

**LAND NATIONALISATION, ITS NECESSITY  
AND ITS AIMS; BEING A COMPARISON  
OF THE SYSTEM OF LANDLORD AND  
TENANT WITH THAT OF OCCUPYING  
OWNERSHIP IN THEIR INFLUENCE ON THE  
WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649140022

Land nationalisation, its necessity and its aims; being a comparison of the system of landlord and tenant with that of occupying ownership in their influence on the well-being of the people  
by Alfred Russel Wallace

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**ALFRED RUSSEL WALLACE**

**LAND NATIONALISATION, ITS NECESSITY  
AND ITS AIMS; BEING A COMPARISON  
OF THE SYSTEM OF LANDLORD AND  
TENANT WITH THAT OF OCCUPYING  
OWNERSHIP IN THEIR INFLUENCE ON THE  
WELL-BEING OF THE PEOPLE**



# Land Nationalisation Society.

Established in 1881 to Equitably Restore the Land to the People and the People to the Land.

*President*:—ALFRED RUSSEL WALLACE, D.C.L. (Oxon.), F.R.S., etc.

*Chairman of Executive*:—A. W. PAYNE, F.C.A.

*Deputy Chairman*:—E. F. HARRISON, B.Sc.

*Hon. Secretary*:—C. M. BAILHACHE, LL.B., 3 Elm Court, Temple, E.C.

*Hon. Treasurer*:—G. A. HARDY, M.P., Chestnut House, 4 Champion Hill, S.E.

*Hon. Auditor*:—ERNEST HOLAH, F.C.A., 5 Crown Court, Cheapside, E.C.

*Secretary*:—JOSEPH HYDER.

---

Central Office—432 WEST STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

---

## PUBLICATIONS.

Land and Labour (the organ of the Land Nationalisation Society).  
Monthly, 1d.

Land Nationalisation: Its Necessity and its Aims. By Dr. A. R. Wallace. New Edition, paper cover, 1s.; cloth cover, 2s. 6d., post free.

A Colonist's Plea for Land Nationalisation (No. XXIII). By A. J. O., of Tasmania. Paper cover, 3d.

The Land for the People: How to get it and how to manage it (revised edition). By C. Wicksteed. Price 6d.

Collected Essays. By A. J. Ogilvy. 2s. 6d., post free.

Land Problems. By Joseph Hyder. 6d. and 1s.

The Crux of the Land Question: Compensation. By Joseph Hyder. 1d.

The Case for Land Nationalisation. By Joseph Hyder. 1d.

**MEMBERSHIP.**—Payment of an Annual Subscription of not less than *One Shilling* confers Membership. A Subscription of 2s. 6d. or more entitles the giver to a regular monthly copy of *Land and Labour*. Subscribers of five guineas or more become Life Members.

**LECTURES.**—The Secretary will be glad to hear from Political Associations and Land Reformers generally, with a view to holding meetings, supplying lecturers, or attending debates.

Those who desire a just solution of the Land Problem are earnestly invited to become Members.

Cheques, Postal Orders, etc., to be crossed "London and County Banking Co., a/c Land Nationalisation Society".

FIRST EDITION, *July*, 1892.  
SECOND EDITION, *Sept.*, 1896.  
THIRD EDITION, *Oct.*, 1902.  
FOURTH EDITION, *Nov.*, 1906.

# LAND NATIONALISATION

## ITS NECESSITY AND ITS AIMS

*BEING A COMPARISON OF THE SYSTEM OF LANDLORD AND  
TENANT WITH THAT OF OCCUPYING OWNERSHIP  
IN THEIR INFLUENCE ON THE WELL-BEING  
OF THE PEOPLE*

BY

ALFRED RUSSEL WALLACE

AUTHOR OF "THE MALAY ARCHIPELAGO," "ISLAND LIFE," ETC., ETC.



*WITH APPENDIX ON THE NATIONALISATION OF HOUSE PROPERTY*

LONDON

SWAN SONNENSCHN & CO., LIM.

NEW YORK: CHARLES SCRIBNER'S SONS

1906

HD 1306  
G7W2  
1906

30750007

Ye friends to truth, ye statesmen who survey  
The rich man's joys increase, the poor's decay—  
'Tis yours to judge how wide the limits stand  
Between a splendid and a happy land.

GOLDSMITH.



TO THE  
WORKING MEN OF ENGLAND

THIS BOOK IS

*DEDICATED,*

IN THE HOPE THAT IT MAY REVEAL TO THEM THE CHIEF CAUSE OF SO MUCH POVERTY IN THE MIDST OF THE EVER-INCREASING WEALTH WHICH THEY CREATE, AND POINT OUT TO THEM THE GREAT REFORM WHICH WILL ENABLE LABOUR TO REAP ITS JUST REWARD, WHICH WILL SURELY TEND TO ABOLISH PAUPERISM, AND WHICH WILL GIVE TO ALL WHO INDUSTRIOUSLY SEEK IT A FAIR SHARE IN THE INCREASED PROSPERITY OF THEIR NATIVE LAND.

167198

## P R E F A C E.

THE present work has been written with two main objects. In the first place, it is intended to demonstrate by a sufficient, though condensed, body of evidence, the widespread and crying evils—political and social, material and moral—which are not only the actual, but the necessary results of the system of Landlordism, while at the same time it shows, by a complementary series of facts, that a properly guarded system of Occupying Ownership under the State would afford a complete remedy for the evils thus caused. In the second place, it demonstrates that the proposed solution is a practicable one, by explaining in detail how the change may be effected with no real injury to existing landowners, and also how the scheme will actually work without producing any one of the evil results generally thought to be inseparable from a system of land-nationalisation.

It will be seen from this outline that the subjects here treated are of vast and momentous importance. So abundant are the available materials that it would have been easy to compile a work of several bulky volumes without exhausting the theme. To have done so might

have added to the author's literary reputation, but would not have produced the effect which he desires to produce. It is the people at large—the middle and lower classes especially—who suffer by the present land-system, and it is by their mandate to their representatives in Parliament that the needed reform must be effected. Existing legislators can and will do nothing beyond removing the shackles which now prevent land from being freely bought and sold ; but so limited a reform will only benefit land-owners and capitalists, while the people will still suffer from all the evils which the monopoly of land by a class and the increase of land-speculation inevitably bring upon them. To reach the landless classes—to teach them what are their rights and how to gain these rights—is the object of this work ; and it was therefore necessary that it should be at once clear and forcible, moderate in bulk, and issued at a low price. In effecting the required degree of condensation the historical part of the subject has been sketched in the briefest outline, because it appeared to the author much more important to demonstrate the evil results of our land-system than to prove that it had its origin in force or fraud in long-past ages. It also happens, that the history of the origin of landed property in general, as well as of our existing systems of land-tenure, are the portions of the subject which have been most fully treated, and which are best known to general readers.