

OUR old friend, George White of Asbury Park, has attained his eighty-third birthday. *The Monmouth American* contains an account of his work in complimentary vein. Mr. White contemplates the publication of a bi-monthly to stir up local sentiment in which he will have the cooperation of Harold S. Buttenheim and Hon. Chas. R. Eckert.

MOST all of our Single Taxers will recall the name and work of Asher George Beecher of Warren, Pa., who departed this life in November of last year. He wrote and published many pamphlets on the Georgian philosophy. In a beautifully written editorial on his life and work the *Warren Times-Mirror* concludes as follows:

"Asher George Beecher is dead, but his works live after him. And it must be a rash prophet indeed who would deny that a troubled world may not some day, in desperation, turn for salvation to the fundamental tenet of the Single Taxer, that this God-given earth is the common property of all who live upon it, not that of a chosen few who seek to exploit it for selfish gain."

"I LIKE Mr. Ashton's articles very much," writes J. A. Johnson of Chicago. "Ridicule sometimes has the effect of making a superficial writer dig deeper."

FISKE WARREN writes: "Permit me to say how much I enjoy your editorial columns and often wish they were longer."

It is with real sorrow that we announce the death of Silas S. Taber of San Diego, California, at the age of 81. We met him at one of the Henry George Congresses. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. M. Annie Taber and a son Ray H. Taber, of Chula Vista, California. He was one of our earliest subscribers.

COL. VICTOR A. RULE spoke before the Henry George Club of Pittsburgh, Pa., on December 28, his subject being "Peace and Prosperity, What Georgeists Can Do."

DR. WALTER MENDELSON recently addressed an assembly at the Friends' Meeting House in Philadelphia, and at the conclusion distributed copies of "Jones Itemized Rent Bill." This pamphlet is having a wide circulation. Mrs. Post writes: "It is really very clever," and Dr. Harry Gunnison Brown echoes the same comment. This pamphlet can be secured of LAND AND FREEDOM or from A. Laurence Smith, 2460 East Grand Boulevard, Detroit, Michigan.

FROM a letter of Chas. F. Owen of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, we quote:

"I can never understand why the average man or woman does not realize his or her right to the resources of Nature, and apparently does not want to. The labor question will never be settled until Mr. Average Man realizes that God is the Employer of all men; that the earth we live on is His workshop, and that He designs that every man shall have a job—a real steady job in which he will live in continued security."

FREDERICK C. LEUBUSCHER in a recent letter to Benjamin C. Marsh of the People's Lobby, comments on its declaration of principles as follows:

"You ask my opinion of proposed 1938 legislative programme. As an individualist, as rugged as they make them, I agree with very little of it. 'Federal licensing of corporations' might pass under the police power of government (its only function). 'International co-operation' is a glittering generality. Nos. 2, 3 and 4 are pure socialism and will further rivet the chains of bureaucracy. They would be unnecessary even if otherwise desirable were we to collect the entire economic rent. No. 1 is the least objectionable. Of course, I favor the repeal of consumption taxes; indeed of all taxes, including income and estate.

What do you mean by 'heavy progressive taxation of land . . . values'? All land values, both large and small, belong to the people. Why should Smith's little lot be taxed at a lower rate than Astor's vast holdings?"

ARTHUR MADSEN of *Land and Liberty*, London, England, writes

Louis Wallis regarding the latter's book, "The Burning Question" reviewed in this number:

"I must compliment you heartily on your new book. I had it at home for Christmas and read it with both delight and instruction. It struck a refreshingly optimistic note which is the right note, I think. But the whole temper and tone of the book recommends it to every sincere person. We will review it in an early number of *Land and Liberty*."

DR. S. SOLIS COHEN writes in a recent letter:

"The doctrine of regulation is so deeply hammered into the public skull that there seems no room for common sense. Nevertheless we must continue to bear witness, and even to hope. LAND AND FREEDOM helps to give courage to go on."

*The New Republic* contains an interesting sketch of Senator S. A. Stockwell of Minneapolis. The writer, Dorothy Walton Binder, says: "He is a liberal and a loyal disciple of Henry George. As such he has fought for progressive measures in his state, especially those which have to do with returning the great mineral resources of Minnesota to the people."

FROM a letter of Vernon J. Rose we cull the following:

"Last night until one o'clock I read the latest issue of LAND AND FREEDOM. Your 'Comment and Reflection' were never better. Its exalted thought and forceful expression ring like a chapel bell in one's memory.

'Freedom of Commerce' is a classic. A marshaling of facts which will stir any thoughtful mind, expressed with an eloquence that warms the soul.

The whole issue is so good, I want to thank you and let you know how much I appreciate it."

WE regret to chronicle the death (self-inflicted) of our long time friend and subscriber, W. O. Blase, of Youngstown, Ohio. He was an active Single Taxer and a generous contributor to its activities. He was of a genial and cheerful disposition and his tragic death has shocked his many friends in the city in which he lived. He organized and was president of the Henry George School of Social Science, and in Youngstown *Vindicator* he paid for the "ads" of the School which appeared in that paper. Mr. Blase had been married to Laura J. Breeze for thirty years and is survived by his wife, two sisters and two brothers. A penciled note from Mr. Blase was found beside his body which read: "Life divine, revealing the spiritual individualism and the consciousness of man's dominion over the whole earth." The fatal weapon was one of a small collection of firearms which the *Vindicator* tells us he highly prized. He had a number of hobbies, his chief pastime being gardening and birds. He also had a collection of clocks. He was born in Wilkes-Barre in 1873.

JOHN M. MOORE of Lancaster, Pa., writes:

"I enjoyed very much the article which was reprinted from the *International Journal of Ethics* of London, England, which you wrote, on the *Difficulties of Democracy*, and which was reprinted in the September-October issue of LAND AND FREEDOM.

I consider it one of the ablest articles on the subject that I have read for sometime."

WILLIAM H. QUASHA, a member of the faculty of the Henry George School of Social Science at national headquarters, has accepted the chairmanship of a sub-committee of the Taxation and Finance Committee of the City Club of New York, leading civic body, which is reporting on whether or not there should be a differentiation between land and improvements for tax purposes, and whether the rate of taxation on land values should be limited.

LANCASTER M. GREENE, a trustee of the School, has accepted membership on the Taxation Committee of the City Club. Harold S. Buttenheim, editor of *The American City* and an authority on municipal finance, is chairman of the committee.