

priced, substandard housing in Panama. In addition they must pay exorbitant 'fees' for residence papers. This results in many G.I. couples living in near poverty in a foreign country and to the detriment of American prestige as economic pressures force undesirable expedients in their way of life. These have been the most pitiful refugees of the January 9th and 10th disturbances.

"Fuller utilization could be made of the zone's area, especially along the west bank, to house the canal's legitimate workers and defenders. However, as in large American cities there are many empty lots in Panama and Colon that would be brought into use if a land value tax were applied.

"The increase of want has been quite evident along with the increase of wealth in Panama as the 'elite' have tended to hoard all excess wealth not lavished on themselves. The civil disturbances they fear and hedge against with numbered accounts in Swiss banks are ironically hastened

by their lack of faith in their own country.

"Their use of the U.S. as a scapegoat for all their troubles must eventually backfire as long as the present unequal distribution of wealth, based on landlordism, is maintained."

In December, 1959, it was pointed out in HGN that most of the difficulties between Panama and the United States were the result of violations of the natural laws of land utilization by both nations.

Mr. and Mrs. Goldfinger noticed that thousands of bags of American grain were unloaded in Colombia as part of the Alliance for Progress program. As this was not in edible form, the government of Colombia sold it to a commercial milling firm and used the proceeds for their own purposes. We who understand the futility of such transactions may be in the minority, the Dean said, but we should be courageous enough to speak out firmly and with conviction in defense of our principles.

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## ELTA ESSAYS WILL BE IN THE NEWS EACH WEEK

Bertram A. Wilson, president of the Erie Land Tax Association, and W. Wylie Young, its executive director, have reached an important decision regarding their campaign in Erie, Pennsylvania. Interested readers who followed the initial program and contributed to this effort will undoubtedly wish to continue support of this vitally important campaign. Funds are urgently needed, writes Percy Williams, Secretary of the Henry George Foundation, in Pittsburgh. "Success in Erie would give impetus to many smaller towns in the area and would be of tremendous value to the whole movement."

Every Saturday a two-column newspaper space in the News and the Times will contain a "miniature essay" on the LVT proposal for Erie. This will eliminate the present printing costs, the arduous of distribution and the secretarial expense of using the direct mail approach. Wylie Young will write the essays and contribute his services five days a week.

The first newspaper copy, reaching into possibly 80,000 homes, announces: "an all-out educational campaign for 1964," since the ELTA board is "more convinced than ever that Erie should take advantage of the new law which permits Third Class Cities in Pennsylvania to levy a greater part of the real estate tax against land value tax rather than against the combined value of land and buildings . . . "Rich in moral and spiritual overtones," the plan is "crying for recognition in every country in the world," and could "become the wave of the future on the tax fronts of America and the free world." The ELTA headquarters are at 2217 Peninsula Drive, Erie, Pennsylvania.