

prophecies of social change. In the deep depression of the '70s, Henry George wrote 'Progress and Poverty,' setting forth the principles which were to crystallize in the practical programme of the Single Tax."

The *Commonweal* (Catholic magazine) of January 4, carried an article by John A. Ryan entitled "Must Unemployment Continue?" In discussing Prof. Graham's new book, "The Abolition of Unemployment," Dr. Ryan said: "It exhibits greater feeling than I have found in any other economic work since I first came upon Henry George's "Progress and Poverty."

ANTOINETTE KAUFMANN, Secretary

Mr. Ingersoll's Lecture Work

MY trip was not properly rounded out, because of the interruption of the annual meeting and events connected therewith. The securing of appointments, as well as my work, were involved. However, as stated in No. 10 of the *Ingersoll Bulletin*, the total of talks was 90, to audiences of 16,732.

Nov. 28—South Bridge, Mass. Merchants and Manufacturers Asso., Columbia Hotel; luncheon; 60 present, business men; 40 minute talk, and informal quiz afterwards. This is a very important manufacturing place, the principal industry being the American Optical Co., whose president, Mr. Wells, was chairman. Also woolen and paper mills officials present.

Nov. 29—Falmouth Rotary and Kiwanis combined; Hotel Henley, 6:15 p. m.; 75 present. This is what I call a successful meeting, because after my talk of 45 minutes most of these men stayed two and a half hours in a heckling bee, and, I believe, were largely converted.

Dec. 13—Holyoke, Mass., Lions Club; Hotel Nonotuck; 120 present; 30 minute talk; very fine crowd of men, but failed on quiz, except half an hour with a small group.

Dec. 14—Lions Club, Elizabeth N. J.; Elks Club luncheon; 25 present; 30 minute talk, and one hour quiz, of most intensive kind.

Dec. 15—Little Falls Chamber of Commerce Dinner; evening; 20 present, and very important meeting, because of quiz lasting until nearly midnight after 30 minute talk, and the fine character of the men.

Jan. 3—Chamber of Commerce, Northampton, Pa., Town Hall, 8:15 p. m. This was another very successful meeting, apart from the attendance, which was 75 of the best people in this fine cement town of 10,000. The talk was 45 minutes, but the quiz lasted until 11:30, after which I drove home 80 miles.

Jan. 12—Lions Club, Plainfield; N. J.; dinner, evening. Came as a result of the Elizabeth meeting.

Jan. 12—Rotary Club, Jersey City; luncheon. This comes from Mr. John H. Allen.

Jan 16—Michael Men's Club, Weehawken N. J.; Monday, 8:00 p. m. Through Mr. Chandler.

Jan. 17—WHAM Radio Station, Journal Square, Jersey City. This comes through my friend Mr. T. Lane.

I am preparing the organization on a National scale, of the Tax Relief Association and expect to immediately take up organizing Pennsylvania, beginning at Pittsburgh.

CHAS. H. INGERSOLL,
President Mahattan Single Tax Club.

The Henry George Lecture Assn.

(United with the Henry George Foundation of America)
538 South Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

JOHN LAWRENCE MONROE Director and Treasurer

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NEWS OF HENRY GEORGE AND SINGLE TAX CLUBS

Single Tax League, Chicago, Ill.—Recent speakers at the weekly meetings of the League were Jacob Don, a Korean and graduate of the University of Michigan, who spoke on "The Situation in the Far East;" William Ellis, enthusiastic Single Taxer and graduate of the University of Missouri, "Encouragement for the Single Tax Movement;" Maurice Welty, youthful and able young Single Taxer, particularly active in the Chicago work of the Manufacturers and Merchants Federal Tax League, "The Single Tax;" and Prof. Leavell of the Hyde Park High School, "The School Plight." Over twelve hundred copies of the League's new edition of its pamphlet, "Jobs for All," were distributed at a mass meeting of the Chicago teachers on Friday, January 6. Thousands of copies of this pamphlet are being sent through the mails, and among these over

500 are going to members of both houses of Congress. Thanks are due Mr. Thomas Rhodus for this continued valuable educational work.

Henry George Club, Lansing, Mich.—After telling of the unfortunate adoption of a constitutional amendment limiting the tax rate on real estate to one and one-half per cent at the election on November 8, Mr. Ray Robson, president of the Lansing Club says, in a letter of November 14, "We hope to begin our Henry George Club meetings next week." If all the voting citizens of Michigan could have been acquainted with Mr. Robson's arguments against the amendment it would not have carried. In his speeches, and in his letters to the press Mr. Robson pointed out that, "What we need is not higher prices for land, but higher wages for labor. The land speculators are back of these amendments. If they are carried, the vacant land held for speculation in every city can be unloaded at higher prices." Evidently there will have to be more than one "repeal" movement if amendments restricting the liberty of the people are to be removed.

Henry George Club, Omaha, Neb.—The December meeting of the Omaha Club was pleasantly surprised by a visit from the veteran August Willeges of Sioux City, Iowa, who left a message of courage and hope. He admonished his listeners to become militant in their efforts to gain the public ear and to warn the people of the dangers of the sales tax. "Do not fear if you clash with the propagandists of the sales tax," he said, "You have an answer for them—the *truth*. As Henry George said to me during the campaign of 1886, 'I shall tell the *truth*, regardless of the loss of votes.'" A committee to formulate a membership campaign and programme of activity was appointed to act immediately. Letters were read from Mr. Larry Quinby of Los Angeles, formerly of Omaha, and also from Mr. A. G. Chapman of Lincoln, Neb. The Club is asking the support of all Single Taxers in the vicinity of Omaha to help combat the propaganda of an organization recently incorporated for the purpose of placing sales tax legislation on the statute books. In a letter of December 9 to interested persons, the Henry George Club states, "The Sales Tax will not help the farmers. In Nebraska they will have most of it to pay. More than half of them are tenants, and would have to pay increased rents. Their market would be impaired by the reduced purchasing power of those who consume their products." The letter was signed by a committee consisting of Mr. Howard J. Bailey, vice-president of the Baker Mfg. Co., Mr. Paul K. Harlan, Superintendent of the Bell Telephone Co., Omaha, and Mr. L. S. Herron, editor of the *Nebraska Union Farmer*.

Henry George Club, Pittsburgh, Pa.—The Friday noon meetings of the Henry George Club of Pittsburgh in the Downtown Y. M. C. A. are continuing every week, Dr. Francis D. Tyson, Professor of Economics at the Univer-

sity of Pittsburgh, having spoken on January 6, on "What About the Technocrats?"—an up-to-date subject.

Woman's Single Tax Club, Washington, D. C.—The opening meeting of the Capitol's Club for this season was held on October 3 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Walter I. Swanton. A paper on "How We Learn" was read by Mrs. Elizabeth Phillips, inventor of the famous Landlord's Game now being used by Single Taxers to advance their cause in popular fashion.

NEWS OF SINGLE TAX SPEAKERS

Henry H. Hardinge, Chicago, Ill.—Mr. Hardinge's recent appointments included the Evanston, Ill., Kiwanis Club, Tuesday noon, December 13; the Crane College Forum, Wednesday evening, December 14; the Illinois Home Guard Association, Friday, December 16; the West Side Forum, Friday evening, January 6; and numerous others before churches, schools and civic clubs.

William H. Holly and Henry L. T. Tideman, Chicago.—The Junior Western Society of Engineers liked Mr. Tideman's talk on "Natural Taxation" so well that he was asked to pick another speaker for them on a related theme. His choice was William H. Holly, law partner of Clarence Darrow and drafter of the Prosperity Tax Bills for Cook County being sponsored by the Manufacturers and Merchants Federal Tax League. Mr. Holly spoke on "Modern Problems" before the Society at its December meeting, Mr. Tideman having addressed it in November.

Claude L. Watson, Chicago.—Mr. Watson addressed over 100 members of the Milwaukee Theosophical Society on "Creating a Cooperative Democracy," Sunday, January 8. He showed this to be the ideal toward which Henry George pointed the way.

NEWS NOTES

The first of a series of meetings of the Chicago Division of the Manufacturers and Merchants Federal Tax League was held at the Palmer House, Friday evening, January 6. Over two hundred influential business leaders attended the meeting to hear Emil O. Jorgensen, director of the League, explain the importance of the bills providing for the gradual abolition of all local taxes on improvements and personal property in Chicago and Cook County and for the raising of the public revenue from the value of the land alone. Gerhardt F. Meyne, president of the Gerhardt F. Meyne Co., contractors, was chairman of the meeting. Mr. Jorgensen's forceful address was made more convincing by the use of stereoptican slides with charts and illustrations demonstrating his points. Mr. Jorgensen's lecture will be given weekly.

Those who had the pleasure of meeting James Abbott at the Henry George Congress in Memphis last October, will regret learning of his death on Sunday, November 20. Although in his eightieth year, Mr. Abbott joined his fellow members of the Chicago Single Tax League, Mr. Henry L. T. Tideman and Mr. George Strachan, in driving to the Congress. He spoke as a pinch hitter at the evening meeting of the Southern Tax Conference when there was some delay in the arrival of Senator McKeller, the speaker of the evening. Mr. Abbott was born in New York City, December 12, 1852, near 152d Street and Amsterdam Avenue, "which was then a garden patch, and considered out in the suburbs of the city," as he himself told. He remembered the stirring campaign of 1860, and saw Lincoln and heard him speak as he passed through Hudson, Ohio, on his way to Washington to be inaugurated president. He had seen all the presidents from Lincoln down to Coolidge, and reported all from Grant to Coolidge. He traveled all over the world several times and was widely known as a writer and lecturer.

Robert L. McCaig, active Single Taxer of Toledo, Ohio, is the

inventor of a modern steel home, factory-fabricated so that it can be erected quickly by unskilled labor and easily moved from city to country or back again. An illustrated article in the Toledo *Sunday Times* of September 25, emphasizes the idea that was in the back of Mr. McCaig's mind when he began developing the invention. He wanted to make it easy for people to get back on the land. A portable house would make it possible to lease land instead of buying it outright and it would be treated as personal property and not as an improvement—so he conjectures, and this would ease the transition period from our present land and tax conditions to those ideal conditions in which land would be free and labor untaxed. Mr. McCaig believes that workmen must be able to change quickly from labor in shops to self-support on the land.

George J. Knapp writes from Pueblo, Colo., "Pueblo is hard hit by the depression, but many here know the remedy. I have not found one here who voted for Single Tax in 1913 who will not vote for it again. Hon. John A. Martin, in whose care I am getting my mail here, was a member of Congress in 1913, when I passed the Single Tax amendment in this city. At that time he came out publicly for it in a big hand-bill with his signature on it. He urged all to vote for the Single Tax amendment. Mr. Martin has just been elected to Congress again in the last election, after he had been out of politics for years. His views of Single Tax have not changed and he is the type of man who doesn't play politics. I expect Mr. Martin to introduce some Single Tax legislation in the new Congress."

On Saturday, January 21, a public meeting is to be held in honor of Hon. George A. Schilling, Labor Commissioner under Governor John P. Altgeld, 1892-1896, and former Commissioner of Public Works in Chicago. He is eighty-two years old and active continually in the Single Tax cause. The meeting will take place in the Central Y. M. C. A. Building. Margaret Haley, Clarence Darrow, and Carl D. Thompson are among those who are expected to be present.

The importance of the land question is indicated by the following editorial from the New York *Evening Post*, reproduced in the Chicago *Daily News*, December 21, 1932:

HOMESTEADING AGAIN

Further evidence of the drift of population back to the soil comes from the annual report of the United States land office, one of the few government bureaus that show a profit for the year. According to Commissioner Charles C. Moore, 4,551,774 acres of public land were taken up as homesteads during the fiscal year that ended last June 30. During the previous ten years the total acreage homesteaded was only about 4,000,000. In one depression year, therefore, more persons filed claims to available homestead lands than in the preceding decade. This is all the more remarkable in consideration of the fact that virtually all the really desirable homestead land was taken up before the war and that the remaining desirable acreage was largely claimed immediately thereafter, when the returning soldiers applied their war service to their homestead rights.

SOUTHERN SINGLE TAX NEWS ITEMS

Fairhope, Ala.—The School of Organic Education at Fairhope, Alabama, celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary on Friday, November 4. In so doing it paid tribute to the idealism and inspiring leadership of its founder and director, Mrs. Marietta Johnson.

The Organic School is more than a school—it is a living expression of the principles of creative freedom in education, as the Fairhope Single Tax Colony is an expression of those principles in economic life.

Houston, Tex.—Houston continues to honor the memory of its great assessor and mayor of fifteen years ago, Joseph Pastoriza. It is now the second largest city in the South and few would question that its progress has been largely due to the impetus given by Pastoriza's policy of extra-legally taxing improvements less and land values more. While the exemption of improvements is not as great now as it was under Pastoriza, the extra-legal discrimination in favor of improvements has not been totally abandoned. In 1931 improve-

ments paid 38 per cent of the taxes, land values 49 per cent and personal property 13 per cent.

Mrs. H. F. Ring, widow of the late "anonymous author" of "The Problem of the Unemployed," is living with her son, Robert Ring, attorney, in Houston.

San Antonio, Tex.—Against what would seem overwhelming odds to most people, William A. Black has kept the Single Tax before the people of Texas for sixteen years without a let up. The Single Tax League of Texas was organized at a State convention in Dallas, March 16 and 17, 1916. Mr. Black was elected secretary and as such he has served since that time.

For four years, 1918-1922, Mr. Black served as a member of the Texas legislature. He knows his Texas—its history, its industries, its problems, and its people. His weekly letter-articles to the country newspapers are printed in all parts of the State. His visits in the principal cities are watched for by all who know him and appreciate his vast and accurate fund of information and the greatness of his work.

Mr. Black is engaged in making Texas Single Tax-minded. The Single Tax League of Texas numbers among its supporting members not only individual Single Taxers but some of the leading industries and public utilities of the State that see in the Single Tax more business for all.

Mr. Black celebrated his seventy-fifth birthday on November 8. Mrs. Black is a close co-worker with him in the offices of the League which are beautifully situated in the Smith-Young Tower, a modern, centrally-located office building.

Mr. H. E. Kincaid, city planner of San Antonio, is a new recruit to the Texas Single Tax ranks. He sees in the elimination of land speculation one of the benefits to the city beautiful. Furthermore he points out that land values are the logical and just source of revenue for city planning projects.

Dallas, Texas.—"The Pitchfork—An Humble Implement with a Wide Range of Usefulness" is a monthly magazine in its 26th year with a circulation of 16,000, edited and published in Dallas by a dynamic Single Taxer, Wilford B. "Pitchfork" Smith. Resembling John Z. White in many ways, Pitchfork Smith was converted to the Single Tax by Mr. White in Kansas City some thirty years ago. And we use the word, converted, advisedly. Pitchfork Smith says that to be a Single Taxer you've got to have "religion on the land question." Accept that religion and the fiscal method of applying it will be readily grasped. The Single Tax is a by-product, he says, of the realization that "to be disassociated from the land is disaster. Man is a land animal—an economic relationship exists there that must not be tampered with by landlords, politicians, or others."

A SINGLE TAX MARRIAGE

Miss Helen SeEVERS and J. Edward Jones, prominent young Single Taxers of Chicago, were married on Wednesday evening, November 30. Mr. Jones's father, Rev. Charles A. Jones, officiated at the ceremony which took place in the home of the bride's brother, Arthur Grant Turner. Miss Dora Green sang. Mr. and Mrs. Henry L. T. Tideman, Mr. Henry H. Hardinge, Mr. George M. Strachan, Mrs. Dora Welty, Mr. Maurice Welty, Mrs. Maybelle Brooks, and Mr. and Mrs. John Lawrence Monroe were among the fifty friends present who joined in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Jones a long and happy life together.

ELECTION OF SINGLE TAXERS NOVEMBER 8

The Single Tax movement extends congratulations to James Pinkney Pope upon his recent election to the United States Senate from Idaho on the Democratic ticket. A member of the Henry George Lecture Association since 1916, Senator Pope has served as assistant Attorney-General of Idaho and as Mayor of Boise.

Senator Pope was born on a farm in central Louisiana, near Jones-

ville, and attended the public schools there. Ambitious, he surmounted difficulties to continue his studies at Louisiana Polytechnic Institute in Ruston, and later at the University of Chicago. He went to Idaho to carve out his career and by outstanding ability won success.

From that ardent and able young Single Taxer of Seattle, Washington, C. Arlin Nave, we learn of election victories in his State that bid well for the success of the Single Tax movement. Among the elected is Mr. Louis Nash, a thoroughly versed Single Taxer, as County Commissioner. The other elected County Commissioner, John C. Stevenson, is a fighter, too, and judging from his talks and paper, the *Weekly Broadcast*, which he publishes, he is the next thing to being a Single Taxer. The same is true of Senator-elect Homer T. Bone, of Tacoma, who quoted Henry George in his address at the Democratic Banquet, November 12. Hon. Marion Zioncheck, Congressman-elect from the first district, campaigned along with Nash and Stevenson. All these men received a large majority in spite of the fact that Mayor Dore classed them as radicals and hired a radio each day to speak against them. Mr. Morrow of the forty-fifth district, a Single Taxer, was elected State Senator. He is a live wire and has a son in the twenties who is active also.

Hon. Robert Crosser, Single Taxer, was reelected to Congress from Cleveland as a Democrat. Ed. F. Alexander, Cincinnati attorney and Single Taxer, appears to have been defeated in his attempt to be elected to Congress on the Democratic ticket.

JOHN LAWRENCE MONROE.

An Important Move Defeated

PORTLAND, Ore. has over 9,000 lots that it has had to take over due to delinquent taxes and assessments. The city of Portland has been unable to sell these lots, but in order to get them back on the tax roll, the city council submitted a charter amendment, November 8, 1932, to the voters of Portland, which would have given the city council authority to lease for any number of years not exceeding 99 years, such parcels of land as were not needed for public use.

The proposed amendment was lost by a majority of 4,353, the vote being 44,773 for, and 49,126 against.

This amendment left the details of the leasing of this land to the city council, but there were a few conditions required in the amendment. Here are the principal ones:

The lessee was to pay all taxes and assessments levied against the property, the same as any other property owner. In case of releasing, the lessee was to have preference. This provision would protect the lessee who had improved the land. This procedure, as a general rule, is followed in private leases.

This amendment provided for three appraisers; one appointed by the city council, another appointed by the lessee, and the third by the first two appraisers.

All expense incurred in connection with carrying out the provisions of the amendment was to be paid out of the assessment collection fund or such fund as might be designated by the city council. Thus any real estate man who leased land for the city would have been paid a commission for his services.

This amendment also gave the city council authority to

enact such ordinances as might be necessary to carry into effect the provisions of the amendment.

This amendment gave the city council the authority to make leases for any number of years not exceeding 99 years. There were specifications for the valuation on which land rent would be based for 7 year, 35 year, and 99 year leases. A 35 year lease to be revalued every 7 years, a 99 year lease to be revalued at the end of each 10 year period; the rent of a 7 year lease to be based on the initial valuation. Land bought for future use was to have paid 6 per cent rent of its valuation.

There was opposition from three principal sources; real estate men, the *Oregon Voter*, and the Portland City Club. *The Oregon Voter*, a weekly magazine, published by C. C. Chapman, who keeps the business people in the Pacific Northwest posted on economics, finances, taxation, and all public matters, whether local, state, or federal. Mr. Chapman may not admit it, but he represents special privilege. The study of this leasing amendment by the Portland City Club was made by two real estate men, one lawyer, and the editor of a banking publication. The recommendation by the above committee against this amendment was made at the regular luncheon at the end of the speaker's talk and was rushed through without any discussion so that the city club might adjourn on time. The Portland City Club, as a general rule, is very progressive, tolerant, and thoughtful. It is a powerful influence in the community. Other recommendation by this club this year were against the oleomargarine tax (10c per pound), the increase on the State income tax, and the chain store tax. It seems to me if the Portland City Club had had the time to discuss this leasing amendment, or had had a different kind of a study committee, its decision might have been different.

The day before election real estate men demanded that the Portland City Council withdraw this charter amendment, but the council stood firmly on its own ground.

The amendment, if passed, would have approximately collected the gross ground rent from the 9,000 vacant lots. That is the ground rent collected from taxes on land values plus the ground rent collected by the City of Portland on its leases would have been a sum equal to the gross ground rent.

I haven't the inside dope on the framing of this amendment; so I do not know if there were those that really knew what they were about, or if the city council unwittingly planned this leasing amendment to get the vacant land back on the tax duplicate.—EDNA LASKEY.

ENDING June 30, 1932, 1,200 overseas vessels entered Sydney Harbor, compared with 1,367 during the previous twelve months; a diminution of nearly half a million net tons. Extinction is our fate unless we unshackle our trade.—*Progress*, Melbourne, Aus.