

Page 217. "The country people had grown to be very distrustful and suspicious whenever officials of the government were concerned. Necker says: 'I remember a singular feature of this subject. I think it was twenty years ago that an intendant, with the laudable intention of encouraging the making of honey and the cultivation of bees, began by asking for statistics as to the number of hives kept in the province. The people did not understand his intentions; they were, perhaps, suspicious of them, and in a few days almost all the hives were destroyed.'"

Page 217. "In the time of Louis XIV, if a whole village fell too much behindhand, its four principal inhabitants might be seized and carried off to jail."

Page 217. Re Poll Tax. "If the poor man failed to pay, a man in blue, with a gun, came and sat by his fire, slept in his bed, and laid hands on any money that might come into his house, thus collecting the tax and his own wages. The amount levied by the poll tax and its accessories was from thirty six to forty two million lires a year, (\$6,400,000 to \$8,400,000.)

"The first and most dreaded of the indirect taxes was the Salt tax (gabelle). As salt is a necessary for all, it has from early days been considered by some governments a good article for a tax, no one being able to escape payment by going entirely without it. To make the revenue more secure, every householder in certain parts of France was obliged to buy seven pounds of salt a year at the warehouses of the farm, for every member of his family over seven years old. In spite of this a certain economy in the use of the article became the habit of the French nation, and the traveler in the nineteenth century may bless the government of the Bourbons when for once in his life he finds himself in a country where the cooks do not habitually oversalt the soup."

"Necker, who much desired to equalize the impost, mentions six principal categories of provinces in regard to the salt tax; varying from those in which the sale was free, and the article worth two to nine lires the hundred weight, to those where it was a monopoly of the farm, and the salt cost

the consumers about sixty-two lires. Salt being thus worth thirty times as much in one province as in another, it was possible for a successful smuggler to make a living by a very few trips. The opportunity was largely used; children were trained by their parents for the illicit traffic, but the penalties were very severe. In the galleys were many salt smugglers; people were shut up on mere suspicion, and in the crowded prisons of that day were carried off by jail-fevers."

WHAT MRS. FELS SAID IN SAN ANTONIO.

Out of land God expected men to make practically all of their livelihood. He intended that every human being should possess some part of the earth, and that by resorting to it, he could earn his living in the manner he saw fit. But history has not borne out God's wishes in the matter. Customs regarding land are really little changed from what they were in the past, and at present the large bulk of land is owned by a few wealthy persons.

MUST RECOVER CONTROL.

The great majority of people who possess no part of the earth have, therefore, only one recourse. They must in some way recover control of what once properly was theirs. The government of a nation, in its capacity as a representative of its great numbers of people, should exercise its authority over the few wealthy persons within its boundaries in such a manner that the vast tracts of land owned by them would practically come again under the control of everybody. This would be accomplished ideally by the establishment of the Single Tax system.

I do not, of course, advocate that any product achieved by a man's individual efforts should be taxed. The people as a whole have no basic interest in whatever has been accomplished in this way, and accordingly they have no right to expect to share in its profits. Herein lies the absurdity of taxing both land and the things of material value which man has constructed with his own hands. In land, the people

have a just hereditary interest, but in the products manufactured by individuals they have none.—San Antonio *Light*, November 30.

HENRY GEORGE ON PROTECTION AND WAR.

I say protection is linked with everything that enslaves man. (Renewed cheers.) What has everywhere enslaved men? This theory of our socialistic friends, or so-called scientific friends, that man was at first a serf, a slave, and gradually won his freedom so far, is, in the very nature of things, wrong. (Hear, hear.) It is not tyranny which is eternal, which existed in the beginning—it is freedom. (Cheers.) Man was created free. The great agency of slavery everywhere is war. War is necessarily the enslaver—even war for a just cause. (Hear, hear.) You cannot organize men into an army even to fight for freedom without endangering that personal liberty. War has always been the enslaver. What does protection do but to foster and encourage the jealousy of men (cheers), to tell them that Christ's message was a lie, to tell them that "they don't know everything down in Judee." (Laughter.) "We may," they say, "in some sort of sense and in the good time coming, but now we must keep our neighbors from getting ahead of us and must fence ourselves in with these tariffs." Mr. Trenwith in Melbourne, in spite of himself, could not help speaking of "saurkraut Germans." (Laughter.) Go to the United States and what do you hear but references to pauper English labor? Everywhere the spirit of envy, everywhere the drawing of lines separating men more than the seas and mountains do. It is 7,000 miles across the ocean from your country to my country, and our tariff keeps us far more distant than these 7,000 miles. Protection! Why, everywhere what does it do? It involves unnecessary complexities of government, its spies search and seize, and its guards are employed to pounce on every ship that is coming in. (Hear, hear). It is always a temptation to corruption. In Australia I do not think

you fully realize that. But be warned by the examples of the American colonies.—HENRY GEORGE in Protestant Hall, Sydney, Australia, 1890.

LECTURE WORK OF THE WOMEN'S HENRY GEORGE LEAGUE.

The Women's Henry George League of New York City have organized a School Lecture Committee. The following lecturers will accept appointments under the auspices of the League: J. W. Bengough, Chalk Talks; Miss Grace Isabel Colbron, Henry George, a Great American Economist; Bolton Hall, The Cure of Poverty and other topics; Amy Mali Hicks, The Democracy of Art, The New Industrialism, etc.; Hon. John J. Murphy, Natural Law in Taxation, How to Support Government without Taxing Private Property, etc.; Miss Charlotte Schetter, The Art of Human Brotherhood and Education and Economics and Frank Stephens, I and the Rest of the World, Things as They Are, etc.

The prices of lectures to colleges and schools is \$10 to \$50 for traveling expenses. For particulars apply to Miss Mary Boies Ely, 27 W. 11th Street, N. Y. City.

THE GREAT LAND QUESTION.

In discussing this question we come at once to the great land problem. Our Single Tax friends would say: "Eliminate land monopoly, and the problem would be solved." I grant that access to the land would solve a great many problems that are pressing so strenuously for solution. To my mind the land monopoly, is the biggest and worst form of and a condition is created under it that would not even have been dreamed of by our fore-fathers. We have allowed land to be exploited, just as we have allowed labor to be exploited; until now the time for taking up new and untilled lands is past.—DR. GEO R. LUNN, Socialist and editor of the *Schenectady Citizen*.

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