

well-situated lots for the location of department stores, lunch rooms, banks, lawyer's offices, etc., necessary to supply near-at-hand the requirements of those who live there to serve the non-sea-coast sections.

Surely, the rent of land is in a very peculiar sense socially produced rather than individually earned, and ought to be sharply distinguished in thought from interest on capital produced by individuals.

The distinction between interest on capital—an earned income—and rent on land—an unearned income—is slurred over by socialists. They, as a rule, class both together. They would abolish both as private incomes. But our most conservative citizens, though many of them would be shocked and perhaps angered to be classed with the socialists, seem to share in some degree the socialists' notion. They, also, see no distinction between interest on capital brought into existence by work and thrift, and rent from sites made valuable by community development. They also see no essential difference between land and capital. Although they would not abolish private income from either, they insist on taxing the income from both—and at equal rates. Both socialists and conservatives are, in regard to their inability to distinguish between land and capital, like the farmer's new hired man who, sent to drive in the sheep, spent several hours at the task. Pointing to a little animal in the pen with the sheep, the farmer asked: "What's that Jack-rabbit doing in here?" "Oh, is that a Jack-rabbit?" said the new man. "Why, that's the little fellow that gave me all the trouble."

If we were not blinded by a prejudice which will not let us see facts, we could not help appreciating the logic of taxing land values more and other values less. Why should we penalize saving? Why should we levy a higher tax on one who improves his land than on one who holds his land idle? Why should we levy as high a tax on income from labor and capital as on income produced by the presence of the community?

[EDITORIAL NOTE: The second and concluding part of Prof. Brown's address will appear in next issue of LAND AND FREEDOM.]

Resolutions Adopted by the Henry George Congress

AFFIRMATION OF PRINCIPLES

The Third Annual Congress of the Henry George Foundation reiterates its faith in the principles of Henry George, and pledges itself to continue every effort to instill into popular apprehension, and make effective in legislation, the taking for public purposes of economic rent, (the rental value of land), and the removal of all obstructions to production and commerce.

We hold that all men are born free and equal, with reference to the use of the earth; that the earth is the birth-right of mankind; and that just conditions can only be

established among men and their inalienable right to the earth conserved, by the collection for government expenses of the annual rental value of all land. And we contend that this will do away with unemployment and industrial depressions, and all the consequences following in their train.

While pursuing such activities of education as opportunity offers, we will urge the adoption of laws that will take for the community these communal values, especially in such notable instances as Boulder Dam and Mississippi Flood Control.

We appreciate fully the devoted labor of our fellow workers throughout the world, that of our English comrades of all shades of opinion, and of our fellow countrymen of the Pittsburgh Plan, the Manufacturers and Merchants' Federal Tax League, the Commonwealth Land Party, the Enclavial Movement, and of each working along the lines which seem best for the success of our common cause.

THE BRIAND-KELLOGG TREATY

Whereas the recently signed Briand-Kellogg Treaty proposing the renunciation of war and the settlement of international disputes by pacific means is now attracting serious public attention throughout the world, and is in some quarters hailed as an advanced step in the direction of permanent world peace, this convention of the Henry George Foundation of America feels moved to place on record a statement of its position on this vital subject.

We have not been able to discover in this much-heralded treaty any but the most timid approach to the solution of the problem of the outlawry of war. Its unreality and ineffectiveness are revealed not alone in the devitalizing reservations and interpretations by which certain European nations have qualified their adherence to the treaty, but by the fact that statesmen of all the signatory countries, including our own, now publicly assert that there is to be no reduction in the size or the burdens of the armaments on land or sea, or in the air, that are maintained for the prosecution of the wars of the future.

We can approve this treaty, therefore, not as a courageous or effective approach to the solution of the problems of war and peace, but only for such value as its seeming character may give it in strengthening the growing popular psychology for ending the curse of war.

Further, we feel moved to declare that neither denunciation nor renunciation of war can ever be more than an ineffective gesture of pious intention, until the statesmen of the world are led to recognize and seek to remove the economic causes of international fears, greeds, hates, jealousies and suspicions. These, as our International Union of Georgists has pointed out, are not due to economic dislocations founded in injustice, but to protective tariffs and to that spirit of imperialistic nationalism under which privilege and greed struggle for the control of natural resources in undeveloped and distant parts of the world.

We believe and assert that there can be no enduring peace established until a world opinion is created that will explore the notorious causes of international discord, and compel political leaders to address themselves to realities, and with courage and sincerity to aim at the outlawry of war by outlawing the causes which are the base of this greatest iniquity of civilized life.

FARM RELIEF

The difficulties with which the farmers are confronted are three, all of them connected with our system of taxation.

First, the tax system is a penalty on efficiency and thrift. The more the farmer improves his farm with buildings, outhouses, fertilization or otherwise, the more he is taxed.

Second, our tax system rests with peculiar severity on the farmer, whose remote situation already handicaps him in relation to his fellows who are located on the high roads of commerce, since it usually makes no distinction between improvement values and those values due to the presence and development of the community.

Third, our system of taxation, by failing to make this distinction and by thus leaving bare land rent high, and land speculation untouched, has been the chief cause which has made ownership difficult, has increased tenancy in place of ownership by many cultivators, and has made diffusion of ownership possible only through the assumption of heavy mortgage indebtedness, and thus has been the fruitful cause of those bankruptcies and foreclosures of which there has been so much complaint.

No scheme of trying artificially to raise the prices of farm products really meets the need. All such schemes will make more competition for the use of farm land, raise rents and raise land value. The next generation of farm owners will have to assume perhaps even heavier mortgages, with resultant bankruptcies, foreclosures and distress with each price recession.

While we feel that no permanent relief can come to the farmer except by the entire change in the method of raising governmental revenue which we advocate, we believe that a partial measure of relief may be given by reducing the tariffs on the goods the farmer has to buy and by exempting farm improvements from taxation.

THE LAND ECONOMICS INSTITUTE

Whereas, the purpose of our schools, colleges and universities is to carry on, not special propaganda for the few, but impartial education for the many, and

Whereas, numerous investigations have disclosed the fact that the Institute for Research in Land Economics and Public Utilities, directed by Prof. Richard T. Ely in the Northwestern University, has accepted hundreds of thousands of dollars from the National Association of Real Estate Boards, the public utilities and other monopolistic corporations and is now putting out through our schools and colleges—and under the pretense of “disin-

terested research”—teachers and text-books hostile to the welfare of the masses and advantageous to the privileged organizations from which its contributions are received; be it therefore

Resolved, that the Third Henry George Congress in convention assembled in Chicago, September 10-13, 1928, denounce the aforesaid Ely Institute in Northwestern University as a threat to economic freedom, a menace to democracy and a grave danger to the future welfare of the American people; and be it further

Resolved, that all members of the Henry George Congress are to use every honorable means within their power to have this fraudulent “research” Institute removed from the public schools, colleges and universities of the United States as speedily as possible.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES 1929

Whereas, the International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade, brought into being two years ago at a great gathering of the followers of Henry George in the city of Copenhagen, has called another Conference of the Georgists of the world to be held at Edinburgh, Scotland, next summer;

Whereas this conference of 1929 is to be in special celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the publication of “Progress and Poverty,” therefore be it

Resolved, that we tender to the officers and committees of the International Union our earnest and cordial wishes for the success of the Edinburgh Conference and our hope that the delegation from Henry George’s homeland to the Scottish capital may not be inferior in numbers to that from any other country.

We earnestly hope that this Conference may exemplify the fullest sympathy and cooperation between and among all groups of earnest adherents to the principle of the equal rights of all to the use of the earth.

We trust that the Conference may be conducted in a spirit of complete toleration with a full opportunity for all groups to express their viewpoint, and that no attempt shall be made by any group to superimpose their methods on other groups.

Let us all strive for a unity of purpose as to toleration and sympathy and zeal for our common cause.

“THE public do not always get the benefit of a reduction in fares. One of its effects is to raise the value of land, and in such cases the traveller may pay as much in increased rent as he gained by the lowering of his fare, the whole benefit going to the land owner.”

—BRITISH BOARD OF TRADE REPORT.

THE farmer who improves and uses his land will find that the Single Tax is a scheme for taking off his burden of taxes and laying them on the land monopolist.

—HERBERT QUICK.