

the Kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness, and all manner of disease among the people."

Let me first ask my unbelieving friend to restrain the smothered exclamation of disgust, and my Christian brother to restrain his condemnation for a while. Let us reason together in the spirit of those who long for the truth, and if we find it, follow on, no matter where it may lead.

Suppose this same Jesus going about in our large cities preaching in our "synagogues," and preaching the same doctrines of pure democracy that He preached in Galilee, and trying to make headway against sickness and disease. For anyone to attempt such a task, would require a strength much more than human.

But if we would apply the principles of pure democracy, which He taught, to our society, would we not be doing His work and would we not be bringing about His Kingdom by the only method possible for us poor humans? It would help to stop the manufacture of the sick, the lame, the halt and the blind; it would even give life to the dead, (the hopeless and despairing) and would stop filling graves with the bodies of loved ones, crushed and broken before their time.

To my mind pure democracy or the establishment of Justice, must include as a basic principle, the doctrine that each person born into the world has a right to demand and to receive a share in the natural gifts or bounties contained in the world, and that he should have, without either begging or paying other men for the privilege, the right to engage in the pursuit of life, liberty, and happiness.

What we call the Single Tax (for want of a better name) will abolish special privilege by taxing the value of such privileges, and it will destroy land monopoly by taxing the value given to land by the presence of population.

Can anyone imagine so many sick, crippled, despairing and disheartened people in the world if we adopt this plan? Would not the horrible conditions under which men work in mine, field and factory be changed, when the opportunities to mother Earth are thrown open to all, and where the employer or the capitalist will have to

seek out and persuade, not drive, the worker to enter his employ?

If the billions of dollars now invested in land (giving the power to obstruct and forestall labor and invention, and the power to exact service where none is returned) were employed in pushing forward legitimate healthy production, then the "good things" promised by the Master, if we strive for God's Kingdom on Earth, will be ours and the healing of the sick and the banishment of all manner of diseases can be undertaken with some hope of accomplishment.

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TAXATION IN SPAIN.

After we finished our business in the custom house, there was yet another annoyance as we passed through the doors of the city (Cadiz). This is what is known in Spain as the Consumption Tax. It is one of the most odious means of taxation and occasions more complaints, more fights and rebellions, in cities and towns, than anything else. Every package, satchel, or trunk that goes into a different city or town is stopped by the Consumption Tax officer and searched to see if there is anything dutiable, in order to collect the corresponding tax. All vegetables for the market, groceries for the stores, etc., must be taxed, and taxes paid before they dare enter a city. Fortunately I had not my baggage opened in any of the cities of Andalusia, as they were satisfied as soon as I said I had simply necessary wearing apparel, but in Corunna the officer made me open a valise. I spoke to him so sharply and harshly for molesting travelers who came to Spain to spend their money, and expressed myself so strong against the abominable system, that after scarcely looking at the open valise, he told me to close it and go, without any further ceremony. He seemed to feel uncomfortable as an officer engaged in such a mean employment.—"Spain of Today From Within," by Manuel Andujar. Fleming H. Revell Company, Pubs., 1909.