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HOW SHALL THE PEOPLE BE FED?

Two Answers to "Amateur Economist"

Editor, Farm and Dairy,-In your any profit due to the use of his labor use of July 10. "Amateur Econom- and capital. is ue of July 10, asks a question of far-reaching importance to the people of Canada: "How shall the people be fed." It is a question for political economists to answer, and one which perhaps should be of more interest to the consuming public than to the producer.
As "Amateur Economist" says, con-

As "Amateur Economist" says, con-ditions are fairly satisfactory for the farmer who owns his farm, and for the bog who inherits a farm compara-tively free from debt. Even granting that a boy does inherit a farm free from debt, but has to borrow money to buy stock and implements and make necessary improvements, he will spend many years of toil before he is free from debt.

IS ONTARIO FOR SALE

To the close observer to-day condi-tions in the country must present a curious anomaly. One writer has said that rural Ontario is now for sale, meaning that the majority of farmers would sell their farms if they got a would sell their farms if they got a reasonable offer. Many farms are being offered at the price of the build-ings erected on them; never before were the prices of tarm products so high, and still as "Amateur Economist' says the average farm investment does not yield bank interest. What is the matter?

The question has arisen in my mind, Has any man a right to own land? By what moral right is one man born into this world to inherit a fine farm all his own, and his hired man born to inherit nothing, and the majority of labor for others all their lives? We rise in arms, or are beginning to rise, when are see a few men become millwhen are see a few men become mul-ionaires through obtaining a monopoly of some natural resource such as water-falls, mines, forests, etc., which were given by the Creator for the use of all mankind.

CONCENTRATED OWNERSHIP In England a few men own vast ter-ritories of land. In Canada many more men own smaller territories. But in all three cases where is the difference in principle? Does ownership in

enoe in principle? Does ownership in all these cases not constitute a monopoly, but on different scales?

It would seem that before these vesting questions can be settled aright, this question of legal-rights to land must be settled, and all must be read to their natural and equal rights in the common heritage. That rights in the common heritage. That great political economist. Henry George, states two aimple principles alight we should all remember: First alight we and enjoyment of the elements provided by nature. Second—That all men have equal rights to the una natural provided by nature. Second—That the provided by nature. Second—That the provided by nature. the use and enjoyment of what is prod by his own labor." To quote further, he says: "To fully sethe individual right of property cure the individual right of property in the produce of labor we must treat the elements of nature as common property. And conversely, where every one is secured the full right of propers in the produce of his labor, no escan have any right of property in the produce of the labor. What is not the produce of the labor was treated to the labor what is not the produce of the labor was treated to the labor was

LAND COMMUNITY PROPERTY Has iden is in short to land as the joint property of the people just as mines, railroads, etc. are tracted as the joint property of many shareholders. Land could thus have in the accuracy possess. be left, he says, in the secure possession of those using it, and unused land could be taken possession of by any who wished to use it, by paying to the community a fair rent for the

and capital.

Of this method, Herbert Spencer
says: "Such a doctrine is consistent
with the highest state of civilization,
may be carried out without involving a community of goods, and need cause no very serious revolution in existing no very actions revolution in existing arrangements. The change required would be simply a change of landlords. Separate ownership would merge into Separate ownership would merge into the joint stock ownership of the pub-lic. Instead of being in the possession of individuals the country would be held by the great corporate body so-ciety. A state of things so ordered ciety. A state of things so ordered would be in perfect harmony with tha moral law. Under it all men would be equally landlords, all men would be alike free to become tenants Clearly. therefore, on such a system the earth might be enclosed, occupied and cultivated in entire subordination to the w of equal freedom.

law of equal freedom."

How does this idea appeal to "Amatour Economis"? To many, no doubt, it will appear ridiculous. Rank Socialism they will say. But by Socialists, Henry George was not counted one of them. Land-owners especially will be them. Lancowners especially will be antagonistic to it, yet who virtually owns their land? Is it not the Crown? What they buy is not land, but the deed to the land. Will they buy land without a deed? No. Let them nucleot to nay their saves for a

buy land without a deed? No. Let them neglect to pay their taxes for a year, and it will be brought home forcibly to them who owns the land. These are just a few questions and Woughts which "Amateur Econom-ist's" article has stirred up. I hope and the will join in the discussion and give their views on this important question.—"Land-owner," Russell Co., Ont.

Standardize Land Values

Editor. Farm and Dairy.—I have just read with much interest the article by "Amateur Economist" in answer to the question: How shall the people be fed?—I think that he is on the right track. It is very evident that, from a national point of view the distribution is given. situation is grave.

situation is grave.

I do not propose to go into a whole lot of detail as to how this state of affairs arose: I mean all that comes under the "high cost of living." We can cell it what we like, the "cost of high living" or anything else we have a mind to, but it is still a serious mater. All I want to do is to make one that the concrete suggestion. It is that that the correcte suggestion. It is that that the wall of law are corrected to the standpoint of these arounds to procure homes for themselves.

I know that there will be a great.

precure homes for themselves.

I know that there will be a great how! raised by some at such a suggestion, but you will greatly oblige me by putting this proposition before the people of this country. If you will analyse this proposition thoroughly I think that it will be found to hold water all right

It is a well known fact that, when-It is a well known fact that, whenover there is any considerable demand
for the exchange of property, that
pericious send, the speculiagread
state man, is ever ready to place inamountable barriers in deman, who wants a home for his
mily—L. D. McClintock, B. S. A.,
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