

1930 - 1936

FSTC : ~~correspondence~~ of E. B. Gaston, Inquiries : Me - Mu

Fairhope

10517-6

77

Jan. 16, 1931.

George Meinema,
9445 So. Winchester,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:-

Replying to yours of 11th, would say there is no arbitrary limit to the amount of land we would lease for farming. Twenty to forty acres is considered a pretty good sized farm here, though more can be used to very good advantage with stock farming.

We have no railroad and most of our truck farmers--and this is largely a truck section, haul their produce to Riobertsdale, which is about ten miles from the farming section. There are always two or three or more buyers and packers, who will pay cash at their packing platforms and attend to the hauling between them and the railroad themselves--of course for a consideration.

This being a large trucking shipping county at the railroad, car-loads are made up and shipped to various large population centers north and east.

Mobile is our nearest city, 25 miles, reached by boat and truck, but most of the shipping is done ~~thar~~ from county rail points.

I am taking pleasure in sending you a copy of folder "The 'IT' County of Alabama" and will be glad to hear further from you.

Country Land Rent

*runs from 3.50 an
acre down to less
than 1⁰⁰*

Yours very sincerely

THE FAIRHOPE SINGLE TAX CORP.

By _____
Secretary.

Chicago, Illinois
January 11, 1931

Fairhope Single Tax Corp'n..
Fairhope, Alabama.

Gentlemen:

Please send me some
information regarding your
farm lands. How large a tract
are they and how far from the
city limits of Fairhope? How
are your facilities for shipping
and what large cities do you
generally market them in?

Thanking you I am:

yours truly,
George Meinema
9445 So. Winchester
Chicago, Ill.

McNair

Fairhope, Ala.

May 24/32

Fellow Member:

Do you realize the condition of your Corporation (The Fairhope Single Tax Corporation and its effect on the lessees of the same?

Lessees have lost their improvements by reason of their inability to pay the excessive rentals; and also their failure to pay taxes. The little fellows have been the first to go, and those who are left are suffering from depreciation on their improvements from the same cause -- excessive rentals. Unimproved leaseholds bearing high rents (in dollars) are being surrendered, some of which have been held, not for speculation, but in the hope that conditions would warrant the improvements contemplated. This loss of income by the corporation can be met only by a further increase in the rentals on the land of the present lessees -- if rents are raised beyond those now in excess of the true value, more lessees will lose their improvements.

If the Courts hold that the Corporation can fix rents at will, regardless of true value, the result will be the ultimate sale of all lessee improvements for non-payments of rents; ("the power to tax is the power to destroy") and as the sale of improvements carries with it the loss of the leasehold, both land and improvements will become the unincumbered property of the Corporation. I do not believe any member wants to profit by the financial ruin of the lessees who have come to us in good faith.

The Corporation's leases provide that they are binding upon its successors or assigns; and also that upon the dissolution of the Corporation, voluntarily or otherwise, the lessee may buy (not shall buy) the land leased at its then value (Capital site value.) As the lease does not terminate with the dissolution of the Corporation, but only at the will of the lessee, the value of the land leased is at that time, Nothing. Any sale by the Corporation of its land held under present leaseholds, must be made subject to the lease. The leases provide that all rent collected by the owner of the land (The Corporation, its successors or assigns) shall be wholly spent for the benefit of the lessee. Hence, a buyer would purchase nothing but trouble.

The writer offers the following solution of the problem confronting the Corporation, which, in his opinion, does substantial justice to both members and lessees:

Substitute for the present leases, one for the term of (99) ninety-nine years upon the following terms and conditions: Rent to be computed at the legal rate of interest on the Capital site value of the land; tenant to pay taxes on the land leased; land to be revalued every ten years of the term for new rental basis; tenant to have the option of purchasing the land at any time during any ten year period at the value fixed for said period; leases to be transferrable at the will of the tenant, except to negroes or Asiatics; values in every case to be site values only, ~~exclusive~~ of all improvements, such as lawns, trees, shrubbery, etc.; values to be determined by some unbiased body, such as the appraisers of the Building and Loan Associations of Mobile, Alabama; such appraisals to be final and binding on both parties, and the cost of same to be borne by both parties share and share alike.

The value of the lands of the Corporation could still be used to promote the cause of the Single Tax, and should be so used if we are to uphold our declaration that the Corporation was not organized for profit. There are many forms of propoganda to which the above rents, or the proceeds of invested capital derived from the sale of land might be devoted.

The writer is opposed to any one profiting from an investment in a membership in the corporation, and is also opposed to the continuance, however modified, of an experiment which has caused a financial loss to some of the lessees and is bound to cause a similar loss to others.

The good faith of those who have upheld the Corporation's plan up to the present is unquestionable; but further efforts to continue it, however modified, will be undertaken only to satisfy the pride of opinion of those who are now in control.

Yours for a prosperous Fairhope.

AJM:AC

Alex J. Melville.

Feb. 3, 1934.

Coach A.A. Miller,
Greenville, Ala.

Dear Mr. Miller:-

Delighted to know that you are soon to take up the Single Tax in your sociology class and glad to be of any service I can.

I am sending you herewith some literature, covering both the Single Tax as a legislative reform, (without which, of course it cannot be had in a large way and some relating to our Single Tax Colony.

If you would like some duplication of almost any of these "exhibits" to provide for different members of your class could probably supply same. Do not hesitate to call on me for anything else wanted.

Yours very sincerely

Secretary.

BUTLER COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

O. P. SOUTH, PRINCIPAL

GREENVILLE, ALA.

February 1, 1934

Editor Fairhope Courier
Fairhope, Alabama

Dear Sir:

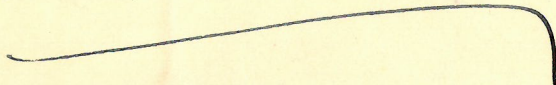
We are soon to study the single tax theory in Sociology and I would appreciate very much any information you could give me on the subject.

Yours truly,

A. A. Miller

Coach A.A. Miller

Mrs. Paul Lett



Feb. 24, 1930

Mrs. Florence Miller,
Atascadero Inn,
Atascadero, Calif.

Dear Madam:-

We learn with pleasure that you have been interested in Fairhope, by our former resident, Mrs. Jannie B. Furber, and take pleasure in sending you herewith an illustrated circular, note very late, (later editions exhausted) and with boat schedule not to be relied on, but correct in most facts, also some literature about the School of Organic Education,

Since the issuance of this pamphlet a causeway and bridges have been put across the headwaters of the bay following which bus service has been added to boat service but the latter curtailed to one round trip a day, leaving Fairhope (now) at 7:30 A.M. and returning leaving Mobile at 3:30 P.M., the boat makes six trips each way a day. Boat fare from Mobile, 40cents, bus fare 90 cents.

We hope the matter sent will be of interest and would be welcome you here for a long or short stay.

Yours very sincerely

THE FAIRHOPE SINGLE TAX CORPORATION,

By _____
Secretary.

Sept. 9, 1933.

Mr. G.G. Miller,
Route 2,
Brewton, Ala.

Dear Sir:-

Yours of 8th at hand. Yes sir, we could offer you what we think are big bargains on at least two properties.

One is what is known as "Ring Farm" because a Mr. Ring, former Houston, Texas, lawyer spent many thousands of dollars in developing it as a stock farm, putting in a big tiled roof, cement floored, barn, with two reinforced concrete silos, own wat supply, piped about the place, light plant, etc., but failed to make money out of it, as is always the case in my observation in such cases. We are now the owners of these improvements and would take \$750 for them, with 40 acres, or more.

Then we have another place, with 20 acres, could get more nearby if wanted, with frame house, fenced, about 12 acres cleared land, which we could sell you for less than half as much; and we could give you choice of other good 40 acre tracts.

Why not come down and look the situation over, Would be glad to show you what is available.

Yours very truly,

Secretary.

Have you a farm for sale with-
in two miles of Fairhope - of
course I mean lease?

I might lease unimproved
land and build.

I do not want wet land, though
a few acres might be such.

Do not want over 40 acres.

Respectfully

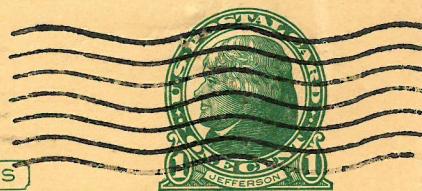
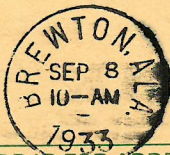
G. G. Miller

Sep. 8, 1933.

Brewton

Route 2

Ala.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Secretary,
Single Tax Colony,
Fairhope, Ala.



Dec. 9, 1933.

Jos. Dana Miller,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Miller:-

Yours of 5th received and read with interest. Especially the paragraph regarding our California friend, Beckwith of The Forum and No Taxes.

The gentleman is very bright, but is not quite as smart as he esteems himself to be.

In a recent letter from A.J. Samis, of Los Angeles, he said:

"I see that our mutual friend at Stockton still goes on his periodical rampages and reads everybdy out of the party who refuses to walk his challine. It is really too bad he is 'that way' - he is a good man when he sticks to his text but he insists upon regulating everybody else in matters that he himself has not thought through. I divide my time, when reading his paper, between laughing and swearing at him. But withal I like the man for his industry and courage and audacity."

My chief objection is the harm it seems to me he does by keeping up such a constant tirade of criticism. Certainly the average man sought to be influenced by his "No Taxes" would be inclined to this: Well Singletaxers are no more able to agree among themselves, that people of other cults. It cannot be more 'scientific' than they."

I want to enlarge the circle of those who mean as well as we and want to accomplish some forward movement, endeavoring to imbue them with the thought that ours is of first importance by reason dealing with the earth, the source of all wealth and employment, rather than narrowing the circle to those only who see eye to eye on every detail.

Faternally yours,

The Rent of the Land Belongs to the People

Land and Freedom

[Formerly The Single Tax Review]

Founded in 1901

JOSEPH DANA MILLER, Editor

150 NASSAU STREET
NEW YORK

TELEPHONE
BEEKMAN 3-2806

New York City, Dec. 5th. 1933.

Mr. W. B. Gaston.

Dear Gaston:-

Thanks for your letter and thanks also for reading verses from my book of collected verse. Any time that you can include in the Courier something from my pen I shall be very much pleased.

It is curious that when I received your letter I was on the point of writing you regarding our friend Beckwith. I am getting rather tired of that gentleman. His statement that ~~he & his son~~ Henry George did not know the wonderful thing he discovered is a bit of egotism that does much to destroy his excellent exposition of principles. But it tends to hurt the cause and himself as well.

What's the matter with our fellows?

Sincerely yours,

Joe Dana Miller

May 1 , 1935

Jos. Dana Miller,
Pub. Land and Freedom,
150 Nassau St.,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Miller:-

Somebody down along the line of Singletaxers, put out a book, in which was given a series of illustrations, showing the benevolent course of production and exchange, when every one in order to draw out was ~~put in~~ obliged to put in an equivalent in value. The illustrations as I recall were in colors showing food-makers, house makers, Clothing makers, renderers of all kinds putting into the circling stream of exchange and drawing out an equivalent, until the landlord came along and drew out rent without putting any equivalent in.

I have often thought since the motion picture machine was introduced and then the animated cartoon, how finely this idea could be worked in for exposition of the Single Tax.

But I have entirely forgotten what the book was and who by. No doubt you can tell me and I trust you will do so, using enclosed envelope.

With my very best regards,

W. B. E. Austin

The Rent of the Land Belongs to the People

Land and Freedom

[Formerly The Single Tax Review]

Founded in 1901

JOSEPH DANA MILLER, EDITOR

TELEPHONE
BEEKMAN 3-2806

150 NASSAU STREET
NEW YORK

New York City, April 10th. 1934.

Mr. E. B. Gaston.

Dear Gaston:-

There are two rules that I use in publishing anything in Land and Freedom. The first is, Is it constructive, and secondly Is it educational

These are two rules embodying the same reason. I see nothing to be gained by printing anything contained in Atkinson's letter.

Success to you.

Sincerely yours,

Jos. Dana Miller

Chicago has been decided upon as the seat of the next Congress. So I hope to see you again next Fall.

ack with thanks
4/12/34

Sept. 30, 1930.

L.L. Miller,
Tama, Iowa.

Dear Sir:-

Our postmaster has very properly handed to me your inquiry of 25th to him, and I take pleasure in giving you the desired information. Recent heavy calls have exhausted our really comprehensive literature, but the concluding paragraphs of little folder entitled "Whose Land" enclosed, will give the general idea beside which I am sending you a copy of "Quarter Centennial History" a copy of our form of lease, and also an illustrated folder reprint from the Employee Magazine of the L. & R. R. giving information about this section, with considerable about Fairhope and a copy of the Fairhope Courier.

In the "History" page 3 you will note reference to S.S. Mann, one of the Colony pioneers and also an early settler of Tama County, with home near Gladbrook. His sons, T.E., S.E. and L.C., are still members of the Colony corporation and S.E. and wife and daughter and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Schermerhorn, spent last winter with us, their second. Their home is at Gladbrook. Could you find it convenient to call on them they would be delighted to give you information at first hand. I hope you will do so and that I may hear from you again.

Most sincerely yours

Secretary.

The Security Benefit Association

SECURITY BUILDING
TOPEKA, KANSAS

J. M. KIRKPATRICK, NATIONAL PRESIDENT
J. V. ABRAHAMS, NATIONAL SECRETARY

L. L. MILLER, DIST. MGR.

MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA

DISTRICT MANAGER

FORM 28

Tama, Ia. 9/25, 1930.

The Josh Master,
Hairope Ala.

Dear Sir:

This is to gain
some information relative
to your belong or form of
Gosh, controlling your belong.

I am desirous to know
your method of operating the
belong and how I may become
a member or a citizen on
whatever method it is.

My Business is that of
Deed. I am Dist. Mgr. and
am Organized of a Fraternal
Sec. Society. Could you
please send me some literature
on write me relative to above?

Kindly and Resph. Yours,
L. L. Miller.

May 11, 1935.

Albert P. Miller,
Applegate, Calif.

Dear Sir:-

Yours of May 2nd received and I take pleasure in sending you some printed matter about our "Single Tax Colony" which I think will give you about the information desired. If, after reading same, you have other questions, will be glad to give attention to them.

Yours very truly,

FAIRHOPE SINGLE TAX CORPORATION.

By _____
Secretary.

"Single Tax What it is
& why we urge it"

C. G. C. Folder
Gustm Speech Chgo.
Leaca

Handwritten notes at bottom of page, including "Single Tax" and "Fairhope Single Tax Corporation".

Carlisle Bolton Smith
of Agricultural Adjustment Admin'n
Washington
D.C.

Applegate, Calif., May 2. 1935

Fairhope Single Tax Cor.,
Fairhope, Alabama.

Dear Sirs:

Will you please send me a paper
you publish there in Fairhope giving an account
of what is being done there on the land, or give
me an account of how things are run and
what for and how. I am interested and
are there any places in the West ^{and} ~~where~~ ^{where}?
Any information will be thankfully
received. Thanking you. I am

Cordially yours

Albert P. Miller

G. S. MIRACLE,
DEALER IN
General Merchandise

SHONN, KY.

Sear

To
Chamber of Commerce
Fairhope Ala.

Dear Sirs—

Will you please furnish particulars
of the Policy of the Single Tax Colony
yours truly

Ewing W Miracle

Nov. 25, 1932.

Robert Mobley,
Box 554, Corbin, Ky.

Dear Mr. Mobley:-

At suggestion of Mr. Paul Fredericks, of the School of Organic Education, I am sending you some printed matter relative to Fairhope, and its Unusual "Colony" and will be glad if you will, after you have looked over same, hand it to your friends Mr. Jones.

I am also mailing you a copy of the Fairhope Courier of this week.

Yours very truly,

Secretary.

Feb, 4, 1936

Mrs. C.A. Moore,
Arcadia, Fla.,

Dear Madam:-

A suggestion of Mrs. Nugent just arrived from your city and apparently pleased with ours, we take pleasure in sending you a little printed matter regarding our Single Tax Colony which is one of the unique and important features of the Town, and, indeed led to the original settlement.

Starting from the premise that all men are equally entitled to the use of the earth and observing that land increases in proportion to the number desiring land in any place at any time--and the need for public revenue increasing at the same time, we Single taxers hold the value the bare land, exclusive of improvements to be particularly earmarked for public use; leaving to individuals, even untaxed, the full value of improvements on land, and all other forms of value, due to their efforts.

The speech of Henry George, greatest of Singletaxers, republished in the Cong. Record, under the title: "The Single Tax, What It Is, and Why We Urge It," deals with same as to be achieved by amending the tax laws. The form of lease under which we apply the principle without changing the law is enclosed with other matter.

We hope you find the matter of interest, and if further matter is desired will be glad to furnish it.

Yours very truly,

FAIRHOPE SINGLE TAX CORPORATION?

By _____
Secretary.

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

July 25, 1935

E. B. Gaston, Secretary
Fairhope Single Tax Colony
Fairhope, Alabama

My dear Mr. Gaston:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your communication
of July 21st and pursuant to your request I am sending
five hundred copies of the speech entitled "The Right to
Live".

Yours truly,

TLM:EL

Theodore L. Moritz

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

April 6, 1935

Mr. E. B. Gaston
Fairhope, Alabama

Dear sir:

At the suggestion of Mr. George H. Duncan, Jaffrey, New Hampshire, formerly Field Lecturer for the Henry George Lecture Association of Chicago, I am writing you regarding a bill I have introduced in the House of Representatives.

H. R. 6026, providing for the imposition of an excise charge of 1% upon the privilege of owning land in excess of a value of \$3000.00 to one owner, after deducting the value of all improvements, follows the lines of the bill introduced in Congress in the years 1921-24 by the late Representative Keller of Minnesota, with some changes due to developments since that time.

This bill is now before the House Ways and Means Committee, Representative Robert L. Doughton, Chairman; and it is the hope of its proponents that a public hearing on this bill may be held during the present Session of Congress.

You understand the importance of this bill. Will you AT ONCE write Chairman Doughton, asking for an early hearing? Also, write your own Congressman, expressing your interest and requesting him to urge Chairman Doughton to arrange a hearing. If you do this, I shall appreciate your sending me a carbon copy of your letter. You might suggest to friends that they do the same.

In the present welter of experiments and with a constantly increasing indebtedness, it seems an opportune time to call attention to the fundamental soundness of our proposals.

Very truly yours,

Theodore L. Moritz

April 11, 1935,

Hon. Theodore L. Moritz,
32nd Pennsylvania Dist.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Moritz:-

I acknowledge receipt of your favor of April 6th, regarding your bill H.R. 6026, and requesting an effort to have hearings on the same before the Ways and Means Committee of Congress.

I had already been written on this matter but am chagrined to say that I cannot recall by whom and have so far been unable to locate the correspondence. I was moved however to write at once to our Congressman Lister Hill, (2nd Alabama District) as well as to Congressman Doughton's. I promptly received a reply from Mr. Doughton's clerk acknowledging mine and saying:

"When and if this legislation is taken up for consideration, your views and suggestions will be called to the attention of the committee."

Mr. Hill wrote: "I am happy to have yours of the 31st enclosing copy of your letter to Mr. Doughton. I shall certainly keep in mind the contents of your letter to Mr. Doughton and will talk to him about your letter, telling him of the authority with which you speak."

I remember Mr. Duncan, of Jaffrey, N.H. a fine soul.

I am particularly glad to have you carrying on the effort inaugurated years ago by Mr. Keller, of Minnesota, and hope you may succeed where he failed.

I am enclosing you a little printed matter about our "Single Tax Colony" here.

Most sincerely,

Secretary.

April 19, 1935.

Hon. Lister Hill,
House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hill:-

You kindly offered to see Congressman Robert L. Doughton, chairman of the House Committee on Ways and Means, relative to a hearing on the bill of Hon. Theodore L. Moritz for the imposition of an excise charge of 1% on the privilege of owning land in excess of a value of \$3,000 to one owner after deducting the value of all improvements.

And I am assuming that it will be agreeable to you to see that he gets the enclosed petition in regard to the desired hearing, with such recommendation as you may feel like yourself adding to same.

This service will be appreciated, as have the many other "good deeds" for which people of Fairhope feel indebted to you.

With all good wishes,

Most sincerely yours,

Secretary.

April 19, 1935.

Hon. Theodore L. Moritz
M.C. 32nd Pennsylvania Dist.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Moritz:-

I have mailed today to Congressman Lister Hill, of this Congressional district, a request to Chairman Robert L. Doughton for the granting a hearing or hearings on your bill, H.R. 6026, with some 43 signatures, asking Mr. Hill to see that it is presented to Mr. Doughton, with such recommendations as he--Mr Hill-- cares to offer; which I trust meets with your approval.

I also in an editorial in the Fairhope Courier this week called attention to your bill and urged others in sympathy with your effort, to likewise write Mr. Doughton. I am mailing a copy of the paper.

Appreciating your good work,

Yours most sincerely,

E. B. Easton

Fairhope, Baldwin County, Ala.

April 16, 1935.

To the Honorable Robert I. Doughton,
M.C. and Chairman of the Committee
on Ways and Means, of the Congress
of the United States, SIR:

Understanding that there has been referred to your committee H.R. 6026, introduced by Honorable Theodore L. Moritz, of Pennsylvania, providing for the imposition of an excise charge of 1% upon the privilege of owning land in excess of \$3,000 to one owners, after deducting the value of all improvement:

The undersigned herewith join in respectfully urging you and your Committee to at an early date provide a complete and full public hearing on the merits of the said bill from all who may wish to be heard thereon.

We hold the value of land exclusive of improvements thereon, to be peculiarly a just and proper source of public revenue for many reasons, among which are the following:

1. For the ~~tax~~ especial reason that the equal right to life can only be realized by guaranty of the equal right to the use of land.

2. Because the value of land, exclusive of improvements, arises from the need for land of those entitled to its use, thus differing from from values arising from the creative efforts of men.

3. Because taking land value for public use, will in no degree discourage wealth production but on the other hand will encourage the use of land in production by the present holder or another to whom he would be the more inclined by such tax to relinquish it.

Many other reasons would be brought out, we are sure, for such a measure, in a proper hearing for those who have given especial study to the principles involved in such form of taxation.

Among the signers hereto are officials of an organization --a Corporation, but not for profit, which has during more than 40 years maintained a "Colony" for the testing out, far as possible for a non-governmental body, of the policy of taking land values exclusively for community revenue, with results which have amply tended to recommend the same

(forward)

(101411)

To Hon. Robert L. Doughton

My dear Sir, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the proposed amendment to the Constitution of the State of New York, and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the proper authorities for their consideration.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. B. Thompson

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. B. Thompson

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. B. Thompson

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
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Your obedient servant,
J. B. Thompson

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Your obedient servant,
J. B. Thompson

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. B. Thompson

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
J. B. Thompson

Yours very respectfully,
J. B. Thompson

Yours very respectfully,
J. B. Thompson

- 2 -

The undersigned join~~y~~ in a respectful but urgent request for full and prompt hearings on the bill referred to,

Respectfully

SIGNERS TO REQUEST TO HON. ROBT. L.
DOUGHTON, CHMN. COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS? SENT TO
LISTER HILL? 4-19.

PHIL A. Bray	E.B.Gaston,	J. Andrew Douglass
A.O.Berglin	Geo. E. Fuller	R.L.Rockwell,
Clarence C.Fuller	E.C.Wolcott	W.J.Taylor
W.C.Mason	Mrs. W.J.Taylor	Wm. Flagg
C.A.Gaston,	Paul Nichols	Lawrence Tilson
F.W.Walker	Edw. G. Dougherty	G.E.Perkins,
Emil Knips	Geo. W. Morgan	M.V.Watros
Estelle Moore	G.V.Stelzenmuller	Lucile Coster
S.W.Alexander	F.W.Beiser	Hulbert Jones
C.M.Brady,	J.E.Gaston	Norvin DuBrock
M.O.Berglin	Elliott G.Rickarby	Elof M. Tuveson
Coral Crain,	Festal Crain	Anna Shaw
Harry H. Parker	E.M.McCalman	Frank Nottelmann
Nell Nottelmann,	Elise Hooker	Margarett Biggar
W.L.Price		

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

April 16, 1935

Mr. E. B. Gaston, Secretary
Fairhope Single Tax Corporation
Fairhope, Alabama

My dear Mr. Gaston:

In reply to your letter of April 11th I wish to
thank you for the interest that you have taken in Bill
H. R. 6026.

I am sending you, under separate cover, a copy of
the Bill and several copies of an address that I deliver-
ed before the House on March 28th. I thought that perhaps
you and a few of your friends might be interested in
this address.

Again thanking you for your prompt reply, I re-
main

Yours very truly,

Theodore L. Moritz

TLM:EL

July 30, 1935.

Hon. Theodore L. Moritz,
House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Moritz:-

The 500 copies of your excellent address have been received. I thank you for same and will try and see that they are made good use.

Yours most sincerely,

Secretary.

July 21, 1935

Hon. Theodore L. Moritz, M.C.
House Office Building,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Moritz:-

If you have any more copies available for distribution of your fine speech on March 23rd, I would be glad to have some more and can make good use of same.

I have been trying to get Mr. Eckert to have a lot of his speech printed.

Circulation of such matter is what is needed and the "folks back home" should be called to assist.

with high appreciation of your good work,

Yours very truly,

P.S. I see that Noren starred before the Ways and Means Committee. Hurrah for Pennsylvania.

June 22, 1935.

Hon. Theodore L. Moritz, M.C.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Moritz:-

I think our mutually cherished cause is to be congratulated on the fine space given us in the July "Real America." Generous space was accorded us and much interest should be awakened. But oh! How hard it is to get the average mind to take hold of our simple but fundamental and mighty proposal.

I hope you are finding some response among your fellow congressmen. I suppose Mr. Doughton's committee has not reported out your bill yet.

Fraternally yours,

Jan. 28, 1933.

Mr. H.R. Morrison,
Inspector Bureau of Explosives,
Rm. 2300 Buckingham Building,
59 East Van Buren St.,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:-

I learn thro Miss Holbrook, whose father is connected with the Southeastern Express Company, at Mobile, that you were somewhat interested in plan of the Colony which we are conducting here and am taking pleasure in sending you some printed matter, which it is hoped will be of more or less interest.

Yours very truly,

Secretary.

Jan. 17, 1935

Editor,
Askov American,
Askov, Minn.

Dear Sir:-

I would appreciate it very much if you would give space in your next issue to enclosed communication.

And if an exchange of papers was available to agreeable to you it would be quite so to me.

Yours very truly,

Editor Courier.

FAIRHOPPER REPLIES TO MR.

SANDERSON'S CRITICISM.

- - - -

Editor Askov American:-

My newly made, but valued, friend, Mr. Ludvig Mosbaek, of your city, sends me a Couple of clippings from your paper, wherein Mr. Sanderson, of Rochester, Minn., gives some indication of ~~of~~ approval of the fundamental principle underlying single tax, but finds difficulty in approving the logical working out of the principle.

He assumes unfairness ~~unfairness~~ in Fairhope wherein two men take lots of equal value, but one expends \$2,000 in a home, while the other invests ten times as much in an apartment house from which he draws income/ proportionate to its cost, yet both pay the same rent for exactly lots of equal desirability. Is there anything unfair about that?

Both occupy lots of equal value--a value created by the presence and demand for land of the whole community. Each avails himself of the opportunity as his means permit. In making best use of his opportunity, ~~one~~ takes nothing from his neighbor in so doing, while both contribute to the community ~~the~~ expense as the community has advantaged them.

"Without a complete overthrow of our present system" says Mr. Sanderson, "and the confiscation of all property the single tax theory simply makes the rich richer and the poor paupers;" ~~in~~ which he ~~wholly~~ ignores the wholly different nature of differing/ forms of property, classing together with land, with all its mineral wealth beneath the surface; its forests, its streams with their water power, its ability to produce its ~~varied~~ forms of wealth, and all the varied forms of wealth planned

ned and produced by the genius of men. And how comes it that super-rich have never found out the advantage to them in a partial application of the single tax,⁷ and, Except for here and there a rich man who yet loves justice better than money,^{they} fight^{any} effort toward single tax as ^{they} he would fight fire?

I am sorry to note Mr. Sanderson venturing into assertions of alleged facts about Fairhope only to show his ignorance and cast doubt upon his sincerity.

He says:

"It can hardly be said ^{at} the Fairhope venture has been much of a success. It is 39 years old and has not reached the 1,000 mark in population."

The U.S. census figures are available in Minnesota, no doubt, as in Alabama. Those of 1930 gave Fairhope a population of 1549; disclosed it to have become the largest town in the county in the decennial period from 1920 to 1930, far outstripping the county seat, and to have shown a greater percentage of growth during the period than any other town of approximate size in the state, save one.

I am sorry Mr. Sanderson was not favorably impressed with the delegates to the National Single Tax Conference in Chicago, in 1933--for I was there and remember distinctly meeting Mayor Reiter, of Rochester, but not Mr. Sanderson. Evidently his spirit was not attuned to the verities as ^{convention delegates} they saw them.

Yours Respectfully,

E. B. Gaston, Secretary Fairhope
Single Tax Corporation and
Editor Fairhope Courier.

Jan. 16, 1935

Ludvig Mosbeak,
Askov, Minn.

Dear Mr. Mosbeak:-

Thank you very much for your note and enclosures under date of Jan. 3rd. Particularly for your reprint from your local American, ^{which} ~~but~~ is particularly well written and gives some important facts, which had not hitherto been brought to my attention. I am sorry it was not convenient for me to write at once such a comment as you would have been glad to get into the American in the next issue after that bearing his comment on your prior article on Fairhope.

^{two} ~~one~~ Your article was very generous and contained only ^{one} statement about Fairhope that cannot be fully substantiated. That is that there was "no unemployment in Fairhope" ^{and that we}

It would be quite too ^{much} ~~reasonably~~ ^{to expect} ~~extent~~ a little Col- ^{lateral} ~~lateral~~ ^{losses} ony like ours, a mere pin-point even in our county with approximately a million acres to neutralize tendencies which have worked such havoc all over the land. Access to land without purchase price offers the "line of least resistance" for poverty-stricken people from other localities to pour in upon us and tax federal relief resources and local agencies.

Then prices for farm products were so far below normal during the last two seasons, except as to put all but a very few farmers in the red.

As to bank failures, our bank was the only one in the county that did not fail and officials and the public generally attribute this to the resistance of our community to the effort to bring the "Florida boom" here.

In this connection, I take pleasure in sending you a reprint from the Courier of March 25, 1926 and the issue following, which I think you will find unique for a newspaper and interesting. I am also sending you a feature article appearing in the greatest weekly in the state in circulation and income. It is personal, but is worth while as showing how our proposition looked to one who made a study of it on the ground.

I may present other information for readers of the American in a short reply to Mr. Sanderson's criticism.

Enclose copy of letter

Yours most sincerely

to American

SINGLE TAX AND FREE TRADE

Editor Askov American:

I notice what S. O. Sanderson says in today's Askov American, that the inexhaustible natural resources of this country, together with elimination of interest on the public debt, can break the backbone of depression.

In the first part I agree with Mr. Sanderson and, if these natural resources, an equal part of which I consider to be a natural inheritance or birthright to every child born, are accessible, then all of the present suffering could be alleviated.

What have we done with these natural resources?

In 1883 the U. S. bought 20 million acres near Chicago from the Pottowatomie Indians at 6 cents an acre.

In 1795 the Georgia Yaroo land frauds took place—approximately 30,000,000 acres comprising most of the present states of Alabama and Mississippi, were sold to four separate land companies for about one-half cent per acre; before that time an English king paid a personal debt with 47 million acres.

The U. S. government has sold most of the land upon which Chicago, New York and other large centers grew up, including valued timbered land, also where Askov is located today, for \$1.25 per acre. The lumber companies took the large white pine and sold me some of the cut-over land for \$11 per acre with stumps and stones and brush, which cost from \$50 and up to clear per acre. Water power, mines and so forth have disappeared to private ownership and monopolies by which millionaires are created.

I agree with Mr. Sanderson that we should demand the ownership of natural resources be turned back to where these by natural birthright belong, then by renting out these natural resources as outlined by Henry George (single tax) in "Progress and Poverty" we would not need to worry about sales tax or any other taxes as has been demonstrated in the Fairhope single tax colony in Alabama, now over 39 years old. This colony is weathering the depression better than many other communities in the United States.

If you are interested in the Fairhope experiment and the single tax system, you might write Mr. E. B. Gaston, editor of Fairhope Courier and

secretary of the colony corporation, for interesting literature, and also to Henry George Tract Society, Endwell, N. Y., and to the Schalkenback Foundation, 11 Park Place, New York, for free list of books and pamphlets on single tax problems.

The Fairhope single tax colony corporation is paying all taxes, federal, state and community, direct and indirect for its members with the income from ground rentals for approximately 4,000 acres, which the corporation controls and has thereby proved to the world that the single tax system is sound and practical. There has been neither unemployment nor bank failures in Fairhope.

What about the inexhaustible natural resources that Mr. Sanderson mentions? They are given away or sold for a pittance and not under public control or ownership and therefore not accessible at a reasonable price; they are monopolized.

Overproduction or Underconsumption?

The Department of Agriculture estimates, "if each person in the United States is to have a liberal diet, production should increase from the 1929 production estimate: Milk 53%, butter 108%, green and yellow vegetables 79%, citrus fruit 84%, eggs 43%. To meet full requirements the United States would require 40 million acres more than cultivated in 1933."

Curiously our government giving out this statistical information is engaged in a plan of crop reduction of practically 40 million acres.

The single tax system will rid the country of taxes which promote fraud, perjury, bribery, and corruption, which lead men into temptation and which tax what the nation can least afford to lose—honesty and conscience.

If we had more justice, there would be less need of charity.

The farm and the shop each needs what the other produces. It is not good business unless buyer and seller both gain by it.

Unemployment insurance is one of the best ways of making unemployment a certainty.

The New Deal is an effort to resist nature, but nature is irresistible.

Public ownership of all natural resources, single tax and free trade is the best insurance against war and poverty.

LUDVIG MOSBÆK.

Askov, Minn., Dec. 20, 1934.

Dec. 8, 1934.

Ludvig Mosbak,
C/o. Fairdale Nursery,
Askov, Minn.

Dear Sir:-

Pleased to receive yours of third inst. and to send you copy of Fairhope Courier and other printed matter regarding our Single Tax Colony, or "Enclave" as Mr. Warren would prefer; which I hope you will find of interest.

I note you are a Dane. It was my pleasure to attend in 1926, at Copenhagen, the International Congress for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade and meet many of the prominent Single Taxers of that country--a splendid lot.

The Subscription rate of the Courier is \$1.50 a year and we would be glad to have you as a reader.

Yours most sincerely,

Sec.
and editor Courier.

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The League of Nations Association, Inc.

National Headquarters:

6 East 39th Street, New York, N. Y.

Telephone CAledonia 5-0250

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Congressional District No. 10 Minnesota
League of Nations Association Representative

LUDVIG MOSBAK

Askov, Minn.

Jan 31 34

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The Fairhope Courier

I am just back from a years visit to my birthplace Denmark where I came in lively contact with Henry George people. This lead me in contact with the Schalkenbach Foundation and finally with Fiske Warren Harvard Mass. In the Enclosure of the Post for 1932 I notice on page 8 the address of your paper and stated it is devoted primarily to the League Cause. Will you kindly send me a sample copy and also state the price of a years subscription.

Any circulars or pamphlets relating to your Community will be appreciated

Yours very truly

Ludvig Mosbak

79 year old

LUDVIG MOSBAEK, Proprietor

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Askov, Minn.,

Jan 3rd 1934

Mr E. B. Larson
Fairhope

Enclosed

1 clipping from Askov Am Dec 20 by Lander

1 reprint - - - - - 27 - 2nd ed.

1 clipping - - - - - Jan 3 - Lander

It would please me and many
more to have your comment on this
in the Askov Am for Jan 10th to be in
I must be here Tuesday or at least
Wednesday morning - if not
possible next week or so

Yours very truly
Ludvig Mosbaek

sent it direct to the Askov Am
you might send me a copy in same
mail. I might want some reprint
of yours for distribution

ASKOV AMERICAN, ASKOV, MINNESOTA

of the nation. Any peace meal method would be absolutely detrimental to the small property owner.

Let us illustrate: A and B move down to Fairhope, Alabama. A has \$2,000 to start with and B. has \$20,000. Each one secures a lot of the same value. A builds a very modest home within the limits of his capital. B builds an apartment house costing \$20,000. When tax time comes, the taxes of both are identical. A's income has been nil. B's income has been \$2,000. But both pay the same amount of taxes.

Is that fair?

Without a complete overthrow of our present system, and the confiscation of all property, the single tax theory simply makes the rich richer and the poor, paupers.

It can hardly be said that the Fairhope venture has been much of a success. It is 39 years old and has not reached the 1,000 mark in population. Therefore it appears that the founders' hopes have not even been "Fair."

I might add that the impression I gained from the personnel in attendance at the National Single Tax conference in Chicago was anything but encouraging. It permeated with a background of selfish motives by "those who have" much, which simply means added burdens on those who have little.

S. O. SANDERSON.
Rochester, Minn., Dec. 29, 1934.

MORE ABOUT SINGLE TAX, FREE TRADE

Editor Askov American:

Ludvig Møsbæk's article on single tax and free trade brings up an interesting subject.

I have given considerable study to the single tax theory, and Mayor Reiter and I attended the national convention of the Henry George National Single Tax Society in Chicago in 1933.

It is true that an equal part of the natural resources of the nation should be the birthright of every child born.

However, through the exploitation of a greedy few, the masses have been left with an inheritance of a per capita national bonded debt of nearly \$250. Add to this the state, county, and school district debts and you have a total per capita debt aggregating from \$350 to more than \$600. These are astounding facts, but nevertheless true.

The remedy, however, is far more difficult to arrive at.

In order to arrive at, and benefit by the Henry George single tax theory, it would first be necessary to communize the entire physical resources

BORN INTO BONDAGE

Ninety-eight out of every hundred children born in this land of plenty come into the world with a millstone of debt around their necks.

In the case of the City of New York the public indebtedness, federal, state, city and local, amounts to \$610 for every man, woman, and child.

What a birthday present this is for 98 out of every 100 new-born babes? The other two come into the world with an inheritance of millions of dollars in property and a mortgage of \$60,000 against the unfortunate ninety-eight.

If this civilization shall endure, it is high time that this social system were changed.

Instead of being born into a life of servitude, every child should be endowed with sufficient income to enable its parents to bring it up under a decent standard of living and education.

With the inexhaustible natural resources of the nation and its tremendous mass production facilities and man power, together with the elimination of interest on the public debt—in other words, the issuance of currency instead of bonds, this could easily be accomplished.

But it is up to the common people to make the demand. Your banker will not do it for you. Write the president, your congressman and senator and demand action.

S. O. SANDERSON.
Rochester, Minn., Dec. 17, 1934.

Oct. 6, 1930.

Jay E. Moss,
Gen. Del.
St. Petersburg, Fla.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of Sept. 19th seems to have escaped receiving attention, for which please accept my regrets.

Yessir, I am the man to give you information and am very glad to do so.

I do not have a map which I could conveniently send you to show you the location of lands referred to, more than township plat on the back of an old assessment blank.

On this I have outlined the Colony lands, by a red pencil mark around same, the shaded portion being the Town of Fairhope. I have located by figures 1, 2, 3 & 4, with circle around same, about which I give the following further description. No. 1 is five acres in the town limits, , rent about \$25 a year; no. 2, is a little less than 40 acres, about a mile and quarter from town limits, with about 10 acres cleared which ought at to be worth about \$25 an acre and rent about \$3 an acre a year. No 3, is 20 acres, on which there would be a charge of \$25 for clearing, and some additional charge for timber, which having paid for, would be your property to dispose of as you saw fit, and if you did not want the timber we could probably sell it to be removed from the land, in which event you would not have it to be paid for. Rent in this location about \$1.50 a year. No. 4 is a 20 acre tract, rent about \$1.50 an acre. There is more land in the vicinity of No. 4, Also there are some small tracts in section 16, which begin at the town limits, which could be had by reasonable payments of a reasonable price for improvements, consisting of clearing and fencing, to present leaseholders.

I am enclosing you a copy of our lease contract and also folder "The It County of Alabama" reprinted from the Employees Magazine, of the L. & N.R.R. Company's

Shall hope to hear from you further.

St. Petersburg Fla.
Sept 19 - 1930

Mr. Gaston

Dear Sir,

If I am not mistaken
you are the one to get information
from in regard to securing a
small tract of land to make a home
on from the colony -

Please let me know what you
have in the way of a few acres of
new land that is suitable for
making good crops. and give distance
& direction from Fairhope also distance
from ~~your~~ road. and any other inform-
ation you may have in regard to elevation
drainage, also price & terms. and of like
yourself.

Jay E. Moss

Gen. del. 22 St. P. O.

Sept. 7, 1934.

Ernst F. Muth,
Route 1, Box 29,
Mobile, Ala.

Dear Sir:-

Yours of Sept. 5 at hand. I did not note the article in Mobile Register about Old Age Pensions, to which you refer. There is a group here quite active in pushing the plan which calls for a \$2000 a month payment after a certain age, with obligation to spend the money during the month. The money is to be derived from a sales tax. For further information about this you might address Messrs. Felix Beiser or John R. Campbell.

I take pleasure in sending you some printed matter about our Fairhope Single Tax Colony and a copy of this week's Fairhope Courier.

The bus leaves Fairhope, 8:45 A.M., 10:20 A.M. and 4:15 P.M. Leaves Mobile, 8:30 A.M., 2:10 P.M., and 5:30 P.M.

The fare is 90 cents one way; \$1.25 round trip.

I do not know of any one making a specialty of raw food here.

Yours truly,

Ernest F. Muth. Route # Box 27. Sept 5 34

Mobile ala.

Mr E. B. Gaston Editor Courier
Fair Hope ala.

Dear Sir!

Dear Sir!

In reply to an article
in Sat. Register of an organization
of a old age Pension Group I
addressed an inquiry to same
addressing the same to Chamber
of Commerce of your town, they have
received same. Seeing your name
in last night's time as the
Superintendent of the Long
Island Colony should like to have
information with a sample of
your Publication. In 1907 I heard
an address by one of your Party

2

telling all about Fair Hope.
as an Inmate of M. County Poor-
asylum will say there are
many here interested in the
Tanner Group.

would appreciate Schedule and
Fair of Buns from Mobile
to Fair Hope, and prices and
extra of Raw Food if
selling same.

Yours Cordially

Ernest F. Wirth
Route I Box 29.

Mobile Ala