

almost youthful freshness. He lived to see the cause he loved enter the arena of practical politics in England; to see it influencing thought in every direction at home, and then, like Job, "being old and full of days," he passed to join the great majority.

#### WORK OF THE MANHATTAN SINGLE TAX CLUB.

It is an inspiring record of past achievement and suggestions of work for the coming year that the Manhattan Single Tax Club has issued and mailed to every Single Taxer in the vicinity.

In the work done during 1909 is included the Spring and Summer out-door meetings conducted every Tuesday and Friday evenings by Joseph Fink on the corner of 125th St. and Seventh Ave.; a record of indoor meetings; interesting facts regarding the distribution of literature, the work for the \$3,000 exemption bill, the mass meetings conducted by the club at Cooper Union for publicly-owned subways and advocacy of the "assessment plan" of defraying their cost; and the work for the exemption from computation of the debt of the city of all bonds issued for the construction of revenue-producing properties.

That portion of the Club's report devoted to "pending and projected work" is not less inspiring. For what has been accomplished it would be invidious to select any single name for special mention, since so many have contributed their share of work and enthusiasm. But we cannot refrain from indicating three of the members especially deserving of our thanks: Joseph Darling, for the preparation of this report that is before us, Joseph Fink, for yeoman's work in conducting the out-door meetings, and President Leubuscher, for unfailing attendance, splendid efficiency as a presiding officer, and princely liberality whenever the club needed to do some special work.

The Bayonne N. J. Daily *Times* prints part of a letter from Wm. Bradford DuBois addressed to James D. Holden of Denver, Colo., who has just published a book on the Money Question.

#### PROFESSOR ROBERT BRAUN, OF HUNGARY, TALKS TO THE MANHATTAN SINGLE TAX CLUB.

The first regular meeting of the Manhattan Single Tax Club for 1910 was held on the evening of January 6th. It was largely attended; at the conclusion of the regular business Prof. Robert Braun, of Hungary, gave the members a short talk.

Prof. Braun, who is making a trip through the country, is a very young man, quiet, clean-shaven, and thoughtful. His English is excellent, though he has not yet wholly mastered it. But with diligent care he seeks the inevitable word, and it is surprising how often he finds it—oftener, indeed, than those who excel our friend in fluency.

Prof. Braun has done excellent work in Hungary, having translated *Protection or Free Trade*, which, with the help of Mr. Jos. Fels, he was enabled to publish.

Prof. Braun said in part:

"Emigration is generally ascribed to over population. Close investigation proves, however, that Hungary in place of supporting her present population of 20 million could actually support 100 million. But as about one third of the country is owned by one thousand families and as the land once owned in common has become in great part private property, the peasants find it hard to make a living. The increase of great landed properties and the gradual decrease of common land has lowered the margin of cultivation, and this lower margin has resulted in lowering wages.

"For these evils the peasantry propose two remedies, emigration, and limitation of the number of children. Both remedies are strongly disapproved by the landed interests. Landlords use all their influence to check emigration. They endeavor to enlist the working power of the laws to compass these ends. But legal measures seldom prevail against economic laws. So many of our people find their way into far and strange countries, most of them into America. The law of emigration is easily explained. The margin of cultivation is higher in America than in Hungary, and so population moves, as it

always does, toward countries where wages are higher.

"The remedy for this evil is just as clear as its reason. If we really want to do away with emigration there are ways to stop the further lowering of the margin of cultivation by the preservation of common lands, or to increase the margin of cultivation by efficient taxation of land values."

Concluding Prof. Braun said: "America exercises as yet little influence on European ways of thinking. It is almost impossible to name any American statesman, scientist or artist whose influence has traveled beyond his own country. There is, however, one exception, Henry George, whose influence throughout Europe is to-day greater than that of any of his countrymen—greater in Europe than in the land of his birth."

#### WHICH IS THE OLDEST SINGLE TAX CLUB.

Mr. C. J. Buell, of St. Paul, whom all our readers know so well and favorably, writes a pleasant letter to the *REVIEW* questioning our statement that the Manhattan Single Tax Club is the oldest Single Tax organization in America. He points out that the Minneapolis Single Tax League has had a continuous existence since the Summer of 1887. It was first known as the Land and Labor Club and was the first of several clubs under that name to do good work for the cause. It afterwards developed into the Minneapolis Anti-Poverty society. It soon became the Minneapolis Single Tax League, and has been back of the movement for many years. For about fifteen years ex-Senator Stockwell has been the leader and head of the work until it is now hard to find a progressive man in Minneapolis who is not familiar with our doctrines. Thus far Mr. Buell.

Nevertheless, the Manhattan Single Tax club dates back further than this, for all the members of the original club comprised in 1886 the membership of the Tenth Assembly District organization of the United Labor party of this city. In 1887 the Single Taxers of the above dis-

trict organization banded themselves into the Ninth Congressional District Free Trade Club, which after a short time became the Manhattan Single Tax Club, which continued to this date, always doing effective work for the cause, always in the forefront of the great conflict for economic truth and righteousness.

#### MEETING OF THE FELS COMMISSION.

The members of the Fels Commission met at the Hotel Collingwood in this city on December 30th. Those present were Messrs. Lincoln Steffens, Frederick C. Howe, Bolton Hall, Joseph Fels, and Daniel Kiefer. A telegram was read from Mr. J. H. Ralston saying he was unable to be present because of the condition of his health.

Mr. Daniel Kiefer, the acting treasurer, made his report ending Nov. 30, and asked that his books be audited. He was directed to have it done and certified to by some one competent in Cincinnati.

After having listened to a report of the financial condition of the *Public* and the *SINGLE TAX REVIEW*, it was unanimously resolved to accord those publications the needed help.

An address prepared by the Hon. Frederick C. Howe was read, to be sent to persons interested in education and to those in public life, with a view of interesting them in the Fels Fund. Mr. Howe was asked to confer with Mr. W. G. Eggleston in the final preparation of this address, and to contract for the printing of twenty-five thousand copies to be done in excellent quality and style and with the approval of Mr. Howe.

Mr. Hall was again delegated to disburse the funds necessary for the campaign in Rhode Island. Mr. Hall will make requisition to the Treasurer for the money as needed.

The action of the Commission at its original meeting to provide funds for the Oregon campaign was ratified. Regarding literature for the Oregon campaign the Chairman was instructed to advise Mr. U'Ren to proceed with the preparation of such literature as might be needed without