

Henry George. The value of such a demonstration will be a notice to the world of Tolstoy's fellowship with those who believe in the teachings of the Single Tax. It will be a testimonial of grateful thanks to the Prophet of Russia from the followers of the Prophet of San Francisco.

Let this demonstration take the form of a public address to Leo Tolstoy from the Single Taxers of America. Let such an address be prepared by the American Single Tax League through its Secretary, John J. Murphy, and let the names of as many as desire be appended to this address to be forwarded to the Count at his home in Ysnaia Poliana. Those who desire that this address bear their signatures will notify the REVIEW. Then let the Single Taxers of the great cities arrange for public meetings for some date between the 28th of August and 2nd of September, the dates respectively of the anniversary of the births of Leo Tolstoy and Henry George, at which those who are believers in or sympathetic with the doctrine of these teachers—men and women eminent in the world of literature or religion—shall take part.

Let this anniversary be appropriately and simultaneously observed throughout the length and breadth of the land. With hard work there is scarcely a city in America where a great demonstration may not be successfully organized. In the details which must be perfected locally and should begin at once, the REVIEW and the American Single Tax League will co-operate.

#### SHALL IT BE A PEACEFUL REVOLUTION?

"The privileged classes of mankind have no conscience on the subject of their privileges. History does not adduce one instance in which the nobility or even monopoly, entrenched in precedent and custom, has ever voluntarily made restitution to society of the rights of which she has been despoiled.

The iron jaws which close on the marrow bone of privilege never relax until they are broken."

"Ridpath's History of the World"—foot note, page 197.

James Ridpath ransacked antiquity and the history of all the ancient, middle and modern civilizations for his facts. He speaks with indisputable authority. Only

by right of forceful revolution have mankind heretofore been able to escape from the intolerable tyranny of government by the privileged classes of mankind.

Here is a *fact* with which reformers *have to deal*. And it is a discouraging fact.

Yet is there *now* no hope of peaceful revolution for modern society. This is unlike any previous age in the world's history. We are fortified by knowledge of the errors and crimes of history. We are very sensitive of present existing evil conditions and tendencies. Some of our people are full armed with the knowledge of a *peaceful* way of salvation. A great host of unprivileged victims of our existing system, suffering to the last point of endurance, are blindly searching for a *way of deliverance*. Their cry is, "how long? O Lord! how long?" The world of to-day, is a sensitive, pulsating, living thing. No such condition ever existed before. Progress is rushing on, with the speed of a comet nearing a glorious sun toward which it has been struggling for cycles of time. The world, netted with nerves of copper and steel, serves the world-wide unity of the race which binds all mankind in sympathy with the victims of injustice wherever they be. We hear the happy laughter or wail of woe of the world, or any part of it. The arteries of the world's commerce circulate the life-giving flow of its material productions through every part; yielding to each part its selection of what it needs for its betterment, courses on over the barriers imposed by human ignorance and greed. It cannot be that all this is without effect *upon the common mind and conduct*. It cannot be that this civilization is so uncivil as to offer no hope to its long suffering masses, but appeal to arms—physical strength, brute force. I, for one, do not believe it. Nor do I believe that the despoilers of their fellows are lost to reason, in their mad greed of wealth and power, and court disaster to themselves. Do they foolishly believe fate will defer until the next generation—or even to-morrow, the inevitable cataclysm of retribution; and that for to-day they may go on in a materially prosperous profit from injustice?

This is the day of quick action, of rapid progress. Yet every hope depends, finally, upon wisely and promptly using our knowl-

edge of *what must be done*. Apathy, atrophy and death, follow each other in inevitable sequence. We must be *alive*, if we hope to *live*.

Let us labor to *make* history, not *repeat* it, that we may be justly proud and not ashamed of having lived in an age of such marvelous opportunity for service to humanity.

If the existing evil "system" is not promptly overthrown by *peaceful* means, most certainly it *will be brutally crushed* by the only means history has thus far revealed to man.

We are moving rapidly toward the grandest and happiest (because the most just) civilization the world has ever known, or toward a social cataclysm, more dire than human tongue or pen can describe.

To the moral and economical intelligence of the people of this heaven-blessed continent has fallen the duty to determine our fate, and to decide quickly.

Effect follows cause to-day with a rapidity commensurate with modern progress. It is the commanding duty of every individual to *think on these things*. To learn the way of salvation and to promote the truth of the "Right to the use of the earth," because if every child of the earth be not secured in that right no civilization can be civil, nor endure.

Justice is *not* cruel but *kind*; and Justice and love are companions, bringing peace to the world. A peace, that to the modern commercial mind "passeth understanding."

E. STILLMAN DOUBLEDAY.

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PUBLISHED REPORT OF PROGRESS  
IN GREAT BRITAIN

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The United Committee for the Taxation of Land Values organized at Westminster, London, in March last have issued a report of the work done. Work done does not always mean good accomplished, but one cannot read this modest report, characterized by the business like thoroughness which marks the labors of our British comrades in the cause, without realizing that since the formation of this central committee, its activities have made for the advance of the movement in a way that furnishes a strik-

ing evidence of the value of elevated and unselfish work in a cause which almost within a few months has emerged from obscurity to a place beside the great public questions that divide parties in the United Kingdom. We say "divide" parties, but this coming question will do more. For it will put the liberalism of weak-kneed party liberals to the test, and many will be weighed in this balance and found wanting. So, too, there will be those of conservative traditions, the well meaning servants of party shibboleths, who now talk bravely of the Empire and the Union, who will not refuse the call to do battle for a movement which, though approaching in the prosaic guise of measures of Rating and Valuation, has behind it a power and potency to the touch of which a new civilization is rising, a new and greater national glory for England is being born.

The first necessary steps to the goal are set down in this report. For those who build a splendid edifice will not shrink from the dry and often laborious work of preparing the ground, and how well this has been done we may read in the brief accounts of the great demonstrations in London and Manchester, the Prime Minister's remarkable speech, the debate in Parliament in which the Land Values (Scotland) Bill was denounced by Mr. Balfour as being founded on the doctrines of Henry George, and defended by Thomas Shaw, the Lord Advocate, who spoke of Henry George as a "master mind." Then follow accounts of other great meetings, and the endorsement of the movement by many County and Town Councils.

All this and more one may read in this inspiring report prepared by the secretaries of the United Committee, Crompton Llewelyn Davies and John Paul.

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THE Legislature of Texas has just passed a law assessing all property at its full value. The St. Louis Post Dispatch in a news letter from Austin speaks of it as being aimed directly at the farmer. But if so it is badly aimed. If land were assessed at its full value in Texas or anywhere it is not the farmers as a class who would pay it.

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