

One Simple Formula Could Liberate All

by CLAYTON C. BAUER

FIVE hundred tribes! Four hundred dialects! All these in an area one-third that of the United States. That's the Belgian Congo, where rampant nationalism takes over from an exploitative colonial regime. There the white supremacy mob was infamous for its greed, cruelty and visionary failing. In a black nation which permitted virtually no college graduates, where for 12 million souls illiteracy is the common lot, where bush men have not the remotest idea of "independence," independence has come. What must be the outcome? Riots, mass murder, plundering and economic serfdom by dint of black masters not one whit less grasping and tyrannous than the old. All over Africa and Asia and South America the "liberators" keep arising, but the system never changes—ground rent is still monopolized by the relatively few.

How much better had it been for blacks and whites alike if the Belgians had tried the freedom way, taking land values for the communities, abolishing other forms of taxation. In such an atmosphere they might have lived and worked in common peace and prosperity. Single taxers, what mighty challenges confront us! This whole bloomin' footstool has to be shaped and re-

made in the image projected by the likes of Henry George and Patrick Dove, of Adam Smith and James Mill, of Yang-Yen and Gossen and the Physiocrats. Why can't one, just one, of these fading colonial powers, rather than lose all, try wiping out ground rent monopoly in one of their rebellious domains? Why? Because, no doubt, it has never occurred to the bowing rulers.

I wonder if De Gaulle, for instance, realizes that the vast Sahara may be farmed with saltwater irrigation, the water pumped by the power from the desert's abundant oil? Better to share in the great new empire as equal partners than to let it slip away into the hands of nationalists whose present scheme is to exploit their fellows. We must try to gain the ear of the General. The truth is that nationalism is a cowardly retreat from the freedom way. It is only when you are willing to make scure the existence of your neighbor, be he yellow, black, or white, that your own livelihood is half safe.

Away with trade barriers! Ground rents for all! Down with punitive taxation! Such should be the shouted slogans of the marching youth of Seoul, Istanbul, Tokyo, and of San Francisco.

NEW HENRY GEORGE FOUNDATION PRESIDENT

Word has reached us that John R. Fuchs, a Circuit Judge of New Braunfels, Texas, and author of *Constructive Taxation for Free Enterprise* was named president of the Henry George Foundation, succeeding the late Charles R. Eckert, a devoted worker for the Henry George movement in Pennsylvania.