

**MONDAY EVENING'S MASS MEETING.**

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REPORTED BY STANLEY BOWMAR.

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At the big mass meeting Monday Evening, the large Auditorium Hall was crowded. Isidor Jacobs presided.

Wm. S. U'Ren, the first speaker, describing the measure to be submitted to the people of Oregon, said that they did not intend to talk the fiscal side of the Single Tax; they were going right after the ground rents of Oregon for the people of Oregon. They may decide to go after the whole thing at one time, although their measure, as at present drawn called for only 90c. on every dollar of ground rent. Two-thirds of the revenue obtained from their measure, if adopted, they proposed to distribute amongst the taxing powers in the same proportion as the 1916 taxes will be distributed. The other one-third was to go into what would be called the Home Makers' Loan Society, the object of which was to help the young men and women who happened to be engaged in making homes, either in the city or the country districts. On these loans to home-makers no interest was to be charged the first five years. "We have subsidized," said Mr. U'Ren, "the ship owners and monopolists of every kind at the expense of those who want to make homes. Now we intend to reverse this situation and subsidize, encourage, the makers of homes."

Louis F. Post, Assistant Secretary of Labor, said that if Oregon adopted the measure it will have made much greater advance along Single Tax lines than any other part of the world. The measure was not ideal, but it made a long jump. Touching on the name "Single Tax," Mr. Post said it made little difference what the name was. Any man who would be hurt by the Single Tax would recognize it no matter what the name and those who would be helped by it would not recognize its value until they turned around and looked at it. After telling the story of Mr. H. F. Ring's conversion and of his early exuberant faith that he could convert all Houston to the Single Tax in a day—which he now knew he couldn't—Mr. Post closed with a short and brilliant explanation of how the taxation of land values would work out. We could not expect this measure to be quickly adopted. A lot of propaganda work had to be done. All forms of propaganda were like the old Scotchman's whiskies. "Some whiskies are better than others," the Scotchman said, "but all whiskies are good."

Dr. John W. Slaughter of London spoke on the conditions in England. Referring to the reports that English workmen were showing disloyalty by striking, he referred to the abnormal profits that many of the manufacturers had made, especially in the early stages of the war, as justifying dissatisfaction on the part of the men, whose wages had not increased to offset the growing cost of living. One of the instances he mentioned was the case of

a milling company in the south of England which paid in dividends since the war began, an amount equal to its capitalization! Taxes were becoming heavier and heavier. Everything, except land values, was taxed to the hilt, and as the British people had learned, in their famous budget fight of 1910, to appreciate the value of this source of revenue, there were hopes that the Government would be forced to turn to it at the end of the war. One big step had been made in the ending of the veto power of the House of Lords. "The British people are very slow to move, but when they do move," he said, "something had better get out of the way."

Oliver T. Erickson of Seattle spoke of the need of patience and persistence in our campaigns and said the criticism of the recent campaign in California should not be taken too seriously. It was not always practicable to fight for the Single Tax blood raw. He had fought for municipal ownership in his city because he felt there was no force so corrupt in our city life as the corporation. A straight Single Tax campaign in the State of Washington was impracticable. He thought Single Tax should be taken into politics. Club meetings were frequently ineffective. There came to them only those who were converted, not the new people.

Mrs. Fels, who was honored by a rising vote, counseled at this meeting as she did on several other occasions, straight Single Tax campaigns wherever practicable.

J. H. Ralston, J. Stitt Wilson and ex-Mayor Cotterill of Seattle also spoke, but very briefly on account of the lateness of the hour.

AUGUST 24, 10 A.M.

The Conference was called to order August 24, at 10 A.M. The Chairman called for a report of the Committee on programme for the day. Mr. Todd reported that the Committee proposed that discussion of propaganda methods be taken up August 24th, at 3 P.M., as a special order of business.

Here, at the suggestion of Mr. Kiefer, Mr. U'Ren read a motion which he will make at 3 P.M. The motion reads as follows: "Resolved, that it is the opinion of this Conference that Single Taxers should hereafter propose nothing less than constitutional amendments for the full measure of State-wide Single Tax, and that every such amendment should be sufficiently complete in detail to be self-operative, without further legislation after its adoption by the people."

The Conference then proceeded to regular business.

Mr. Todd read letters from:

1. Jas. G. Maguire, bearing the kind remembrance of Mr. H. W. McFarlane to the members of the Conference.
2. From the San Jose Chamber of Commerce.
3. From Wm. Kent in regard to the cutting of timber in Humboldt County.
4. From the Wellington, New Zealand, S. T. Conference and from members of the Delaware Single Tax Society.

On motion of Mr. Kiefer, duly seconded and passed, a letter from Mr. Hemingway in regard to Washington, D. C. was referred to a committee of three appointed by the chair. Messrs. John Salmon, Louis F. Post and Daniel Kiefer were appointed on the Committee.

On motion of Mr. Sample, duly passed, all other letters of length were referred to this Committee.

Mr. Kiefer read letters from Brand Whitlock commending the *Public*, from John Z. White on the Pueblo campaign, from J. J. Pastoriza advocating support of work in Pueblo by Single Taxers. Mr. Kiefer suggested that this recommendation be brought up at the afternoon session in the regular order of business at 3 o'clock.

Mr. Kiefer proceeded to read letters from the Single Tax Club of Pittsburg, from Mme. Bjorner of Denmark, from A. G. Huie of the Sydney, New South Wales' Single Tax League, and from the Single Tax League of South America.

On motion of Mr. U'Ren, duly carried, other letters, except the briefest, were referred to the Committee on Communications.

Mr. Kiefer read a transcription made by Will Atkinson from a Spanish letter, and then letters from J. Darien of France and from Herbert Quick.

On motion, time was extended indefinitely to Dr. L. Gutierrez de Lara, who spoke in behalf of the Mexican people, stating that the present Revolution, as well as the two preceding ones, was due to the system of feudal land tenure which has prevailed in Mexico; that is, in behalf of agrarian reform, and that the Revolution has already accomplished three results, (1) the closing of the Catholic Church as an exploiting organization, (2) the abolition of the old Federal army, (3) agrarian democracy. He prophesied that there will be no more so-called "strong men" in Mexico, but that there will be instead, a strong Mexican people. Questions were asked of Dr. de Lara, and Mr. Post rose to a point of order that time had not been extended indefinitely for the purpose of questions.

On request of Mr. Kiefer, Mrs. Anna de Mille, daughter of Henry George, rose to greet the Conference.

It was moved by Dr. Eggleston, duly seconded and passed, that a committee be appointed by the Chair to draft resolutions on the loss to the Single Tax movement in the death of Joseph Fels, and it was moved by Dr. Eggleston, duly seconded and passed that this, or another committee, be appointed by the Chair to draft resolutions endorsing the peace policy of President Woodrow Wilson.

The Chair appointed on the first committee, Messrs. Jas. H. Barry, of San Francisco, J. B. Howarth, of Detroit, and Bolton Hall, of New York, and on the second committee, Dr. Eggleston of San Francisco, Mrs. Lona Ingham Robinson of Los Angeles, and Otto Cullman of Chicago. It was moved by Mr. Kiefer, duly seconded and passed, that a committee be appointed to consider methods of assuring permanent peace, suggesting that Dr. Logan

be appointed a member and that the resolutions of this committee be brought up on August 25th. The Chair appointed Dr. C. I. Logan of Chicago, Chairman, J. Stitt Wilson of Berkeley, and Earl Barnes of Philadelphia, on this committee.

Mr. Post moved that except on a three-quarter vote the five minute rule be in order with one exception, that of Judge Jas. G. Maguire, to whom unlimited time should be accorded.

Mr. Kiefer made an amendment to this motion that the Chair be allowed to rule arbitrarily on time. This amendment was lost. The movement was then duly seconded and passed. The Chairman then announced that there would be a special session at 8.00 P.M., August 24th.

The meeting adjourned to reassemble at 2 P.M.

#### AUGUST 24TH, 2 P.M.

The order of the day was broken in order that Mr. Post make a motion that a committee be appointed to draw resolutions of recognition of the death of Mr. James Bellangee and of appreciation of his work. Dr. Eggleston suggested that the name of the late John S. Crosby be referred to the same committee, and Mr. Kiefer added the names of Mrs. Avery, and of Levi H. Turner of Boston, and proposed that all other names of Single Taxers who have died recently be passed to this committee. The motion was duly seconded and passed. The Chair appointed to this committee, Mrs. Lona I. Ingham Robinson of Los Angeles, Mr. P. Y. Albright of Fairhope, Mr. Bolton Hall of New York, Mr. Daniel Kiefer of Cincinnati, Mr. Stanley Bowmar of Chicago, and Mr. J. C. O'Brien of Boston.

The order of the day was then resumed. Mr. Albright reported for Alabama.

Judge James G. Maguire spoke, stating that in Henry George's time no one expected that by 1915, the Single Tax would reach the state of worldwide advancement now existing. J. G. McGauran, of Colorado, was called and found absent.

Mr. John Salmon reported for Washington, D. C. and Maryland.

Mr. R. N. Douglas of Iowa was not present and Mr. Miller spoke in his place. A report from Illinois was made by Dr. Logan of Illinois and by Otto Cullman, President of the Chicago Single Tax Club. Mr. McGauran of Colorado, spoke of the work in Denver and Pueblo.

Mr. J. B. Howarth of Detroit spoke for Michigan.

At 3 P.M. the matter of methods of propoganda came before the meeting. Mr. J. Stitt Wilson moved, and it was duly seconded and passed, that speakers be allowed ten minutes with extension at the will of the meeting.

The Chairman stated that discussion would be limited to two themes. 1st, a discussion of doctrinal bases, and, 2nd, a discussion of what we have a right to do in the future as Single Taxers.

Mr. U'Ren made a motion that in the opinion of this Conference, any

constitutional amendment intended to advance the Single Tax principle, in States that have the Constitutional Initiative, should be so complete in detail that it will be self-operative, without further legislation after its adoption by the people.

Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Post, Mr. Zant, Mr. Norton, Judge Hubbard, Mr. Craig, Miss Parker, Mr. Cridge, and Mr. Teel, spoke to the question. The motion was duly seconded and carried.

Mr. Troy read a letter from E. Yancy Cohen, written from Merriewold Park, in regard to making a Single Tax group in each political party. Here the Chair appointed Mr. Erickson in Dr. Eggleston's place on the committee, to approve the President's Peace Policy, as Dr. Eggleston had asked to be excused. Discussion was then continued by J. Stitt Wilson, W. S. U'Ren, Herman Gutstadt, John W. Slaughter, Louis F. Post, Walter P. Lowenstein.

Mr. Post moved this resolution:

Resolved, (1) That it is the sense of this Conference that the question of organizing the Single Taxers of the United States is ripe for consideration; (2) that a committee be organized for the purpose of considering this question; (3) that such committee consist of forty-nine members, one from each State and one from the District of Columbia; (4) that the committee be appointed on or before October 1, 1915, by the Chairman of this Conference in conjunction with the Joseph Fels Fund Commission; (5) that in case of favorable consideration, such committee proceed to a provisional organization of the Single Taxers of the United States; (6) that such provisional organization be based upon the Single Tax platform which was prepared by Henry George as chairman of the platform committee of the first Single Tax Conference, and adopted by that Conference at Cooper Union, New York, in 1891, and reaffirmed by the third Fels Fund Conference which was held at Boston in 1912.

This matter was made matter of special business for 9 P.M.

Mr. Kiefer asked the privilege of the floor for Mr. de Lara, who spoke of the financing of his book.

The Conference then adjourned to 8 P.M.

AUGUST 24TH, 8 P.M.

The Conference reassembled at 8 P.M. Order of business was a continuation of reports.

Reports from Oregon were made by Mr. Cridge of Portland, and I. H. Teel of Grant's Pass.

Mr. Kiefer reported for Ohio.

Prof. Earle Barnes reported for Pennsylvania.

Mr. Bolton Smith reported for Tennessee.

Mr. Oliver T. Erickson and Mr. Verral reported for the State of Washington. Mr. Rand spoke for Victoria.

Dr. J. W. Slaughter spoke for Western Canada.

Dr. Curry for Missouri.

## SPECIAL ORDER, 9 P.M.

Mr. Post's motion of the afternoon session was again laid before the house, seconded by J. W. O'Brien. Messrs. Erickson, Salmon, U'Ren, Judge Hubbard, Prof. Barnes, Mr. Cridge, Mr. Troy, Mr. Post, and Mr. Norton spoke to the motion. An amendment was passed to vote on the whole resolution at once. Mr. Zion moved an amendment that there be not more members of the committee than one from each State and that all States need not necessarily be represented. Carried. The question of the whole resolution as amended was put and carried. The Conference adjourned till 10 o'clock, August 25th, to meet again at the Recital Hall, Exposition Grounds.

## SPECIAL ORDER FOR 9 P.M., AUGUST 24.

The house was thrown open for the discussion of Louis F. Post's resolution which has been drafted to sound the sentiment of the Conference regarding the advisability of effecting an organization of Single Taxers.

Mr. Post read the resolution, which has been divided into six headings to facilitate discussion. He then explained that the Fels Fund Commission had thought it possible to formulate a more democratic means of administering the Fund than was provided in the present plan. Hence the resolutions.

Mr. Erickson of Seattle, took the floor and expressed the opinion that such an organization would do more harm than good because a centralized body could hardly adapt itself to meet the varying conditions in the several States.

Mr. Kiefer arose to explain that the Fels Fund Commission had been characterized as an arbitrary commission; and that Mr. Fels had hoped before his death to organize Single Taxers so as to make the administration of the Fund more democratic.

Mr. Erickson then continued. After paying tribute to the work of such men as Barry, Maguire, Leggett, Todd and Troy, who in spite of their self-sacrificing work had been criticized time and again, he suggested that the Fels Fund Commission should not feel hurt if its labors were often criticized. In conclusion, he expressed himself as in favor of leaving the administration of the fund in the hands of the present commission.

Mr. U'Ren expressed the opinion that a body of 40 men would never be able to accomplish anything. The leaders of the Single Tax movement are learning by their failures. After each failure, it is only natural that they should be criticized. He thinks the Fels Fund Commission is unduly sensitive when it heeds the criticism that it is undemocratic, as none of the critics have been able to offer a better plan. He suggested leaving the fund in the hands of the present commission.

Mr. Kiefer interrupted to ask the speaker what he would advise the Commission to do for instance in the case of the controversy between the Los Angeles and the San Francisco factions in the California movement.

Mr U'Ren replied that in his opinion the two factions should be left to

settle their own differences; and that after they had come to an agreement, the Commission could then consider the advisability of aiding them in their plans.

Judge Hubbard of Los Angeles, took the floor in favor of a compact national organization. He thought such a step indispensable to the furtherance of the movement; but would leave the administration of the fund in the hands of the present Commission. The national organization would act mainly in an advisory capacity.

Prof. Earl Barnes pointed out that while the tendency of the world today is toward collectivism, Single Taxers are working against the current in striving for absolute individualism.

He added furthermore that the Single Tax, like many other radical movements, tends to produce little more than "intensive pleasurable excitation" by discussion among its members instead of active propaganda work among outsiders. For the purpose of carrying on effective propaganda organization is necessary.

After paying a glowing tribute to Joseph and Mary Fels for having spent all their income except a small allowance for living expenses, in the promotion of the Single Tax, he pointed out that large masses of individualized wealth, such as several of the immense private foundations for educational purposes, are a distinct menace to progress; and he thought it possible that the Fels Fund itself might some day degenerate into such a menace unless the manner of its administration was made more democratic. Mr. Barnes then expressed the opinion that no great reform had been brought about by the backing of an organization.

Mr. U'Ren arose to point out that the Australian ballot and Initiative, Referendum and Recall, had been introduced in many States by the efforts of individuals working in harmony, but not bound together into any definite organization.

Mr. A. R. Cridge, after explaining that he had had wide experience as an organizer not only in Single Tax work, but for several fraternal orders also, expressed the opinion that organization among Single Taxers would facilitate the work. He advocated, first, however, organization by municipalities, counties and districts, and the formation of a national organization on that foundation. At present, Single Taxers must work through the Socialist, Prohibition, Labor Union or other organizations in order to gain strength. They should have their own organization, but the organization should grow from the bottom up, and not from the top down.

Edw. P. E. Troy compared the operations of the proposed commission of forty-nine members to the old convention system which has been done away with in many States. He thought the interests might organize to control such a commission. He pointed out also that the expense of assembling such a large body composed of members from each of the States, would pay the cost of a State-wide campaign for the Single Tax. He thought it better

to allow each State to follow out such plans of organization as it thinks necessary, and sees no need for changing the present system.

Herman Gutstadt failed to understand how anyone can oppose the plan for organization. The Australian ballot would never have been adopted in California if there had not been a strong organization back of it. California had a strong Single Tax organization 25 years ago with branches all over the State, and was as strong at that time as it is now. The machinery back of the popular legislation was organized labor. There would be no Home Rule League in California today if there had not first been a Single Tax organization.

Mr. Teel of Oregon, spoke in favor of organization and then asked the previous question.

Mr. Zant pointed out that it was contrary to parliamentary provision to ask the question after having spoken on it.

Before the Chair could rule on the matter, Mr. Teel withdrew his motion with the consent of his second.

Mr. Ericksen arose to point out that it was evident that the intent of the resolution under discussion was not entirely clear. He had opposed it because he thought it proposed a national organization. Others had handled the matter as though the object was local organization.

Mr. Post formulated the intent of the resolution as follows: Shall we abandon our past more or less planless policy or shall we endeavor to lay plans for a coherent organization from the bottom up? Is the time ripe for real organization? Has a change come over the situation that would make it possible to form a real organization in place of the paper organizations that always resulted from similar efforts in the past?

AUGUST 25TH, 10 A.M.

The Conference reassembled in Recital Hall, at 10 A.M. The Recording Secretary read the minutes of the preceding day. Reports of committees were in order. At suggestion of the Chairman, Mr. John Salmon, Mr. Post read the report of the Committee on Communications. The report was adopted. Mr. Erickson reported for the Committee to approve President Wilson's Peace Policy, and moved that the report be adopted. Carried. Mr. Salmon moved that this report be sent to the press. Amendment was made by the Secretary that the report be sent directly to the President. The motion was carried as amended.

For the Committee on Memorial Resolutions Mr. Post spoke in memory of Mrs. Susan Look Avery, and Mr. Kiefer added a short tribute to her democratic spirit; Mr. Albright and Mrs. Robinson spoke of Mr. James Bellangee, Mr. J. Z. O'Brien of Levi H. Turner, Mr. Norton of Mme. Caroline M. Severance, and Mr. Bowmar was called on to speak on other names, but said that none had been reported to him. Mr. Bolton Hall read a tribute to



Joseph Fels, as the report of the Committee headed by J. H. Barry. This report was accepted by rising vote.

Prof. Barnes reported for the Committee on Plans for Permanent Peace that the Committee was agreed that in the present state of international affairs, this is not the time for this body to take action on this matter. Adopted.

Mr. Bolton Hall reported for New York and New Jersey, and incidentally spoke of the colony plan.

Mrs. Fels spoke on the work of the women of New York. It was voted to hold an afternoon session. Mr. Post moved to reopen the question of organization. Carried. Mr. J. Salmon moved that this business be made special order for the afternoon session; motion lost. The Chair moved that the five minute rule apply. Mr. Post spoke to the effect that the question resolved itself simply into parts (1) do we want any organization whatever, municipal, state or national; (2) if so, what kind of an organization do we want. Mr. Post then moved that the first clause of the motion which had passed the previous evening be taken up separately at this time, as he was convinced that there had been a mistaken idea, in that he had not intended to propose any special method of organization. Mr. Post said that something must be effected in the nature of democratic organization. Mr. Gutstadt moved an amendment that a special form of organization be considered. The Chair ruled that this amendment was not germane. The first clause of the motion in question was read and passed by the house. Mr. Post's motion that the second clause be adopted, was carried.

Mr. M. L. Gable moved that the Chair appoint a committee of five to report to the afternoon meeting a method of organization. Mr. Norton seconded the motion. A motion to act as a committee as a whole on the matter was lost. Mr. Salmon moved a substitute—that a committee of five be appointed by the Chair, to confer with the Fels Fund Commission in regard to the best methods of Single Tax organization. This was carried.

Mr. Cowell announced that the Y. M. C. A. Assembly Hall might be used by the Conference for the afternoon meeting. Mr. Kiefer's motion to adjourn at 12.30 was carried.

Invitations were now read to the Conference for next year's meeting from Baltimore, Niagara, New York City, Providence, R. I., Cleveland and Detroit.

Those were asked to stand who could attend at each city and the result was as follows: Baltimore, 10; Niagara, 9; New York City, 6; Providence, 9; Cleveland, 4; Detroit, 7.

Mrs. Robinson moved that there be a committee of ten, five of whom should be appointed by this body and five by the Chair, to discuss organization with the Fels Fund Commission. Mr. U'Ren moved to lay this matter on the table indefinitely. Carried.

Mr. Troy moved that the Chair appoint a committee to investigate the

application of the Single Tax to timber lands and to report their findings to the Fels Fund Commission as soon as possible, suggesting the names of W. S. U'Ren and Mayor Cottrell, of Washington. Carried. Mr. Post suggested that Mr. Murphy be on this committee. Mr. Post moved to make this a committee of five. Carried. Mr. Salmon suggested that Mr. Troy be appointed on this committee.

The meeting then adjourned to 2 P.M., to meet in the Y. M. C. A. Building.

#### AUGUST 25TH, 2 P.M.

The Convention reassembled at 2 P.M. The Chair appointed a committee of E. P. E. Troy, Louis Murphy, W. S. U'Ren, Adella M. Parker, Wm. Kent, to investigate the application of the Single Tax to timber lands.

Discussion was then reopened on the subject of methods of propaganda. Mr. J. Stitt Wilson was called upon to speak as he had said that he had further engagements for the afternoon, but he was not present.

Mr. Kiefer read a letter from the San Diego Single Tax League, urging a straight Single Tax measure for California. Mr. Wilson was now present, and spoke in behalf of a land movement in California. Mr. Jacobs spoke in behalf of Home Rule in Taxation. Miss Parker urged that we note that the socialist point of view, that every man should have what he produces, is exactly what Single Taxers urge. Mr. Norton spoke for a straight land platform. Mrs. Robinson reported the sentiment of the Los Angeles League. Mr. Salmon spoke for the taxation of land values. Mr. Cridge urged organization in the by-ways. Mr. Lowenstein spoke for Single Tax straight. Mr. Zant spoke in favor of Home Rule in Taxation. Mr. J. G. Wright spoke in favor of sending men into the by-ways to urge the land for the people. Mr. Cullen spoke in behalf of teaching Single Tax to the young. Mr. Post spoke for Home Rule in Taxation and for all other steps necessary to the advancement of the Single Tax. Resolution: That the question of the character of political campaigns be referred to the Single Taxers of the political subdivisions respectively to which such campaigns from time to time relate. Carried.

Mr. Salmon made this motion:

Resolved, by the Single Tax Conference, that we recommend the separate assessment of land, and the publication of assessment rolls by States and municipalities. Carried. Mr. Salmon moved: Resolved, That whereas the present system of general taxation has failed, producing the grossest inequalities, and

Whereas, taxes should be levied only according to benefits conferred; and, whereas, site values alone shows the benefit conferred from Government activities, and

Whereas, rent being the product of site value bears all taxes in the last analysis; therefore,

Be it resolved, that a direct Single Tax on rent would simplify adminis-

tration and promote equality, and we recommend its adoption as soon as possible in all States and municipalities.

Amended to the effect that copies be sent to all papers by the Secretary. Carried.

Mrs. Fels spoke urging that the Single Tax be not veiled. Mr. McGauran reported on the effect of work in Pueblo.

Mr. Troy moved that the Joseph Fels Fund and Single Tax Conference at the Panama-Pacific Exposition at San Francisco, extend greeting to Dr. W. E. Macklin at Nanking, China, and thank him for the Single Taxers of the world for his translation of "Progress and Poverty" and Henry George's "Protection and Free Trade" into Chinese, and for his many Single Tax pamphlets printed in Chinese, and be it further resolved, that we congratulate Dr. Macklin and other brethren in that country on the progress which the Single Tax has made in China.

Mr. Kiefer suggested that all reports and letters not read be officially acknowledged by this body.

Mr. J. Z. O'Brien moved that this Conference place a tablet on the house where Henry George wrote "Progress and Poverty." The motion fell, as there was no particular house where he wrote this book.

Mr. Norton moved that this Conference urge that the Modesto Circular be no longer circulated. The motion was tabled.

Mr. Teel made this motion:

Resolved, That the members of this Conference hereby express their grateful appreciation for Mrs. Post's excellent service as its presiding officer, and to Daniel Kiefer for suggesting her name for that position; to Mrs. Todd for her effective work as Recording Secretary of the Conference, and in keeping the record clear and up to the minute at all times; to Mr. Todd and his committee for their full and complete plan and arrangement of the programme and work of the Conference; to His Honor, the Mayor of San Francisco, and to the management of the Exposition and to the Single Taxers of California, for their hospitable welcome and for many courtesies extended to this Convention. Carried.

Motion to dispense with reading of the final minutes carried. Mr. Jacobs moved that the Chair appoint a committee of three to draw up resolutions of appreciation of the work of Mr. Frank Walsh, and to send them to him. Carried. The Chair appointed Mr. Barnes, Mr. Post, and Mr. Kiefer on this Committee.

Mr. Post moved that this Conference express satisfaction and gratification with the editorial and business management of the *Public*. Carried.

Mr. Kiefer moved that appreciation be expressed of the work of the SINGLE TAX REVIEW and the San Francisco *Star*.

The Conference then adjourned.

**THE BANQUET, AUGUST 25th.**

The National Single Tax Conference and meeting of the Joseph Fels Fund was brought to a brilliant close on Wednesday evening by a banquet at Campi's. Louis F. Post, Assistant Secretary of Labor, was toastmaster.

Introducing Mrs. Mary Fels, Mr. Post said: Mr. Fels was the only man of modern times who, a large money earner himself, devoted all his wealth to the cause he believed in, and gave his life to. No person could be a more appropriate speaker for the evening than Mrs. Fels.

Mrs. Fels said Mr. Fels was an ideal democrat. Kings and waiters were all the same to him. He would shake hands with the stewards on the liners, and the whole conduct of his life indicated that he felt that if anyone had to apologize it was he and not the workers—apologize for possessing wealth he knew he had not earned. Many amusing incidents could be related to illustrate his life outlook. Rich people were not good enough for him. They were often poor company.

Mr. Post here presented the medal from the Panama-Pacific Exposition to Mrs. Fels.

Mr. Post now introduced Mr. Bolton Hall, who said:

I have very little to say, but perhaps a story I will tell will "say something." Here is my story, in memory of James T. Barnett: A man had a herd of half-starved cattle; over the fence there was a rich pasture. The owner, being charitable, put grass through the fence. Someone suggested taking the fence down, but the owner replied, "I don't think pasture will cure all the ills these cattle are heir to. Quit your suggesting and help me pull grass for the hungry calves." The moral is that housing, tenement regulation, palliatives of any kind are feeding the grass through the fence.

J. Stitt Wilson, the next speaker, said: All the people looking and working for freedom should find a common ground. A farmer who knew cows, horses and sheep, was sure there was no such thing as a giraffe. In the same way, some people are positive there is no such thing as a Socialist-Single Taxer. There is. I am one.

Living in a democracy, the speaker continued, we will not need brute force as a solvent but political action; also we need a revolt of women, maybe even a revolt of the children. Touching on co-operation, he said:

Social beings must co-operate. I am an individualist as well as a Socialist. But I would rather go to hell with my fellows than to Heaven alone!

Alice Thacher Post, Chairman of the Conference, was the next speaker, and gave to the audience a beautiful, colorful picture of what our political economy phrases, translated into life, really mean. "We should begin," she said, "by taking the land, the natural resources, terminal facilities, franchise values—what dead, colorless phrases! But when we have learned to think of these phrases, we must remember the grass and flowers of the earth, the cascades, the rivers wide and deep, sweeping to the ocean. Without these

life would be nothing, and it is this message of what the earth, warm and friendly, responsive and beautiful, will give to us and our children, abroad or at home, and even to our brethren of the past—it is this message that we must bring to the people.”

James H. Barry, of the *San Francisco Star*, said he had the honor to set type on the author's edition of "Progress and Poverty." With all of the other intelligent printers he had wondered what license Henry George had to write a book. After George had marked the proofs until the printers couldn't read them, they used to remark: "Ah! who will read that book but that little red-headed 'son-of-a-gun' himself." Every broken down printer claims to have set type on "Progress and Poverty," but the speaker never took that as personal! He didn't consider himself a broken down printer!

Telling how he became a Henry George man, Mr. Barry said: Judge Maguire once brought to my office an article. I said I could not print it because it favored confiscation. We did print it, but with a note of explanation, saying that it would be answered later. We slunk out and bought a copy of "Progress and Poverty." That article of Judge Maguire's was never answered!

Mr. Oliver T. Erickson, President of the City Council of Seattle, spoke on the question of getting support from all types of organizations, and illustrated his point with this story: A boy dropped potatoes down the chimney of an old woman's hut. He peeped in the window. The old woman was thanking the Lord for the potatoes. "The Lord did not give them to you," called the boy. The old woman replied, "I prayed to the Lord for them, and I don't care if the devil brought them."

Mr. Post, introducing Dr. John W. Slaughter, of London, told Judge Maguire's story of "seeing the cat." Judge Maguire saw a crowd around a window, looking for a cat in a picture. The enthusiastic crank in the crowd said, "Don't you see the claw, the face, etc.," and at last he did see them, and could see nothing else. The cat got him and it got Dr. Slaughter when he lived with Mr. and Mrs. Fels in London. Dr. Slaughter made fun of the five minute rules of the Conference. He felt like the cabby who met a funeral procession and shouted "why don't you wait, your party ain't in a hurry!" He also offered some new Commandments: 1. Let another Single Taxer live. 2. Thou shalt work for a Home Rule Amendment if thou wantest to. 3. Don't argue.

Dr. Gutierrez de Lara, author of the "Mexican People and Their Struggles for Freedom," said he felt somewhat like the old Mexican who became ill because everyone told him he was sick. When he (de Lara) came to the U. S., the first man said, "you Mexicans are lazy;" the second said "you don't work;" the third, "you're hopeless." Booker T. Washington said in a lecture: "Mexicans are worse than the negroes." Mexicans portrayed in books on Mexico were not like any of the natives he had ever seen.

Mr. W. S. U'Ren, Mr. J. B. McGuaran and Mrs. Lona Ingham Robinson also spoke.