

taxation for state purposes; for local option and home rule in taxation; to abolish poll taxes and to exempt state, county and municipal bonds. This petition is circulated under the direction of the Missouri Municipal League and other organizations, by their joint Petition Committee on Taxation. We have had but a short time to appeal to the people for signatures, but we are meeting with real success, and I think we will be able to place it on the ballot at the next general election.

About fifty Single Taxers of St. Louis gathered at Lippe's cafe on June 23rd to welcome the Rev. Herbert Bigelow, of Cincinnati. Mr. Bigelow made one of the closest reasoned and most eloquent speeches which those present had listened to for many a day. He had just come from the meeting on Conservation at St. Paul, where Messrs. Pinchot and Garfield had spoken.

Addresses were made by William Preston Hill, Judge Sale, J. J. Hummell, Emil Schmied, of the *Public*, Louis Cohen, and others. William Marion Reedy, editor of the *Mirror*, was toastmaster. The theme upon which Mr. Bigelow dwelt most forcibly was the idea that "things are coming our way." He pointed to the conservation movement and said that the speeches made by Pinchot and Garfield were our doctrines almost undiluted. He said that everybody knew there was something wrong and numbers were coming to the consideration of our remedy. The close of Mr. Bigelow's speech was very effective, and I doubt if the Single Taxers of the Mound City were ever before so strongly moved even under the masterful oratory of Mr. George and Father McGlynn themselves. Among those present were numbers of the "Old Guard" who cherish the conviction that we are on the eve of a great triumph. A few of those present were K. Palmer, Gus Menger and wife, Denis Ryan, Frank K. Ryan, Prof. Leshner, Victor Gebhart, J. A. Stoll, Dr. Homan, our old reliable president, Christ Osterwitch, and a great many more whose names I cannot recall. And all of them realize that we are going ahead.—H. SYCAMORE, St. Louis, Mo.

## OREGON.

THIRTY-TWO PROPOSITIONS TO BE VOTED ON—SIXTEEN OF THESE ARE AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION—AN IMPORTANT PAMPHLET ON TAXATION SOON TO BE ISSUED.

On July 7th, the last initiative measure was filed with the Secretary of State in Oregon. No more can go before the people this year. There will be 32 propositions on the state ballot, of which 16 are proposed amendments to the constitution. Not all these are presented to the people by the initiative. Six of them go before the people by the resolution of the last legislature. Eight of them are county division matters of local import. Hereafter such measures will be settled by the localities interested. There is but one measure before the people by referendum, and that is of minor importance.

Among the eleven important measures are the three tax amendments, of which two were submitted by the legislature at the request of the Oregon State Grange. These two are progressive in their nature and would do away with the provisions of the present constitution regarding all classes of property being taxed equally.

The third tax measure is submitted by the Oregon State Federation of Labor. It aims to supplement the Grange amendments and to give the people sole power to affirm or veto all tax laws. It abolishes the poll tax and gives counties the right to exempt any class of property from taxation by majority vote.

The four propositions of the People's Power League were closely criticised and carefully drawn up before final filing with several thousand more than the required number of signatures. They are all of the nature of extending the power of the people. A law extending the primary law to apply to presidential electors, and also to delegates to national party conventions. This bill provides payment of expenses to such delegates, and also for an advisory expression by the people of choice for president and vice president. The next is an amendment providing for Proportional

Representation, limitation of the powers of the legislature to pass emergency laws, and several other matters along these lines. A bill for the establishment of one board of inspectors to take the place of a large number of commissions, and to also print a bi-monthly report or state magazine to be sent to every voter, is the third measure of the People's Power League. The fourth is an amendment giving the supreme court original jurisdiction, enabling it to refuse to consider cases appealed on technicalities, providing for a three-fourths verdict in civil cases.

An important issue raised by the legislature is the calling of a constitutional convention. This must be affirmed by the people. It is generally regarded as a trick through which Oregon is to be stripped of all its progressive legislation.

Prohibition, Woman Suffrage and a measure allowing railroads to be built by the people comprise the progressive and important measures. A good roads amendment will help out some road enterprises and land values if passed. One measure is to give county division schemes over to the people of the locality interested. An amendment giving cities exclusive right to regulate sale of liquors is up again, although twice defeated in slightly different form heretofore. The others are of minor importance not necessary to mention.

For all of them a state pamphlet will be issued and sent to every voter in the State. It will contain such arguments, at \$80. a page, as may be offered for and against any proposed measure or amendment. The Prohibitionists have filed the longest, which I understand amounts to ten pages. The exact number of the pages for the taxation amendments and those of the Peoples Power League will not be many on account of financial reasons. Probably will not exceed two each.

The pamphlet on taxation soon to be issued, will be about 132 pages, containing some cartoons, and many striking local instances of taxation. It will advocate the taxation of land values in the form of queries largely. Some of the data has required very careful research to secure. Most of the figuring has been by experts. It is no slapdash matter, nor does it dis-

cuss labor issues. It will be circulated throughout the state with the intention of reaching every citizen. If it does not produce a sensation and provoke serious consideration by thousands of Oregon citizens, it will not be the fault of the able pens that have carefully written it.

A. D. CRIDGE,

Portland, Ore.

#### ACTIVITIES OF THE LAND VALUE TAX PARTY.

Following is a list of the activities of the Land Value Tax Party: from May 22 to July ending. Organizer Joseph Darling was directed to submit a list of names of those qualified to make good committeemen.

Out-door meeting held to protest against failure of Legislature to consider the Single Tax bill—Committee decides to meet every Saturday evening—Secretary instructed to obtain as full a list as possible of Single Taxers and sympathizers—1,500 circulars stating work in hand sent to those who received the call of convention—Letter sent to Governor Hughes urging passage of Single Tax bill by extraordinary session. Dinner conference held on June 18 instead of regular committee meeting, to which all members were invited.

Letter to Mayor Gaynor concerning subways. Outdoor meetings held every Wednesday night at 125th St. and Seventh Ave.; ads to be run in the *Public* and *Review*; buttons adopted; 200 copies of platform sold at one meeting; badges adopted to be worn at out-door meetings. Platform for public meetings and banner provided for; pamphlet containing Chairman's address printed; pamphlet (reprint for South Side (N.Y.) *Observer*) and excerpts from party platform put out.

On July 9th the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

"RESOLVED that we have read with painful surprise the published report of the proceedings of a meeting of so-called 'Progressive Democrats' held at Hotel Ten Eyck, Albany, on the 4th of July. As those who organized and controlled the meeting are well known as professed