

SINGLE TAX REVIEW

An Illustrated Bi-Monthly Magazine
of Single Tax Progress.

Edited and Published by

JOSEPH DANA MILLER, at 150 Nassau St.
New York

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE:—In the United
States Canada and Mexico, \$1.00 per
year. Payable in advance.

Entered at the Post-office, New York, as Second
Class Matter.

MARCH-APRIL, 1914.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

WHOEVER receive the ground rent of a
community are its masters.

WE are reminded by J. K. Musgrave of
Bedford, England, that we were in error
speaking in our last issue (page 51) of "the
late Ignatius Singer." Our apologies are
due to Mr. Singer for what Mark Twain
would have called this exaggerated re-
port of his condition. Mr. Singer is alive
and well, and recently visited the United
States on business. But few knew of it,
which fact is to be regretted, for American
Single Taxers would have delighted to
welcome the author of the Story of My
Dictatorship.

APROPOS of Mr. Joseph Fink's account
in our last issue of the attempts of the
police of this city to suppress our meetings
in this city, Mr. Dooley in the N. Y. Times
of Feb. 15 says, in his discussion of the
duties of Police Commissioner addressed to
Col. Goethals: "It will be your privilege to
raid the unwholesome Single Tax meeting."
Dooley will have his joke.

REFERRING to the measure to halve the
tax rate, Prof. E. R. A. Seligman says that
it is a measure least suited to a referendum
because it "involves considerations that

the ordinary man in the street utterly fails
to grasp." The way the professorial class
grasp it is a caution if Mr. Seligman is a
sample.

JOSEPH FELS.

Joseph Fels died in Philadelphia at the
home of his closest friend, Earl Barnes, on
Sunday, Feb. 22, after a brief illness that
developed into pneumonia.

Mr. Fels was born at Halifax County,
Virginia, and received his early education
in Baltimore. While still a young man he
came to Philadelphia and started with his
father and brothers in the soap business.
In 1891 he married Miss Mollie Fels, a dis-
tant relative, of Keokuk, Iowa. Through
the growth of his business and land specu-
lation he amassed a great fortune. He was
the pioneer in the profit-sharing system.
He is survived by a widow and three broth-
ers. These are the simple facts of his life.

He was buried from the home of his
brother, Maurice Fels, on Wednesday, Feb.
25. The ceremony was an extremely sim-
ple one. The body lay in the front parlor,
and very life-like seemed the quiet face in
its last repose, the arms folded across the
breast, the busy brain done with its work,
the active, eager spirit hushed in its final
sleep. Standing on the stairs the Rabbi,
Dr. Henry Berkowitz, delivered the funeral
address, simple and beautiful and very ap-
propriate to the occasion. This appears
elsewhere in this issue.

Lincoln Steffens then spoke as follows:

"A great light is breaking upon the world.
All of us see it; a little, as from afar. It
shone directly upon, it filled the whole be-
ing, of that great man whose little body
lies there before us. And it filled him with
joy. We shall think of him always, not
with sorrow, but with joy, as a joyous, joy-
giving spirit.

There is joy in the truth which burns in
this great light that he bore. For this is
that truth: Wherever there is an evil in the
world, there is a cause for it; a removable
cause; and we can remove it when we shall
want to do so really, all of us, as he did.

This is the simple, scientific truth which
illuminated our friend, and as long as that

light shall live, he will live; he and his gladness."

The burial was at Mt. Sinai Cemetery, Frankford, Pa. The honorary pallbearers were Lawson Purdy, Lincoln Steffens, Frederic C. Howe, Bolton Hall, S. G. Rosenbaum, John T. McRoy, Benjamin W. Heubusch, Henry George, Jr., Warren W. Bailey, Louis F. Post, Francis Fisher Kane, Earl Barnes, Francis I. duPont, Daniel Kiefer and Samuel Milliken.

Others who went from New York to the funeral were William Lustgarten, Hon. John J. Murphy, Benjamin Doblin, Edward Polak and J. D. Miller.

Single Taxers know the history of the Joseph Fels Fund, they know of Mr. Fels' lavish gifts to the movement, amounting to something in excess of a hundred thousand a year. But he gave more than his money, as so often has been said—he gave himself. Without that his money would not have so greatly counted as an influence. But he threw himself into the movement with heart and soul and with all the tremendous energy of which he was possessed. It was not so much that he had got hold of a truth as that the truth had got hold of him, and would not let him go. His influence in England was perhaps even greater than here, and even Lloyd George himself is said to have derived much of his inspiration from the fiery little American. Certainly he was greatly feared by the friends and organs of privilege on the other side of the water. If ever a man was possessed of what the Greeks called a *dæmon* it was the little manufacturer from the city of Philadelphia; the warmth of his conviction fairly radiated from him; it consumed his very soul; it communicated itself to others with whom he came in contact. His was a very potent influence. His contribution to the cause outside of the money he gave was signal and lasting. His name will be associated in history with the movement which gave us George and Johnson. It was his ambition to be so remembered, and he has earned it in generous measure.

W. S. U'REN has announced that he will run as an independent candidate for Governor of Oregon.

JOHN SHERWIN CROSBY.

There has never been a more thrilling voice, a more benign and impressive presence, a more luminous countenance on any Single Tax platform, perhaps on any platform, than were presented in the person of John S. Crosby. His soul was played upon by all the calls of a suffering humanity, and his sensitive spirit answered the call with an eloquence that swept with manifold emotions the souls of his hearers. It has often been said that he was a born actor, and his personal appearance has many times been compared to that of Edwin Booth. While the histrionic talent was plainly manifest, his was the art of the actor who lives his part. At no time was there even a hint of the meretricious, which even in the qualities of great actors at times affects us unpleasantly.

His was the sweetest and bravest soul whom it was ever our privilege to know personally. His geniality was most unaffected, his temper most even, his charity so boundless that I do not believe any of us ever heard from him a caustic criticism of any man's personality. His denunciation often rose to the very height of Demosthenic passion, but it was not the denunciation of men, but of evil systems, and when it was necessary for him to refer to persons rather than conditions he lapsed into that playful humor with which his most transcendent flights alternated with a rapidity that made his oratory an art of constant surprises.

What a voice was his! Few who heard can ever forget the words, and the majesty with which they were spoken, when the great leader lay in state at the Grand Central Palace. The words and manner were fitting to the great occasion.

"This man had a theory—was said to be a man of one idea. If that theory be false, that idea a mere vagary, why, as he passes away, does the world rise and stand uncovered in honor of the man who proclaimed it? It is the natural, universally spontaneous recognition of Henry George's theory as an essential part of God's eternal truth. One word about this theory of his. Much has been truly and eloquently said in regard to the probable effects of its