

their farms, and a blacksmith, and a carpenter, and other mechanics, a schoolmaster and tradesman have come in, a value is given to your land which it did not before have, given by the labour of these others, in other words a rent value apart from your improvements. Now this rent value which is thus given to the hundred farms by the labour of all is the common property of all and not of any individual. And the community, as it finds need for public purposes, for schools and roads and the administration of justice, may justly take the rent which all have combined to earn to pay for these things. And this is *just* what is meant and *all* that is meant by doing away, as is proposed, with the private ownership of land.

According as population and wealth increases the value of land increases. Land is of more value in London than in Toronto ; it is of more value in Toronto than in Belleville . it is of more value in Belleville than ten miles out, and it is of more value ten miles out than the same kind of land on Lake Nipissing. An acre of land in the centre of London or New York would probably be of more value than three or four hundred acres upon which Belleville is built, and an acre of land on Front Street would be worth several hundred acres out in Thurlow or Sidney. Now what is it which makes this difference in the value of land? It is not anything in the land itself, for we are supposing the same kind of land, nor is it because of what the owner has done to it. The owner may never have set foot on it, or even seen it, he may be living at the other end of the earth, and yet the land increases in value. He may have paid little for it, or he may have got it for nothing, and now it is worth a million or ten millions. How is this? It is simply the association of men together there and their labours have given this value to the land. And as the work of production goes on the value of land continues to rise. And what takes place? The owner of the land appropriates to himself this increase of value without ever having touched his little finger to the wheel, or done the slightest