

its own resemblances of which the wise man said, "All is vanity."

The perfect Mind, God, has conceived and sent forth the Single Tax, the true government, without imperfection on earth as it is in Heaven. The imperfect mortal mind has sent forth its own resemblances in all the various abortive forms of government so productive of widespread overwhelming poverty, resulting in hideous sin, sickness and death. Well did the wise man say of them, "All is vanity."

JULIA GOLDZIER.

A COLORADO FAIRHOPE.

Editor Single Tax Review:

In the October number of THE SINGLE TAX REVIEW, last year, I made some mention of this place as being a Single Tax colony on the Fairhope plan. In one respect Fairhope is closer to the Single Tax ideal. Here the State and county taxes on personal property are paid by the individual owners and only taxes on real estate paid by the Nucla Town Improvement Co. *in toto*, and apportioned among the lessees according to the value of their holdings.

The people here are mostly socialists, and few have a clear understanding of the Single Tax.

When the lots were to be leased for 99 years to members of the company on conditions of paying the annual tax or rent only (besides the initial membership fee of 5, or 10 dollars per lot, according to location), many were seized by the spirit of speculation and leased lots they had no use for. Now they find that taxes cut off all the "unearned increment" and that the initial payments are useless investments. Some would rather forfeit their leases than to pay the taxes, and they decry the Town Co. organization for having invented this scheme to enrich the town. But this is exactly what may be expected. Under the Single Tax system no one has any business to lease or occupy more ground than he has use for. It is intended to hit land speculation on the head, and hit it hard, and when hit of course there is a howl. But on a small scale like this it is impossible to fully exemplify the Single Tax. In the first place where the land for a town site has to be bought and a membership fee charged, or shares of stock sold for the payment of same, it deviates considerably from the Single Tax idea. Under a strictly Single Tax system the land is really common property, and nothing whatever is paid for except the annual value of the privilege of occupancy, that is, the annual rental value.

Then again, where population is sparse and land values low, the benefits derived from this system are correspondingly small. The Single Tax system will not show its beneficial results to a very great extent before it is applied where population is dense and land values are high.

But whether on a large or small scale the Single Tax is the only solution of the social problems that confront us. To this point our friends, the socialists, are pressed with increasing force.

The Colorado Co-operative Co., which was organized here a few years ago by a number of socialists for the purpose of irrigating the desert lands of this valley, was intended to be a strictly co-operative company on the socialistic plan. But like so many socialistic organizations of the kind, it has proved a failure, both as to practical economy and co-operation, and whatever success the enterprise has attained is really due, not to socialism or to co-operation, but rather to the elimination of those elements and a return to sound business principles. Co-operation that ignores the difference in value of each individual as a producer, and consequently ignores individual rights, runs up against the inherent consciousness of such rights in spite of all theorizing, and hence arise dissensions and the breaking up of such organizations. Co-operation, in order to be successful, must, like other institutions, be based on perfect justice. Under such laws co-operation will come as it were spontaneously and without government interference in private concerns. This is what experience is teaching socialists here and elsewhere as fast as they are able to learn.

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THE GREAT MORAL ISSUE.

Editor Single Tax Review:

Is it not possible that the "rank and file" are now abreast of the leaders in our movement? The thought occurs that it may explain the exodus to worship false gods at the shrine of Socialism. I think we are much to blame for this condition because of our failure either to realize the great wrongs in society, or our cowardice in denouncing them.

When I consider the basis of the rights of property and observe the millions upon millions that are going into the pockets of those that do not earn them, the masses robbed of their wages and their patrimony; when I recall that this is many times more than has been stolen by all the thieves in the penitentiaries; when I see all the churches silent on the great evils, and not only tolerate but honor the thieves in their congregations, it appears time to stop splitting hairs over definitions, stop talking about lessening the percentages of theft, and call for its eradication. If we do not recognize this condition as existent we are deficient Single Taxers, and if we do and denounce it not, we are unworthy of trust.

The material issues are great enough, the moral issues are so tremendous as to justify the casting of political parties or the founding of religions. The times demand men,