

NEWS—DOMESTIC

California

WHEN we decided to open an office here in San Francisco we realized that we had a hard job on our hands. This end of the State has been badly neglected for years. Those who formerly had been active and enthusiastic workers had nearly all become discouraged or indifferent. Besides, the seeds of discord had been sown with the usual results. But a good spirit is now prevailing. A number of our friends are interested in doing hand-to-hand work and are distributing literature while talking Single Tax to the voters. We have begun to hold outdoor meetings here, and Dr. Wahle, of Oakland, is arranging to work among the farmers and speak at their meetings.

Walter B. Lowenstein arranged a debate on the Single Tax between Professor J. B. Canning, of Stanford University, and the writer, which was held at the Community Forum at Palo Alto, November 17th. It was an interesting occasion and the attendance was good considering that there was a big demonstration in connection with the coming football match between Stanford and the University of California. Considerable interest was shown and several expressed the wish that a Single Tax talk be given again in the near future.

Mr. Lowenstein is doing good work in Palo Alto.

Dr. David Starr Jordan, former president of Stanford University, has accepted an invitation to speak at our dinner at the Washington Hotel in December.

A contributor to the Great Adventure some time ago offered cash prizes to school pupils for the best essays on the Single Tax. A number of pupils sent in letters stating that they would compete for the prizes. But the Superintendent of Public Instruction sent out warnings to the school children that the Single Tax is a political question and that they must not write essays on the subject. It would be too bad to corrupt the school children by showing them how to get loose from the grip of the California land profiteers.

Mr. John Cairns, formerly of Connecticut, now living in Oakland, a tireless worker for the Single Tax, voices the sentiment that all do who come from the East that seed sown in former campaigns is bearing fruit. He says that the field here is well worth cultivation as every other person he meets is familiar with the Single Tax. WILL L. ROSS.

Colorado

PETITIONS are being circulated in Colorado for the Soldiers' Bonus Bill as an amendment to the Constitution of the State. Its purpose is to derive the necessary revenue for the bonus from the land values of Colorado. All personal property and improvements will be exempt from the payment of the tax, as well as land values up to \$10,000.

Mr. Barney Haughey will have charge of the petitions in Denver. In the argument accompanying the petition it is

pointed out that the land values of the State are between four and five hundred million dollars, and that a tax of two per cent. will pay every ex-soldier in Colorado one dollar for each day he was in the service.

State headquarters have been opened in Denver, and Veterans of the World War in the State have been urged to join the State organization. Membership fees are one dollar, and dues 25 cents a month. This money will be used in getting the measure on the ballot. About 25,000 signatures are required. Meetings will be held and the nature of the bill explained. It is believed that the requisite number of signatures can be secured.

This movement is in line with our suggestion (see July-August REVIEW and elsewhere in this issue) that an agitation be started for the payment of the Soldiers' Bonus by a tax on land values. Now that Colorado has made the first move other States should come into line.

We have expressed elsewhere our dissent from the \$10,000 exemption of land values. We think this unnecessary and ill-advised. But we are quite willing to give our hearty adhesion to the measure as a step in the right direction. If the ex-soldiers organizations in Colorado think they can put this across, good luck to them. It is due them and will harm no one.

New Jersey

ESSEX COUNTY had 12 Single Tax Party candidates for the Assembly to be voted for. The vote was small, 335 for the highest nominee. But no real campaign was waged and the names were on the ballot merely to permit of Single Taxers recording their convictions.

In Bergen County, with one-fourth of the population of Essex, the vote is extremely gratifying. The highest vote last year was 114. This year, with the expenditure of only \$55, the highest recorded vote for one of the three Single Tax candidates for Assembly, Robert A. Shannon, is 898, or about 2 per cent. of the total vote. The vote for Alexander R. Koch is 832 and for Henry A. C. Hellyer 794.

An influence has been exerted in Bergen County through the column conducted by E. M. Caffall in the *Palisadian* and three other papers published in that county, in which the Single Tax is taught to readers who probably never heard of it. Any Single Taxer who can use Mr. Caffall's matter in his local paper should write to him, care of this office, for a sample of the matter he is now supplying to a dozen papers in New Jersey and elsewhere.

Ohio—Youngstown

LAST night I heard a lecture, in which the speaker said with great earnestness that regeneration was to see the truth, and as I began reviewing the story of our campaign I thought that this is what has happened to the Single Tax. It has been born again. Thanks to the Party idea the scales of pussyfootism have fallen from our eyes and we now behold all things new. What else but the Party gave

the well nigh departed spirit of Single Tax this healthy revivification? Where is the conservative now to deny it?

Here with the perspective of only a few days this second campaign appears already like the biggest thing in our experience in the cause. What may we not expect of the next, and the next?

And just as the Party has given new life to the Single Tax movement it has also given, taking the campaign for the Mayoralty in Youngstown this Fall as a criterion, new life to politics in general. The campaign was conceded by all to be the most unusual and exciting the city has ever seen and was so replete with dramatic incidents of one kind and another that it would take columns to relate them. We had rough house pretty much all of the time. We had threats, charges, indictments, criminal trials, assaults and (in our last Single Tax street meeting the night before election) a knock-down.

The part we took was to make the others fight. We were the eggheads and we made the democratic reactionaries transfer their support, which was originally behind the Democratic candidate, Kuhns, to George L. Oles, Independent. To be more specific, we hammered the Democratic candidate so hard that the reactionaries realized about four days before the election, that defeating Warnock, the Republican, whose scalp they were after, could not be accomplished with the Democratic candidate, so they switched to Oles, Independent, who was elected.

Warnock, who was a candidate to succeed himself, although not a radical, has nevertheless always had an old-fashioned wholesome respect for the constitution and the laws of his country—things not well calculated to make him popular with the reactionaries. Naturally, he was bitterly opposed by them in this campaign as he was two years ago when he was elected over Craver, who had ordered the arrest of Single Taxers for street speaking. The Single Taxers had then opposed Craver with equal or greater bitterness. Warnock, throughout his term, has stubbornly upheld the rights of free speech against all the scary demands made upon him and has otherwise refused to go outside of the law to favor big business. So that this time Big Business was determined to get him and had settled on the Democratic candidate to beat him.

"Well, but," says someone, "Oles is all that Privilege desires, is he not?" I do not think that Oles is all that Privilege desires. Although it is my opinion that he will do implicitly as Privilege demands this is not all that Privilege demands in a candidate. Privilege must at all hazards protect its respectability and preserve its reputation for superior brains; otherwise its very existence is threatened and responsibility for the elevation of Mr. Oles puts both these qualities in jeopardy.

"When the gods become ridiculous they lose their power."

The lesson which this campaign presents is that the voters are more inclined than ever to desert the old parties, and that they will not grieve over their destruction. What the radical parties have always lacked and what the Single

Tax Party now lacks, is a settled policy for attack upon them. My idea is that we should center all our attack exclusively on the Democratic Party. It may be true enough to say that we wish to destroy both, but it lacks common horse sense to say that the way to do this is to attack both. Keeping our drive exclusively against the Democratic candidate and making the servitor of Privilege always a Republican, has the double advantage of making both parties fearful of us. Let every Democrat everywhere north of Mason and Dixon's line be defeated for three years and the Democratic Party is extinct as the animal species of the saumaraian prime. We are then in a position to go after the Republican. Our fight, as I conceive it, is for the present a fight for position. I am not much on military tactics, but I know that no good general would engage two armies at a time if he could avoid it.

I think it is significant whereas my vote for Attorney-General last year was 69 it is now 406. This vote is questioned, and is placed at 602. I should not be surprised if later figures confirm this report.

The vote cast for candidates on our ticket was as follows:

For Mayor, Arnold Camm, 56; President of Council, Clarence E. Burnside, 542; for Auditor, Arthur J. Morcomb, 415; for Treasurer, William Mikesell, 433; for Solicitor, George Edwards, 406; for Councilmen-at-Large, A. D. Armstead, 379, Evan J. Edwards, 247, George J. Jeffries, 206.

The small vote cast for Mr. Camm is to be accounted for in two ways. First a great many radically inclined people recognized in Warnock a friend of free speech and knew that he was being attacked by the interests for it, and second, the complimentary vote.

The vote cast for him, however, is only six less than the vote cast for our candidate for Governor last Fall, while the vote cast for the candidates for the minor offices is three and four times as high as the vote cast for the minor candidates then.

As for publicity, we got all we asked for. Every night in both papers our schedule of meetings appeared. A news item was made of a challenge Mr. Camm sent to the other candidates. We got a picture of a cat on the ballot and on the Sunday before election a half column story about it appeared in the Youngstown *Vindicator*.

Perhaps the most satisfactory thing to the Single Taxer in this campaign was the eagerness with which the street crowds came for our literature. There was not a scrap of it wasted so far as I discovered, although we distributed not less than 9,000 of H. H. Willock's "Unused Democracy," 2,000 of R. C. Barnum's pamphlet, 5,000 platforms and 10,000 of *The Lincolnian*.

There was on the ballot a proposal to amend the constitution to provide laws for the levy of a poll tax which was overwhelmingly defeated.

We did not escape without trouble with the Socialists. In our first open-air meeting we outlined as distinctly as we could the difference between Single Tax and Socialism.

At their meeting the following evening, their candidate for mayor claimed his character had been attacked. As a matter of fact we had only discussed what he had said.

GEORGE EDWARDS

Ohio—Cleveland

FOLLOWING are extracts from a letter printed by R. C. Barnum in the *Cleveland News*—:

"Immediately after his indorsement by the Democratic political machine, Edmund B. Haserodt promised the leaders of both the State and National Single Tax Party to accept their indorsement for mayor of Cleveland. He said he would talk and fight for Single Tax principles whether indorsed by the Single Tax party or not. He said that if elected mayor he would do everything in his power to further the principles of the Single Tax, as he firmly believed that the government, in lieu of all taxes, should collect for public purposes the full rental value of land, exempting improvements; that the land and all natural resources, such as coal, gas, mineral and oil lands belong of right to all the people.

But Haserodt secured indorsement of the Democratic machine which stands for individual monopoly of natural resources instead of their public ownership and has already, even before election, submitted to the dictation of the Democratic organization. In vain will you search the newspapers for a single report of a Single Tax speech made by Haserodt since his indorsement by the machine.

Mr. Haserodt, if you have not, as we claim, already been chloroformed into silence by the Democratic political machine, and if you will not submit to dictation "after" election, there is still time "before" election to come out publicly, as you have previously done, and declare that if elected mayor of Cleveland you will do everything in your power to advance the cause of Single Tax and to further its principles. And there is still time for you to secure the endorsement of the Single Tax Party. Speak up, Mr. Haserodt. Do you still subscribe to the Single Tax doctrine which demands the abolition of all taxes, both direct and indirect, except one single tax which shall take for public purposes the full rental value of land exclusive of improvements?"

Stung by Mr. Barnum's taunt, Mr. Haserodt did finally make a confession of faith as reported in the *Cleveland Plaindealer* of November 5:

Haserodt came out flatly for Henry George and the Single Tax method of doing away with the causes of poverty, crime and vice, in answer to one of the many questions following the speaking. The question was, "What is your remedy by which you propose to alleviate all the misery you described in Cleveland?"

"I don't know your politics, said Haserodt, "but I'll lend you a dollar to buy a copy of Henry George's 'Progress and Poverty' and you'll find out how I intend to."

"Does the speaker intend to say he would try to do this by applying the principles of Single Tax?"

"I would, if I could, in five minutes after I'm mayor," Haserodt responded.

A branch of the Single Tax Party of Ohio has been formed in the city of Lakewood, with Frederick N. Flick, as chairman.

Advices from Dayton, Columbus, and other towns in the State point to a vigorous and successful campaign

for Governor next year. The State Executive Committee plans to meet in Cleveland next December to nominate a ticket and start a canvass for workers. The sessions of the Committee will be open to any Single Taxer.

Speakers at the regular Sunday night meetings of the Single Tax Club have been Virgil Allen, Henry Strong and others who believe in voting for the Single Tax.

R. C. Barnum, late Vice-Presidential candidate of the party, and E. H. Foote, late candidate for Governor, are touring the West on a business trip. Incidentally they are helping to work up increased interest in the Single Tax Party.

J. B. LINDSAY.

Oregon

THE work preparatory to getting on the ballot is progressing. The Single Tax meetings in the Portland Library continue and are well attended. An effort will be made to have Harry Willock's pamphlet "Unused Democracy," printed in the State Pamphlet. There is need for up-to-date literature. Geritt Johnson has pledged one thousand dollars and this insures the Single Taxers a place on the ballot.

A resolution adopted by the Oregon State Federation of Labor has declared for the taxation of land values. The *Oregonian* is worried that Oregon is again to have a campaign for the Single Tax, and deludes its readers by the statement that Oregon already has a land tax that produces three quarters of its revenues. This is preposterous and the *Oregonian* knows it. It says that the State is sick of the Single Tax. "It spewed it out last year by an overwhelming vote." But 37,000 voted for it, and this is what is worrying the *Oregonian*.

Pennsylvania

THE Philadelphia County Committee of the Single Tax Party reports the results of the election of November 8th as not extraordinary in the aggregate but highly gratifying from a basis of comparison with the results of the previous municipal election of two years ago. The lowest vote cast for a Single Tax candidate at the previous election was 333. This year the lowest vote was 499, indicating an increase of 50% of the straight votes for the Single Tax.

The highest number of votes cast for a candidate on the Single Tax ticket at a previous election was in the municipal election of two years ago when the total of 1659 was recorded. This year the highest vote was 2124, making an increase of over 28%. The Philadelphia candidates this year polled as follows:

Receiver of Taxes, Charles J. Schoales, 721; Register of Wills, Robert C. Macauley, 622; City Treasurer, William R. Kline, 887; City Controller, Frederick E. Mayer, 667; District Attorney, Joseph B. Chamberlain, 499; Magistrates: Thomas J. Connelley, 2124; Michael J. Conway, 1786; Thomas Kavanagh, 1104; James McCormick, 1358; John A. C. Owens, 700; Kitti P. Robinson, 680; George A.