

THE  
Single Tax League of Victoria.

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MR. A. C. NICHOL, *Honorary Secretary.*

OFFICES : MERCANTILE CHAMBERS, COLLINS ST., CITY.

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A LANDLORD'S SOLILOQUY.

“WHAT a delightful thought ! Not a merchant who increases the wealth and trade of this great metropolis ; not a workman who adds to its industrial product ; not an author, or writer, or scientific man who adds to its reputation ; not a builder, not a father of an increasing family, but puts gold into my pocket by augmenting the value of my land. I toil not, neither do I spin. Why should I when all the world around is toiling and spinning for me ?”

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PROFESSOR THOROLD ROGERS' OPINION.

“Every permanent improvement of the soil, every railway and road, every bettering of the general condition of society, every facility given for production, every stimulus supplied to consumption, *raises rent*. The landowner sleeps but thrives. He alone, among all the recipients in the distribution of products, *owes everything to the labour of others*, contributes nothing of his own.”

Workers,—Wealth does not rain down from heaven ; it has all to be made by labour. Whoever gets more wealth than he makes must rob some other men of wealth which they have made. The monopoly of land robs labour of the bulk of the wealth which it makes, and, worse still, by keeping valuable land out of use, or full use, prevents the workers from making the wealth they want. The masses of the people are poor and helpless because land is monopolised.

The readiest way to abolish land monopoly is to make it unprofitable. Every man must *use* land, because the use of land is necessary for the maintenance of life and the production of wealth. But men

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only desire to *own* land, because the ownership of land gives them the power to appropriate wealth which others make in the shape of rent. If they cannot appropriate the rent of land, they will have no desire to *own* land, will be satisfied with using such small portions of land as they themselves require. Tax, then, the rental value of land, until the whole of it is absorbed by taxation, and not only will land monopoly disappear, but every citizen, as a member of the community, will have an equal share in the advantages which spring from the ownership of land. As taxed land cannot be held out of use, or full use, the taxation of the rental value of land will cause such a demand for labour that wages will rise to the full value of the wealth which each labourer produces.

Whoever wants to restore to all men their equal share in the bounty of the Creator; whoever wants to open to labour the opportunities for employment, and enable the workers to retain the wealth which they make; whoever wants to abolish the undeserved poverty of the masses, and reduce the unearned riches of the few,

*Should join the Single Tax League of Victoria.*

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ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION - - ONE SHILLING.