

by repentance and by holding up his hand. Enthusiasm on the part of the exponent may make others think, but it can no more make single taxers out of them than it could make mathematicians of them. It might make them vote right if the campaign were once on, but the thinking part has to be gone into by the individual himself, and not as a half hour's diversion, but as a study ranging over some considerable period. This is why the wayfaring man is seldom to be found in our meetings. He may come once or twice, but nine times out of ten he will drift away again without grasping the subject. But once he grasps it thoroughly he sticks. I do not suppose there could be any backsliders in a single tax camp.

After all, it is the individual work which counts. I have made converts in a night talk on a train and I have made others in my room, but I cannot say that I ever knew one to be made at a meeting. Not that I discountenance meetings. They are excellent advertising mediums and we need advertising as much as any other movement does. I merely wish to encourage those who may feel disposed to allow their meetings to drop because they cannot see results. The results will come, no fear, but the individual work is that which scores the runs.

The Association has published a pamphlet, *La Vraie Reforme vs. La Reforme Pour Rire* (True Reform vs. Sham Tax Reform), which by those who desire to do missionary work among our French citizens may be had on application to Robt. B. Capon, 28 St. Matthew street, Montreal.

—T. C. ALLUM.

#### AUSTRALIA.—VICTORIA.

Single taxers have been generally very quiet in all the states with the exception of South Australia. The single taxers of that state made a proposal some time ago to hold an inter-state conference either in Sydney or Melbourne for the purpose of forming a National Australian Single Tax League, but at the request of Mr. Max Hirsch the project was deferred until after the settlement of the Federal tariff, now under discussion in the Commonwealth Parliament. There can be no doubt that such an organization would be of immense advantage at the present time, and I for one do not approve of the postponement of the Conference. It is not proposed that the National League should take an active part in politics on its own account, for it is admitted that our work is mainly educative, but with the consummation of federation a wider field is opened to us. The times are marching on, and single taxers should be prepared to lead the way. The site of the Federal capital will shortly be selected, and under the constitution it must become national property, and an opportunity will be afforded of an immediate application of single tax theories, and the question of

direct taxation ought to be kept in the fore ground. But besides the advantage of having a central organization to watch over Federal affairs, and to give our movement a superior status, there are other benefits to be derived from unity of action. A national league could assist the smaller body of single taxers by arranging for lecturers to visit the different centres, by printing and publishing and distributing tracts and leaflets. An Australian single tax newspaper or magazine could be started containing articles of general interest for all the states. And furthermore, a national league could make it worth while for your John S. Crosby or some other single tax orator to pay us a visit which would give our movement a wonderful impetus and be of advantage to the single tax cause all over the world.

—JOHN S. HIGGS, Echuca.

#### AUSTRALIA.—NEW SOUTH WALES.

There is not much news to report from here. The Commonwealth Parliament has passed a number of acts, but most of them are concerned merely with local affairs. The Alien Immigration Restriction Act prohibits foreigners from entering Australia unless they can pass a simple examination in some European language. It is really intended to keep out Asiatics.

The most important bill, the tariff bill, was introduced into the House of Representatives in October, and is still there. In spite of repeated promises by the Prime Minister (Mr. Barton) and other members of the ministry that the tariff proposals would be very moderate, the bill was a high protectionist one. I think I sent you a newspaper giving the list of proposed duties. Mr. G. H. Reid, leader of the opposition, moved an unsuccessful vote of censure, and then the bill was taken into committee. About three-quarters of it have been dealt with, and a large number of duties have been reduced, some of them considerably. It has afterwards to be dealt with by the Senate, where there is a free trade majority, so it may be still further reduced. But the Senate is not strictly a "party" house, so it is impossible to say what it will do. The bill has done good in an indirect manner by raising antagonism to protective duties. Melbourne, where Parliament is sitting, is the stronghold of protection in Australia, and much good has been done there, especially among the manual laboring people, by having great debates in Parliament on "Free Trade vs. Protection." Some of the best free trade debaters are labor members from New South Wales and West Australia. All the Victorian labor members are protectionists. When the bill is ready for the house I shall send you a paper for the REVIEW, showing the duties proposed and the reductions made.—ERNEST BRAY, Carrowa.

As you know, we have a Federal Government in Australia now. Most of us strongly