

Chicago—taxing for no reason but that the treasury is exhausted illegally and the individual is willing to work for a living and too poor to make an effective protest.

The gentle monopolists who also live by taxing the poor through special privileges are soothing their consciences with all sorts of philanthropy and all the time this double robbery of the poor is increasing.

Like the man that foolishly killed the goose that laid the golden eggs, philanthropic monopolists and weak-minded political managers are living in a fool's paradise.

The robber system of getting public revenue is sapping the strength of the workers. It is obstructing the production of wealth by capital and labor and making conditions worse continually. There are but two sources of public revenue open to us. We can tax labor or we can tax monopoly. Labor's back is nearly broken now. There is but one way to tax monopoly and if that is taken labor's back will straighten and waste places will bloom. Poverty will vanish and corruption in public business will disappear.—George V. Wells.

**TIP TO PUBLIC OFFICIALS.**—To make good as a public legislator a statesman should act with dispatch and protect the public. Take the price-fixing of coal—the fundamental laws of political economy are not carried out in today's transaction. The consumer does not have a voice, does not fix the prices by bidding the prices up.

The price is demanded from him without his act or consent. There is no competition. The consumer's fundamental rights are ignored in such a case and all other cases of like nature. Law should be applied and a reasonable price fixed by law. Otherwise the seller is the lawmaker to his own interest and profit.

One of the things at which every citizen sneers is the continued investigation of price-fixing with no re-

sults obtained. Things are now self-evident and need no investigation. The cost of mining and delivering coal is known, so is price-fixing systematically manipulated by organized managers known.

Coal is maintained at winter prices even in summer and added extortions demanded and compelled in winter. The statesman, to be a credit to himself, to be efficient, must have fought and had adopted preventative measures, or if he has neglected such measures he should now act promptly on a self-evident extortion and a public injustice.—Albert H. Peterson.

**PROSTITUTES.**—Judge Fisher sitting in the morals court has sentenced perhaps a hundred prostitutes to the Bridewell. Some of these no doubt deserve to be there, but many don't. Locking the prostitute up is not a solution of the problem, for man will make others to take her place. How about the men who live on the earnings of these women? Why not put all of them behind bars and let the prostitute live?

Being scorned by all so-called respectable people, her only refuge is the back room of some saloon, where, perhaps, she finds solace in drink, drink which in most cases is half responsible for her being an outcast.

She is an outcast, but the man who is responsible for it is oftentimes the husband of the woman who condemns her most, and he who sold the drink that helped is prosperous and licensed to continue doing the same.

Go to the morals court and see the so-called justice dealt. The prostitute is arrested, some saloonkeeper or bondsman signs her bond if she has \$15 to give him, and some lawyer takes her case for \$20. Then she is sent to the Bridewell for one or six months, broke. For, what? For selling herself! Sometimes poison, yes; but the morals court doctor doesn't advise her how to take care of herself. All she is interested in is