

Now suppose that every law, agreement, limitation or restriction which now helps to keep wages above the competitive level were abolished and that all "relief" were also abolished, so that everyone in order to live must work for whatever he can get. What would happen? Wages would go down, way down. And employers would all be making big profits. Exploitation, many would say. But what would happen next? New employers would appear, wanting a share of the big profits. And all employers would want more workers in order to make more money. But they would all be at work already. The increased demand for labor would inevitably bring a rise in wages. At the same time increase in production would bring prices down, until checked by the rise in wages.

Under such conditions, is it reasonable to suppose that labor would get only the 30 or 40 billions that it does now which would be less than a third of the increased amount produced. Such a result would be impossible. Beyond a doubt, labor's share would be about twice that. The free interplay of economic forces would insure such a result. In short, laborers, employers and everyone else would be about twice as well off as they are now. There would no doubt be more millionaires. But who cares, if we are all more prosperous? Investigation will show that few millionaires have taken their millions with them to the next world.

It is true that with land values still in private hands the producers' share will still be less than it should be. But, as Harry Gunnison Brown has shown, our land system alone does not prevent prosperity. Though the landowners get 10 or 15 billions they should not have, they must spend it for something, if not for the same things that wage-earners would buy. Production and prosperity would continue so long as labor prices, like commodity prices, could respond freely to fluctuations in supply and demand.

On the other hand, could even the Single Tax bring permanent prosperity if labor conditions remain as at present? Is there any reason to believe that organized labor would not demand more and more and force prices up if allowed to monopolize the labor market? Perhaps it is fortunate that the Single Tax has not been adopted, under present conditions. The more immediate need is the abolition of the power of organized labor and their sympathizers to prevent the natural operation of natural law in the field of labor. Mr. Nock has pointed out the unfortunate result of Henry George's alliance with the United Labor party. And Mr. Beckwith points out the unfortunate result of the recent California proposal being associated with the labor movement. But it is not enough to simply be free from such alliances. We must by word and deed oppose those forces whose interference with economic freedom is more harmful than is that resulting from the private appropriation of rent. This

means that we should demand the prevention, by force if necessary, of sit-down strikes and other illegal acts of labor organizations, should encourage and protect those who take jobs vacated by strikers, and should demand the abolition of outrageously unjust labor legislation, in the Wagner law and elsewhere, and should use non-union-made commodities whenever possible.

Our country and the world has suffered long enough from attempts to prevent the operation of economic law, attempts made alike by the so-called "friends of labor" and by the so-called, or rather self-called "economists" whose knowledge of economics is limited to a knowledge of some of the unimportant details of that science based upon no comprehension of its fundamental principles.

Those who truly understand economics know that the efforts of this class of political leaders to lead the way to a better life have only resulted in leading us into a deeper mire of depression, and that the so-called "friends of labor" are in reality the worst enemies of the laborers themselves as well as of society in general.

Those who believe in the doctrines of Henry George cannot fail to see this situation clearly and realize its critical nature. If we are consistent, and if we wish the Single Tax principle to be effective for good, we must fight for economic freedom in every phase of economic life.

RAY ROBSON.

Economics vs. Atheism

By MINNIE G. ADAMS

THE religious issue projected into any organization soon transforms it into a mad-house of whirling, howling lunatics. The Georgeist movement would be no exception if it considered economics other than a science, but the atheist establishes his position upon a foundation, economically speaking, which deserves analysis and consideration.

The so-called Christian nations, having adopted the old Roman system of land tenure have found it expedient to maintain the clergy for the purpose of convincing enslaved humanity that destitution is brought about by *sin* though the certified list of sins is common to both rich and poor alike. Persecution ceased when emphasis was shifted from social justice to eternal damnation.

Religious practice includes a huge round of social affairs—belonging to this and that club or society which gives diligent study to legions of isms, ologies and doxies instead of social and economic problems which eventually determine Christian destiny.

Programmes relating to share croppers and tenant farmers are solaced by harmless platitudes or insistence that God deliver them, ignoring the lesson in the reprimand

by the fabled fox to the goat—"If you had had brains like you have beard, you'd have looked before you leaped into the well."

There exists a continual struggle to drag the camel through the needle's eye to say nothing of straining at gnats and swallowing camels. It scarcely occurs to the poor dupes that the Astorbilts in the congregation aren't any less wicked than themselves but that their presence is necessary to lend realism to the farce.

There should be a clear-cut distinction between Christianity and religion. Christianity is of God and desires that all God's creatures should have free access to nature's bounty in a world designed for the development of both body and soul. Religion is of the devil and designed to perpetuate the privileged class while labor, of whatever kindred, nation or tongue is systematically robbed of its just deserts to the tune of forbearance, charity and hell-fire.

It is not only necessary to recognize the author of religion but his progeny should likewise be properly identified. Certain monopolistic practices have long been recognized and called by their right names but people still pour in their gold and bow themselves before "calves" having the same sinister and devastating influence beneath a more paternalistic guise.

Political parties which are a combination of privileged interests partially divided by partisan and economic conditions represent the "first born." Those who let Christianity interfere (and few do) with "party loyalty" are anathema.

Education is a lusty offspring spawned for the purpose previously served by the Church. Privileged interests dictate the curricula saying in substance to the school system: "Teach the rabble what we want them to know and no more." A child exposed for years to endless frivolity window-dressed with a few really informative subjects invariably becomes an A-1 "yes-man" looking for a soft job, loafing or worse.

One cannot so much as marry without a report on the number of schools and colleges attended and his having belonged to the Etta Betta Pie.

Not content with an octopus grip upon school officialdom, education spreads its tentacles to encircle all its beneficiaries into Parent-Teacher Associations. All teachers necessarily belong and many parents belong who are misled by a few local benefits and never suspect that its main excuse for existence is to initiate and perpetuate such infamous monstrosities as the sales tax.

There are many other groups that interest themselves in the health, recreation and morals of the down-trodden masses and align themselves with the educational oligarchy at the ballot box to assure their continuity while destitution increases its intensity and revolutionary influences become more firmly entrenched.

It has not always been that so much could truthfully be said of our country and its many institutions. They are still helpful in isolated instances after the manner of keeping an ambulance down in the valley to give first aid to one who has fallen off a cliff that needed a fence.

It has become so because the system was built upon a rotten foundation, private ownership of natural resources, and we have come to the end of the frontier.

Mere human resources can never prevail against the existing pall of economic ignorance. The nation will succumb to anarchy and atheism unless Christians "Come out from among them—and touch not the unclean thing."

Personally, the one desire of my heart is that the Savior return even while I am in the flesh—that I may witness the deliverance of humanity from the bondage of poverty and its attendant evils. To me, that will constitute the millennium.

"Guaranteed" Mortgage Certificates

A SUCKER GAME WHICH HGSSS STUDENTS
CAN INSTANTLY SPOT

A MORTGAGE foreclosure sale was held in the Real Estate Auction Sales Room on Vesey Street in New York City on April 26, 1939. A parcel of land 40 by 75 feet, on which stood a modern 22-story business structure was offered for sale. The story connected with the rise and fall of this piece of land should be of interest, not only to Georgeists, but to many another mortal, who, in his weakness to gain "wealth" permits himself to be ensnared and deluded. Such a mortal is entitled even to our sympathy; had he known better, he would have had much less to weep about. Not until *we* seek him out and tell him what it is *all* about, not till then will *he* know how to keep out.

But, back to our story. George W. Ellis, an aged, eccentric New York lawyer owned a plot of ground situated on the south-east corner of Seventh Avenue and Thirty-seventh Street, in the heart of the New York garment center, popularly so known because of the great many garment manufacturers centered in that area. On this plot of ground stood two very old and dilapidated 4-story buildings, which, as buildings, were quite worthless and in fact had been unoccupied for years. They were an eye-sore amidst a busy neighborhood, where even in the great hustle of life, people would gaze upon the unsightly seediness of such structures still remaining on such a valuable site.

Broker after broker, from time to time approached "Old" Ellis with all sorts of propositions to induce him to dispose of the property. Ellis, when in the mood, would listen to the brokers quite frigidly, saying very