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Jaurès, La propriété individuelle et les lois bourgeoises d'expropriation.
In Oeuvres, VI, 403-410. Dates 3 oct 1901.

Declaration of Rights of Man declares no expropriation of property except under condition "d'une juste et préalable indemnité" (403). This was used by Beffroy, in 8 dec 1792 to uphold fixing prices on grain, since state had the right to expropriate it had the right to impose limits on the productive value. But this not accepted (404). In 1831, however, under the rubric of national defense, immense railroad & fortification enterprises undertaken--all by great capitalistic enterprises, subsidized by the state--with proprietors told they would be indemnified in time. In 1841 a law of expropriation allowed canals & railroads to benefit directly ~~from~~ by beginning to build before the indemnification procedure settled. (406)

Of all these things Jaurès stresses the breach in property rights, in the name of the common good, which the bourgeois have allowed. Gladstone's Irish land policy another example: convert land into money equivalent, indemnify owners by floating a 2-1/2 percent state rente (having indemnified on basis of 5 percent for 20 years), whereby the capital value of the land is same, new owners in effect get it for half value (or rather indemnify by paying only one-half return for twenty years); ~~movable~~ real-estate to ~~personal~~ movable change is typical of bourgeois system.

In fine, all this is prelude to what the socialists will do: Ainsi s'annonce une prochaine extension socialiste, une prochaine interpretation communiste du droit d'expropriation pour cause d'utilité publique inscrit dans la loi bourgeoise." (410).