

Ungodly Taxes

ONE of our workers in the Single Tax cause, George Lloyd of New York City, said recently, "Tax land only, other taxes ungodly." This is the truth as all Single Taxers know. This is why the world is in chaos today. This is why men's hearts are failing them. This is why graft of every character and kind is rampant. This is why there is poverty in a world of plenty. Thousands in this section seeking death by every route known to man. This explains why we have labor unions with their devastating strikes. Make the earth an open shop and we'll hear no more of such necessary evils. Abstractly it is wrong to stick your hand in the fire, but if you must do this to save your child's life, it is not wrong. You've chosen the least of two evils. So the labor unions have to strike to protect themselves from the encroachment of land monopoly. What a responsibility is ours who see and know the truth. Why are the doors to nature's storehouse closed? Is it a wonder that we grow impatient with our dilatory tactics, that we stand before the barred gates, the fences, the paper titles, the "No Trespass" signs all over God's earth and utter in very agony the cry that shall yet reach the poets, preachers and lawmakers seemingly deaf to our appeals, "make the earth an open shop!"

Ungodly taxes have reduced us to the lowest depths of weakness. Only the godly kind can lift us into the light. Land values owe their origin, existence, and perpetuity to the presence of the people, and belong of right to the people. A tax on land values is in every sense of the word a godly tax, while all others are evil and productive of evil, and that is why we have now such an ungodly world.—JOSIE THORPE PRICE, in the *Weekly Enterprise*, Iberia, La.