

tianity, it proved itself abortive; again during the era of the Anabaptists; by the Jesuits in Paraguay, as in the quite recent New Australian settlement in the same country, it once more proved its uselessness; again during the Digger Movement in England in the 17th Century, by the conspiracy of Baboeuf in France in the 18th Century, once again at the time of the much feared International, at the time of the Paris Commune in 1871, and the most disgraceful fiasco of all during the so-called Russian Revolution. Every attempt at the realization of Socialism has failed miserably, disgracefully; even temporary success has only been possible where religious influence managed to keep the masses disciplined into a machine-like order. But modern Socialists still boast of their historic mind, of their assumed infallible interpretation of history, of what had to happen in the past, and of what must inevitably happen in the future, irrespective of the doings and desires of mankind.

(To be continued.)

SOME INTERESTING EVENTS IN THE HISTORY OF THE MANHATTAN SINGLE TAX CLUB. 1886-1900.

(Continued.)

(For the Review.)

By BENJAMIN DOBLIN.

This series of memoranda, as we explained in our last issue, is designed merely to furnish the ground work for a history of the Manhattan Single Tax Club. Those who can contribute anything to the data here collected should communicate with Mr. Doblin, or the SINGLE TAX REVIEW.—THE EDITOR.

1899.

Samuel Seabury, President.

January—Dinner to Edward McHugh on his return home. It was on this occasion that Tom L. Johnson, accompanied by August Lewis, unexpectedly marched in during the dinner and in response to the urging by the chairman that he address the diners, declared that he was settling his business affairs so that he might be able to devote all his time and energy to the furthering of the Single Tax cause and he exclaimed, "You watch my promise."

February 28th—George P. Hampton elected to membership.

April—Copies of the May issue of the *Single Taxer* sent to all the assessors throughout the State. Still pushing for Home Rule in Taxation.

May 4th—A committee of 3 appointed to call a State Conference of Single Taxers to meet on Labor Day, September 4th, for the purpose of effecting a State Single Tax organization and to observe appropriately the birthday of Henry George. (Upon motion, it was decided that a committee be appointed

to confer with the proper authorities as to whether a bronze bust of Henry George would be accepted by the trustees of the New York Public Library and placed therein.) Mr. James R. Brown moved the appointment of a committee to confer with Mr. Thomas G. Shearman about placing a bronze bust of Henry George in the Congressional Library at Washington, D. C.

April 24th—Oscar H. Geiger elected to membership.

June 1st—156 letters sent to charitably disposed persons asking them to consider the Single Tax as a measure that will abolish the awful needs of poverty.

Resolutions passed at this time:

RESOLVED, that the Manhattan Single Tax Club condemns unqualifiedly the war that the President of the United States is carrying on against the Phillipine Islands inasmuch as the principles of the Declaration of Independence are being violated and the rights of man transgressed.

We hold it a safe and sane principle of government that the just powers of government are derived from the consent of the governed and not from the cannon's mouth, and that these principles are equally applicable to the people of the Phillipine Islands as well as to these of the United States.

Still agitating the evil of unequal assessments.

June 27th—Graduates from schools and colleges of the City to be presented with Single Tax literature.

June 12th—Manhattan Single Tax Club incorporated.

July 24th—Dinner in honor of Edwin Markham, author of "The Man with the Hoe," at Hotel Marlborough.

September 3rd—Celebration of Henry George's birthday at Grand Central Palace.

December 21st—Mazet Committee has bill drawn by Club in 1895 dealing with land withheld from use by speculation.

December 14th—E. L. Heydecker elected a member.

1900.

William D. McCracken, President.

January 4th—Rev. Dr. Edward McGlynn elected honorary member. The Women's Henry George League entertains the Club with a reception and refreshments upon the inauguration of the newly elected officers.

Saturday night meetings in Association Hall of the Y. M. C. A. Building, 4th Avenue and 23rd Street. Attorney General F. S. Monnett of Ohio spoke on Trusts.

Resolutions adopted on the Boer War:

"WHEREAS, We recognize in the war which the British Empire is now waging against the South African Republics, a violation of that important rule of international law to which all civilized states should be subject, that no government has the right to interfere with the internal policy of another; and

"WHEREAS, the Boers are contending for the same right of self-government

for which the founders of the American Republic fought in 1776, and inasmuch as the insincerity and inconsistency of the British claim, that they desire to secure merely the rule of the majority, is apparent from the fact that a few Englishmen now absolutely control and dominate the government of 300,000,000 in India; and

"WHEREAS, We regard the plea, that the Anglo-Saxon is 'Carrying the White Man's Burden' to enlighten and establish justice and liberty among inferior races, as one of profound duplicity and hypocrisy which is urged merely to enable land grabbers and monopolists to deprive other people of the right to use the land; therefore be it

"RESOLVED, That we, members of the Manhattan Single Tax Club of the City of New York, in meeting assembled this 4th day of January, 1900, condemn the action of the British Government as unjust and infamous and in violation of the rights of man, and declare it to be only equalled by the aggression of the United States in its murderous warfare upon the inhabitants of the Philippine Islands,

"FURTHER RESOLVED, That we extend our heartfelt sympathy to the patriots of the Transvaal Republic and wish them success in their efforts to resist British spoliation, and that we sincerely hope that British defeat may be followed by the establishment of a great South African Republic dedicated to Liberty, Fraternity and Equality among men."

This resolution gave rise to differences and provoked the resignation of Thomas G. Shearman from the Club.

April 12th—Thomas Jefferson Dinner held at the Hotel Marlborough, William D. McCracken, President of the Club, presiding; the speakers were Andrew McLean, Bird S. Coler, Christine Ross, Dr. Takamine and John J. Lentz.

Club sends women delegates to Women's Tax Conference at Washington, D. C. The delegates were the Misses Colles, Fay, Ross and Mrs. Crosby, Mrs. Stirling. and Dr. Hussey.

A lecture tour of the United States by John S. Crosby carried on under the direction of Henry C. S. Stimpson.

The following letters were sent respectively to Tolstoy and the Emperor of Germany. They are introduced here as a matter of record.

COUNT LEO TOLSTOY,

Yasnaia Poliana, Toula, Russia.

Dear Count Tolstoy:—The Manhattan Single Tax Club, of which Henry George was a member and whose object it is to advance the cause for which he lived and died, wishes to express to you its deep appreciation of the assistance which you have given to this cause in your new book, the "Resurrection." While so many are making the great Christian principle of love for neighbor lead to nothing but vague sentiment and impracticable schemes for the benefit of humanity, it is refreshing to find a man who from the same unassailable

stand-point, is able to see the pre-eminent economic importance of the land question and to understand clearly the simple method by which justice in the distribution of the gifts of nature may be attained. The great influence of your art will reach thousands of readers who otherwise would never have heard of the land question, or of the Single Tax, or of Henry George, and it cannot fail to do much in the way of preparing the mind of the world for practical progress in the direction in which our Club is facing.

We regret extremely that the first appearance of your book in this country should have been the occasion for a shameful exercise of the power of censorship by an American editor. In the name of free speech and of common hospitality, we repudiate his action and ask you to accept the apology of our country in so far as we have the right to express it. That a fellow countryman of Henry George should have found it possible to mutilate your clear and sound assertions on the subject of the land, is past our comprehension.

With the sincere hope that you may be spared many years to the cause of truth and justice,

THE MANHATTAN SINGLE TAX CLUB.

TO THE EMPEROR OF GERMANY:—

Dear Sir:—The Manhattan Single Tax Club, composed principally of citizens residing in the City of New York, U. S. A., desire hereby to congratulate you upon the introduction of a notable reform in taxation in Kiautschou, the new colony of the German Empire on the coast of China.

This reform consists in imposing taxes upon land values alone, irrespective of improvements. It fulfils the definition of what is known as the Single Tax. Under its beneficent working, the land values which the community creates ought to return to the community in the form of taxes, while the improvements which the individual produces, ought to remain his own, free from taxation.

In introducing this reform, the German Government has consciously or unconsciously, followed the teaching of our lamented leader, Henry George, as set forth in his great work, "Progress and Poverty." For this reform he lived and died. Under your constitutional sanction, it has become an actuality in Kiautschou, and therefore the members of The Manhattan Single Tax Club desire to express their thanks to you.

Further, they (the members of the Manhattan Single Tax Club) venture to hope, that after the Single Tax has proved itself to be beneficial in Kiautschou, you will use your influence to extend the same system to other colonies of the German Empire and finally to Germany itself.

In conclusion, the members of the Manhattan Single Tax Club submit that the reform, for which they stand, can alone avert the threatening encroachment of Socialism, and that they look to Kiautschou as an object lesson for the whole world to study.

Yours respectfully.

President.

The Manhattan Single Tax Club and Peoples Institute join in memorial meeting for Rev. Dr. Edward McGlynn.

September 6th—The following report was made:

The chairman of the committee having in charge the celebration of the birthday of Henry George reported that the affair was held in the club rooms on Sept. 3rd. The following speakers delivered addresses: George L. Rusby, William Lloyd Garrison, Samuel Seabury, Franklin Garland, John DeWitt Warner and Henry George, Jr. The President of the Club, Mr. W. D. McCracken, presided. During the progress of the meeting a cablegram from Liverpool was received.

On motion a committee of two consisting of Messrs. E. M. Klein and Louis B. Parsons, were appointed to draft a response and the following was cabled to Single Tax Cottage, Birkenhead, England: "Manhattan Club returns reciprocal greeting."

During the progress of the meeting, the rooms were taxed to their severest capacity; many stood the entire meeting listening with rapt attention to the speakers. On motion, a vote of thanks was tendered to the speakers by a unanimous vote and after refreshments had been served the meeting was adjourned. The committee when appointed, having received power to add to its numbers, made Mrs. J. S. Crosby and Miss Minnie Clark members, these representing the Women's Henry George League and co-operating with the Club.

The following delegates were appointed to attend Anti-Trust Conference in Chicago: Henry George, Jr., Bolton Hall, John S. Crosby, John A. Whitfield.

Club rooms now located at 27 West 42nd Street.

October 4th—Resolutions adopted on the death of Thomas G. Shearman.

October 24th—Grace Isabel Colbron elected to membership.

November 8th—Seabury and Heydecker appointed committee to secure passage of revised charter and instructed to represent the Club at the hearing in Albany.

(To be continued.)

PLAIN TALK WITH FARMERS ON THE SINGLE TAX.

(For the Review.)

By CHAS. HARDON.

To have the exclusive use of the land constituting a farm is a privilege, the same as it would be to have the exclusive use of a fall of water on a stream, where you could build a dam, put up a mill and saw boards or grind corn. This we call a water privilege; the other is a land privilege though not generally so called.

The same may be said of a mountain containing iron that you could get out and work into steel rails, or a vein of coal where you could sink a shaft and get out coal to burn or sell.