

that this beat sweating in a trench! Of course, this bargaining did not change the picture as a whole. Everyone who obtained a shovel displaced someone else, who then set up a new howl for a shovel.

But there was now created a leisure class which, by collecting RENT for the use of some shovels and interest on mortgages given in payment for others—which came to the same thing—grew in power and influence by reason of their possession of shovels.

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The city council managed everything of a public nature, including schools, water supply, streets and sanitation. The tax levy for these public services wrought a second change that had its economic effect.

With the huge advance in the value of shovels, it followed that shovels were placed on the tax roll at a much higher figure than when they were worth a dollar. Foreseeing a grave danger, Martin revolved in his mind other expedients to produce revenue. He insisted that to overtax shovels would impair their value and, consequently, the wealth of the community, thus seriously hampering its prosperity.