

Ben Osborn, secretary of the State Federation of Labor, Labor Temple, Oregon, and that he be instructed to cooperate with the Oregon Single Tax League to the end that the petitions be circulated and a campaign waged."

The menace of the Single Tax has again aroused the opposition to the point of throwing additional difficulties around the Initiative and Referendum. The suggestion is made that signers to petitions visit the City Hall to sign. George Bylander commenting on this proposal has this to say in the Portland papers:

"There is just one bright star on the horizon, and that is the readiness by which the people sign the petitions, there seems to be an instinct among the masses that whether or not they understand the merits of the bill they sign, that every petition is a people's petition and that every act of the legislature is an expression of machine privilege.

No, the people will not walk to the court house to sign. That means to kill the I. R. Many of them will not even register or vote and if it were not for the petition shovers who initiate interest in public affairs in the public there would be less and less voters. Thank God, there are a few brave people who are willing to face the jeers of the haughty and powerful and the sneers of the ignorant mob and place the instrument of democracy before the people, that neither the ignorant rich nor the ignorant poor may sweep us to any great extreme and the ideals of American democracy may live.

This is a sufficient answer to the complaint that petition-circulating is too easy.

Mr. Louis Bowerman is carrying on a debate with a Mr. Sommer, and in a letter to the *Journal*, of Portland, writes:

"The 'Single Tax' is misnamed. It is neither a tax on land nor 'land-value.' It proposes abolition of all taxes whatsoever and to appropriate space-rent, exclusively, which is always proportionate to the population surrounding, who set up a demand for use of any given space. Space-rent equals the advantage-value its occupant may enjoy over the occupant of the least advantageous space. A million dollar acre-space offers a million times more advantage or opportunity than a dollar acre-space and the respective rentals would be as a million to one. Since every citizen occupies space, each would contribute to or compensate, society in proportion as he was advantaged or benefitted by society."

Following is the amendment to be voted on March 1st, 1931, if sufficient signers to the petition are secured.

"Section 1 of Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Oregon shall be and hereby is amended to read as follows: Section 1. From March, 1, 1931, to and until March 1, 1935, all revenues necessary for the maintenance of state, county, municipal and district government shall be raised by a tax on the value of land, irrespective of improvements in or on it, and thereafter the full rental value of land, irrespective of improvements, shall be taken in lieu of all other taxes for the maintenance of government, and for such other purposes as the people may direct. All pro-

visions of the Constitution and Laws of Oregon in conflict with this section are hereby abrogated and repealed in so far as they conflict herewith, and this section is self-executing."

Henry George Foundation Aids Denver Single Tax Campaign

BELIEVING that the example of Pittsburgh would serve to stimulate interest and enlist greater support for the Single Tax amendment submitted to the voters of Denver on May 21st, William N. McNair, President of the Henry George Club of Pittsburgh and recent Democratic nominee for United States Senator, traveled to Denver early in May for the special purpose of participating in the campaign led by Barney Haughey. Mr. McNair went as a representative of the Henry George Foundation and did very effective work during the week that he spent in Colorado. Among the organizations which he addressed on this speaking tour were the Denver City Club, the Builders Exchange, the Taxation Committee of the Chamber of Commerce and the Allied Labor Council. In addition to these engagements, he also delivered three radio addresses and spoke before smaller labor groups and at outdoor meetings.

A rather remarkable incident in connection with Mr. McNair's trip was written up very appropriately by Frank C. Harper, columnist of the "Pittsburgh Press". In response to a letter from Pittsburgh offering the services of Mr. McNair, the Secretary of the Denver Real Estate Exchange telegraphed that his organization was "exceedingly anxious" to have the speaker address their luncheon on May 15th and this telegram was duly confirmed by letter. In the meanwhile, however, some representatives of the landed interests apparently got busy and the following telegram of cancellation was received by Secretary Williams a few days later:

"Since wiring our members have voiced disapproval of any system eliminating taxes on personalty or lessening taxes on improvements. Necessary we cancel arrangements for McNair's talk. Please advise him. Sorry."

While the measure submitted to the voters of Denver was not a very radical proposal, involving only the exemption of improvements in so far as city taxes were concerned by gradual steps over a period of ten years, it brought forth a bitter editorial attack by the *Denver Post* and the campaign apparently aroused pretty strong feelings in certain quarters. Nevertheless, Mr. McNair met with a very cordial reception wherever he appeared and reported that quite a number of business men, as well as representatives of the labor element, had expressed themselves favorably and seemed quite ready to admit that Denver would do well to follow Pittsburgh's lead and go even further by adopting the measure submitted which would completely exempt improvements from city taxes.

The amendment voted on May 24 resulted in 6,000 for, to 30,000 against. All amendments were defeated.

Barney Haughey writes:

"We think we have learned a great deal in this campaign and in the next few days I will prepare a letter to all of our friends telling them what we have learned and what our plans for the future will be."

The Henry George Congress

JUBILEE CELEBRATION TO ATTRACT MANY PROMINENT SINGLE TAXERS

KEEN interest is already being evinced by prominent single taxers in all sections of the country in the approaching Jubilee Celebration at the Fourth Annual Henry George Congress, scheduled for Pittsburgh, September 23d to 25th. In commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the publication of "Progress and Poverty," the Convention Committee is planning to issue to the delegates attractive badges with a bronze or gold plated medal designed especially for this occasion, which will make a very desirable souvenir.

Having uppermost in mind the attendance goal of five hundred, an unusually large and representative Convention Committee has been named this year and every effort will be exerted by the Committee to bring to Pittsburgh good delegations from all sections of the United States. The National Convention Committee, William N. McNair, Pittsburgh, Pa., Chairman, has been appointed, with the following persons as members:

Henry Ware Allen, Wichita, Kan.; Herbert C. Allen, Asheville, N. C.; Will Atkinson, Capon Springs, W. Va.; Warren Worth Bailey, Jr., Johnstown, Pa.; Henry P. Boynton, Cleveland, Ohio; Katherine E. Bradley, Olean, N. Y.; Andrew P. Canning, Chicago, Ill.; Alfred N. Chandler, Newark, N. J.; Miss Joan Chaffe, New Orleans; Dr. S. Solis Cohen, Philadelphia; Grace Isabel Colbron, New Canaan, Conn.; Thomas B. Craig, Colorado Springs, Colo.; W. L. Crosman, Revere, Mass.; Otto Cullman, Chicago, Ill.; Samuel Danziger, Baltimore, Md.; J. H. Dillard, Charlottesville, Va.; Mark M. Dintenfass, Palisade, N. J.; George H. Duncan, East Jaffrey, N. H.; Charles R. Eckert, Beaver, Pa.; James B. Ellery, Erie, Pa.; Hon. Oliver T. Erickson, Seattle, Wash.; Clayton J. Ewing, Chicago, Ill.; James C. Fuller, Kansas City, Mo.; Frank W. Garrison, Southwest Harbor, Me.; Charles H. Ingersoll, East Orange, N. J.; Frederick F. Ingram, Detroit, Mich.; Emil O. Jorgensen, Chicago, Ill.; Gerrit J. Johnson, Los Angeles, Cal.; Grace A. Johnston, Berkely, Cal.; Ervin Kauffman, St. Louis, Mo.; G. Frank Kelly, Scottdale, Pa.; Fenton Lawson, Cincinnati, O.; J. C. Lincoln, Cleveland, O.; Herman G. Loew, New York City; Robert C. Macauley, Philadelphia, Pa.; Mary Holmes Martin, Chicago, Ill.; A. J. Mulligan, San Francisco, Cal.; Frederick H. Monroe, Chicago, Ill.; John M.

Moore, Lancaster, Pa.; James F. Morton, Paterson, N. J.; John S. McLean, Columbus, Ohio; John Emery McLean, Fairhope, Ala.; Fay Lewis, Rockford, Ill.; Joseph Dana Miller, New York City; Mark Millikin, Hamilton, Ohio; John Lawrence Monroe, Chicago, Ill.; Charles J. Ogle, Baltimore, Md.; Harry W. Olney, Washington, D. C.; Chester C. Platt, Rye, N. Y.; James H. McGill, Valparaiso, Ind.; Billy Radcliffe, Cleveland, Ohio; Ray Robson, Lansing, Mich.; Charles B. Rogers, Fort Atkinson, Wis.; Jennie A. Rogers, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Charlotte Schetter, New York City; Alex Y. Scott, Rosedale, Miss.; Henry G. Seaver, Westfield, N. J.; George J. Shaffer, Los Angeles, Cal.; Mrs. Roswell Skeel, Jr., Vineyard Haven, Mass.; Bolton Smith, Memphis, Tenn.; Walter G. Stewart, Reading, Pa.; Frank Stephens, Arden, Del.; Frank T. Stirlith, Edgemoor, Del.; Hon. S. A. Stockwell, Minneapolis, Minn.; Harold Sudell, Philadelphia, Pa.; Lucy Swanton, Washington, D. C.; Ambrose H. Swope, Johnstown, Pa.; Alan C. Thompson, Toronto, Canada; Henry L. Tideman, Chicago, Ill.; N. A. Vyne, Camp Verde, Ariz.; Oliver McKnight, Philadelphia, Pa.; Paul de Moll, Philadelphia, Pa.; Edward White, Kansas City, Mo.; Harry H. Willock, Lillian, Ala.; August Williges, Sioux City, Iowa.

The local Convention Committee, upon whom will fall the duty of carrying through the local arrangements, for the gathering, consists of the following, all of whom are affiliated with the Henry George Club of Pittsburgh, which is actively cooperating with a view to making the Congress a great success:

Prof. J. B. Alemany, Ward Bonsall, Janet L. Brownlee, A. J. Demnler, Walter R. Demnler, H. B. Emigh, William B. Foster, Dr. F. E. Luke, John M. Henry, G. Brown Hill, C. V. Horn, George P. Loomis, John Mellor, Paul G. McClelland, B. B. McGinnis, W. S. McMahan, M. McNeill, Hugo W. Noren, E. W. Pittman, Charles A. Poth, Mark F. Roberts, William Robinson, Harry G. Samson, William E. Schoyer, William Scott, Cornelius D. Scully, Ralph E. Smith, Mrs. Wallace Stewart, Sidney A. Teller, David J. Terry, John W. Treiber, Carl Van der Voort, William J. Van Essen, George W. Wakefield.

Departing somewhat from the practice at the previous annual gatherings, it is planned to feature at Pittsburgh the *Conference* idea. Aside from the public meeting and the annual banquet and luncheons, the sessions will be largely devoted to intimate discussions of vital problems, of policy and method, with a minimum of formal addresses. An opportunity will be given, however, for the Conference to hear, at least briefly, from most of the leading figures in the Single Tax movement, many of whom have already assured the Committee of their purpose to attend. As quite a number of the official members of the Henry George Foundation, including President George E. Evans, will attend the International Conference at Edinburgh, the Henry George Congress will be favored with reports cover-