

followed the exposition indicated an eagerness to grasp the subject thoroughly. There is reason to anticipate from this occasion further openings for the presentation of our cause, together with a greatly increased receptivity on the part of New York club women.

A lecture before the Smithville grange, in the town of Adams, brought me before another representative body of farmers, and proved afresh that we have no need to dread the opposition of the agricultural communities, if we once give them a simple and careful explanation of our programme. The hostility of the average farmer to the Single Tax is based entirely on misinformation, and can easily be overcome by a clear presentation of the truth.

Lectures were also given in Ogdensburg and Malone. Special circumstances in each of these places made the attendance disappointingly small; but in each there were some eager listeners and inquirers. The entering wedge has been inserted in entirely new territory; and I have been asked to come again, with the promise of larger audiences. Other towns in the northern part of the State are just becoming interested, and while they slipped up this time in the arrangements tentatively projected, they expect to give the Single Tax message a good hearing in the future. I made use of a few days left unoccupied by failure to bring dates closely together, to run up to Montreal, and bear fraternal greetings to some of the Single Taxers there who are striving valiantly against peculiar difficulties.

July and August do not offer facilities for lecture tours. I am spending the former month in New England, and shall lecture on the Single Tax at the Greenacre assembly in Eliot, Me. I expect to spend practically all of August in New York, and shall be glad to respond to any special call during that month. Opportunities ought to offer at summer resorts, picnics, special outings and the like.

The first fall trip will begin as early in September as possible, and will cover the central part of the State. I should be glad

to hear at once from friends within fifty miles of Syracuse in any direction, who think that meetings might be arranged in their respective communities. Write me always at 68 William St., New York City. By pulling together we shall advance our common cause—JAMES F. MORTON, JR.

SOUTH AFRICA—TRANSVAAL

From South Africa there is some quite cheerful news anent the progress of Single Tax principles. The Transvaal Provincial Council has passed a Local Authorities Rating Ordinance which permits Municipalities to levy a rate upon site values separate from improvements; a penny in the pound has first to be levied on site values and the balance of the total rate may be raised partly on land and partly on buildings, then, after the lapse of two years, the Transvaal Municipalities are to have the glorious opportunity of raising their entire revenue from site values.

To realize the greatness of this achievement one need only recall the history and development of the great mining centre of Johannesburg, now a town of about 100,000 white inhabitants. When about thirty years ago the immense richness of the gold bearing strata first became apparent numerous land companies were formed among the newcomers to exploit for their personal advantage the increased value of the surrounding land due to the rapidly increasing population. These companies speedily cornered all available building land and by means of their unholy monopoly created an artificial scarcity and raised the price of building sites to most extravagant figures—in accordance with the practice which has cursed European civilization for many generations.

These high prices were not thought much of in the early days because money was then very easily earned, but since the keenness of competition has reduced profits as well as wages very considerably enquiries as to the cause of the high cost of building sites began to receive attention.

To the Labor Party, ably led by Mr. Ad-

vocate Lucas, is due the credit of placing the Transvaal Municipalities in a position to raise their revenue in a scientific way and without discouraging industry and enterprise.

Already the townships of Germiston and Barberton have adopted the new ordinance and it is considered certain that Johannesburg and Pretoria will immediately follow. The various land companies are feeling very uncomfortable at the thought of the possible cost of continuing to hold land out of use and of maintaining artificial values.

There is far less activity in other portions of South Africa in the direction of Land Tax Reform, but the paramount importance of the transfer of the burden of taxation from industry to the community-made value of land is not lost sight of amongst many little groups. There is for instance a reading circle in East London presided over by Mr. E. J. Evans which includes men of all political parties.

It should be stated that the South African Labor Party has the honor of being the pioneer of Henry George's principles. The stronger Unionist Party has Land Taxation as a plank of its platform but unfortunately it appears to be there merely as an ornament—or perchance as a vote-catcher?—C. H. LAMB.

DEATH OF JOSEPH LEGGETT

The news has reached us of the death of Joseph Leggett, perhaps the best known Single Taxer on the Pacific coast. Mr. Leggett was a native of Dublin, Ireland. As long ago as 1870 at the very beginnings of the movement he was accustomed to meet with the early group of Single Tax pioneers in Judge Maguire's office in San Francisco to discuss the land problem as set forth in Henry George's "Our Land and Land Policy." He was the president of the Land Reform League of California in 1878, the first Single Tax organization in the world, and he was active in the movement down to the day of his death.

A committee of the Home Rule League in Taxation in San Francisco consisting of Jas. H. Barry, H. Gutstadt, and C. E. Todd

have made public the following resolutions on the death of their old comrade:

Whereas, it has pleased a divine providence to call hence our most highly esteemed and beloved friend and co-worker, Joseph Leggett, and

Whereas, Joseph Leggett has for nearly half of a century devoted himself and his wonderful ability, untiringly to the cause of social and economic regeneration and particularly to the fundamental philosophy of the Single Tax, and

Whereas, through all these years he has rendered inestimable service in his self-imposed task of spreading the gospel of human freedom, upholding, advising and encouraging its disciples by word and deed wherever, over the entire globe, efforts were put forth in the great Cause which controlled and permeated his very being, and

Whereas, the far reaching effect of his well directed and intelligent labors during the many years of his valuable and persistent service to the great Cause, can hardly yet be fully appreciated, though the results thereof will become more and more apparent as times grow on, and the seeds of knowledge and good will to all men, sown by him shall sprout and bloom and fructify: Therefore be it

Resolved, that in the death of Joseph Leggett not only those immediately connected with him in the cause of land reform, but the lovers of human freedom everywhere have sustained an irreparable loss. Looked upon and revered as the Patriarch of our movement, his memory shall ever be enshrined in the hearts of those who had the precious privilege of knowing and co-operating with him. His great love for Humanity, his great devotion to its cause and his life-long labor in its behalf, entitle him to be enrolled on that roster of valiant champions of human freedom, who though they have gone hence before him, shall for ever abide with us; Henry George, Tom Johnson, Leo Tolstoy and Joseph Fels,

Resolved, that as comrades, friends and kindred spirits, in full appreciation of the great services rendered by the late Joseph Leggett, we herewith, as a most befitting