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mpson,

board column December 9) to the use of animal feed- nity. Is there ertant factor garding milk crushing of ain meal re- tion of large l which must kets and the l must be in ilk products. i in consump- ill cause U.S. h to grain ot more fac- than those lson?

heim, MP

ome counter- o the report Derbyshire cerning rate nment sup-

four years, its support, nt to Derby- cil has in- to £180.9m. over that

period is largely the result of the council's overspending.

It is only in the past year that the Government has set targets for local authority expenditure in an attempt to curb excessive overspending. The financial penalty incurred last year by the council involved a withholding of approximately 4 per cent of the government grant. Rates, however, have risen by 40 per cent over the past two years at a time when inflation has fallen to approxi- mately 5 per cent.

We would all like to increase services but the council is irresponsible in doing so when it does not have the means with- out penalising the ratepayers. It is totally irresponsible of the council to overspend, often on unnecessary projects, hand the cost of an extravagant spending spree on to the ratepayers and subsequently blame the Govern- ment.

Phillip Oppenheim,
House of Commons, SW1.

Monopoly

From the President,
Henry George Institute

Sir,—This is in reference to the letter in your November 18 issue from Victor H. Watson, chairman of John Waddington, concerning the game Monopoly.

Mr Watson refers to a letter from Henry Law in your October 29 issue stating that Monopoly derived from an earlier game, the Landlord's Game, invented by Elizabeth Magie Phillips, a follower of Henry George, in order to teach single tax principles. Mr Wat- son says that "Mr Law has got it wrong."

No, Mr Law has not got it wrong. After a long legal pro- ceeding, it has been decided that the above is exactly the case. Mr Watson makes much of the fact that the so-called "inventor," Charles Darrow, produced a little variation on the Landlord's Game and there-

fore deserves all the honour (and, we must add, all the money he got from the game).

Mr Darrow did say he in- vented the game and gave no credit to Mrs Phillips, from whom he learned the game; Parker Bros did feature Mr Darrow as the inventor, and her name was never mentioned, even after the truth was learned. The game invented by Mrs Phillips was played by many persons, and many varia- tions were introduced, includ- ing some by Mrs Phillips her- self.

It is too late for Elizabeth Magie Phillips to profit from the game. Let her have at least a little credit from those who are making millions on it.

Robert Clancy,
Henry George Institute,
5, East 44th Street,
New York, NY 10017

Speed

From Mr J. Harrington

Sir,—The trouble with speed limits (Stuart Marshall, Decem- ber 10) is that they have been set with a "cry wolf" mentality. The arbitrary limit on so many roads is so clearly far below the speed that can safely be driven (in good weather and road con- ditions) that motorists continue to ignore speed limits when they are set for safety: ie, in locations where road conditions or likelihood of pedestrians make them maximum safe speeds.

If speeds outside built-up areas were set with a clear choice of safety (ie, speeds 10 mph faster are clearly dan- gerous) then motorists would recognise the value of obeying them—with a resultant drop in accidents, and a lot of satisfac- tion from being able to drive on stretches of motorway at safe speeds of 100 mph or more.

J. R. Harrington,
P.O. Box 746,
General Post Office,
New York, NY 10001.

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