

## COMMUNICATIONS.

FROM MERVYN J. STEWART.

Editor *Single Tax Review*:

Our Ministry? Might be worse, though Bagot is right in his distrust. It is all right so long as we do not support them because they are liberals, and no more. They more and more lean on us, and we can bear all the strain and welcome it. Walter Runciman is now Minister of Education here (same as Fowlds in N. Z.—a good S. T. billet) but will hardly do much. Josiah C. Weidgwood is his private secretary and has full faith in him. Almost all the new under secretaries taken in to strengthen the Cabinet with the House are very well disposed to us—Col. Seely (Colonies) C. F. G. Masterman (Local Govt.) and McKinnon Wood (Education) in particular—the latter is “fra Glesca”, and Liberal leader on London County Council. Asquith is absolutely uncommitted and if he likes may be honest yet, but his wife is sister to Tennant (Bart.) who was lately asked to resign by his Liberal constituents for anti-land reform votes; he is a ‘multi’ landlord, his sister has wide holdings. Asquith is a penniless charity boy lawyer now making a lot by land through his wife. But so far he has not hampered us.

I have an article in *Westminster Review* for March, may be worth your while to read. It is my first in a big monthly and has received some praise and request for another which is now sent. Weidgwood has an altogether admirable article in April No. of *Socialist Review*, which you might very well reprint.

I hear the first elections of local bodies in New South Wales under the new law for local Single Tax (compulsory for 1d in £1, optional by local body subject to D. L. vote of ratepayers either way, for higher amount needed) has been a triumph for our folk. Many Single Taxers are elected and the proportion of those pledged to tax site values only is about 8 to 1, so any referendum votes organized are to be as we see fit, I fancy! Thank God for Hector Carruthers, the more that his health gave way before he could fall short of our expectations! It is hardly possible

to estimate the effect in State and Federal politics of this the greatest and most widespread Single Tax victory that ever was—at least many secret believers will dare to show their colours, and the silly Labour party will probably modify their proposal in interest of popularity of £5,000 exemption from l. v. tax. It is all very good. I have no news from New Zealand: the heavy surtax on estates of over £40,000 site value was passed last session without any opposition. I don't think it will have much effect, and the local S. T. votes and figures give us a good fulcrum next time the lever is applied. Things seem quiet now. But the November general election may lead to developments.

With best wishes for yourself and the magazine which you conduct with such signal ability and impartiality

MERVYN JAS. STEWART.

FALMOUTH, Eng.

## LOOKS FOR GOOD RESULTS FROM ORGANIZATION.

Editor *Single Tax Review*:

Your efforts to place the Single Tax before the public deserves the support of all Single Taxers throughout the world. As units working alone it is much harder to accomplish the good that would result from organized effort. The light is breaking, however, and we should feel much encouraged.

W. O. BLASE.

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio.

## HIGH PRAISE FOR THE REVIEW.

Editor *Single Tax Review*:

A friend to whom I sent a copy of the *Single Tax REVIEW* writes: “Thanks for the *REVIEW*. To take it up after the daily paper is like stepping into a pure atmosphere from a room foul with many breaths.”

MARY J. JACQUES.

ARLINGTON, Mass.

JOHN F. FORD, once editor of the *Single Tax Courier*, has left Brooklyn this month for San Bernardino, from which place he will proceed to San Francisco, where he will make his home.