

## A QUESTION OF PROPAGANDA.

## EDITOR SINGLE TAX REVIEW:

When we call to mind that Single Tax is a radical proposition it seems remarkable that Single Taxers are so conservative in their adherence to stereotyped methods. They have harangued transients, neither wisely nor well, until everywhere Single Tax suggests an agitator, a malcontent, or, if we bring our terminology right up to date, squirrel food.

Absence of logical co-operation has reduced the propaganda to individual effort which is accomplishing almost nothing, and it is difficult to find a Single Taxer of recent conversion. Some talk recall, referendum or local option, and are Single Taxers, sub rosa. Single Taxers have helped some to public office which has stifled the propagandist and eliminated efficient workers.

Single Taxers, being radical, are apt to be at considerable variance on other subjects, often very debatable, which they hyphenate to Single Tax, thus doing great harm. Single Tax is no more debatable than mathematics if, at the outset, we are agreed as to its premise, which is axiomatic, and it should not be presented as a debatable subject, or hyphenated into one. To know facts is desirable, but much harm is done a cause if its adherents, cock-sure and in error, mix philosophy and foolishness, because the audience discards the whole intermingled conglomeration.

The immediate need is for a federation of existing Single Tax organizations wherein a rivalry may tend to stimulate activity and efficiency. If the Single Taxers in the whole United States made a substantial background for propaganda we might reasonably expect many to agree with what is so obviously right and just—to join if we were a pretentious "joinable" association, and it is the ambition of the writer to be the secretary of such a federation.

Effective work only results from a predetermined policy and methods studiously evolved. It requires leaders and loyalty, co-operation and harmonious effort, nu-

merical influence and very little spontaneous individuality. Inasmuch as the result must come through legislative enactment the ultimate effort will be a Political Party, THE EQUITY PARTY, pledged to Justice and to THE SINGLE TAX, undiminished and uncompromised.—B. H. CHAMBERLAIN, Secretary Civics and Equity League, Philadelphia, Pa.

## ECONOMIC PROFESSORS AND THE LAW OF RENT

In a recent book, written by a college teacher of economics, one finds sundry apologies or defensive suggestions in favor of economic professors, often charged with being uncandid if not untruthful in their attitude toward radical economic reform propositions. The writer places emphasis on the difficulty of obtaining agreement between all minds on the ethics involved. What seems naturally right to one man does not seem right to another man.

However true this may be on the line of ethics, it must be remembered that ethical questions are not the ones primarily raised. The first and main thing to be understood and settled is the scientific economic foundation of a subject of controversy. It would appear to be entirely fair to expect economic professors to make a full and frank examination of any claim that a natural law concerning which there is and has long been a substantially universal agreement, leads to certain results, and to demand that such college teachers encourage rather than discourage widespread attention to the tremendous importance of these results, if they are of importance.

It may not be the particular province of college teachers of economics to study or discuss the ethics of social institutions. Where they are led to refer to proposals to modify or change social or governmental practices, involving serious possible loss to the well-to-do, it may be reasonable to expect them to be very conservative, but full acknowledgment of this situation should not lead anyone to ignore the fact that the main thing may not be whether a definite