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SUBSCRIPTION
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PRUDENOK

DEVOTED TO: explaining the
social nature of ground-rent and
the injustice of taxation.
ADVOCATING: the complete
abolition of taxation. The public
collection of the freely offered
and automatically adequate
ground-dues.

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PRUDEAUNATION

Our unemployed or striking friends will be grateful to learn that Pierre Elliott Trudeau has made an interest-free loan of \$4½ millions to Burma. As they wonder how they are going to be able to pay the 1971 tax on the family transportation, they will surely derive comfort from the knowledge that they are helping to make Burma a better place to live in. When a place is better to live in, the cost of an area to live on rises. Landlords receive more for the use of the land. There can be no doubt that Burmese landlords will get the value of \$4½ million interest-free. Is this gesture the result of ignorance, arrogance, benevolence, or merely an attempt at self-glorification at the expense of the public? How many of these "deannations" to Québécois, Maritimers, Indians, hippy-voyageurs, agricultural manufacturers, clothing manufacturers, electronics manufacturers, vehicle assemblers, hog producers, chicken raisers, and other assorted hell-raisers, will J.Q. Public stand for?

ULTIMATE AUTHORITY?

An Ontario farmer appealed his local tax assessment on the grounds that it was wrongly arrived at. The Ontario Supreme Court has upheld a ruling of the Ontario Municipal Board that only agricultural productivity of farmland shall be the basis of determining the value of that land for assessment purposes. Assessors of the County of Peel and Chinguacousy had taken into consideration the proximity of the said farm to Metro Toronto, nearby location of a paved road and recent speculative land prices in the area.

Cost of litigation was borne by the Mayfield Landowners Group. Now, of course, they can resume their dreams of holding on until the land is "ripe". It will not cost too much now that their assessments are reduced. Some of the Group will probably be hard workers and poorly paid for their labour, others will be almost pure speculators, but to receive concessions they will all adopt the disguise of Farmers. Further, to keep down assessments they have a great incentive to make the land appear unproductive. Nothing is surer than that production will decline or that land prices will rise because of this court decision. Real farmers will have a harder time paying off their mortgages.

GROUND-RENT IS ADEQUATE * * PROOF Vancouver's land assessments are the most honest in the world. After approximately one-third of the rent has been taken, land assessments stand at close to \$1½ billion. Eliminating debt and other superfluous costs, Vancouver needs \$75 million per annum.

MAD HATTER REPORTSPOTATOES

The Scottish Department of Agriculture reports 1½ million tons of potatoes from around 100,000 acres last year, to give an average of 11.6 tons per acre! Some totty howkin!

EGGS IN THE WEST

B.C. Has followed other Canadian provinces in imposing anti-dumping regulations against eggs coming into the Province. TOO MANY EGGS

EGGS IN THE EAST

Spider crabs were once rejected in the Maritimes. It was a problem to dispose of 5,000 tons of these crustaceans a year. Now it is joyfully announced that our population problems are receding a little because a way has been found to process crabs for chicken feed. Suppose half the crab to be nutrient, here we have five million pounds. Estimate 4 ounces of feed per egg, and here's a source of an extra 20 million eggs. BUT NOBODY WANTS EGGS. DON'T YOU KNOW THERE'S AN EGG WAR?

RUNNING OUT OF SPACE

In the third century B.C. the Nabateans farmed what is now part of the Negev Desert and which had only three to four inches of rainfall. Now international groups are reviving the cultivation of the desert using the same techniques in the same place as were used more than two thousand years ago. WHY? - BECAUSE WE ARE RUNNING OUT OF SPACE

According to the New Holland division of Sperry Rand, because of improved production farmers use less land than they did twelve years ago. They now use about one half of the available crop-land in the U.S.A.. It seems that vacant space is INCREASING.

Federal departments of Agriculture recommend the growing of corn using poisons. Now the farmers' tractors are equipped with spray tanks not cultivating tines. When the corn is through the whole area is poisoned. This sets back the corn, but it kills weeds. Later the poisoning is repeated. Result, - less labour to grow corn, more poisons leaching into the streams and oceans, people moving from the farms, Canadian farmers trying to keep out U.S. corn.

In the last five years the price of farm-land in the Fraser Valley has doubled although the prices of produce have remained almost constant. One cause is the demand for small acreages on which families may be raised in healthful activity. It does not pay to attempt to raise crops for sale, the large-scale operators produce so cheaply. Most people content themselves with a few cattle or horses even though they could produce all kinds of crops in the good old environment protective way. Economic malpractice has resulted in this situation. You can't be a big-scale farmer without land monopoly caused by private property in land.

PEOPLE DO WHAT IT PAYS THEM TO DO

Small measures in relation to land tenure have no effect at all. The cleverest legislators are no match for the cunning of a man faced with an opportunity to benefit himself.

A retired Saskatchewan farmer wanted to pass on 3,714 acres of farmland to his son and grandson. Normally he would have had to pay gift tax on \$79,000, but he went through the motions of selling. He gave each the down-payment which can be done legally without the payment of tax. He now is making gifts of \$1,000 a year, which he can legally do without paying tax, this payment to be applied to reducing the sums owing under the agreement for sale.

The revenue department claimed gift tax, but the tax appeal board on Jan. 18th upheld the legality of the old man's ruse, and no tax has been paid. Can you figure out a similar scheme for your income tax? Not likely! The sacred cow of property in land will not be working for you.

ESSAY CONTEST

The Commonweal Society for Economic Education is this year offering an award of \$100 for the best essay on the following topic:

DEMANDS FOR MUNICIPAL SERVICES AND MEANS OF PAYING FOR THEM.

It is suggested that candidates write about their own city or municipality, and consider perhaps one service from among Education, Fire Service, Welfare, Parks, etc.. Alternatively they may prefer to take an overall view of municipal services. The important thing is that they select an area of personal interest in this broad topic, and then do some research on their own at City Hall, Library, etc. to produce some constructive suggestions.

ELIGIBILITY

Any student resident in the Lower Mainland area, from Grade XI level to undergraduate at College or University, may submit an essay for consideration. (A handicap for seniority will be applied to ensure that all have equal opportunity) Candidates must be proceeding to further education in the fall of the year in which the award is made.

PROPRIETARY RIGHTS

All entries shall become the property of the Society, and may be published by the Society.

JUDGING

The decision of the adjudicating board of the Society shall be final.

DEADLINE

All entries must be in the hands of the Secretary on or before July 31 of the year in which the award is made.

NOTIFICATION

The name of the award winner and the name of the educational institution he or she attends will be published in the Vancouver Sun the last week in August.

ENTRIES TO: INFORMATION FROM:

Secretary,

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