

Liberals would stay lost in the political wilderness. They (the Liberals) wanted to come out other ways than ours, but they had to come our way, or get lost again for another spell.

In an eloquent moment Mr. Gladstone once said, "Ireland blocks the way." These words rang through the Liberal ranks like a call to winter quarters, but we had no listening ear for that sort of "call." We couldn't just understand what we had done to Ireland that she should "block our way," so we just kept pegging away quite confident that what "blocked the way" to the Taxation of Land Values, was the ignorance of the mass of the people.

In due course when the Municipal Bills for the Taxation of Land Values came before Parliament from 1902 to 1906, the Irish Members of Parliament voted for them to a man. The Irish M. P.'s like other M. P.'s, waited till the question came to them; that is a way M. P.'s as a rule have; they always act when they are sure how their supporters wish them to act.

I could only smile when I read Mr. Eggleston's comment that "Neither Paul nor Orr are able to make sound judgments with reference to facts with which they are not familiar."

As I have already stated, this is all very true, but the words and their import recall old memories to me; they come like an echo of the past. How often have I not had it said to me, by the politicians here, of all shades of opinion, and by the Municipal Reformers, who wanted "to do something now" for housing, unemployment, and all the rest, that my enthusiasm for land values and my wilful ignoring of the "facts" constantly interfered with my "sound judgment."

I was once a candidate for the Town Council of Glasgow, and the general verdict after my first speech was that I knew all about the land question, and very little about other questions! That was very true, (I mean my ignorance of the other questions) but I consoled myself with the reflection that the fellows who pronounced this verdict were laboring under the common delusion that motion meant progress!

These were the halcyon days of my life. I came along daily through a perfect cres-

cendo of amazement at my own ignorance!

I have written these views as a Single Taxer, interested in our efficiency at every point, and as your friend and colleague. After all, we each of us have only a limited amount of time, energy, and money, to make for the "promised land;" and it is in this spirit, in the spirit of a deep abiding interest in all our mutual affairs as Single Taxers, that I have written.

When the politicians of the United States get that "move" on, it will be a bad day for us unless the "move" is in our direction. As it appears to me, this can only happen if the public sentiment for us is deep and wide enough to edge them our way; and I am convinced that unless the Single Taxers make this public sentiment, no one else will, for no one else can.—  
JOHN PAUL.

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#### ACTIVITIES OF THE LAND VALUE TAX PARTY.

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The Executive Committee and members of the Land Value Tax party have not been idle for the past two months. Wednesday night meetings have been regularly held at the corner of 125th Street and Seventh Ave., this city, and Messrs. Darling, Mitchell, Wallace and Kelly have made many speeches. On Labor Day a specially prepared circular letter addressed to the labor paraders was circulated to the number of five thousand. A special letter addressed to the diners was placed at the plate of every one present at the George Anniversaary dinner of the Manhattan Single Tax Club at Coney Island.

The constitution of the party is now ready for distribution to the party members. Those not affiliated can secure copies of this constitution by enclosing ten cents to the Treasurer, W. J. Wallace, 233 Mt. Prospect Ave., Newark, N. J.

The Chairman of the Executive Committee has received the following letter from Washington State and it is printed as an interesting contribution from a believer in the independent party idea:

"I have noticed the formation of a Single Tax party. This meets with my ideas exactly, and I fervently hope it will meet with the success which the principle merits.

I cannot agree with those who believe in the League and interparty methods of propaganda. I fancy if evidence is needed as to the superiority of the party principle, one needs but to look at the astonishing growth of 'Collectivist' socialism. I cannot attribute it to the merit of their economic principles, for I have found too many enthusiasts of their number who are ignorant of them, and have but imperfect ideas of their bearing. It is due, in my opinion, to organization of the sentiment against existing abuses, and the providing of a method whereby that sentiment can find active expression, or at least satisfaction from, a ballot-box protest. And since balloting is the nearest we can come to fighting for what we want—and ballots nearest bullets—it gives an outlet to the militant energies of men whose power would otherwise atrophy and enthusiasm wane.

I asked a Single Taxer (?) who is working in the Republican party in this state what was to be done to prevent the defection of Democrats and Republicans who have lost faith in the old parties to the Socialist party. His answer was 'I expect we'll have to let those who want to become Socialists do so, don't you?' I think this a very weak answer, however, for people generally choose that which appears to them to be the best. If they know of anything better than collectivism—if they do not know of the Single Tax—how can they choose it? It was by mere accident that 'Progress and Poverty' came into my hands, and also that splendid little weekly, *The Public*. It was by no accident that I got the *Appeal to Reason*, *Wilshire's*, Milwaukee's *Social Democratic Herald*, and Marx's *Capital*.

By all means let us have a National party, if there are but forty-nine in it. When the split in the Socialist party between the 'impossibilists' and the 'opportunists' comes, as I believe it will in the course of the next half-dozen years or so, we'll have a place for the reasonable progressives to go, and a place for all Democrats and Republicans who believe in the principles of justice to labor held by Jefferson and Lincoln. I wish we might have them for our patron saints.—G. W. CHENEY.

Mr. W. P. Byles, Member of the British Parliament, acknowledging receipt from a friend of leaflets containing the permanent chairman's address at the Land Value Tax party convention and the argument of Hon. George Wallace before the committee on Taxation at Albany, writes:

"Many thanks for envelope of land value literature. I read them last thing last night, and went to bed rejoicing that I had found another prophet of the true economic faith."

From England comes also the following letter addressed to the organizer, Hon. Joseph Darling, from Mr. John Bagot, editor of the *Middleton Guardian*, of whom Mr. George Wallace writes in another column:

"Your kind letter of the 29th ultimate to hand, for which many thanks. Also the literature of the party movement, which I value and shall keep by me, using as occasion occurs. I am thoroughly with you in your idea of a separate party. We shall do nothing effective until we take our coats off, roll up our shirt sleeves, and strike for our great principle. Political parties have a great knack of making those who lean on them general maid servants. Such will happen here with our people until they go on their own platform, which I am always urging them to do.

I had a most agreeable time with Mr. Wallace. I am glad to find that your movement is running as far as possible on voluntary lines.

I wish your party great and abiding success. It will be the measure of your earnestness, disinterestedness and self-abnegation. You are doing well to ignore altogether the tariff question. Our great reform will hang on to any fiscal system, and ultimately, if given a chance, will absorb any fiscal system.—JOHN BAGOT."

Hereafter meetings of the Executive Committee will be held on Saturday evenings in place of Mondays.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee held Monday, September 19th, the following resolutions were adopted:

"Resolved, that owing to the present iniquitous and tyrannical election law of the state of New York, it is impossible for

the Land Value Tax party to get nominations on the official ballot for the next election."

It was therefore suggested that adherents of the Land Value Tax Party vote for some member of the party in the blank columns. The Executive Committee has authority to make nominations for any state office, but they may suggest that some member of the committee or any member of the party be voted for in the blank column. Similar suggestions may be adopted in other states where embryonic Land Value Tax Party groups are in process of formation. It may be possible in some districts to place legislative candidates in the field.

#### ACTIVITY IN PHILADELPHIA.

The Pennsylvania Single Tax League has been holding successful meetings on Monday and other evenings at the City Hall plaza and other places. In July meetings were held every night for nearly three weeks. During the last few months over five hundred pieces of literature were sold at the open air meetings. Our Philadelphia friends have received and filled orders to the number of about two hundred for literature from Canada and the United States, and have sold thirteen hundred books in all.

Among the speakers at the open air meetings during the summer were Chas. D. Ryan, Thomas Kavangh, Joseph Winslow, Peter J. Winslow, Alexander Stirlith, John Dix, Jerome C. Reis, Alfred Guerero, and James Robinson.

The admirable articles from the pen of Frederick J. Haskin on the British Crisis which appeared in the columns of the *Globe and Commercial Advertiser* of this city during the month of July were highly intelligent studies of the various phases of British Politics. Mr. Haskin understands what is at the bottom of the struggle, and seldom have we read in the columns of any metropolitan newspaper articles of equal clearness and penetration.

#### NEWS—FOREIGN.

##### GREAT BRITAIN.

PARLIAMENT TO CONVENE NOVEMBER 15TH  
—THE MEMORIAL TO PARLIAMENT SIGNED  
BY 134 MEMBERS—PERTINENT CARTOONS  
—WORK OF THE PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATIONS—CONFERENCE OF SINGLE TAXERS AT MANCHESTER.

Parliament was prorogued on September 3rd, and will meet again on November 15th. Then we hope to hear the result of the deliberations of those party leaders who have been conferring with a view to arriving at a settlement of the vexed question as to whether the people or the Peers are to govern this country. Whatever may be the recommendations of the eight gentlemen who form the Conference the final word rests with the people, and it is safe to say that they are in no mood to pander to a reactionary out-of-date institution such as the House of Lords. That any vital concession to the Lords will utterly wreck the Liberal Party and the character of its leaders is no doubt well known to Mr. Asquith, Lord Crewe, Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Birrell. The temper of the people will stand no concessions to their ancient foe—a temper which is well and forcibly expressed in the words of the poet, Swinburne:

"Clear the way, my Lords and lackeys;  
You have had your day.  
Here you have your answer—England's  
yea against your nay—  
Long enough your house has held you;  
up and clear the way!"

Here the struggle over the Land question is going on in a manner that compels attention. The temporary lull of a couple of months ago came to an end with the publication of the Valuation Forms, and now, whether men wish it or not, they are being compelled to range themselves on one side or the other, for or against the principles of the Budget of last year, and for or against the Government which passed the Bill.

Looking calmly at the political situation one feels with Louis F. Post, that herein the British Isles "the warfare of Demo-