

(that is land) and such investors are a curse to the country. It would stimulate production and attract population by making it easier to get land for use and harder to hold land out of use, thereby increasing the revenues. It would not prove burdensome to those who use the land and produce all the wealth of the nation.

The Great World Problem.

Greater than the revenue question is the land question. There is no other foundation upon which we can build the ideal state, save that which recognizes the right of every citizen to equal opportunity in the use of the land. Merely to be born into the world conveys the God-given right of access to land. The proof of this is, first; that man is absolutely dependent upon the land; secondly, the value of land is always a community value; thirdly, those who have been shut out from the land by wrongful economic conditions, become the slaves or dependents of their fellows who dominate the soil. Nature never intended men to be slaves nor dependents. The law of nature is freedom, and freedom depends upon free access to the soil. Equal opportunity in the use of land would bring about a free, natural, elastic condition of society in which the full liberty of the individual would be abundantly safeguarded, affording every opportunity for the highest human development, individually and collectively.

The taxation of land values, besides providing an honest, equitable and just way of procuring public revenues, is also a means to a far greater end—the solving of the greatest problem that confronts the world today—the land problem. The whole theory of human progress, as many of the world's greatest thinkers have pointed out, rests upon the land. The land is the

Basis of Our Civilization.

In and on the land we live and move and have our being, and from the land we produce everything for our sustenance, our comfort, our happiness. No great problem of human existence can be settled until the land question is settled as nature intended it to be, and all nature seems to declare that equality of

opportunity in the use of land is the necessary accompaniment of real liberty. The birthright of every free people. All primitive peoples recognized this truth.

If this view of the land question, as presented by such great thinkers as Carlyle, Herbert Spencer, Tolstoi, Dove, Henry George, Jefferson and scores of others of the world's most brilliant minds, backed by the arguments of the most noted political economists, such as Adam Smith, Turgot, James Mill, J. S. Mill, Ricardo, Cairns and others, is right, then it follows that the socio-economic conditions which permit of private trafficking in the communal value of land is the greatest crime in the world, the chief hindrance to the progress of humanity, the main cause of the evils which afflict the race and the principal means by which the masses are exploited for the benefit of the few. It is even a greater crime than war, because war is an effect and not a cause. The cause is the existence of economic conditions which enable the few to exploit the masses, and these unjust economic conditions are based on the exploitation of the land for the benefit of the few. Is this convention prepared to take a stand upon this great problem?

The Immediate Demand.

As a temporary policy for war purposes, we should immediately conscript all incomes and profits over a reasonable living amount. The war should be paid for in this way. As a permanent policy, we should start in to conscript unearned incomes, through the taxation of land values, gradually increasing the tax and dropping other forms of taxation, until all our public revenues were raised in this way. The unearned incomes of Canada are amply sufficient for all ordinary revenue purposes, federal, provincial and municipal. Why then should we confiscate the labor earnings of any one for revenue purposes while there are unearned incomes which no one has a moral right to retain?

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For further information and price list of books, pamphlets and leaflets upon The Land Question, Taxation, Free Trade, etc., write the League, 406 Chambers of Commerce, Winnipeg, and enclose 50 cents for one year's subscription to the Single Taxer, published monthly by the League. It will keep you up to date on these and other great questions.