

ANNOUNCEMENT

Increased Price of "Land & Liberty"

It has been decided, because of the increased costs of paper and printing, to alter, beginning with our next (August) issue, the price and the subscription rate for *Land & Liberty*. The new price will be 3d. per copy and the subscription rate will be 4s. a year; U.S.A. and Canada, \$1 a year. Current subscriptions at the old rates will cover the period for which they were originally given. In making this announcement, we should add that even the increased price is much below the actual cost of production (including office establishment and services) rendering it necessary to support the Journal out of the funds of the United Committee, such subsidy being treated as part of the expenses of the general publicity campaign. Readers who appreciate the value of *Land & Liberty* to themselves and who realise the importance of giving it wider influence are cordially invited to supplement their subscriptions with helpful donations.

E. J. CRAIGIE'S CAMPAIGN

A General Election for the South Australian House of Assembly was held on 29th April, Mr. E. J. Craigie standing for Flinders District, which he represented for eleven years from 1930 to 1941. His campaign was a most strenuous one, involving travel of as many as 1,600 miles to address meetings in 24 places in his far-flung division, so that he was on the move every day throughout the month of April. In his Manifesto to the electors, Mr. Craigie made a powerful statement in favour of the removal of tax burdens on industry and trade and the resort to the natural revenue which lies in the land rent fund, a convincing statement of the justice and morality of land value taxation. He explained his policy with regard to water conservation and reticulation, railway rates and fares, income tax, probate and succession duties and motor vehicle taxation. He exposed the injustice of the existing voting system, which (with compulsory voting) is that of the alternative vote in single member constituencies; and with convincing examples of the unjust results that have come from it (as was illustrated in his own case in the 1941 election) he urged the adoption of Proportional Representation. We had looked forward to Mr. Craigie's return, and are sorry to give the news, as cabled, that he has been unsuccessful. We await further information by mail for details of how the voting went.

EGYPT

Cpl. T. K. McManus, now in Corsica, writes that he spent a short leave in Cairo and was amazed at the amount of poverty he found there, far greater than he ever dreamed. He sent a cutting from the *Egyptian Mail*, 29th February, reporting the speech in the Chamber of Deputies by the Prime Minister, Nahas Pasha, on the malaria epidemic outlining the measures the Government proposed to take. The Premier spoke of the widespread

poverty and consequent malnutrition in Upper Egypt, and went on to say that poverty in these regions had no equal anywhere in Egypt. "In the view of the Government the cause of this tragic poverty was the fact that individual landowners controlled vast estates and co-operated to force down agricultural wages to below a reasonable living standard. In Asswan, for instance, thirteen interests controlled 51 per cent. of the land. The maximum rate of pay is ten piastres (2s. 1d.) a day. These great landowners have done almost nothing for their people in the way of education, medical care, or any material help." On a motion presented to the President, signed by 50 deputies, it was agreed that the Premier's speech in its entirety should be translated into English and French and circulated among foreign communities in Egypt.

CHARLES H. SMITHSON

We regret to report the death, which took place quite suddenly on 7th June, of Charles H. Smithson, of Halifax, who had spent a lifetime in the commercial, civic, political and social activities of the town. From 1909 to 1914 he was member of the City Council. As the *Halifax Examiner* says in a long obituary notice: "He will be remembered for his consistent advocacy of the Taxation of Land Values." The Yorkshire League, of which he was president for many years, the United Committee and the English League lose a colleague who in the Henry George movement as well as in his educational work in many directions rendered exceptionally able and self-sacrificing service. Born in 1866 of Quaker stock, he early became associated with the Liberal party, and with the late J. H. Whitley did much to promote the welfare of the youth of his town; and in the Society of Friends his greatest endeavour was to spread an understanding of the social philosophy of Henry George. It was this education he found so important, as also in connection with the Henry George School of Social Science, for which he conducted a number of classes. Member also of the International Union, he gave that, too, most generous support, and to its literature added the paper he contributed to the Edinburgh Conference, *The Beneficence of Natural Law*, which, repeatedly reprinted, was widely circulated and made the topic of many meetings addressed: unfortunately supplies of the pamphlet are exhausted at the moment. Charles Smithson will be greatly missed in many progressive circles. He wrote: "When my time comes, I would like to think that my life will be a happy memory among my many friends." A hope amply fulfilled, in warm affection and highest esteem especially among his co-workers in the Henry George movement. To his daughter, his daughter-in-law and her two sons we extend our sincere sympathy in their bereavement.

6d. SCOTTISH LAND AND AGRICULTURE. Both Land Nationalisation and Land Value Taxation are well argued. Which should it be?

MRS. LOUIS P. JACOBS

On 16th June the death occurred of Mrs. Louis P. Jacobs after a prolonged serious illness, which began shortly after the outbreak of the present war. It was a deep regret to all her friends that she was thus unable to take active part in the many causes to which she was devoted, including not least that of the Jews in their afflictions, aggravated as they were by the awful horrors on the Continent. But her generous support of the Henry George movement, as herself a member of the United Committee, was maintained to the end, she moved by the same passion for justice as had inspired her husband, who besides many other services he rendered, had created in 1929 the Henry George Foundation of Great Britain and endowed it with a special fund. Louis Jacobs died in 1931, and faithfully Mrs. Jacobs carried on the work he did so much to assist. The "Tax Land Values Bureau," which ran successfully for several years as a centre for meetings and discussion, and was responsible for conducting a number of economic classes, was an example of her zealous endeavours. And her home in St. John's Wood was another centre where, in the congenial atmosphere of much companionship, presided over by her own winning personality, the advancement of the good cause was ever the first consideration. We extend to the bereaved family our sincere sympathies in their loss.

One hundred copies of Henry's George's *Social Problems* have been despatched for distribution to 14 German Prisoner of War camps, these books being the gift of the School of Economic Science, Manchester branch, whose members made special collection for the purpose. Acknowledgment has been received from camp leaders.

Under auspices of the School of Economic Science a largely attended public meeting on "Monopolies, Old and New," held in the Houldsworth Hall, Manchester, on 10th June, was addressed by Councillor Needoff of Manchester and Councillor Greaves of Stoke-on-Trent, Mr. Boyer, the principal of the School, presiding. Several correspondents have written that the meeting was a decided success and should well be the forerunner of more of the kind. Mrs. Catterall, who is one of the voluntary teachers, added in her letter the encouraging words: "The new classes are just commencing; students are rolling in, and there is every prospect of a very successful session."

Half the land, which comprises three-fifths of the total land under cultivation in Germany, is in the hands of the great landowners. Estates of 50,000 acres and 75,000 acres are by no means unusual. The total land owned by the German nobility amounts to 13,750,000 acres, but most of these landowning families are debt-ridden—have been so for fifty years and more.—From *The Self Betrayed*, by Curt Reiss.