

as possible, and should be divided among the people according to their ability to pay. In other words, it should leave all citizens in the same relative position as it found them. We are now going over more completely to a conception of taxation as an instrument for the socialization of production and wealth as a means of changing the currents and directions of distribution. In other words, the social as well as the merely fiscal ends of taxation are held in view."

I do not claim that the form of the proposed amendment is the wisest and best that could have been adopted, but I support it in the absence of a better because I believe it offers an enormous advance over our present basis, and promises the following benefits:

First. Justly placing the burden of taxation on socially created values.

Second. Wisely relieving merchants and manufacturers of license taxes, and the products of labor and the accumulations of thrift as represented by personal property from all tax burdens.

Third. Offering a system simple, certain and efficient.

Fourth. Involving a moral uplift of our taxpayers.

Fifth. Educating the social sense of our people.

PERCY WERNER.

## CONDENSED EDITORIALS

### A SENSELESS THING IN BOSTON.

Henry Sterling in The Progressive Workingman (Boston), of August 31.

There are over 7,000 acres of vacant land within the boundaries of Boston (assessors' figures); enough for an additional population of more than 35,000 at 50 persons per acre.

Yet, it is said that there are as many as 1,000 per acre living in some spots.

Could anything be more senseless, more heartless, than to let all this land lie empty, naked, staring up to heaven, useless, while all these thousands suffer so for a chance to live upon it?

Why not have a city Planning Board, and study how best to utilize our resources for the good of all?

Land is our only material gift from God.

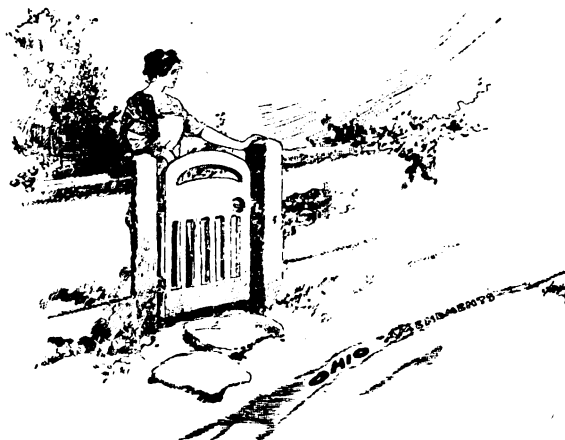
It is essential to all employments, all homes, all necessities, all happiness. Yet we mock God by making merchandise of His gift.

We exploit His children, charging extortionate prices for its use, and they perish for lack of space while half the land is idle.

Systematic, well-planned growth, with a heavy tax on land and exemption for buildings, would cure these two evils—congestion and unused resources—and also another Senseless Thing—unemployment.

## EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

### Left Behind.



J. W. Donahey in Cleveland Plain Dealer of September 5, 1912. Reproduced in The Public by courteous permission of the Editor of the Plain Dealer.



### WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE IN OHIO.

Lake Erie College, Painesville, Ohio.

The whole country has been watching Ohio to see what she would do on September 3d. She did some splendid things. The Initiative and Referendum, home rule for cities and welfare of employes were among them. But equal suffrage apparently received a black eye.

We say apparently advisedly, for the campaign has revealed some interesting facts with regard to the state of public opinion.

In the first place it was the liquor interests who fought it tooth and nail, their last coup d'etat being the broadcast distribution of a sheet of specious arguments when it was too late to reply. They know the propensity women have for thorough housecleaning, when they get at it, although in fact the suffragists were not mixed up as such with any other issue, some of them even favoring license.

In the second place, two of the counties to vote for the suffrage amendment were in the heart of the conservative Western Reserve region, settled by the descendants of Connecticut and representing the Eastern spirit more nearly perhaps than any other section of our country. Let New England and New York take notice. The women who were the leaders are worthy descendants of Plymouth Rock and Mary Lyon. To those watching the polls on election day it seemed evident also that the best men were on their side, that it was the more ignorant voters and those tied up with questionable business that were adverse.

A third fact is revealed, and that is that there has not been time enough for thorough education, that many men voted No because their wives were indifferent. This is one of the strongest arguments for the political emancipation of women. Let them once feel the responsibility of public questions and they will no longer speak of "your" cause and