

To the Editor:

Professor von Mises fails to differentiate between land rent socialized and the socialization of agriculture, which is a mode of labor. The community, in determining the basis for contributions to the public fund must choose between the advantage of the individual's exclusive use of the public domain, and the extent of his economic contribution to the public weal; either it appropriates rent of land or it confiscates wages and interest.

In a single-tax and otherwise free economy the individual enjoys his own wages and interest plus his share of the community product just as co-workers who are also shareholders in an industrial enterprise receive wages for individual effort and dividends from the profit of the combined effort of all.

Nor is inducement to move limited to the foregoing, for the very act of bringing richer land into use will raise the level of wages, after payment of the whole rent, by raising the margin of production. Socialized rent of land is far from synonymous with socialized agriculture.

I am indebted to the professor for the stimulus to deeper thought on the subject.

—C. C. CASE
St. Louis, Missouri