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Editor Journal:

When Mr. Bloemsma, in the Journal for March says, that the Single Taxers offer no solution of the labor question, and asks: "What provision have they made for the displaced working men who are thrown out of a certain industry in a factory where a labor-saving invention is introduced?" He reminds me of the story of a man who got lost one night and wandered about until 8 o'clock in the morning, when he saw a man working in a field of whom he asked the way to his destination, which was in the eastern part of the adjoining county and east of the county in which he was wandering. The farmer said to him, "Don't you know that town is east of here?" "Yes, I know it is east." "Well," said the farmer, "why are you going westward on this road and why have you been traveling west so long since sunrise when you might have corrected your direction as soon as you saw the sun rise in the east?" "Well," said the man, "I saw the sun rise, but I got mixed up on the points of the compass and I could not believe that was the east!"

We have told Mr. Bloemsma that man is a land animal, that he must have his home on land, that his food comes from the land, so does his clothing and his shelter, every physical necessity comes from the land, and is obtained by the application of his labor to the land.

Mr. B. may not believe this, but it is true nevertheless. We have also told him that the land of nearly every country in the world is capable of supplying the wants of 10 to 100 times as many people as now inhabit those countries. That the human race is only beginning to scratch the surface of the earth which teems with every species of wealth ready to spring forth at the call of labor. We have shown him that all that is necessary for people to enjoy the comforts of life is free access to the soil.

We have told him that by our laws, customs, and our system of taxation the great storehouse of the earth is closed against the workers, that the land is monopolized and held out of use, that the price demanded for its use is greater than millions are able to pay. That when an invention is introduced into a factory and displaces half the workmen, those men can not get at unused land or vacant town lots, but have to starve or tramp.

We have told him that the solution of the Labor Problem is in the Land Question, that the Single Tax will release the great storehouse of the earth from monopoly and give every one equal right to its use to make a living.

According to Mr. Bloemsmas a man having a ten-story factory can undersell the man who has a one-story factory on the adjoining lot, because he makes more goods. Let us suppose this to be true and the one-story man has to quit. Need he and his men suffer want with the land, the source of supply of all things, open to them on equal terms with all other men?

Mr. B. thinks if he were a large capitalist the Single Tax would be his hobby, because he could make products cheaper and freeze smaller producers out.

Does he not know that under, the Single Tax no one would work for him unless he would pay more than the workers could earn working for themselves on free land?

Wages would rise under the Single Tax and employers would be running around hunting for men instead of as now men running after a boss and begging for employment. There would be no unemployed men to pull down wages by their competition with each other for jobs.

If all men had opportunities to work for themselves the more large capitalists the better, for then the competition among the capitalists for men to work for them so as to get interest on their capital would be keener, and all the men who choose being at Work on the land, producing directly the things they need, and living in their own homes. Capitalists would have to offer high wages to get men.

Then if great capital produced things cheaply it would not be so because wages would be low, but because labor-saving inventions would do the work, and with the land accessible to all on equal terms laborsaving inventions would be a blessing instead of a curse as is apparently often the case now.