

met twins of ordinary atoms—are being used in Denmark to trace the course of water, minerals and organic substances through the physiological processes of plant and animal bodies. The functions of these seldom-met twins were not known in the colonial period of which Mrs. A. M. Bevis has just written, wherein "the founders of Harvard cried out for knowledge" while the student-body "beat their piggins on the table and shouted for food." The Harvard boys had taken umbrage at Mistress Eaton's "share and share alike" menu in feeding the boys and the college swine, whereupon the founding fathers finally arbitrated, in order to save "learning," by bringing wampum and corn "for the diet of the students."

Professor The Svedberg, of the University of Upsala, is now investigating the size and make-up of the protein molecule which is the largest and most complex of atomic aggregates. Protein, you know, has a food value.

Of outstanding interest, in these more important matters, is the proposed Supreme Court of Organized Knowledge. Anthropologist Bronislaw Malinowski believes it to be imperatively necessary for the salvation of the modern commonwealth; but Dr. Hu Shih is of the opinion, as a "pragmatic thinker," that such a court could not click. We are obliged to await further developments on this matter.

Dr. Henry O. Taylor announces that the "medieval times" constitute an integral element in cultural gain. Such times did not arise merely because someone threw a monkey-wrench into les affaires du jour. Professor Peter Debye, director of the Kaiser-Wilhelm-Institute of Physics, is responsible for "developments of extreme importance" in the structure of liquids. He is perfecting methods of photographing molecules individually.

Professor Pierre Marie Felix Janet, of the College de France, has established "confused phenomena, phobias, automatism, suggestions and compulsive acts" under the distinct department of psychopathology; whilst Denys W. Harding, of the National Institute of Industrial Psychology, discovers that people's urge for entertainment is motivated by one of three conditions:—(1) just plain tired; (2) boredom, irritation, strain, etc., and (3) elation, energy and euphoria generally. At the same time, the Reverend F. A. Farley finds that theatre-goers are fond of crowds, consequently the mob is part of their entertainment.

Ambassador Hiroshi Saito assures us that "only about 8 per cent of our (his nation's) trade with you is competitive." Nothing to be alarmed over at all, at all. Of much more concern is the statement by Professor R. J. S. McDowall, of Kings College, who says that poor blood circulation, apart from the heart, is responsible for the loss of "thousands of lives each year."

It is with pardonable pride that we report the Harvardian graduation, to date, of 14,000 students of law. They have produced many matters of note, including "Conflict of Laws."

Dr. Friedrich Bergius presents the real poser of our brief survey. The honorable doctor finds that while we Americans are trying to turn food into industrial products Germany is trying to turn waste industrial products into food.

We trust that we have made clear the situation which prevents us from straightening out the tax muddle at the present time. You will note that our men of prominence are very busily engaged in more important matters.

THOMAS N. ASTON.

Every Single Taxer Should Do Some Research Work

ONE of the reasons why the people of the United States have not adopted the Single Tax is because they are not land conscious. They do not believe that there is any land problem. For this reason, the Rose Research Bureau wishes to collect as many facts as possible relating to land tenure in our country. Therefore, every Single Taxer is invited to cooperate with the Bureau in securing these facts. Statistics relating to the following three divisions are particularly welcome

1. Absentee landlordism in America. An absentee landlord may be defined as one living outside the county or the state in which his land is located. Give the owner's name and foreign address; the location of his land, and the assessed valuation.

2. Find out the assessed value of the land (or real estate) of the large cities in your State, and also of your State. You can secure this information by writing to the department of assessors of the various cities, as well as the Treasury Department of your State.

3. Send in any facts that tend to condemn land ownership and landlordism, such as holding land idle for a number of years, thereby retarding progress; title secured from the government or the state, or elsewhere by gift; or secured from any source by gift, fraud or violence; unusual fortunes made by landowners or speculators; unusual rise in unearned increment; peculiar leases; the share croppers of the South, etc.

As an example: The Wendel sisters, of New York, eccentric old maids, kept a million-dollar plot of land idle for many years just so they could have a playground for their pet dog.

Send all letters to John C. Rose, 504 City-County Bldg., Pittsburgh, Pa.

The Ingram Bequest

MR. FREDERICK F. INGRAM, a well known manufacturer of Detroit, Michigan, and for many years an active and ardent Single Taxer, died about three years ago, and provided in his will for a fund to carry on the education in taxation.

In the recent settlement of his estate \$20,000 has been awarded to establish the Frederick F. Ingram Taxation Trust, and the three trustees named by Judge Adolph F. Marschner of the Wayne County Circuit Court are Rev. Samuel H. Forrer, Minister of the Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church; F. Gordon Pickell, Architect, and A. Laurence Smith, a Detroit manufacturer.

At a meeting of the trustees, Mr. Smith was elected Fiscal Agent, and the office of the Trust will be at 2460 East Grand Boulevard, Detroit, Michigan.

The trustees will appreciate suggestions that will assist them in their plans to expend this fund wisely and effectively, and perhaps it may be possible to join with other groups in other cities in the

promotion of some major activity, but in this connection it may be well to state that no contributions will be made toward local campaigns of any kind.

For the benefit of those who did not know of Mr. Ingram, it should be mentioned that he was one of the fathers of the Parcels Post system which has proved such a valuable adjunct to the U. S. Post Office.

For a busy, practical man of affairs, Mr. Ingram devoted a large part of his time to public problems of such a nature that he could expect neither public acclaim nor reward, and it is unfortunate that there are not more of our business leaders who can see the wisdom of trying to reach an intelligent understanding of some of the reasons for "Progress and Poverty."—A. LAURENCE SMITH.

Miscellany

TAXES AND RENT IN HANDLING FOREST FIRES

The Town of Mashpee is located on the southern shore of Cape Cod. The population is small and composed mostly of mixed Indian and Negro blood. The inhabitants own very little property, the most valuable consisting of cranberry bogs, which furnish some employment to the local people, and a magnificent beach and undeveloped shore front some six miles in extent. Most of the bogs and the shore front are owned by non-residents.

This matter of land ownership involves a social problem that has a direct bearing on the fire. Why should the inhabitants of Mashpee slave and raise the tax rate on their humble homes to protect the property of absentee land speculators?

The cheapest method of handling a forest fire, or rather one that places the least tax burden on the local inhabitants, is to burn out the entire block in which a fire occurs from some natural boundary or fire stop. This method, of course, is very destructive to the forest, but being a simple and easy way to get a fire under control, was the one that the town fathers wished to employ.

As a forester and a state official, I felt it my duty to put out the fire, with the least destruction to the forest even if the cost was to be borne, in part, by the local tax payers and the chief benefits accrue to the absentee landlords.

LINCOLN CROWELL, Forest Warden in *Fire Fighting* for July.

DIFFERENCES OF OPINION

Sir: Mr. H. L. Mencken writes that the New Deal "sucks in the discordant perunas" of a large number of persons, among whom he names Henry George. I challenge Mr. Mencken to cite even one utterance, let alone a single act, of the New Deal which fulfills the doctrine of George. Indeed, I challenge him to cite anything in the record of the New Deal which is not the antithesis of George's principles.

After all, even a subscriber to a magazine has some rights. When he spends 50 cents and several hours of his time on a magazine he earns the right to kick like hell when defrauded by a confidence man, whether the crook be Mr. Mencken or Mr. Roosevelt. He has the right to demand that, even if the authors can't be expected to know what they're writing about, they should exercise some effort toward accuracy in elementary facts. It is clear that Mr. Mencken either did not read George, or he did read George and didn't understand him, or else he deliberately lied. Whichever it was, he defrauded your readers.

Mr. Mencken ought to go to school to Mr. Nock. By the way, I want to congratulate you on printing something by Mr. Nock each month. I'm surprised that you have enough sense to do it. It's tough, though, on cheapjacks like Mencken, to have to appear between the same covers with a thinker and writer like Mr. Nock.

KARL B. MICKEY in *American Mercury*.

WHY BUSINESS MEN GO INSANE

As we have pointed out in our first article, the revenue act of 1936 imposes five taxes on corporations, viz:

1. Normal Tax.
2. Surtax on Undistributed Profits.
- 3a. Surtax on Improper Accumulations (or)
- 3b. Surtax on Personal Holding Companies.
4. Capital Stock Tax.
5. Excess Profits Tax.

Daily News Record.

WHO OWN THESE LAND VALUES?

If taxes are for the benefit of the public, then they should be assessed against that value which is publicly created and to the exemption of labor, energy-created values.

This quoted clause from the Constitution of Ohio has fattened the few in the great cities of the state and to figures beyond the comprehension of the average person and at the expense of the farmer and industry generally—employer and employed.

The land value of Cleveland, for instance, now equals one billion dollars; it is held by less than eight percent of the population, and one-third of it is owned by only 125 families.

In Cincinnati, there are three families holding 75 million dollars of its land values.

All this publicly, legally created and privately taken value is the result of that uniform tax clause quoted from the Constitution of Ohio of 146 years ago—rewarding land speculation by a fine collected from industry.

DAVID GIBSON in *Lorain (Ohio) Journal*.

Causes of Fear

EXTRACTS FROM ADDRESS AT LONDON CONFERENCE

By S. VERE PEARSON, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.P.

FEAR is a state of mind induced as a protection against danger, real or imaginary. There are terrible apprehensions about now-a-days producing armaments and wars. But fear is not the primary cause of war, for behind the fear is danger, chiefly danger of want and loss of liberty. Even stronger than the fear of want and of actual destruction is a fear of degradation of freedom. People are apprehensive lest foreigners should cramp their self-development and creativeness even more than they are hampered at present, but are blind to the basic causes of present lack of freedom. When justice gives equal opportunities to all at home such fears will go; discussions on disarmament will also end; for a foreigner can do no harm in a country where true justice reigns. Civil wars arise because of the fears fed by the injustices so rife in society, and rulers can distract the workers from destitution and discontent by leading them to wars abroad. They easily arouse fears of over-population, of foreign competition, etc. "Unable to fill empty bellies with bread, the leaders aim instead at filling empty heads with collective hysteria,"* to the accompaniment of brass bands, flags and verbiage. Once war has begun, anger over the inevitable slaughter boils up. Indignation can be intoxicating especially if it be righteous even in imagination. Mob hatred can be pleasurable and, unfortunately, persistent.

Pacifists too often, through not understanding the causes of war and the economic conditions lying behind most anxieties, appeal to ethics. Many believe with Roosevelt that "any social, political or economic problem would melt away before the fire of a spiritual awakening." This overlooks the fact that the spirit is crippled by fears and by economic straits. From the time of the proposals for a league of nations during the Peloponnesian War down to the present century all efforts to establish peace by resort to disarmament discussions and courts of arbitration have proved futile. From the time of Isaiah to the latest European treaty most of the covenants built on foundations of that kind have proved merely "bargains with

*Aldus Huxley *Beyond the Mexique Bay*.