

This the sole blot on which detraction darts,
 Willing to make his rounded fame decrease:
 That in his inmost soul, and heart of hearts,
 He worshipp'd Peace

But One bless'd Peacemakers long years ago;
 And since, in common clay, or stately vault,
 Seldom has Hero rested, stained by so
 Superb a fault.

JOHN M. MOORE.

Keeping Step With Progress

IS WEALTH A CRIME?

Predicated on the concept that every person is entitled to access to natural gifts to sustain life and comfort, our forefathers adopted an arrangement for the production and distribution of wealth. Production, then as now, meant the application of human skill and energy to natural products of the land, the water and the air, to increase and multiply material things and make them more useful to mankind. The thing so produced was private property. It meant ownership which included the right of enjoyment of property and income from it.

Wealth is the material thing that we need for food, clothing, shelter and enjoyment. The more wealth any man produced the greater credit was accorded him. He enriched the whole community as well as himself. He was a benefactor.

Land and labor were the two big factors in production. Because production could be increased by cultivation and fertility of land farmers were given perpetual title to land on the theory that this policy would encourage the greatest possible production. Surplus wealth, when used to clothe, feed and house workmen, or for making tools, assists production. This we call capital. It rightly shares credit with land and labor as the three factors in the production of wealth.

The great institution of private property encouraged every person to produce wealth. It left him free to use it as he would. The only restrictions on him were that he must do nothing to deny others the rights and privileges which he himself enjoyed under the general plan, that he be honest and decent in his relations with others and share of his wealth in the necessary costs of operations in the common cause.

We just cannot turn all at once to the new theory that our present troubles all come from a surplus of wealth, and that the way to recovery is to destroy what we have already created. To plow under the third row, fallow fertile land, destroy the growing pigs, work less days in the week and less hours in the day, loaf, spend and borrow, and tax ourselves out of trouble, are notions foreign to our school of thought. They are abhorrent to our economic sense. In all experience the easy-going spendthrift has had his holiday and joy-ride spending other people's money, but the community never waited in vain for the predicted calamity.—*Rural New Yorker*.

EVILS OF LAND MONOPOLY

The depression now universal throughout the civilized world is nothing but an extension of the conditions introduced into Ireland by land monopoly—the rack rents, barring the people from any chance to work. The condition of the Irish farmer under English rule is only an exaggeration of the condition of the American workman, the European storekeeper, the mechanic out of work.

The State of Mississippi is holding an auction of 7,000,000 acres of farm lands on which the farmers are unable to pay taxes; 60,000 farms, one-quarter of the total area of the State. Land monopoly has been as disastrous to the land owner and to the State as it has been to the man barred from the land. If the State of Mississippi would take title to these forsaken lands thus thrown into its hands, and rent them, unemployment would cease, and the State would have such revenue that it would end the frantic efforts to avoid bankruptcy.

The refusal of the Irish farmers to pay the annuities to the Irish

Government is really a refusal to let the Irish Government dispose of the property which it should hold in trust for all the people; and the refusal is a blessing. If the Irish will go back to their old laws and forget the diabolical economic system unloaded upon them by the conqueror, Ireland can lead the world once more.

Of all the evils unloaded upon Ireland, the foreign language, foreign philosophy, and foreign methods of thought, none was so deadly as the foreign system of land monopoly, and none was more effective in turning Ireland into the world's poorhouse. The wiping out of the system of land monopoly, and the holding in trust of the land of Ireland by the Irish Nation, for the Irish people, would place Ireland in the forefront of prosperity.—HENRY J. FOLEY in *Gaelic American*.

THE SINGLE TAX IS SOUND ECONOMICS

If, as may be, the share going to the private owners of capital or land seems unduly large, it is economically a grievous wrong to interfere with the natural processes. The proper method is to let these shares flow on, and then tax them. Rent cannot be abolished, but the whole share may be taken from the landowners in taxes. All the arguments of conservative economists have failed to make a dent in this fundamental proposition of the Single Taxers, simply because it is sound economics.—PROF. NEIL CAROTHERS in *Herald-Tribune*.

PROGRESS IN CHILE

The women of Chile 21 years of age and over have been granted the right to vote at municipal elections. They are to exercise the franchise for the first time at such elections scheduled for April next pointed out L. D. Baker, American partner in the dry goods store in Valparaiso for the last ten years.

He also observed President Alessandri of that country has approved another measure which enfranchises for all city elections resident foreigners who have lived there for the last five years. It is estimated this will affect about 25,000 foreigners, including 10,000 Italians and 2,260 Americans.

"Another new law," he added, "incorporates the main principle of Henry George's Single Tax theory for a limited period in order to promote extensive building projects. From the beginning of August 1, 1933, until 1945, this law eliminates taxes on all new buildings erected between August 1, 1933, and December 31, 1935. There is, however, a tax on the land."—*San Francisco News*.

THE DEVASTATING BLIGHT

The prospective failure of slum clearance as a government undertaking cannot be separated from speculation in land values. Most of these rundown properties are assessed at a low figure, so that, by sufficient overcrowding, owners of slums can make a profit at the small rentals charged the poverty-stricken inhabitants. But the instant the government offers to finance housing in a blighted neighborhood land values shoot upward. The land speculator reaps all the profit the government is asked to pocket a loss.

City governments, chambers of commerce, real estate boards—everybody, practically—side with and serve the land speculator. Our whole system of assessment and taxation is built to protect him. The only visible solution is to raise assessments in blighted districts until the owners of property are compelled to unite and improve it themselves or let it be taken by the city for taxes and improved with public funds. That's a drastic solution, but the cities of America will have to come to it some day, for the alternative is the steady spread of the present devastating blight.—*St. Louis Star-Times*.

SINGLE TAX

Henry George, the great disciple of the Single Tax philosophy must be greatly excited in the world beyond when he realizes the agitation going on in this and other countries concerning the idea he so ably de-

ended of taxing all lands, allowing improvements to go exempt as the only solution of the taxing problem.

George White of Long Branch, a devout follower of George, has put the latest development on this question in writing, showing how easy it would be to change over to the Single Tax system without disturbing the present constitutional setup. We submit Mr. White's letter: "The senior assemblyman from Monmouth County, Theron McCampbell, has for some weeks asserted with considerable emphasis that the State Constitution must be amended before we can revise our taxing system. Possibly he desires to dictate a detailed, irreversible and irrevocable taxing scheme and have that incorporated in the new constitutional set-up. The real merit of the constitution we have, however, consists in the absence in it of any attempt to decide what kind of taxation we shall provide ourselves with as the years go on. In a number of our states there are definite tax provisions in constitutions, and in these states efforts are being made to liberalize rather than to make these provisions more restrictive.

"It must be denied that the New Jersey Constitution 'fastens' taxation upon real estate. The record shows that we can gather funds for annual taxation in various ways. The advocates of taxation according to 'ability to pay' have a clear field; those who would tax incomes have no constitutional prohibition to overcome; there can be no sales tax upon the sales of original producers.

"Just eighteen words comprise all the direction our constitution furnishes. These are: 'Property shall be assessed for taxes under general laws and by uniform rules, according to its true value.' Only property is referred to and during the last 90 years the legislature has found it possible to pass a number of general laws to be carried out under uniform rules.

"It has found it wise and possible to assess some property and then exempt it altogether. In special ways taxes are laid upon railroad property, on public utility and miscellaneous corporations and upon bank stock. This latter tax was set up in 1918 by Chapter 265, an almost similar act of 1914 being amended. The law was immediately attacked as unconstitutional in two respects but the court decided that the law should stand for the reason that the property taxed had characteristics sufficiently peculiar to warrant the legislature in separately classifying it for purposes of taxation and assessment. The annual rate upon this property is one-third of one percent only.

"We have certain personal property exemptions. There appears to be no constitutional prohibition against exempting more or against exempting all of it if properly classified for that purpose or against imposing a special low annual rate upon it.

"Further the legislature appears to have ample opportunity to do something to comply with the widespread demand that "real estate" shall not be so heavily taxed.

"It is manifest that there are sound reasons for distinguishing between the fruits of labor comprised in improvements upon lands and the lands themselves, and the legislature, we may suppose, can classify these two items separately and tax each in a different way, improvements being but lightly burdened.

"It has been suggested that in the coming selection of a governor, the press and our citizens generally unite in calling for each candidate to find a way plainly to favor or oppose taking taxes from real estate improvements. This would bring about the desirable result of forcing the front one clear-cut tax reform proposal.

"There is reason to believe that one possible candidate, William L. Mill, has for years had definite opinions upon this angle of the tax question, and there is no doubt about the probable attitude of a certain senatorial candidate".—Seabright, N. J., *News Sentinel*.

WISE WORDS IN CONGRESS

"Turning to the entire City of New York we find that the assessed value of the land alone, regardless of improvements, amounts to

£987,666,435—just five and one-half times the total value of the 154,114 farms, buildings included, in the six old and thrifty States of New England—Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut. Where is the man who says the farmer owns the land value of this country?"—HON. F. LAMPERT, member of Congress in the House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

"The justice of levying a tax upon land value lies, not merely in the fact that it will compel those who are now notoriously under-taxed by the Federal Government to bear their fair share of taxation, but in the fact that the value of land is not an earned but an unearned value. It is not the result of individual effort, but the result of collective effort. The increase in population, the progress of industry, and the growth of the community, these, and these alone, are what give value to the land. Being the product of the whole population, therefore, Government may in all equity and justice take for the benefit of all what rightly belongs to all."—HON. F. LAMPERT, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

SPAIN'S CRYING NEED

Spain's greatest need, Spain's crying need, is for a thorough and sweeping land reform. When the republic came into being the Socialists and the liberals led by Azana attempted to introduce agrarian changes by decree. They were blocked by the landowners and the bourgeoisie. Thereupon Azana, Prime Minister from October, 1931, to September, 1933, and still regarded by some as Spain's strong man, set to work on a new land law. He worked at it for a year and a half—meanwhile nothing happened. When Azana told me this I could scarcely suppress a smile. "A year and a half to write a law?" "Yes," he declared, "but we were busy fighting political and religious enemies. Social problems had to wait." The Socialists, too, compromised on vital economic issues in order to safeguard the republic. And today the republic is governed by those very forces against which Azana and the Socialists wished to protect it.—*The Nation*, April 18, 1934.

THE GREATEST SPECIAL PRIVILEGE

Henry George, who was slowly gathering world fame from his first book, "Progress and Poverty," was asked to write on "Problems of the Time" for *Leslie's Weekly*. He wrote in 1882 and 1883, shortly after a period similar to the one through which we are now passing, and, adding eight chapters to the series, he published in 1883 the book as "Social Problems." The original articles were written as a reply to a series by Prof. Sumner, of Yale, then appearing in *Harper's*. After being out of print for many years, "Social Problems" is now brought out afresh by the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation.

In a prophetic first chapter George shows the need for closer attention to questions of government, pointing out that with increasing opportunities come increasing responsibilities, and that it is the problem of this age to work for social justice, as it was the problem of the former age to advance mechanical invention and material convenience.

The chapters on "Political Dangers," "Public Debt," and "Functions of Government" are unique in their description of the very conditions that exist today. So appropriate are George's observations on "unemployment," "overproduction," "the machine problem," "graft," etc., that one might think the book written the last six months.

George attacked special privilege which he claimed fostered enormous fortunes on the one hand and created deepening poverty on the other. Certainly never more than in our own time have we had examples of this national weakness. George claimed that the greatest of special privileges was that which grew out of the monopoly of land, and that together with tariff and public franchise monopolies, these privileges set at naught the principles which the democracy of our Nation is founded—worse, had definitely undermined the political integrity of our Nation.—*Herald-News*, Passaic, N. J.

BY GEORGE, READ THIS, MR. MAYOR

An old book, written 51 years ago by the famous apostle of the Single Tax, Henry George, and called "Social Problems" (published by Schalkenbach Foundation), might have been written yesterday. He pointed out 51 years ago that:

"The main source of the difficulties that menace us is the growing inequality in the distribution of wealth. To this all modern inventions seem to contribute, and the movement is hastened by political corruption, and by special monopolies established by abuse of legislative power."

Very often this man Henry George, writing 51 years ago, talked with plain words that are almost impolite. Here's an example:

"We of the United States take credit for having abolished slavery. * * * In all our cities there are, even in good times, thousands of men who would gladly go to work for wages that would give them merely board and clothes—that is to say, who would gladly accept the wages of slaves. * * * They no longer have to drive their slaves to work; want and the fear of want do that more effectually than the lash."

"Social Problems," by Henry George, is almost prophetic in its presentation of an economic chaos that can be cured only by common sense—which nobody will try.—Pittsburgh *Sun-Telegraph*.

AN ECONOMIC AXIOM

It is an economic axiom that land values arise with population, varying in accordance with its number and character, and that they exactly register the economic advantages which any locality may have. From this it follows that any increase which may be made in these advantages must needs accrue to the owners of the land, who can exact its full measure in rent or sale price. This fact has been repeatedly and most clearly demonstrated, classic instances being the enormous increase in land values near Ford's factories when he raised wages to a minimum of five dollars per day; the rise in rent values in the Bronx when the fare on the New York elevated railway was reduced from ten to five cents, and the same phenomenon in the slum districts of London adjacent to Waterloo bridge when the half penny toll across it was abolished.

* * *

For the benefit of those not familiar with the writings of Henry George a word of explanation is in order. The reform advocated by him is generally known as the "Single Tax"—a bad name for a good thing. It arose from the fact that this reform proposes to collect economic rent by the machinery of taxation, and, as the fund thus collected would be amply sufficient for the needs of the government no other taxes would be necessary than this "Single Tax." A more logical name would have been a No Tax system, for a tax is an arbitrary impost on labor made necessary by the diversion of publicly created land values into private pockets. This iniquity once abolished, there would be no need for taxes.

But this benefit—great though it be—is small compared with the blessings which would accrue from the abolition of privilege and monopoly by which one set of men can legally exploit another. Of these, private ownership of land values is the most pernicious, as the others necessarily result from it. The abolition of other monopolies is rendered impossible so long as this parent of them all prevails.

—From *Theosophy* for April.

THE TWO-CLASS SYSTEM

America was "founded" by the aristocrats of Europe who had to leave to save their lives. They came here, got hold of land and being "too good" to do hard work, they imported the "lower classes" to work for them. Later on they imported even black slaves.

Go through the whole political and industrial development and you will find that immigration was invited because the "better" Americans wanted cheap labor. Thus we have right from the start two classes.

The land owners and the wage slaves. The exploiters and the producers.

There never was an intention in the minds of the rulers of America to do away with the two-class system. Even prohibition was so drawn that the "better class" could get all the booze they wanted but the workers were to be kept sober so they could produce wealth for the landlords and the owners of industry. Lincoln did away with chattel slavery; now we have to do away with landlordism which makes slaves out of the rest of us.—*The Broom*, San Diego, Calif.

THE PROBLEM OF PLENTY

The plain fact is—a fact shameful beyond words—that we make plenty the very occasion and reason for plunging millions into want. "Overproduction," we call it. We dare not say, we dare not even believe, that, with millions unfed, there is too much food, with millions illclad there is too much clothing. But, by assuming or pretending that our system of spreading plenty is the best possible system, we can face the awful fact of people fainting and dying for lack of supplies which can be provided in any quantity with no greater effort than the switching of power on to the appropriate machinery. And, so doing, we are self-righteously vain that we are better than our predecessors of ancient time who exalted the tradition of the elders as an excuse for denying the plain command of the moral law.

—A. C. CAMPBELL, in *Canadian Unionist*.

JAMES G. BLAUVELT

James Gilmor Blauvelt, owner of the Hohokus Bleachery is a man of some means and an altruist in politics, a "Happy Warrior" (as Carl Ek calls him in his column today) who conceives it his duty to carry on where George L. Record left off, preaching the Henry George theory of land taxation and harrying the public utilities in his campaign for the "public ownership of natural monopolies."

If Senator Kean would debate issues with Mr. Blauvelt, the Republican nominee would be the lawyer-industrialist from Ridgewood. But Senator Kean won't debate. You can be sure of that.

—*Herald-News*, Passaic, N. J.

FROM EUGENE HARLAN READ'S BROADCAST

In this era of social experiments, the city of London is considering one of more than ordinary importance. William Walcot, a noted architect, wants to straighten the Thames River in the most densely populated section of the city, reclaiming for the city a strip of land three and a half miles long and one-sixth of a mile wide. Cut up into city lots, this should create for the city of London, a property value of five or six billion dollars.

A similar enterprise is taking place in Holland, where land is being reclaimed by the building of dykes, increasing the useable area of the nation by about one-seventh. In the United States we have many such enterprises on a smaller scale. Chicago's lake front is one example. Levee projects, protecting millions of acres in Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi, furnish other examples. So also do the reclaiming of submarginal lands and the conservation of timberlands by the government. Our great engineering projects, like Shoshoni Dam in Wyoming, Boulder Dam on the Colorado River and the Tennessee Valley project, cap the climax in the United States. The engineering features of all of these projects are fascinating, but the possibility for social reform that they suggest is much more so.

Take the new land values created in London for example. Henry George, once candidate for mayor of New York, told the world fifty years ago that these values are the natural property of government because they are created by the presence and activity of the people. Will London, if it reclaims this land, retain ownership of it and thus relieve business of taxes, or will it turn it over to private owners and watch the increased profits go into private pockets? Henry George has hundreds of thousands of followers in England today. That is

the question that they are asking the governments of London and of Great Britain.

The land question has arisen in another striking form in New York, as Commissioner Post goes after the tenement problem. The *New York Evening Post*, in a front page editorial, declares that one million eight hundred thousand families still live in "old law" tenements, and that fifty per cent of the tenements condemned by the commission of 1885 are still standing, forty-nine years after they should have been torn down. The *Post* proposes a comprehensive programme that includes tax exemption.

Chicago Again to Entertain Henry George Congress

BECAUSE of the remarkable success of last year's convention in Chicago, the executive committee of the Henry George Foundation, after very careful deliberation, has decided to accept another very cordial invitation from the Chicago Single Tax Club and has set the dates for October 8, 9 and 10. The other principal contenders for the honor were Toronto and Washington and strong arguments were presented on behalf of both of these cities. but because of Chicago's central location and the strong support which the local Single Tax organization is able to give, it was felt that the Windy City offered the best assurance of a successful convention, both in point of attendance and of prospects of developing a strong programme.

Clayton J. Ewing, President of the Single Tax League of Illinois and Vice-President of the Henry George Foundation, has again consented to serve as Chairman of the Convention Committee and will give his hearty cooperation in all preparations for this year's gathering. The continuance of the Century of Progress Exposition for another year with a number of added attractions was one of the factors which led to the choice of Chicago for a second return engagement and on account of the Fair, the railroads will offer special low fares from all points throughout the season, which will substantially reduce the cost of the usual convention trip and a good representation from all sections of the country is anticipated.

Chairman Ewing announces that the Congress Hotel will be the convention headquarters this year and offers special rates for our delegates. This hotel has a splendid location on Michigan Boulevard near the heart of Chicago and is very close to the World's Fair grounds. It was the Congress Hotel which housed our first Chicago convention in 1928 and all who attended that convention will recall the fine cooperation given by the management.

The officers of the Henry George Foundation are now busy with preliminary preparations for the next Henry George Congress and special efforts will be made to arrange a programme of discussion that will be both timely and profitable to all interested in the advancement of the Single Tax movement in America. There will be reports of progress from workers in various sections. There will also be a number of prominent speakers on the programme, including Pittsburgh's new Single Tax Mayor,

and probably some members of the Pittsburgh City Council as well as representatives of the Mayor's cabinet. It is hoped that the national administration will also be represented by some distinguished spokesman, and outstanding leaders and workers in the American Single Tax movement will be chosen to present various phases of the Georgist programme.

All friends of the cause who are in a position to participate are urged to make early plans to visit Chicago the week of October 8, and the officials of the Century of Progress Exposition have been asked to set aside October 11 as Henry George day at the Fair.

Those desiring further information or having suggestions to offer, may communicate either with Clayton J. Ewing, Chairman of the Convention Committee, 4046 Ellis Avenue, Chicago, or with Secretary Percy R. Williams at the office of the Henry George Foundation, 238 Fourth Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Law of Similars and The Law of Economics*

NOTE: In this abstract Dr. Hayes has presented a remarkably clear exposition of the case for homoeopathy as it might be practised in such a Utopian state of society as set forth in the writings of Henry George.

Those of us who have been living in a practical enclavial environment during these times of depression can well bear witness to the validity of the author's claims that more of those possessed of true Georgian principles should experience the many benefits to be derived from the enclavian order.

The true Georgian, while a practical idealist, cannot fail, if he carry this philosophy to its ultimate conclusion, to be a true Utopian. Men have dreamed of Utopia since the world began, but few indeed have been the constructive movements that would bring such an ideal state into manifestation. Does the philosophy of Henry George offer any encouragement toward its consummation? Many wise thinkers in the past fifty years (such a brief period in the evolution of men and ideals!) have found comfort in the belief that if this idea of land emancipation be put into operation on a sufficiently broad scale, great strides might be made in the general betterment of the social order in which we live.

This paper of Dr. Hayes' presents a valuable side light upon the place of the physician in the economic order. It gives me great pleasure to add my endorsement to its content, and to commend it to the readers of LAND AND FREEDOM. The author of this paper I know to be a physician of wide experience and a wise counsellor. Though but a recent convert to the Single Tax idea he informs me that he would at any time gladly exchange his present holdings for an equity under the enclavian regime. Were such an attitude of mind to become more universal the dawn of the New Day might soon brighten the dark horizon of world conditions.

Tahanto, Harvard, Mass.

B. C. WOODBURY, M. D.

*Abstract from *Homoeopathy In The Medical and Social Economy*, by Royal E. S. Hayes, M. D., read before The International Hahnemannian Association, Chicago, Ill., June, 1933.

HAVING considered the immediate stimuli of the medical furore let us consider the more permanent causes that underlie the whole situation.

But first let us go back a little. We have said that the