

1929-1935

FSTC: ~~Correspondence~~ of E. B. Gaston, Inquiries: ~~Coffee~~ - Cu

Fairhope

00517-b

68

Olive View, Calif. 11-14-31

Mr. F. B. Gaston,
Fairhope, Ala.

Dear Sir: - Your literature on hand and has all or mostly been read. There still arise some questions unanswered by it.

Some of them the prevalence of insect parasites such as jiggers, ticks, fleas, beetles, sandflies, etc.

How many frosty nights per year? ~~How~~ (What is the minimum temperature registered (record)? Average minimum? What is the maximum temperature to be expected? How many months of frost free weather can be expected?

I am not in any hurry as I do not expect to make any move from Calif for from 1 to 2 years but am looking about for a place to locate. One must either pay a big rental or pay a price that one in my position and age cannot expect even to own one. My sister who is a teacher in Ill. will retire on a pension in a year or two and her pension will guarantee that the rental can be always met and we should be able to grow our food from the land without much difficulty. We (three of us) are (three of us unmarried) used to the garden and I presume we could take care sometimes with a few fish.

Since we are all past the meridian we would be looking for a place that was already an estate

partially improved such as being cleared and
a small house. It would not need be
immediately adjacent to the town, it could
be a mile or two

Do you think that we could get a place of
some 3 to 5 acres unencumbered above conditions?

I would much prefer to stay in Calif
and may also but from present outlook I
cannot see how I can accomplish that.

One more question what about the tropical
cyclones of the Gulf. Do they ever strike over that
way?

Someday when you get time I would
thank you for writing me giving information
in re my questions

I am no stranger to the single tax idea
having many years ago read about all
of Henry Georges works. I always considered
the single tax idea a good one as far as it
went but I have long since come to the
conclusion that it did not cover enough
territory to accomplish what is claimed for
it.

Thanking you for your trouble I am
yrs

Yours sincerely

W B Camp Fann
Olive View (Camp)
California

Nov. 28, 1931

W.V. Compton,
Olive View (Camp)
California, /

Dear Sir:-

Replying to yours of 14th--pardon delay--would say in reply to your further questions:

1. Insects and pests of various kinds are no worse, if as bad, as I have seen in other states in which I have at times resided. ~~They~~ Mosquitoes are nothing like as bad as in rural sections of Iowa.

For temperature and other weather conditions, I shall ask the Weather Observer, at Mobile, only 15 miles distant, to send you some table showing sample year.

People familiar with California climate, many of them have expressed a preference for urs, but of course, both Alabama and Florida have a quite wide range of climate.

Some people coming to us from Detroit, who had been in the habit of going back there during the hot weather of summer, spent the summer here this season and were greatly delighted with it.

From what you tell me of yourself and sister, I do not believe you could find a better place to meet your needs than Fairhope. We can garden more or less the year around, Fishing is good, it is fine for poultry and a wide variety of fruit can be grown.

I think you are mistaken that the Single Tax would not accomplish what is claimed for it--if it could have fair trial--but our application is on so small a scale, that it necessarily falls far short.

Think we could fix you up on a desirable small holding but that would depend of course, on the situation when you arrived and you have not as yet decided whether to come at all or not.

Let me hear from you when a decision is reached.

Very sincerely yours,

MEMPHIS

3433 Coleman ave.,
Memphis, Tenn.
Nov. 22, 1929.

Fairhope Single Tax Corporation,
Fairhope, Ala.

Dear Sirs:

I am thinking of leasing some
land in your community to develop, in
the spring. What would be the taxes on
about forty acres, and what condition is
the land in?

I would appreciate any information.
Trusting that I may hear from you
soon, I am

yours very truly,

D. H. Compton.

Dec. 10, 1929

D.H. Compton,
3433 Coleman Ave.,
Memphis, Tenn.

Dear Mr. Compton:-

I have before me your letter of Nov. 22nd, which arrived during my absence last month attending the Public Ownership Conference at Muscogee Shoals and somehow became mislaid, much to my regret.

Replying today would say that I enclose you an illustrated folder on Fairhope and a copy of our lease contract.

The ~~2666~~ rent on forty acres were vary according to its nearness to town, ranging from about \$2.50 a mile iustile the town limits to less than a dollar four or five miles farther on it. This would be for the naked land, but would include the taxes on improvements, and personal property when you improved upon it, as well as on the land.

The land is uncleared, but ordinarily is not difficult to clear, the timber being pine. In making application it would be necessary to pay a half years rent with application, in addition to the appraised value of any timber on it, which would then be yours to do as you would with it, use it or sell it, and the growth in value while you were paying rent on the land would, of course, be yours. The timber on an ordinary 40 would not amount to much.

I hope what I am sending will give you most of the desired information and that you will not hesitate to write for any other information desired.

Yours very truly

Secretary.

Olive View Calif 10-29-31

Post Master,
Fairhope,
Alabama.

Sir:- I would very much like
to get information regarding the
Fairhope Single Tax Colony, climate
soil, distance from the Gulf, methods
of control, administration, organization
etc.

Am enclosing a self addressed card
for the name and address of some reliable
party who is in position to give me
the desired information.

Thanking you for your trouble I am
sir,

Yours very truly
W. O. Compton,
Olive View
Calif.

Nov. 7, 1931

W.V. Compton,
Olive View, (Camp)
California.

Dear Sir:-

Yours addressed to Postmaster has been referred to us. We are pleased to learn of your interest. Many calls have exhausted our supply of really comprehensive literature, but send you some which we trust will put the situation before you.

You will understand that we apply the Single Tax through a private corporation (as above entitled) which has no power of methods of taxation by the civil authorities, but takes the rental value of land held by lessees and out of it provides for the payment of their taxes, to state, county and town, the land being taxed by the authorities to the Corporat title holder and improvements and personal property ~~is~~ of lessess being assessed to them.

Included with matter sent is a pamphlet, a reprint from the employes Magazine of the L. & N.R.R. which gives much information about this section. Fairhope is immediately on Mobile Bay, and about 20 miles in an air line from the Gulf of Mexico.

We will hope to hear further from you.

We are also sending a copy of the local paper, of which the writer is also editor and publisher and he solicits your subscription.

Yours very sincerely

Secretary.

WELLINGTON CREST HOTEL
540 WELLINGTON AVENUE
CHICAGO, ILL.

7/26/32

Fairhope Single Tax Corp.,
Fairhope, Alabama.

Dear Sir:

I have seen your advertisement in the Fairhope Courier and therefore request information regarding the lands you are offering and the manner in which same is handled.

We are desirous of locating permanently in South Baldwin County, on a few acres of land (5 or 10) for the purpose of raising poultry.

Any information you can give me will be greatly appreciated.

Thanking you, I am
Respectfully,

Mrs. Wm Connolly.

Aug. 5, 1932.

Mrs. Wm. Connolly,
Wellington Crest Hotel,
540 Wellington Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

Replying to yours of 7/26, we are glad to hear from you and note your interest in our offerings of lots. A copy of our application for land, gives a very fine good idea of the terms upon which lots are leased.

Without personal knowledge of the "lay of the land" etc., and a satisfactory map, which we do not have, it would be pretty hard to give you of the advantage of different locations.

We could provided you two or three five acre sites in the Town limits, but the larger part of our acreage is outside the town, where we could give you choice of many sites of that size or larger.

This is a great poultry country. Of course poultry raisers are somewhat in the dums, as all primary producers are, though comparatively beeter off than those who depend on employments from others.

Rent on the few acreag/eparcels we have in town would run about 5 to 10 ~~xxxxxx~~ acre; would drop sharply beyond the town limits and a couple of miles out would only be about \$2 an acre; and still farther out drops to as low or a little below a dollar. (these are annual rents.)

Of course you will understand that this includes not on-ly possession of the land, but payment by the Corporation of the taxes on the land, and acceptance of receipts for taxes paid by lessees on improvements and personal property on the land, for rent or any other obligation to the Corporation, and with no initial payment for the land.

Rents will advance as the land is settled up and increases in value, but will not be affected by anything done by lessees upon the land.

We would be glad to have your inspection in person of our advantages of location and of our policy.

We think you will be interested in enclosed pamphlet about this county and a copy of our local paper is being mailed.

Yours very truly
FAIRHOPE SINGLE TAX CORPORATION
By Sec.

Landenberg, Pennsylvania.

August 1, 1932

To the Editor of the Fairhope Courier,
Dear Sir;

I have heard about your colony and its principles from a family which lived in Fair Hope and were colony members for a number of years. They tell me that they liked the colony and they say that they left you only because of the poor health of Mrs. Poortstra. Your aims and your methods appeal to me and so I decided to write to you and then perhaps come to Fairhope to live, if I am acceptable to the colony and if I can obtain land suitable for careful farming and under single tax regulations. But I need to know several things before I can decide to make the venture and not knowing

to whom I should write I have addressed my letter to you, hoping that my questions will not take too much of your time.

I wish to obtain the use of at least ten acres of reasonably good agricultural land suitable for intensive careful cultivation and then I wish to make my home with you permanently.

The things which I especially need to know are as follows, —

1. Is it possible to secure land from the colony suitable for cultivation?
2. What are the charges for such land at this time
3. Does the colony still exist as such? are new members accepted and if so, what conditions are imposed?
4. To whom should I write for further information?

I wish to thank you for any aid you give me in taking time to answer my questions. I am,

Sincerely yours,
Walter T. Conrow.
Sandenberg, Penn.
% J. R. Cloud

August 6, 1932.

Walter T. Conrow,
C/o. J.R. Cloud,
Landenberg, Pa.

Dear Sir:-

I was pleased to receive yours of 1st, both because of its news of my old friend, Reimer Poortstra and that he still thinks well of Fairhope, and because he has aroused your interest in our Colony and this country.

I am glad to assure you and I trust you will pass the word on to him, if you see him without too much trouble, that our Colony is still in existence and operating along the same original lines.

Also that Fairhope town is now the largest town in Baldwin County, having had four more population by the census of 1930 than Bay Minette, the county seat, and grew more rapidly from 1920 to 1930 than any other town in the state of like size ~~taxtaxtax~~ with one exception, which I am sure he will think is doing pretty well.

As to acceptance of people as citizens and lessees any people of good repute are welcome--as you would be as but as to members of the legal body, The Fairhope Single Tax Corporation, that requires admission by the Executive Council, subsequent to examination to establish the applicants understanding and devotion to the Single Tax policy as being carried out by the Colony. However, a member has no financial advantage over a non-member lessee.

Replying to your questions:

1. Is it possible to secure land from the Colony suitable for cultivation? Yes, the Colony has considerable land open for lease and there are opportunities to secure transfers from others of improved leaseholds. ~~taxtaxtax~~ Rents for acreage \$1 to \$4

2. Already answered.

4. I am the man to write to.

I am sending you an application blank and some other printed matter and will be glad to hear further from you. Give my regards to the Poortstras if you see them.

Yours truly, W. T. Conrow

Box 334
Mt. Dora, Fla.
July, 8th, 1930.

Fairhope Colony.

Fairhope, Ala.

Gentlemen:

Our local paper
has a write up on your
colony from Mr. Ewald which
interests me very much
but not going into details I
wish you would send
me full details.

yours very truly.
E. A. Converse.



July 11, 1930

E.A. Converse,
Box 334,
Mt. Dora, Fla.

Dear Sir:-

Yours of 8th at hand and pleased to learn that your interest has been aroused in Fairhope, by something from Mr. H.M. Ewald, who has spent considerable time here.

We are sorry that our most comprehensive literature has been exhausted. but are sending you a copy of our form of application for land and lease, (the two constituting the contract of individuals with the Corporation for the use of land, attract, "The Land Question" by Henry George, the great apostle of the Single Tax movement; a small folder entitled "Whose Land" presenting our view of the land question in readable form with a brief explanation of the Colony policy; a reprint from the L. & N.R.R. Company's Employes Magazine, entitled "The 'It' County of Baldwin Alabama" and under another wrapper are sending a copy of our local paper.

We hope you find this matter interesting and will be glad to hear from you further.

Yours very sincerely

The Fairhope Single Tax Corporation,

By _____
Secretary.

TAX RELIEF ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

Phone TUcker 2417

412 American Bank Bldg.
Los Angeles, Calif.

April 10, 1930.

OFFICERS

President

DAVID WOODHEAD
Pres. Woodhead Lumber Co.

Vice-President

GEORGE H. DUNLOP
Attorney

Treasurer

A. W. FRYE
Banker

Secretary

STOUGHTON COOLEY
Writer

Mr. Ernest B. Gaston,
Editor, Courier,
Fairhope, Alabama.

Dear Mr. Gaston:

We need your help. We have been pestering the land speculators here till their are getting uncomfortable, and are looking about for means to shut us up. Recently our assessor wrote to some one in Pittsburgh for something that would discredit the classified tax or Pittsburgh Plan. He didn't get much, and Percie Williams quickly spiked his guns.

Now I'm told the Realty Board here is writing to ~~the editor~~ Mobile-- I think to some editor, but am not sure-- for something to discredit Fairhope. We want to be ready to meet it. They will probably get a lot of stuff, and publish what serves their purpose. We want the whole story so that we can follow immediately with the rest, and ask why they didn't tell that part too.

I have no doubt you have been through this sort of thing a good many times, and know just how to meet it. I shall be very glad to have such data as you think best meets the occasion.

Judging from the fine paper you run, and the sensible policy pursued I imagine you are always ready to meet such attacks. I imagine also from what I have seen in the Courier that there are friendly editors in Mobile.

Strange as it may seem, although I have been a Single-taxer since 1884, I have never been in Fairhope, and so far as I recall, have never met you, though I feel very well acquainted with both. But there may still be time.

With all good wishes, I remain

Yours truly,

Stoughton Cooley

MARSHALL STIMSON
Attorney
DR. JOHN R. HAYNES
Public Service Com.
FRANKLIN HICHBORN
Writer and Publicist
PROF. ROY MALCOM
Univ. of So. Calif.
JACKSON H. RALSTON
International Lawyer
C. A. DYKSTRA
Public Service Com.
MARSHALL BECK
Manufacturer
E. B. SWINNEY
Financier
ARTHUR P. DAVIS
Engineer
R. E. CHADWICK
Realtor
BENJ. B. HAMPTON
Moving Picture Producer
GEORGE A. BRIGGS
Manufacturer
P. D. NOEL
Accountant
J. S. EDWARDS
Orchardist
H. L. MOLLER
Attorney
T. O. THOMPSON
Orchardist
PAUL SCHARRENBERG
Secy., State Federation
of Labor

TAX RELIEF ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA

Phone TUcker 2417

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A. W. FRYE
Banker

Secretary

STOUGHTON COOLEY
Writer

Mr. Ernest B. Gaston,
Editor of the Courier,
Fairhope, Alabama.

Dear Mr. Gaston:

It appears that I went off half cocked in my letter of yesterday. I write this to make myself somewhat intelligible. To begin, I had forgotten Mr. Rickarby's letter in the Courier of March 20. Mr. Woodhead, president of our Association, sends me a copy this morning together with a letter in which he says:

"Do you not think it would be well for you to write Mr. Gaston and get all the confidential information we can relative to the inquiry of the Los Angeles Realty Board, and obtain, if possible, a copy of the complete reply of the Mobile Realty Association. Undoubtedly the Los Angeles Realty Board will spring this very soon and they will only tell half of the story. We ought to have the other half of the story ready at that time."

As I said yesterday, the realtors here are getting desperate under our goadings, and are looking for a chance to strike back. We want to be prepared for them when they come. Mr. Rickarby's letter is so friendly that I should think he would aid you.

The Los Angeles Realty Association publishes a monthly magazine which comes to our office, but its contents cling closely to the regulation Rotarian Philosophy, and seldom wanders into economic problems.

When the Tax Digest was started here it made a break in an editorial, and we went after it so sharply that it hasn't ventured to mention the subject since. We want to do the Realtor the same way if it ventures into the open. This is our excuse for asking your assistance.

Sincerely,

Stoughton Cooley

MARSHALL STIMSON
Attorney
DR. JOHN R. HAYNES
Public Service Com.
FRANKLIN HICHBORN
Writer and Publicist
PROF. ROY MALCOM
Univ. of So. Calif.
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J. S. EDWARDS
Orchardist
H. L. MOLLER
Attorney
T. O. THOMPSON
Orchardist
PAUL SCHARRENBERG
Secy., State Federation
of Labor

Courier 7 1/30

" 3/20

" Ref Sheet

" Howard Page

Copy of Ed Parson in the Week

" Letter of Rick Kirby

" Letter E.B. to Gleason

" Annual Report

" Lease & app.

April 19, 1930.

Stoughton Cooley,
Sec. Tax Relief Association,
Los Angeles, Cal.

Dear Mr . Cooley:-

Yours of 11th was duly received and I am just finding time to reply. As I understand it, the Mobile Realtors, decided not to make any report on the Single Tax as applied by us; no doubt because they could not agree among themselves as to the facts. I am reproducing for your benefit an editorial appearing in the Courier of Jan. 9th, of which unfortunately, I have none but my file copies left; which is quite pertinent, I think. Am also sending page of the Courier of March 20, giving Mr. Rickarby's letter, with my comment on same; and copy of a letter later received from him, also am sending copy of Courier of Jan. 30 last, with first-page article, showing comparative standing of Baldwin county towns as to postal receipts, a very good index as to the development, Daphne down the list of towns, was 100 years old when Fairhope was established and the county seat then and for several years thereafter, but only had postal receipts of \$1,927, as against \$10,434 for Fairhope,

The Single Tax Colony owns less than half of the land in the Town limits, but practically all the business is done and the great majority of the population resides on its land, the very best of evidence, we hold, that the people find our proposition better for them than the propositions of others owning land in the vicinity.

I am sending other matter which I am sure yourself and associates will find interesting and more or less pertinent to your purpose.

I hope you will keep me posted on what develops there in this connection.

Thanks for your compliments for the Courier. We try to make it worth while. Certainly hope you get down here to visit us one of these days. One of your old friends in Chicago, Frank L. Brown, is still here, is now president and was such many years ago. I enjoy Tax Facts. Quoted from it this week. Have been subject to many interruptions since beginning this.

Sincerely and fraternally,

April 25, 1930

Stoughton Cooley,
Los Angeles, Cal.

Dear Brother Cooley:-

D Please see the Courier of this week and get additional evidence with regard to Fairhope. You will see that we s showed the largest gain in number of the town's of this county and ran up within five--have since got seven more which were not counted-- of the county seat, though she was 239 ahead of us ten years ago. She is on the main line of the L. & N. R.R., the greatest railroad system in the state, and at the head of a branch line of the ~~six~~ same system running thirty miles down through the center of the ~~count~~ county, while we are 14 miles from a railroad.

Of course growth is a matter of comparison. You folks out there about your boom towns, s pending large sums for advertising and tempting people from everywhere by your land gambling ~~temptations~~ schemes, look on our growth as a small matter, but the comparison must be made with towns in this locality to be fair.

Foley, which made such a large percentage of gain, is the terminal of the railroad, with the whole end of the county beyond and on either side to dra w from, and with very active booming. Here we fight the idea of a boom.

Fraternally yours,

P.S. Let me add to foregoing the fact that Fairhope is considerably ahead of Bay Minette in telephones installed. Take the facts submitted in connection with the fact the incentive to boosting, profits, has been practically eliminated here; that all other places have agents out working for settlers for the profit of land owners; that we are trying a policy against the established usage everywhere else, which, no matter how well we may think of it, is a great obstacle in itself; we hold out no hope of profit from land, ~~xxx~~ except from its use and will only lease not sell.

E.B.G.

St Clair City

Aug 21 1933

Secretary Fair Hope Colony

Dear Sir

Wishing to get some information in regard to the success of your colony as an institute, I had a Brother a member he died in 1923, he was very enthusiastic in regard to it at that time now I am getting old and would like to get away from the cold of the North would like to know what conditions you receive new members and what about Baldwin Co in particular if you will be kind enough to do this I will be very thankful

Respectfully

David A Cope
908 Cedar St

St Clair

Michigan

Aug. 25, 1933.

David A. Cope,
908 Cedar St.,
St. Clair, Mich.

Dear Mr. Cope:-

Yours received. I am glad to get in touch with one @ related to one of the most faithful of our members, your/ Borthor, the lamented M.M. Cope. And I am glad to be able to assure you, that while Fairhope has not escaped--and could be fairly expected to--evils inherent in the system otherwise universally existing, we feel that conditions are much better here than in most other places.

So far as membership in our corporation is concerned, that is a matter of payment of \$100 and being accepted, by giving satisfactory assurance of understanding of and sympathy with the policies of the Colony; but one does not have to be a member to share in the benefits of the Colony. Any lessee of its land gets the same terms of lease, rent, etc. as a member.

I am sending you a little printed matter regarding the Colony and am also sending you a folder on Baldwin County, entitled "THE 'IT' COUNTY OF ALABAMA."

Shall hope to hear further from you,

Yours very truly,

Sec. S.T. Corporation.

St Clair City

3/18 1934

E B Gorton

Dear Sir

Excuse me you will forgive me
for waiting so long to make
reply to your kind letter of
Aug 24th. But we have less snow
since last November and believe
me we had less a plenty this
winter and last night we had
several inches of snow after one
warm day of spring but it is a
blessing to have snow here in the
spring to save the crop from spring
frost. The depression is still with
us, and in my opinion will be for
some time, but people are eager to
do something and perhaps some will
try. I have had an offer for some of
my property if I make a sale I
expect to come and see you and
fair hope. My Brothers are all gone but
one out of ten I being the youngest
and it seventy two we begin to count
the years ahead and look for a
warmer place to hibernation

I would like to know how you
people got along this winter, and what
Opportunity there are for getting improved
Lease to Colony Property.

I will say there is a considerable
agitation along political lines as to
our Monetary Standards such as
Single Gold Standard, Bimetalism,
and Direct Credit, it seems to me
we are in a Whirlwind of Transition
at the present time, Hoping for
something better I Remain
Yours Truly

David A Cope
908 Cedar St
St Clair
Michigan

April 15, 1934.

David A. Cope,
908 Cedar St.,
St. Clair, Mich.

Dear Mr. Cope:-

Yours of March 18 is before me. I note your first subject is the kind of weather there in the early spring and having lived in Iowa many years, I quite prepared to believe that its far from satisfactory. I am quite sure I want no more of it personally. In this respect Alabama can beat Michigan "all hollow."

I share your view about the depression being still on and likely to be for a good while in the future. Indeed I have very little faith, that the "planned economy" plans of the president and associates will ever bring the results hoped for. .

I hope you will realize your hope of disposing of some of your property and will come down and look Fairhope over. We think it is hard to eat--in fact cannot be beaten. I note you are 72, which happens to be my own age. I was 72 Nov. 21st last year.,

We had a fairly normal winter last winter, but there was a great deal of distress and unemployment in this vicinity as well as in other sections of the country, as nearly as I can ascertain. There is a favorable opportunity now to secure somewhat improved Colony tax properties with small outlay.

We would be glad to see you here and be of any service to you we can on account of your brother who was a very devoted member of the Colony and on your own account.

Due caution is suggested however, in making a change at your age on insufficient means to carry you and establish you in some degree of independence.

Yours very truly,

July 11, 1935.

Dr. E.A. Copeland,
Jackson, Ala.

Dear Doctor Copeland:-

I read with much interest of your gallant fight and the good audiences you are drawing. As the campaign advances you appear to be gaining strength. While it has never seemed to me possible that you might win, yet the sowing of seed which you are doing will have its influence throughout coming years, when, we must hope, the people have more vision, enough to see what is at the root of our troubles and come together in sufficient number to accomplish the freeing of the land.

I wonder if you could make any use of a quantity of folders, such as that I enclose. Years ago somebody sent me a great quantity of them and I will send you a lot of them if you can make use of them. It is unfortunate that as put out it has no date line, to show the period to which it refers.

With the best of wishes and hoping that win or lose you will take time out after the primary and run over and rest a week or so at Fairhope, I am,

Yours most appreciatively,

141 North Sixth St,
Reading. Pa.
February 15/33.

Fairhope Single Tax Colony.
Fairhope.
Alabama

Gentlemen,

If you have any printed matter from which I could get information about your success in applying the Single Tax on your Colony lands, I would be glad to receive what you may send, also tell me if there is anything that interferes with the carrying of that system.

I have been an advocate of the "Henry George Theory" for over 30 years. I attended the first "Single Tax" Convention held in "Cooper Union Hall" in New York City. I am glad to have met Mr. George a number of times when he was out lecturing, I also visited at his home.

I thank you for what information you may send.

Respectfully Yours,

Chas. Borkhill.

Feb. 17, 1933.

Chas. Corkhill,
141 No. Sixth St.,
Reading, Pa.

Dear Mr. Corkhill:-

Yours of 15th at hand and we are glad to learn of you as an old-time Singletaxer and to furnish you with information about our Colony.

I am sending you a copy of our constitution, History from the beginning nearly to the present time, form of application for land, etc; and trust you may find same interesting. Also sending one or two late copies of the Fairhope.

You ask if there "is anything that interferes with the carrying out of our system. There are several things that hinder. First, the hostility to the idea of more or less of those who accept our hostility; the difficulty in getting people in turning in their improvements for taxation, to separate the same from the land; and the same as to assessors; others might be named. but the most important now is the collapse of the present system, which prevents farmers from getting any profit for their products; robs artisans of all sorts from employment; practically wipes out the cash selling value of property of all kinds, which while tax increases are sought, to meet "relief" expenses, *all affecting the ability of our people to meet their rent.*

While we have suffered from these maladjustments, there seems to be general agreement that our town is in better condition than any other in this territory.

Would be glad to hear from you further and would appreciate your subscription to the Courier, that you might keep in touch with us from week to week.

Most sincerely yours,

Secretary.

3/27/34

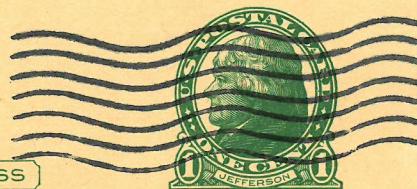
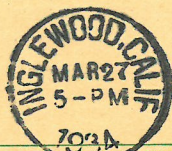
Mr E P Gossin

Will you mail
me any Advertising
matter for Fairhope
and vicinity
Thanks

O C Long

Hawthorne

511 E Connecticut
St
Calif



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

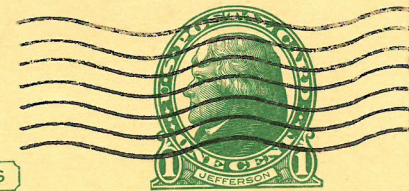
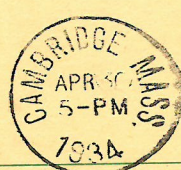
Mr E B Gaston
Fairhope
Ala
Baldwin Co

Dear Mr. Easton - Will you
please send copy of the
"Souvenir of Fairhope" & the
last "Courier" to Capt. L.
H. Everhart, 61 Waterloo Rd.,
Bedford, England. Capt. & Mrs.
E. - have been educating
their children in Switzer-
land for some years past &
are now thinking of return-
ing home.

Capt. E. is retired naval
officer and they would
be a desirable acquisition
to the Colony, if oppor-
tunities in the near future
~~are~~ presented to them in
an attractive way, persuade them.

April 30. Mrs. Winifred B. Corsette
17 Perry St., Cambridge,
Mass.

*Send and
write
this*



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

*E. B. Gaston
The Fairhope Courier
Fairhope, Alabama*

Sent

Ans

17 Perry St.
Cambridge, Mass.

Jan 6/36

Dear Mr. Easton,

If you have a spare
copy of "Fairhope Illustrated" will
you please send it (and also the
pamphlet recently issued by your
bank) to a Boston friend, now
teaching in a private school? —

Miss Winnifred L. Turner
339 West Barry St.
Chicago, Ill.

May a new lease of courage and
enthusiasm be ours for 1936
Best wishes as always!

Sincerely —
Winnifred B. Cossette

Dec. 19, 1932.

Winifred B. Cossette,
17 Perry St.,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Madam:-

Have taken pleasure in sending Colony history to Mrs. Edward Anderson, Jamaica Plain and another to you and thank you very much for going to the trouble of making me a copy of the very interesting extract from letter of John Paul. I have it "on my copy hook" and if I do not get it in this week or next, will try and do so after the holidays are over. I hope you have read in the last two issues--1st, my article on "Over Assessment" of Colony property; second, "Some of the handicaps of the last few years, not due to Colony policy or management."

Yours most sincerely,

Fairhope citizen.

Dear Sir. Having heard favorably of your location, we desire to learn more of conditions down there so submit the following questions and will greatly appreciate your kindness in answering them or any additional information you can give us.

What is population of Fairhope.

Hotel there.

Is town near gulf.

Can you see and hear the water

Is ice obtainable in village

How far from Mobile

State road conditions to Mobile

What churches in village

What shade trees grow

What fruit trees grow

Does white or colored people predominate in village.

What crops are grown

When is first crop planted

When is second crop planted.

Is fresh milk obtainable

Is there pasture for cows

What is the annual rain fall.

Is rainfall regular or are you subject to drought

Do moles trouble

What about snakes

Is land fertile

Is land level or hilly

Is there acreage for sale out side of
that controlled by syndicate.

What is the range of prices per acre.

Are you a resident, land owner or
producer.

~~What~~ ^{Do} flowers grow or burn up in summer

What are your hottest months.

Does it ever freeze there

- What objectional features could you
mention concerning your village, coun-
ty or state.

Are destructive storms of hail or wind
common.

What about factories or rail-roads.

Explain water supply.

What is the altitude of Fair hope.

E. E. Coy.
Mt. Healthy, O.
Hamilton Co.

Aug. 2, 1930

E.E. Coy,
Mt. Healthy,
Hamilton Co., Ohio.

Dear Mr. Coy:-

I find your communication without date appears not to have received attention, which I very much regret.

Replying now--I hope not too late to be of service to you, I take pleasure in sending you some printed matter which I thin will answer most of your inquiries. Replying in order to same would say.

Population 1930 census, 1547--largest town in county.
Four hotels.

Town is about 30 miles from Gulf, but directly on Mobile Bay, much more satisfactory in general than on the Gulf.

Plenty of ice; two ice plants, but consolidated.

14 miles from Mobile by water, about 25 by land.
Road conditions to Mobile, ordinarily good, something over half paved.

Churches, Methodist, Baptist, Disciple, (sometimes called "Campbellite," Catholic, Episcopalian, all with buildings, Christian Science and Theosophist organizations,

Great variety of shade trees; some of principal, Oaks, including live oak and several other varieties, Magnolia, Gum, Holly, pecan nuts, caphor, Chinaberry and Umbrella, Mimosa, etc, etc.

Fruit, pears, peaches, grapes, oranges, figs, Japanese persimmons, etc.

White people largely predominate.

Crops--see pamphlet "The 'IT' County of Alabama"

Irish potatoes planted usually in January.

Other crops, see pamphlet referred to

Plenty of milk obtainable.

Yes, pasture for cows; but town has stock law.

Annual rain fall averages about 60 inches; this year very dry.

Rainfall is pretty well distributed, but occasional drouths.

Moles not great cause of trouble.

Not many snakes.

Land nicely rolling as a rule, lays about like prairie regions of Iowa or Illinois.

Plenty of land to be bought. Prices about \$15 to \$50 a acre.

I am resident, Colony lessee; Colony secretary, also newspaper man.

Hottest months July and August.

Yes it freezes a few times in the winter.

We occasionally have hurricanes so-called, seldom do great damage.

No factories, except saw-mill. No railroad. Good bus line to Mobile; also steamboat service.

Water supply is excellent, water about 93 ft. from surface, in center of town--land 130 ft above sea level; artesian well at foot of bluff, on bay shore, about 250 ft. deep, lifting water about ten ft above ground level there, principal source of supply for city water.

Will be glad to hear from you further.

Better subscribe to local paper; sending you a copy.

Yours very truly,

Sec. Fairhope S.T. Corporation.

1544 - 4 th. St., San Diego, Calif.,
March 31, 1931.

E. B. Gaston
Fairhope, Ala.,

I am sending you a check for \$300⁰⁰ that
may be used to take advantage of the
coming tax sale to increase the land
holdings of the colony.

If you have a spare copy of the rent list
for this year I should like to have one.

In this state the population in the
southern part has increased much faster
than in the northern and the legisla-
ture is now struggling with the problem
of adjusting representatives to Congress
and to the state legislature. The north
end appears to want its area represented.

In The North American Review for April
is an article about Herbert Hoover by
John Spargo that you may be interested
in reading. Exciting times may come in
the future, perhaps.

Yours truly

Thos. P. Craig.

April 12, 1931

Thos. P. Craig,
1544 4th St.
San Diego, Calif.

Dear Brother Craig:-

Thank you very much for your interesting letter of March 31st and most generous check for use in acquiring land sold at tax sales for enlarging the area of the Colony.

I have delayed replying because of wanting to bring the matter before the Colony Council which did not have a meeting until Tuesday evening of last week. At that meeting your contribution was presented and I was instructed--which I take great pleasure in doing--to extend the thanks of the Corporation to you for your generous gift and to assure you that the very best use will be made of the money for the purpose intended. Nobody knows so well as we Singletaxers that the land is the economic foundation and it is the right to its use on equal terms the only safe foundation of human freedom.

You called my attention to an article in the North American Review, for April on Herbert Hoover, by John Spargo. I have not read it but shall try to do so.

No rent list for this year has yet been issued but we hope to have one out very shortly. Should have had it out before, but I have to prepare the copy and I am always trying to do more than I can get done.

Mrs. Gaston joins me in very best regards,

Yours most sincerely,

Secretary.

1544 - 4th St., San Diego Calif.,
2-18-31.

Friend Gaston:-

I was not aware, until I read your paper which came today, that the severe drought extended as far south as Fairhope. All these tenants of the Fairhope Corp., who are really trying to earn an honest living by farming, who are really hard up right now because of the drought?

If so how many?

I do not see how those who borrow from the government, seed etc. to raise something to eat, after eating it, can sell it and repay the loan. Perhaps the president can see things that I can not.

Has the asking price of land in the vicinity of Fairhope come down to such a price that that it can be bought and farmed with a reasonable chance of success?

Here there is an effort being made to find some way to relieve "real estate" from some of the tax that is now put on it.

There is much unemployment here. I think that was not so before the civilized (?) people came, when the people here were pagans and only food gatherers. Great is Christian civilization!

Is Fairhope or the colony really in bad shape financially?
Thos. P. King

March 13, 1931

Thos. P. Craig,
1544 4th St.,
San Diego, Cal.

Dear Brother Craig:-

Yours of feb. 18th was duly received and should have been answered earlier, but you know how overwhelmed with work I always am.

We did not suffer with the drouth here anything like they did in many other places. The father north one went from here up into Kentucky the worse its effects were. However, it was serious enough here along with lowered prices for farm products due to the so-called "over-production" which we know was really "underconsumption" due to the rank and file being unable to buy back their proportion of the joint production, did hit many of our people in this section--and a few of the Colonists.

A bunch of the poor folks hereabouts had great hopes of getting some aid from the drouth relief fund and our bank cashier, Kirby Wharton, spent a great deal of time, assisting in filling out blanks for them--quite without compensation, but he said a day or so ago, that up to date only one loan had gone through and the money been made available, but that subject to such a cut that the party turned it down.

The asking price of land has come down materially. I am just advised that one piece of 2080 acres, cornering into our land, which sold for \$40,000 with \$25,000 paid, when the "boom" was on is back in the hands of the seller and that he has offered to take \$17,000 on easy payments with 6% interest. I would like mightily to see the Colony get it. But there will undoubtedly be many chances to pick up land for delinquent taxes when the annual tax sales come in a couple of months.

The effort to "relieve real estate" has not been pushed here so far, as it has been in many places.

No, the Colony is not nearly in as bad shape as some have represented. A great many lots which were not in use have been surrendered, which means that they do not bring in any revenue but from my standpoint it is a distinct gain to have them turned back

by those who had no serious intention of using them themselves, but figured on getting a rake-off from some one else who might want to do so. Lessees have, a good many of them, had a lot of difficulty in paying their taxes to county, state and town, and in this way are prevented from applying the same on the rent; and a number are finding it difficult to pay the balance of tax rent above taxes where they have paid the latter. The treasurer's report for February shows over \$1500 on hand.

The town has a lot of debt, but it is being paid off by the receipts of the municipal light plant at a pretty good rate.

We have several traveling men living here and working out from here and their unanimous verdict is that Vairhope is in better condition than any other town in this part of the state; which I attribute largely to the fact that we kept the land boom for getting much start here and did not have a big part of the population from loading themselves up with debt for land which they were hoping to unload on somebody else for a high price--in the meantime a dead weight about their own necks-- and because of our winter residents and the Organic School and the people it brings here.

With very best regards,

Fraternally yours,

Secretary.

Sept. 29, 1930

Hannah J. Cranmer,
Toms River, N.J.

Dear Madam:-

Yours of 25th at hand. Pleased to note that you are likely to come to Fairhope this winter and perhaps, to have a son and daughter with you.

Taking pleasure in mailing you a couple of late copies of our local paper, the Fairhope Courier.

Impossible in these times to guarantee work, but it is very likely the young man could find some work to do.

Plenty of houses to rent at reasonable prices.

Yours very sincerely

FAIRHOPE SINGLE TAX CORPORATION,

Secretary.

Toms River. N. J. Sept 25/30

Fair Hope Single Tax Colony

Dear Sirs:

Please send me the Weekly
Newspaper. Sample copy of
the Fair Hope Courier or
what ever other paper. I
am thinking seriously of
coming there for the winter
I was to come last winter
but something happened &
wasn't able to make it
I will want to rent a house
will have a boy 21 who
perhaps will want to get
some kind of work. He
is a machinist auto. &
also a musician. perhaps
may have a daughter
with me who will want
office work. I would
like to see the papers &
find out what the pros-
pects are. I thank you
very much
Samuel J. Crammer

Chicago Oct 1st 1935

Ernest B Gaston

Editor Fairhope ^{Courier}
Fairhope Ala

Dear Sir

Will you please send
me a History of Fairhope Colony
book up to date.

I am desirous of learning
the method of Taxation and
administration of Town
Affairs.

Several people hereabouts
keep guessing me and
I am unable to answer
So please help me out at
an early date & Oblige
Yours truly W. Parker

Oct. 5, 1935

W. Craske,
2148 West 107th Place,
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Craske:-

Yours of Oct. 1st received and am glad to furnish you the information desired; though am unable to put before you in one printed statement the information desired. However I think in what I enclose in another envelope, you will be able to get a fair idea, along with what I will give you herewith.

As a simple brief statement by the great apostle of the Single Tax, reprinted in the Congressional Record in 1917, I include "The Single Tax, what It Is and Why We Urge It?" by Henry George.

It presents the Single Tax as a method of taxation to be effected by changing the laws of taxation.

The "Single Tax Colony" scheme, if I may rightly call it such, was to apply the idea as far as possible, under existing laws.

For this a non-stock non-profit corporation, was organized, The Fairhope Single Tax Corporation, to acquire land in usual manner and lease it to individuals, collecting as rent the land value which Henry George would take as tax, and from the rent take care of not only the taxes on the land, but the taxes assessed against the improvements made by lessees.

I am sending you a copy of the form of lease, by a careful study of which I think you will get a fairly clear idea of the plan.

The Town of Fairhope and the Single Tax Corporation are entirely separate corporative entities, the Town being incorporated under the general municipal laws of the state; the Single Tax Corporation operating under the terms of its corporation charter.

The bulk or the larger part of citizens of the Town reside on land of the Colony this being largely due to the fact that under the Colony policy they were saved the necessity of buying land.

I hope that this letter and printed matter sent will clarify the matter for you and enable you to satisfy the desire of others but if there are points not understood, I will be glad to take them up if requested. Yours most sincerely,

Publishers, Fairhope Courier,
Fairhope, Ala.

Aug. 14-1934.

Dear Sirs: - Could you send me descriptive literature of Fairhope and of your form of tax and government.

Also literature of Baldwin County and prices of farm land. -

For instance; what is the price of the "40 acre" farm advertised by Mrs. Prout on page 8 of your valuable paper under date of Aug. 2nd?

Thanking you in advance for your anticipated favor, I am

yours truly,

{ Harry L. Crawford,
311 Kennedy Ave.,
Duquesne, Pa.

(DUQUESNE)

Aug. 23, 1934.

Harry L. Crawford,
311 Kennedy Ave.,
Duquesne, Penn.

Dear Sir:-

I beg your pardon for delay in answering your inquiry of 14th, requesting literature about Fairhope and also something of Baldwin County.

I take pleasure in now supplying what may meet your needs. I am mailing you under another wrapper a copy of "History" of our Colony effort, constitution, form of lease; an address by me at Chicago, in 1928, and a pamphlet reprint of article in Magazine of Employees of L.&N.R.R. entitled "The 'IT' County of Alabama."

Around \$400 I think would take the Mrs. Prout place.

Am taking pleasure in sending you also a copy of the current issue of the Fairhope Courier.

Hoping to hear from you further I am,

Yours very truly,

Secretary.

Oct. 7, 1932.

F. L. Crocker,
Ward G. Veterans Administration
Hospital,
Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Dear Sir:-

It gives us pleasure to reply to your communication of
1st, relative to our proposition here.

We are enclosing some bits of literature which we think
should put the proposition fairly before you without extended writing,
though not as well connected, perhaps, as they should be.

First, we send you a brief statement by Henry George, the
founder of the Single Tax movement in this country, as republished some
years ago in the Congressional record, "The Single Tax, What It Is and
Why We Urge It" a general statement applying to the accomplishment of
the desired end by amending the laws.

Second, we send you an address by our Secretary at a Single
Tax, or Henry George Congress at Chicago, in 1928.

Third, a "Quarter Centennial History" by the secretary,
brought down to date.


Fourth, a copy of the application for land in use, which
quite fully sets forth the terms of the lease contract, of which it is
a part.

If there is anything further desired after you have "digested
these, be at liberty to call upon us further.

Yours very sincerely,

The Fairhope Single Tax Corporation,

By


Secretary.

Tuscaloosa, Alabama,
October 1st, 1932.

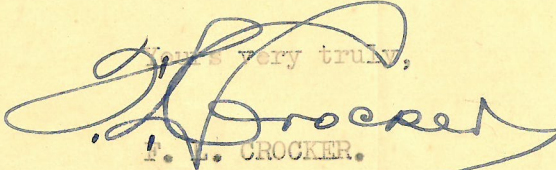
Fairhope Single Tax Co.,
Fairhope, Alabama.

Gentlemen:

I have just been talking to Mr. Joe C. Gray who is a patient in the hospital here, and he endeavored to explain to me in a very superficial way, the plan you offer.

If it is as he has pictured it to me, I am very much interested, and will appreciate very much your forwarding me all literature you may have, as well as, a detailed explanation of the proposition you have to offer. Kindly send same to F. L. Crocker, Ward G, Veterans Administration Hospital, Tuscaloosa.

Thanking you in advance for this anticipated favor, I am

Yours very truly,

F. L. CROCKER.

FLC:ah

Sparta, Wis.

Feb - 7, 1931.

Sir - of Single Tax Colony

Baldwin County,

Alabama -

Dear Sir - I hope this letter will reach you. I know your city is located in Baldwin Co. but have forgotten the name. About 30 years ago I was making trips between Wis. and Mobile while in Mobile I received some literature setting forth your single tax system. It appealed very strongly to me as a wise venture, and I would be pleased to learn that you are still holding out and what the result of the years have been. Taxes in the north are getting burdensome. The rate this year in this city is better than $3\frac{1}{2}$ percent, A \$700. car is \$25.00 \$1000. car \$38.00 + etc. Send me a copy of your city paper I will want to subscribe for it. Kind stamps enclosed

Yours Truly.

Wm Croft

226 W. L. St. Sparta, Wis

Feb. 22, 1931

Wm. Croft,
226 N. L St.
Sparta, Wisc.

Dear Sir:-

Yours of 7th has reached me and very glad to hear from you and to be able to advise you that our Single Tax Colony is still "going strong" though handicapped at present by the universal reaction from the speculative ---land and stock-booms of a few years ago.

You will be interested, I am sure, to know that Fairhope is now the largest and I am sure the best town in the County, having oustripped the county-seat Bay Minette, within the last decade. In 1920 Bay Minette had 1,092 and Fairhope only 853. In 1930 we topped here by 1549 to 1545 and our rate of gain, 81% plus, was more than that of any other town in the state of from 12 800 to 1500 in 1920; but one.

I am sending you a couple of late copies of the Fairhope Courier, of which I am editor and publisher as well as secretary of the Colony, and would be very glad to recieve your subscription.

Yours very truly

May 5, 1933.

Mr. L.E. Cummings,
19 North Normal St.,
Ypsilanti, Mich.

Dear Mr. Cummings:-

Yours of May 3rd just at hand and I take pleasure in explaining the matters which give you some difficulty,

Yes, the Corporation pays the taxes on the lessee-owners house, his live stock and farming equipment, etc. if in the country, his house, factory, store-building and stock of goods, etc. if in town. With this exception that the town taxes will be paid only to the extent of the difference between the state and county tax and the total rent charge against the lessee's

For instance, state and county (and school district) taxes now amount to 31 mills on a 60% valuation and if in town there is added 10 mills for town taxes. If a lessee's assessment was \$1,000 his state and county tax would be \$31 and his town tax \$10, \$31 in all. If his rent on the ground leased was \$31 or more both tax receipts would be received as so much cash on his rent. If however, his rent was only \$25, his state and county tax receipt would be received in full, but only \$6 of town tax receipt would apply. For years both receipts were received in full, but the receiving of the state county and township taxes is provided for in the constitution and the lease contracts, while the receipt of town taxes, was only by an order of the executive council, and the council modified this rule, so as to accept town tax receipts, up to the difference between the state and county tax and the total rent. Townships are not organized in this state and there are no township taxes.

The fact is that a large majority of the members are in favor, as I personally am, of limiting the taxes to be taken care of for anybody to his rent. This will however, require amendment of the constitution and could not affect existing leases. I hope you understand. I should perhaps explain that our way of paying the taxes of lessees on property owned by them is not by directly paying them but letting the lessees pay those taxes which are assessed against them and then turn them in on their rents.

As to the value of timbe, that would be assessed by our superintendent of lands and highways and would have to be paid on taking possession of the property.

We would not have any improved property, that is with buildings, unless it had been taken over for non-payment of rent, which occasionally happens, but at present we have nothing of the kind in the country.

Will be glad to hear from you further.

Very truly,

FAIRHOPE SINGLE TAX CORPORATION,

By _____
Secretary.

19 North Normal Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan
3 May 1933

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

Dear Mr. Gaston,

Thanks for your prompt reply relative to the lands of your corporation. A few matters need explaining and I shall enumerate them:

In the first paragraph of the application for land of the Corporation, it reads "that out of the land rentals the Corporation will pay the state and county taxes on the land, improvements and personal property of its lessees held thereon." Does this mean that out of the land tax you pay all taxes that may be assessed yearly against the owner's house, should he erect one, or in case a home is on the rented land? How about taxes on stock and equipment that one uses, - is it assessed by the state and county? If so, are the rates high?

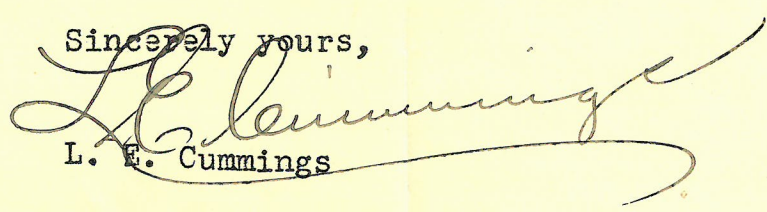
Assuming that a good five acre tract at a yearly rate of \$3.50 per acre, had one or two acres of timber on it, how would the value be determined? And how and when payable? Would it, in your opinion, be possible to get a five acre tract with some sort of house on it, small of course, that could be put in a livable condition with paint, etc? If so, what would such a place rent for in addition to the land rental?

I note what you say about the back to the land movement and the hard work involved. Might I say that while I am an accountant by profession, much of my time away from the regular routine has been given over to a good sized garden and an equally large lawn. Being a lover of the great outdoors, it gives me much joy at the end of the day, even though it has been a long one. I am inclined to think that when we labor at the things we enjoy, fatigue does not play so big a part.

In an undertaking such as this we would want to move slowly but surely and most of all, lay down a definite program with sufficient funds set aside from present earnings to see the undertaking through successfully.

At your convenience, I would enjoy further enlightenment.

50 21
Sincerely yours,


L. E. Cummings

July 19, 1931

O.K. Cummings,
City.

Dear Cummings:-

In regard to the transfers about which you spoke to me yesterday, to secure these it will be necessary for the parties to get the Holdings to sign applications in the form now in use--in duplicate. I am enclosing two for each. The Council is due to meet Tuesday night.

Yours very truly.

Secretary.

P.S. Here is a memorandum of telegraph and phone charges regarding Beeb gas tax bill. If the Eastern Shore Paved Road Ass'n has any money would be glad to get same

Manawa Park Presbyterian Church
Council Bluffs, Iowa.
Pastor Supply.

REV. J. E. CUMMINGS, D. D.

2870 TITUS AVENUE. PHONE, KENWOOD 5370

OMAHA, NEBR. March 1931

Sir - I am studying various
Communion and cooperative societies
I shall be glad for any details you can
give of Fairbairn

1 its present membership

2 known
statutory
will

3 How are members admitted

Thank you for any
information you could give

Sincerely
J. E. Cummings

Where are other similar colonies

March 23, 1931

Rev. J.E. Cummings,
2870 Titus Ave.,
Omaha, Neb.

Dear Sir:-

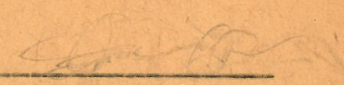
Yours of recent date received and am pleased to note your interest in our and other communities. I greatly regret that many calls have exhausted all editions of anything like a comprehensive bit of literature regarding our Colony. Am sending you a copy of our constitution, of our form of application for land, a copy of "Quarter Centennial History" going back to the beginning and carrying us through our first 25 years, little folder, telling a good story and asking a most pertinent question, with a brief explanation of our method of answering the question at conclusion; also a reprint from L. & N.R.R. men's magazine, entitled "The 'It' County of Alabama, giving interesting facts about our great country here and in its mention of our Colony, showing the esteem in which it is held by outsiders.

The Colony now has a little over 4,000 acres of land, unencumbered; our town (of which the Colony has about four-fifths in number) has a population of 1549 according to the 1930 census, is the largest in the county; and grew more rapidly during the 10 year census period, than any other town save one in the state of anything like the same population.

The membership of the Colony Corporation, a non-stock, non-profit organization is composed paying \$100.00 dollars which goes into the fund to increase the land holding and are accepted by the Executive Council as safe to be entrusted with membership in such an undertaking. The actual membership of the Corporation is about stationary. There is no financial advantage in membership, so not much incentive to become members. We lease land to non-members on the same terms as to members.

I trust this and the printed matter sent, will be about what you want to know, If there is anything else do not hesitate to write me.

Yours very sincerely


Secretary.

Mr E B Gaston-
Fairhope, Ala

My dear Mr Gaston-

Will you be so kind as to
let us know something
about your Colony land,
how acquired for use, &c
Younger members of
our family have acquired
a back-to-the-land feeling
in these Depression Days,
and are looking south- to
Florida, Texas, and Fairhope.
Anything you could
communicate please address

to L E Cummings
19. North Normal St.
Ypsilanti, Mich.

Very Truly Yours
Elizabeth Vincent
(Mrs Henry Vincent)

19. No. Normal St.
Ypsilanti, Mich.
April 25, 1933

April 29, 1933.

L.E. Cummings,
19 North Normal St.,
Ypsilanti, Mich.

Dear Sir:-

I am in receipt of a letter from Mrs. Vincent with the news that "younger members of her family have acquired a back-to-the land feeling in these depression days, and desiring information about lands of our Corporation, which I take pleasure in supplying.

Let me first say the back to the land movement involves a lot of hard work, and uncertain results under general conditions prevailing even in what goes current for average or even good times, but it has its advantages which have always appealed strongly to me. One of the first things requisite to success is the disposition to keep one's self employed, which our present system fails to induce, in very large degree; it involves so much of direction by others.

Then let me say that I do not believe any section of the country offers better conditions for a back to the land movement than this. And let me add to this that the conditions provided by our Colony are, in my opinion, superior to what can be found anywhere else. And I speak as one who has no expectation of profiting, or desire to do so, from locating anywhere one here.

To secure land of our Corporation it is only necessary to find something unleased which suits your need and apply to the secretary for it--form of application enclosed--accompanying the application with payment of rent for a half-year, at a rate of which the secretary will advise the applicant, running down as low as a dollar an acre and from that up to \$3.50, which would be at the edge of town. If there is any timber of value on the land, it will be considered as an improvement or crop, to be paid for before taking possession and can then be cut for the lessees purposes or profit, or sold to some one else for removal, or left to grow for the lessees benefit.

We have a very fine climate here, a beautiful country, with most attractive features in its forests, bays and streams with the Gulf of Mexico on the south, fine fishing, bathing, boating, etc. with a producing season extending for one use or another through the twelve months--which makes much less land neces-

sary than in a colder climate, where growing is confined to a few summer months.

The altruistic spirit in which our Colony was founded and continues to be conducted, creates an atmosphere which cannot be found elsewhere.

I am mailing under another wrapper printed matter, to which your close attention is invited.

We would be glad to see any of you here and show and explain everything to you. Always advise personal inspection where possible.

The railroads are making very low rates now, especially for round trip excursions. If you do not find any excursions advertised in northern papers, write Louisville & Nashville, General Pass. Dept. at Louisville, Ky., or Gen. Pass Agent Mobile and Ohio Railroad at St. Louis, Mo.,

A motor trip is very satisfactory and the trip each way is made in two or three days.

Hoping to see some of you here,

Yours very truly,

The Industrial Missionary Association

Incorporated in 1888

Interdenominational in Work

National in Character

MISSION STATION AND INDUSTRIAL PLANT
BELOIT, ALABAMA

REV. C. B. CURTIS, M. A., Pres. & Gen. Mgr.
HARRIETT P. CURTIS, Treasurer

OFFICE of PRESIDENT and TREASURER
1827 E. Mallory St., Pensacola, Florida

L. C. FARLEY, Sec. and Principal
Training School, Beloit, Ala.

Jan 5 '94

Mr. E. B. Gaston
Fairhope Ala.
Dear Mr. Gaston:

Our Association has a large tract of land in Dallas Co. Ala. & some of our friends have become interested in the Fairhope plan, single tax, & your name has been given me as one who could give us some information as to the 99 year leases etc. I know really nothing about the plan as it is worked at Fairhope. Could you kindly give us some information or tell us where we may obtain it and greatly oblige?

Yours for the best interests of the Community
C. B. Curtis Pres.

Jan. 9, 1934.

C.B. Curtis, Pres.
The Industrial Missionary Ass'n
1827 East Mallory St.,
Pensacola, Fla.

Dear Sir:-

We are pleased to have yours of 5th and know of the interest aroused in some of your people about our Fairhope Single Tax Colony plan.

It is a pleasure to send you a copy of our form of lease and other printed matter which should make the plan and its working clear to you.

When you have looked over this if there is anything more by way of information desired do not hesitate to call for it,

It is interesting to know that you have a large tract of land in Dallas County this state, which might be made use of for some effort to ours if you were satisfied of its merits on investigation.

Very sincerely yours,

THE FAIRHOPE SINGLE TAX CORPORATION,

By _____

Secretary.

Hope you can visit us.
Other matter in other enclosures.

Trantlake Wash
Sept. 16/33

U. S. Postmaster
Fair Hall Ala

Dear I am interested in
the single tax question and would
be glad to know how the
plan worked out in your locality.
I was in your City about
35 years ago and in the
back country it did not seem
to me that the soil would
raise good crops. Was I correct
and how the country fared at
I am writing from the Terrill
P. M. What say there. ~~How~~
Miss Ada Alfred is P. M.
I hope I have not bothered you would
appreciate an answer. Edw. C. M. Cutting

April 29, 1934.

C.M. Cutting,
Troutlake, Wash:-

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of Sept. 16th last to Postmaster was turned over to me and by me mislaid and has just come to light. I hope it is not too late for tmax a reply to be appreciated.

I am sending you a nsatory and other matter regarding Fairhope Single Tax Colony and a pamphlet "The 'It' County of Alabama, which will give you information about how our Colony has worked out and what the county in general is doing.

From 1920 to 1930, our town stepped out in front of towns in the County and holds that position. Still it is not properly to be expected that we could escape the ill effects from which the whole country is suffering--many people are unemployed hereabouts as elsewhere. We are about to begin shipping Irish potatoes, string beans, and cucumbers, etc., but it remains to be seen how prices will be; with a long haul to points of consumption.

I am sorry for delay in responding to your inquiry and hope you will find the matter sent of interest.

Yours very truly,

Secretary.