

hog now they will have no license to squeal later on if the people insist upon radical remedies being applied. In this country we know how to apportion the blame for the injustices we are now suffering.

SCIENCE AND THE SINGLE TAX

Sir William Ramsay, an eminent British scientist, believes that the work of mining coal and distributing it over the country by means of the railways, is unnecessary labor. He says that the energy which nature has stored up in the coal beds of the earth for the use of man can be extracted underground and conveyed to the places where it is required in the form of electric current. Sir William proposes to burn the coal underground, use the gas thus produced to feed giant engines and with these engines generate electrical energy which will be distributed throughout the country for use as power, light and heat. Arrangements are now being completed to make a practical test of the proposal, and the results will be awaited with the greatest interest. If the experiment proves successful the labor of man will be lightened, just as it is lightened by every invention of labor saving machinery. As science progresses the necessities and comforts of life are more easily produced. The same quantity of food, clothing and shelter can be produced today with far less labor than was required in the past. It might be expected that the result of this would be that the people generally would enjoy more of the comforts of life and be relieved of much exacting toil. But as a matter of fact the mass of the people are no better off; and a millionaire class has grown up. The whole of the ease and luxury which advancing science has made possible has been seized by the privileged few who have been able to force labor to yield to them what should have been its own share of the benefits of modern progress because of their ownership of the land and what it contains.

In Great Britain, for instance, the owners of the coal lands, who of course did nothing to put the coal in the ground and who do nothing to bring it out of the ground, receive \$30,000,000.00 a year from the producers and consumers of coal in "royalties." If Sir William Ramsay's experiment proves successful and the immense labor of coal mining is done away with, who will get the benefit? In Great Britain, and in every country where the coal beds are owned by individuals, it will be the royalty owners. The coal, since it can be converted into power, heat and light more cheaply, will be so much more valuable in its natural state, and the royalty owners, unless the state steps in and prevents them, will demand, and be able to enforce, a higher royalty. This provides an excellent illustration of the need for the Taxation of Land Values. Under this system the mining royalties, representing the undeveloped value of the natural resources of the country, would go into the public treasury instead of into the pockets of individuals, and the increased value of the coal beds created by the new process would thus, after the inventor had been suitably rewarded, flow also into the national exchequer and become available for the public use. Then the people as a whole would benefit materially from the progress of science.

During the recent session of the Manitoba Legislature the bill creating the office of Public Utilities Commissioner was much in the limelight. The Winnipeg city authorities were strongly opposed to it. But now we see the city asking to be placed under the operation of the new act. It can't be so very dangerous. The government in appointing Judge Robson as Public Utilities Commissioner has selected one of the very best men available and is to be congratulated upon the choice. The principle of the Public Utilities Commission is decidedly sound. Its adminis-

tration will be the test and in the hands of Judge Robson it will be administered wisely.

HOW WE FOOL OURSELVES

Mr. A. Douglas concludes an able article on "Canadian Problems and Politics" in the Westminster Review of April as follows:—

"Canada has been growing during the last few years. Had the people ever realized, as they should, the valuable asset they possessed in the unearned increment that must come to every townsman, and appropriated that for taxation instead of allowing it to be grasped by speculators, then there would have been a growth and development harmonious and beneficent, instead of the present growth into millionaires and tramps, oppressors and oppressed.

"The brother from the States, and also the brother from Britain, came to the border of the country with the abundance of their products to offer an exchange of benefit for benefit. 'Begone,' said the Canadian, 'you are not brothers, your goods are too abundant and cheap. You will slaughter our market. Begone! We don't want cheapness and abundance.'

"The agent from the Syndicate in the States came to Canada and purchased three million acres of land. Without raising a single bushel of grain, they sold that land at a profit of ten million dollars—spoliation and impoverishment. 'Welcome, brothers,' say the enemies of freedom and abundance, 'Come again and get another ten millions. Come and get the heritage that God provided for His children, that you may secure the fortune that labor has produced.'

"When we see the immeasurable blessing to humanity in the exchange of benefit for benefit, how every producer under a divine impulse, just as divine as that which leads the fish to swim or the bird to fly, tries to do his best for his fellow men, how he is ever seeking to gain some new triumph, mechanical or physical, to multiply his product, how he is scouring earth, sky, or ocean that he may bring the benefits of every clime to every other clime, how this exchange gives to humanity the opportunity and power to build up a civilization with its immeasurable advances in knowledge and skill, and then, when we contrast with this the immeasurable damage that is inflicted on humanity by the spoilers, those who withhold the land so that labor cannot toil thereon, the spoilers who offer no benefit for benefit, but who strip industry of its proper reward, who drive the mother into the factory, and the child from the school, and then again, when we see a new country, with all the natural resources to make everyone rich, deliberately drive away its benefactors and welcome its spoilers, it is difficult to describe in proper language such inanity."

This is what we are doing in Canada every day. All and sundry are welcomed who will plunder the people through land speculation but those who come to bring us articles we need are punished.

The manufacturers on their special train were loaded with literature showing what a fine thing it is for the farmers that these "infant" industries are employing so many men and thus providing a market for the farmers' produce. This is a wonderful argument to present to grain growers who know that for the next fifty or one hundred years their product will have to be disposed of in other countries. Further, the grain growers know that the "home market" argument is a myth, but even if it were a fact the home market would still remain with us and increase even without the protective tariff. If the home market produced by these calf-like industries is of such value, how is it explained that the farmers near to these markets are not all wealthy. Are the farmers close to Toronto, Montreal, Cowansville, Hamilton, Brantford and other centres of industry any more prosperous than those farther away? If not, then why not, if the "home market"

is such a wealth producer for the farmer? Again, the farmers of Canada know that a man eats just as much no matter whether he be working for one of Canada's "infant" calf industries or for a similar industry in another country.

T. A. Russell, general manager of the Russell Motor Car Co., and former secretary of the Canadian Manufacturers' association, is in charge of the "Made-in-Canada" train by virtue of his office as president of the Canadian Home Market association. Mr. Russell does not suffer any by having 35 per cent. tariff protection on automobiles and we understand he is the only Canadian manufacturer of motor cars. It would seem only fair that the wealthy members of the Canadian Manufacturers' association, some of whom own several automobiles, and all of whom are firm believers in the "Made-in-Canada" slogan, should buy their cars from Mr. Russell. We suspect, however, that the majority of them purchase American-made cars. Under the circumstances it might be a good idea for Mr. Russell to bring the matter before the Canadian Manufacturers' association and have these purchasers of American-made cars disciplined. If the "Made-in-Canada" slogan is not respected by its loudest advocates the general public can hardly be expected to give heed to it.

It is only fair that public property should be used for public purposes and private property for private purposes. But under our present economic system private property is taxed into the public treasury and public property is turned into private pockets. Under the present system the harder a man works and the more he saves the heavier is the fine imposed upon him, while the idler is permitted to get off lightly and benefits from the "forced philanthropy" of the workers.

The month of June is now approaching when everyone who can should sleep out of doors. A tent, a porch or balcony or even the roof is a suitable location. The sleep will be more refreshing than indoors and six hours of out of doors sleep is equal to eight hours inside. More people are sleeping out every year—and have better health as a result.

Ten thousand soldiers took part in the Fenian raid. The federal government proposes to give them a grant of \$100 each. Already there are over 20,000 applications. If the government goes at it earnestly Canada could soon work up a pension roll equal to that of the United States. It is a great vote catcher across the line, which will certainly recommend it to Canadian politicians.

The sentiment in favor of woman suffrage is very strong in the Western provinces, and if a referendum on the question was held there is little doubt that the male electors would decide by a large majority to give the women the vote. Politicians who do not desire to allow the will of the people to prevail are opposed to the Referendum.

The Australian government in seeking plans for the new federal capitol threw it open to world wide competition. The judges find that an American has submitted the best plan. If Australia has any of the Canadian brand of politicians the government will not dare accept the American plans for fear of being charged with disloyalty.

We would urge all of our readers to visit the Manufacturers' train for educational purposes. The farmers will in the end have to pay the expenses of the train so it might interest them to see what they are paying for.

"Made-in-Canada" is a good slogan and we approve of it, but not of the protective tariff which it is designed to bolster up.