the Municipal Elections and the Burden of the Rates; O. B. Sweeney, letters and a series of special articles in the *Birkenhead News*; J. O'D. Derrick's informing weekly pages in the *Irish Weekly*; F. Skirrow in the *Yorks Evening News* (4), *Yorks Observer* (2) and *Keighley News* (2); A. H. Weller on the Labour Party and Local Income Tax in the *Manchester Guardian* and *Manchester City News*. Also special articles in several Lancashire papers. P. V. Olver (3) and "Realist" in *Yorks Evening News*; the continued correspondence in the *Notts Evening News*, carried on by A. W. Dakers and "Red Rose"; D. J. J. Owen and E. Belfour, in the *Manchester Guardian*; A. Mackendrick in *John O' London's Weekly*; Wm. Noble (3) in the *Stockport Express*; S. R. Daniels in the *Bath and Wilts Chronicle*; Capt. A. R. MacDougall in the *Daily Herald*, the *Investors Chronicle*, and other papers; L. S. Houghton in the *Birmingham Mail*; Chapman Wright in the *Town Crier* and other papers; John Cameron in the *Coatbridge Leader*; C. Bevan in the *News-Chronicle*; D. J. J. Owen in the *Stockport Express*; and a number of pen-names, such as "Oddersfelt" in the *Huddersfield Examiner*; "Agricola" in the *Scottish Farmer*; "Henry Georgeite" in the *Clitheroe Advertiser*; "Scotch Farmer" in the *Yorkshire Post*; Single Tax in the *Ross-shire Journal*; L. A. W. in the *Stockport Express*, and W. P. in the *Yorks Evening News*.

We recognize that this list is but a small part of the work so many are doing very effectively in "Letters to the Editor"; it is what comes to our knowledge, and would be greatly supplemented if correspondents would remember to send us clippings of their contributions.

The private builder could not build houses in the open market to pay their way at the rents that could be obtained so long as subsidies were being paid by the Government and by the municipalities which amounted to well over one-third of the economic rents. In his opinion the subsidizing of rents was simply the subsidizing of wages. So long as rents were subsidized the rate of wages would be kept down.—Sir DANIEL M. STEVENSON, Glasgow, 23rd September.



## A PICTURE OF OTTAWA.

### The "Thieves' Kitchen" at Work.

Nothing that has appeared in the Press about the Ottawa negotiations has been more enlightening than the articles written by the representative of the *News-Chronicle*, Mr A. J. Cummings. He tore the mask from the hypocrisy that is called Imperial Preference and presented to full view the political ruffianism that is everywhere and at all times associated with the making of tariffs. The following are passages from the concluding article, published on 17th September, in which Mr Cummings summed up his impressions, after he had seen the thing through to the "appalling scene" at the final plenary session when "disgust and loathing" were revealed as plainly on the faces of the exhausted delegates, as if they had been impressed there with a rubber stamp:—

"Within forty-eight hours after the Conference began all the representatives of the selfish industrial interests of the Empire emerged into the light like repulsive insects from beneath a raised stone in the mud.

"In less than a week, all the beautiful Imperial talk of Imperial unity and Imperial sacrifice had been washed off the Imperial slate with a dirty sponge.

"One of the strangest of the many strange underground spectacles at Ottawa was that of Lord Hailsham and Mr Neville Chamberlain compelled as responsible statesmen to talk sound Free Trade doctrine in defence of British trade. It was a spectacle which infuriated Dominion politicians and drove Mr Bennett himself into recurring fits of hysteria.

"But the pity and the tragedy of it is that the Dominions won. They won all along the line. And they won at the expense of millions of impecunious British families, which will be taxed for five years on nearly every single thing they eat and on many of the things they use in everyday life.

"And if any British Government desires to reduce some of these taxes for humanitarian reasons or in order to come to terms with a foreign nation it can only do so with the permission of Dominion Governments. That, to my mind, is the most humiliating and the most monstrous surrender of all.

"We have been handed with great ceremony one glittering gold brick in the form of 'tariff boards.' But what kind of consideration will the British manufacturer expect when he appeals for admission on even terms to the Canadian market before the Canadian Board answerable to the Canadian Government and a Canadian Senate of which 90 per cent of the members are directly or indirectly representative of Canadian manufacturing interests? There never was a more preposterous farce.

"What have our delegates brought back from Ottawa but a grave addition to the heavy burden already shouldered by the British consumer? The resolutions they submitted to the Conference which pledged the Empire to a policy of reducing tariffs as an example to the rest of the world and as a means of negotiating better trade agreements with other nations were scornfully rejected by the Dominion delegates, some of whom announced with brutal frankness their naked desire for naked Protection.

"The whole truth can only be told by the delegates themselves—the official representatives of the various members of the British Commonwealth. And they will never dare to tell it as long as they are in political office. They will never let it be known, for instance, what actually took place behind the scenes of an Imperial gathering which at times degenerated into a ferocious dog fight. . . . No Minister, compelled for political reasons to make the best of a bad job and to perpetuate an illusion, will ever say in public what I am pretty sure has been said often enough in private in heart-to-heart talks among members of the British Government, that one more Conference like that so dismally concluded at Ottawa will be sufficient to smash the Empire to pieces."

Mr Cummings went to Ottawa "fearing the worst but hoping for the best." He came away convinced that "the most ineffably perfect method of dissolving a great modern empire is to embark with a flourish of trumpets on an Imperial tariff bargaining battle."

## SAVE THE RATES, BUT—DON'T STOP PROGRESS!

By Andrew MacLaren

During the fight to gain election to city and borough councils, Labour candidates will have to face the opposition of those who, under the guise of economy champions, advocate reductions in local Government expenditure.

Every little business man and shopkeeper will vote for rate reduction, and no appeal for better public services will make them vote otherwise.

Labour must meet this opposition by showing that there is another source from which contributions to the rates can be secured without adding one penny to the rates now levied upon the industry of the community.

That source is the value of land. In every borough and city illustrations abound showing how by the rate expenditure land values have increased, adding fortunes to the wealth of landowners.

Only a definite rating policy which will meet the costs of local administration without impinging upon the private resources of the citizens will effectively counter the propaganda of the economy scaremongers.—From the *Daily Herald*, 27th October.

## FRANK GRANT

*Land & Freedom* for May-June noted the passing of Frank Grant, of Westfield, Massachusetts, paying a fine tribute to his memory. Mr Grant was an old-time subscriber to *Land & Liberty*, and in August, 1931, when the Snowden Bill was going through Parliament, he wrote a letter to the Editor in the following terms:—

"Allow me to offer a word of most sincere commendation for your good work in printing in your July-August issue the 'Opinions of Some Opponents.' Perhaps you ought to thank the 'opponents' for making so clear the possibilities of justice of a system which if carried to the limit, as it should be, would solve the problem of unemployment. I think you people are ahead of us in this country by having gotten the question squarely and fairly into legislative action. I hope we may before long do the same thing."

From the notice given of his passing in *Land & Freedom* Mr Grant was recognized in his own district, Westfield, Mass., as a representative leader of the Single Tax movement. The local newspapers referred to him as an authority on the question with a national reputation.

## CHARLES F. HUNT

We regret to learn from the June issue of *Public Ownership* of the death of Charles F. Hunt, at his home at Los Angeles, on 19th May. Mr Hunt was for long years a subscriber to *Land & Liberty* and keenly interested in the progress recorded in our columns. As *Public Ownership* observes, he was an ardent Single Taxer, and a critic of all shams and hypocrisies. His voice, his pen, and his active support was at the service of all movements for the common good. We extend our sympathy to Mrs Hunt and her family circle in her bereavement.

## CHARLES J. OGLE

The Single Tax movement in Maryland has lost one of its ablest men in the death of Charles J. Ogle, Secretary of the Maryland Tax Reform Association, which took place at the John Hopkins Hospital, Catonsville, on 26th July. Charles E. Baldwin, President of the Association, writes: "Mr Ogle has been ill for about a year, but prior to that time he was a most active and intelligent worker for our cause and deserves to be remembered as one of Maryland's best citizens." At the graveside readings from the Bible, Henry George's Works, and a poem by Ella Wheeler Wilcox entitled "The Creed To Be" were rendered. We extend our sympathy to Mrs Ogle and to our colleagues and co-workers in Maryland in their great loss.

## RURAL HOUSING

By Agricola

We gladly reproduce this clear and searching radical statement on housing conditions in one Scottish county, and the part played by the power of land monopoly. The article appeared in a recent issue of the *Border Telegraph*, Galashiels.

Up till 1919 the farm servant depended almost entirely on the good-will of the landlord for a decent house, but in 1919 Local Authorities were given power to order the installation of water and its conveniences into all houses. In 1925 further powers were given whereby Local Authorities could order a landlord to rectify defective houses and, failing his doing so, it could do the work itself and charge the landlord with the costs. Owing to the composition of the County Councils, these powers have been a dead letter in most places, the sympathy of the Council mostly lying with "the poor landlord" who drew his £10,000 a year, rather than with the farm-worker.

However, in most counties new influences are now at work and progress has begun. In 1926 was passed the Rural Workers Housing Act, which authorized Local Authorities to give grants up to two-thirds of the cost of renovating rural workers' houses to the landlord. In spite of this enormous subsidy not very much has been done, and quite two-thirds of the cottages require sorting yet. This grant was given because its advocates said that the landlord was so heavily rated that he could not carry out his obligations.

But in 1929 we had the De-rating Act, which entirely relieved agricultural land of all rates, and the landlord paid rates on his houses only. This enormous gift comes to over £40,000 per annum for the constituency, and yet the Rural Workers Act gift still continues. Its burden falls as to half on the rates and half on the taxes, so half the cost of the Rural Workers Act subsidies falls on the householders of the county, who get no de-rating relief. In face of the above there is absolutely no reason why every farm cottage should not be completely renovated with hot and cold water, etc., yet we find that little is done.

Perhaps the only remedy may be that the farm worker, who has the voting power, will use his power to elect workers' members to the County Council and oust self-seeking members who disregard the law and use the council room as a means of checking reform. Certainly a leaven of workers' members would work wonders. They would ask why the landlord should get any help at all, and demand that the first charge on the rents that are paid by their work should be good houses for the workers. Here's a chance for the Farm Servants' Union!

It would be amusing, if it were not tragic, to see how so many people's minds work in this matter. In the County of Berwick a case of long-neglected farm cottages came up. The owner had been appealed to for years and had done nothing, and workers were actually leaving on account of the houses. The Public Health Committee took it up, and the landlord's reply was read to a recent meeting. It was to the effect that he had no money, and that it was most unfair of the Health Committee to badger him about such a matter.

The Chairman (Capt. McDougal) moved that a notice under the Acts be served on the landlord, Lord Sinclair, requiring him to execute the necessary works, failing which the Committee would do it and charge him with the cost.

This promptly evoked opposition, and various land-owning members pleaded for the poor landlord, pointing out that the estate was bonded in full, and the landlord could not pay. It was pointed out to them that over £800 per annum was paid in rent, and that whether that went to bondholders or landlord, it was earned by the work of the farm-workers, who were entitled to have it spent in rectifying a long-standing disgrace.

The bondholders must do with less. One may ask what would be the answer of the Lord Sinclair if his tenant said he had no money to pay the rent? His answer would be a notice to quit.

The Chairman pointed out that the law said the Committee must compel the landlord to do his duty, and said that even landlords and County Council Committees must

not break laws. None of the opposition seemed to have any idea of justice to the farm-worker, so obsessed they seem to have been with defending their class in its powers to compel workers to live in hovels.

Finally the opposition reluctantly gave way and the Order was served. Incidentally, one sees that the noble Lord Sinclair is a Deputy Lieutenant of Berwickshire, a member of the United Services Club, the Cavalry Club, and the Royal Yacht Squadron Club, etc., which do not indicate dire distress.

Apart from the above case altogether, and speaking in general terms, there used to be a phrase, probably never very much observed, called "Noblesse oblige." It is a dead letter nowadays anyway, and noblesse's main aim is to extract maximum doles from the community and to refuse as far as it can to carry out its obligations in such matters as the decent housing and welfare of its workers.

When the cry is raised by the owners that there is no money, reformers can point to the De-rating Act and rent. Whoever gets it, be he bondholder or lord, is and must be held liable to provide decent cottages on the farms, and the ratepayer and taxpayer should not pay one farthing in aid.

Finally, in connection with the whole controversy, the question should be raised as to the propriety and legality of landlords sitting and voting on matters such as the above, which create precedents applicable to themselves.

One does not try other law-breakers, such as burglars, before a jury of burglars. Why should the landlord law-breaker be tried by similar men anxious to evade and break the law?

In other words, when matters *re* subsidizing or compelling landlords *re* housing or other things are under discussion, all parties owning defective houses should retire.

## "PEDLAR'S ACRE"

In *Churches with a Story* by George Long (Werner Laurie) the historic case of Pedlar's Acre is given. Mr Trevor Allen, in a review of the book in the *Humourist*, 10th September, writes:—

In Lambeth Parish Church, by Lambeth Palace (London) there is a window depicting a pedlar and his dog. Way back in the fifteenth century, it is said, a pedlar—tired, hungry, and down on his luck—turned up with his dog at the church in a storm and was given food and shelter by the priest. From that moment his luck turned. He saved enough money to open a shop, became a prosperous tradesman, and, at his death, bequeathed a plot of land of one acre nineteen perches to the churchwardens for the good of the poor on condition that pedlar and dog should be buried there and a picture of the pedlar portrayed in a window.

"Pedlar's Acre," which in 1504 was valued at the modest sum of 2s. 8d. a year, was bought in 1910 by the London County Council for £81,000 as a site for their imposing County Hall! No wonder we have a society for the Taxation of Land Values.

## THE HOUSE THAT PHILIP SNOWDEN BUILT.

O. B. S., Liverpool, writes: "A friend of mine 'owned' six acres of land in Barnston (Cheshire). I had spoken to him about Land Value Taxation, and he rather pooched the idea, especially denying my continued statement that Land Value Taxation would bring idle land on the market and thus assist production.

A month or two later Mr Philip Snowden introduced his Land Values Bill in the House of Commons. On the following day my friend was on my doorstep, and begged me to go out with him to measure up this plot of land which he had been offering for 6s. a square yard. So off we went (in spite of rain, since he could not wait), completed our survey, and immediately that land was offered at 1s. 6d. a square yard! There is now a house on that once vacant plot.

My friend, it appears, had spent sleepless nights at the prospect of footing a bill in part payment of the rent of land! But who built that house? Surely, Mr Philip Snowden!

## A "TIMES" BOOK REVIEWER AND HENRY GEORGE

*The Times* of the 23rd August had a review of the book, *An Economic History of Modern Britain*, by Dr J. H. Clapham, Professor of Economic History at Cambridge. In his critique, the Reviewer made the observation that "In the 'eighties, the absolute necessity of State inaction was still believed to be a principle of political economy, in spite of Jevon's protests, and although Mill was already giving a guarded approval to death duties, to a differential income tax, and the taxation of land values. But economics was unlucky. Henry George won popularity by ignoring its fundamental principles, and Marx elevated its worst mistakes into a religious dogma."

This observation prompted Mr B. A. Levinson to write to the Reviewer, at the office of *The Times*, quoting the passage and asking, as a student of economics, for information: "Which are the fundamental principles Henry George ignored?" An interesting correspondence resulted and the abrupt way in which it was ended is eloquent in its significance.

\* \* \*

The editor of *The Times* passed on Mr Levinson's letter to the Reviewer who, remaining anonymous, wrote as follows:—

It is, in my opinion, a fundamental principle of the science that economics studies the way in which scarce resources, goods, means, or whatever they may be called, are used in the production of wealth. Any given unit of these resources has a theoretical economic price to which the actual price in a freely working market approximates—the resources used in production are, I think, of three main kinds: the service of labour, the service of "waiting" and the "original and indestructible" resources of nature. Each of these, in virtue of their scarcity (i.e., because there is not enough to satisfy all wants) has an economic price, and in a system of free markets the possessor of each (whether "labour," "capital," or "land") can sell it for that price. So much I should say was a fundamental principle of economics.

Henry George (*Progress and Poverty*, 4th edition, p. 149) says that "rent is the price of monopoly." He says this on the ground that there is not enough land for all to have as much as they want. But, neither there is of labour or capital. Land is only scarce in the sense that labour and capital are scarce—the sense in virtue of which alone anything is an economic good at all. The relation of rent to price is therefore in no way different from that of interest or wages to price. By following Ricardo's theory of rent Henry George was led into fallaciously thinking that it was different. He was also led into thinking that the amount of wealth distributed in wages and interest is simply the residue left after rent has been paid, and that an increase of rent is the reason why wages and interest do not rise. To say this is in my opinion to neglect the fundamental principles of economics for the reasons I have given.

The ethics of private property in land and the desirability of George's practical proposals are of course other questions. I think the proposals could be supported by much better arguments than George uses—and without neglecting the principles of economics.

I hope this may make my meaning clear. I am sorry not to have replied before, but I was on holiday when your letter was received here.

\* \* \*

To this letter Mr Levinson made the rejoinder:—

I am obliged to you for your answer to my question.

The fundamental principles which you say Henry George ignored are, I infer, these:—

(1) "The relation of rent to price is in no way different from that of interest or wages to price." If you will pardon me for saying so, this is not very happily expressed, but your meaning is clear, that land, labour and capital are similar subjects of value and land is no more a monopoly than the others and scarce only in the sense that those others are scarce.

So put, surely such is not a fundamental or any other

kind of principle of Economics. The three are subject to three distinct rules and conditions. As to scarcity, Labour is not scarce; it is horribly plentiful to-day. Capital is not scarce. Increase the population and you increase the supply of Labour; more wealth will be applied as Capital; but no effort can produce more land. There would be greater demand for the restricted area. All that could happen would be that a wider district within that area would be brought into use and by Ricardo's law (which you accept) rents would rise over the whole area.

So there is a sense in which land is scarce different from any theoretical—or temporarily real—security of labour or of capital, and it is a true statement, epigrammatically put, that "rent is the price of monopoly."

(2) I do not know how you would put the second fundamental principle. You say George was wrong in stating that wages and interest are the residue after rent is paid, and that increase in rent is the reason why wages and interest do not rise. This, you say, neglects the fundamental principles of economics, but which?

Henry George was speaking of rent in the large, not individual instances. His reasoning appears to me to be sound, and I have not yet come across a reasoned disproof of his argument (see Book III, Chap. VII of *Progress and Poverty*). His conclusion is a startling one, I agree. It is very important, but where, I should like to know, is it wrong?

You merely state a conclusion he arrives at, discard it and say fundamental principles are infringed. But that is just the point, and that is just what I find otherwise well-informed people doing.

I am very interested in your concluding observation. "The ethics of private property in land and the desirability of George's practical proposals are of course other questions. I think the proposals could be supported by much better arguments than George uses—and without neglecting the principles of economics."

I have no right to ask you to cast your pearls before me, but, if you have the time, I wish you would indicate to me what those "much better arguments" are. The subject is such an important one that it could be well worth while writing them for publication. I infer that you are sympathetic with the purpose. Pray do not withhold your arguments. I for one will welcome them.

\* \* \*

The reply to this communication was an editorial letter to say that a private correspondence on the subject could not be continued.

## THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS, 1932, AND THE BURDEN OF THE RATES

By Fredk. Verinder

In an informing letter to the Press last month, Mr Verinder presented the case for the Rating of Land Values, from which we quote:—

"At the beginning of next month the burgesses of all the Boroughs of England and Wales will have to elect Councillors who will be charged with the duty of levying and spending the Rate-fund. Meanwhile, the Courts are in many places congested with ratepayers who, owing to unemployment, falling wages, and depressed trade, are unable to meet the rate-collector's heavy demands.

"Provisions for the valuation of land are already on the Statute Book, though their operation is, at the moment, 'suspended.' Hundreds of municipal authorities have in the past asked for the power to rate land values in relief of the rate-burden upon houses, work-places and other improvements. The need for such a reform is greater than ever. Rates and land values have both 'gone up' since pre-war days.

"Every municipal candidate should be asked whether, if elected, he would move the Council to petition the Government to complete the Valuation provided for in the first Budget of 1931, and to empower all local authorities to levy a rate upon the market value of all land—agricultural, mineral or urban—whether the land is used or left vacant, in lieu of (or at least in relief of) the rates now levied on houses and other improvements."

## A CITY HELD TO RANSOM

GLASGOW CORPORATION PAYS UPWARDS OF  
£4,000,000 TO LAND AND PROPERTY OWNERS

By J. O'Donnell Derrick

(Appearing in the Irish Weekly and Reprinted in Leaflet Form)

At a meeting of Glasgow Corporation on 29th September, 1932, the Town Clerk was asked to state the total cost of all sites and properties purchased by the different departments in the Corporation since the war.

The Town Clerk, in reply, said that up till May, 1932, departments other than trading departments, and excluding transfers of ground between departments, had paid as follows:—

Housing	£	1,080,139
Streets and sewers	791,626	
Parks	137,205	
Police	22,724	
Education	50,106	
Health	28,107	
Common Fund	21,951	
Libraries	5,921	
Markets	5,392	
Total	£2,143,171	

The trading departments of the Corporation purchased sites and properties:—

Electricity Dept.	£	s.	d.
Gas	159,875	8	2
Transport	39,477	12	2
Water	638,283	0	0
	79,171	10	8

Total	916,807	11	0
Add figures in first statement	2,143,171	0	0

Total	£3,059,978	11	0
-------	------------	----	---

The above return secured by Councillor W. T. Doherty from "Departments other than Trading Departments and excluding transfers of ground between the departments, is from 1st June, 1919, till 31st May, 1932."

### PRIOR TO THE WAR

Above are the sums paid since the end of the war. Peace was signed on 28th June, 1919, but up to 1918 landowners out Loch Katrine way received for:—

Water and land	£	71,292
(Apart from what they have since received)		
Site of City Chambers	175,000	
For Parks up to 1918	694,771	

### PAID FOR OPEN SPACES

Phoenix	20,208
Garngad	1,318
Society Row	1,470
Kinning Park	4,257
Barnacle Street	647
Hopehill Road	833
Edmund Street	582
Soho Street	297
West College	6,771
School Wynd	6,116
Govandale	6,806
Dale Street S.S.	7,589
Balmanno Street	2,500
Bridge Street, Partick	1,460
Calton Street, Tolleross	500
Thistle Street S.S.	2,078

Total	£1,004,495
Previous total	3,059,978

Totals as far as known...	£4,064,473
---------------------------	------------

Above is merely a part of the story of how Glasgow has been legally plundered by earth-owners.

### EDUCATION'S TRIBUTE

So far, it is known that the old Glasgow School Board paid for sites for schools £468,659. What its successor, the Education Authority, paid up to the end of the war is so far unrevealed. Glasgow Corporation took over the responsibilities of both bodies.

### THE ECONOMY STUNT

On Thursday, 29th September, 1932, the Glasgow Town Council meeting lasted till nearly midnight. The Economy Committee, composed entirely of Moderates, submitted proposals involving the dismissal of 55 teachers, 40 attendance officers, 65 Parks Department employees, seven in sewage, four in weights and measures departments. The cut proposed in Health Department expenditure amounted to £24,600.

The Economy Committee also proposed to make the poor poorer by reducing the sum paid in aliment to the ordinary poor by £75,000, but this was defeated by a majority of one through 14 Moderate Councillors deserting their party.

During the whole proceedings, so far as reported in the Press, no one murmured a word about the financial tribute enacted by landlordism, except Councillor W. T. Doherty, though those sums paid for sites for houses have meant high rents, and high rates, and a huge burden of interest.

The figures revealed show there is gold in Glasgow land. The earth-owner always smiles. He reaps gold from almost every form of municipal activity.

Glasgow pays up. It gets excited about trifles: never about, for instance, a lady getting £50,000 for a few acres of bare land, or a few thousand pounds paid for the water of a loch, or £8,000 to a Duke for a guarantee that he would not erect houses on a loch and thus pollute the drinking water of the city.

And Glasgow's "Big Seven," its "Economy Committee," kept silent on the iniquities of landlordism in relation to Glasgow Corporation expenditure.

### UNEMPLOYMENT AND HOW TO SOLVE IT

There is an easy way, one the House of Lords cannot retard being made law, that is by the abolition of rates and taxes on industrial products and drastic collection of land values through the Budget. Nationalization of Land would mean a huge land-buying job and substitute on the people a burden of interest instead of rent.

The remedy is to make it absolutely unprofitable for any useful land to be idle. "Make the earth-shop," states Mr Louis F. Post, "with all its industrial possibilities, an open-shop and there would be continuously more jobs than men, full earnings for wages and no periods of stagnation."

Make Budget collection of land values the supreme issue in British politics, and stand no evasion or nonsense on the subject from posturing public men who seek in the interest of monopoly to side-track the question.

The remedy outlined is one on which men and women of all creeds and parties might concentrate.

For further information on the subject read and study *Social Problems*, by Henry George. Pay no attention to what ignorant and other critics say regarding Henry George. His policy will put an end to the masses being the milch cow of landlordism.

Lawyers are not, as a rule, overburdened with sentiment, religious or moral, when dealing with the rights of property, so let us see what some of our great legal authorities have had to say about our land laws. "Accurately and strictly speaking," says Sir William Blackstone, "there is no foundation in Nature or natural law why a set of words should convey the dominion of land. Allodial (absolute) property no subject in England now has, it being a received and undeniable principle in law that all lands are holden mediately or immediately of the King." If, as Sir William says, landowners are State tenants, why are they not to be called upon to pay a rent to the State? What would be the injustice of such a levy?—FRED SKIRROW, in the *Keighley News*, 8th October.

## GOLDSMITH; A SINGLE TAX POET

By Wells Drury

Did you ever consider Goldsmith's poem, "The Deserted Village," what a thorough Single Tax lesson it is? Have you reflected on the warning it sounded against the monopolization of land by a favoured few? Glance over the eloquent lines again and choose out the gems of wisdom. They are worthy of your attention. Though penned 130 years ago, these thoughts are as fresh and impressive as if uttered yesterday. The keynote is sounded almost at the beginning:—

One only master grasps the whole domain,  
And half a tillage stints thy smiling plain.

The inevitable result is thus pictured by the poet, who was also a seer:—

Sunk are thy bowers in shapeless ruin all,  
And the long grass o'ertops the mouldering wall;  
And, trembling, shrinking from the spoiler's hand,  
Far, far away, thy children leave the land.

Then follow those lines of light and truth, quoted so often that they appear trite, but they have not lost their force:—

Ill fares the land, to hastening ills a prey,  
Where wealth accumulates and men decay.

—a bold peasantry, their country's pride,  
When once destroyed can never be supplied.

Americans can now begin to appreciate the retrospective vein in which the following was written:—

A time there was, ere England's griefs began,  
When every rood of ground maintained its man;  
For him light labour spread her wholesome store,  
Just gave what life required, but gave no more.

But times are altered; trade's unfeeling train  
Usurp the land and dispossess the swain;  
Along the lawn, where scattered hamlets rose,  
Unwieldy wealth and cumbrous pomp repose.

A phase of recent social development in the United States was forecast in this manner:—

Ye friends to truth, ye statesmen who survey  
The rich man's joy increase, the poor's decay!  
'Tis yours to judge how wide the limits stand  
Between a splendid and a happy land.  
Proud swells the tide with loads of freighted ore,  
And shouting folly hails them from the shore;  
Hoards e'en beyond the miser's wish abound,  
And rich men flock from all the world around.  
Yet count our gains; this wealth is but a name  
That leaves our useful products still the same.  
Not so our loss: The man of wealth and pride  
Takes up the space that many poor supplied;  
Space for his lake, his park's extended bounds,  
Space for his horses, equipage, and hounds;  
The robe that wraps his limbs in silken cloth  
Has robbed the neighbouring fields of half their growth;  
His seat, where solitary spots are seen,  
Indignant spurns the cottage from the green.

Here appears the prototype of the modern tramp:—

Scourged by famine, from the smiling land  
The mournful peasant leads his humble band;  
And while he sinks, without one arm to save,  
The country blooms—a garden and a grave.

Even in Goldsmith's time the ancient commons were suffering invasion, to the detriment of the poor man, for:—

If to some common's fenceless limits strayed,  
He drives his flock to pick the scanty blade,  
Those fenceless fields the sons of wealth divide,  
And even the bare, worn common is denied.

The vision of a Henry George could not be more clear in detecting the deplorable condition of the landless, growing out of the progress and poverty of the community.

Self-dependant power in the people absolutely requires equal access to the bounties of nature, equal opportunities for the use of land. This is the lesson suggested by Goldsmith's inspired poem, and taught by all human experience.

(Reproduced from *Land & Liberty*, then named *The Single Tax*, October, 1898.)

## NOTES AND NEWS

The total increase in rates and taxes for 10 years to March, 1930, was no less than £1,470,000,000 in excess of the expenditure which would have been incurred had the 1913-14 level of expenditure been maintained and, in addition, during the same period, local authorities expended no less than £663,000,000 of borrowed money.—Mr L. B. LEE, Chairman of the Calico Printers' Association, at Manchester, 14th September.

\* \* \*

"All living things that we know of co-operate in some kind and to some degree. So far as we can see, nothing that lives can live in and for itself alone. But man is the only one who co-operates by exchanging, and he may be distinguished from all the numberless tribes that with him tenant the earth as the exchanging animal. Of them all he is the only one who seeks to obtain one thing by giving another. . . . No other animal uses bait to attract its prey; no other animal plants edible seeds that it may gather the produce. No other animal gives what it itself would like to have in order to receive in return what it likes better. But such acts come naturally to man with his maturity, and are of his distinguishing principle."—HENRY GEORGE in *The Science of Political Economy*, Book III, Chap. XI.

\* \* \*

The fact is that unemployment is not a passing phase, but the greatest menace which confronts society to-day. It is a phenomenon that never presented itself until comparatively recent times, and one also that none of our rulers appear to have the courage or the intelligence to attack. To talk, as so many of them do, of over-production—as though starvation could be caused by a super-abundance of food, or cold and nakedness be due to an over-supply of clothing—is to reveal themselves as being nearer akin to the inmates of Bedlam than to the great statesmen who served us so well in the past.—A. W. DAKERS in the *Heanor Observer*, 15th September.

\* \* \*

The Scottish Liberal Federation, 95 Princes Street, Edinburgh, and 7 West George Street, Glasgow, have published (price 6d.) the pamphlet *Scottish Land Reform* by Mr James Scott, ex-M.P. for Kincardine and West Aberdeen. It deals with many aspects of the rural question and proposals for bettering the conditions among farm workers, farmers and smallholders. First and foremost in Mr Scott's programme is the Taxation of Land Values, applied to *all* land as the policy that will benefit agriculture.

\* \* \*

Like one unskilled who, seeking a certain wireless programme, twirls the controls hoping that good fortune will aid him to select from the much that that he hears the thing that he wants, so men in this time of trouble turn this way and that for relief with only hope to comfort them. They know not what to do. Yet the way is known and may be learned by all.

The bold assertion that the taxation of land values is the way challenges investigation. All who have the good of their country at heart should accept the challenge. Their first step should be to study the pages of *Progress and Poverty*.

It will be of no avail to try to root out Communism by suppression; only the reform of the conditions in which it is born and thrives will suffice. Unless that is done the demand for violent change will continue.—*Portsmouth Tribune*.

\* \* \*

For me kind Nature wakes her genial power;  
Suckles each herb, and spreads out every flower;  
Annual for me, the grape, the rose renew  
The juice nectareous, and the balmy dew;  
For me, the mine a thousand treasures brings;  
For me, health gushes from a thousand springs;  
Seas roll to waft me, suns to light me rise;  
My footstool earth, my canopy the skies.—*Pope*.



## NEWS OF THE MOVEMENT

**THE UNITED COMMITTEE FOR THE TAXATION OF LAND VALUES, LTD.** John Paul and A. W. Madsen, Secretaries, 94 Petty France, London, S.W.1. (Telephone: Victoria 4308-9. Telegrams: "Eulav, Sowest, London.")

The Executive of the United Committee met on 28th September and was chiefly taken up with the financial position in relation to the very considerable and increasing demands on the office for service in every department of the propaganda. The work being done by a small and quite inadequate staff deserved the fullest measure of support. The opinion was expressed in favour of an earnest appeal to everyone concerned for effective equipment at 94 Petty France.

## HENRY GEORGE COMMEMORATION

Arrangements were made whereby the Annual Henry George Commemoration and Dinner will take place at St. Ermin's Hotel, Westminster, on Thursday, 17th November (6.15 p.m.), with Mr W. R. Lester the guest of the evening and Mr Ashley Mitchell presiding. Mrs Anna George de Mille and her daughter Agnes, who are visiting Europe at this time, will be of the company. The same afternoon, the United Committee will hold its third quarterly meeting for the year.

## NEW PUBLICATIONS

Our latest pamphlet production is *The Master Motive of Human Action*, a booklet for the pocket and a gem of its kind. It contains the passages from *Progress and Poverty* that dealt with the theme, "shortsighted is the philosophy which counts on selfishness as the master motive of human action." These passages made a special appeal to George Lamb, and the new pamphlet with its strong and winning statement of the ethical claim to social justice is dedicated to his memory. The pamphlet is presented to the movement by Miss Margaret E. Lamb who, in a charming introduction, pays affectionate tribute to the personality of her brother and his zeal in the work.

Copies at 1d. each, or 6s. per 100 post free.

A new explanatory leaflet (4-page quarto) just issued by the Committee is *Idle Lands cause Idle Hands*, written by A. Williams Price, of Wrexham. It states the case for Land Value Taxation and is got out for general distribution. Copies at 1s. per 100, post free, are obtainable on application.

Another new publication is a stiff paper folder, suitable for the pocket, entitled *Henry George: Philosopher, Politician and Statesman*. This contains brief and notable extracts from his works and is calculated to inspire anyone to take up their study in earnest. Copies are obtainable free.

A new general list of literature, naming prices of all books and pamphlets, is now available. It gives the addresses of the United Committee and the affiliated Leagues. It is something to insert in a letter to any friend.

## THE SCIENCE OF POLITICAL ECONOMY

The business before the Executive on 28th September included a report on the work of the Henry George Foundation. The new edition of *The Science of Political Economy* had been announced in June last and the demand for it had been demonstrated in most remarkable fashion. Copies sold in advance of publication grew by every post, until (as we go to press) they number more than 1,300. The orders coming from all parts of the country and many parts of the world include special consignments of 500 to Australia and 200 to the United States. The book will be published on 10th November.

The preparation of this new edition, with all that is involved in book production from the setting of the pages to the designing and final approval of the outside jacket, has occupied many weeks of close supervision. It will call for compliments to editors, printers and binders. The greatest task of all was the making of the index, which runs to 23 pages and includes something like 5,000 reference entries. It was not a mere matter of repaging the index of the original edition. Opportunity was taken to revise and re-arrange and make the new index both more comprehensive than the old and easier to consult. We are greatly indebted to the voluntary assistance given by three Liver-

pool co-workers—Messrs F. R. Jones, O. B. Sweeney and J. H. Eastwood—who each read also the proofs of the book text. To Mr Jones in particular a warm word of gratitude is due for the competent, exact and exceptional service be rendered in helping to build the index. In the long and painstaking collaboration with Mr Madsen, in correspondence day by day, he made many valuable suggestions and generously devoted all his leisure time to our publication department.

## THE ESSAY COMPETITION

The Prospectus of our Essay Competition gives more than a bare recital of conditions and instructions. It is at the same time a persuasive advertisement of the Books and carries striking extracts from *Progress and Poverty* in a composite statement entitled "The Problem of Unemployment." It has been widely welcomed as a first-class propaganda document, so much so that we have had to print more than 30,000 copies. Co-operation in its distribution "among a studious public" was invited, and it has been forthcoming, not only from correspondents who recommended names and addresses of certainly interested people, but also from secretaries of numerous organizations. The Prospectus has been posted to many lists of Co-operative Societies and Guilds, Trade Unions, W.E.A. branches, Colleges, Adult Schools, Political Clubs and Societies, Political Party Executives, etc. The addressing and dispatching continues.

This "advertising by post" has brought a heavy correspondence, established many valuable new contacts and led to satisfactory sales of books. "Set C," announced in the Essay Prospectus, is most in demand. This is made up of *Progress and Poverty*, *Protection or Free Trade*, *Social Problems* and *The Condition of Labour* (each 1s. edition) and *The Science of Political Economy* (2s. 6d. edition)—the set for the inclusive and specially reduced post-free price of 6s. 3d. at home and 7s. 9d. for overseas. Everyone will agree that this is the most attractive offer for books of such character and quality that could be placed before the public.

Review of the Prize Essay Competition was issued to the Press with the statement that since the beginning of 1929 the Foundation had published 91,000 of Henry George's books and 76,000 pamphlets, including the *Lectures and Addresses* by Henry George. This review was published as an article in a number of newspapers and has stimulated many applications to the Office for further information.

After its meeting on 28th September, the Executive and London members of the Committee had an informal gathering at dinner in the St. Ermin's Restaurant. Advantage was taken of the occasion to convey the compliments of his colleagues to Mr Michael Jacobs, to congratulate him on his wedding, and express their good wishes to him and his bride. In memory of the event, Mr Jacobs was presented with specially bound and inscribed copies of six of Henry George's works.

Recent visitors to the Office from overseas included Mr A. Greene of Chicago, Mr Ben Marsh of New York, Professor F. W. Roman of Los Angeles, Mr and Mrs Young, and their son Courtenay, of Adelaide, and Dr and Mrs O'Regan of Wellington. Dr O'Regan had spent three years in London and had taken the London degree in surgery. Before their departure home, Dr and Mrs O'Regan were entertained at a small luncheon party and took greetings to Dr O'Regan's father, P. J. O'Regan, the outstanding protagonist of the movement in New Zealand.

The visit of Mrs Jeanne Young, of Adelaide, is further referred to in our columns elsewhere, relating to South Australia.

Dr Roman was here last year at the time of Mr Hennessey's visit, and met a number of friends at a social gathering. He had been to Russia as a student of affairs. This year we were glad to have his company again, entertaining him (at short notice) on the eve of his departure to New York from a world-tour studying conditions in Japan, Korea, Manchuria, China and India. At his Forum in Los Angeles, now grown to a very influential institution, Dr Roman

makes the most of his opportunity to advance the thought for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade.

The visitors from overseas always bring the international spirit to the Office, and they each and all return with a better and deeper knowledge of the work that is ours to carry on. American visitors in particular are taken with the strong political background there is in this country, which they miss so much at home.

**ENGLISH LEAGUE : Frederick Verinder, General Secretary,**  
12-13 Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, London, W.C.2.  
(Phone : Temple Bar 7830).

The following meetings have been held or arranged since last report :—

Aug. 30th.—Southsea Common (Portsmouth Liberal Federation) : W. R. Lester, M.A.

Sept. 22nd.—Whitechapel Liberal Association : Chas. Bevan, B.Sc.

„ 23rd.—Holloway Co-operative Men's Guild. Fredk. Verinder, "Land, Taxation and Co-operation."

Oct. 5th.—Central Hackney Labour Party,\* 14A, Graham Road, E.8 : Fredk. Verinder, "Woman's Interest in the Land Question."

„ 8th.—Brighton Co-operative Society, Co-operative Hall : Conference on Land Question. Councillor Andrew MacLaren.

„ 11th.—Brixton Labour Party,\* York House, Acre Lane : Fredk. Verinder, "Is there a Cure for Unemployment?" 3 p.m.

„ 11th.—Walthamstow Liberal Association : Chas. Bevan, B.Sc.

„ 13th.—Deptford Labour Party,\* Primitive Methodist School Room, Besson Street, New Cross Gate : Fredk. Verinder, "Is there a Cure for Unemployment?" 3 p.m.

„ 18th.—Woolwich Labour Party,\* North Woolwich : Fredk. Verinder, "The Housing Problem."

„ 19th.—N. Hackney Labour Party,\* 12, Southwold Road, Clapton : Fredk. Verinder, "Is there a Cure for Unemployment?" 3.15 p.m.

„ 20th.—Deptford Labour Party,\* Evelyn Hall, Staunton Street : Fredk. Verinder, "Is there a Cure for Unemployment?" 3 p.m.

„ 20th.—N. Camberwell Co-operative Men's Guild, St. Mark's Hall, Cobourg Road, Old Kent Road : Fredk. Verinder, "Land, Taxation and Co-operation." 8 p.m.

„ 25th.—N. Hackney Labour Party,\* 111, Chatsworth Road, Clapton : Fredk. Verinder, "The Housing Problem." 3 p.m.

„ 27th.—S. Paddington Labour Party,\* 252, Harrow Road : Fredk. Verinder, "Is there a Cure for Unemployment?" 3 p.m.

Nov. 1st.—Working Men's College, Crowndale Road, Camden Town : Fredk. Verinder, "The Housing Problem." 2.30 p.m.

„ 3rd.—West Green Women's Co-operative Guild, Dorset Hall, West Green Road, N.15 : Fredk. Verinder, "Land, Taxation and Co-operation." 3.30 p.m.

„ 6th.—Metropolitan Secular Society, City of London Hotel, 107, York Road, N. : Fredk. Verinder, "The Bible and the Land Question." 7 p.m.

„ 8th.—North St. Pancras Liberal and Radical Association, 44, Archway Road, N.19 : Chas. Bevan, B.Sc. 8 p.m.

„ 10th.—N.W. Camberwell Labour Party,\* 46, Church Street, Camberwell Green : Fredk. Verinder, "Women's Interest in the Land Question." 3 p.m.

„ 16th.—Westerham Labour Party, St. Mary's Hall, Library : Fredk. Verinder, "Is there a Cure for Unemployment?" 8 p.m.

„ 17th.—S.E. Southwark Labour Party,\* Browning Hall, Walworth : Fredk. Verinder. 3.30 p.m.

Nov. 23rd.—Stoke Newington Labour Party,\* Library Hall, Edward's Lane, Church Street : Fredk. Verinder. 3.15 p.m. (Also on 14th December.)

„ 23rd.—Stoke Newington Liberal Association, Library Hall, Church Street : Chas. Bevan, B.Sc. 8.30 p.m.

Dec. 13th.—South Hammersmith Liberal Association, Oddfellows' Hall : Chas. Bevan, B.Sc. 8.30 p.m.

\* Women's Section.

In the *Co-operative News*, 22nd October, there was an excellent report of Mr Andrew MacLaren's address at Brighton on 8th October. It was the first conference of the season and the Co-operative Hall was filled to overflowing.

The following Resolution was adopted by the Executive at its meeting on 6th September :—

"The Executive of the E.L.T.L.V. offers its heartiest congratulations to Mr George Crosier on the attainment of his 78th birthday (7th September), and places on record its high appreciation of the services he has rendered as a member of the League, and for many years a member of its Executive, since its foundation in 1883. His colleagues hope that he may long continue to enjoy good health and be able to add to his long record of active service in the Cause which he has served so long and so well."

A letter on the November Municipal Elections is being sent from the Office to about 300 newspapers circulating in the Boroughs where elections are to be held. Members and friends of the League are asked to take advantage of the opportunities afforded by these contests to call attention to the need for resuming and completing the Land Valuation and for its use as the basis for a Land Value Rate in substitution for the present rate burdens on occupiers.

A letter from the General Secretary in the *Co-operative News* (3rd September) brought several requests for literature. One correspondent asked for material for a Paper to be read at a Co-operative meeting, and another for information on behalf of a Study Class.

Mrs Bidder, of Cambridge, who passed away on 25th September, was a very distinguished biologist, who, after a brilliant academic career, did splendid work, especially on the scientific side, for Newnham and Girton Colleges. She was a member of the Governing Body of Girton at the time of her death ; but she had many interests outside University life. Like her husband—Dr G. P. Bidder, of Trinity College, to whom we offer our respectful sympathy—she was a member of the English League.

A seafaring member of the League, now out of employment, writes : "I have just come in from another fruitless cycle ride round the Liverpool Docks. The Docks here are practically empty. Protection has just about completed what the general slump had brought about. At a meeting of Party leaders, officers and candidates of the Labour Party, I raised the question of definitely including Rating of Land Values in the official municipal policy."

**SCOTTISH LEAGUE : William Reid, Secretary** (note new address), 150 North Street, Glasgow, C.3.

Since previous notes were written the League has suffered the loss of a loyal and devoted friend, in the person of Mr John Paterson, who died suddenly at his home in the Newlands district of Glasgow. He had a long record of service as a member of the Executive, and his missionary efforts on behalf of the propaganda were most effective. Much of his success in that direction was due to the modesty and sincerity of his approach. The League has sent condolences to his family and put on record its sense of great loss.

The Henry George Commemoration Meeting was held in the Liberal Club, Glasgow, on Friday, 30th September. Mr John Peter, M.A., delivered the address and was accorded a fine reception. He recalled old times in the history of the League by outlining the fundamentals in the philosophy of Henry George. With such a basis he was able to demolish, in a popular way, some of our latter-day political "stunts" regarding quotas, currencies and

futile conferences. The grand conclusion was that the social problem affected the individuals in all nations and was not a question of the survival of one nation at the expense of another. Progress was, he argued, conditioned by co-operation, but by liberty in association with such co-operation.

Among open-air speeches which have been reported to the office are those by Mr William Harrison at Coatbridge, and Mr A. S. Munsie at Clydebank and Partick.

The Young Liberals held a Conference in Glasgow on 6th and 7th October, and the Scottish Liberal Federation had their Autumn Conference at Perth on 13th, 14th and 15th October. At both Conferences the land question was discussed. At the senior Conference resolutions on Land Values were submitted by Cathcart, Patrick, and other Liberal Associations. Group meetings were addressed on various subjects at the Young Liberal Conference and the Secretary of the League opened the discussion on "Land and Finance."

Mr Mungo Fairley persuaded his branch of the Labour Party to submit a resolution on Land Values to the Leicester Conference of the Labour Party.

Newspaper correspondence has been kept up as opportunity has occurred. Mrs McGrouther, in the *Evening Times*, makes the intriguing suggestion that, in the absence of redress along better lines, the unemployed should petition for a return to chattel slavery. On a more hopeful note Captain A. R. McDougal has been discussing land and farming in the *Scottish Farmer*, and Mr A. S. Munsie has had contributions in the same columns.

Mr J. Caldwell has been writing on Land Values to the *Scots Observer*, and Mr John Cameron has sent his contributions to Labour journals and to the *Coatbridge Leader*. Our other Press correspondents have continued their efforts.

Glasgow's Municipal Election looks like approaching the complexion of a cock-pit with economic questions submerged. Fratricidal tactics are being promoted by erstwhile comrades of the L.L.P. Religious strife is to be given an airing by what are called Protestant League candidates, who may—as on a former occasion—disseminate more strife than uplift. Scottish Home Rulers propose to concentrate on propaganda for a representation on the municipality which will demand an Independent Parliament. All this points to Land Values being left to the tender mercies of the Moderate Party, whose friends in Parliament have already dissembled their love by kicking the petition downstairs.

**MANCHESTER LEAGUE :** Arthur H. Weller, J.P., Secretary 4 Piccadilly, Manchester. (Phone : City 5527.)

The following meetings have been addressed by the League's speakers : Alexandra Park Gate (eight meetings) D. J. J. Owen, E. M. Ginders, D. Catterall, G. Wright, I. M. Williams and A. H. Weller ; Clayton W.C.G., A. H. Weller ; Bolton Labour Party (two meetings) A. H. Weller ; Tyldesley T.C. and L.P. (two meetings) A. H. Weller ; Coppull (Chorley) W.C.G., A. H. Weller ; Pendleton M.C.G., D. Catterall.

The annual visit of Manchester Single Taxers to their colleagues in Clitheroe took place on 13th August. The Manchester friends were met by Mr and Mrs Haworth and a party of about 20 local friends, and after a delightful walk and tea, a meeting was held in an adjacent field and impromptu addresses were given by those who could be prevailed upon to speak. The weather was favourable and a very enjoyable and profitable afternoon was spent.

On 3rd September, the League's President, Mr H. B. Hobson, gave a Garden Party at his residence, Park Hall, Hayfield, for the pleasure of the members and the benefit of its funds.

Now that the season for open-air work is past, preparations are being made for the usual monthly meetings of the Henry George Club. An economic study circle with weekly or fortnightly meetings in the League's office is in prospect. Readers of these notes will gladly be supplied with particulars.

The Manchester Borough Labour Party has issued a memorandum in which a new municipal programme is outlined. In place of the Rating of Land Values—which

towns," and also "be a charge automatically added to the cost of production"—Labour candidates are urged to advocate an all-in tax on incomes to which the poorer sections of the community would not contribute. A letter of criticism from the Secretary was printed in the *Manchester Guardian* and another appeared in the *City News*.

Lord Stanley of Alderley (Cheshire) recently contributed an article to the Press in which he complains of the taxation burdens of landowners. A closely reasoned letter by Mr D. J. J. Owen criticizing Lord Stanley was printed in the *Stockport Express*. Letters from Mr William Noble have also appeared in the same paper, and the discussion, of which these letters form a part, is still in full swing.

At the time of writing it seems probable that both Mr Noble and Mr Owen will stand as Labour candidates for the Stockport Town Council in the forthcoming elections.

**YORKSHIRE AND NORTHERN LEAGUE :** Fred Skirrow, Secretary, Compton Buildings, Bow Street, Keighley.

Since our last report correspondence has been well maintained. Mr P. V. Olver has had several letters in the *Yorkshire Evening News*. Impot Unique and C. H. J. have had letters in the *Keighley News*. A. W. Dakers and "Red Rose" have had letters in the *Nottingham Evening News*. A "Scotch Farmer" has had very informing letters in the *Yorkshire Post* in reply to advocates of Protection, Subsidies, Quotas, etc.

The Secretary has had several letters in the *Yorkshire Observer*, the *Yorkshire Evening News* and the *Keighley News*. Capt. Arthur McDougal of Blythe, is being assailed in the *Yorkshire Post*, and he will no doubt give a good account of himself. Capt. McDougal's letter appeared in the *Yorkshire Post*, 17th September.

Mr P. V. Olver has addressed several meetings in the Leeds District, and others are already booked.

Sets of leaflets have been sent to Secretaries of Political and Social Reform Societies, which have resulted in many requests for speakers to address their members.

Land in Leeds has been fetching very high prices, as will be seen by a reference to the enclosed Press cutting from the *Yorkshire Evening Post*, 24th September.

**LIVERPOOL LEAGUE :** F. R. Jones, Hon. Secretary, 21 Highfield Crescent, Rock Ferry, Cheshire. (Office and Meeting Room : 21 Harrington Street, North John Street, Liverpool.)

On 2nd November our regular weekly meetings recommence at 21 Harrington Street (off North John Street), 8 p.m. every Wednesday. An excellent programme has been drawn up by Mr E. J. McManus, and all interested in our movement living in our district are urged to come and bring friends.

The following meetings have been addressed by our speakers :—

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| 26th July  | Edge Hill Labour Party : Mr O. B. Sweeney.                       |
| 16th Aug.  | (3 p.m.) Norris Green Co-op. Women's Guild : Mr O. B. Sweeney.   |
| " "        | (8 p.m.) Seaforth Co-op. Women's Guild : Mr O. B. Sweeney.       |
| 21st "     | Dovedale Road P.S.A. : Secretary.                                |
| 30th "     | Toxteth Co-op. Women's Guild : Mr O. B. Sweeney.                 |
| 13th Sept. | (3 p.m.) Aigburth Co-op. Women's Guild : Mr O. B. Sweeney.       |
| " "        | (8 p.m.) Dingle Co-op. Joint Guild : Mr O. B. Sweeney.           |
| " "        | Oakfield Co-op. Women's Guild : Mr E. J. McManus.                |
| 19th "     | Granby Branch, Women's Citizen's Association : Mr O. B. Sweeney. |
| 27th "     | Everton Co-op. Women's Guild : Mr O. B. Sweeney.                 |
| " "        | Fairfield Liberal Club : Secretary.                              |
| 28th "     | Princes Park Co-op. Women's Guild : Mr O. B. Sweeney.            |
| 6th Oct.   | Granby Ward Labour Party : Secretary.                            |
| 11th "     | Everton Labour Party : Secretary.                                |

At each of these meetings leaflets were distributed, and booklets and books were sold. Many more meetings have been arranged, and others are in course of arrangement.

On 29th June, at our room, 21 Harrington Street, a presentation of a set of Henry George's Works was made on behalf of this League and of the United Committee to Mr E. J. Brierley, who has retired from Liverpool to Bristol. Mr Brierley has been indefatigable in his work for the cause in the Merseyside area, and we wish him every success in his intended campaign to build up an organization in Bristol. He has already commenced his activities there.

The new Essay Prospectus has been placed for distribution in large quantities with the secretaries of various organizations, mainly through the efforts of Mr O. B. Sweeney and a new member, Mr Austin Ward, who has also greatly assisted by arranging meetings to be addressed by our speakers. Mr Sweeney has succeeded in getting various libraries to accept copies of Henry George's Works, which thus will be read by great numbers of people who might otherwise not have been brought in contact.

Mr Sweeney has continued his series of articles in the *Birkenhead News*. He has also pursued a policy which might be advantageously followed generally, of writing personal letters to people whose communications have appeared over their names and addresses in the local Press, expressing fallacious opinions on social problems.

An interesting episode occurred at one of our meetings. An elderly lady informed our speaker that she had read *Progress and Poverty* in 1885, and that the impression left upon her had been an influence in her mind up to this day.

On 17th September, we had the pleasure of a visit from Mr A. W. Madsen, with whom several of our members foregathered on the Sunday. Fruitful conversations took place on the new edition of the *Science of Political Economy* and other matters.

**MIDLAND LEAGUE:** Chapman Wright, Secretary, 20 Cannon Street, Birmingham 2. (Phone: Midland 4318.)

Councillor G. F. Sawyer continues excellent work and has addressed meetings on "Free Land and Free Trade" on 7th August at the Prince of Wales Morning School, and on the 14th at Gosta Green. At an open air meeting at Nechells Green on the 7th his subject was: "Free Land and Free Men."

Recent Press correspondence includes useful letters from Miss L. S. Houghton, sister of our Hon. Secretary.

A second folder card will shortly be published by the League. These cards contain quotations from the writings of Henry George with other matter attractively set forth to form a concise introduction to our reform. Copies may be enclosed in any ordinary envelope and may be had free from the League.

Mr G. G. Houghton and the Secretary visited Headquarters, 94 Petty France, last month, and were surprised at the news of what was being accomplished in getting new adherents. We got just the inspiration that is difficult to communicate by post. Members of the Midland League are urged to help in securing subscribers to *Land & Liberty*. Its pages each month bring all interested in touch with the movement everywhere.

Councillor Sawyer placed a notice of motion on the urgency of Rating Land Values on the Agenda of the Birmingham City Council. Referring to this, the *Town Crier* (Labour Weekly) makes this comment:-

"Long before he had any thought of being a public representative, George Sawyer realized the importance of land in relationship to our social ills and his public work has strengthened that view. During his Parliamentary days, he continued to urge the Chancellor of the Exchequer by questions, etc., to press forward with the Labour Party policy of taxing and rating land values and eventually helped by speeches and votes to place it on the Statute Book."

**THE GEORGIAN SOCIETY (LONDON):** A. Blackburn, Hon. Secretary, 7 John Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.2.

At a meeting of the Society on 21st September proposals were discussed for the Winter programme. The Syllabus

now drawn up is as follows, the meetings being held at 8 p.m. at the Room of the Society, 7 John Street, Adelphi:—

- Sun. Oct. 23.—Mr A. MacLaren: "Economic Ideas of Our Times."
- " Oct. 30.—Mr Adrian Allison: "Economics and Art."
- " Nov. 6.—Mr A. MacLaren: "Wages and Capital."
- " Nov. 13.—Mr A. MacLaren: "Distribution of Wealth."
- " Nov. 20.—Mr Duncan: "The Economics of an Architect."
- " Nov. 27.—Mr A. MacLaren: "Cause of Economic Depression."
- " Dec. 4.—Open Date.
- " Dec. 11.—Mr A. MacLaren: "Politics and Economic Education."
- " Dec. 18.—Open Date.

Anyone wishing to receive a copy of the Syllabus, or other information relevant to the Study Class and Lectures, is invited to communicate with the Hon. Secretary. Other arrangements for the Winter concern propaganda activities in new quarters. We look forward to engagements to send speakers to Labour and Co-operative Societies, and other organizations.

On the 6th September, Miss Lapin and the Secretary addressed a meeting of the Welling Hutment Tenants' Association at the Labour Club, East Wickham, Kent. Miss Hill, Assistant Secretary of the Georgian Society, also spoke. There was a good-sized audience and the *Sidcup Times* gave a half-column report of the speeches.

**PORTSMOUTH LEAGUE:** S. R. Cole, Hon. Secretary, 165 Francis Avenue, Southsea.

Meeting Place: The John Pile Memorial Rooms. On 16th August Mr A. W. McGuigan gave an address on "Lower Rents and Higher Wages," which provoked an interesting discussion.

On 16th August Mr H. G. Chancellor, ex-M.P. for Haggerston, was the chief speaker at an open-air meeting held on Southsea Common; Mr W. R. Lester addressed a second meeting, also held on the Common, on 30th August. Both speakers advocated the taxation of land values as the practical remedy for unemployment. The meetings were reported in the *Portsmouth Evening News*. The Liberal monthly, *The Portsmouth Tribune*, devoted a leading article to the subject, quoting *Progress and Poverty*, and advised all its readers and all who had the good of the country at heart to study the book.

The two meetings were held under the auspices of the local Liberal Federation, and the speakers were secured through Mr Verinder and the English League. We were all pleased with this enterprise and especially with the leading article in the *Tribune*.

A Resolution in the following terms was sent forward by the Portsmouth Labour Party to the National Labour Conference held at Leicester, 3rd October and four following days:—

"That a Labour Government should abolish, as soon as possible, all tariffs and other taxes that increase the price of goods and lower the standard of living, and shall obtain the required revenue by Taxation of the Land Values that arise from the needs and labour of the community as a whole apart from any effort or expenditure of individual landholders."

The Economic Study Class referred to in the League Notes of July-August *Land & Liberty* had a first-rate beginning on 11th October, with Mr Lester as lecturer. There was a very good attendance, mostly of new people. Mr Lester's instruction was very much appreciated and he was asked to return on 25th October to deliver a second lecture. This was also a most successful experience.

The classes are held in the Tramway Hall, Stubbington Avenue, at 7.45 o'clock. At the close of each lecture questions and discussion take place. The text-book is *The Science of Political Economy* by Henry George. The syllabus is as follows:—

- 1932.
- 11th Oct. Introductory. Man's place in Nature. His Social Life—Decline or further Progress?
- 25th " How the World gets a living—the Science of Political Economy. Its basis in the satisfaction of human needs.

1932.

- 8th Nov. The deductive and inductive method of economic inquiry. Confusion as to meaning of Wealth.  
 22nd „ The views of Adam Smith and the French Physiocrats on Wealth and Rents.  
 6th Dec. Failure of economists to define Wealth. The scholastic breakdown.  
 20th „ Value in use and value in exchange.

1933.

- 3rd Jan. The sources of the value of commodities, and value of land.  
 17th „ Further consideration of the nature of wealth.  
 31st „ Production and Population. Unemployment and the effects of machinery.  
 14th Feb. Production by Co-operation and Exchange.  
 28th „ The three factors in production—Land, Labour, and Capital.  
 14th Mar. Distribution. Rights of Property.  
 28th „ Money and Credit.  
 11th Apl. The relation of economic truth to present conditions.

The Committee have generously advertised the programme in the local Press. Here is one of several advertisements taken from the Personal Column of the *Portsmouth Evening News* :—

“FREE Economics Course, Tramway Hall, North End, fortnightly, Tuesdays at 7.45; first lecture next Tuesday the 11th by W. R. Lester, M.A.—See Monday's Public Notices.”

A successful social meeting of members and friends of the League was held at the Karmo Café on the evening of 6th October.

#### HIGHLAND LEAGUE : I. Mackenzie, Hon. Secretary, The Arcade, Inverness.

Although League activities have been in abeyance for some time through one reason or another, nevertheless there has been a steady propaganda carried on through the local Press by members and through tours to various parts of the Highlands. In August the Secretary visited Tain and Bonar Bridge and was surprised to find so many unemployed in agricultural districts. Farmers are carrying on with less labour and reducing the wages of those servants they retain, but rents are “as usual.” No reductions.

Mr John Peter, Falkirk, who was on holidays at Nairn, visited Inverness on 12th July. Members of the League hope to hear Mr Peter in the near future give one of his informing addresses.

On the 9th of September Mr Haxton, Junior and two other young friends of St Andrews, called on the Secretary. It is a hopeful sign of the future to see such young men so well versed in the teachings of Henry George.

Members throughout the Highlands are kindly asked to send usual donations before end of year.

#### STOCKPORT.

Councillor Wm. Noble, at the urgent request of many electors, is again a candidate for the Reddish South Ward, for election on 1st November. In his very practical address to the electors Mr Noble says :—

“Unemployment is the most pressing of all problems. But unemployment cannot be cured by improvement schemes. It can only be done by forcing more land into good use, and the Labour Party's policy of Rating Land Values would do that. Much land is unused in town and country because it is too dear; it is too dear because unused land escapes rates. Under the Rating of Land Values land would be rated on its value whether used or held idle. Land prices would then fall, more land would be used for housing and other purposes, and many more men would be wanted in all directions. The revenue from this new source would make it possible to reduce (and ultimately to abolish) the rates on houses which now make them dear and trade would revive as unemployment decreased and purchasing power increased. I would urge the Stockport Council to join with other Rating Authorities in using

#### BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS

(A Selection from our Complete List, copy of which may be had on application.)

POSTAGE EXTRA AS SHOWN IN BRACKETS

- Progress and Poverty.** By HENRY GEORGE. Fifty-second Anniversary Edition, printed from new type: Red cloth, 1s. (postage 3d.). In extra quality binding, gold lettering and gilt top: Marone limp rexine, 2s. (3d.).
- Protection or Free Trade.** By HENRY GEORGE. Abridged Edition: Paper, 6d. (1d.); red cloth, 1s. (2d.); Unabridged Edition: Paper, 1s. 6d. (3d.) Library (complete) Edition, 3s. (6d.).
- Social Problems.** By HENRY GEORGE. New Popular Shilling Edition in red cloth, 1s. (3d.) In limp rexine, 2s. (3d.).
- A Perplexed Philosopher.** By HENRY GEORGE. Limp linen, 1s. 6d. (3d.).
- The Science of Political Economy.** By HENRY GEORGE. New Edition. Red cloth, 2s. 6d. (6d.).
- The Condition of Labour.** By HENRY GEORGE. Red cloth, 1s. (2d.).
- Gems from Henry George.** Paper covers, 6d. (1d.). Marone or blue cloth, 1s. (2d.).
- The Life of Henry George.** By HENRY GEORGE, JUNR. New Edition, 5s. (post free).
- The Prophet of San Francisco.** By LOUIS F. POST. Blue Cloth Library Edition: 8s. (post free).
- The Labour Question.** By HENRY GEORGE. Abridgment of *The Condition of Labour*. 3d.
- Addresses by Henry George—The Crime of Poverty; Thou Shall Not Steal; Scotland and Scotsmen; Justice the Object—Taxation the Means; Thy Kingdom Come; Moses.** 1d. each. *The Set* 6d. (post free).
- The Master Motive of Human Action.** Passages from *Progress and Poverty*. Dedicated to George Lamb. New pamphlet, 1d.
- The Story of My Dictatorship.** By LEWIS BERENS and IGNATIUS SINGER. 3d.
- Unemployment and the Land.** By W. R. LESTER, M.A. 1d.
- The New Political Economy.** By JOHN B. SHARPE. 1d.
- Joseph Fels: His Life and Work.** By MARY FELS. Blue cloth, 1s. (4d.).
- The Theory of Human Progression.** (Abridged by Julia N. Kellogg.) By PATRICK EDWARD DOVE. Paper, 1s. (4d.).
- My Neighbour's Landmark.** By FREDK. VERINDER. Paper, 1s. (1d.).
- What is the Single Tax?** By LOUIS F. POST. Green cloth binding, 2s. (2d.).
- Social Justice and the Jew.** By LOUIS P. JACOBS. 6d.
- A Danish View of British Farming.** By JAKEB E. LANGE. Paper, 1s. (1d.).
- Agriculture and Land Value Taxation.** Three Papers by F. C. R. DOUGLAS, M.A., Capt. ARTHUR R. McDUGAL of Blythe, and JAMES SCOTT, M.P. Presented at the International Conference in Edinburgh. 1d.
- The Certain Pathway to World Peace.** By CHARLES O'CONNOR HENNESSY. 1d.
- Methods of Land Nationalization.** By FREDK. VERINDER. 2d.
- Land Value Taxation in Practice.** New South Wales. By Ald. J. R. FIRTH, Mayor of Strathfield, Sydney. 1d.

FOR SPECIAL POST-FREE OFFER



## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

(Press Service of the International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade, 94 Petty France, London, S.W.1.)

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

## Memphis Conference

The Henry George Foundation of America (238 Fourth Avenue, Pittsburgh) held their Seventh Annual Convention in the Peabody Hotel, Memphis, Tennessee, on 10th to 12th October. Memphis was chosen this year as entirely new ground to awaken new interest and organize Single Tax sentiment in the South. According to the programme, very much business was compressed into the three days, there being twelve sessions with thirty-three speakers named to open discussions on many different aspects of the subject.

Special greetings were sent to the Convention by the United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values. These were conveyed in a letter from Mr A. W. Madsen, who had been cordially invited to attend the Conference, as representative of the Committee, but a visit to America was quite impossible at this time. A written statement was given, reviewing briefly the position in Great Britain, and in particular telling of what was being done at 94 Petty France to promote the sale and circulation of Henry George's books.

Supplies of literature, United Committee manifestoes, display cards and advertising, and other material were sent for distribution among the members.

In acknowledgment, Mr P. R. Williams, Secretary of the Foundation and organizer of the Convention, has written: "We are delighted to have such an interesting statement showing the splendid work that is being done by the United Committee and the Henry George Foundation of Great Britain. This we shall be very glad to read at our Memphis Convention, and we also appreciate your sending the attractive display cards and other advertising matter which we shall be pleased to place on exhibition."

We look forward to the news that success has rewarded the work Mr Williams, Mr Maguire and all their colleagues have devoted to the organization of the Convention.

## Heavy Fall in New York Land Values

A cut of \$1,500,000,000 (some £350,000,000):—

A few weeks ago the newspapers carried great headlines telling of a "Cut of \$1,500,000,000 in Realty Valuations Planned by City." The plan contemplated a reduction in the assessed valuation of real estate in the city from \$19,977,096,315, the figures for this year, to \$18,477,096,315.—*The Ingram Institute News*, October.

Taking this figure at the conservative estimate of fifty-fifty—half improvement, one-half land value—the fall in the value of land in New York City in 1932 is approximately £175,000,000.

## A Book Sales Campaign

The Robert Schalkenbach Foundation of New York, publishers of the new \$1 American editions of Henry George's works, have circularized 3,500 book-dealers throughout the States to take up the sale of *Progress and Poverty*. The advertising matter designed for this campaign is artistic and very striking. The book in its new "jacket" (a replica of that used for our Henry George Foundation edition) is illustrated in three colours, and the letter-press of the circular lacks nothing in persuasive power. The book-dealers are offered, post paid, four copies of the \$1 at \$2.50 and ten copies or more at 50 cents. each, plus the postage. For the display of the books in any shop, the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation supplies free copies of the coloured portrait of Henry George which was produced in 1929 from the oil painting by Harry Thurston, Snr. This portrait, incidentally, was presented at our Edinburgh Conference and copies are available (1s. each) from the United Committee, 94 Petty France, S.W.1. They are most suitable for framing.

We wish success to the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation in this new approach to the book-selling trade, a method of

obtaining readers that has been extensively developed in Great Britain from the Petty France offices and with most satisfactory results.

As we go to press, we have received advance proof of a double column 8-in. advertisement of *Progress and Poverty* which the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation are inserting in the *New York Times* and *New York Sun*. This well-drafted piece of publicity, like the circular canvassing the book trade, is the design of Mr Hennessy, and shows the practised hand of one long associated with the newspaper world. The advertisement deserves response in a big demand for the book.

## A Notable Leading Article

The Robert Schalkenbach Foundation have issued in page form a reprint of a leading article appearing in *Liberty* (America's Best Read Weekly) of 3rd September from which we quote: "More than half a century has elapsed since Henry George wrote *Progress and Poverty*. Single Taxers believe that their system will break up the bread-line and frozen deposits in banks, as well as in tin boxes and socks, and put both idle capital and idle labour to work building on vacant lots and in the business enterprise to follow. Now that we are looking for remedies, even revolutionary ideas that will bring about a more wise distribution of wealth are worth consideration, and the enthusiastic advocates of this Single Tax system deserve attention."

## Land Speculators on the Run.

You may be interested in one effect of the depression. The eastern part of the State of South Dakota is good farming land, in the wheat belt, and much good hay land. Now much of this good land has become marginal land, taxes amounting to £60 per year on tracts that will not bring more than \$25 per year rent. The result, of course, has been that thousands of tracts have reverted to the State and they can be leased or bought for nominal sums. The land speculators are on the run in South Dakota surely and elsewhere, too.—S. L. GILLAN, 6th August, 1932.

## A New Calendar

The *Henry George Calendar*, by Henry Ware Allen (price 1s., 603 Brown Building, Wichita, Kansas, U.S.A.), with selections from the writings and Addresses of Henry George for every day in the year. In the advertisement slip of this book it is stated that the manuscript was submitted to and approved by Mr George personally, with special selection contributed by Mrs George for 2nd September, Mr George's birthday. The Calendar also contains the names of prominent Single Taxers. The author writes: "The size of the book will be about 4½ in. by 6 in., very convenient for pocket use."

Mr Allen again compliments us upon the fine work we have done and are doing for the best of all economic reforms.

## From the "Christian Science Monitor"

On a stone on a quiet hillside in Brooklyn, sloping towards the setting sun, is a bronze tablet bearing these words:—

"The truth that I have tried to make clear will not find easy acceptance. If that could be, it would have been accepted long ago. If that could be, it never would have been obscured. But it will find friends—those who will toil for it; suffer for it; if need be die for it. This is the power of truth."

The spot is the last resting place of Henry George. The words are taken from his great work, *Progress and Poverty*. They came vividly into my mind when a New York friend last week sent me a copy of *Liberty*, with a vigorous editorial setting forth the timeliness of a new study of the Single Tax in this day of depression and complicated taxation.

Great names have appeared on the list of the supporters of the Single Tax. Tolstoy upheld it. Nicholas Murray

Butler has applauded it. Dr John Dewey, the active organizer of the League for Independent Political Action, has declared its worth. Its advocates declare that it would end real estate speculation, cheapen rents, reduce the tax burden on farmers, stimulate enterprise, thaw out frozen credits and substitute a Single Tax, readily assessed and easily collected, for the multiplicity of tariffs, excises, stamp taxes, poll-taxes and the like which now oppress the people.—WILLIS J. ABBOT, in the *Christian Science Monitor*, 7th September.

### "Free Acres" 26 Miles from New York City

"Free Acres," at Berkeley Heights, New Jersey, twenty-seven miles from New York by Del. L. & Western R. R. is a demonstration by a working model that the rent of the land is sufficient for public expenses, even under our world-wide system of monopoly. It has no commercial side and nothing to sell.

The settlement was begun in 1911 and without advertising has grown to over 90 families, of whom about one-quarter are all-the-year-round residents.

Its seventy acres in the Watchung Mountains is two miles from the R. R. station and is owned by the community (as all land should be and legally is owned by the people); none can be sold.

A lease that runs for ever is given to applicants who thereupon become members of the community who elect their assessors and their Treasurer. These assessors value the land alone each year and its rent is collected by the Treasurer, who thereupon pays the taxes levied by the county and state upon all the land and improvements and devotes the remainder to roads, lighting, bridges, water supply and other such uses as are public functions, because to leave them in private hands would give to some advantages over others.

Membership is not confined to followers of Henry George nor to any class. We have artists, salesmen, writers, merchants, actors, mechanics, labourers, investors and others. They have established a swimming pool, tennis and archery grounds, children's playground, an open-air theatre, etc.

The surroundings are like Maine Woods, but with good roads and all improvements: Bird Sanctuary. Commutation rates are low with frequent electric trains and buses. For information write to Ami M. Hicks, 141 E. 17, N.Y.

## SOUTH AFRICA

### Site Values Tax "The Soundest System"

Mr James Young, late Chief Magistrate, gave an address on the theory and practice of municipal rating before the Federation of Ratepayers' Associations last night.—(*Johannesburg Star*, 5th September, 1932.)

"I am convinced," he said, "that the rating of site values is the soundest system of rating. It has been responsible for the raising of the magnificent buildings in the centre of the city, and for the filling up of vacant stands within the three-mile radius."

It was the fairest system, too, and was founded on the logical principle of taxing the source of wealth—namely, the land and not the labour and capital which had gone to its development. He was sure that the Transvaal public would never depart from the system again. He hoped the other provinces would all follow suit.

Mr Young was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his lecture.

## DENMARK

Mr Axel Fraenckel writes:—

Your report and comments in the July-August issue on the taxation changes in Denmark interested me very much, but I think you overstated the case. The reduction in land value taxation is of little importance, about 10 per cent of the rate imposed, but in no way interfering with the local option our parishes enjoy by which they can reduce the local income tax and take proportionately more from land value taxation.

I am writing a history of the Danish Henry George Movement, expecting to have it ready about the end of

next year. The work is to be published in celebration of the 70th Anniversary of Sophus Berthelsen's birthday. It will contain a collection of articles written by him during the last twenty years of his life.

## NEW ZEALAND

We gladly welcome the reappearance of the *Liberator*, the publication of which has been interrupted for several months. The August issue has interesting matter. An earnest invitation is made to join the New Zealand Land Values League, minimum subscription 5s. a year. The League has been incorporated and its officers are: President, Hon. Sir George Fowlds; Vice-President, Mr P. J. O'Regan; Secretary, Mr R. D. Smith, Willis Street, Wellington.

## AUSTRALIA

### A 30,000 Edition of the Addresses by Henry George

The Australian Henry George Foundation (18 George Parade, Melbourne) has carried out a considerable enterprise in publishing, for the Australian public, a new edition of 5,000 each of the six Addresses by Henry George—*The Crime of Poverty*, *Thy Kingdom Come*, *Thou Shalt not Steal*, *Scotland and Scotsmen*, *Moses*, and *Justice the Object—Taxation the Means*.

The Booklets have all been set from new type after careful examination of the texts of previous editions, including the Memorial Edition of the Works. This special and exacting task was in the hands of Mr P. J. Markham, Secretary of the Australian Foundation, who has not only corrected the letterpress and inserted running heads throughout for easier reading, but has also written for each Address a very able and appropriate introduction—a different story for each. In Mr Markham's short biographical sketches taken from *The Life* by Henry George, Junr., the reader is at once made intimate with Henry George; the personal touch is there, and one gets an arresting picture of events in the campaign or campaigns in which the particular Address was delivered.

The Booklets are published at 1d. each, clearly and well printed with covers in different colours for each. The "advertising matter" describes the Australian Henry George Foundation and its objects, naming the Trustees; gives the addresses of each of the six Henry George Leagues in Australia; and lists the prices of the books and pamphlets that are for sale through these agencies.

Much voluntary effort in preparation and proofing has helped to make possible the "One Penny" price of the Addresses. In particular, the making of the letterpress was the generous gift on the part of Mr Will Upstill, a lino. operator by trade, who did the type-setting free, working at it over week-ends and on holidays. Others gave a hand at pulling proofs and slugging the galleys, leaving only printing, making up and binding to be paid for. The services of Mr Upstill and his volunteers deserve warm recognition. They call to mind the first printing of *Progress and Poverty* when Henry George himself took a share in the type setting.

We heartily congratulate our co-workers in Australia on the production of these Booklets, admirable in their style and make-up. The 30,000 copies were issued against an estimated two years' supply. It is good news indeed to know that since the middle of July, when they began to go out, the sales have been so satisfactory as to give the sign that the 30,000 copies may be exhausted in twelve months.

The Australian Foundation draws its supplies of the Henry George Books from the editions published by ourselves. Thus, in the last two years there have been shipped from Petty France to Australia, in large consignments, no fewer than 7,000 copies, comprising 2,000 *Progress and Poverty* (cloth), 1,000 *Protection or Free Trade* (cloth), 1,000 *Protection or Free Trade* (paper), 1,000 *Social Problems* (cloth) and 2,000 *The Condition of Labour*—these apart from the numerous orders for smaller quantities and the copies of books and pamphlets from our general assortment that go in a regular stream to individual correspondents. At present, the Australian Foundation has on

order 500 copies of our new edition of *The Science of Political Economy* and 2,000 copies of our new edition of *The Condition of Labour*, about to be published. At the United Committee offices and in the work on our own Publication Department, the Henry George Foundation of Great Britain, nothing gives greater happiness or more encouragement than the close association we have with what is being done in Australia to spread the light.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA

### Mrs Jeanne Young

Mrs Young, who is President of the P.R. Group in South Australia, was entertained to a Complimentary Luncheon by the Proportional Representation Society at St. Ermin's Restaurant, Westminster, on 11th October, Sir John Barran, Bt., presiding.

The Toast, "The Cause of P.R. at Home and Overseas," was proposed by Lady Acland, J.P. The response was made by Mrs Young, J.P., who delivered a very able and acceptable address, pleading eloquently for the political justice she and her co-workers advocated.

In a column report of the proceedings the *Manchester Guardian* said: "One good point made by Mrs Young in her interesting speech was that at the Ottawa Conference Great Britain and Australia were represented by the majority party only. There was no voice to speak for the minority. Canada and South Africa were even worse represented. Canada gave the present Government a majority of 29 seats in the House while the Opposition secured a majority of 79,000 votes in the country. The South African Government represented a minority vote in the country."

Mrs Young and her son Courtenay paid a number of visits to 94 Petty France during their stay in London and much information was interchanged about the movement in South Australia and in Great Britain.

She was entertained by members of the United Committee at a small luncheon party held at St. Ermin's on 26th October, and presented with a set of six of Henry George's books. In a few gracious words our guest expressed her great joy at meeting her friends here in the Single Tax movement and to receive their gift of the books. She asked to be enrolled to *Land & Liberty*. "This," she said, "will enable me to keep in touch with your members as nothing else can, unless it be the beautiful books I take back to Australia with me."

### Speeches of Mr E. J. Craigie

Mr E. J. CRAIGIE, speaking in the House of Assembly (House of Commons) Parliamentary Debates, 30th and 31st August and 1st September on Taxation Proposals: "The Attorney-General referred to the fact that the Ten Commandments are still in existence, but I believe the Eighth Commandment—'Thou shalt not steal'—is temporarily suspended when taxation is being considered. I would that the Ten Commandments applied to affairs of State when we are dealing with the ability to pay, which is the principle underlying income tax. We should consider whether the income which is being drawn upon has been brought into existence because of the expenditure of labour and capital by the individual or whether it has been acquired through the monopolization of certain public benefits. Because that principle is not considered as it deserves to be, we have adopted the wrong method."

Turning to the land value principle as it affects farmers, Mr Craigie said: "I have taken out some representative figures for South Australia to show what this burden of taxation means and to try to make it clear to members that it is not the burden so many would have us believe. Take, for instance, the hundred of Booyoolie, a fairly representative good farming area. I find there is 61,400 acres in that hundred and the total amount paid in land values taxation is £1,938 5s. 1d. In the hundred of Maitland, which everyone will agree is a splendid farming area, there is 84,480 acres and the total taxation paid on the whole of that land is £1,626 5s. In the hundred of Pinnaroo there is 141,400 acres and the taxation paid is £1,418 18s. 1d. As compared with those figures the taxation on one acre at the corner of King William and Rundle

Streets amounts to £920 9s. 2d., so it will be seen that agricultural hundreds ranging from 60,000 acres to 140,000 acres pay about as much in land value taxation as is paid on two acres of land at the corner of King William and Rundle Streets, and yet we hear time and again that if we raise our revenue from its correct source a heavy burden will be imposed on the farming community under which they will not be able to carry on."

We regret we have no space to report this speech at length, but Mr Craigie this time provoked a first-rate debate, bringing out the hostility of the Member for Alexandra District, Mr H. S. Hudd, M.C. *Progress and Poverty* was quoted by this speaker. At one point he declared: "If we adopt the principle laid down by Henry George, that the whole of the expenses of the State should be raised by a tax on unimproved land values, I take it as my duty to set out exactly what the adoption of that principle would involve in the State of South Australia." Mr Hudd made a splendid contribution to an interesting and informing debate. It is opposition of the kind that the land value policy requires, and it will help Mr Craigie and his friends immensely in his coming Election campaign. As Barnum was wont to say to the Press reporters when his show struck a new town: "Say something about me, boys; good if you can; bad if you must, but for heaven's sake, say something." Mr Hudd has said something, and so far he is our friend.

### THE FEDERAL LAND TAX

Mr E. J. CRAIGIE spoke also in the House of Assembly (*Hansard*, 27th July) in the debate on the Address. Reviewing the anomalies of the Federal Land Tax he said:—After all, the total amount paid into the Federal Treasury by way of Federal land tax is about two and a half million pounds a year, whereas the total amount the Federal Treasury obtains by taxation of the industry of the people is about £48,000,000. Yet we do not hear any great objection to the burden of £48,000,000 upon industry, although we hear a considerable objection to the £2,500,000 collected by way of land tax. I am totally opposed to the Federal land tax as raised at present. I believe the Act which governs it to be one of the most iniquitous Measures that disgraces the Federal Statute Book. In the first place it allows an exemption of £5,000, which permits people to put each week £5 worth of community-created values of land into their pockets without rendering any account of it to the Federal Government. Then it starts with the principle that a man who has £1 worth of land in excess of £5,000 should pay at the rate of one eighteen thousand seven hundred and fiftieth part of a penny in the pound, working up with beautiful graduations until it reaches 9d. in the pound, where the holding of land values is in the vicinity of £80,000. That is a vicious principle of class taxation which cannot possibly be defended by any respectable organization or government. That exemption and that system of graduated payments of Federal land tax have done more to bring the principle of land taxation into disrepute than anything else I know of. If we removed the exemption clause, cut out the graduation, and imposed merely a flat-rate tax of a penny in the pound on unimproved values of land in the Commonwealth, that flat rate of a penny would produce for the Treasury approximately £6,000,000 a year instead of the present £2,500,000. Members of the Taxpayers' Association and members of this House who are always complaining about Federal land tax would be doing something worth while if they used their influence to endeavour to get the exemption and the graduations removed and secure the imposition of the tax on a right principle.

### NEW SOUTH WALES

An interesting sidelight on the increase of Land Values in Sydney was given by Mr G. H. Bertie in a lecture on "A Walk round Old Sydney," at the Royal Empire Society's rooms on Friday week. Mr Bertie said that a grant of land at the corner of George and King Streets had involved a man named Moore in a total expenditure of £64. A hundred years later the area was valued at £250,000. Moore built a house on the land, had a beautiful garden, and stabled racehorses there. Later the land was cut up, and it realized £30 to £40 a foot, and the site was

promptly christened "the Golden Corner.—*Warren Herald*, Warren, New South Wales, 5/8/1932.

The *Sydney Morning Herald*, 7th July, 1932, in a leading article: The annual report concerning the health of Sydney during 1931 states that during the last 11 years the death-rate for Sydney has been the lowest for any city in the world with a population of over 500,000. The expansion of Sydney has been centrifugal. No longer are terraces built, their place has been taken by suburban cottages with garden plots, the cultivation of which provides the inmates with wholesome exercise. When blocks of flats are erected the plans must conform to certain strict requirements in regard to floor space and ventilation. A modern city, Sydney has escaped the evils incident to bad and antiquated housing.

\* \* \*

The City of Sydney, New South Wales, has had local Single Tax (excluding the sewerage and water rate) since 1916: the suburbs have had this advantage since 1908.—*Ed. Land & Liberty*.

## HENRY GEORGE LEAGUES IN AUSTRALIA

The names and addresses of the six Leagues in Australia are as follows:—

NEW SOUTH WALES: A. G. Huie, Secretary, 114 Hunter Street, Sydney. Monthly Journal—*The Standard*. Price 2d. By post, 2s. per year; within the Commonwealth. To all other places, 3s. per year.

QUEENSLAND: E. I. S. Harding, Secretary, "Venah," Macdonnell Street, Toowong, Brisbane.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: E. J. Craigie, Secretary, George Parade, off 11 Carrington Street, Adelaide. Monthly Journal—*The People's Advocate*. Price 2d. By post, 2s. per year in the Commonwealth. To all other places, 3s. per year.

TASMANIA: Hobart—D. Barnes, Secretary, 255 Liverpool Street, Hobart. Launceston—H. T. Dale, Secretary, 199 Brisbane Street, Launceston.

VICTORIA: J. M. Atkinson, Secretary, 18 George Parade, Melbourne. Monthly Journal—*Progress*. Price 1d. Subscription 1s. per year in the Commonwealth, 2s. abroad.

WEST AUSTRALIA: J. Pierpoint, Secretary, Trinity Building, Hay Street, Perth.

## CANADA

*The Square Deal* (Toronto) reports in its July-August issue that the Single Tax Association of Ontario has been re-named the "Single Tax Association of Canada," with headquarters at 68 King Street, Toronto. The change has been made in the conviction that the nation-wide organization will bind the Single Taxers of Canada more closely together and stimulate a genuine revival of interest and enthusiasm. Every encouragement will be given to the formation of local clubs and provincial organizations and the Association will always stand ready to co-operate with and strengthen such bodies. The minimum membership fee of the Association is \$1 a year which includes subscription to the journal, *The Square Deal*.

Recently a circular was issued for new support and with it was enclosed a copy of the pamphlet (supplies of which were sent specially from Petty France), *What is the Single Tax*, by Mr W. R. Lester? This was specially chosen for the purpose and the necessary supplies were obtained from Petty France. Mr L. B. Walling, the Secretary of the Canadian Association, in writing for the pamphlet, declared it to be "one of the best" in the literature of the Movement.

The publication department at Petty France is in constant touch with the Canadian Association which is pushing the sale of the popular editions of *Progress and Poverty* and the other books published by the Henry George Foundation of Great Britain.

We wish for the Association, under its new name, every success in its campaign.

A Free Copy of "Land & Liberty" is an invitation to become a Subscriber, 1d. Monthly; by Post 2s. a Year,

## SPAIN

### Translations of Henry George's Works and other Single Tax Literature

In our previous issue mention was made of the new publications and complete set of Henry George's Works being issued by the Biblioteca Georgista (The Georgist Library), 165 Paris, Barcelona. The Library has already begun its good work. We heartily welcome the complimentary copies of its first productions, just received. These include *The Crime of Poverty* by Henry George (30 centesimos, equivalent to about 2d.), *Land Reform* by Baldomero Argente (60 centesimos, say 4d.), *Social Service* by Louis F. Post (2 vols. at 4 pesetas each, say 2s. each), the *Road to Freedom* by Josiah C. Wedgwood (4 pesetas), and sundry explanatory leaflets. The volumes at 4 pesetas each are well bound in cloth and each has an attractive dust jacket.

The catalogue and price list of the Library reproduces the statement "The Problem of Unemployment," being the passages from *Progress and Poverty* that were first used by the Henry George Foundation of Great Britain in its *Listener* advertisement. This arresting statement has since been widely circulated by the United Committee and the Foundation in the Essay Prospectus and other leaflets, and reproduced in outside publications.

The catalogue of the Barcelona Library embraces all the Works of Henry George. *Progress and Poverty*, *Protection or Free Trade* and *The Science of Political Economy* each make two volumes at 4 pesetas each, and the others are in single volumes at 4 pesetas each. This fine enterprise is going ahead, the books following one another as speedily as possible. The Library will include also *The Life of Henry George* in three volumes, and books by various authors.

There is another complete library of Henry George's Works available in Spanish—that produced by the publishers Francisco Beltran, Principe 16, Madrid. These are all translated by Baldomero Argente. The set comprises altogether nine volumes, and may be had complete from Messrs. Beltran, carriage paid to any address, for 79 pesetas (31s.), each volume in paper covers; or 98 pesetas (48s.), each volume in cloth binding. The set includes also J. Calvo's translation of *The Menace of Privilege* by Henry George, Junior, bound in paper covers. Any of our readers who want individual copies of these books in Spanish should communicate either with the Biblioteca Georgista, or with Francisco Beltran.

### Confiscation of Great Estates

The *Daily Telegraph's* Own Correspondent, 10th September, writes from Madrid:—

"Some 300 members of the Spanish nobility, known as Grandees of Spain, will be affected by the law to which I referred yesterday, providing for the expropriation of rural property 'whose owners may at any time have exercised their honorary prerogatives.'"

"A rough estimate of the lands affected by the measure places their value at £12,000,000.

"Members of the 'extinguished nobility' whose property is confiscated without indemnity will be granted a State pension if they can prove that they are penniless.

"The Institute of Agrarian Reform, which is to deal with all such cases, will be authorized to concede indemnities only for actual improvements made in the land. It will investigate each case according to a complicated schedule.

"It is feared that one result of the measure may be to endanger the supply of bulls for bull-fighting. Many of the bulls are bred on the broad expanses of land owned by the grandees. If they are expropriated and the land divided up the breeding of bulls may be greatly diminished." (Italics ours.)

*De Nieuwe Aarde* (the New Earth), journal of our Dutch co-workers, reprinted in full in its September issue the leading article on "Protectionist Contradictions and Inconsistencies" appearing in *Land & Liberty*, May-June. Among the many compliments to the writer, Mr. Lester, for his able statement, this is one that calls specially for acknowledgment.

## Personal Paragraphs

The *Daily Herald* (Labour), 3rd October, carried as the chief article of the day, illustrated, in the leading article page, an excellent statement by Capt. Arthur McDougal, entitled "Set the Farmer Free." The editorial introduction to the writer was in terms of understanding and goodwill: "This is an article by a man who has been a farmer for 31 years and who is at present farming 4,000 acres. He wants neither Tariffs nor State Aid—all he asks is protection from landlordism." It was a most instructive article, and Capt. McDougal can be warmly congratulated. As our readers know, he wields a facile pen and there is never any mistake about what he means to be at.

It would be well for the cause of Labour if the note Capt. McDougal strikes on the farming-side of the land question were heard a little oftener in Labour circles. Not all the organized forces of Labour are in favour of land purchase. A very great many are for the radical line of approach that would destroy land speculation by the taxation of land values.

There are few Henry George men throughout the world who put more energy into making converts through the sale of books than the veteran stalwart Mr F. W. Maguire of Pittsburgh. Mr Maguire is the Assistant Secretary of the Henry George Foundation of America and has made himself and his bookstall a regular institution wherever he can be present at a public gathering. His orders to our Office for books come in single numbers and small parcels and in larger parcels. He has popularized in many places our "1s. editions" of *Progress and Poverty*, and other works. Since the 1st January of this year he thus secured for his own sales and for individuals scattered over the United States no fewer than 234 of our Henry George Foundation books and several hundreds of the Henry George Lectures and Addresses and other pamphlets. Like many in the United States he finds special custom for Mr Lester's *Unemployment and the Land*.

H. Thomas, Melbourne, 4th July: The printing, binding and general layout of *Social Problems* are all that could be desired, while the addition of the index is, as you say, a very serviceable feature for speakers and students. The activities of the English Foundation are being watched with the greatest interest and sympathy, and the reports made in *Land & Liberty* from time to time of the progress of sales are indeed heartening. That Henry George's works are the best sellers of economic literature in England to-day call forth a well-merited tribute for the work being done on your side; may it prosper. The Manifesto recently issued by you came to hand and made excellent reading. Will the world take warning before it is too late?

A. A., Spain: Greetings from the Spanish League to Henry George Commemoration Dinner.

(Members of our International Union will be pleased to know that a letter from Antonio Albendin carries the good news that his health is slowly improving).

C. H. S., Yorkshire: I think the Henry George Foundation is putting out *The Science of Political Economy* at the psychological moment. The style being less emotional than *Progress and Poverty* it may make a stronger appeal to the 1932 type of mind, and I hope it may find an entry into the Varsity books of reference: the one and only book which treats Economics as an exact science should arrest attention. Hearty congratulations on your July-August issue. It is in the finest tradition of *Land & Liberty*.

A. C. C., Canada: I like the Personal Paragraphs in *Land & Liberty*, because they are so encouraging. They show such a lot of people at work in several ways for the cause. Each of us is pretty much alone in his work, but the Paragraphs give us the strengthening and cheering knowledge that we are a big active crowd. I feel like saying after each Paragraph that shows a worker doing his best, "Bully for you. Keep on keeping on!"

The Ministry of Finance, Baghdad, 9th August: I acknowledge receipt with thanks of the eight interesting publications (works of Henry George and various pamphlets) referred to in your letter. The said books have been placed in this Ministry's library for perusal and guidance.—The Director-General of Finance.

S. S., Scarborough, 9th August: Thanks for letter and copies of *Land & Liberty*. I have seen Henry George's book quoted and advertised, so much so that I have had *Progress and Poverty* and *Social Problems* from the public library here. Recently, however, I saw the 1s. *Progress and Poverty* on W. H. Smith's bookstall in the railway station here, and bought it to study, as I had been looking for a cheap edition of it. I intend getting the other of George's books soon.

W. E. L., Hobart, 17th August, in sending 15s. money order for six copies of *The Science of Political Economy*: We appreciate your sterling efforts to lead the wayward masses to the goal of freedom and better understanding. With kind thoughts from a zealous and optimistic ever-widening circle of Tasmanian enthusiasts who always have their British colleagues in mind.

J. C. G., Dundee, in sending his subscription, 19th August: Politics are pretty much a dead letter at present, and the marvel to me is that you are able to carry on at all. Instead of the Eldorado promised it seems to me as if we were to take a plunge into the depths. Still, I suppose we can live on and hope. Wishing you the success you deserve.

A. H. B. H., New York City, sending an order for one copy of *The Science of Political Economy*: Note, I have tried without success to buy this book in America.

S. A. J., Australia (Essayist): I write to acknowledge receipt of the cheque for £2, which was worth £2 9s. 8d. on account of the exchange. Very pleased to have been one of the successful ones. I pay a subscription for *Land & Liberty* to our Melbourne Secretary, as I do like to know the world's news of the movement. Prof. Giblin (Melbourne University) said that he has never before been so ashamed of being an Australian as the Ottawa case has made him.

I. McK., Inverness, writes on 26th August, sending a list of representative names with the request that a copy of our Essay Prospectus be sent to each. These include directors of education and school teachers in the North of Scotland.

B. S., New South Wales (in enclosing Money Order for *Land & Liberty* and a copy of *The Science of Political Economy*): I am very pleased that this work is being republished at last, as I have long wanted to have a copy of my own; I imagine many other Single-Taxers also have the same desire.

D. D., Canada, sending money-order for copies of *Social Problems*, *The Science of Political Economy*, and subscription to *Land & Liberty*: My poverty never distresses me so much as when you appeal for funds. You are in the place and time that effort counts for great things, and were I to find a million, like a profligate I could cross the pond to you and "shoot the works" before your next election!

M. J. S., B.S.: Just a word of congratulation on the new number. Comparing it with a year ago it shows mental youthfulness and adaptability. Please book me for 10 copies of *The Science*, to which I look forward keenly.

W. v. d. M., Wash., U.S.A.: One Sunday morning last spring a year ago I walked into the orchard of Mr Beddie, Yakima, Wash. We talked for a couple of hours and he suggested to me to read *Progress and Poverty*. It was the first time I heard the author mentioned. This winter I got the book from the library for a month. This summer I looked Mr Beddie up, and while there he was run over by a car and died shortly afterwards in the hospital. He had promised me all the issues of your journal. I have distributed nearly all the copies. Here's a question to be written on the wall. Why is it that *Progress and Poverty*, with its broad human interest, is viciously being kept in the background while it should be studied generally and acted upon?

N. R. B., Baghdad, 8th August: A certain London Institute (which was the Henry George Foundation) has sent to the Library of the Ministry of Finance some publications of Henry George, and in my position I had the opportunity to go through the said publications. I am now desirous to obtain copies of the works of this gentleman for a personal study and therefore request that a booklet showing the works of Mr George be sent to me for perusal. I shall also be pleased if you send me a list of other interesting books issued by your Department. Can you kindly inform me whether I can get a short biography of Mr Henry George? I intend to introduce him to the writers of our country and the Arabic-speaking countries.

F. V., London, 1st September: Very hearty congratulations on an excellent number of *Land & Liberty* for July-August. Coming at the close of the holiday season, it ought to inspire all its readers with zeal for the propaganda work of the coming Autumn and Winter, for which it supplies abundant facts and arguments which our friends can use in public speeches, private conversations or letters to the Press. Please send me 250 of the Essay Prospectus. Most of these will be enclosed with a circular I shall be sending to Women's Co-operative Guilds, as soon as their new list of branches is published.



## Personal Paragraphs

F. R. J., Liverpool, 4th September: You may send us a fair supply—say 2,000 copies of the Essay Prospectus to start—and I will get them distributed at each meeting we address or our people attend.

J. H. M., Portsmouth, 6th September: I think the Journal (July-August) is everything that could be desired. The leading article did not require "J. P." to indicate the author. The "Mad Hatter Again" kept me laughing all the time I was reading it. It is as good as Charlie Chaplin. The Journal should be sent to every delegate to the Labour Party Conference. All through it is an excellent number. Send me three dozen copies.

C. E. N. S., Chester: I received particulars of your free Essay Competition by to-day's post. It is really wonderful how many men are seeing the justice of Henry George's teaching, and even blue-blooded Conservatives when kept to a narrow line of argument have to acknowledge the justice of it. Until the Taxation of Land Values is passed by Parliament and made the law of the land—until then will this country suffer from excessive unemployment.

A. E. L., Dorset, 9th September: I wish to thank you for the copies of *Land & Liberty* which have been sent me. I enclose postal order for 10s., and shall be grateful if you will send me a set of Henry George's books as advertised, and treat the balance as a subscription for *Land & Liberty*.

H. H. S., Brighton, 11th September: You will see in our Syllabus that we are having Mr W. R. Lester on "Unemployment and the Land." We are very pleased and grateful that Mr Madsen is willing to come along some time to address us. There is no reason why we should not be able to organize a big meeting for the purpose in our Institute.

A. M., Huddersfield, 11th September: The attitude of the British Association and the Trade Union Congress is the answer to those of our people who sometimes say that our policy will be accepted because all other ideas have failed. It will only be accepted when public opinion demands it.

William Wilson, Chief Librarian, Wallasey, 13th September: Your kind donation of books was reported at a meeting of the Books Sub-Committee, when I was instructed to convey to you an expression of their cordial thanks.

E. R., Liverpool, 13th September: On behalf of the Guild I am thanking you for the presentation of books you so kindly sent through for the Guild Library (Liverpool Co-operative Society Ltd., Women's Guild). They have all been taken out the first afternoon.

F. S., Yorks, 13th September: I have had a good read of *Land & Liberty*. The leader, The Mad Hatter, the personal paragraphs, the Macaulay letters and other matter from first to last, it is all very good, and equal to anything you have ever turned out. What a pity the Journal is not going out to a public by the hundred thousand.

S. V. J., Newcastle-on-Tyne, 13th September: I beg to acknowledge receipt of your circular letter and prospectus, and to stimulate interest in this neighbourhood I suggest that you might send prospectus to the following seven names.

S. D., Wexford, 14th September: Please forward sample copy of *Land & Liberty*. I enclose order for copy of *The Science of Political Economy*.

E. H. C., London, 14th September: I beg to acknowledge receipt of the four books you have kindly sent me to-day, and thank you for them.

Rev. R. D., Walton-on-Thames: I enclose order for the forthcoming *Science of Political Economy*. In these days the principles which the Foundation exists to disseminate should be brought insistently to public notice.

E. J., London, 14th September: Thank you very much for the interesting little papers you sent me from Australia (the new Australian Henry George Addresses). I like the way they are turned out: the print is so good and clear.

Headmaster, Wycliffe College, 19th September: Thank you for sending me details of the Henry George Prize Essays. If I get a chance of placing these suitably I will do so.

E. R. (Liverpool Co-op. Women's Guild), 14th September: On behalf of the Guild I am thanking you for the presentation books you so kindly sent for the Guild Library. They have

all been taken out the first afternoon. They are subjects that interest us all these days.

F. L. C., London, 19th September: The light grows brighter and brighter. I often wish I had the energy and opportunity to carry the torch of truth to the befogged minds of the leaders and the led. You are doing fine work and *Land & Liberty* is splendid. I wish I had the power to help more. I am going to place a dozen copies of *The Science* with likely students.

G. R., Letchworth, 19th September: I am enclosing order form for Henry George's *Science of Political Economy*. The subscription for the 1932 issues of *Land & Liberty* will be sent later. I am more keen on this Journal now than when I first started taking it.

Chief Librarian, Glasgow City Libraries, 19th September: If you care to send 20 copies of the prospectus giving particulars of your Prize Essay Competition, use will be made of them in our District Libraries. A note will be added in each case to show that the books recommended are available throughout our service.

E. M., Liverpool, 26th October: I was glad to receive a copy of *The Master Motive of Human Action* and congratulate you upon the reprint of an excellent pamphlet. I regret I can only increase your fund for wider distribution by a small sum.

Chairman, Eccles Co-op. Society, 20th September: I shall be glad if you can let me have 100 copies of the Essay Prospectus referred to in your circular.

A. W. D., Seaton Sluice, Northumberland, 21st September: I am booked up till nearly Christmas to speak at branches of the Women's Co-operative Guilds in this neighbourhood and will make a point of pushing our publications wherever I go and shall draw attention to the Essay Competition. Mr Skirrow is to be with us for the week 17th to 24th October.

Mrs G. Vale Branch, Women's Co-op. Guild, Liverpool, 21st September: Thank you for the four books by Henry George. Our members are all keenly interested. The books were all taken by members the same afternoon. I feel we can't know too much about this matter. I myself have heard many lectures off this subject and can see quite clearly what a lot depends on land values.

"Omega," Yorks, 20th September: I have just left a subscriber to *Land & Liberty*—an ex-Member of Parliament—and in conversation he suddenly broke off and told me what he thought of *Land & Liberty*, the current issue. He was most complimentary about it, and said that from beginning to end it was splendid, magnificent, etc. I gladly pass on this compliment.

Secretary of the National Adult School Union, London, 20th September: I am sending you a copy of the current issue of our "Adult School Year Book and Directory" which, as you will see, gives the names and addresses of Adult Schools and their secretaries throughout the country. I hope this may be of service to you in making your Essay Competition known.

E. N., Manchester, 21st September: Herewith please find list of names and addresses who may be interested in this great question. I would suggest that you send Essay Competition particulars that they may bring new supporters.

J. McL., British Columbia, sending \$1 for *Progress and Poverty* and *Social Problems*: These are good books and I would like to be a distributor of one million copies if it were possible, because they are, as I can see, truthful, educational and direct. Please give me an idea the price you sell in large amounts. Wishing you well.

R. E. U., Pa., U.S.A., in sending a copy of an American popular magazine *Liberty* containing the editorial on Henry George and his teaching: I am sure that some time trade and commerce will be as free between the nations of the world as it is now between Pennsylvania and California. Have enjoyed the July-August number of *Land & Liberty*.

A. C. C., Canada: Thank you for the Wall Card from Australia (Dr Edgar W. Culley's Wall Card entitled "What Shall it Matter?"). It is a fine thing, and I have shown it to many friends. It is another instance of work done by somebody because he regards it as the best work he can do in his time and in his conditions. Such work is beyond praise as the results of it are beyond estimate.

R. H. S., Kimberley, S.A.: In Kimberley I have never allowed the Taxation of Land Values to fall quite out of sight, and I know

## Personal Paragraphs

that several of our Councillors are interested almost to the point of action, the example of Johannesburg being a powerful influence. I am handing my brother the copy of *Progress and Poverty* you sent.

A. W., Jnr., Secretary of the journal *A Terra*, Rio de Janeiro: We are glad to join through your organization the International movement. We have received with special interest the bound volume of *Land & Liberty*, as well as the loose copies for 1931.

A. F., New Zealand, in sending a subscription and ordering literature: I most heartily thank you for the "Hands Over the Seas" exquisite greeting. I am intensely interested in the great work in your land. With best wishes for you and your co-workers.

J. B., Buenos Aires: Having noticed a certain demand for Henry George's books among the English-speaking people of this country, we should be greatly obliged if you would send us some collections of same. The sale would be made for the benefit of the Single-Tax propaganda, and the amount which you charge us for the books which you send we will remit as soon as they are sold.

S. T., Portsmouth, 22nd September: I regret I cannot retain all the knowledge I gather from *Land & Liberty*, but I continue to read it for the satisfaction I derive at the moment which strengthens my lasting conviction that all over the civilized world the cause goes marching on. I can take quite a lot of the slips advertising the Essay Competition.

J. C., Yorks, 27th September: The cause will soon be the burning question again—especially the Free Trade side of it. Let me thank you for the books you kindly sent for N. They arrived after the happy couple had departed for a fortnight's cruise. I can assure you they will appreciate your gifts very much indeed. The happy couple, Miss Nellie Crabtree and Mr Harry S. Jackson, were featured in two pleasing pictures—in the grounds of West Riddlesden Hall, the home of the bride as they left the New Jerusalem Church, Keighley, after their wedding—appearing in the *Keighley News*, 1st October.

A. R. H., Walsall Co-operative Comrades Circle, 23rd September: Please send me a supply of your prospectus for the Henry George Essay Competition. Our circle is comprised of young people between the ages of 16 years and 25 years. Our average attendance is 30 members. Please let me have some as soon as possible because I am sure this competition will interest our members.

B. E. W., Manchester, 26th September, in sending 6s. 9d. for Set C of the books by Henry George, in red cloth, with the six Addresses; I would like also a specimen copy of *Land & Liberty*.

E. M., Liverpool, 27th September: With regard to your circular please have sent to me 30 copies each of the Literature relating to the Essay Competition and *The Science of Political Economy*.

E. D., Cardiff, 27th September ordering 20 copies of *The Science of Political Economy*: I met one of our members the other day (a trade unionist organizer) and your ears would have burned had you known of the greatly appreciative remarks he made as to the soundness and value of the Journal. In its sphere, politico-economic, his view was that it held the leading place.

E. F., Cheshire, 27th September: Accidentally the circular about the Essay and the Henry George Foundation came into my hands. Have you a book of the life of this writer that you would very kindly lend me, before commencing to study him? I feel I want to "know the man" a bit first. I will take great care of the book. Unfortunately I cannot pay for it, being penniless for the last four months.

Mrs A. C., Petercoulter, 27th September: I shall certainly do what I can to make your Prospectus, etc., known here. I enclose 6d. in stamps, for which you might send me six Addresses by Henry George.

Higher Blackley Liberal Club, Lancs, 28th September: Please send about one dozen copies of your Essay Prospectus for distribution.

"Crusader," Liverpool, 28th September: I have had a very busy day—letter to local newspaper, speech at 3 p.m.; League meeting at 8 p.m. I spoke also at Everton Women's Co-op. last night. Sold 12 *The Crime of Poverty*, and 12 *Thou Shalt not Steal*. Good attendance and very interested in Essay Prospectus which I supplied to each member. Will you please send to Mrs R. the four books as advertised.

C. S., Oregon: It was good news to me to learn that the United Committee for Taxation of Land Values is going to publish George's *Science of Political Economy*. Enclosed is cheque for one copy. I think a school of economics should be established and this book used as a text book, supplemented by *Progress and Poverty* and *The Life of Henry George*.

H. S. B., New York City: Thank you for your letter of 8th July. You may be interested in two documents mailed to you under separate cover, if you have not already seen them. One of these is a copy of a talk which I gave before the annual meeting of the Westchester County Planning Federation, and the other is a Report of a Sub-Committee of the American Institute of Architects to their Convention in April.

H. C. J., Cal.: It would have been nice to think Mark Twain wrote *The Story of Archimedes*, but regardless of who the author may have been, it's still an outstanding piece of literature. *Monopoly Gulch*, like *Archimedes*, emphasizes an absurdity; while *The Single Tax—What it is and Why we Urge it* emphasizes a way out. I shall be glad to distribute either of "combinations" under discussion. Please forward me 200 copies. With best wishes to you and your able assistants.

W. G. S., Pa., U.S.A.: I simply want you to keep up the good work you have been doing—with such a chance of practical accomplishment as I see no present signs of here. There is a background of organised understanding with you that is bound to count; and I am neither pessimistic or discouraged because of recurring setbacks, feeling sure of eventual acceptance of the truth, and hoping we may live to see something of it. I believe you are working nobly in the most promising field and am glad to help you.

E. I. S. H., Queensland, acknowledging receipt of £5 as one of the Prize Essayists for the current year: I must not fail to express my own and the gratitude of the Queensland Branch of the Henry George League for the assistance we have received in the way of Georgean books, without which we would be almost helpless.

"Beta," Lancashire, 1st October: Keep cheery, in spite of the politicians. Your time will come.

J. R., Lancs, 1st October: In *Land & Liberty* I noticed under the Personal Paragraphs that you have a correspondent in Rossendale, Lancs. I wish to get in touch with him to see if I could induce him to give a Paper to a Debating Society. I feel sure a Paper on questions dealt with by Henry George would be very helpful to friends and myself who as working men are interested in the movement. It is only during the last seven or eight months I have become a reader of your interesting and instructive magazine, and I look forward to the issue.

A. M. G., Portsmouth, 2nd October: I enclose 32s. for a further 16 copies of *The Science of Political Economy* (in addition to the six previously paid for), making a total of 22 copies. I am hoping that Mr Madsen will be able to select one of our Lectures and come down to deliver it; and Mr Verinder as well. Mr Lester is taking the first and second.

J. L. H. (Clitheroe Henry George Group), 4th October: We trust the *Science of Political Economy* will be along very soon now, as our Winter Classes have begun and we are anxious to get into this great work which we hope will be of great benefit to us and to our work in this direction generally.

Land Valuer in the Georgian Sense, 4th October: Kindly forward to the following name and address a 52nd Anniversary edition of *Progress and Poverty*, also one or two pamphlets to quicken the understanding of the land question. This friend is returning to the Western States of America, so please forward by return.

W. R. S., Oslo, 5th October, in sending a cheque for 27 copies of *The Science of Political Economy*, together with order for *Progress and Poverty*, *Social Problems*, *Condition of Labour*, and *Protection or Free Trade*: *Land & Liberty* is an unceasing source of pleasure to me, and I always look much forward to its arrival. The books are for colleagues here and should prove useful publicity that may perhaps lead to further developments. I should like to have a chance to put in some definite work that might show results. With kind regards.

E. E. T. S., California, 5th October: It was courteous of you to send me a copy of that handy little pocket volume (*Gems from Henry George*) containing excerpts from Henry George's writings, and I shall take great pleasure in owning the book and keeping it close at hand for reference. It seems to be an excellently chosen and arranged compendium, putting the

## Personal Paragraphs

master's words and plans and aims in a most readable and understandable form for the average reader.

The Director of Education, Denbighshire Education Authority, 6th October: Adverting to your circular dated September, I will be glad if you will send copies of your Essay Prospectus to the following names—these being names of 15 schools in the County of Denbighshire.

C. R., Princes Park, Liverpool Women's Co-op Guild, 6th October: On behalf of our Guild we wish to thank you for the books you have sent and the speakers you have arranged to address us on your subject.

A. H., Fife, 9th October: I have read *The Science of Political Economy* but passed on my copy long ago. To re-read it will be a treat. So it is 25 years since the United Committee was formed. They have been wonderful and terrible years, but a great work has been done for the cause. The last issue of *Land & Liberty* shows that you have lost none of your skill and cunning. I am delighted to hear of the young men that are gathering about the movement beside you. Liberty is in need of soldiers to-day as much as in past time. I wish I could be present at your Henry George Anniversary Dinner.

T. C., Barnsley, 10th October: Will you kindly favour me with a specimen copy of the journal of your movement? I have read with interest your pamphlet *The Story of My Dictatorship* by L. H. Berens. If you would send me a list of your publications I should be pleased.

S. H., Maryland, 12th October: That Digger book is interesting. I was able to make an interesting reference to it at a meeting in the oldest Quaker house in America at Easton, Maryland, where William Penn and other ancient worthies have attended.

(The book here mentioned is the *Digger Movement in the Days of the Commonwealth*—Gerrard Winstanley's Utopia, by Lewis H. Berens, published in 1906. A few copies are available at the United Committee offices, price 2s. 6d. post free.)

R. C., S. Lanes., 15th October: The copies of lectures and addresses, which you enclosed, will be very useful to pass on to persons who are interested in the subject. Please note, *special*, that I have obtained another order for a copy of *Science of Political Economy*. This will make my order now for seven copies to be sent in one parcel.

A. H. P., Cambridge, 16th October: Please send me 24 copies of the little pamphlet *The Master Motive of Human Action* (George Lamb Memorial edition). It may in many cases prove to be the very thing needed to arouse genuine interest in Henry George's writings, perhaps especially so in persons of noble character. Please send me also two copies of *The Science of Political Economy*.

J. H., Portsmouth, 17th October: I have written to Miss Lamb congratulating her on the issue of the pamphlet *The Master Motive of Human Action*. I think it should be widely circulated. Enclosed is 6s. for 100 copies, and 4s. for the last parcel of *Land & Liberty*. There was a good attendance at the opening lecture of our Economic Class. Mr. Lester gave a very fine address, and has agreed to deliver the second lecture. Most of those present were unknown to us.

B. A. L., London: I like this number of *L. & L.* (July-August). Its contents are good reading.

E. J. B., Bristol: I am always keeping before me the idea of pushing the land question. Bristol is a very scattered place and makes it very difficult in getting about. Thanks for the list you sent. I have got a fair number of fixtures for Lectures. I have put Henry George's books on the Suggestion List at the Central Library with your address as publishers for ordering. Send me *The Science of Political Economy* when ready.

A. R. M., Roxburgh: Did you note Baldwin's declaration in Parliament on 23rd June: "You have the curious phenomenon that in spite of what is happening in the world, volume of production in this country is increasing and at the same time Unemployment is increasing." That there is greater production with less men at work. That is a problem that will have to be met."

J. H. M., Dundee: This month's *Land & Liberty* is very fine. I have passed my copy on already to a friend.

A. H., Lancashire: Please send me 100 copies of the *Master Motive*; it should make new readers of *Progress and Poverty*.

E. M. G., Manchester, 26th October, in sending for a dozen copies of the *Master Motive*: I am glad to have a copy of the George Lamb Memorial Pamphlet which I consider an excellent and most useful piece of work.

G. M., Nottingham: Yours of the 23rd. You may call on me at any time to help in Press correspondence, and if there are any supporters of our policy in this area I shall be not only pleased, but eager to get into touch with them. Do not be afraid of giving my name and address to anybody if it will help. Thanking you for your interest in a "lonely outpost."

The Librarian of the Carnegie Library, Great Crosby, Lanes., acknowledges receipt of donation of Henry George's books, and expresses his thanks.

W. R., Glasgow: Have you any copies left of the little book of poems entitled *Songs of Freedom*? I am asked for a copy of this, Morrison Davidson's works, and *Our Old Nobility*, by Howard Evans. Can any readers say where copies of these books can be had?

W. W., Millom: We have commenced a W. E. A. Class here to study *Social and Industrial Problems of Everyday Life*. If you care to send about three dozen copies of your circulars I will have them distributed among the students.

G. L., Vancouver (in sending two subscriptions to *Land & Liberty*): I am anxious to secure a few copies of *The Story of My Dictatorship*, in the ordinary paper binding.

R. P., Goldsmith's Librarian, University of London, 25th October: I beg to acknowledge with many thanks the three volumes of *Land & Liberty* which you have so kindly presented to the University of London Library. I shall be very glad to receive future volumes if you will be so good as to send them. I have posted the Prospectus of your Essay Competition on the Library notice-board as you suggest.

W. C. B., Letchworth, 25th October: I thank you for your letter of 20th instant, together with particulars of your Essay Competition. The Prospectus has been posted on the notice-board, and I hope some of our students will be interested. If further copies of the Prospectus are required I will write you again.

Single Taxer, Fife, 31st October: I agree, there is only one thing to be done—maintain the agitation. And I notice rather markedly of late that people who would not listen to bottom principles being searched out are more prone to hear what the man who has faith in some way out of the *impasse* has to say. Friends of mine who hoped for great results from "National Government" and from "Tariffs" are seriously perturbed at their "no effect" or bad effect. There will be a big swing of the pendulum sooner or later, and as you say, sentiment for tax of land values must be in evidence otherwise it will be overlooked.

D. C., Brighton: What a splendid number July-August *Land & Liberty* is. What I particularly liked this time was the leader. It is the best thing I have seen for a long time. It is written with such vigour, and there's a swing about it which is often missing in an economic argument.

F. S., Northumberland: By all means send a few of both the current issue of *Land & Liberty* and your membership slips. The other literature which you sent me some time ago is being appreciated, and my only regret is that unemployment is so rampant in the north as to place the sale of literature beyond possibility. There are something like 450 male workers resident in this village (Seaton Sluice) and certainly not more than about three dozen men are in regular employment. From every direction one hears only of hardship and despair with not one to help another.

C. E. C., Worcester, in sending for copies of George's works for self and a friend in New Zealand: With best wishes for the success of your great work for liberty.

Mrs J. G., Liverpool: I received your books this morning. They will be of great value to the Great Crosby Women's Guild for we are only two years old this month. Thanking you very much.

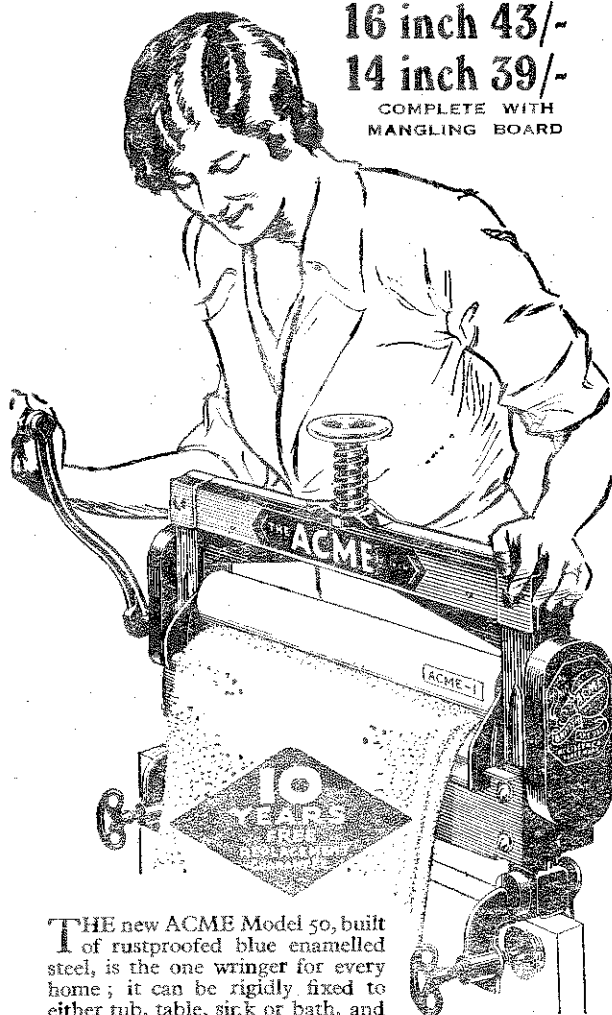
W. E. B. (a new reader of *Land & Liberty*): The Henry George doctrine seems to me so pure and logical that I believe what you say to be true; for if it were not the tax would again fall on Capital and Labour and leave the landlord in possession of his rents.

# THE NEW ACME WRINGER

16 inch 43/-

14 inch 39/-

COMPLETE WITH  
MANGLING BOARD



**T**HE new ACME Model 50, built of rustproofed blue enamelled steel, is the one wringer for every home; it can be rigidly fixed to either tub, table, sink or bath, and put away on a shelf after use.

And what a wonderful wringer it is. Everything from baby's bib to a blanket comes through the pure rubber rollers so much easier, quicker and drier, and infinitely cleaner, too, because all the clinging particles of dirt that rinsing cannot dislodge are removed by the strong, elastic pressure of the extra thick rollers.

Furthermore, the ACME saves purposeless labour. It prevents splashing and does not break buttons or fasteners. Choose an ACME; it carries a ten years free replacement guarantee and will last a lifetime.

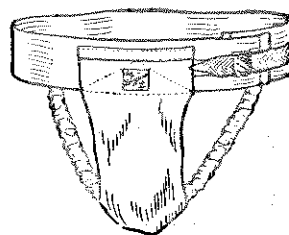
**FREE CHOICE OF FIXTURES**—to fix the ACME on either tub, table, sink or bath.

Packed with the wringer are the standard tub and table clamps which have made the ACME famous as a portable wringer.

Should these standard clamps be unsuitable, you have free choice from seven alternative fixtures, any one of which your Retailer will supply free of charge in exchange for the unused standard clamps.

**ENTIRELY BRITISH MADE BY  
ACME WRINGERS LTD.  
DAVID STREET, GLASGOW, S.E.**

# NEW FREEDOM AND COMFORT FOR MEN



*A definite advance  
upon the old  
suspensory bandages*

Doctors agree that the vital organs of man need adequate support and protection from strain as he reaches maturity.

The "Litesome" Body Belt and Supporter gives this protection as no other article can. It is an excellent safeguard against rupture and varicocele, and imparts a new comfort and braced-up feeling.

No less than three thousand doctors have testified to the merits of the "Litesome" Belt, which is worn by men in all parts of the world.

It is adjustable and outlasts six suspensory bandages; unlike these out-of-date articles, which are quickly destroyed by washing, it is specially made to be washable and unshrinkable.

Beautifully made of woven materials of feather-weight softness and lightness.

In 2 sizes: 28 in. to 34 in. waist and 34 in. to 40 in. waist.

Obtainable at all Boots' Branches, Taylors Drug Co., Harrods, Timothy White's, Gamages, Sports Outfitters, Chemists, etc., or, if any difficulty, post free from makers, in plain package.

**PRICE  
4/6**

**"LITESOME"  
BODY BELT & SUPPORTER**

**FRED HURTLEY, LTD.,  
Hosiery Manufacturers, Keighley, Yorks.**