

and he will return ten. Our people are awakening from a great financial debauch to find that the "Almighty Dollar" is one of the feeblest of all forces.



The state cannot live by taxes alone, but by the good will and kindly fellowship of its citizens. If sentiment, by awakening men's better selves, will send them down to death in the shock of battle; so that same love of an ideal will make them strive to establish justice. And just as passive resistance is overcoming the Mexican Dictator, so will President Wilson's appeal to the business man's better self pave the way for social justice. Even should he himself fail to go the whole way, the awakened people will.

S. C.



### Two Conferences.

The Washington conference of Singletaxers offered a striking contrast to that of 1912. The Boston conference came immediately after an election in which Singletax measures had been defeated; and fond hopes had been buried. But there was no feeling of despair. Upon every face was written the grim determination that ever turns temporary defeat into final victory. Men and women counselled together soberly and earnestly, but none the less confidently, as to the next step. And they parted with confidence in their hearts.



They came together in Washington this month with that confidence vindicated. Not that one year had seen all their hopes fulfilled, but they had seen a demonstration of the irresistible power of truth, and realized by specific example the practical wisdom of the plan of campaign. And while appreciating fully the fact that the fight had merely begun, and understanding the lengths to which Privilege will go when driven at bay, every one at the conference was eager to go on with the work. The fervor and enthusiasm, indeed, recalled the spirit of the early eighties; and these men and women have consecrated themselves anew to the cause, with a zeal tempered only by the wisdom gained of experience.

S. C.



### Cause, Effect and Cure.

Only twenty-seven per cent of the potential tillable area of the United States is under cultivation according to the preliminary estimates of the Department of Agriculture made public on January 18. Then what excuse is there for the scarc-

ity of food products to which the high cost of living has been attributed? Only this, the producers can not get at the land. Much of it is held by speculators at impossible high prices. The remedy? Make the speculators let go. How? By taxing land values high enough, that's all.

S. D.



### Does the Civic Association Approve?

What kind of a reform can it be that the American Civic Association—formerly League of American Municipalities—stands for? Congressman Crisp of Georgia has introduced a bill to abolish the arrangement by which the federal government pays half the expenses of the local government of the District of Columbia. That is an arrangement which should never have been made. People who do not live in the District or who own no land within it get no benefit from the local government. Why should they be taxed to pay half of the expense? The arrangement benefits only a few land speculators in the District. Low taxes increase land values. Therefore, every tenant in the District pays higher rent on account of this division. Every person desiring to buy a home must pay more for his lot on that account. Now when it is proposed to abolish this iniquitous arrangement, the leading officers of the American Civic Association, instead of encouraging the reform, raise an outcry against it. Why?



One reason given for opposition is that Washington is denied its own city government but is governed by committees of the House and Senate. But who is most to blame for that? Who has always objected most strongly to giving the city a government by its own citizens? Why, the big land owners. Is it not rather impudent now to raise in their behalf the very objection that they have themselves credited? Suppose an amendment were offered to Mr. Crisp's bill establishing a local government with universal suffrage in the District, would the bill become more or less objectionable to local monopolistic interests? It is not hard to guess that they would howl still more loudly against it.



Another reason given is that the federal government owns considerable land in the District and pays no taxes upon it. Suppose the federal government would decide to dispose of its land and make some other city the capital? Would that suit the land owners better? It is needless to say it would not. Their land would have little