

years, in which the school had been doing a good work, the general development of the state reminded the school managers that they would be compelled to change their location to a more accessible point, and several Texas towns set to work in competition for securing the school.

Our little city won the prize over the larger towns, and the following from the records of the managing committee tells how the victory over other towns was won:

After due consideration of the subject, it was agreed that a strong effort ought to be made to secure said institution, and that probably the most feasible plan would be to supplement the usual mode of raising money through donations, by securing a gift or purchase at low or very reasonable value of at least 100 or 125 acres of land at some desirable point near the city, and plat the same into residence lots with the campus and buildings in the center thereof, then sell these lots at an enhanced price, estimated to be their full value when the institution is located and all buildings are complete, and by this means the profits thus derived would go to secure an institution which would benefit all instead of the one individual who might be so lucky as to procure the site on his land.

Whether they had ever "seen the cat," it is clear that the party or parties who originated the above plan, was working right along the line of the Single Tax.

They did secure a beautiful site of 100 acres, which they laid out on this plan, and sold for \$80,000, speaking in round numbers, both the buying of the tract and the sale of the lots being conditioned on the idea that the school was to come to Waxahachie. All the conditions were met, and the school, Trinity University, has been here in successful operation for some years, and no one who was familiar with the work of the community in securing the school, would pretend to claim that they could ever have raised the required amount by gift outright, or by any method, in fact, except the one worked out.

Thus a community, with the undisputed benefits which a school always brings, has secured these things by a practical application of the Single Tax.

The teacher in the chair of economics

in Trinity University, should give each class, sometime during their college course, a thorough lesson in the Single Tax, and out somewhere on the college grounds, there should be some kind of monument or tablet like this: "Trinity University was located on this spot by putting into practical operation the teachings and principles of Henry George."—THOMAS J. MIDDLETON, Waxahachie, Texas.

FOR AND AGAINST INDEPENDENT POLITICAL ACTION.

(Following are a few of the letters received on the question of separate political action).

IS DOUBTFUL OF ITS WISDOM.

EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

I was much interested, in fact gratified, to read in the last REVIEW of the call for the organization of a Single Tax Party. Interested as a matter of course, gratified for the reason that such contemplated action is indicative of a growing enthusiasm for our ideal. And we must remember that no great thing was ever accomplished without enthusiasm.

But zeal for an object must be tempered with common sense. There must be both warmth and clearness, and it seems to me that the substitution of politics for an educational propaganda is only justified by a clearness which at present is only conspicuous by its absence.

Just what I mean is that we have no program for the practical realization of our ideal.

The transition from a society for the spread of the Single Tax principle to a Party for putting that principle into effect, necessitates a definite method of practical ways and means.

To be more specific, before we Single Tax men organize an Independent Party, we ought to be able to formulate our demands in a Bill. A Single Tax Party without a Single Tax Bill, must in the end sink us to the level of political malcontents.

So while one may be an ardent Single Taxer, he may wisely refuse to cooperate in the musty atmosphere of common poli-

tics, so long as nothing is to be gained thereby. And unless we know not only what we want, but how to go about to get it, and that so clearly as to embody the same in concrete legislation, it is difficult to see how we can benefit by organizing as a party.

To go over the same thought: I think as a body, we hardly recognize our present limitations. We forget that as yet we are pure idealists. Our ideal is the common ownership of land which ideal we propose to realize through the medium of taxation—and rightly so. But we often speak, and as often persuade ourselves, that the application of such taxation is a mere matter of a majority in the legislature. This, of course, is not so. For given that, and we would be at sea how to proceed.

The outcome must be, assuming a victory at the polls, that the Party could not "make good"—at least so far as Single Tax is in issue. So, as has been said of our friends the Socialists, the hour of our victory would be the hour of our defeat.

My conclusion is therefore that we are not ready for political action. The "psychological moment" for launching a Party, is when we can put forth a program. Then, certainly and by all means; but not till then.—HENRY BOOTHMAN, Libby, Montana.

BELIEVES THIS IS THE ONLY WAY TO GET
OUR VIEWS BEFORE THE PUBLIC.

EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

Dear Sir:—After reading report of the Fels Fund Commission, and the article entitled, *For Political Action*, I will say that I believe, and have for a long time, felt the need of some action along lines which would bring Single Taxers more closely together and have a more complete organization than at present exists.

I know of no better way than that suggested in the call of Single Taxers in convention, to form a Single Tax political party.

I am satisfied in my own mind that there is no time like the present. I believe the people are more anxious today to know what the Single Tax really is, than ever before; this I think is due to the wide-

spread publicity given our cause in the recent general elections in England.

It is only through organized political action that we can get our views properly before the public; it is only through organized political action that the newspapers will be forced to more widely comment on it; it is only through organized political action that the curiosity of the people will be aroused, and that will stimulate thought.

The idea exists in very many peoples' minds, that, while once upon a time the Single Tax was a very live issue, it is now a dead one, so dead, that so far as this country is concerned, it cannot be brought back to life, and this belief is entertained by some who profess to believe in and accept the Single Tax.

I believe the failure of the Fel's Fund Commission to get a more ready response to its appeal for funds, is mainly due to the lack of thorough organization among the Single Taxers of the country.

I believe this is the reason why it is so hard to get subscribers for Single Tax publications.

This is why so many of our believers associate themselves with the socialist party, since they have lost faith in the democratic party as at present controlled and turn to the socialist party as the only haven of refuge, and this is not to be wondered at, since we had such a spectacle in the last tariff debate in congress, of democratic representatives falling over each other in their efforts to line up with the Aldrich-Cannon combine, like so many hogs, to get their share of tariff swill. Yes, by all means let us have a Single Tax political party, and thereby show the people that the Single Tax is not dead, but very much alive.—PETER VANDERWENDE, Bradford, Pa.

OPPOSES THE MOVEMENT, BUT SUGGESTS
A NAME.

EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

The appeal in the March-April *REVIEW* to Single Taxers in favor of forming a Single Tax party and the invitation to a convention for that purpose, prompts this communication.