

UNEMPLOYMENT

What is the Government going to do?

By C. E. C.

As a result of the Labour Mayors' visit to the Highlands we are told that the Government now recognizes the urgent importance of dealing with the unemployed question. The DAILY NEWS asks how the Government proposes to work the miracle of checking the broad stream of unemployment which threatens to grow into an angry torrent during the coming months.

The miracle can be performed by the policy of the taxation of land values, and it is up to all good single-taxers to make this opinion known as quickly as possible in their own particular spheres.

We suggest widespread publicity might be given to an argument something on these lines:

Let the Government institute *immediately* the taxing and rating of land values.

The following results would be *immediate* :—

Owners of land, in order to pay the tax, would have to put their land to profitable use. For example :—

Land containing CLAY would be opened up for the production of bricks. *Result.*—Large demand for brick-makers. High wages for brickmakers. Copious supply of cheap bricks.

Land containing STONE would be opened up for the production of stones. *Result.*—Large demand for quarrymen. High wages for quarrymen. Copious supply of cheap stones.

Land containing LIME would be opened up for the production of lime; land containing SAND would be opened up for the production of sand; land containing SLATES would be opened up for the production of slates. *Result.*—Large demand for lime workers, sand diggers, slate quarrymen. High wages for these workers. Copious supply of cheap lime, cheap sand, cheap slates.

Land containing TIMBER would be opened up for the production of timber. *Result.*—Large demand for foresters and tree-fellers. High wages for these workers. Copious supply of timber.

Land containing COAL would be opened up for the production of coal. *Result.*—Large demand for miners. High wages for miners. Copious supply of cheap coal.

Land containing IRON would be opened up for the production of iron. *Result.*—Large demand for iron miners. High wages for iron miners. Copious supply of cheap iron.

With this large supply of cheap material and fully employed workers at high wages a great vista of possibilities appears.

HOUSING. With a copious supply of cheap building materials it will be possible to construct houses at rents which will pay builders and be within the means of occupiers, and land suitable for building houses upon would be offered by owners of suitable vacant land at competition prices.

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES. With a copious supply of cheap coal and iron manufacturing industries will be able to compete in all markets of the world and so restore our export trade.

EXPORT TRADE. With our export trade restored there would be full employment for everybody and cheap food would once again flow into this country in cheap ships made by British workers receiving high wages.

THE TAXATION OF LAND VALUES MEANS HIGH WAGES AND CHEAP PRICES.