

their victims. But asking help from Singletaxers is practically asking those who are using all their spare means to prevent further mischief, to relax their efforts in order to enable others to evade the duty of relieving those whom they have made poor."

This, therefore, is my answer when asked to contribute to the Red Cross:

"Asking help from the supporters of militarism and imperialism is merely asking the persons responsible for war, death and destruction to do something to relieve their victims. But, as one who has devoted what little energy, power and means she may possess to combatting the ideals of militarism and imperialism, as well as all the other forms of brutal privilege and enthroned force, I cannot see why I should relax such efforts to enable those who believe in all these things to evade their full duty of helping updo in some part the wrong they have brought about."

The Red Cross is as much a part of army organization as is the engineer corps, or a battleship or any of the rest of it. A true anti-militarist, who understands to the full what the terms militarism means and implies, might as well give money towards a new battleship as toward the Red Cross work. The Red Cross stands as an acknowledgement that war and militarism and all they mean are a necessary part of civilized society. Exactly as organized charity is an admission on the part of the community that the conditions which make charity necessary are an inevitable and integral part of the community life. We Singletaxers who deny this, do not believe in nor support organized charity. Therefore those of us who are convinced anti-militarists do not support the Red Cross, whatever the Unthinking may say of us.

GRACE ISABEL COLBRON.



## THE SALARY AND WAGE PROBLEM.

Kansas City, Mo., Sept. 12.

There seems to be a cloud of superstition befogging the mind of the average individual, especially the minds of the salary earning classes. These good people think they are working for money and that the higher the wage the greater the income. This is a false belief. If the wages of the lowest paid worker should be raised to \$100 a week and the wages of the other workers adjusted to this scale, which would be sure to follow, the purchasing power of the wage would not be increased the value of a paper collar. Money is only a substitute for the debit and credit side of the ledger. No one works for money except the miser. All others are striving for that which money will purchase. Practically the workman exchanges his labor for the commodities which he uses and consumes during his stay on earth. This statement is proved by the following approximate list of necessities and luxuries used and consumed by the average working man during a period of say thirty-five years, to-wit:

- 25 suits of clothes.
- 100 suits of underclothes.
- 40 each of neckties, pairs of gloves.
- 2 watches, a number of rings, stickpins, charms, collar buttons and knives.
- 10 sacks of sugar.

4 barrels of flour.

5 barrels of liquors.

A quantity of drugs.

A supply of household goods.

A house and lot or its equivalent paid in rent.

One street car, or its equivalent, paid in 5-cent fares.

An interest in a railroad car, paid by buying railroad tickets.

A load of books, papers, stationery and postage.

The equivalent of an interest in a theater, circus or ball game equipment.

Some insurance, chances, risks, lawsuits, church and lodge dues. City, county, state and tariff taxes. But all the wage earners are not satisfied with that which their present exchange of labor will procure; therefore they resort to strikes and boycotts, believing that through these means they will better their condition. This is a delusion. No such methods will ever bring about that which they desire. But if, instead, they will abolish the custom houses and destroy all tariff walls the present purchasing power of their earnings will be increased one-third, thus giving them all or more than they hoped to gain by means of the strike or boycott.

When Adam and Eve were driven out of the Garden of Eden they were compelled to depend upon their labor for protection. It is labor, not protective tariffs and the hidden taxes consequent thereunto, that increases the income and adds to the material comforts of man.

F. A. TAPPAN, M. D.

---

## NEWS NARRATIVE

---

The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to volumes and pages of The Public for earlier information on the same subject.

---

Week ending Tuesday, September 22, 1914.

---

### The European War.

Few changes of moment have occurred in the position of the several armies during the last week. Ten nations are now engaged—Germany and Austria on one side, and Russia, France, England, Belgium, Portugal, Serbia, Montenegro, and Japan on the other. Severe battles, accompanied by heavy losses, have been fought by the troops of all these nations, but no decisive action on land or sea has occurred. Casualty lists are either withheld from the public, or are given out in such a form as to prevent a full understanding of the situation. No indications are yet apparent that any of the countries is ready to talk peace. [See current volume, page 897.]



### The Franco-German Campaign.

No sooner had the German right wing, under General von Kluck, safely crossed the River Aisne, in its retreat after the battle of Marne, than a continuous and dogged struggle began along the