

FREEFOLK

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER:

E.A. Bryan,
25805 Fraser Highway,
R.R. 3 Aldergrove, B.C.

SUBSCRIPTION:

\$1 per annum.

A PUBLICATION DEVOTED TO:

Explaining the social nature of ground-rent
and the injustice of taxation.

A PUBLICATION ADVOCATING: THE COMPLETE

ABOLITION OF TAXATION: THE PUBLIC COLLECTION
OF THE FREELY OFFERED AND AUTOMATICALLY
ADEQUATE GROUND-RENTS

Volume 4 No. 6

June 1973

CONTENTS:

Block to Living
Rape Again
Linguicide
Typical Party Leader

On The Radio
Price Freeze
Popular or Elite?

ON THE RADIO

"The federal government will subsidise the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation with \$100 million to help provide low-cost housing." - Taxation to pay higher prices for land (\$25,000 a site) that cost nothing in the first place. Housing costs could be cut down to one-third if the public collected the publicly created rent of land and if the present taxation of 12% on building materials were removed. We can't expect good business methods from politicians.

"The rate of apartment construction in Vancouver is down 50% since last year." Since the provincial government insists on penalising apartment owners by making it difficult for them to raise rents to cover inflation-increased costs, and compelling such owners to pay removal costs up to \$300 for evicted tenants, who wants to build apartments? There was a rumour that many doctors were investing their large incomes in apartments. Now they will be looking for land as an alternative investment, - another reason why land prices are still sky-high.

PRICE FREEZE

In spite of the lessons of history Richard Nixon decided to have a "price-freeze". He made the deal sound really learned with his Phase 1, Phase 2, etc., but it all came back to the same economic laws. People will do what they think it pays them to do, or rather, in this case, people will not do what they think it will not pay them to do. Farmers faced with rising costs must receive more for their potatoes and tomatoes, or cease to produce. Storekeepers cannot pay more and still sell at the fixed price, so that's why a lot of Americans will be taking trips to Canada to buy these products. Planned shortage.

BLOCK TO LIVING

Block Bros. are now advertising five-acre lots in South Langley at prices starting at \$28,500. Only two years ago Gary Mott was asking \$12,250 for lots of the same size in the same area, high and dry land.

TYPICAL PARTY LEADER

The leader of the Federal N.D.P., David Lewis is quoted by the Vancouver Sun as saying that the Bank of Canada is "dipping into its reserves" at the rate of \$200 million annually in order to keep the Canadian dollar from rising above its U.S. counterpart.

Here we have the blind attempting to lead the blind. Lewis appears to believe the fairy story we were taught in childhood, that banks looked after the money of their clients and lent it out at interest. If he investigated figures that are publicly available, he would maybe realise that the Bank of Canada creates new money to spend into circulation and so devalue the money already circulating.

There is a lesson to be learned from the above. The fact that a person is skilled in getting votes is no proof that he has the least idea of what social life is about.

The true function of government is not to enslave but to protect the rights of individuals.

RAPE AGAIN

Where land is treated as though it is property, many evils result. In agriculture, fewer and fewer people control more and more land area; rural populations are dispossessed and crowd the cities, and large-scale agriculture results. When vast areas are given over to a single plant, problems of drought, erosion, and pests become common.

Readers will remember that last year we spoke about the bertha army worm that attacked the areas of rape being increasingly grown on the Prairies. Virulent poisons were brought in and several persons applying them died as a result of contamination. Now it has been discovered that the bertha army worm prefers a weed known as "lamb's quarters" to rape, and therefore farmers are planting strips of this weed so that the caterpillars may be persuaded to restrict themselves to it.

If agriculture had grown naturally on crown land with each holder paying an annual rent for the farm he held, there would have been a great variety of crops grown in settlements, with all around, the primaeval wilderness which would form a reservoir providing animals and insects for pollination, and for predators which would keep down the numbers of pests. This is the way nature works, and nature's way is the best.

LINGUICIDE

Nixon states that he will "meet the Watergate affair head-on, and not let it deter him from meeting administrative goals." A strange way of saying he is not going to take notice!

POPULAR OR ELITE

In North America the absence of a hereditary caste structure led to the belief that all people were equally entitled to an education. Implicit in this principle is the idea that all are equally entitled to attend public educational institutions, but the philosophy's inherent flaw has only become apparent in B.C. within the last ten years.

Prior to this time, students followed a preponderantly academic curriculum and when they reached the limit of their comprehension, they left school, perhaps after grade 8, 9, or 10, in order to take up a job. Usually there was no difficulty in obtaining work. Students who had academic aptitude went further, to grade 12 or to university. After each successive step, more would leave to take up jobs. In this fashion, there was automatically a kind of intellectual elitism.

However, the recession of 1960 and the Russian success with Sputnik caused a great change. Higher education would allow the "free world" to catch up with Russia. If the students normally leaving school could be retained there a year or two longer and prepared themselves better, they would have an opportunity of a better job at higher pay, and of course if they had a university degree, they could have access to the best of jobs.

Now, Johnny who normally would have left after grade 10, presented himself for grade 11, perhaps reluctantly, but nevertheless there he was. Now the teachers were glad because increasing enrollment in senior grades caused an

increased demand for teachers and naturally raised their pay and expectations of promotion. Now, practically all were determined to keep Johnny in school, and few cared for Johnny's happiness or welfare. They rationalised him into a prisoner of a system.

Johnny, being a dutiful son does his best, but he cannot cope with algebra, atomic structure, or the rules of grammar, therefore the schools are faced with either discouraging captive students by giving them failing grades or lowering standards and passing them through will nilly. The first alternative would decrease enrollment and threaten teachers' jobs, the second would maintain it and make teachers more secure in their jobs. Of course standards lowered.

Next comes a flurry as teachers devise new courses in which Johnny may have some success. They invent "general" programs, "occupational" programs, "industrial" programs, game-playing programs, all aimed at the prevention of drop-outs and the consolidation of their own position. Can we wonder that many young people graduate from high-school illiterate and unable to do the simple arithmetic that granny who progressed no further than grade 8, could do in her head?

Everyone wants to take advantage of his popular right to a university education and so university enrollment jumps. Universities moved by the same forces as the schools must expand, must lower standards until now a B.A. degree is no more than a certificate of having conformed for a number of years. The holder is likely to be less literate than a high-school graduate of ten years ago

Next, the drain-back of newly qualified teachers, semi-literate, ensures that popular education in its present form will destroy culture and civilisation. Elitism must be sought for again.

U. S. A.
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10036
M.H. 462A, 55 W. 42 ST.
T. A. HENNINGER,
MR. ROBERT CLANCY,

COMMONWEALTH
SOCIETY FOR ECONOMIC EDUCATION
25805 FRASER HIGHWAY
ALDERGROVE, B.C. : 856-6295

