

which virtually means government ownership of all natural resources, thus securing the unearned increment for the people. Against the theoretical justice of Single Tax no economist has ever been able to frame a successful argument. . . . The private ownership of such resources as form the basis of gross corporate wealth breeds political corruption and solicits foraging expeditions from the emasculated nobility of Europe. The present Conservation policy of the retention of such resources, either for governmental development or to be leased for private development under government supervision, appears to be a serious effort to sever the chain that has bound progress to poverty. . . . The unearned increment of the nation's undeveloped wealth continues to increase and the question is: Who shall reap this wealth that no man soweth, Wall street or the people?

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The Single Tax.

Pittsburgh (daily) Leader (ind.), Oct. 19.—As a result of City Controller Morrow's recent pronouncements with reference to revision of taxation in Pittsburgh a widespread discussion and analysis of our present system has been created. This was the Controller's fundamental idea in giving his views. As he himself states, he has not in any manner been committed to the Henry George idea of Single Tax or to any other plan of revenue production. . . . But in stating his views Controller Morrow has indicated that he finds much merit in a modified form of the Henry George tax idea. And when so great an authority in matters of this kind intimates a willingness to proceed along lines that will place the heaviest burdens of taxation on land alone, citizens everywhere must take cognizance of the benefits that such a scheme of taxation would afford. . . . As between the man who assists in the development of his city by the wise and judicious improvement of vacant land and the one who caters solely to the highest degree of personal profit, Controller Morrow prefers the former. It is not surprising, therefore, that he should advocate some new system of taxation that will encourage a greater development of property and not act as a penalty to the man who gives his city and his neighbors the benefit of his own good citizenship. Just what is best to do under the circumstances not even the Controller has decided. . . . Whether it be along the lines he has suggested in relation to the Henry George idea of Single Tax, or in some other manner that offers advantages, is a matter of no moment to Controller Morrow, or to any other citizen who is striving to put taxation on a more equitable basis in Pittsburgh. The principal consideration is that progressiveness now struggles under a handicap that ought not to exist, and that as a matter of civic pride, if nothing else, steps should be taken at once to set it free. . . . Controller Morrow is a safe and trustworthy leader, and good citizens can do no better than advise with him.

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At a meeting of the Yarmouth Guardians it was stated that an inmate of the workhouse had received a land valuation form to fill up. This is but a foretaste of the time when all land-tax forms will have to be addressed to the workhouse.—London Punch.

RELATED THINGS

CONTRIBUTIONS AND REPRINT

JULIA WARD HOWE.

For The Public.

Beyond "the Gates Ajar" her soul hath flown;
Earth's joy and pain will speed her pulse no more,
Nor will great sorrow harrow to the core
The heart that felt a brother's grief its own.
Still, other hearts will reap what hers hath sown,
And while they turn the golden harvest o'er,
Soul-eyes will search along an endless shore,
And greet her spirit in the great unknown.

When time is ripe the sun of truth will shine,
And freedom's fire will set all hearts aflame.
Crowned heads, war lords, and potentates in line,
Whose gory deeds make grim the roll of fame,
And those that claim they rule by right divine,—
Their cognomens will pale beside her name.

MARY QUINLAN LAUGHLIN.

* * *

SKILLED ARTISANS.

Bolton Hall in The Independent (New York).

"I want my coat shaped so," said I to the tailor.
"It is not according to my pattern; it will not
make a good job," said the tailor.

"But I want it so."

"Then, my dear sir," said he, "you must cut it
yourself or find another tailor."

So I tried to cut it myself.

"I want my life shaped so," said I to God.

"It will not be well for you," said God. "It is
not according to my law."

"But I want it so," said I.

"Then, my dear son," said God, "you must shape
it yourself or find another God."

So I tried to shape it myself.

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STUDIES IN OREGON'S DIRECT LEGISLATION.

For The Public.

An official pamphlet of 208 pages (including an index of six pages), issued by Hon. F. W. Benson, the Secretary of State of Oregon, is the text-book from which these "studies" have been made. A copy of this pamphlet was mailed in August and September last to every elector in Oregon, giving him the exact wording of each bill or proposed amendment to the State Constitution upon which he is to vote at the election Nov. 8 next. This pamphlet also contains the arguments that have been offered for and against the proposed measures, the purpose being to give the voter all possible information on the subjects submitted to him.