

owner of the land owns the user of the land.

Private property in land is slavery.

Labor question: The land question is the labor question. Wages depend upon access to land. A tax on the rent of land makes it impossible to keep it out of use hence it makes the best land available for use, which gives the highest wages, making oppression impossible.

"The bad economic condition of men is on account of tyranny, and the instrument of tyranny is taxation."

The Ideal Tax: The single tax is the only one that has ever been suggested that fulfills all the requirements of an ideal system. It is religious because it honors the Creator; it is moral because it fulfills the law, equal exchange of services. It preserves the sacredness of property, both that of the community and of the individual. It beautifully coordinates with socialism and individualism, giving them both their ideal perfection at the same time.

It gives the two great economic liberties, the liberty of production and the liberty of exchange. These two are the basis of the liberty of conscience, religion, thought, speech and action.

If a man is not free to live, all other liberty is mockery.

It settles the labor question. As it frees labor and capital at the same time, the seeming antagonism between them will disappear forever.

Under the single tax a man gets what he works for and he works for what he gets! Hence it cuts the tap root of covetousness.

"The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil;" the temptation to covetousness is in the easy possibility of getting something for nothing, in the present land system, and in other special privileges.

Special privileges can only be granted except by taking from the many their normal rights.

The single tax is the discovery of the nineteenth century; it will give us a new world in the twentieth century.—By the Late Rev. Charles E. Garst, of Tokyo, Japan.

#### OBJECTIONS TO BUYING KINDLING WOOD FROM CHARITY ORGANIZATIONS.

For The Public.

To Whom It May Concern:

I have been in the kindling wood business for the past 35 years, am fairly well experienced in it and have served the families in this neighborhood and have never had a complaint of any kind; but

my trade has been greatly reduced in the last few years on account of a so-called Charity Organization, where the customers that have left me order their kindling wood now; as my drivers tell me, when they come to the yard after delivering an order, that they have seen a charity wagon delivering an order at one of my former customer's. Well, I tell them that after awhile we will all have to go to the charity yard to work, as my business is growing less and I will have to let my men go accordingly.

I have had some of my men working for me from 15 to 20 years, and it came very hard for me to discharge them. I told them I could not help it, as I had no work I had to let them go, and if business would pick up again I would take them back. A few years ago I had from 50 to 60 men working for me, and now I have only ten, which shows the falling off of trade on account of the Charity Organizations.

Most of my men were married and had families of from five to fourteen children. After discharging those men on a Saturday night, when they would receive their pay, their wives would come to me with one child on their arm and another one tugging on their dress and ask me, with tears in their eyes, what their husbands were discharged for, and the little babies would look at me as if I was robbing them of their bread and butter. They told me that their husbands worked so long for me and that they never worked anywhere else. It would be the cause of breaking up their little home and separating their little family, which I found to be true, as in a short while there was a Gerry agent at my office and would ask me about my family so and so. I would tell him they were a good family, but times were very hard and I had to let him go. The agent told me some neighbor had written a letter that the children have been neglected, as they were always on the street in a filthy condition. I told him I supposed their mother was out working and could not give them the proper care, and that turned out to be the case.

Then some ladies from other institutions came to me, inquiring about other children whose parents could not support them, and therefore had to give them up to some place until they could make a home for them again.

I told some of the men to go over to the Charity Organization and try to get work, but they told me they could only earn 50 cents a day, and it was of no use. One man went to them and they put his name in the books and sent an agent to find out why I discharged him,

and I told the agent it was on account of their organization taking my customers away under disguise of charity, when in fact it was creating pauperism, as the families of these men had to break up house and send their children to live on the charity of others.

I have always paid my men the best wages I could afford, so as to make them self-supporting, which is what every man wants. When he works his week he wants his wages, that he may use it to the best advantage for himself and family, and not live on charity of others. I always hire honest men, that I can recommend to anyone, and think that every family ordering wood wants none but men that can be depended upon, as their servants cannot watch a man in the house all the time, as there have been a great many mysterious robberies of late in private houses.

I always inform my men to be very careful when going in and out to be sure and close every door tight, as I myself was in a cellar, and when I went to where the wood was generally kept there was a washtub, and in removing it a man came out from under. He pleaded for me not to say anything, but I brought him upstairs and told one of the servants to tell the lady of the house to come down. She, having a soft heart, let him go, but, having done my duty, it was all I had to do.

I have supplied wood to the Bon Secour sisters for ten years free, St. Luke's hospital at a reduction of two dollars per cord for ten years, paid all doctor bills for my men. See Bradstreet and R. G. Dun & Co. for my rating.

I gave a great deal of money to other charitable purposes, and tried to give what I could to the families that formerly worked for me.

This is the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. I may have served you with wood, and you left me to do charity. If you were aware of the kind of charity it was, you would be with me yet. If you would read the New York World of May 13, 1894, it would give you the true facts.

This paper has a full account of the full working of the so-called Charity Wood Yard, and by reading it you can see that it does very little good to those actually deserving of charity.

The men who do get work are often picked up from the streets, and are apt to have contagious diseases or vermin, and their character may be such as to be dangerous to let them enter or become familiar with a house while delivering wood. Yours respectfully,

EDWARD J. M'CLUSKEY.  
Cor. 38th St. and First Ave., New York.