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and his wages would never fall below the earnings of self-employed people. In such free conditions there would be no involuntary employment with its depressing effect on wages. This fundamental truth was stated by Henry George thus:-

"The natural right which each man has, is not that of demanding employment or wages from another man, but that of employing himself - that of applying by his own labour to the inexhaustible storehouse which the Creator has provided in the land for all men. Were that storehouse open . . . the natural demand for labour would keep pace with the supply; the man who sold labour and the man who bought it would become free exchangers for mutual advantage, and all cause for dispute between workman and employer would be gone. For then, all being free to employ themselves, the mere opportunity to labour would cease to seem a boon; and since no-one would work for another for less, all things considered, than he could earn by working for himself, wages would necessarily rise to their full value, and the relations of workman and employer be regulated by mutual interest and convenience."

Conditions such as those described above will be only an idle dream if nothing is done to make them realities. There are millions of acres of self-employment-possibilities lying idle in town and country which could be made available by means of the Taxation of Land Values and the Untaxing of Labour and its products.

THE ACME OF FOLLY The following example of the present vicious and stupid taxation system was reported in the "News Chronicle." It gives some indication of the lengths to which modern British governments have gone in destroying freedom and setting up a totalitarian system of government in this country. It also seems to show the mental condition of politicians and officials driven to desperation in their search for public revenues while obstinately refusing to appropriate the communally-created values of land for financing the public services. Lack of space prevents the quoting of similar examples of a stupid system.

"William Fell, a Birmingham electrician, took two years to build himself a dulcimer. A thick official envelope arrived at his home from the Customs authorities demanding payment of purchase-tax from him as a "manufacturer of dulcimers." In the envelope was an 87-page book on products subject to purchase-tax, a 27-page book containing further lists, and a pamphlet called "Determination of wholesale value." Mr. Fell only wanted to make one dulcimer for himself."

It has been said that Parliament reflects the intelligence of the electors. Can this be true?

33 Chatsworth Rd.
Hazel Grove

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a year.

THE PORCUP

(WITH SOME TELLING POINTS)

No. 231

Nov. 1931

THE NEXT DEPRESSION

"The seeds of the next depression sown and sprouting," says "Progressive Australian journal. The "seeds" are high prices for land. The writer shows how this unsuspected cause of periodical depression is operating. He proceeds: "The rapid rise in land-values is the direct cause which makes the return of depression in the years certain. . . . Depressions are simply the effects of land rising beyond the point at which the purchaser can make his holding meet the costs and yield him a bare living. When this point is passed the producer goes out and joins those clamouring for work in the cities. In 1925 to 1930 some 30,000 farmers in Victoria abandoned their holdings due to this cause. They had previously been content with demand for the products of other industries. That demand was curtailed, and secondary industries previously sustained had to retrench. Employees were put off, and to these the ex-farmers competing for employment. The price of land was inflated to line up with the high world prices for wheat and other goods. These were a temporary post-war condition, and when prices fell with return of former producing countries to normal, those who had bought farms at high prices were in a bad way. The first effect of the inflated land prices attacked the farmer. The next stage attacked those urban home-owners who had bought at high prices. These people were in employment mainly in the service industries. Many thousands were rendered unemployed and had to abandon their equity in their homes. Others still in employment had their incomes curtailed. Where their commitments were small, they too were in difficulty. Only as land prices declined to levels at which economic production again became possible did we emerge from that depression. It was in the simultaneous tying-up of world trade with tariffs and other restrictions, but essentially it was a land depression."

It is capable of learning from experience he should by
 eliminate the evil effects of the ancient wrong of the Land Mon-
 apoly. This is the root cause of all economic ills. Economic
 freedom and prosperity can be achieved by means of Land Values
 taxation and free trade, accompanied by the un-taxing of homes
 and industry of all kinds.

THE ALTERNATIVE TO FREEDOM

It has been said that the people best
 governed are those who are governed
 least, but that can be true only of people who possess economic
 freedom - who enjoy equality of opportunity. Attempts to abolish
 poverty and its effects by governmental controls and regulations
 can accomplish nothing better than a redistribution of poverty and
 further curtailments of freedom. This truth is being demonstrated
 in Britain to-day. The process is described by Henry George in
 "Progress & Poverty" as "the substitution of Governmental direction
 for the play of individual action, and the attempt to secure by
 restriction what can better be secured by freedom." He goes on to
 say: "It is evident that whatever savours of regulation and res-
 triction is in itself bad and should not be resorted to if any
 other mode of accomplishing the same end presents itself."

In the so-called welfare state poverty has been nationalised;
 instead of abolishing the evil, it has been alleviated - at the
 expense of freedom. The Town & Country Planning Act is an example
 of these wrong methods. This measure imposes restrictions and
 charges which make access to land more difficult and costly than
 it was under free rule. And its authors imagine it has solved the
 land problem!

The absurd lengths to which restrictive measures can be car-
 ried may be judged by the following: At a meeting in June of the
 North Western Electricity Consultative Council, Alderman Pattinson
 told the following story - Before six poles could be erected to
 carry electricity to a farm in the lake district, various authori-
 ties had to be consulted after the consent of the landowners over
 whose property the line had to be carried had been obtained. Noti-
 ces were served on the local authority, the County Council, the
 Postmaster General, the Town and Country Planning Authorities, and
 the National Parks Commission. Then the Minister of Fuel had to
 get in touch with the Air Ministry, the Ministry of Agriculture
 and Fisheries, the War Office, the Ministry of Works, and the
 Forestry Commission. The Council for the Preservation of Rural
 England and the Friends of the Lake District also had the right
 to make representations, and if the line happened to go near a
 railway, notice had to be given to the Railway Executive. If it

Henry George not only shows that economic freedom is the
 solution of social problems, but he outlined the policy by
 which it can be achieved. It is the un-taxing of industry and homes
 yielding public revenue from a new source - Land Values Tax
 This policy would make access to land easy by cheapening it
 that would stimulate the demand for labour in town and coun-
 try. The taxation and Rating of Land Values is a practical
 for the abolition of involuntary poverty and the emancipation
 the masses everywhere. Its defect which has so long delayed
 adoption is that it is too simple for economists and political
 the people will win freedom when they deserve to be free - if
 they mind their own business instead of leaving it to others.

SLAVISH TYRANNY

A bold defence of freedom was made by Mr. I.
 Gunter, Labour M.P. for Doncaster when add-
 ing a meeting in August. He said Trade Unions were capable
 using power ruthlessly and denying the very essence of freedom.
 He defended the right of the individual to be obedient to what
 he believed to be the truth, even if his belief brought him into
 conflict with a Trade Union.

Victims of tyranny sometimes become tyrants, and there
 abundant evidence of the power possessed by Trade Unions, be-
 used tyrannically in their efforts to improve their members'
 tions. Such collective actions reflect the spirit of the ty-
 unionists, or of a majority of them, and this is seen in the
 coal strikes and refusals to work with men who are not membe-
 a particular union. This may be a natural reaction from the
 endured tyranny and injustice of days when trade unions were
 and Governments unsympathetic. It is nevertheless stupid and
 destructive. The solution of all the problems of employment
 and working conditions is in freedom, and to the extent that
 Unions, or break-away unionists, destroy freedom, they are the

Meaning of Economic Freedom
 No man is economically free unless the alternative of s-
 employment is open to him. He may have a good job and receive
 he considers a good wage, but unless self-employment is avail-
 his livelihood depends on the goodwill or convenience of others
 he is not a free man. Opportunity to employ himself would in
 economically free, whether he worked for himself or an employer