

names. It's their business to impose on land owners and they have a cherished belief that they are legally untouchable. They believe that the land value is more important than the building located on it. The owner of vacant land believes that the owner of built-on land should pay a higher tax to subsidize him. Where is the equality here when there is so much shouting against the inequality of our capitalistic system? It is generally true that all are not equal in cunning, but why overdo it?

It may be some "sham" on the part of the landowner. We are all being numbered and are moving toward "oneness" through computerization, mass movement and elimination of individual identity. Why the inequality of land values?

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In his report on whale money (June HGN p. 7) Mr. LeFevre writes: "If a private citizen makes a coin that pur-

ports to be a genuine U.S. coin, that is counterfeiting." True, for a U.S. coin means that the issuing bank pays the debt. A counterfeiting man is not prepared to pay the debt.

In the case of whale money, Mr. Howard, who issued the coins, is prepared to pay the debt and to exchange his coins for souvenirs from his shop or for genuine U.S. dollars. One's only worry would be whether he will issue more coins than he can cover. So the government should not forbid issuance of the coins—its real task is to see that Mr. Howard doesn't issue coins beyond the tangible value of his properties.

If people cease to have confidence in his coins they will return them for exchange in U.S. money. Howard's coins are a little more cumbersome than an IOU or a check, but no less legal. And if Mr. Howard fails to redeem them the people will ask for help from the government.

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#### REDIRECTING MENTAL ENERGY TOWARD PEACE

THERE have been "wars and rumors of wars" for five thousand years or more because the conditions which cause wars have been in existence all that time. Henry George, in *Progress and Poverty* (Book X), explains that depressions and wars are two sides of the same coin. Land monopoly, land speculation and special privileges; which locally and nationally cause depressions, poverty and want; together with inequality and lack of association on an international level; are the basic and direct causes of continuous aggression and warfare.

If nations would observe the "law of human progress," reconcile their differences and "free their mental

power for expenditure in improvement," they could reap benefits instead of dissipating their strength and resources in fruitless Machiavellian power tactics.

Tomorrow may be too late. The nuclear hardware available could cause utter destruction. If properly understood, Henry George's "law of human progress" could redirect the mental energy of the masses against war and aggression, and all nations would benefit in attaining peace and plenty.

As the first step a copy of "The Law of Human Progress" should be sent to all members of the United Nations.

—Salvatore V. Manganaro