

tage, Birkenhead" and signed by McHugh. In acknowledging the communication I congratulated the writer on his courage in thus nailing his colors to the mast, and expressed my sympathy with the principles he so openly avowed. I more than suspect that it was the fact of having thus committed myself to a stranger that set me thinking more seriously than before, and that led to my ultimately identifying myself with the Scottish League for the taxation of land values. May I present this incident as another example of the wisdom of the man who keeps his ideal always on evidence, and lets no opportunity slip of sowing a thought-provoking seed?

The details of Mr. McHugh's career as labor organizer and Single Tax propagandist are given so fully and succinctly in *The Public* for April 23, that it would be sheer plagiarism to repeat them. While I have always known of his titanic labors and achievements on behalf of the dock laborers union, the crofters in Skye, and in connection with the Irish Land League, it was in connection with Single Tax propaganda that my orbit to some extent intersected with that of Mr. McHugh, and there my admiration has always been divided between his power as a speaker and the kindly humorous and fascinating personality to which I have already referred. During the great Budget campaign of 1909 it was my privilege on a platform on Glasgow Green at the open-air demonstration held there, and on which Mr. McHugh was one of the chief speakers, and I shall not soon forget the forceful stirring speech in which he held a large audience in breathless attention.

Like all great fighters in just causes, Edward McHugh would, we may feel sure, have elected to die with his armor on, and that this desire has been granted him may well be assumed. Though all public reform propaganda in Great Britain has necessarily been suspended since the outbreak of the European war, it would be difficult to conceive of our lamented friend while strength remained with him, being other than a fighter for the cause he had so deeply at heart. To all who knew him, he will be permanently enrolled among the great

company of "those immortal dead who live again lives made better by their presence."
—ALEX. MACKENDRICK.

THE CAMPAIGN IN COLORADO SPRINGS—BEATEN BUT GAINING.

A meeting of the executive committee of the Colorado Springs Single Tax Club was called for January 20, 1915, to make a final decision on the question of submitting an amendment to the charter of the city providing for the adoption of Single Tax for municipal purposes. Previous to this meeting, we had been hoping for a long time to have a Single Tax campaign. A year before, Geo. J. Knapp had been engaged to copy the schedules of all tax payers, for the purpose of calculating who would save taxes by the Single Tax. The purpose was to send a letter to each taxpayer that saved, a statement as to how his taxes would be affected by the passage of municipal Single Tax. At this meeting there were present Dr. and Mrs. George A. Boyd, J. M. Poe, Dr. and Mrs. W. K. Sinton, Judge Robert Kerr, Mr. P. W. Bogardus, Dr. F. S. McKay, (president), and Mrs. S. E. Solly. Mr. J. W. McCleery, of Kansas City, was also present. There was considerable discussion as to the advisability of submitting the law; only two considered that it could be carried, and the others were either neutral or sure of defeat. Mr. Poe urged with great earnestness that we ought to submit the law, even if certain of defeat, in order to give the voters a chance to educate themselves upon the question, and to introduce the idea as soon as possible. He therefore made a motion that we proceed with the campaign with what funds were available. The motion was seconded, and carried with two votes dissenting.

At this meeting Judge Kerr submitted three rough drafts of proposed Single Tax amendment. The forms did not differ in essence but only in technicalities. He recommended the selection of the shortest one. By a vote of four to three the committee left the matter to his judgment.

Later Mr. Kerr cast aside all three forms in favor of a very short, understandable one. The amendment follows:

(1.) Personal property and the products of labor and all improvements in or upon land are hereby declared to be exempt from taxation for municipal purposes in the City of Colorado Springs, such exemption to become effective on and after Jan. 1st, 1916.

Provided, that nothing in this amendment shall be construed to abolish or in anywise affect such licenses or taxes as usually come within the police powers of the city.

(2.) On and after January the first, 1916, land, exclusive of all improvements thereon and all interests in land, including easements, privileges, and rights of way over private land, and franchises in public roads, streets and alleys shall always be subject to taxation for municipal purposes.

Provided, that nothing in this amendment shall be construed as imposing any tax on or subjecting to taxation any property exempt therefrom by the Constitution of the State of Colorado.

(3.) The purpose of this amendment is to have installed and have put into effect in the City of Colorado Springs what is known as the Single Tax for municipal purposes, and to that end the Council is hereby instructed and directed, on the adoption of this amendment, to provide by ordinance some just and equitable system for the valuation and assessment of land and interests in land for taxation; and also to provide by ordinance such other rules and regulations concerning taxation for municipal purposes as may be requisite or necessary to carry out the purpose of this amendment.

Anything in the Charter of the City of Colorado Springs or in any of its several sections in conflict or inconsistent with the provisions of this amendment to Article VII is hereby repealed."

By this time the period allowed for the securing of signatures and filing with the city clerk was drawing dangerously close, and the committee found it necessary to hire part of this done. On Monday, March 1, the petition was filed with over 1,300 names, nearly three times as many as nec-

essary. The number required for a Charter Amendment is 5% of the last vote for governor within the city limits, and 476 was the number, if I remember rightly, certified to by the City Clerk.

Shortly after the filing of the petition, the anti-Single Taxers, who had been laying low to see whether we would submit the amendment, opened up their campaign under the title "The Just Taxation League," and a few days after this, big headlines in the daily papers announced the arrival of Mr. Chas. H. Shields, of Seattle, who was to handle the campaign for their side. In one day they raised \$2,000, from the Clearing House Association, the Real Estate Exchange, and several big land companies. They raised a total of at least \$6,000, that we know of, but judging from the amount of money appearing to be spent, the probabilities are that it was nearer the \$10,000 mark. This was about six or seven times as much as we had been able to raise among sympathizers in the town with all the other Single Taxers of the U. S. together.

No sooner had the opposition organized than they commenced an aggressive campaign, besides which ours sunk into insignificance. This is not to disparage our own efforts, because we had already had our McCleery before some dozen organizations, and put out several pieces of literature, together with the proposed amendment, in the hands of a large fraction of the voters of the city. The enemy had every advantage of us. They were furnished the ground floor of a prominent new building known as the Bennett Building, the windows of which soon appeared thickly covered with cartoons ridiculing the Single Tax, across the bottom of the window a large banner was placed in the window all the way across, with several such sentences as "We must make land common property, Henry George," and "If private property in land be just, then the remedy I have proposed (Single Tax) is unjust." This display attracted a great deal of attention from passers-by, and we had no effective way of combating it.

Mr. D. W. Buchmann, of Winnepeg, did us a great deal of good, by a speech and several newspaper interviews.

Early in the campaign the two newspapers the *Colorado Springs Gazette* and the *Evening Telegraph* came out against us. The *Gazette* should logically have supported us, for it is progressive in politics, and usually has a very liberal attitude on public questions. Unquestionably its opposition was due to the fact that the owner is a large owner of vacant property in the city. Nevertheless, it is to its credit to say that it was much fairer in its attitude than that of the *Telegraph*.

On March 16, Mr. Bigelow, of Cincinnati, arrived to aid us in prosecution of our side of the question. We arranged a number of public meetings for him, and he had a great influence. He made a number of people into Single Taxers who were not in position at that time to make public their position. Mr. Bigelow addressed several street meetings at which he is a master. We were unfortunate in having about a week of very bad weather during his stay. Had it not been for this, unquestionably we would have had a thousand more votes on our side, for Bigelow had little difficulty in getting the crowds with him. As an example of his campaigning ability, I may say that he drew together a crowd on a very cold, windy day, and held two hundred people there for an hour and a half, under the most disagreeable conditions.

After Mr. Bigelow's departure on the 26th, we lost ground rapidly. The enemy waged a whirlwind campaign of misrepresentation and abuse, the keynote of which was that Single Tax was "confiscation of private property in land." The voters were told that their land titles would be insecure, that they would lose their homes, that the rich would escape taxation, and that the Single Tax would spell universal disaster. The "antis" hired about a score of workers to visit every home in the city to scare the people in every way possible. Under the circumstances, as the people naturally knew very little regarding the exact meaning of our philosophy, large numbers voted against it, not because they disapproved of it, but because they were afraid.

Mr. John Z. White arrived on the first of April and went to Pueblo where he debated

the Single Tax question with Mr. Chas. H. Shields before the real estate men of that city. We know that he made a very strong impression.

We were able to arrange only two meetings of any size for Mr. White. He really arrived too late to accomplish much of value, but while we did have him, we were made to realize that he was the proper man to meet Shields—the champion misrepresenter. The latter does not falsify directly, but has a happy faculty (for his side of the case) in quoting isolated sentences and paragraphs from Henry George and reading them in a manner that is utterly confusing to the average man. White is logician and lawyer enough to make a fool of him.

Election Day was on April 6, and here again we were unfortunate, for the weather turned out to be cold and rainy. The official vote was 7241 against our 944. When you consider all the circumstances, it is not surprising that we were so badly defeated. We were not well organized, and had great difficulty in agreeing on a policy. One half of our literature was distributed before the enemy came out in opposition, and the people did not commence to take much interest in the matter until the enemy by their expenditures made it so prominent. However, as McCleery, the veteran Missouri campaigner says, concerning the enemy's policy of scaring voters: "You have got to start your campaign, let the enemy scare them into the realization that the Single Tax is a question of importance, and then after the election and in future work, get them out of it again."

Few of us feel that the campaign was a mistake, because there can be no question that much educational work was done; many influential people were converted whose change of mind will bear fruit in the future, and the Single Tax has been so advertised that future articles on the subject will be read. It is now up to us to organize on a solid basis, a basis that was impossible while the people were so indifferent to the question, and to educate the people in preparation for future elections. As our veteran John Z. White says: "We never lose." Our attitude must ever be that of

Arthur Hugh Clough, the poet, when he says:

"Say not the struggle naught availeth,
The labor and the wounds are vain,
The enemy faints not nor faileth,
And as things have been they remain.

"If hopes were dupes, fears may be liars:
It may be in yon smoke concealed,
Your comrades chase e'en now the fliers,
And but for you possess the field."

As a matter of fact we know that the Single Tax campaign in this city has already had a good moral effect. Men who heretofore have been placing their investments in land for speculative purposes see that the Single Tax is coming, and are preparing to withdraw these investments, as occasion arises, and cease to invest in this kind of non-productive business. They see the handwriting on the wall.—ERNEST SINTON.

IN the *Labor Journal*, of Everett, Wash., Theodore Teepe contributes a series of articles on the Single Tax in which the truths of our teaching are forcibly and simply stated.

MR. CHAS. S. THOMPSON, of Vancouver, writes respecting the present business depression in Canada: "This is attributed by many shallow thinkers to the war. I do not agree with them, for while the war might have contributed somewhat to hasten the financial trouble, on the other hand it has done something, too, to retard its coming. It has taken directly and indirectly nearly 200,000 men from the labor market, and has occasioned a demand for over \$200,000,000 of war material. The depression is due rather to the high price of land forced up by speculation. I looked for it years before it came."

TO ANY organization the Manhattan Single Tax Club will furnish lecturers on demand.

HAWORTH, N. J., is a flourishing and enterprising town. A correspondent from that place says the Single Tax would carry there if put to a vote.

EXTRACTS FROM CONTEMPORARY SOURCES.

A GOOD SIMILE.

There are two ways of enslaving a man. One way is to restrain his person by artificial means. Such was chattel slavery. Another means of enslaving a man is to deny him free access to the passive factor of production—land.

If you had a well filled pantry and a good healthy boy, you could keep him out of the pantry in two ways. You could restrain his person by locking him in a room, or you could allow his person to be free and put the pantry under a strong lock and key. The latter describes the means by which labor is enslaved today.—Theodore Teepe in *Labor Journal*, Everett, Wash.

THE RIGHT OF A MAN TO A JOB.

That these two conditions—many men out of work and much work needing to be done—can exist side by side seems to indicate in itself an impossible situation and to show that in some way the function of government has not been largely enough interpreted. The State has not fulfilled its mission unless it meets this problem and solves it. Men wanting to work and work needing to be done should be brought together and it seems to be incumbent on government, the machinery through which organized society works, to bring them together.—Otis H. Moore in *The Survey*, April 10.

"POVERTY MUST BE DESTROYED."

This was the subject of a sermon recently delivered by Dr. J. Leonard Levy in the Jewish Temple. These words at once attract our attention. Should we not be interested? Such a subject is unusual among church announcements. Such discussions are unfortunately rare in our churches. We have long felt the need for consideration of the great social problem—poverty—and after having the privilege of hearing this eloquent address, we most