

## THE PUBLIC FORUM

**TWO QUESTIONS.**—Without entering the dispute between your Catholic and Protestant correspondents, I want to ask one question of each of them and see if they won't plead guilty and then end the affair.

First, I would like to know the papist's reason, if he has any, why a majority of the members of the public school board in every city of the United States (that I know about) are Catholics? When a Catholic is the avowed opponent (to put it mildly) of the public school system, why should he sit in control of it?

Second, I would like to know the Protestant's reason for throwing rocks at the other fellow's glass house when the pillars of his church are the owners and controllers of all vice, organized and unorganized, the supporters of the damnable system which robs, pillages and prostitutes?

Now, I don't want the Catholic to agree with me about the Protestant and defend the Catholic and vice versa. Cut it out!—A. E. Carver, Gary, Ind.

### CHAIRMAN WALSH'S SPEECH.

—“Poverty comes because men do not receive the full product of their toil. The government ought to take back the land which has been taken by fraud. This is not confiscation.”

Here is a statement by Chairman Walsh of the industrial relations committee which ought to enlighten many as to the cause of poverty. A few figures about land values in the United States will tend to throw further light on this subject. At present landowners hold a lien against the labor of the country which is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  times greater than was the value of all the slaves shortly before the Civil war.

Between 1900 and 1910 land values have increased more than 117 per cent, that is, the labor values absorbed by land values have more than doubled in ten years. What effect

this has on the distribution of labor's earnings a simple illustration will show.

In the time of Henry Clay the total slave population was valued at 900 millions of dollars. Suppose that ten years later the value had more than doubled without any increase in their number. This would mean that the slaves turned out just that much more work for their masters, as the value of a slave was based on the estimated amount of work which it was thought could be got out of him.

It is the same with land values. The owners have a lien upon our labor, which, from nothing, has increased to over \$80,000,000,000. To pay the interest on this amount, besides government taxation, we must get up early, work hard all day and oftentimes far into the night.

More power to Chairman Walsh. He is beginning “to see the cat.” To find out what this expression means, consult Henry George's book, “Progress and Poverty.”—J. Weiler, 1229 Macedonia st.

**DO AWAY WITH GREED.**—This is a reply to Greed, in the Feb. 26 Day Book, sent to me underscored.

Law aids greed in an imaginary way, as greed justifies its doings by enacting law for the purpose of having some sort of a basis or system to divide the spoils. That is called **ECONOMIC JUSTICE**. The laborers believe in the laws of the greedy, because the laborers are greedy themselves, and that is the reason no help comes. In the greedy there may come moments when generosity and righteousness makes themselves felt and really takes control over greed, but never so firmly as to change the laws of greed.

A little harmless game like penny ante will show how powerful the touch and influence of gambling is, which is nothing else but an imagination to win on a hope to divide what the other players have?

The single taxers hope to even up