

duced on the wealthy pewholders. The effect on the common people must be beneficial. Why not try it, earnestly and persistently? Then the truth will fully appear, and we will know if the present belief is well founded.

THE SINGLE TAX BRIEFLY STATED.

(For the Review.)

By **ELIZA STOWE TWITCHELL.**

- (1) Man is both an individual and also a social being.
- (2) As an individual being he creates a value by his labor of body, mind and spirit—by his whole individual Self.

LABOR-SAVING.

(3) As a social being he creates a labor-saving value by his co-operative efforts with others, and also by his social needs.

(4) These values are always expressed separately. They are always distributed separately, by means of two separate Channels, and by only two.

(5) The value of man's individual-labor-products is expressed in prices and distributed through the Channel of WAGES, i. e. WAGES for labor, and WAGES for capital.

(5) The socially-produced-value is always expressed in land value, and distributed through the Channel of GROUND-RENTS, i. e. the annual price for the use of land.

MORAL.

(a) The full value that each individual creates, (by his labor, his capital, or by both), should go to the individual that so creates it—or at least approximately so.

(b) The value that is created by all socially should go to all collectively. This value can be collected by the State by assessing land according to its true value, and the sum thus collected can be used for the social good, in which all would share equally, i. e., all would share equally in the value produced by all collectively.

PRACTICALLY.

(1) Today, the social value (some two billion dollars annually) is most of it flowing out of its natural Channel, going to enrich a few—the great Monopolies. It is this social value that gives them their unearned wealth, their industrial strength to keep up prices, and also their power to corrupt politics.

(2) Because a comparatively few individuals are thus given the power to reap the chief amount of the social value that is created by all, the WAGES of both labor and capital are lower than is their natural level, times are hard, and many are unable to find employment.

THE REMEDY—IDEALLY.

Collect the whole—two billion dollars worth of Ground-Rent, by placing a Single Tax upon the value of the land, and when collected, use it for the expenses of Government, abolishing all other taxes.

THE EFFECT.

The wealth, power and strength of Monopoly would everywhere be broken, for Monopoly of every kind would cease to rob the people of that value which they socially create. This would also destroy the power which Monopoly now has to take from labor and capital some of their individual earnings. In short, Monopoly—which lives upon the social value—would soon die for want of food—unearned food.

THE REMEDY—PRACTICALLY.

So contrary to the Natural Order is society to day, that the Ideal Order could not be brought about at once, for the people—even those who need it most—would oppose it because of their ignorance. But we can begin.

Begin by removing, gradually, all taxes upon labor products—taxes that rest so heavily upon labor and capital—and in proportion as these taxes are taken off, increase the taxes upon land (or upon Ground-rents) so that gradually the Ideal Order would be realized, viz., Society would be receiving all that it was producing and so would individual labor and capital.

THE IMMEDIATE EFFECT.

Rents would soon be lower; business would improve, and wages would rise, for opportunities for the profitable employment of both labor and capital would soon multiply. The chief cause of corrupt government would disappear.

THINGS TO REMEMBER.

The fact that the value of land is a socially-produced value had been known to all economists for a great many years. Henry George did not discover that; what he did discover was that so long as this value went to enrich a few, the many were robbed of their share, and this great injustice, (or disorder in one of the Channels of Distribution) caused injustice or disorder in the other Channel of Distribution, viz., it caused the WAGES of both labor and capital to sink below their natural level in the general market.

Henry George also discovered how to remedy this, by abolishing all taxes except those on the value of land. This is THE SINGLE TAX—a simple but sovereign remedy.

THE GOLDEN RULE OF TAXATION.—Never tax anything of value to your State that could and would run away, or that could and would come to you.