

Many inquiries have been received and much discussion has been aroused. And it might be well to here emphasize the importance of having such a sign furnish the address of some one or some organization where appropriate literature can be secured; for the passer-by whose attention has been awakened will often make a note of such address and communicate with the proper party, whereas he may otherwise permit the whole subject to pass from his mind. It is not necessary to have much of an organization for this specific purpose; anyone can call himself the "Jonesville Single Tax Club," and give the post office authorities instructions as to where to deliver mail so addressed.

The sign board of the New York Single Tax League (see frontispiece) is one of many similar the League expect will be erected in different places in the State of New York by Single Taxers who favor this method of propaganda.

The letters of the words "Poverty and Land Monopoly" are each three feet high.

It may be that some Single Taxers would prefer a different motto; the one pictured was adopted after careful consideration of a great number. When all the conditions are weighed the effectiveness of this motto will be more apparent. It is one that will arrest the wandering attention of a passenger in a rapidly moving train, idly viewing the landscape from the window. A terse, snappy, thought-provoking sentence that can be comprehended at a glance, is absolutely necessary. The first sight visions only the sign board itself; because of its unusual reading matter, seeing it repeatedly, the idea conveyed by the words will finally find lodgment in the consciousness of the readers. Some will become actively hostile, others passively acquiescent, while others of thoughtful mind will be curious and want to know more about the Single Tax, and that desire to know is the first essential step to the making of a Single Taxer and propagandist.

The Single Tax reform is still in its educational stage, and will be for a long time. It will emerge from this stage as soon as we

have properly done our work, which is to agitate and educate, applying in this vitally important field that we have chosen for our life's work the homely, but pertinent truth to which we, in our business affairs, attach so much importance:

"The man who whispers down the well
About the goods he has to sell,
Will never reap the shining dollars
Like the man who climbs a tree—
and hollers."

EVERY now and then some one who has been a Single Taxer for a number of years, acting with us, voting with us, preaching with us, awakes to a realization of what the Single Tax really is. He never knew what it meant. He runs away from it with something very like horror. He then tells the world that of course the Single Tax is all right, but it is too radical and revolutionary for early adoption; it should be attained by very slow and gradual steps, and in about fifty years he would welcome it, and the world would be ready for it.

Such men are more dangerous foes of the movement than its open and declared opponents.

FROM THE FIELD

JAMES F. MORTON, JR. WRITES OF HIS LECTURE WORK

June is not much of a lecture month; and a bare statement of the field activities at the fag-end of the season cannot fail to appear meagre in its suggestion of accomplishment. The month, however, was far from being an idle one; and from some phases of the work done results of no mean importance are probable. The most notable opportunity to spread the good news of economic justice was offered by the annual convention of the Western New York Federation of Women's Clubs. This gathering was held in the town of Webster, near Rochester, and had a large attendance of leaders in progressive women's activities. It is not too much to say that the Single Tax message was greeted with positive enthusiasm and the many questions which

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-