



El Paso, Texas has a population of 310,000 compared with 335,000 in Ciudad Juarez just across the bridge in Mexico. There are many beautiful houses in Juarez, as well as much dire poverty. In studying the El Paso Electric Company I came across an interesting way of comparing living standards.

Juarez has about 27,000 kilowatts of electric power capacity for all its people. Some of this comes from the Mexican government utility (since they expropriated the U.S. electric production and lines), and some is purchased from El Paso Electric.

El Paso, with fewer citizens, requires 300,000 kilowatt hours of electric capacity to serve them, but El Paso Electric could now serve many more people at El Paso citizens' standards. Investors in the El Paso utility, since it became publicly owned at \$2,500 for 100 shares, have been offered the chance to invest another \$2,409, which would bring the number of their shares to 1116 (with splits) worth \$27,900. Dividend income would have come to \$6,506. The contrast between public government management and private management and investment is startlingly evident.

LANCASTER M. GREENE
New York City

On a recent trip to Puerto Rico a friend met me at the airport in his new Volkswagen. As I admired it he mentioned the extremely high registration fee paid there for a new car. The fee is levied in proportion to the price—in most cases registration for a new car is several hundred dollars—for a car one year old approximately \$100 less, with a proportionate de-

crease for each year of a car's age. That explains why one sees so few new cars in that Caribbean island resort.

As we were driving to the hotel, a distance of a mile and a half, I observed two accidents, and was told these are quite common. In fact Puerto Rico is said to have the highest death rate from car accidents per unit of population of any place in the world. My friend thought this was primarily due to poor driving. However it developed that they have never had compulsory auto inspections or compulsory liability auto insurance laws. I asked if he had ever heard the expression "the power to tax is the power to destroy." It is a safe conjecture that old cars with defective brakes are likely to figure in accidents oftener on the average than newer cars in good condition.

WAYNE BERRY
Flushing, New York

I have read nearly all of Henry George's books and pamphlets, and would like to have the names and addresses of two men or women between the ages of 30 and 54, from each of the following states who have completed the basic course: Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Illinois, Missouri and Michigan. My age is 42, and I would like to write to those twelve people. Can you give me this information?

FRANK SMETANA
Minneapolis, Minnesota

(Since we do not reveal the names and addresses of our graduates, we suggest that volunteers from the above states who wish to correspond with the author of this letter write to him at 913 Chathamfield Road, Minneapolis 26, Minnesota.)