18, 1913

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LAND AND PEOPLE

By Mather Smith in the Worker, the South African Labor Organ

"The requisites of production being labor, capital and land, it has been seen that the impediments to the increase of production do not arise from the first of production do not arise from the first of these elements. On the side of labor there is no obstacle to an increase of production indefinite in extent and of unslackening rapidity."—J. Stuart Mill.

"What we want is capital and labor," said General Botha, in the House of Assembly, two or three weeks ago.

"What we want is land," answer capital and labor. Mr. Brittlebank suggested

and labor. Mr. Brittlebank suggested in "The Worker" that Trade Unions should buy land near the towns, on which their members might live and work when out of work at their trade. This idea, if practicable, would give the white working men the same option that the native already has—that of refusing work on slavery terms without fear of starvation to themselves and families.

Whites and Blacks

One so often hears working men say, "These niggers have a jolly fine time; why don't they tax them more and force them out to work? Why should they be able to loaf half their time, whilst we have to keep on working or starve?" When the working man begins to say to himself, "How is it that we, with all the resources of science at our command, have to scramble for work all our lives, many of us for less than a decent wage whilst the natives are quite independent? Surely their social system must be better than ours?" Then there may be some hope for the realization of Mr. Brittlebank's suggestion.

Why are the natives more independent than we are? Because they have an option; because they have free access to tribal lands and can always make a living there if the terms offered by em-

ployers do not suit them.

Then, as Mr. Brittlebank suggests, let us get the same option. Yes, but how are we to do it? At present it is impossible to get land on anything like reasonable terms, as its selling price is always much above its real value.

How can that be when it is sold on the open market? Because it always has a double value—real plus speculative; because the supply is strictly limited whilst the demand is incessant, for without it we cannot live. There is nothing to force the owner to sell; his land eats nothing and costs nothing if idle; there-fore, the Government, Trade Unions or individuals, if they want land, must pay the owner's own price for it or go without. If it were made unprofitable for the landowner to keep his land from the best use, he would either have to work it himself, sell it to someone who would, or lose money on it.

The Remedy Our votes can do this by the taxation

of land values.

Yes, but how does this concern us? We are miners, bank-clerks, amalga-mators, fitters, etc., and many of us do not wish to go farming and could not if we would. Others who were competent to work on farms would find a demand for their services and would leave the mines. Instead of a steady flow of white men from the country into the towns the flow would start from the towns to the country. There would then be a scarcity of and consequent demand for labor which would force wages up, whilst cost of living—rent and food— would go down. We would then hear no more about the number of white men the Town Councils should employ on relief work, as there would then be no men seeking employment on charity terms. Mines which are now shut down waiting for better conditions (cheaper labor) would have to start work. And we would ultimately take for the people, what in

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The Guide is designed to give uncolored news from the world of thought and action and honest opinions thereon, with the object of aiding our people to form correct views upon economic, social and moral questions, so that the growth of society may continually be in the direction of more equitable, kinder and wiser relations between its members, resulting in the widest possible increase and diffusion of material prosperity, intellectual development, right living, health and happiness.

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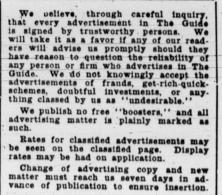
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justice belongs to the people, as without their presence it would be non-existent-

END OF TURKEY IN EUROPE

Friday, May 30, 1913, is a date to be caught up out of the stream of current events and filed away in memory as a piece of history, for it marks the practically complete end of Turkish rule in Europe. The signing Friday of the treaty of London attracted relatively little attention, both because the outcome of the war had so long ago been settled, and war had so long ago been settled, and because the danger of a new war among the victorious allies overshadowed the formality of concluding a peace. The true ending of Turkish power was six months ago, when the Balkan allies struck and revealed the hollowness of the Turkish show of strength. Nevertheless, it is a formal dates that history is comit is of formal dates that history is composed, and it is with the treaty of London that the Turk steps out of European history. What is left is but a narrow strip of 5,000 square miles along the strip of 5,000 square miles along the waterway between Europe and Asia. It is not quite "bag and baggage," but it will serve. The shadow of the Turk is lifted from Macedonia, and it may be hoped that a happier era has begun for that wretched country.

SENATORS AND LOBBYISTS

One can easily think of senators who are connected with industries affected by tariff legislation. The senior senator from Rhode Island, Mr. Lippitt, who succeeded Mr. Aldrich, is a cotton manufacturer, and he openly sought the senatorship on the ground that the manufacturing interests of the state should have a representative in the upper branch of Congress. Senator Warren, of Wyoming, is very much identi-fied with wool growing. Senator Oliver, of Pennsylvania, has large interests in steel making. And so it goes. The Senate resolution ordering a lobby investigation not only will uncover all senators of this stripe, but also all those who own stock in companies which are affected by the tariff. If a senator owns shares in a beet sugar factory or in the United States steel corporation, the fact must come out. An investigation of this character will reach some statesmen where they live.—Springfield Republican.

KEEN RIVALRY IN CONTESTS

Cheyenne, Wyo.—The championship honors for lady riders to be competed for at the Winnipeg exposition July 8-16 will be keenly contested. In the broncho busting competition Fanny Sperry, who won the championship at the Calgary Stampede last year, has signified her intention of challenging "Prairie Rose" Henderson, who won the world's championship at the "Rhodio," Los Angeles, last year. In the relay race, after seven years' retirement, Mrs. W. H. Irwin, winner of the ladies' championship at Cheyenne Frontier Days in 1902 and 1904, will compete against last year's winner. In the broncho-busting outlaw horse riding and in every other feature of this great exposition, visitors to the Winnipeg fair will see just as keen competition and witness a spectacle to be remembered for a lifetime

FLAX HILL G.G.A. PICNIC

The Flax Hill Grain Growers are holding their picnic on July 1, instead of July 10, as announced in a recent issue of The Guide. The picnic grounds will be Section 14-23-21, on the banks of the Saskatchewan river. A full program of baseball, football and races of all kinds with dancing at night. John B. Cross, Secretary-Treasurer, Cramersburg, an-nounces that baseball and football entries must be in his hands by June 24.

Publicity The Moral Force

PUBLICITY is the greatest moral force in the world." The interests who conspire to exploit their fellow men hate publicity; they fear exposure; they and their organs combine to discredit and put the papers out of business which expose and denounce exploitation.

International Peace

An independent paper may avert wars and promote international good feeling and cooperation by bringing different nations in touch with each other and national leaders into conference to dissipate distrust and hostility.

The Guide

is fighting hard to promote better acquaintance and good feeling, and mutual understanding between our own people and all other peoples. It is also engaged in a great struggle to initiate far reaching reforms endorsed by the Grain Growers associations of Manitoba and Saskatchewan and the United Farmers of Alberta.

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