

to think right on economic lines, and that some of the old-time almost religious fervor was necessary to inspire the work.

The practical work of raising funds for the preliminary work was happily disposed of by Mr. Lustgarten stating that he had at hand a fund for just that purpose; as a result of this dinner the Albany Conference was called and the League formed.

At this conference Mr. Sague, of Poughkeepsie, was elected president and Mr. Wesley E. Barker general secretary. Mr. Benjamin Doblin was elected treasurer. The work that has been done speaks for itself and is told on another page in the admirable address of President Sague, who also in the same speech outlines the purposes of the League. It would be invidious to select names for honorable mention for useful work performed, so it must suffice to say that the example set by Messrs. Lustgarten and Doblin has enthused scores throughout the State and awakened many of the cities to renewed activities.

WE desire to draw attention of our New York State readers to the State League's emblem appearing on the cover and to the advertisement on another page. These can be had in pendant style, sterling silver, for \$1.

MAN need a shining star as an inspiration. So the memory of Henry George will not perish from the earth. We do not believe, as Mr. Phil. H. Cornick said in our last issue, that the belief in the infallibility of Henry George is firmly rooted in the minds of many Single Taxers. (July-August REVIEW, page 28.) Certainly such an attitude of mind would be a poor tribute to the memory of a man who would have asked no such unquestioning faith from his disciples. But Mr. George probably erred less than most writers who have written so voluminously on subjects so little understood. That is the marvel of it, that nearly all of his conclusions after assaults of thirty years from the brightest minds of the generation, remain unshaken. Infallible he was not; but perhaps no thinker of any age has been quite so unerring.

THE Manhattan Single Tax Club has adopted a resolution urging the passage of the Bailey Bill by Congress. Copies of such resolutions are mailed to every member of Congress. Other Single Tax organizations are urged to take similar action.

THE ENGLISH LEAGUE FOR THE TAXATION OF LAND VALUES.

The condition of the English League for the Taxation of Land Values is just now precarious and its needs pressing. Indeed its very existence is threatened. The discontinuance of the activities of the splendid body that has done so much to keep the gospel before the people of the British Isles would be a calamity that we must not even contemplate. If American aid can be held out at this time to tide over this dreadful period, to keep Secretary Verinder at his work and *Land Values* going, the crisis caused by the disturbed condition of the country may soon be passed.

In a letter just received from Hon. Francis Neilson we quote: "The League does not require much to keep going on a famine basis and I do not intend to ask our friends who have their own claims to meet, to contribute much individually."

Nevertheless, this appeal should not be made in vain. We trust that American Single Taxers will do what they can in this awful time for our British comrades in their sheer necessity. Contributions should be sent direct to Frederick Verinder, 376 Strand, London, W. C.

THE ECONOMIC CAUSE OF WARS.

Europe is at war, and the powers blame one another. The immediate cause can be traced to Austria's demand upon Serbia, Russia's expressed decision that Serbia should not be crushed by Austria, and Germany's apparent understanding with Austria that she would stand by her in whatever she should decide to do, of which Germany, or rather the war-making powers of Germany, appear to have had accurate foreknowledge. These are purely the chronological dry bones of current history.

Back of this conflagration, however, are other causes. Europe has too long been an armed camp, surging with military preparations, vociferous with braggadocia and appeals to the baser instincts of men by conscienceless rulers and followers of the military trade, to escape the consequences of the bursting of these horrible engendered forces. In the preparation of this witches brew the cauldron must sooner or later have boiled over. How can people go on supplying their rulers with the tools of war, and expect to escape the consequences, with military men all eager to seek an opportunity for trying them out? The thing was too much to hope that the inevitable outburst could be long postponed. This is why to those who look no further the immediate cause of the war seems so absurdly inadequate to the portentous outburst.

But we must look still further than this if we would seek the real cause of the war and the solution of the problem of peace. The Single Taxer alone of all men knows the answer. Those who would pierce the heart of the strange riddle of war must seek it in our philosophy. It is not merely that civilization is yet in its barbaric stage, and that such conflicts must exist until we arrive at a higher stage. This is true, but it is not the whole truth. For not only must a true civilization dispense with war, but we shall not have begun a true civilization until we have learned to do without it. Civilization will only begin when the nations begin to disarm. And they will not begin to disarm, nor will a real civilization have begun, until men secure their rights to this earth of ours.

War is but a phase of economic slavery. The cause of wars are the masses of the disinherited. Men are the property of governments and the lords of privilege, who do with them pretty much as they please. But when men perceive their rights as Single Taxers perceive them, even as many Socialists perceive them, they can never again be moved to the killing of men having like rights. From that day on, vast armies can never again be moved across the frontiers of any other people.

Men who know their own rights in the soil of the earth, men to whom at last the words "Rights of Men" are no longer an empty phrase, will respect the like rights of others.

This, then, and only this, will mark the end of all wars, and the crazy piling of armaments on armaments. The only cure for war is democracy and the economic freedom that only democracy can bring. And the end of this war will mark its beginnings.

THE Seattle School board has decreed that the children shall not debate the Single Tax. And this at a time when the whole State is discussing it. (See Bimonthly News Letter in this issue.)

It would be interesting to know what manner of men compose this remarkable board. If in their opinion the Single Tax is a fallacy then the fullest discussion need not be feared, but if it is economically sound then to forbid discussion is the surest way to provoke it. In either case the school board must be an interesting lot of antique specimens.

ALABAMA appears to be thoroughly aroused as to the necessity of tax reform. As a result of a meeting comprising about five hundred citizens which was held in the parlors of the Cawthon Hotel at Mobile, the Mobile County Tax League was formed and Mr. E. Q. Norton was made field representative to tour the State. The *Mobile Item* will support this movement and will print in its Sunday issues articles on the Tax Reform Movement from the pen of Mr. Norton.

WHAT SHOULD BE OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD THE SOCIALISTS?

Mr. Bolton Hall, on the occasion of the recent public reception to Hon. George Fowlds, made an earnest plea for a change of attitude toward our friends the Socialists. Coming from perhaps the foremost advocate among us of the philosophy of individualism, the plea merits more than