

The Fairhope Courier

Devoted to the Single Tax and its practical application by the Fairhope Single Tax Corporation.
See Last Page for Condensed Statement Regarding Fairhope Single Tax Colony.

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\$1.00 A YEAR.

A Country Belongs of Right to Its Inhabitants.

EDITOR COURIER:

Does a country belong to the individuals thereof? You say yes. Very well; how much of the country belongs to you, and to each one of the eighty millions of inhabitants? There are millions of inhabitants whose only belongings begin and end with the public highway. The rest of the country's area belongs to some inhabitants; come to think of it, isn't that a rather strange state of affairs? Truly every inhabitant needs part of his country to live on. That is the most essential necessity of life itself. Why then do we deny it to millions of us.

I will tell you. Over 1500 years ago another civilization was destroyed and chaos reigned, gradually the strongest took the land and became the masters of the weak who needed the land just as you and I do. Thus through years of struggle, a new civilization was established with land-masters and land-serfs. The difference between then and now is, the institution of land-masters still survives, while the methods of serfdom have changed. The landless now pay a toll—a private tax—we call it rent, to the land-masters.

The country should belong to all the inhabitants in reality. If that ever occurs to them, the Nation will be the land-masters, and he who needs land will pay "the toll or tax" to the Nation for the right to use the land. Things will go on as they do now, but no industrial trusts will then monopolize all the raw materials of the land. In other words the inhabitants will then have equal opportunity in reference to the use of the earth.

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