

and he has wielded it in masterly fashion. The people have responded because their sense of justice could not resist his appeal. How many small meetings, where speakers are switched off from the vital discussion and set to answering primer questions like that regarding the loss of the poor widow who owned valuable land, would be necessary to equal the effect of this world-wide Cleveland lesson ?

In England what contention has the right of way in the next session of Parliament? The Scottish Land bill, three times passed by the House of Commons and at once thrown out of the Lords, soon however to return. The ghost of the Prophet of San Francisco will confront their lordships not less than its living presence confronted the Scottish Duke of Argyll. And, pleasing thought, the Mayor of San Francisco, Edward Robeson Taylor, was the helpful friend and benefactor who assisted the Prophet by counsel and judgment in the preparation of Progress and Poverty. So does the whirligig of time bring about its revenges !

Personally, therefore, I take a minor interest in the revamping of early Single Tax machinery. It is well to maintain an organization where light and literature may be supplied to opening minds, but be sure, if one can judge by previous successful reforms, the nearer the goal, the less interest will organizations be able to command. The very neglect of them indicates the success of our propaganda.

I congratulate you upon the aspect of the movement to which our lives are pledged. So great has been its progress in the past ten years that our one poignant regret is that Henry George is not here to see it with his mortal eyes and to cheer us to further effort by his ever inspiring voice. "His soul is marching on."

#### ADDRESS OF GOVERNOR GARVIN.

On this occasion I address my remarks to those present who are not Single Taxers. In the ten minutes allotted me I can touch upon but one phase of the great subject and in outline only.

As individuals you try to get what you earn. This is proper, because if the one who earns does not receive his wages they go to others who do not earn them, and a double wrong is done. With the mass of mankind it is not only right but necessary that they should receive as large an income as possible, in order that they may obtain a decent living.

Whilst striving earnestly for the highest possible wages, the workers are not alive to the fact that they are earners, not only as individuals, but also in their social capacity. As members of an orderly community they are producers of value. The wages so earned are deposited in a kind of bank, but are never drawn out by the depositors.

The bank referred to is the land, which according to the best authority and in accordance with reason, is the gift of God to all the children of men. Land values are created, not by the land owner, but by the community. The pos-

essor of the title deed may never have seen his lot, he may live in a foreign country, but his land increases in value. All of this value is an unearned increment in so far as the proprietor is concerned, and is produced by the community as really as if each passer-by deposited a small coin upon the land.

In Manhattan the total assessed land value amounts to \$2,712,261,571, or \$6,150 for each family of five. The bulk of this ground rent goes to a very small minority of your citizens to whom it does not belong. It should by law be converted into the public treasury in lieu of the taxes now levied. The present fee system by which the government is supported is immoral in that it takes from individual earnings and does not use the public earnings. The total ground rent of Manhattan, reckoned as five per centum of the assessed valuation, is \$135,000,000, which is the natural annual salary of its people in their social capacity. To this should be added the annual franchise value of all the public service corporations amounting to more than \$16,000,000, making the borough salary upwards of \$150,000,000, or double the present tax.

To derive all public revenue from ground rents would transfer the present burden of taxation from consumers to the possessors of special privileges in the form of land monopoly. As a result the mass of the people, who possess but little franchise and land values, will pay only their small share to the support of the government.

The reduction of all land to a normal price will enable any who so desires to secure it both for homes and for productive purposes, thus lessening the competition for jobs and thereby increasing money wages. At the same time all commodities will be cheapened by their exemption from taxes.

The net result must be to double real wages, with all which that implies in the elevation of the people.

#### ADDRESS OF RAYMOND ROBINS.

Mr. Robins, who has been a settlement worker in one of the crowded river wards of Chicago, said that in that district seven babies died to one in the lake front district. It was found that one cause of this was impure milk and when the inspectors attention was called to the condition he put the blame on the man higher up. Finally when charges had been made to the Board of Health and those charges were not acted upon it was found they had been "stayed" by the Alderman who was the ward leader and a friend of the Milk Co. who gave him large contributions.

This ward leader, like many others, posed as a benefactor and gave his followers turkeys in winter and picnics in summer and in the meantime bartered away their health, virtue and opportunities.

Mr. Robins was a member of one of the early expeditions that went gold hunting in Alaska, and gave some very interesting experiences in that far-away country. He told of the wonderfully high wages paid for all kinds of work, and how as soon as the gold land was monopolized and only partly used, wages fell to the starvation point. He described how a number of men were