

thirty) go to slaughtering each other, while the four oil companies keep watch and tab, ready like harpies to swoop down after the war is over and sink their claws in the polluted fields. Nothing but an international game of grab! Hivens, how much longer will the taxpayers of the world stand for it?"

## Henry George Corroborated

HENRY GEORGE, in *Progress and Poverty*, by a process of deductive reasoning reached the conclusion, that in a country where there is an increase in population and material advancement, there is a constant tendency for the ratio of the product that goes to the payment of rent to *increase*; while there is a constant tendency for the ratio of the product that goes to the payment of wages to decrease.

In the year 1890 Carroll D. Wright was Director of the Census Bureau, and he made an attempt to estimate the amount of wealth which on an average was produced by a day's labor in the mills and factories of the Eastern States, and the amount that was paid in wages for this production. His estimates were, that a day's labor produced from eight to ten dollars worth of wealth, and that the wages paid were from two dollars to two and one-half dollars per day, about one fourth of the product going to the payment of wages. Taking the country as a whole, no doubt somewhat more than one fourth of the value of the total product was paid in wages, for wages were generally higher in the West than in the East. On account of the use that was made of this information in certain quarters, succeeding census reports contained no statistics of this kind.

Last year a government bureau estimated the amount of wealth produced in the country during the year at sixty billions of dollars, and the amount paid in wages was estimated at ten billion dollars. A financial institution made similar estimates which agreed closely with those made by the bureau. According to these estimates, since 1890 the amount paid in wages has decreased from one fourth or more to one sixth of the total product. The same conclusion can be reached by comparing rent and wages in new and sparsely populated regions with older communities.

With this tendency working with all the constancy of the force of gravity, how can the future of the country be viewed with complacency? With the evidence from induction corroborating so well the argument from deduction, can the professors of Political Economy still deny the validity of the "Laws of Rent and Wages" as formulated by Henry George?

—W. A. WARREN.

NOTICE: We are still in need of lists of prospects for circularizing and sampling. Send them in!

## Impressions of an American Journalist In England and Germany

"THERE are more ways than one to skin a cat." This phrase has been used more or less since the days of Noah, when many thought there would not be much of a shower. The Commonwealth Land Party in England is carrying on an educational campaign for the reform advocated by Henry George, which is both extensive and intensive. When I wrote my article for the July-August Number of LAND AND FREEDOM I had not had the pleasure of meeting J. W. Graham Peace and W. C. Owen, leaders in the Commonwealth Party movement. While those connected with the "United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values" might perhaps be appropriately called bit-by-bit reformers, inclined to the balance-of-power-reward-your-friends-and-punish-your-enemies technique, the Commonwealth Land Party might be called Direct Actionists.

The United Committee seeks to get pledges from members of parliament and candidates for members of parliament for the land reform planks of their platform, but the Commonwealth Land Party has little or no faith that members of any of the present political parties can be depended upon to do much to further the cause of land reform.

The programme of Direct Action advocated by the Commonwealth Party is so simple that the wayfaring man, no matter how thick-headed, can understand it. The party demands, "*that on an appointed date the Crown, as trustee for the people, shall collect for the people the economic rent of the land.*"

Mr. Peace says that his party carefully avoids saying anything about "the taxation of land values," or "Single Tax." When a reform calculated to give to those who are doing the world's work the full product of their labor, is presented in the guise of a Tax Reform movement, it repels many and confuses others. While the simple doctrine that all mankind have an equal right to the use of the earth, and that government as a trustee for the people should exact from those who use the earth and its resources a sum equivalent to their value, is something that can be understood by all.

The Commonwealth Land Party since its organization six years ago, has held 1500 public meetings, at which its doctrines have been set forth. At Tower Hall, near London Tower, every Tuesday at noon it holds an open-air meeting, often attended by five or six hundred persons, and at Finsbury Park every Sunday both in the morning and evening it holds meetings. Its speakers have been heard in every part of the United Kingdom. It publishes a weekly paper, edited by Mr. Peace. Copies of it go to America. In New York Miss Corinne Carpenter, George