

The Great Claim Indisputable

THE Single Tax principle is not new, though the name may be unfamiliar to some of you. Already it is in the realm of political action after years of such advocacy as was possible in this country, with no avenue of publicity open except the slow and expensive process of mailing out literature and holding small lecture gatherings. I have taken too much time already to go into the Single Tax in an explanatory way, nor do I wish to. Plenty of better writing on the subject is available. Read "Progress and Poverty," by that great American, Henry George. If it is not in your collection, or in your library, or the public library, let me know and I will see that you have plenty of light on the topic. However, you may rest assured that those who would like to keep the mass of their fellows in bondage understand the Single Tax principle thoroughly, and will give up every other privilege, make any other concession voluntarily before they will surrender the privilege attached to the monopolization of land.

They know precisely what the Single Tax means, what it will do, and will use every means possible to prevent people from finding it out, or to fight against its establishment. You need not hesitate about it because you do not understand it fully, or have not taken time to study it. I do not understand a gun, and could not hit the proverbial flock of barns, but if I had a gun pointed directly at the heart of

a burglar he would not pause by reason of my unfamiliarity with arms; he'd "git up and git." And special privilege will remove itself from our vicinity if we point the Single Tax squarely at it, even if we never have pretended any profundity as to political economy, the alleged "science" of government, or the idiotic intricacies in present forms of taxation.

We must all, I think, hold in respect the memory of Surgeon-General Gorgas, who made possible the Panama Canal building by eradicating the plague of yellow fever from that vicinity. In discussing sanitation, just a short time before his death, he said: "I know of no way whereby people can maintain sanitary conditions without good wages, and there is no way by which *all* may have good wages except through the application of the Single Tax."

Remember that Single Taxers alone declare that poverty can be abolished—not merely ameliorated or touched up here and there. This great claim is indisputable. It is not socialism, it is not communism, it is not benevolent despotism, it is not anarchy or bolshevism, but it is scientific, mathematical truth, and does not require a "change in human nature" to be operative. Its operation will, however, enable human beings to live as such, and not, as now is the case, after a fashion which tends to blight the best that is in them.—DR. GRACE KIRKLAND, in the *National Eclectic Medical Association Quarterly*.