

pointed secretary to Major-General McArthur, with headquarters at Denver, Colo. His appointment deprives Milwaukee's single tax movement of a very efficient worker.

A. G. Beecher, who is publishing single tax tracts, has a copy of the first number of the *Standard* in good condition, which he will sell to the highest bidder. The "speculative value" of this number will be applied to the work of increasing the circulation of tracts. Mr. Beecher's address is Warren, Pa.

Among Brooklyn single taxers active in the Citizens' Union movement who have recently received appointments to office in the new borough administration, are Peter Aiken, appointed Superintendent of Complaints, Henry A. Goulden, Superintendent of Incumbrances, and Robert Baker, who takes a responsible position in the office of Comptroller Grout.

While Carroll D. Wright is pointing out that the mechanic is better off because food is cheaper, Prof. J. W. Sanborn, in the *New England Farmer*, of Boston, proves that the farmer is better off because food is dearer. T. F. Cowern, of Contoocook, N. H., one of the few single taxers in that place, in a letter to the *New England Farmer*, demonstrates from the figures of the Massachusetts census that Prof. Sanborn's contention is baseless.

Few men are doing more useful and persistent work in behalf of the single tax than Ralph Hoyt. His activity is not confined to the Pacific slope, and many of his letters find their way into the Eastern and Middle-western journals. They are invariably well written, clear, and convincing. Mr. Hoyt's labors have extended over many years, and he has not wearied yet in doing.

A. J. Starkweather, of Boulder, Colo., writes us that upon one of the largest monuments in Fairmount Cemetery, Denver, Colo., is inscribed the words, "The world needs justice, not charity"—a noble inscription, to be placed one mile above sea level here on the Rocky Mountains. Under this monument rests the mortal remains of a man from New Jersey, about whom it would be interesting to know more. Mr. Starkweather asks who is the real author of these lines. Can any of our readers tell us?

There is an evangelist in Detroit who is trying to convert our old friend Tom Bawden. Of course Tom was converted years ago to the old fashioned religion of the "Universal Fatherhood," and knows some things about genuine Christianity. The *Detroit News* said in its issue of January 11th:

"Tom denies that man is born degenerate, and asserts that, on the contrary, he is intensely moral by nature, but injustice in legislation has developed the immorality and greed that are now manifest in society, because of centuries of false education and false moral ideals. He also will challenge Brother

Kerr to let him preach from the same pulpit Monday night, from Christ's words in Matt. xviii: "Except ye become converted and become as little children, ye cannot enter the kingdom of heaven," when he will bring indisputable proofs that the orthodox system of propagating morality has left out the most fundamental law of human nature. Tom says he can prove it from the Bible itself."

Rufus B. Rood, single tax nominee for alderman in one of the wards of Chicago, conducted a house-to-house canvass. Mr. Rood was a republican up to two years ago. The *Chicago Herald* gives the following biographical sketch of this new soldier of the crusade, and publishes his portrait, which shows a strong, intelligent, thoughtful face.

Mr. Rood lives at 151 Throop street and is city salesman for the Chicago Shipping and Receipt Book Company, 120 Fifth Avenue. He has lived in Chicago since 1888. This is the first time that Mr. Rood has ever run for office and he has some ideas of his own as to how a campaign should be conducted. His house-to-house canvass is one of them; he does not intend to ask anyone to vote for him; he will not "get personal" about Johnny Powers, who has been alderman from the Nineteenth for fourteen years. If elected he will work for 50-cent gas; will espouse the cause of the street vendors, who were recently legislated off the sidewalks and out of business by the city council, and he will open an office in the ward, where he can be found at certain hours by his constituents. He will also strive to have clean streets and alleys in his ward.

His campaign circular carries his picture and an exposition of the single tax principles and his own pledge. The circular he will have printed in Italian and Yiddish for the benefit of those elements in the ward. He will have only one public meeting during the campaign; all the rest of his electioneering will be done personally during his spare time evenings and Sundays.

News. — Domestic.

PROGRESS OF THE MOVEMENT BY STATES.

CALIFORNIA — So far as can be learned at this writing there are no dissensions among the single taxers of California, neither is there as much activity as there should be. However, activity on the surface is one thing, and deep, quiet DETERMINATION TO WIN, is another. From many directions the writer learns that "our flag is still there," and likely to remain unfurled till our principles prevail, no matter how long a time may elapse before that blessed era arrives. A very few men who a few years ago pretended to be single taxers, but who were only "half baked," as the lamented Judge James S. Reynolds was in the habit of say-

ing, have dropped into the flowery bed of socialistic dreamland; but they never were more than one-half converted, and we can spare them without shedding a tear. Every genuine single taxer in the State is more in earnest to-day than he ever was before, and he sees signs of coming triumph in many directions.

For instance, A. H. Wood, of Lincoln, Placer County, writes to Ralph Hoyt, of Los Angeles, from whom he had received several instalments of free literature for distribution, that a real single tax revival is in progress in Lincoln, and that several strong converts have been made and more are coming. The demand for literature was almost universal among the citizens, and all classes of business men were desirous to "read up" on the subject.

O. K. Cushing, Esq., a prominent attorney and an influential single taxer of San Francisco, writes to Hoyt's single tax office in Los Angeles, that men in 'Frisco who have heretofore stood aloof from investigation are now inquiring the shortest road to the single tax, having become disgusted with the corruption and treachery of politicians who dominate the old parties for personal gain. Hon. Joseph Leggett, of the same metropolis, takes even a more optimistic view of the situation than formerly, and declares he sees signs of progress that are unmistakable. Judge Maguire is also full of hope and well-grounded confidence. He is firm as a rock in the faith that the single tax philosophy is sure to become the prevailing factor in our social life within the lifetime of our oldest present advocates. The same feeling prevails in the minds of such men as James H. Barry, the brave editor and proprietor of *The Star*, the Cushing Brothers, L. M. Manzer, Wm. E. Beck, J. K. Moffitt, of the First National Bank, and many other San Francisco workers, while such noble souls as the Hodkins family, Edgar Pomeroy, Gregg, Stuart, and other men of our faith in Oakland, and the ever active J. G. Wright, of Berkeley, smile with satisfaction when questioned as to the outlook for the great cause.

In Los Angeles there is but little excitement or discussion of a public nature, but a deep undercurrent of thought regarding economic questions that is quite reassuring to those who pin their faith to sound principles as the only possible means of saving the nation from being permanently imperialized. Clarence Miller, Wm. S. Creighton, Ralph Hoyt, Frank Finlayson, J. H. Blagge, Frank Hart, Samuel Levi, Reuben Fletcher, S. P. Ford, Mrs. Mary E. Hoyt, Miss Ethel P. Bailey, and a few others, are quietly using their influence toward the promulgation of single tax principles. Every one is enthusiastic in his or her admiration of the great work being done by Mayor Tom Johnson, and the noble example he is affording for others to follow, so far as their means and opportunities will permit.

CONNECTICUT, NEW HAVEN.—The big fight I referred to in my last developed to an extraordinary extent, and though we did not secure the victory expected at that time, the whole city has been shaken up as never before and a civic pride born which is a marvel to "the oldest inhabitant."

The cause of it was the renewal of a contract with the local private water company, the old contract having expired Feb. 22nd, and could have been renewed or an entirely new one made, the aim of company was to eliminate a purchasing clause and secure fifteen thousand dollars more for supplying the city with water for municipal purposes.

There is no doubt this would have gone through without a word had not a single taxer taken upon himself to oppose it.

Thousands of circulars were distributed calling on the taxpayers to attend the public hearings and protest against a giving away of their rights, and the result was most gratifying, the room was packed and another hearing demanded, which had to be in the council chamber to accommodate the large number of people.

Great enthusiasm prevailed and some exceedingly plain talk indulged in by some of the speakers, and it soon became evident that the company would have to make concessions, which they did at the second hearing, but the people were now so aroused they demanded free water for city use, a reduction to consumers, and the retention of the purchasing clause. At each meeting feeling ran higher and some personalities were indulged in; the Committee on Water seized on this as a pretext for refusing to hold more public hearings, and reported favorably to the Board of Aldermen on all the company had asked.

Everything was done to stop it passing the aldermen. Mass meetings were held in every ward, circulars distributed, and on the night the aldermen were to vote on it the largest crowd ever seen in the city hall at such a meeting attended and gave unmistakable evidence of its temper; nevertheless they railroaded it through amid groans and hisses and great confusion.

As it had still to pass the council another effort was made, and though every artifice was resorted to to prevent it, this board voted to reconsider, and thus undid all the other board had done; they then appointed a new committee to go over the whole ground again, and we all thought that they would recommend what we had demanded, but there was evidently great influence brought to bear and they brought in a report worse than the first and in spite of all that could be done carried it through and the Mayor signed it. We secured free water for municipal uses for which we had previously paid \$20,000, we got a small reduction to consumers, and lost the right to purchase the plant except at the end of every twenty-five years.

Some were greatly discouraged, but a single taxer knows no defeat; he just does what

lays before him and leaves results to take care of themselves, so we found a double load on our hands when it was all over in the shape of monopoly in its various forms and a band of disorganized and disheartened helpers.

However, it was seen that good seed had been sown, and it should produce results and we had not long to wait. The spring elections were coming on and a single taxer having been asked to run for Alderman-at-Large on the democratic ticket it was decided to see what could be done; the result so far more than justifies every claim that the people will support a man they know to be fearless and honest. Our single taxer went into the convention with everything as far as mortal eyes could see, against him, and came out with the highest number of votes of any one voted on, receiving the nomination amid the greatest enthusiasm, over good men of excellent standing in the city.

The election takes place on the 15th.

ILLINOIS, CHICAGO.—*Special Correspondence*, C. J. Foyer.—The single tax party of Chicago has made rapid progress in the past two years, owing to its political propaganda. We now boast of being the only single tax party in the world which has been upon the ballot three consecutive times, and gaining one hundred per cent. at each election in the number of votes. The Chicago *Single Taxer*, our campaign paper, was distributed to the number of 130,000. This paper contains eight pages of original matter, written by the members of the club. Candidates in the different wards distributed their own cards in addition to the paper. As our candidates were obliged to circulate a petition in order to be placed upon the ballot, 18,000 names were secured in this way by calling at the residences of the voters in the different wards. The newspapers devoted their columns more liberally than could have been expected. Nearly one-third of the thirty-three candidates in the field had their photographs in the daily papers. The only single tax banner ever floated to the breeze in Chicago occupied a space of 9x16 feet in mid-air for thirty-five days, and across one of the main streets of the city. This banner will be made three times its size for the coming campaign. The defeated candidates of our party have already started to organize their ward clubs with new vigor. Our past experience has taught us how to obtain the single tax. The politicians look upon us with suspicion; for, in many wards 200 and as low as 100 votes was the balance of power. The attendance at our meeting has been good, many times every chair being occupied. Nearly \$600 was subscribed to carry on our last campaign. This money was chiefly spent in literature to be distributed. Were single taxers to follow our example in other cities the truths for which we stand could never be obscured.

MICHIGAN, ALBION.—The students of the

college here are making a special investigation of the single tax in its application to the city of Albion. They purpose ascertaining the income from land alone, and seek the co-operation of property-holders in addition to the information to be obtained from the tax lists, in order to estimate the total of ground rent now going into private pockets.

—DETROIT — April 5th.—Frank C. Andrews, ex-police commissioner and former leader of the Ripperites of Detroit, is in jail, and no one believes that he will escape the penitentiary; but this is small compensation when we think of the misery he has brought to thousands of homes, and that he has been successful in what is known as his campus fight.

When the present plan of Detroit was made one hundred years ago, by the governor's judges, the Campus Martius, a great square in the heart of the business district, was given up to the people forever. It was a free debate. It was a forum for all who had a message to deliver. Single taxers, silverites, socialists, salvationists, Mormons, elders, Zionites, and cranks of all kinds have held forth in its ample space. Except in times of excitement they left plenty of room for pedestrians and vehicles, and they added a picturesqueness and liveliness to the campus on warm summer evenings that the city cannot well afford to do without.

A few business men made feeble objections now and then, but their doors were closed at 6 o'clock and it was not apparent that the crowds drawn by the outdoor speakers were at all an obstruction to business. The people liked the freedom of the campus, and were easily roused to indignation by attempt at restriction.

A year ago, however, Frank C. Andrews, who had become nearly a millionaire by land speculation, in ten years after coming from a farm, secured the co-operation of that eminent patriot, Senator James McMillan. The senator sent telephonic orders to the capitol at Lansing, and bills were passed abolishing several departments of our city government ruled by non-partisan commissions, and substituting one-man power. It was not a comprehensive plan of city government like the federal plan under which Tom L. Johnson as mayor governs Cleveland so wisely. It was a party measure to grab offices away from the democrats.

Mr. Andrews was then known to be too young and erratic to be placed at the head of the police department; but a subservient common council, bribed by promises of offices, chose him for that responsible place. To do the aldermen justice, it should be said that they did not know that Andrews was already illegally using the money of the City Savings Bank, of which he was vice president, in his wild speculations; but if he is a criminal at all, he was a criminal at the time he assumed control of the police department of this city.

But Andrews was on the topmost crest of his power. The most conservative bankers of the city, now a crestfallen lot, were eager to loan him money and to do him honor. He was high in the bankers' club of Detroit. He was talked of for governor. He bought and furnished a palace. He scattered money right and left. When he needed more money than even his large credit could get from other banks legally, he went to his own bank and simply took the money of his depositors.

Andrews frequently stopped on the campus and listened to Tom Bawden, the only Croasdale single taxer at present in Detroit. The police commissioner was not flattered by what he heard. The greed of land speculators was held up to execration, and the blessings of justice were explained. Unhappily Bawden often was abusive, and many of the prominent men of the city, including Andrews, were denounced with fiery zeal.

Andrews sent his mounted police to arrest Bawden. The crowd, the mayor, and the newspapers sided with the single taxer. One night a riot occurred and blood was shed. Andrews announced that he would give up the fight.

Then the deplorable assassination of the president took place, and unthinking antagonism was aroused against all who differ with the established order of things. Andrews took advantage of this and had Bawden arrested, when speaking on the campus, on the charge of disorderly conduct. Bawden was convicted in the police court, but he appealed to a higher court, which has never taken the case up.

Andrews then had the common council adopt an ordinance forbidding speeches and singing and the use of drums and musical instruments on the campus except on a permit from the mayor, and the mayor was permitted to give only one permit each week. The mayor, once a fierce advocate of the right of the people to the use of the campus in the time-honored way, has steadily refused to grant permits.

Bawden defied the ordinance once and was sent to the house of correction for 15 days. The ordinance was upheld by the supreme court. A brave Salvation Army leader, Major Blanche Cox, a woman of education and refinement, who has carried her gospel into Europe and Asia, and says that everywhere she has been treated better than in Detroit, has suffered several terms of imprisonment. The ordinance practically ruined the work of the Salvation Army in Detroit. It was not in Andrews' desire to do that, but in order to crush Bawden he had to make the ordinance include all.

The agitation by Mrs. Cox, and the better feeling of the people, have caused a modification of the ordinance to be made which will permit Bawden to speak on some of the side streets without a permit, but the campus is still closed to him. He will therefore sell his single tax wagon, which has done so

much in recent years to make people think on economic questions, and with a small table he will speak on Lafayette avenue next summer; but that is where he cannot hope to get the hearing which is possible on the campus.

I am not one of those who claim that the common council has no legal power to forbid speaking on the campus; but I insist that the speaking as it has been conducted in this city is not a nuisance. It was an attractive feature of down-town life. It furnished about all the mental food that hundreds of poor people had. It was a means of education. The ignorant pride and stubbornness of a reckless speculator, temporarily in a position of influence, but now in prison, robbed the people of Detroit of that meeting place; and it will never be restored, probably, until something happens to impress upon the people the necessity of asserting their right to the free use of the old Campus Martius.

MISSOURI, JEFFERSON CITY.—Our State Tax Commissioners are E. C. Crow, Atty. Gen., Jefferson City, Mo.; Judge W. M. Williams, Boomville, Mo.; Peyton Parks, Atty. at Law, Clinton, Mo. The prospects for a good report from the commission are now very bright. Gen. Crow says he favors local option.

Jefferson City single taxers celebrated Washington's birthday with a smoker and luncheon, to which about 100 guests were invited. It was a complete success. We had Father Cox of Chicago here last November, and Dr. H. S. Bigelow in October, and our campaign is doing nicely.

NEW YORK, BUFFALO.—A debate between William S. Rann, single taxer, and editor Boris Reinstein, socialist, took place at the Labor Lyceum Hall in Main street on the afternoon of Jan. 5th.

Mr. Rann opened the debate. He defined the term "single tax" and asserted that the fundamental mistake of the socialist was in the fact of his confusing capital, the product of labor, with land, which it is not. He pointed out the economic differences and said it was sufficient if the government should take off taxes on labor products and raise all government revenues by a tax on land values. This, he claimed, would destroy land monopoly and throw the material opportunities open to free co-operation of capital and labor.

Mr. Reinstein affected to see contradiction in the statement that the workingman paid all the taxes. How can he pay taxes when he has no property upon which to pay them?" he asked triumphantly. The debate was a success, and the disputants shook hands cordially at the close.

OHIO, MARIETTA.—The Polen Single Tax Lecture Bureau and the Marietta Single Tax Club have worked hand in hand all winter in maintaining a free reading room, with Rev. J. M. Polen in charge day and evening, ex-

cept when out speaking. His main work in speaking during the winter has been before the various labor organizations of this city, and he has been very successful in getting them lined up in favor of single tax.

As the result of a printers' strike the workmen are running a daily paper, and for some weeks Rev. Polen has been furnishing all of their editorial matter, and consequently it is run very nearly a single tax paper without the label; and up to the present writing there has been no fault found with its being so run. Rev. E. Coil has also made frequent addresses to the labor organization during the winter. They rely upon the single tax club to furnish them with public speakers on nearly all occasions.

PENNSYLVANIA, JOHNSTOWN.—The democratic city platform, which Wm. J. Bryan terms the model platform for the democracies of cities, and which the Buffalo *Enquirer* commends, commits the party to the following:

First. To the support of the principle of the equal taxation of all property subject to taxation. We especially denounce the taxation of homes and industry higher than unimproved property held out of use for speculative purposes. There should be no fines upon industry or upon the building of homes.

Second. To the advancement of the principle that franchises are to be considered as real estate values and taxed for local purposes as such. We denounce the granting of free franchises for any period, long or short, and no franchise should be granted for a period longer than twenty-one years.

Third. To the principle of local option in taxation. We hold that each community should be permitted to raise its public revenues in its own way; and we point to the fact that this principle received the endorsement of the National Tax Conference held at Buffalo last May.

It will interest our readers to learn that Warren Worth Bailey, of the Johnstown *Democrat*, is prominently named for the nomination for governor.

A meeting of the Blair County Democratic Association was held last month, at which some two hundred members were present. It was a regular meeting of the body, and considerable outside of routine business was transacted.

The association unanimously endorsed Warren Worth Bailey as its choice for the democratic nomination for governor.

The nomination of Mr. Bailey for this office would put new life into the democratic party of Pennsylvania, and new hope in the hearts of those who cherish democratic principles.

EXPLICITNESS OF SINGLE TAX.

[To the Editor of The Chicago Chronicle.]

CHICAGO, Feb. 17.—In a recent editorial you said, referring to the single taxers: "It is certainly true that they claim their prescrip-

tion would have a magical effect in the way of abolishing poverty. But they are not so explicit as they might be as to the way in which that effect is to be produced. So far as one can judge from their writings it is to be produced in 'some mysterious manner.' Generally speaking, they are a little evasive as to two things: One is that the public appropriation of all 'economic rent' would amount to the confiscation of all capital invested in land value; the other is the manner in which their plan would promote the material welfare of mankind to so vast an extent as they claim it would."

First, as to your statements that single taxers are not explicit as to the way in which single tax would abolish poverty. Can anything be more explicit and direct than the statement that industrious persons are poor both because they are at times prevented from working, and because, when at work, a large part of their product is taken from them? Can anything be more explicit or more plainly true than our claim that people who do useful things ought to enjoy all the results of useful efforts, and that those who do nothing useful ought not to enjoy any results of useful effort? Is anything more plain and explicit than our statement that to the extent idlers get the products of labor, laborers must be deprived of those products? We show that the landlord does absolutely nothing as a landlord, and yet as a landlord gets a large share of all that is produced.

Now, as to your statement that it is "in some mysterious manner" that improved conditions are to be brought about. We show that all production goes to labor as wages to capital as interest, and to land as rent. (Of course by labor we mean to include all useful effort.) We show also that as the land belongs to humanity the rent fund is the matured public fund, and should be used for the common good—for all sorts of public utilities—and that when a man pays rent, as he does whenever he buys anything, for rent is included in price, he pays for all the public benefits he gets, wherefore it is robbery (confiscation of his private property) to make him pay for these things again in the form of taxes. It is plain to any mind that if the rent fund of right belongs to the public, its private appropriation by individuals for their own use, if sanctioned by law, is legal confiscation of what is rightfully public property, just as the defalcation of a public official is illegal confiscation of the public money. It is simply a different method of devoting public property to the use of individuals. The tariff and the proposed Ship Subsidy Bill are other methods of accomplishing the same thing.

All this being obviously true, your statement that "the public appropriation of all economic rent would amount to the confiscation of all capital invested in land values" has no force because the effect would be to stop confiscation. The destruction of land value would be confiscation in the same