

*United States Courts*

*Federal Building*

*Boston*

CHAMBERS OF  
GEORGE W. ANDERSON  
CIRCUIT JUDGE

Stetson Avenue,  
De Land, Florida,  
March 20, 1933.

Mr. Justice Louis D. Brandeis,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Justice:

Thank you for the opinion in the Florida chain store case. As usual, I agree with the dissenters. Your dissent, with its elaborate history and analysis of corporation laws, is very valuable. It must have involved an enormous amount of reading and research. I envy you your continued taste and ability for laborious research and cogent and lucid statement of your results. I have mostly lost any such taste and ability as I once had.

I have recently re-read Henry George's *Progress and Poverty*. While I cannot accept to the full his theory that private ownership of the land is as great a cause of our economic failure, nor that a single tax seeking to absorb actual rent for public purposes would produce any such economic millennium, as he pictures, yet I am constrained to believe that he demonstrated more economic sense and acumen than can be found in any other single book on economics. I should like to see the substance of his plan tried in American life. The taxation involved in the rent of our numerous cities and towns must be a very large factor in our economic life. So also is the private ownership of subsurface minerals and metals. My guess is that while undoubtedly rent exists with reference to some agricultural land, that on the whole, our imposing taxes on improvements, buildings, as well as land, results in an excessive appropriation of rent (proper)

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on all, or nearly all, agricultural land. Of course, buildings and improvements are not the subject of rent, properly considered.

The reviews of Marx, fifty years dead, have also impressed me with the soundness of his view that capitalism contains within itself forces making for its own destruction. Mass production without mass purchasing power is a demonstrated failure. Was not this what Marx foretold?

There is nothing in sight in America except palliatives, nor anywhere in the world, except perhaps in Russia.

We shall probably be in Washington in two or three weeks for a short time.

Senator Walsh's death was tragic and a great loss to the country, if he still had large working power.

Sincerely yours,

G.W. Anderson