

eral filed an information against him, which continued his imprisonment during the vacation of court.

"When the matter came on for hearing, his attorneys took exceptions to the commission of the Chief Justice, and, although their action was consistent with good practice, the court entered an order disbarring them and postponed the case.

"Zenger's friends then procured the services of Andrew Hamilton of Philadelphia, one of the leaders of the American bar, and about 80 years of age. He appeared for the defense on August 4, 1735. Mr. Hamilton admitted the publication of the articles in question and offered to prove the truth of all statements made in them, but the Chief Justice arbitrarily decided that the proof could not be admitted in evidence as a defense.

"So, without any evidence on behalf of the defense, Mr. Hamilton immediately commenced his memorable address to the jury, advising the jury of its right in criminal cases to pass upon both the law and the evidence. During his address he was several times interrupted, the Attorney General even threatening him with prosecution, but the able advocate continued his address and procured a verdict of Not Guilty.

"When the verdict was returned, Mr. Hamilton was carried out of the courtroom on the shoulders of an exultant crowd, and the entire City of New York was alive with enthusiasm, which spread not only throughout the Colony of New York, but all British America.

"Here was the first great victory in America, declaring the freedom of the press, and showing that American jurors had courage to sustain such freedom, even in defiance of an arbitrary judge and a partisan prosecuting attorney.

"The war clouds of the Revolution have somewhat obscured this great victory of the people in favor of the freedom of the press, but the verdict on August 4, 1735, remains one of the most important events in American history."

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## LAND MONOPOLY IN GREATER NEW YORK.

Significant Computations in Explanation of Poverty, by the Committee on Congestion of Population in New York.

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### The Enormous Value of Land.

*Manhattan.*—Of the 2,609 blocks in Manhattan, only one sixty-second have lots assessed for less than \$1 per square foot; only one-thirteenth for less than \$2 per square foot, while a little more than one-fourth have any lots assessed for less than \$3.50 per square foot, while about one-fifth have assessed values of over \$3.50 per square foot, including the Wall Street Section, with its \$225.00 per square foot values.

*Brooklyn.*—Of the 1,505 blocks in the 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22 wards of Brooklyn, comprising most of the built-up sections of the Borough, one-seventh have lots whose assessed values are 50c per square foot or less, while two-thirds of the blocks have lots assessed for \$1.00 or less per square foot; one-fourth have lots assessed from \$1.00 to \$1.50 per square foot, and only one-fifteenth have any lots assessed for over \$1.50 per square foot.

*Twenty-third Ward of the Bronx.*—In the built-up section of the Twenty-third ward of The Bronx, bounded by the Harlem River, Bronx Kills, East River, St. Ann's Ave., Third Ave., Longwood Ave., Tiffany St., Depot Place, Sedgwick Ave., and E. 170th St.—out of 559 blocks, 223, three-fifths, have lots assessed for less than \$1.00 per square foot, 224, about two-fifths, between \$1.00 and \$2.00, and only 12 between \$2.00 and \$4.50 per square foot.

*Queens.*—Out of 859 blocks in the First Ward of Queens, 762, or about nine-tenths, have lots assessed for less than 50c per square foot; 40, or one-twentieth, between 50c and \$1.00, and only 57, or one-fifteenth, between \$1.00 and \$2.00. Many blocks in this ward are assessed at only 10c to 25c per square foot, and the other wards of this borough as a whole have little land assessed for over 10c per square foot, although in sections sewers, sidewalks, etc., have not yet been provided.

*Richmond.*—Much of Richmond is still assessed as acreage at a few hundred dollars per acre, but practically none of the land is assessed at over 50c per square foot, and most of it at 10c to 20c per square foot.

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### Concentration of Ownership of Land.

In 1907, eight families, estates and corporations owned 5.42 per cent, or over one-twentieth, of the total assessed land value in Manhattan, and 1.88 per cent, or nearly one-fiftieth, of the total area of the Borough.

In the Bronx, one-fourteenth of the total area was held in lots of over 100 acres, and about one-seventh in lots of 25 to 100 acres.

In Queens, one-twenty-fifth of the total area was held in lots of over 100 acres, and over one-fifth in lots of 25 to 100 acres.

There were in Greater New York, five companies, each of which owned from 400 to about 2,000 acres.

### Concentration of Land Values.

From 1906 to October, 1908, the city paid for land for various municipal purposes \$30,291,038.30, most of it being paid by corporate stock, to run fifty years at 4 per cent. This means an actual cost of about \$75,000,000 for this land, and only about one-third of this is for productive purposes.

One block in Manhattan represented one-four-hundredth of the total assessed land value of Greater New York, and secured nearly one-four-hundredth of the total increase in assessed land value of the city from 1906 to 1908, while one-sixty-fifth of the total increase in assessed land values of Greater New York from 1908 to 1909 also fell in this block.

Typical lots increased in assessed land values from 1908 to 1909 in every Assembly District of Manhattan from 23 per cent to 140 per cent; in the Twenty-third Ward of the Bronx, from 3 per cent to 233 per cent; in several wards of Brooklyn, from 6.45 per cent to 146 per cent; in the First Ward of Queens, from 21.6 per cent to 200 per cent.

The most congested block in the civilized world is bounded by Catherine, Hamilton, Market and Monroe Sts. In 1906 its assessed land value was \$345,000; in 1908, \$433,000, an increase of one-fourth. This increase in land value means, at 8 per cent, \$15.44 additional rent per year for every family of five persons in the block if they pay the entire rent, on a commercial basis.

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#### Effect on Wages.

Although \$800 is the minimum amount upon which a man can support himself and three children under working age in Manhattan and most of Brooklyn and the Bronx, in 1905 the average wage of 339,221 wage-earners in Manhattan and the Bronx was \$543.17; of 104,995 in Brooklyn, \$519.42—in both cases over \$260 less than the amount required to maintain a decent existence for a family with three children under working age.

#### Causes of Congestion of Population.

Congestion of population is primarily the result of protected privilege and exploitation, and must be dealt with as an economic problem.

1. *High Cost of Land.*—This is an essential, eternal and irremediable cause of congestion of population as far as housing conditions are concerned. With expensive land no remedy for congestion among unskilled workers can permanently be found.

2. *Low Wages.*—With the low rate of wages a very abnormal proportion must be devoted to rent. Congestion and overcrowding per room is unavoidable without expensive philanthropic subsidizing of the recipients of low wages.

3. *Concentration in Factories and Offices.*—With thousands of workers on an acre of land concentration of population will inevitably ensue, particularly if—

4. *Long Hours of Work*—nine to ten hours a day—accompany this concentration.

5. *Low Standards of Housing.*—High tenements and very small areas for yards and the small superficial floor space of apartments, such

as is permitted by the present New York Tenement House Law, is bound to produce congestion.

6. *Lack of Supervision.*—With the low standard of living, no matter what the wages, there is a tendency to overcrowding in rooms, which can be prevented only by more general supervision of living conditions than we have in America, but such as is provided for in foreign cities.

7. *The Present System of Land Speculation* by which fortunes are made from land without any effort on the part of the holders.

8. *Discrimination in Railroad Rates*, by which special advantages are given to build up certain localities.

9. *Immigration*, which tends to lower the standard of housing, and hence reduce wages, partly because immigrants are not properly distributed.

10. *Unjust systems of Taxation*, by which land values and accumulated wealth escape their fair burden of taxation, and those with small incomes pay, often out of an actual deficit, a heavy proportion of their earnings in taxation for municipal and other purposes.

11. *Lack of Restriction* on the height, volume, and location of buildings other than tenements.

12. *Inadequate Transit Facilities.*

13. *The lack of recreational and educational facilities* in new sections of the city.

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## BARONS, OLD AND NEW.

### For The Public.

There was once a mighty baron;  
Now a baron's one, you know,  
Who lived upon his fellow men—  
But that was long ago.

And this baron had retainers,  
And he taxed them one and all;  
And he built a lovely castle  
With a spacious banquet hall.

And his army of retainers  
Paid the tax; and scarcely one  
Dared to question, hardly knowing  
How the clever trick was done.

This was in the feudal ages,  
And the baron's name—let's see—  
Does not sound like Aldrich, Cannon,  
Or such modern names, to me.

But I'm sure these ancient barons  
Would have sheathed their feudal claws,  
Had they known how now we "work 'em,"  
Through a nation's tariff laws.

JOSEPH DANA MILLER.

† † †

After waiting several months without hearing any encomiums on his large and beautiful tariff, Mr. Aldrich thought it was time to come forward with one himself.  
—Chicago Tribune.