

SINGLE TAX REVIEW

An Illustrated Bi-Monthly Magazine
of Single Tax Progress.

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PUBLISHER'S NOTES

If you are a subscriber to the REVIEW—please renew promptly. If you must discontinue, please notify at once—the price of paper has gone up.

If you are not a subscriber, but read the REVIEW at some public library—subscribe for a friend.

There are so many ways in which you can help.

WORK on the Year Book is progressing. The number of pledged subscriptions has now passed twelve hundred. We still await the receipt of important articles.

A BREEZY and effective little propaganda pamphlet is "A Plain Talk on Taxation," by James R. Brown, president of the Manhattan Single Tax Club. Admirable as it is the emendation of such statements as "Our present tax system is a fraud and a humbug, advocated by knaves and believed in by fools," would obviously improve it.

THE San Francisco *Star* in its new and attractive dress appears as a monthly, enlarged and better than ever. Among much interesting matter it contains an admirable article from the veteran Judge James G. Maguire entitled "The Eternal Land Question."

SINGLE TAXERS AND PREPAREDNESS

What should be our attitude as Single Taxers toward the question of preparedness?

In the first place we should be warned by our previous experience of the danger of halting our advocacy of so fundamental a reform as man's right to the use of the earth to turn aside even for a moment to direct our attention to a question which we, in any event, are powerless to decide. Undoubtedly, some measure of increased preparedness for defence is bound to be adopted. Rightly or wrongly, this war has changed the views of countless numbers of men as to the kind of world we live in. Is it wise for Single Taxers to oppose the convictions of a majority of their fellow-countrymen on a question which is not *our* question?

Wars find their root causes in the disinheritance of men from the soil. Wars as well as the peace that reigns when wars are not ("the peace of Warsaw"), in every industrial community, spring from the cause pointed out a century ago by the French Assembly — "the contempt for human rights." International conflicts come neither from preparedness nor unpreparedness—they are the fruits of slavery and disinheritance.

Whether the United States chooses to add to the number of its battleships, or the land forces be increased by one hundred or two hundred thousand men, will be determined by influences that Single Taxers are quite powerless to control.

Nor should we attempt to control them. As men's minds become opened to the vision that it should be our duty to present to the exclusion of all other questions, the danger of possible aggression from any nation will become less and less.

The motive animating any "preparedness" campaign, too, is far more important than the number of guns or armed men added to those already available in a crisis. If the motive be to allay that feeling of insecurity which, rightly or wrongly

again, so many feel, why need we quarrel with it; if it be to give added weight to measures which at the conclusion of this war nations may jointly adopt to enforce peace,—a new Pax Romana—then, also, it is difficult to see why as Single Taxers we should join issue.

That there is a danger in preparedness may be conceded. The argument for raising armies and armaments is always defence, never aggression. Preparedness begun for defence may place us in so strong a position as to tempt designing administrations to use these forces for aggression, and this is a danger by no means remote. But this danger can best be guarded against, not by opposing all measures of preparedness, but in keeping alive the ideals which ushered in this government of ours, and which though we have not always been faithful to them, have nevertheless been successfully invoked in many an important crisis in our history, and which at all events continue to light the path of our progress.

It still remains true that the real menace to the life of the nation, as Henry George has so eloquently pointed out, are not foreign armadas pounding at our gates but the tramps in our streets and by-ways—not foreign foes, but those of our own people who have nothing to lose from revolution and social chaos, who are poor in the midst of plenty, and to whom at last a blind sense of that injustice of which they are the victims will breed either the violence or indifference in which all that is worth while in our civilization may perish.

Against these destructive influences Single Taxers present a reform which is an answer to the question how this country of ours can best be made secure against foreign and domestic foes and lead the world of humanity to that social righteousness in the absence of which the hope of peace within or without is an amiable delusion.

THE Single Tax Service League of this city is now holding weekly luncheons on Tuesday at 12:30 to 2 P. M. at the Union Square Hotel, 4th Ave. and 15th Street.

57 VARIETIES OF "I"

AN ABBREVIATION OF AN ADDRESS BY DR.
THOMAS S. ADAMS BEFORE THE ILLINOIS
TAXPAYERS' ALLIANCE APRIL 10, 1916

I fancy***I know***I say***I once examined***I found***I recall***I went ***I do not know***I do not use ***I emphasize***I want them to think***I think in my mind***I think nothing***I do not know***I think almost***I know ***. I do not know***I was connected***I was*** I don't think***I shall be***if I can***I want to pass*** Personally, I think*** I think*** I have stated***I want to see, if possible*** and I say my second interest****I quite agree***I should do so****I am not a Single Taxer***I cannot believe what they say***I have great admiration for the spirit that actuates many Single Taxers***. I cannot understand the Single Taxers opposition***I think we will never come to a Single Tax ***. Nowhere in the world that I know of ****as I understand****. I make this statement****I suppose***I may go to the mat with them****the evidence I think of that is the fact****as I understand the situation****I am going to close what I have to say, and I shall answer questions ****. I am an outsider**** I don't know—I don't believe in the Single Tax but it is even possible I may be mistaken. I am perfectly willing to fight it out and I want to see the spirit more widespread and I think the whole Single Tax controversy and the merits of it may be fought out better after ten years. I do not think*** I am willing to approach the Single Taxer until, as I say, we can go to the mat together.

A DINNER was tendered Mrs. Mary Fels and some fifty Single Taxers of this city by Mr. William Lustgarten at the National Arts Club, on the evening of April 8.

LAURIE J. QUINBY is a candidate for nomination to Congress in the Democratic primaries of Omaha.